



## ART OF THE RURAL

### **Art of the Rural Internship Opportunities**

The Art of the Rural internship program welcomes current students and recent graduates who wish to supplement their educational experience by working with a national rural arts organization. Art of the Rural internships offer experiential education in an exciting, digital environment in exchange for a substantive contribution from gifted individuals who are passionate about cultural equity and contributing to a more diverse, inclusive arts environment.

There are two application deadlines and selection periods per year. Internships require a minimum commitment of two hundred hours, which can be dedicated through twenty hours per week for two months, or distributed differently based on a pre-arranged agreement between the intern and Art of the Rural staff. Interns are expected to complete a specific project as well as daily assignments. Interns also participate in staff meetings, networking opportunities with national partners, and Art of the Rural events.

Art of the Rural seeks diversity in its staff and provides equal opportunity to its applicants.

### **The Application Process**

Applications may be submitted electronically by emailing [savannah@artoftherural.org](mailto:savannah@artoftherural.org) and attaching your application form, resume, a letter of recommendation, and any additional materials by the appropriate deadline. Letters of recommendation may be submitted separately with the applicant's name in the subject line. Include your school's credit requirements in the e-mail.

Application materials are under review for approximately four weeks after the deadline. Candidates for interviews will be notified by e-mail. Most interviews will take place over phone or Skype. Please note that incomplete applications will not be considered.

**Download the application here: [Art of the Rural Internship Application](#)**

### **Questions?**

Art of the Rural cannot offer paid internships at this time, but does participate in some cooperative education programs. Students interested in cooperative education or academic credit should contact their college placement office or counselor for more information.

If you have questions about applying for an internship, please email [savannah@artoftherural.org](mailto:savannah@artoftherural.org).



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## Application Deadlines (two yearly)

### Internship Term

### Application Deadline

Summer Term (mid-June- August): May 2  
Fall Term (September- November): August 1, 2014

*\*Application terms can be flexible for students on the quarter system*

Please send all application materials (including letters of recommendation) by email to [savannah@artoftherural.org](mailto:savannah@artoftherural.org).

If you are interested in applying after a deadline, please contact Savannah Barrett at 270-589-7165.

## Internships are offered in following areas:

[Atlas of Rural Arts and Culture Community Partnership Internship](#)

[Year of the Rural Arts Events and Editorial Internship](#)

## Internship Descriptions:

### Atlas of Rural Arts and Culture Community Partnership Internship

**About the Project:** The Atlas of Rural Arts and Culture embodies a belief that while digital media can *collapse* the geographical distance that has long separated rural people from themselves and their urban partners, such technology must work to *bridge* human relationships.

The Atlas is both a resource and an archive, and is comprised of more than 700 stories and 45 projects across the landscape of American rural arts and culture. This open-source, community-driven platform allows individuals and organizations to tell their stories, visualize their networks, and engage existing and new audiences through a user-friendly platform that's easy to use and even easier to share. Along with social media sharing capabilities, the Atlas allows users to embed projects and maps on their own website.

Some recent [project](#) examples within the Atlas of Rural Arts and Culture include features from [Alan Lomax's American Patchwork Series](#), [the West 100 to 115 Rural Arts and Culture Map](#), and [Feminist Art Advancing Social Change in Rural Kentucky](#). Art of the Rural is continually seeking to collaborate with individuals and organizations on projects that can expand the range of experience represented on the Atlas.

### About the Internship:

This internship opportunity is designed to build a regional network of rural arts and culture through partnership with a community and/or cultural organization serving rural areas. We are especially



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interested in interns that have a community or organizational partner in mind that they have a personal interest in exploring. If the intern does not have a pre-existing interest in a specific partner, Art of the Rural can designate a partnering organization.

The intern can expect to collaborate with Art of the Rural and partner organization staff to:

- Design a mapping approach that is appropriate for the organization and community with which they are working
- Develop relationships with individual artists and organizers that participate with the partner's organization
- Digitally map a substantial amount of stories from this network
- Co-author an Art of the Rural feature article about the project
- Promote the project online through the Art of the Rural website and social media
- Work with the partner organization, individuals documented in the project, and Art of the Rural staff to create a networking platform among those mapped
- Share resources and opportunities within this network
- Document your learning experience throughout your internship

### **What You Will Learn:**

- Organizational narrative branding and storytelling
- How to build and strengthen a professional network
- How to craft a compelling narrative through writing and editing both short Atlas story vignettes and the feature article
- How to research, evaluate, and summarize the value of various resources and opportunities to constituents
- How to develop digital programming
- 21st Century work skills/ Learning and applying digital media skills
- Collaboration competencies
- How to document your learning process
- How to work in culturally competent ways with diverse communities and populations in line with the mission of the partnering organization

### **What We Require:**

Applicants should have strong organizational skills; comprehensive computer, social media, and digital media competencies; developed writing skills; be able to appropriately communicate with a wide variety of folks; developed collaboration skill; a willingness to work across fields and disciplines; have an interest in cultural equity and rural arts; be suited to working remotely; be able to demonstrate proficiently work independently.

Work experience in any of the above areas is preferred, but not required.



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## **Year of the Rural Arts Events and Editorial Internship**

### **About the Project:**

THE YEAR OF THE RURAL ARTS is a biennial program of events, conversations, and online features celebrating the diverse, vital ways in which rural arts and culture contribute to American life. This inaugural effort will connect citizens, artists, scholars, designers, and entrepreneurs, and meet with audiences on the grounds of universities, museums and galleries, cultural organizations, and across rural and urban communities.

The Year is coordinated by Art of the Rural and organized by a collective of individuals, organizations, and communities from rural and urban locales across the nation. Art of the Rural fosters an open source philosophy of sharing resources and ideas, and it values exchange across regions, cultures and disciplines.

The inaugural Year is a collaborative, grassroots effort. To present a more equitable representation and a more comprehensive narrative of rural arts in culture, all online features will be freely shared across websites and social media.

To establish a foundation for future work, we are motivated towards these two goals:

- Building an inclusive and engaged rural arts and culture network
- Expanding artistic, cultural, and historical understanding of rural America

### **About the Internship:**

This internship opportunity is designed to promote the Year of the Rural Arts through a variety of strategies including both online and on-the-ground engagement.

The Year of the Rural Arts intern will collaborate extensively with Art of the Rural staff to:

- Expand the Year of the Rural Arts Calendar of Events
- Write and publish a feature article for Art of the Rural
- Develop, plan, and promote one Year of the Rural Arts feature event in your campus or home community
- Promote of Year of the Rural Arts Events through blog posts and social media
- Provide administrative support for existing Year of the Rural Arts programming
- Collaborate with members of the Art of the Rural Advisory Board and Rural Arts and Culture Working Group to promote their Year of the Rural Arts events
- Document your learning experience throughout your internship

### **What You Will Learn:**

- How to engage with a national campaign
- How to build and strengthen a professional network
- The ability to research, identify, synthesize, and summarize information



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- How to craft a compelling narrative through writing and editing both blog posts and feature articles
- Event planning and promotion skills
- Partnership building and collaboration competencies
- Media management competencies
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century work skills
- How to document your learning process
- How to work in culturally competent ways with diverse communities and populations in line with the mission of the partnering organization

### **What We Require:**

Applicants should have event planning and/or community organizing experience; a familiarity with multiple fields and disciplines; strong organizational skills; comprehensive computer, social media, and digital media competencies; developed writing skills; be able to appropriately communicate with a wide variety of folks; developed collaboration skill; have an interest in cultural equity and rural arts; be suited to working remotely; be able to demonstrate the ability to work independently.

Work experience in any of the above areas is preferred, but not required.