Pratt School of Information

Watson Library Fellowship Application
2026-2027

Information

Two opportunities are available for Pratt MSLIS students at the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Thomas J. Watson Library. The goal is to provide students with guided learning experiences across the key activities of art librarianship. A sincere interest in a non-profit and/or arts institution is expected, as well as an enthusiasm for visual art and museums. Selected participants will be considered Met Graduate Interns, and part of The Met's [Undergraduate and Graduate Internship Program](#) cohort. They will participate in Met internship programs to learn about museum practice broadly and meet with Met staff from across the Museum.

Over two semesters, fellows will participate in several areas of the library: technical services, digitization, and systems. This will take place in the context of hands-on work whenever possible, but also through meetings and demonstrations with staff members. At the same time, there will be a project which will be an opportunity to focus more deeply on several of these areas, developed in consultation with library staff to meet both library needs and intern interest and aptitude, while maintaining some continuity of core duties. Participants will have the option to give a presentation to library staff on their project at the end of the second semester.

Participants will learn best practices from a workflow level down to a personal level, working with competencies already in place for Watson Library staff. These can include:

- hands-on work with technical services workflows;
- importing and editing bibliographic records in Sierra and Connexion Client;
- gain familiarity with how Python, SQL, Javascript and HTML/CSS are used in a live environment;
- learn how to perform basic book conservation procedures (making enclosures, plastic covers, etc.);
- carry out basic acquisitions functions such as placing orders, selecting and receiving;
- learn the basics of creating metadata in CONTENTdm and work with our cutting-edge scanners on digitization projects;
- record loading and data transformation.

The fellowship recipient will commit to working on-site at the museum for 8 hours/week (120 hours/semester for the fall 2026 and spring 2027 semesters; 30 weeks total from September 2026-May 2027). **There are no hybrid or remote working options.** The Watson Library fellowship includes a scholarship in the amount of $8,200 that will be divided equally between the fall 2026 and spring 2027 semesters. Fellows must complete INFO 667 Art Librarianship and take either INFO 698 Practicum/Seminar <u>or</u> present their fellowship project at InfoShow27 in spring 2027. If the fellowship recipient has previously taken INFO 667 Art Librarianship, this requirement can be substituted with another art librarianship/special collections/archives course subject to the approval of the Dean of the

School of Information. The successful applicant must take at least 6 credits in both the fall 2026 and spring 2027 semesters.

Please note that continuing the fellowship through spring 2027 is contingent upon review of the fall 2026 semester by Watson Library staff. The fellowship recipient will be selected by Watson Library staff following an initial review by Pratt SI staff. Official notification will be made in late April 2026.

Please contact the SI Office with questions about the fellowship and/or application process.

Eligibility

To be eligible for consideration, an applicant must have:
- started the MSLIS program no later than spring 2026
- a graduation date of June 1, 2027 or later

Application submission & deadline

To apply, please submit the online form with the following uploads; Pratt Google Drive login required:
https://bit.ly/prattischool-fellowship-apply
- Resume/CV
- A list detailing your software/technology proficiency
- Statement of purpose: In a 1-2 page statement, please address the following questions from The Met's staff:
  1. What do you want to learn from the fellowship at The Met? What are your academic and/or career goals, and how do you think this internship would help you achieve them?
  2. The Met is committed to creating an inclusive community of staff and interns that celebrates and supports difference. Please offer an example of how you help fellow students or peers feel a sense of inclusion or belonging in your classes, community, or workplace.

The deadline is 5pm EST, Monday, April 6, 2026.