

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY/ ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO CENTER FOR
SCIENTIFIC STUDIES IN THE ARTS
NU-ACCESS
POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW JOB POSTING

The Northwestern University/Art Institute of Chicago Center for Scientific Studies in the Arts (NU-ACCESS) is seeking a Postdoctoral Fellow to undertake objects-based and objects-inspired scientific research in the arts. Reporting to the Center's Senior Scientist, and working alongside another postdoctoral fellow and a dynamic ecosystem of graduate and undergraduate Northwestern students, visiting scholars and interns, the postdoctoral fellow supports the research agenda of the Center. The Center provides its resources, from Northwestern University and the Art Institute of Chicago, to both internal and external users via a merit-review proposal system.

The position is funded until August 31st, 2023, with the possibility of renewal for two more years, pending an extension of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation grant supporting the Center.

Primary duties:

- Perform scientific research: (a) to characterize materials, structures and components of artworks either in their original state or after aging or deterioration; (b) to broaden ways of studying works of art, and (c) to synthesize scientific findings to address art historical and archaeological questions.
- Conduct applied research to support broader areas of inquiry as delineated in project proposals, to develop new technology to look at art, and to research new methods to conserve art for future generations
- Maintain working relationships with curators and conservators at participating institutions as well as with Northwestern faculty and technical staff to foster collaborative research projects and publications centered on cultural heritage science
- Work with the Center's Senior Scientist to foster understanding and assimilation of results and approaches of scientific research in the arts among curators, conservators, university professors and their students, administrators, other staff, the general public and other AIC and NU support groups.
- Operate analytical instruments after required training.
- Maintain records of research and analysis and sample archives. Compile final reports for all completed projects.
- Contribute to the preparation of reports to funding agencies.

- Travel to attend conferences, present papers and confer with colleagues in the US and internationally.
- Contribute to the production of high-level scientific research publications in the field of cultural heritage science and technical art history.
- Contribute to the dissemination of media tools, social media posts, tours and press materials (website, data visualization tools *etc.*) for the general public

Basic Qualifications: Ph.D. in chemistry, physical science, engineering or computer science and a minimum of 2 years of experience in heritage science and experimental research in an academic or museum setting. It is preferred that the candidate has ample experience working within heritage institutions as well as the application of advanced analytical imaging methods to works of art: namely, but not limited to, macro-XRF and hyperspectral imaging (visible and near infrared).

Application materials consisting of a cover letter, a CV, and the names and contact information of three references should be uploaded to the NU-ACCESS website by March 15, 2022 for full consideration.

Northwestern University is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer. Qualified women and minorities are encouraged to apply. It is the policy of Northwestern University not to discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability, citizenship, veteran status or other protected group status. Hiring is contingent upon eligibility to work in the United States.