

STUDENT EXHIBITION INTERNSHIP:

# 50 YEARS OF WORLD HERITAGE



PM B9804, Mortuary Statue from the World Heritage Site of Palmyra

“Heritage is our legacy from the past, what we live with today, and what we pass on to future generations. Our cultural and natural heritage are both irreplaceable sources of life and inspiration.”

- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (2016)

Next year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UNESCO’s 1972 Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, creating an international framework for the protection of heritage with “outstanding universal value”. For the first time, natural and cultural heritage was considered a matter of global concern, and, over the past five decades, 193 state parties have ratified this convention, and over one thousand properties have been inscribed on the World Heritage List. But ideas global heritage also bring questions: what does the “universal” in “outstanding universal value” mean? Who decides that value? What types are heritage are included, and whose is excluded?

The Penn Museum is home to collections from many World Heritage sites; textiles from the Andean pilgrimage center of Pachacamac, cuneiform tablets from the Mesopotamian city of Ur, and early metal work from the Bronze Age site of Ban Chiang in Thailand. Drawing from the Penn Museum's collections, we will explore the meaning of World Heritage for the past, present, and future.

**Description:** The Penn Museum is offering a paid undergraduate internship for the 2018-2019 academic year. Three interns from the University of Pennsylvania will work with museum staff to create a small exhibition related to that the theme of World Heritage. Interns will learn first-hand about the curatorial, content development, administrative, and design aspects of staging an exhibition in a large museum. The year-long internship will focus on the planning, development, design, fabrication and installation of a small exhibition, which will open in February 2022. After the exhibition's opening, students will implement educational programs and events for the museum's public and academic audiences.

**Internship Qualifications:** University of Pennsylvania undergraduates, preferably with some experience in archaeology, history, anthropology, art history or other fields that explore issues related to heritage. Candidates should be enthusiastic, organized, self-motivated, and able to work both individually and collaboratively as part of a diverse team. Successful candidates will have experience conducting research and be extremely detail-oriented; able to work on a variety of tasks as priorities require; and demonstrate excellent communication and writing skills. Candidates must be able to interact in a professional manner with museum visitors, patrons and supporters, researchers, and other staff.

**Details:** The internship will require an average of 5 hours/week and will be compensated with a \$1400 stipend. Restricted to current University of Pennsylvania undergraduates.

**How to Apply:** Submit the following to [atiballi@upenn.edu](mailto:atiballi@upenn.edu) by **April 28<sup>th</sup>**

- A cover letter (1-2 pages) describing the skills, abilities, and experiences that you bring to the Penn Museum, with specific reference to the exhibition theme
- A resume or curriculum vitae
- A letter of recommendation from a University of Pennsylvania professor, who can speak to your qualifications for this internship