

Title of Position *	Preservation Scholars Program
Institution *	Texas Historical Commission
Position Location: City & State *	Austin, TX
Position Closing Date	<u>Friday, March 16, 2018</u>

About the Institution

The Texas Historical Commission (THC) is the state agency for historic preservation. We save the real places that tell the real stories of Texas.

Our staff consults with citizens and organizations to preserve Texas history through its architectural, archeological, and cultural landmarks. The agency is recognized nationally for its preservation programs.

The commission is composed of nine citizen members appointed by the governor to staggered six-year terms. Agency employees work in various fields, including archeology, architecture, history, economic development, heritage tourism, public administration, and urban planning.

Institution Website Address <http://www.thc.texas.gov/about-us/job-openings/internship-program/preservation-scholars-program>

Summary of Responsibilities

The Texas Historical Commission (THC) seeks to increase the diversity of professionals working in historic preservation, acknowledge the variety of cultures that enrich Texas' heritage, and engage a wider range of organizations and communities in supporting efforts to protect and preserve the history of our state.

The Preservation Scholars Program was created to build interest in and awareness of historic preservation, specifically among students from underrepresented cultural, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups. The THC recognizes that many such groups are currently underrepresented in the professional fields related to historic preservation. This initiative targets higher education students to encourage their interest in pursuing fields of study in history, preservation, architecture, landscape architecture, archeology, downtown revitalization and heritage tourism. Students will also learn about the impact that historic preservation programs can have on a community's economic development.

Program Goals

Increase the representation of all cultural, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups in historic preservation careers

Increase the number of historic and cultural resources associated with the state's diverse cultural history that are identified, documented, preserved and interpreted

Increase the number of diverse organizations and communities involved in the historic preservation field and served by public and private preservation programs.

Scholars will complete a rotation amongst all divisions headquartered in Austin and then complete a special project in a division of their choice. Scholars will receive a \$5,000 stipend provided by the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission for an eight week internship (40-hour week). Scholars will work under the supervision of the THC, at its headquarters in Austin and/or "in the field" with its historic sites, an associated preservation organization such as a Main Street program, a heritage tourism program, a history museum or a historical association. Brief progress reports will be required, both during the employment period and at the conclusion of the student's internship.

Working with THC staff and programs will expose the Scholars to the various and exciting vocational opportunities in the field of historic preservation, with the goal of encouraging more students from underrepresented ethnic groups to pursue careers in this field upon graduation. In return, the THC and its partner organizations will have the opportunity to meet promising young people who might choose to work in this field.

Friends of the Texas Historical Commission is building two endowments, both of which will fund one or more internship stipends. The Matthew Honer and Larutha Odom Clay Preservation Scholars Endowment was created in 2015 in memory of Larutha M. Odom Clay, and provides a stipend to a Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) student intern. The second endowment, the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission Preservation Scholars Endowment, was created by the organization's Board of Trustees.

Required Qualifications	Eligibility
	U.S. citizens
	College students who have completed 50 or more credit hours upon start of internship
	Attending a college or university in Texas, or a Texas resident attending school out-of-

state

Recent graduates or college seniors applied to or accepted into a graduate program are eligible (proof of application or acceptance to a graduate program will be required)

Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or above on a 4.0 system (or comparable GPA)

Prior recipients are ineligible

Compensation

Scholars will receive a \$5,000 stipend provided by the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission for an eight week internship (40-hour week).

Apply at this Website:

<http://www.thcfriends.org/preservation-scholars-program>

Apply with this email:**Special Instructions to Apply:****Deadline & Application Instructions**

The 2018 Preservation Scholar application period is January 2, 2018 – March 16, 2018. You can apply through the Friends of the Texas Historical Commissions webpage, <http://www.thcfriends.org/preservation-scholars-program>, with an online application. Official transcripts from appropriate institutions are required. Unofficial transcripts will not be accepted. Letters of reference from two (2) persons familiar with your scholarship, work experience, career goals and history of community service are required. See the link below for an explanatory letter to send when requesting a letter of reference. Letters of reference will be considered confidential unless confidentiality has been waived by the referee. Mail transcripts and Letters to: Preservation Scholars Program Texas Historical Commission PO Box 12276 Austin, Texas 78711.

Application, official transcripts, and Letters of Reference are due and must be postmarked by March 16, 2018. Applications submitted or postmarked after midnight CST on March 16th cannot be accepted.

If selected, in-person or online interviews will be held in April.

Please read instructions and application information carefully.

Explanatory letters for reference requests can be accessed <http://www.thcfriends.org/public/upload/u18/2018%20Reference%20Letter%20-%202.pdf>.

Incomplete applications or those submitted after the deadline will not be considered. Online applications must be completed all at once. The webpage will not save your progress if you leave the page.
