



2024-2025 Faculty Fellows Program Program Description and Call for Applications

Overview

The Syracuse University Art Museum Faculty Fellows Program supports innovative curriculum development and the fuller integration of the museum's collection in university instruction. Now in its third year, the program focuses on object-based teaching and research. Each Faculty Fellow will receive a \$5,000 stipend or research subsidy, a hands-on introduction to the collection by museum staff, and ongoing curricular support.

In 2024-2025 SU Art will embrace our mission as a "museum-laboratory" and will turn over two of our galleries to the Faculty Fellows for exhibitions. Each Fellow will have the chance to explore the museum's collection and select objects to build one or more visual arguments in support of a class they are teaching during the Spring 2025 semester. This form of visual storytelling encourages the development of cross-cultural and interdisciplinary themes and concepts.

Fellows will be expected to develop a museum visit lesson plan, at least one object-based student assignment, a teaching exhibition, and a collection-based teaching guide; all materials should be related to a course being taught in Spring 2025. The bulk of this work will be done during summer 2024. The Museum will support up to two (2) Fellows in 2024-2025.

This program is made possible with the support of the Wege Foundation and the Syracuse University Office of Research and Office of Strategic Initiatives.

What is object-based teaching and research?

Object-based teaching and research takes as its focal point an object or objects that exist in the physical world. Examples of objects include works of art, manuscripts, archival documents, archaeological artifacts, and natural specimens. Object-based teaching is active, experiential, and student-centered. It asks students themselves to make observations and analyze evidence in real time, and, using those observations and analysis, to pose research questions and develop interpretations.

Why object-based teaching and research?

Objects ask viewers to think deeply about materials and materiality, makers and users, connecting us with people, places, and experiences across space and time. Objects allow us to tell cross-cultural, complex, and under-told

stories; provide diverse and inclusive perspectives on historical, political, scientific, and cultural phenomena; and reflect the actual diversity of world populations and lived experience. Object-based teaching and research helps students to develop and hone observational skills; build vocabulary; bridge the divide between theory and practice; and increase empathy for people and experiences different from their own.

Why SUArt Museum?

The Syracuse University Art Museum acquires and cares for important works of art and serves as a museum-laboratory for exploration, experimentation, and discussion. The museum fosters diverse and inclusive perspectives by uniting students across campus with each other and with the local and global community. It welcomes all visitors to experience its exhibitions and public programs that promote original research, creative thinking, and increased mindfulness.

The museum's collection is among the largest academic art collections in the United States, encompassing over 45,000 artworks and cultural artifacts from across the globe and spanning 5,500 years of human history. Faculty from all disciplines will find objects in the museum's collection that resonate with their course content and themes.

How SU Art Museum will support you

Museum staff, including interim chief curator Melissa Yuen and curator of education Kate Holohan, will support the Fellows by providing access to the museum's collection, collaborating on course-related and pedagogical materials, and co-curating the Spring 2025 exhibitions. Consultations with additional museum staff may also be possible.

During summer 2024, the museum will partner with the Graduate School to hire a graduate intern to provide research support and work with the Fellows to develop teaching guides that pair museum objects with themes and content related to the Fellows' courses and exhibitions.

The Museum will install the Fellows' exhibitions in two of the Lowe Galleries in Spring 2025. Objects will be on display from January 16, 2025-May 10, 2025. Faculty Fellows are encouraged to build their object-based assignment(s) and class visit(s) around the works on display in the Lowe Galleries.

Eligibility

- Open to all Syracuse University tenure-track and full-time non-tenure track faculty teaching in Spring 2025.

- Proposals may be from any Syracuse University school, college, or discipline. Information about what to include in the proposal can be found below, under “Application Checklist”.
- Preference will be given to courses with the potential to be integrated into the curriculum and taught on a recurring basis.

Expectations

Each Fellow will work collaboratively with museum staff to:

- Curate a teaching exhibition. This includes identifying a curatorial theme or idea; selecting objects; writing exhibition texts (introduction and object labels); and, if interested, designing the exhibition layout.
- Create a collection-based teaching guide related to the exhibition. Research support will be provided by a graduate intern.
- Develop a museum visit lesson plan and schedule at least one class visit to the museum.
- Create at least one museum object-based student assignment.

All materials should be related to a course being taught by the Fellow in Spring 2025. The bulk of this work will be done during summer 2024.

Terms of Appointment

- The fellowship period is June 2024-May 2025.
- Fellows must be in residence in Syracuse for at least part of summer 2024. During this period, Fellows will work with museum staff and a graduate intern to develop their required materials. Fellows will receive an orientation to object-based teaching and research at the Museum as well as to developing exhibitions; practice in close-looking, leading object-based discussions, and developing strategies for active learning in museum spaces; and a hands-on opportunity to engage with topic-specific, course-relevant objects. Total Fellowship time commitment is approximately 60 hours.
- The \$5,000 fellowship payment will be issued upon the museum’s receipt of all required materials. Each Fellow will have a choice to receive the payment as a stipend or as a research subsidy. The fellowship payment is classified by the University as

additional pay. Per University policy, additional pay is issued when required work is completed. Additional pay is subject to tax.

- The program does not provide housing.

Application Instructions

To apply, please submit the following materials as a **single PDF file** to suart@syr.edu no later than 5:00pm (EST) on March 15, 2024. Please indicate “2024-2025 Faculty Fellows Program” in the subject line of your email. Applicants will be notified of the selection committee’s decision by March 25, 2023.

Application Checklist

*Please compile **in this order** and submit as a **single PDF**.*

1. Completed application form (see below).
2. Proposal (2 pages max) expressing your interest in the Faculty Fellows program and addressing the following questions:
 - Which areas of the Museum’s collections are most relevant to your Spring 2025 course?
 - What themes, ideas, and/or concepts will your exhibition explore?
 - How will your course, exhibition, class visit(s), and object-based assignment(s) teach students to discover, analyze, research, and discuss works in the Museum’s collections?
 - How does your Spring 2025 course relate to your department’s learning outcomes?
 - How will your experience as a Faculty Fellow help you to improve, expand, or enhance your teaching?
3. List of 10 museum objects that you would like to incorporate into your exhibition, class visit(s), and assignment(s).
 - Briefly explain (2-3 sentences or bullet points) why each object is of interest and/or relevant to your Spring 2025 course.
 - For each artwork, please include the artist’s name (if known), the title of the artwork, and the accession number. Example: Willie Cole, *Emma*, 2022.0006.
 - Explore the collection here:
<https://onlinecollections.syr.edu/collections>
4. Spring 2025 course description and syllabus.
5. Current curriculum vitae.

2024-2025 Faculty Fellows Program Application Form

Please submit this form and all required materials (see Application Checklist in Program Description and Call for Applications) to suart@syr.edu no later than 5:00 pm (EST) on March 15, 2024.

Name and title: _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone number: (_____) _____

Email address: _____

SU ID #: _____

Academic department & school: _____

I, the undersigned, have read, understand, and agree to the conditions and terms of this Faculty Fellows Program. I understand that in order to hold a fellowship and accept the fellowship payment, I must:

- Work with museum staff over summer 2024 to develop my Fellows materials. I understand I will need to be in Syracuse for at least part of summer 2024.
- Finalize a checklist, introductory text, and labels for my Fellows exhibition; schedule at least one class visit to the museum (Spring 2025); develop at least one object-based assignment; and create a collection-based teaching guide.
- Teach the associated course during Spring 2025 semester.
- Participate in assessment activities related to the program.

Signature & date:
