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**SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS/SO. CALIFORNIA CHAPTER**

MERRY OVNICK FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION

The Society of Architectural Historians/Southern California Chapter (SAH/SCC) is dedicated to providing its members with opportunities to learn about and experience the rich architectural heritage of Southern California and beyond. Our volunteer Board creates engaging and informative tours, lectures, symposia, travel tours, and other events that explore the ideas behind the architecture as well as the buildings that result from them. SAH/SCC is a 501c3 nonprofit organization.

In 2023, SAH/SCC established the Merry Ovnick Fellowship and Lecture to honor the memory of past president and longtime Board Member, Merry Ovnick. It provides $1,000 annually to support graduate student travel to the SAH Annual International Conference. Any graduate student studying at a college or university in Southern California is qualified to apply.

Merry was an author and educator who wrote extensively on the Southern California built environment. Her book *Los Angeles: The End of the Rainbow* (Princeton Architectural Press, 1999) was one of the first to provide a sociocultural history of Los Angeles’ residential architecture that went beyond the single-family house. For 18 years, she was also the editor of the *Southern California Quarterly*. As a teacher in the history department at California State University, Northridge, she educated and mentored young historians for decades. Merry’s final wishes were that those of us left behind pay forward her passion and enjoyment of architecture and history.

The annual Fellowship is accompanied by the public, in-person Merry Ovnick Fellowship Lecture/Fundraiser. The first Merry Ovnick Fellowship Lecture/Fundraiser will take place in early 2025.

The 2025 SAH International Conference will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, April 30th to May 4th.

Eligibility and Guidelines

* The Merry Ovnick Fellowship is open to applicants based in Southern California (Southern California is defined as San Diego, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Kern, Imperial, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and Ventura Counties)
* Applicants must be actively pursuing their Masters degree or PhD in architectural history, art history, architecture, or other related field at an accredited college or university
* Submit completed application forms and requested documents via email to [info@sahscc.org](mailto:info@sahscc.org) by 5PM Pacific Time, January 15, 2025.
* All submissions are reviewed by a selection committee consisting of SAH/SCC Board Members, former students, and colleagues of Merry Ovnick.

Deliverables:

* A 750-word essay about the Fellowship recipient’s experiences at the conference for potential publication in the SAH/SCC newsletter, due within 30 days of the conference completion. SAH/SCC will have non-exclusive publication rights to the essay provided by the Fellow in perpetuity across all media.

Fellowship Administration:

* Fellow will be selected by February 15, 2025.
* Receipts for airfare, lodging, and meals for reimbursement are required within 30 days of occurrence in order to be reimbursed, with a maximum reimbursable expense of $1,000. Deadline for receipts submission for 2025 will be June 4, 2025. Receipts should be submitted to SAH/SCC Treasurer, John Berley, via email at jcberley@gmail.com
* Awardee executes a contract provided by SAH/SCC

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**:

First Name: Last Name:

Street Address: City:

State: Zip Code:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Highest Level of Education/Degree Completed/ Expected by:

Subject of Degree:

School:

Anticipated Graduation Date:

**1. (Brief Biography/300 words)**

**2. Please attach your CV in PDF formant**

**3. Please attach a photo of yourself to be used for promotional purposes (300+DPI jpg or TIFF)**

**4. What are your current study interests and why? (500 words max)**

**5. How do you envision attending the SAH International Conference will advance your career or research interests? (500 words max)**

**6. How do you believe your study interests will advance architectural or cultural history in Southern California? (300 words max)**

**7. Please attach/upload a letter of recommendation from one of your professors.**

APPLICANT CERTIFICATION:

I certify that the information in this application is true, correct, and that the form was completed by the applicant. I understand that falsification of any information will result in disqualification of this application. I agree that this application becomes the property of SAH/SCC. I understand that this application will be based on the information provided and submission of it does not guarantee that I will receive a fellowship. I agree that in the event I am a fellowship recipient, this form also serves as a release to use my name, likeness, and biographical information in press releases, etc., announcing and promoting this fellowship.

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Signature Date