

Rosen House Summer Research Fellowship: Collection and Archives

2024 Theme: Caramoor and World War II

Intended for an undergraduate or graduate student, the Caramoor Summer Research Fellowship allows for a short-term, sustained period of study at a highly unique historic site, situated in Katonah, New York. A stipend of **\$3,500** is offered (payment to be made in installments). The theme of the fellowship in 2024 is the period of World War II at Caramoor, including the impact of wartime on staff and the extended Rosen family. Research topics are the ways in which the family supported the war effort in large and small ways, and how they responded to the tragic loss of their son, Walter Bigelow Rosen (1915-1944). This research will inform and support plans for the 2025 special focus tour “Caramoor and World War II.”

The fellow will have access to the archives at the Rosen House and work closely with Jessa Krick, Director of Interpretation, Collection and Archives, and Samantha Perkins, Collection and Archives Assistant. Research will be carried out in person, during a period of three months (ideally June-August 2024), on a schedule to be worked out by the research fellow and staff at the Rosen House. Some additional travel to other collections/libraries (local and/or in New York City) may be necessary.

This opportunity is well suited to a student of American history of the 20th century, with some prior knowledge of and interest in World War II. Those interested in public history, archives, women’s history and/or museum studies are encouraged to apply. Strong writing skills are an asset for applicants.

Requirements for application:

- Letter of interest, including reason for application and description of relevant study and/or topics of special interest.
- Resume or curriculum vitae
- Short writing sample (approximately 500 words)
- One letter of reference from recent professors and/or relevant work supervisors

Deadline for applications: January 22, 2024

Application materials to be sent to personnel@caramoor.org:

Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee. Top candidates will be invited to interview over Zoom before a final decision is made. No phone calls, please.

About the Rosen House:

The former home of Walter (1875-1951) and Lucie Rosen (1890-1968), music patrons and art collectors who established a legacy of music performance at the site which has been ongoing for 78 years, the Rosen House at Caramoor Center for Music & the Arts is a unique setting for a collection of art ranging from Italian Renaissance painting to Qing Dynasty jade carvings. The collection includes examples of paintings, sculpture, ceramics, and textiles, plus garments and accessories from Mrs. Rosen. Displayed in period rooms outfitted with architectural elements and wallcoverings such as 17th-century Italian carved paneling, French painted cabinetry of the 1700s and Chinese export wallpaper, the collection represents the eclectic eye of Walter and Lucie in outfitting their country home for themselves and for their guests. The extensive archive contains correspondence between members of the extended Rosen family and a wide circle of their friends and acquaintances in the fields of art, music and business; supporting materials, including articles and other written work by both Walter and Lucie Rosen; and extensive scrapbooks and correspondence related to the period of World War II.

Project outcomes:

1. Timeline of activities at Caramoor during WWII and related to the war effort.
2. Three short reports (1000-1500 words each) related to specific topics/themes identified for the WWII-theme focus tour. One report due mid-way through fellowship period.
3. Short presentation to select staff and Rosen House Committee (September 2024).

Eligibility:

Only U.S. citizens, noncitizen nationals of the U.S., lawful permanent residents, or aliens authorized to work in U.S. may apply.

Long-Distance Applicants:

Unfortunately, no onsite housing is provided at Caramoor for the duration of the fellowship. If necessary, fellows are encouraged to obtain housing based on local housing availability.