



Smithsonian Institution Libraries

**Baird Society
Resident Scholar Program**

2005 APPLICATION PACKAGE

Deadline: March 1, 2004

**Smithsonian Institution
Washington, DC**

The collection of world's fair and exposition material (some 1,700 titles) representing expositions held between the mid-nineteenth century and 1916 demonstrates the extent of the Smithsonian Institution's role in many of the international fairs held in the period. Most of those titles were microfilmed in 1990 by Research Publications, Inc. A list of this collection was published by the Libraries in *The Books of the Fairs: Materials About World's Fairs, 1834-1916, in the Smithsonian Institution Libraries* with an introductory essay by Robert W. Rydell (Chicago: American Library Association, 1992). Additional materials from later fairs were subsequently donated to the Libraries by the estates of Larry Zim and Edward J. Orth. The world's fair material is held primarily in the Dibner Library of the History of Science and Technology, the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum Library, and the Smithsonian American Art Museum/National Portrait Gallery Library.

Special collections housed in the Admiral Dewitt Clinton Ramsey Room at the National Air and Space Museum Library include Robert H. Goddard's lecture notes and a transcription of his "Rocket Experiments," "Scrapbook of Early Aeronautica, 1783-1840" collected by William Upcott of Islington, England, the logbook of the Lafayette Escadrille of American volunteers, 1916-1918 ("Journal des Marches et Operations"), the Bella C. Landauer collection of aeronautical sheet music, and a number of items documenting the history of ballooning and early flight.

The Thomas A. Bradley Room of the Cooper Hewitt National Design Museum contains our premier collections of European and American decorative arts, architecture, and design (eighteenth to twentieth centuries); juvenile literature; and landscape design (dating from the eighteenth to twentieth centuries). The works of Palladio, Piranesi, and other famous architects compliment extensive holdings of nineteenth and twentieth century decorative arts, landscape design, and architecture.

The SIL Baird Society Resident Scholar Program allows researchers to explore the Libraries' resources in depth, while taking advantage of the proximity of museum collections to provide contextual richness. The combined holdings of the Smithsonian Institution Libraries, exceeding 1.5 million volumes, contain much of the secondary literature that places these source materials in a broader context.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPLICATION

Applicants must have serious interests that relate to materials in the special collections held by the Smithsonian Institution Libraries.

The selection of scholars is based on:

the need to consult specific holdings in the SIL Special Collections (application must include a bibliography of specific titles or a description of specific collections to be used)

evidence of the applicant's ability to carry out the proposed research (as outlined in letters of reference, reviews of previous work, publication record, etc.)

the quality of the proposal (importance of topic, its originality and sophistication of approach, the feasibility of research objectives, and relevance to the collections)

Applicants whose native language is not English must be able to demonstrate the ability to write and converse fluently in English.

SELECTION

Proposals are reviewed once a year by a Selection Committee. Committee members are drawn from the Libraries, the National Museum of American History, the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, and from the Smithsonian Office of Fellowships and Grants (ex-officio). This group ranks and recommends candidates to the Director, Smithsonian Institution Libraries, who makes the selection.

AWARD

Each award lasts for a period of one to six months. The stipend of \$2,500 a month can be used for any purpose, including travel to Washington and New York. There are no additional allowances available. The Libraries will provide appropriate study space and equipment necessary for the work. Longer-term scholars will have access to the Libraries' general collections and borrowing privileges for non-Special Collections materials. A reasonable amount of online database searching and interlibrary loan services will be provided. Although the scholar is expected to spend most of the time in residence at the Smithsonian Institution Libraries, the Libraries will also arrange access to other appropriate Washington, D.C. or New York City area libraries during the term of the award. The SI Office of Fellowships and Grants manages the award procedures. Support for the Baird Society Resident Scholar Program is supplied by the Spencer Baird Society of the Smithsonian Institution Libraries.

CONDITIONS OF AWARD

In submitting an application for the program, the applicant does not incur any obligation to accept the award if selected. Scholars are expected:

to be in residence at the Smithsonian full-time during their award tenures (plans to be away from the Institution during tenure must be cleared in advance and the time adjusted accordingly)

to devote full-time effort to the research proposed

to be regular users of SIL Special Collections

to submit a brief written report (800-1,000 words) describing their experiences and its results, no later than thirty days following the award period (format to be provided)

to give appropriate credit to the "Smithsonian Institution Libraries Baird Society Resident Scholar Program" in any presentation or publication based on research performed during award tenure.

The residency may begin any time on or after January 1, 2005, and must be completed by December 31, 2005. The residency does not have to be taken all at one time. Scholars may be invited to address an informal colloquium of Smithsonian Institution and affiliated staff on the topic of his or her research.

VISAS

Upon request, the Smithsonian will arrange for appropriate visa documentation for foreign nationals. Normally, visas arranged by the Smithsonian Institution will give the scholar the status of "Foreign Exchange Visitor" (J-visa) or (F-visa) for students. A spouse and minor children may travel on the same visa as the scholar.



Smithsonian Institution Libraries

Special Collections Department

Baird Society Resident Scholar Program

Application Instructions

Parts of the Application

1. Completed application form
2. Research proposal
3. Curriculum vitae
4. Two letters of reference

Instructions for each part of the Application

1. Complete the two-page form
2. Research proposal:
 - A. Statement of your research (not more than 1000 words), double-spaced. Include the following in your proposal:
 - Full description of the research you plan to undertake at the Smithsonian Institution's special collections libraries
 - The importance of the project both in relation to the broader discipline and to your own research goals
 - Justification for conducting your research at the Smithsonian and using the special collections at SIL
 - B. Selected bibliography of titles or collections in the SIL Special Collections that are relevant to your research proposal.
3. Curriculum Vitae, reflecting your education, previous or current fellowships, grants, and awards, and a brief description of your research interests. Include undergraduate and graduate institutions, inclusive dates or study, areas of study, degrees earned, and major publications.
4. Letters of reference. These should be from two individuals who will evaluate your proposal and are familiar with your work. Attached are copies of an explanatory letter which you should give to your referees, along with a copy of your proposal.

Note: **Referee letters should be enclosed with your application and proposal** in sealed envelopes signed by the referee across the flap. It is the applicant's responsibility to obtain these letters in sufficient time to meet the deadline.

Other instructions

1. Use white paper, 8 1/2 x 11 and type in dark ink.
2. Assemble SIX COLLATED sets, each containing your application form, research proposal, and curriculum vitae. Enclose the two sealed envelopes from your referees and mail the package to:

Send via USPS mail to:

Smithsonian Institution Libraries
Resident Scholar Programs
Selection Committee
P.O. Box 37012 NMAH 1041 MRC 672
Washington, DC 20013-7012

If using Federal Express or other service requiring a street address, please use:

Smithsonian Institution Libraries
Resident Scholar Programs
Selection Committee
12th St. & Constitution Ave., NW
NMAH 1041 MRC 672
Washington, DC 20560-0672

We will acknowledge receipt of your application package by e-mail only.

Questions? Call 202-357-1568

Applications are due by March 1, 2004 for the 2005 program. Applications postmarked after that date will not be accepted.



**Baird Society
Resident Scholar Program**

**APPLICATION FOR SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION LIBRARIES (SIL) BAIRD SOCIETY
RESIDENT SCHOLAR PROGRAM**

Use this form in applying for SIL's Baird Society Resident Scholar Program. Please read the instructions and the information for applicants carefully, then prepare and COLLATE SIX COPIES of the complete application in accordance with those instructions. Please type or print in dark ink.

1. Name in full (surname in capitals):

1a. Female

Male

1b. Social Security Number

Be sure to notify the Libraries of any address changes as soon as possible.

2. Complete residence address and telephone number

3. Complete office address and telephone number

4. Complete email address:

Fax#:

5. Address to which all correspondence should be sent:

Residence

Office

