

# National Gallery of Art News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 5, 1991

CONTACT: Deborah Ziska  
Liz Kimball  
(202) 842-6353

## MINORITY INTERNSHIPS PROGRAM

### AT NATIONAL GALLERY COMPLETING FIRST YEAR

Washington, D.C. -- The first year of the National Gallery of Art's new program of minority internships in the museum profession is coming to completion. The program was launched in 1990 with a grant from Southwestern Bell Foundation with additional funds from The Circle of the National Gallery of Art. It will be funded in 1991-1992 with funds from The Toyota USA Foundation. Internships are offered through the Gallery's education division to outstanding candidates who meet the qualifications and are interested in pursuing a museum career.

"Educational efforts for minorities continue to be a high priority for the National Gallery. The interns have been wonderful additions to our staff and we are very proud of what they have accomplished in this first year," said J. Carter Brown, director, National Gallery of Art.

"An incomparable opportunity to see the museum world from the inside" that has given him "the inspiration to go on to graduate school and pursue a career in art" is how William Hong described his experiences at the Gallery. A native of Hartsdale, NY, he received his B.A. from Williams College in Massachusetts. He has been doing art historical research in the Gallery's photography department and assisting with an update of the Gallery's manual of policies concerning acquisitions.

-more-

Victor Sparrow, who comes from Washington, DC, and received his B.A. from Brown University in Rhode Island, said, "working in the design department has enabled me to see the art behind the art and to learn how large exhibitions are coordinated." During his internship, Sparrow has catalogued frames in storage and designed a Gallery tour for high school students. He also assisted with the special finishes of a ceiling created for the Gallery's major exhibition of works by Titian last fall.

Andrea Lewis of Kennett Square, PA, received her B.A. from James Madison University in Virginia. She said that her internship has given her "invaluable insights about what art curators and conservators actually do and how decisions are made" and that she plans to stay in the museum field. She has worked in the Gallery's education division as a liaison with the docents who conduct Gallery tours, carried out surveys to evaluate adult education programs, and assisted with camera crews and press followup in the information office.

Interns are assigned to work in particular areas of the Gallery in accordance with their preferences and departmental needs. Throughout the year they attend weekly orientation sessions to learn about all aspects of museum operations.

Announcements were sent to educational institutions to encourage African American, Asian American, Hispanic American, Native American, and other minorities to apply for the program. The second internship term runs from September 16, 1991 through June 12, 1992, and the stipend is \$14,000. To be eligible for the new term, applicants must have completed an undergraduate or advanced degree by September 1991.

minority internships . . . page 3

Even though applications for the the next term must be postmarked no later than April 15, eligible candidates are encouraged to obtain information about future minority internships or other Gallery internship programs by contacting:

Program Coordinator of Academic Programs  
Education Division  
National Gallery of Art  
Washington, DC 20565

Telephone: (202) 842-6182

# # #