

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Bill McLennan Northwest Coast Travel Award

AMOUNT: \$10,000

FACULTY: Faculty of Fine Arts

ELIGIBLE STUDENTS: Full-time graduate students in the Faculty of Fine Arts, including those pursuing the MA/PhD Individualized Program (INDI) and the Interdisciplinary Humanities PhD Program (HUMA) with a primary advisor in the Faculty of Fine Arts. The Award is open to Canadian citizens, permanent residents and international students. All applications must be accompanied by a letter of nomination from a faculty member of the Faculty of Fine Arts.

DURATION: Internships will take place over a 4 to 8 weeks period between June and August 2027. The award is non-renewable.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Monday, January 25, 2027 at 5pm.

ADJUDICATION: Applications will be assessed by a committee made up of one of Concordia's Indigenous faculty members, the curators of Pacific Northwest Indigenous art, and the Director of the Museum of Anthropology (MOA) at the University of British Columbia (UBC).

Applicants will be notified of the jury's decision by Thursday, February 25, 2027.

DESCRIPTION:

The Bill McLennan Northwest Coast Travel Award is funded by the Doggone Foundation in memory of legacy of Bill McLennan (1948-2020), curator emeritus of the University of British Columbia's Museum of Anthropology (MOA).

The award is granted annually to a full-time graduate student from the Faculty of Fine Arts whose research or artistic practice intersects with Northwest Coast Indigenous art or cultures. The funds provide the opportunity for the recipient to travel to British Columbia to intern with, and/or conduct research at the Museum of Anthropology at UBC in furtherance of their academic and/or artistic goals. Students are invited to apply for an internship, proposing a research project in connection to the MOA's Northwest Coast Indigenous art collection.

The Museum of Anthropology was established in 1949 as a department within the Faculty of Arts at the University of British Columbia. In 2017, MOA opened a new Gallery of Northwest Coast Masterworks. Since its inception, MOA has been at the forefront of bringing Indigenous art into the mainstream by collecting and curating traditional and contemporary Indigenous art in a way that respects the artists and the cultures from which this work comes.

MOA resides on the traditional and unceded territory of the Musqueam people and works by Musqueam artists welcome visitors to the site. MOA's exhibitions and programs emphasize artistic diversity and the links between art, community and the contemporary social and political context in which youth, artists and communities are communicating their cultural traditions. MOA hosts three or four temporary exhibitions a year, as well as a wide range of public programs and events. MOA is also one of Canada's largest teaching museums with faculty and staff teaching courses in museum studies, museum education, and conservation as well as Indigenous and world art. It hosts practicums and internships for students and has offered curatorial fellowships in conjunction with the Mellon Foundation. Learn more about the MOA by visiting their website: <https://moa.ubc.ca/about-moa/>

Eligible uses of the funds from the Bill McLennan Northwest Coast Travel Award include costs related to travel and accommodation, as well as subsistence during the period of travel.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

All applications will be assessed based on academic and/or artistic merit and relevance of the letter of intent to the student's program of study. Applications must be accompanied by a letter of nomination from a faculty member of the Faculty of Fine Arts.

A letter of intent (maximum 2 pages) must address how the proposed travel award will benefit the student's research or artistic objectives, as well as how the student's presence will benefit the host institution. Specific reference should be made to how the proposed travel will expand the student's knowledge and understanding of Northwest Coast art, and the cultures and histories of the Indigenous peoples that shape it, with a clear indication of how this will further the student's research or artistic objectives.

FACULTY NOMINATOR: A nomination letter from a Concordia Faculty of Fine Arts faculty member must be submitted in PDF format under separate cover to fannie.gadouas@concordia.ca by the application deadline. Files should be named with student family name and first name (Eg. ANDERSON, Laurie – McLennan2027.pdf).

STUDENT: Application materials must be submitted electronically to fannie.gadouas@concordia.ca as **one single, continuous .pdf file** in the order specified below. Please name your file with your family name and first name (Eg. ANDERSON, Laurie – McLennan2027.pdf). Please limit your file size to 10 MB.

1. Completed and signed Application form
2. Letter of intent (maximum 2 pages typed) outlining research interests related to the MOA's Northwest Coast Indigenous art collection.
3. Current *curriculum vitae*.
4. If relevant, a portfolio with a maximum of 10 images and/or 3 links.
5. Transcripts of post-secondary study. **Note:** All transcripts currently in student files are acceptable.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

Award recipients must submit a written final report on completion of their project and within the 12-month period following the award announcement. Reports should detail outcomes of the travel award and how the experience benefited the student's research or artistic practice. An account of amounts spent on travel, accommodation and subsistence should also accompany the final report. Students are invited to submit additional visual or written documentation of their projects, as appropriate.