



City of LAUNCESTON

Plomley Foundation Emerging Scholars Program

Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Launceston, Tasmania

April, 2019

Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery in Launceston, Tasmania is launching an *Emerging Scholars Program* for new museum researchers to undertake paid internships within its rich and diverse collections.

This program recognises the importance of enabling students to gain valuable workplace experience and develop industry-specific abilities in a chosen area. The internships will be project-based and allow students to work across disciplines such as collections handling and interpretation, exhibition content development, archival research and database management. The internships will require students to spend four (4) weeks onsite at QVMAG in Launceston during which time they will work directly with the collections. Successful applicants will be required to submit a short written work such as a research article, significance assessment or similar at the conclusion of the project, in consultation with QVMAG supervisors.

Each intern will receive a stipend totalling \$1500 to be paid in two \$750 instalments at the beginning and end of the project. Applicants should note that any required accommodation and/or travel will be funded by the student. Participation in these internships requires that the student's insurance be covered by their educational institution.

How to apply

To be eligible, students must be currently enrolled in a relevant post-graduate course at a recognised Australian tertiary educational institution. If a student wishes to apply for more than one project a **separate application** must be made for each project.

The application process requires each candidate to provide:

- letter (maximum 500 words) outlining suitability and interest in the specific project
- current CV
- 2 references (at least one of which is from a course co-ordinator or equivalent)
- letter of endorsement from the enrolling institution giving permission to undertake the internship, including agreement that the institution will provide insurance cover

Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed either in person, by phone or by videolink as necessary. Applications due in by **5pm, Monday May 27, 2019**

The 2019 projects are:

1: *Ross Female Factory Collection* - two positions

Archaeological material from the Ross Female Factory is of enormous historical significance. The intern will prepare this material for future interpretive possibilities by rehousing objects, undertaking conservation cleaning and documenting the material for registration. This internship is intended to train the next generation of museum professionals in managing and handling museum objects as well as understanding the link between fieldwork and high quality museum collections. The project is a precursor to building a digital platform, which will offer public access to information about the Female Factory site.

2: *Garry Greenwood Collection*

QVMAG holds a large collection of unique leather instruments constructed by the prominent Tasmanian maker and musician Garry Greenwood, crafted across a career of four decades. The objects sit within different collection areas across the museum including history, decorative arts and contemporary art. The intern will reunite the instruments into a discreet collection in the context of a significance assessment, allowing the full importance of this artist to be understood. This internship will provide training in the complex process of assessing significance, in this case by understanding the special contribution made by a functional collection - such as still-used musical instruments - to the vibrancy of an institution, bringing cultural heritage into contemporary relevance.

3: *Human Remains Repatriation*

This material, deposited in the QVMAG collections during the early 20th Century, remains disconnected from its provenance documentation and therefore unable to be processed within the museums' human remains policy. This intern will undertake archival research in order to provenance the material and provide a set of written recommendations for QVMAG to consider, based on national best practice procedures for the repatriation of human remains.

4. *Kaw collection* - two positions

A large collection of objects, written archives and photographs relating to the family and business interests of the Kaw family was donated to the museum in 2005. Chin Kaw migrated to Tasmania from Guandong province in China in 1879 and quickly became influential amongst both the Chinese and non-Chinese population of northern Tasmania. This internship will assess the Kaw collection, and in particular will investigate the documents in Chinese, with the aim of consolidating and adding value to the collection. Competency in archaic written Chinese would be welcome.

For further enquiries please contact:

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