

Human Rights Intern

Artistic Freedom Initiative - New York, NY

Artistic Freedom Initiative (AFI), a New York-based NGO, is seeking a highly-motivated, resourceful, articulate, and socially conscious individual to join our team as a Human Rights Intern. AFI is comprised of human rights activists, lawyers, academics, and artists working together to promote artistic freedom and peaceful dialogue through art. It was founded on the notion that artists are uniquely situated to effect change, provided their voices can be heard.

The Human Rights Intern will report to AFI's Director of Programs and Human Rights Fellow, and will play an important role as a researcher, editor and contributor to AFI's annual human rights report on artistic freedom. This fellowship position will provide potential opportunities for publication.

This position is for the Spring Semester and we welcome students seeking class credit for the internship. There also exists the possibility to extend the position to a paid summer internship. An ideal candidate would be able to begin February 1, 2021.

Responsibilities

The Human Rights Fellow is expected to play a key role in development of AFI's human rights report on artistic freedom in Central and Eastern Europe. Responsibilities will include but are not limited to:

- Country-by-country research for AFI's report on the state of artistic freedom of expression in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE).
- Interviews with activist/artists in CEE.
- Reviewing and synthesizing external policy proposals and developments in immigration and international law.

Requirements

- M.A. degree with a minimum GPA of 3.5.
- Advanced research skills, preferably related to Human Rights reports and investigations
- Highly developed writing skills with a strong preference for candidates with a history of publications
- Strong organizational and administrative skills
- Knowledge of and passion for art, human rights, and freedom of expression
- Ability to succeed in fast-paced environments as a self-motivated team player

Preferable Attributes

- Proficiency in a second language in the region (Russian, Polish, etc...)
- Regional Expertise in Central and Eastern Europe or Latin America
- Previous experience in human rights work and/or at a human rights NGO

Application Deadline: January 21, 2021

How to Apply:

Please email a **single document** in pdf format, including a cover letter (one page maximum), resume, and a writing sample to ashley@artisticfreedominitiative.org. Subject line should read "Human Rights Intern – [Last Name, First Name]." Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. No phone calls, please.

About Artistic Freedom Initiative:

AFI directly assists artists whose freedom of expression has been restricted and supports artists who have demonstrated a commitment to advancing progressive social change and fundamental human rights. We work with immigrant artists to champion art produced in exile, advance creative cultural exchange, improve conditions for artists in their home countries, and safeguard their ability to express themselves creatively throughout the world. Please visit us on the web at www.artisticfreedominitiative.org to learn more.

Since its inception in 2017, AFI has:

- Taken on over 330 artist cases
- Reached \$1.75 million in pro bono legal services and resettlement assistance
- Supported artists from 40 countries, including Iran, Iraq, Syria, Bangladesh, India, Uganda, Indonesia, Vietnam, Egypt, Venezuela and Georgia
- Supported artists working in 26 creative mediums, including visual art, music, writing, photography, filmmaking, graphic design, theater, performance art, printmaking, and multidisciplinary art
- Provided over 85 months of fully-funded residencies for recently displaced or housing insecure immigrant artists
- Amplified the works of the artists in its network through our many exhibitions, events, and performances, successfully reaching an estimated 10,000+ people