

The Career Center Announces 2013 Summer Internship Stipend Recipients  
July 2013

Twenty-three students receive funding for unpaid internships in 11 U.S. states and 10 countries.

The Career Center and Oberlin College's Creativity and Leadership Project are pleased to announce the selection of twenty-three 2013 awardees. The annual Summer Internship Stipend program provides awards of \$250 to \$3,500 to support Oberlin students pursuing unpaid summer internships with organizations that do not have the resources to provide financial support. By reducing the living expenses and other financial barriers associated with unpaid internships, these stipends allow students to develop new skills, make valuable connections, and explore their future career interests. In this application cycle, \$84,601 was requested from 49 applicants, and 23 students were awarded a total of \$29,750.

Students can prepare for the rigorous, highly competitive application and interview process by attending a series of information sessions and workshops, as well as meeting individually with Career Center staff. Students must demonstrate that they have secured an appropriate unpaid internship or that they are engaged in the application process for the internship prior to seeking funds. The comprehensive written application and interview process helps student applicants develop fundamental skills that may serve them well as they apply for future positions in a competitive market. Internships are now, more than ever, crucial to the success of many Oberlin graduates, no matter what field or profession they choose.

The Career Center is delighted to coordinate this process and to support opportunities for students to explore their career and personal interests. While the economy and competition for post-graduate positions increase student need for summer internships, the funds to support these critical positions are dwindling. Over the past five years, the Young Alumni Internship Fund has allowed students to pursue unpaid internships in their individual areas of greatest passion. This year's stipend recipients of the Young Alumni Internship Fund have pursued opportunities including whale husbandry at one of the world's leading facilities in marine mammal care and research, performing arts administration with a leading opera company and working with high schools students at a leadership academy in South Africa. To support student internships, visit [www.oberlin.edu/giving/donate](http://www.oberlin.edu/giving/donate).

Funding for internships is available from the Class of 1968 Leadership Award, Marion B. Anderson 1954 Endowed Grant Fund for Aspiring Peace Activists, Peter Goldsmith Internship Fund, Godlove Rubin Endowed Public Interest Fund and Young Alumni Internship Fund. In addition, Creativity & Leadership: Entrepreneurship at Oberlin provides stipends for unpaid internships that help students develop a range of skills essential for entrepreneurship.

For more information please contact:

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## **2013 Summer Internship Stipend Recipients**

### **Gbolahan Adeola, 2016**

Creative Writing and Economics majors  
United States Achievers Program – Abuja, Nigeria

The United States Achievers Program (USAP) is an educational initiative sponsored by the U.S. Department of State. USAP helps students from various countries navigate the process of securing admission to selective American colleges by funding their application fees and assisting with application materials. As a tutor and mentor, Gbolahan shares the wealth of knowledge he gained as a Nigerian applying for admission and studying at an American institution. He believes that he is a useful resource in counseling students on what to expect when living and studying in the U.S.

### **Alec Berman, 2014**

Neuroscience major  
Douglas Mental Health University Institute – Montreal, Canada

Alec is a research assistant in Dr. J. Bruno Debruille's cognitive psychopathology lab at the Douglas Mental Health University Institute in Montreal. He participates in research concerning the neural integration of social roles in people with elevated levels of schizotypal traits. Alec has a range of tasks including recruitment of test subjects, running the study, and data analysis. Utilizing a unique electroencephalogram-based experiment that involves measuring event related potentials (ERPs) in subjects while they consider themselves in a host of different social roles, the lab seeks to investigate how schizotypy influences acceptance of different social roles and how antipsychotic medication might unconsciously alter these inclinations. This research is the first of its kind to use this common electrophysiology technique to measure the neural representations of social role integration, an inherently high-order cognitive process.

### **Julia Brennan, 2014**

Creative Writing major, Cinema Studies minor  
Female Literary Arts and Music Enterprise – Harare, Zimbabwe

Female Literary Arts and Music Enterprise (F.L.A.M.E.) is an arts development program that promotes female artists by providing workshops, publicity, and networking skills to women who are both victims and survivors of gender-based domestic violence. F.L.A.M.E provides a safe space for women to interact, perform, and formulate meaningful learning communities and environments to foster peace. Julia participates in the development of these communities by designing, along with F.L.A.M.E. members, poetry and short prose curricula with the objective of empowering young women. Julia is gaining comparative insights into feminist expressions across geographical, cultural and political boundaries.

### **Mallory Cohen, 2015**

Art History major  
The Getty Center, Getty Research Institute – Los Angeles, CA

As a research assistant for Dr. Colin Westerbeck, Mallory is assisting in the completion of a number of upcoming publications regarding contemporary photography. Utilizing the Getty Research Institute's (GRI) Research Library, she generates bibliographies and previews, and vets sources

significant to Dr. Westerbeck's work. The GRI is located at The Getty Center, one of the most significant art museums in the United States. At Oberlin, Mallory focuses on modern and contemporary art, and is most specifically interested in architecture and art of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. She hopes to attend graduate school to pursue the discipline further and generate her own art historical research.

### **Rebecca Deutsch, 2013**

Theater major

Classical Theatre of Harlem – New York, NY

Rebecca works as the Assistant Director for the summer production of Shakespeare's *Midsummer Nights Dream* (directed by Oberlin's Professor of Theater & African American Studies Justin Emeka) at the Classical Theatre of Harlem (CTH). The CTH is a non-profit arts organization dedicated to presenting theatre "classics" to the Harlem community with the goal of heightening awareness of theatre and art in Harlem. Rebecca is researching the play from a literary and performance standpoint—from its social, political, cultural, and historical contexts—which is fundamental to communicating dramatic material. In the future, Rebecca wants to start a socially engaged theater company that builds upon and sustains diverse perspectives and creates equitable practices for nurturing local creative communities. She believes that her experience with CTH will be an invaluable learning opportunity that will create a crucial link between academia and the professional world.

### **Donnay Edmund, 2016**

Environmental Studies and Comparative American Studies majors

Oberlin Community Services – Oberlin, OH

As the Local Food Coordinator, Donnay works closely with affiliate groups of Oberlin Community Services (OCS) focused on food justice and access to healthy food regardless of socio-economic background. The goal is to foster access to healthy, fresh, and local foods for the surrounding community. Donnay is collaborating with colleagues and community members to create The Plant an Extra Row initiative, a project that will use public land for cooperative gardening spaces. In addition, she creates and leads workshops on nutrition and genetically modified organisms, as well as issues of privilege, power and oppression. Donnay hopes to strengthen the Oberlin community by building meaningful connections, giving people the tools they need to direct their own initiatives and teaching people how to eat sustainably and cost effectively.

### **Noa Fleischacker, 2015**

Anthropology major, Creative Writing minor

Association for Civil Rights in Israel – Tel Aviv, Israel

Noa is the International Relations intern for the Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI), the largest and oldest organization working on issues of human rights in Israel. ACRI focuses on numerous issues including women and children's rights, Arab minority civil rights, freedom of expression, rights of Palestinians living in East Jerusalem and the occupied Palestinian territories, human rights education and issues related to refugees and asylum seekers. Noa's role involves administrative tasks and interactive fieldwork, including writing for the blog, compiling updates and news for online publications and mailing lists, grant research, and working on ACRI's activity reports. Through this internship Noa hopes to build relationships with Israelis and Palestinians

doing human rights work, learn what it means to be part of a civil rights NGO, and develop a broader understanding of effective human rights education.

**Caroline Hui, 2014**

Politics and East Asian Studies majors  
U.S. Department of State – Washington, DC

Caroline is interning in the Bureau of East Asian Pacific Affairs, Office of Public Diplomacy at the U.S. Department of State. This office leads the country's public diplomacy outreach through facilitating people-to-people exchanges with audiences in the Asia Pacific region. Caroline helps coordinate international visits and works with embassies overseas to plan cultural programming events. Through this internship she hopes to develop an understanding of U.S. foreign policy beyond government-to-government diplomacy.

**Sakina Lavingia, 2016**

Politics and Economics majors  
Human Rights Organization for Transparency and Peace – Phnom Penh, Cambodia  
War Against Rape – Karachi, Pakistan

This summer Sakina is interning at two organizations. At the Human Rights Organization for Transparency and Peace (HROTP) her work involves researching land rights in Cambodia, attending press conferences as a representative of the organization and visiting communities that benefit from HROTP's work. At the second organization, War Against Rape (WAR), Sakina will work with women who have survived sexual assault, domestic abuse and rape. Sakina wants to further explore the effects of societal conditions on efficient problem solving and conflict resolution.

**Sarah Lejeune, 2015**

Studio Art major, Africana Studies and Comparative American Studies minors  
AS220 – Providence, RI

AS220 is an artist organization dedicated to making unjuried and uncensored art open to the public by providing residential and work studios, performance spaces, art education, galleries, and youth programs. Sarah assists with the membership website and course catalogue, and screens prints, posters and other pieces sold for fundraising purposes. She is also learning computer design software programs, along with machinery in the Media Lab and Printshop. In addition, Sarah serves as a teaching assistant. One of Sarah's main roles is to help publicize and organize AS220's annual music and arts festival, Foo Fest, planned for early August. In the future Sarah wants to focus on developing accessible pathways for creative expression, working against financial and institutional limitations, making art as a community building process.

**Laura Messman, 2015**

Biology and Environmental Studies majors  
University of Minnesota, Phylogenetic Ecology Lab – New Bethel, MN

Laura is working with Jake Grossman (OC '08) on a research project to investigate the relationship between plant biodiversity and ecological function in disturbed ecosystems at the Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve Site (CDR). Laura has coupled this internship with her independent research to study natural forest communities at CDR in order to characterize new sites for future

comparisons. Given the prospect of continuing alterations to the world's climate and terrestrial ecosystems and the resulting crisis, Laura hopes to pursue a career in applied empirical research in plant ecology that will lead to major scientific findings on how plants adapt to rapidly changing environments.

**Kelin Michael, 2014**

Art History and French majors, Classics and Studio Art minors  
SITE Santa Fe – Santa Fe, NM

Kelin works as an Events and Development intern at SITE, a "contemporary art space" that does not have a permanent collection and constantly acquires and exhibits different works from contemporary artists. Kelin assists in the planning and execution of different events including artist exhibitions, public educational sessions, the annual fundraising auction and gala, and the preparation for SITE's 2014 biennial event. The biennial event aims to draw art enthusiasts from all over the world. By taking part in this internship, Kelin is gaining the experience she needs to pursue a potential career in Curatorial Studies.

**Sophie Umazi Mvurya, 2016**

International Studies major  
I AM KENYAN– Nairobi, Kenya  
African Leadership Academy Global Scholars Program – Johannesburg, South Africa

As founder of I AM KENYAN Sophie will continue to expand the organization, which seeks to promote peace and patriotism in Kenya through grassroots photography and peace marches. With mentorship from Anne Njogu, a great Kenyan Civil Rights and Peace Activist, Sophie hopes to learn courageous and smart ways to challenge the tribal system that seeks to hinder peace. At Sophie's second internship site, African Leadership Academy's Global Scholars Program, Sophie is organizing experiential learning activities and mentoring students. This summer camp is geared toward high school children who seek to address how the next generation of global leaders can ensure a prosperous and peaceful future for Africa and the world. Both internships fit into Sophie's life mission to promote global peace and coexistence.

**Thanh Tran Nguyen, 2014**

Economics and Mathematics majors  
Viet Huy Packaging and Trading Co., Ltd. – Hanoi, Vietnam

Viet Huy Packaging and Trading Co., Ltd. was founded in 2003 with a mission to become a leader in the printing and packaging industry. Thanh is interning in the production department with the core function to analyze the market, search for new customers and devise production plans. Given his earlier involvement in this industry and experience at a successful printing and packaging company, Thanh hopes to start an innovative eco-product firm specializing in paper-based products.

**Sophia Paul, 2015**

Environmental Studies and Economics majors  
Oberlin Community Services – Oberlin, OH

This summer Sophia is continuing her work as a Food Justice Project Intern at Oberlin Community Services' Food Pantry and People's Garden. She is increasing awareness about nutrition and food

systems in the community by building a broader knowledge of food in Lorain County and analyzing food systems. Using the results of a study on nutrition in the food pantry she will provide information about health, nutrition, and cooking to clients, as well as explore healthier, more local options for the pantry. She will also be working with various community gardens and other initiatives in Oberlin to build connections and strengthen local food systems. With an Environmental Studies pathway in environmental justice and member of the Food Justice Affinity group, Sophia wants delicious, healthy, sustainable food to be accessible to everyone in Lorain County. She is interested in community based, cooperative, nonprofit work as a career.

### **Anita Peebles, 2014**

Religion and Environmental Studies majors  
High Rocks Educational Corporation – Hillsboro, WV

High Rocks, a summer camp for 7th to 12th grade girls from southeastern West Virginia, aspires to strengthen leadership skills, inspire personal wellness ethic and provide support for girls who are passionate about community organizing. Anita is spending this summer deep in the Appalachian Mountains helping teachers create lesson plans, preparing the grounds for campers, and serving as a cabin counselor. Anita's career goals include social justice ministry in Appalachia areas of environmental degradation. She wants to focus on community empowerment and dialogue about tough issues. She is dedicated to helping young girls find their voice in a world where many voices often try to speak for them, and to help them use their voices creatively to make positive change possible within their communities.

### **Eloise Reid, 2013**

Environmental Studies and Africana Studies majors  
Mad River Localvores – Mad River Valley, VT

Eloise is working as the media and communications intern for this community group that aims to increase local food consumption and production. The group collaborates, educates and celebrates local food. Eloise's collaborates with the local public television station to film and archive the farm and garden tours. She helped the group create a YouTube channel, Twitter account, and Tumblr blog, and continuously updates the group's Facebook page and website. Eloise is also developing a climate change and agricultural talk show scheduled to start airing on the local radio station later this summer.

### **Joshua Rosner, 2014**

Jazz Studies major, Music Cognition and Perception minor  
Wet Ink – New York, NY

Wet Ink Ensemble consists of seven core members; three performers and four performers/composers. Unlike most contemporary classical/new music groups, this ensemble functions like a band, writing music for each other to perform. At Wet Ink, Joshua is working on updating a comprehensive press list, assisting in grant writing, and learning about the organization. He is also involved in Wet Ink's outreach to universities and other schools of music in the area. Wet Ink is determined to continue to grow support for contemporary music in New York City and beyond. Joshua hopes that he will one day be part of a new music ensemble that will allow him to perform and compose music for fellow ensemble members.

**Silvia Sheffield, 2015**

Dance and English majors  
American Dance Festival – Durham, NC

The American Dance Festival, the hub of the contemporary dance world in the U.S., brings together professional artists, scholars, and students annually. Silvia works in the Archives Department, collecting and filing documents from this year's 80th anniversary season and assisting the festival videographer. She is also responsible for several ongoing projects, including selecting photos to contribute to the Dance Heritage Coalition's *America's Irreplaceable Dance Treasures: the First 100* online exhibit. Silvia is currently considering ways dance might fit into her post-Oberlin life. In addition to exploring arts administration with this internship, she has recently presented a dance at a conference, co-directed the Oberlin student dance showcase, founded and directed a summer dancers' cooperative, worked with a professor to republish a book, and written a performance review that won the first-place award in a competition by the *Dance Enthusiast*.

**Alice Shockey, 2015**

Individual major, IM Neural Aesthetics: A Praxis for Spatial Cognition in Child Development  
[In Process]  
xdesign Environmental Health Clinic – New York, NY

Alice is working with Natalie Jeremijenko, a professor at New York University and director of xdesign Environmental Health Clinic. Natalie Jeremijenko is leading the OoZ project, creating open spaces and developing open habitat for project experimentation with animals and humans. Alice assists with computer design software programs, while managing a social media campaign. This internship relates to Alice's research interests including Neuroesthetics and Psychopathologies as related to cognitive perception within a cultural, political, and ecological landscape.

**Madison Szathmary, 2016**

Biology major  
Mystic Aquarium, Sea Research Foundation – Mystic, CT

Madison is a beluga whale husbandry intern at the Mystic Aquarium, a part of the Sea Research Foundation. Mystic Aquarium is one of the world's leading facilities in marine mammal care and research that aims to inspire people to care about the ocean through education, research, and exploration. Madison is gaining experience in all aspects of marine mammal care including diet preparation, exhibit maintenance, training, and healthcare. She is also participating in distinguished research efforts. Through a career as a marine mammal trainer, Madison hopes to provide innovation to the field of animal care and, most importantly, inspire others to conserve ocean life.

**Parkorn Wangpaiboonkit, 2015**

Comparative Literature major, Rhetoric and Composition minor  
The Metropolitan Opera Guild – New York, NY  
The Grand Opera Thailand – Bangkok, Thailand

Pakron is interning at two organizations this summer. As an intern in the Education Department at the Metropolitan Opera Guild, Parkorn assists the staff as they plan for the coming opera season. His responsibilities include preparing marketing and customer service materials, maintaining social

media profiles and assisting in artistic and musicological research for the Guild. At the Grand Opera Thailand, a newly formed opera company, Parkorn will assist the Artistic Director using the experience gained from academic work at Oberlin and at the Metropolitan Opera Guild. He will help with development and marketing research, oversee the rehearsal process and serve as stage manager for opera productions. Parkorn hopes to work in the field of performing arts administration after Oberlin.

**Hannah Weilbacher, 2014**

Politics major

Office of Congresswoman Annie Kuster – Washington, DC

As an intern in the Washington D.C. office of Annie Kuster (D-NH, US House of Representatives), Hannah works on projects with the legislative staff and assists constituents with concerns. In addition, she joined the Women's Campaign Fund, where she is a Political and Programs Fellow working to elect and support more pro-choice women leaders. Both of these experiences are providing her with essential skills in political organizing.