

Community Internship Collaboration

Spring, 2017
Internship Posting

Organization name	Los Alamos Historical Society and Bathtub Row Press
Mentor/Contact name	Sharon Snyder
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Organization website	www.losalamoshistory.org
Describe your organization	Los Alamos Historical Society is comprised of a group of energetic and dedication people who preserve the history of the Pajarito Plateau—the Native American presence, the homesteaders, the Los Alamos Ranch School, the Manhattan Project years, the Cold War era, and community life in Los Alamos up to the present. We accomplish this through exhibits and activities in the History Museum, the Los Alamos Historical Museum Archives and Collection, publications from Bathtub Row Press, ownership and interpretation of historic buildings, educational programs, a lecture series, and more.
Internship title	Research Assistant
Specific days/hours (if applicable)	Flexible
What will the student learn from the internship?	Research and Organizational skills, manipulation of PowerPoint and Microsoft Word applications, Los Alamos Ranch School history, planning of museum exhibits, aspects of team work, how to organize and promote a large and ongoing event (the year-long celebration of the 100th anniversary of Ranch School), communication and publication skills.
What does your business need that a student intern can impact?	We need help with a project that relates to the 100th anniversary of Los Alamos Ranch School. We are researching the post-Ranch School lives of the 551 boys who attended the school and/or summer camp in the 25-year existence of the school. We want to learn what they did with their lives—education, professions, military service (many of them served in WWII), family connections, offspring, contributions to their communities and the country, etc). So far we have created profiles for approximately 200 of our LARS boys. We need to complete all 551 of them in time to produce an exhibit and plan a large celebration event by late August or early September of 2017. A part of that celebration will be the release of a book on the history of scouting in Los Alamos. The Ranch School employed the ideals of scouting and was designed along the lines of patrols. Although the boys did not have to become Boy Scouts and earn badges, many of them did. They wore uniforms and participate in Scout-like activities. Today's Los Alamos Troop 22 originated at the Ranch School, and it was the first mounted Scout troop in the United States. A student accepting this intern position will have the opportunity to participate in and learn from all of the endeavors leading up to the celebration event and opening of the museum exhibit, though the prime need is help with the research and interpretation of the boys' lives.

What project(s) will the intern work on?	<p>An intern will work on producing the files of information on each LARS boy. These files will eventually go into our museum archives, so the accuracy of details and neatness of the final versions of the files are important. If interested, the intern may try their hand at the online research of boys, learning how to find the bits and pieces of information that give a “picture” of what a boy’s post-LARS life was like and what his contributions were (the boys became doctors, WWII heroes, businessmen, athletes, ambassadors, authors, ranchers, senators, artists, pilots, and much more). The intern may also contribute ideas and skills in the design and promotion phases of the anniversary exhibit and events, including the publication of the book on Scouting.</p>
What skills are required for this internship?	<p>The main skills would be computer fluency in Microsoft Word and use of the Internet. Other skills that would be helpful are an eye for design and recognition of good use of language (writing and punctuation skills). An interest in history, curiosity, appreciation of neatness in presentation of materials, and a respect for teamwork are also important.</p>
What final deliverables will the student produce?	<p>The definite deliverables would be neat and usable Word files for the archives. These files are constructed from information sent to us in PowerPoint format by an independent researcher. Much of the information is simply transferred from the PowerPoint pages to a Word document, arranged neatly in a coherent progression and checked for good presentation. (The intern would have help initially in how this is done, though it is not difficult to learn.) Other deliverables could include, depending on student ability and interest, ideas for exhibit design, written promotional materials, design of promotional materials if the student has artistic skills to contribute, research collected from online sources, and such.</p>
How would you describe the primary purpose of this project? (Select one)	<p>Other</p>
If “Other”, please specify	<p>The primary purpose of the project is to produce an archival collection based on historical research and preparation of materials. The secondary purpose is to design and carry out a year-long celebration of the anniversary of the Los Alamos Ranch School and its contributions to Los Alamos, our country, and in some instances, the world.</p>
Any additional information you would like to share?	<p>The intern would no doubt be working with several of the staff members at the historical society, but it might be of interest to know that, as the mentor, I taught for 26 years in the Albuquerque Public Schools system (Sandia High School). During my teaching career I taught journalism, geology, astronomy, and chemistry. I very much enjoy working with young adults.</p>