



**kingston and
area association**
of museums
**art galleries +
historic sites**

Kingston & Area Association of Museums, Art Galleries and Historic Sites

837 Princess St. Suite 302

Kingston, ON, K7L 1G8

Managing Director: Jamie McKenzie-Naish

Office Coordinator: Debbie Holdich

Marketing & Communications Coordinator: Sadie Babcock

Organization Background

We are a not-for-profit professional network and collaborative resource hub supporting the Kingston region's cultural heritage sector.

The Kingston & Area Association of Museums, Art Galleries and Historic Sites, otherwise known as KAM, first emerged 40 years ago as a community-initiated, professional support network to promote public awareness and increase engagement across Kingston's cultural heritage sites through collective promotional and programming initiatives. KAM is also engaged in supporting its membership through the dissemination of information, sector best practices, and professional development opportunities. We do this through our four strategic pillars: Professional Development; Advocacy; Public Engagement; and Collaborative Partnerships.

Our members range from federally owned sites with professional staff, to sites which are member-owned and volunteer operated. Some operate seasonally; others are open year-round. Many have specialist collections that tell the stories and histories of our communities from local, regional and national perspectives. From its inception, KAM was driven by the ideal that by working collaboratively, despite differences in size, mandates and resources, cultural heritage sites and organizations could quite simply; do better together, improving practice and strengthening their connections within and across communities. As *the* professional network and resource hub within Kingston's cultural heritage landscape, KAM is committed to facilitating a resilient, innovative and responsive cultural heritage sector within the Kingston and area community.

Please see our [Strategic Framework: Resiliency and Renewal 2020-2025](#)

www.kingstonmuseums.ca

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Follow our Blog "Take a Closer Look": <https://kingstonmuseumsblog.com/>

Project Brief – Department of History Internship

Public Engagement is one of KAM's four strategic pillars and as part of our strategic framework, KAM has identified the following outcome: "Capture, communicate and advocate the history and value of KAM's role within Kingston's cultural heritage landscape." To do this, KAM has committed to the following action or output:

- a. Initiate an **ORAL HISTORY PROJECT**, capturing KAM's 40-year history and narrative as an organization from its earliest inception to present day, exploring and extrapolating its core belief that 'we do better together;' and produce various multi-media resource to share and communicate

this story with current KAM members, potential KAM members, stakeholders and the general public.

In Spring 2022 and Spring 2023, student interns worked on this project – creating an archive and index of KAM organizational documents and creating an Oral History Project methodology.

This year our History Intern will continue to build upon this previous work in the following ways:

- a) Continue to identify, organize, and archive documents related to the early years of KAM's development as an organization following the established index system;
- b) Curate mini digital exhibitions for KAM social media using thematic content from our organizational archives (under the supervision of the KAM Marketing & Communications Coordinator)
- c) Conduct oral history interviews with identified individuals – following the established oral history project methodology.
- d) Author a blog post about a specific topic or member site for publication on the KAM blog (under the supervision of the KAM Marketing & Communications Coordinator)

Associated Conditions

The student will work under the management of KAM staff (Managing Director, Office Coordinator and Marketing & Communications Coordinator), and will need to be able to work independently, with strong research, organizational and communication skills, as well as be prepared to participate in weekly progress meetings.

This placement will occur onsite at the KAM office; dates and times of work will be negotiated between KAM staff and the student. The student must provide their own laptop for digital inventory work.

Compliance with all appropriate health and safety protocols is expected; up to date COVID-19 vaccination status is strongly recommended; masks are not required in the office, but welcome.

Please be aware, some lifting and moving of moderate-heavy weighted boxes will be necessary as part of this work. The student will be expected to adhere to appropriate physical health and safety conventions.

The student will be required to sign an employee confidentiality and waiver form, and will participate in orientation training at the beginning of their placement.

Please note - there is a retired service dog (standard poodle) onsite in the office (very friendly and generally quiet, but a canine none-the-less!) We can make adjustments to this as needed. Please let us know.

We look forward to working with you!