The University of St. Thomas Department of Art History is offering two tuition fellowships for eligible applicants who wish to enroll in the Summer 2016 graduate seminar on Native American Art (course information below). Each fellowship award covers the full cost of tuition. The fellowship recipient will be responsible for the cost of books and other course materials (approximately $150) as well as a technology fee (approximately $60).

Eligibility:

• B.A. or B.S. from an accredited institution (verified by an official transcript).
• Enrolled member of a federally recognized American Indian tribe or Alaska Native group in the United States, or documentation of ancestry to possession of ¼ degree Indian blood of a federally recognized tribe.
• Not currently enrolled in a graduate course of study at any institution.

Selection criteria:
The fellowship is designed to 1) bring broader perspectives to the course, thus enriching and providing nuance to our teaching in the humanities and 2) allow Native American students to gain personal and/or professional enrichment from the opportunity to learn about Native American art in an academic context. Fellowship recipients must be:

• Self-motivated and prepared for the research and writing demands of a graduate course.
• Interested in engaging in a critical analysis of key issues in Native American art.
• Poised to apply knowledge and perspectives gained in the seminar for personal and/or professional growth.

Fellowship application:

• One-page statement of interest that addresses:
  • What prepares you for graduate-level study of Native American art?
  • How would enrollment in this course benefit you personally and professionally? Your community?
• Unofficial transcript due with application. Upon acceptance an official transcript will be required.
• A writing sample demonstrating research and writing expertise (sample will not be returned). Examples may include: a paper produced in an undergraduate course, current research project, or a written analysis of work of art from the Minneapolis Institute of Art’s Africa and the Americas Department.

Deadline:

March 15: Fellowship applications due by email to Marria Thompson, Department of Art History Program Manager (marria.thompson@stthomas.edu).

April 4: Decisions announced
In this seminar course, we will explore the range of Native artistic practices of the past and present. Through important readings, discussions, visiting museums, and conducting independent research, we focus on learning about the art of major culture areas of North America. At the same time, we will discuss important themes and topics in the study of Native art, including the role of culture and the individual artist, the history of collecting Native art, issues of museums and representation, and contemporary aesthetic practices. In order to do this, we first explore and become grounded in the historical development and the art of each culture area to illuminate some of the central questions in the study of Native American art today.