



Please note October 19, 2011 application deadline

Oregon Students Researching Oregon **The Oregon Heritage Fellows Program**

Background

The Heritage Programs Division of the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department will provide 1-3 fellowships of \$2,000 each to undergraduate students who are seniors and to graduate students for researching, writing and presenting a topic related to history, geography, archaeology, cultural heritage, or historic preservation in Oregon.

The Fellowship recipients will make a 20-minute presentation of their project or research findings April 27, 2012 at the Oregon Heritage Conference in Salem. They will also be invited to submit their project paper to the Oregon Historical Society for possible publication in the *Oregon Historical Quarterly*.

The purpose of this Heritage Fellowship is to encourage the thoughtful inquiry of Oregon's heritage by emerging scholars. Many new topics remain to be pursued, and fresh perspectives on previously examined topics are needed as well in order to keep the investigation of Oregon's history fresh and relevant. The Fellowship offers a financial incentive for those research efforts, and it provides an opportunity for sharing the results with the Oregon heritage community through a public presentation. The hope is that these efforts will stimulate further inquiry and discussion, and perhaps lead to even broader dissemination through publications and other media.

By conducting research and presenting their results, Oregon Heritage Fellows will also make significant contributions to the Oregon statehood sesquicentennial commemoration. Indeed, the sesquicentennial may result in increased public interest in the Fellows' projects.

Applicant Criteria:

The recipient must be a full-time student at a university in the State of Oregon. The student must have completed at least 135 quarter credits (or the equivalent) as an undergraduate student, or be enrolled as a graduate student. The student may be enrolled in any major or field and must be in good academic standing.

The research project must have Oregon's history, geography, cultural heritage, archaeology, or historic preservation as its central focus. Examples of some of the areas this might involve would be history education, architectural history, political history, environmental history, art history, literary history, gender studies, ethnic studies, the teaching of history, and historic preservation. Other topics are possible as well.

Application Process:

To apply for the Fellowship, a qualified student shall submit the following:

- A one-page prospectus describing their project, including the principal research questions they will pursue, and prospective research methods and sources.
- Letters from two faculty members, including the student's advisor, describing the student's abilities, including their experience, research skills, and capacity to complete the project's scholarship and presentation. At least one of the letters should state how the faculty member will assist the student with the project.

Application materials shall be submitted by October 19, 2011 to heritage.info@state.or.us The applicant must confirm receipt of the application by the Heritage Commission coordinator prior to the deadline.

A committee of professionals and scholars will review the applications and recommend recipients to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, which will make the final selection. It is anticipated this selection will be made about Nov. 1. A total of 1-3 Fellowships will be awarded.

The selection criteria will include: 1) the project's relationship and significance to Oregon's cultural heritage 2) the relevance and thoroughness of the research methods and sources, and 3) the student's ability to complete and present the project by April 2012.

Award Process:

Half of the Fellowship will be given to the student when the Fellowship award is made. The other half will be paid when the student satisfactorily completes the project. Exceptions may be considered if the student demonstrates a need for the money for the project itself and substantial progress toward completion.

Presentation:

Fellowship awardees will present 20-minute presentations of their project April 27, 2012 at the Oregon Heritage Conference/Northwest Archivists Annual Meeting in Salem. The presentation will be made to a diverse audience of academics, practitioners and the general public. The presentations are expected to cover both the research findings and the research process.

Additional Information:

The Fellow's research paper (minimum 10 pages) will be posted on the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department's website.

If you want additional information about the Fellowship program, contact Oregon Heritage Commission coordinator Kyle Jansson at 503-986-0673 or heritage.info@state.or.us

A list of previous awardees and their topics is available at www.oregon.gov/oprd/hcd/ohc/fellowship.shtml