

# Pratt School of Information

## Franklin Furnace Archives Fellowship 2025-2026

### Fellowship information

Franklin Furnace's mission is to present, preserve, interpret, educate, and advocate on behalf of avant-garde art, especially forms that may be vulnerable due to institutional neglect, cultural bias, ephemerality, or politically unpopular content. The organization provides physical and virtual venues for the presentation of time-based art, including artists' books and periodicals, performance art, installation art, and unforeseen contemporary avant-garde artforms; and undertakes other activities related to these purposes. Franklin Furnace is dedicated to serving early-career artists; to cultivating appreciation of avant-garde art for all, and to fostering artists' zeal to circulate ideas.

The major project for this fellowship is to publish the Franklin Furnace/ MoMA Artists' Book Collection, which contains over 3,600 artists' book titles in a wide range of formats, including conceptual bookwork, photo-based books, poetry, xerox zines, and many more. Franklin Furnace actively seeks book donations to its collection since 1976 and became one of the largest collection of artists' books in the US. In 1993 the collection was acquired by the Museum of Modern Art Library's collection, forming the world's premier repository, and entitled the Museum of Modern Art / Franklin Furnace / Artists' Books Collection. To this day, Franklin Furnace maintains its own collection with unique bibliographic metadata collected from the artists and is vigorously making the records accessible to the public.

The Franklin Furnace Archives fellow will work on researching various artists' book collection for their Integrated Library System (ILS) and other alternative platforms to publish the records. The fellow will review our catalog records on FileMaker database and continue to improve the field contents by doing in-depth research on each title. With the guidance of FFA archivists, under the supervision of Harley Spiller, Ken Dewey Director, the fellow also assists with the grant application to publish the artists' books collection, promoting the discoverability of BIPOC artists whose work is represented in the Franklin Furnace Artists' Books Collection and related vertical files.

The fellow should meet the following requirements:

- Completion of first full semester of MSLIS core courses
- Demonstrated interest in contemporary art

The fellowship recipient will commit to working on-site at times and remotely at others at Franklin Furnace (Pratt Institute Brooklyn Campus, ISC Building, Rooms 209-211) for 8 hours/week (120 hours/semester for the fall 2025 and spring 2026 semesters; 30 weeks total from September 2025-May 2026).

This fellowship includes a scholarship in the amount of \$7,965 that will be divided equally between the fall 2025 and spring 2026 semesters. Fellows must either present their fellowship project at the School of Information's #infoshow at the end of the Spring semester or register for

INFO 698 Practicum/Seminar. The successful applicant must take at least 6 credits in both the fall 2025 and spring 2026 semesters.

The fellowship recipient will be selected by Franklin Furnace staff following an initial review by Pratt-SI. Official notification will be made in late April 2025. Please note that continuation of the fellowship through spring 2026 is contingent upon review of the fall 2025 semester by Franklin Furnace staff.

Please contact the SI Office with questions about the fellowship and/or application process.

### **Eligibility**

To be eligible for consideration, an applicant must:

- Have started the MSLIS program no later than spring 2025
- Have a graduation date of spring 2026 or later

### **Application submission & deadline**

To apply, send the following as one .pdf file to [qlai@pratt.edu](mailto:qlai@pratt.edu):

- Completed Applicant Information sheet (see section below)
- Resume/CV
- Statement of purpose (1-2 pages explaining why you're applying for the fellowship and what you hope to gain from the experience, etc.)

The deadline is **5pm EST, Monday, April 7, 2025.**

### **APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Name:

Pratt ID#:

E-mail: Telephone:

### **STATEMENT OF ACCURACY**

I hereby affirm that all the above stated information provided by me is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant signature

Date