



**Support for Research at
THE BAKKEN
3537 Zenith Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55416**

**RESEARCH TRAVEL GRANT and VISITING RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
APPLICATION GUIDELINES**

Purpose

The Bakken awards Research Travel Grants and short-term Visiting Research Fellowships to scholars and artists to support research using The Bakken's library and artifact collections. Applications for 2015 are due March 23, 2015.

The Bakken Collections

The Bakken collections include approximately 11,000 books, journals, and manuscripts, and about 2,200 instruments, medical devices, and other artifacts. The subject of the collections is the history of electricity and magnetism with a focus on their roles in the life sciences and medicine. The library collection includes works in early physics (natural philosophy) and early works on magnetic cures, electrotherapeutics, electrophysiology, and their accompanying instrumentation. The Bakken Library also possesses a fine collection of primary sources in mesmerism, animal magnetism, and hypnotism, and works documenting the history of para-psychology, psychical research, and phrenology. Significant holdings include many of the writings of Hauksbee, Nollet, Franklin, Mesmer, Galvani, Volta, Matteucci, Du Bois-Reymond, Marey, and Einthoven, to name some of the most well-known.

Also of interest to researchers are collections of 19th-century medical and electro-medical ephemera (about 300 advertisements, programs, postcards, broadsides, circulars, and pamphlets) and miscellaneous scientists' letters from the 18th-20th centuries. There is also a collection of about 400 trade catalogues and price lists representing the products of nearly 250 companies. Most of them were published during the period of 1850-1930, although there are a few from the second half of the 18th century.

The artifact collection comprises objects from the 18th century to the present, including electrostatic generators by George Adams, Edward Nairne, John Cuthbertson and others; magneto-electric generators; medical stimulators designed by Duchenne; induction coils; physiological instrumentation by E.J. Marey; recording devices; cardiac pacing devices; and accessories. Unorthodox devices are well-represented and include electric belts and hairbrushes,

magnetic applicators, and radionics equipment.

Terms

Research Travel Grants: Any researcher may apply for a Research Travel Grant. The awards are up to \$500 maximum for domestic researchers and up to \$750 maximum for foreign researchers. Funds are to be used to help defray the expenses of travel, subsistence, and other direct costs of conducting research at the Bakken. The minimum period of residence is one week (five research days).

Visiting Research Fellowship: The Bakken's Visiting Research program is open to all researchers and awards up to \$1,500 to be used to help defray the expenses of travel, subsistence, and other direct costs of conducting research at the Bakken. The minimum period of residence is two weeks (ten research days); during this time, the researcher will be encouraged to spend a short time collaborating with members of The Bakken staff and/or audience (see Criteria, below).

Next Deadline: Applications are due March 23, 2015. Successful applicants must schedule their visit to the Bakken in advance and complete their visit before December 1, 2015

Criteria

The relevance of the Bakken's collections to the applicant's research is the primary consideration in awarding travel grants and research fellowships. For more information about The Bakken's library and artifact collections, search the library catalogue at:

<http://www.thebakken.org/research/library> (or on OCLC's WorldCat), and search the artifact database at: <http://red.thebakken.org:81>.

Other factors considered for awarding grants and fellowships are the significance of the research topic, evidence that the proposed research will be successfully completed, and the completeness of your application (see "Application Materials").

For Visiting Research Fellowships:

Researchers are vital for helping Bakken staff members understand the collections and interpret them in public programs and exhibits. To foster this process, we encourage applicants to contribute to The Bakken by sharing their expertise with the staff and/or museum audiences. Successful applicants are encouraged to spend a short time during their two-week research period in this effort. Examples of this kind of collaboration include: informal discussions with a group of staff members about your research; assisting the exhibit team with planning for an exhibit; meeting with members of the education department to advise on curriculum; a public lecture about your research; interacting with youth in the various education programs; or helping plan a future conference. Your application should indicate your willingness to collaborate and include a brief description of how you think you might best contribute.

Application Materials

Each application must include the following:

- 1) A research proposal of no more than three single-spaced pages which contains:
 - a description of the proposed research and how it will add to existing scholarship on your

subject (scholars); or how it will expand and enrich cultural awareness and understanding of your subject (artists);

- a description of the general nature of the sources at the Bakken you plan to use in the research;
- the intended result of the research (for example, article, book, exhibit, video, sculpture, installation);
- a budget (see Expenses, below);
- for Visiting Research Fellowships, a brief description of the planned collaboration with Bakken staff members and/or museum audience, if applicable.

2) A sample of your work. This will vary for artists and scholars. For writers and scholars, please submit a writing sample of about five to 20 pages (e.g. a paper, an article, a chapter from a book). If you are an artist, this might be published articles, exhibit catalogues, or brochures about your work, or a web site, or a cd or dvd with photos or videos of your work, etc.

3) A curriculum vitae or résumé.

4) One letter of recommendation from someone in your field who is familiar with your work.

Send application materials to research@thebakken.org.

Expenses

Permissible expenses include transportation, meals and lodging, photocopying, and other direct costs of research.

The Bakken charges a modest photocopy fee, with a limit of 500 photocopies; scans and photographs are also available at varying fees. Researchers who bring digital cameras are allowed to make their own copies at no cost, provided they check first with staff, that it can be done without damaging the book, and that the copying complies with copyright law. Computers and other "non-consumable" equipment are not permissible expenses. If there is any doubt about appropriate expenses, please inquire before submitting your application.

Requirements

Recipients must arrange the schedule of their visit with the appropriate curator(s), depending on the primary area of their research, before they make travel arrangements. They must adhere to the agreed-upon period of residence at The Bakken (a minimum of one week for research travel grants and a minimum of two weeks for visiting research fellowships), and must submit a brief final report on their research within a month after their visit.

Please direct inquiries to Rachel Howell, Curator of Books at howell@thebakken.org.

Juliet Burba, Chief Curator

Email: burba@thebakken.org

Telephone: 612-926-3878, ext. 217