



Divinity School Summer Internship Program Summer 2025

The Divinity School Summer Internship Program for the Public Understanding of Religion offers paid internship opportunities for current Divinity School students at organizations across the United States. Students interested in an internship can apply with specific organizations where they can utilize their scholarly training in the academic study of religion while developing skills, experience, and connections that will help them become leaders in fields that advance the understanding of religion more broadly.

Any active degree-seeking Divinity School student in good standing is eligible to apply for a summer internship placement. Students that are scheduled to graduate in the Spring 2025 quarter may elect to extend graduation to Summer 2025 to accommodate a placement as a professional development capstone.

Internships should consist of ~300 hours and applicants should expect to work 30+ hours/week for 8-12 weeks, subject to agreement between the organization, the student and the Divinity School Dean of Students Office. Students with summer internship placements will receive a \$6000 stipend.

HOW TO APPLY

Complete an application [here](#)

Required Materials

- 1) One-page cover letter outlining your interest in the placement, professional development activity, and a brief explanation of how your participation will advance your professional goals.
- 2) CV or resumé (resumé preferred)

Materials must be combined into a **single PDF**, which should be named in the following format: **Last Name,FirstName,InternshipName.pdf**. Submit your PDF via our online form [here](#). A separate application document must be submitted for each internship site.

Deadline

March 17, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. (Original deadline)

Applicants will be informed of decisions and next steps by early April.

[Site and Project Descriptions Below \(additional sites possible after initial announcement\)](#)



Organization: Chicago History Museum: Chicago Sacred

Website: <https://www.chicagohistory.org/>

Summary: Chicago History Museum seeks a summer intern to work on our Chicago Sacred Initiative, which explores the ways religious and sacred communities have shaped Chicago's history. Work will include research on themes related to current CHM exhibition projects (examples include *Aqui en Chicago*, *America 250*, and *Everyday Sacred*) and may also include preparing a written draft for the Chicago History Museum blog or other interpretation. Working directly with Rebekah Coffman, curator of religion and community history, the intern will learn public history methods through primary and secondary source research, critical thinking and academic writing skills through conducting research using online collections, primary and secondary source materials, and academic articles. Work may also include public engagement around collections materials and research, including but limited to working with oral histories. Interns may also have opportunity to attend meetings or other museum events with the goal of enhancing their understanding of public history work.

About: CHM's mission—to serve as the primary destination for learning, inspiration, and civic engagement to connect people to Chicago's history and each other—is the foundation of the Museum's programs and events, exhibitions, educational initiatives, publications, and collecting activities that touch the lives of all Chicagoans.

Location: Hybrid (remote only possible)



Pride in the Pews

Organization: Pride in the Pews

Website: www.prideinthepews.com

Summary: The summer intern's scope of work will primarily be centered on providing programmatic and administrative support for two major initiatives; the Black Church Equality Fellowship (BCEF) and Pride in the Pews' Headquarters at The Cov. The BCEF is a distinguished nationwide leadership development program for Black faith leaders committed to advancing congregation-based programmatic initiatives that promote LGBTQ+ inclusion. Projects will include co-planning the BCEF cohort convening; managing grantees communications and recording keeping; building relationships with grantee team leads; tracking grantee deliverables; seeking and crafting storytelling opportunities for PITP social media, newsletter, and events; supporting with scheduling and miscellaneous organizational internal processes.

The second major initiative in the intern's scope of work is building on and executing the strategy for Pride in the Pews' new office and community space at New Covenant Missionary Baptist Church, aka 'The Cov.'" Projects may include building on and executing community engagement strategy; managing partnerships with Howard Brown Healthcare and other community-based orgs serving Black LGBTQ+ communities etc.

About Pride in the Pews: Pride in the Pews is a grassroots nationwide nonprofit that mobilizes Black-serving anchor institutions to advocate for the holistic health and wellness of Black LGBTQ+ communities. Pride in the Pews envisions a world where LGBTQ+ communities are embraced by social, civic, and faith-based institutions that insist on our freedom and full flourishing. Our work has been featured in the Chicago Tribune, Religion News Service, ABC7 Chicago, Christian Science Monitor, and more.

Location: The internship will be hybrid or remote, depending on intern's location.



Organization: The Christian Century Magazine

Website: <https://www.christiancentury.org>

Summary: The summer intern will focus on one or more special projects, while also having the opportunity to participate in the editorial team's ongoing work of acquisition, editing, and producing material for the magazine and the marketing team's ongoing conversations about the place of the magazine within the various publics served by the magazine. Special projects may include (but are not limited to) the following: seeking out and cultivating relationships with journalists who work the religion beat for mainstream media outlets; pitching, crafting, and writing original content for the magazine; researching the magazine's history of editorial topics; mapping out the current state of an academic field (e.g., theology, New Testament, global Christianity).

About: *The Christian Century*, founded in 1884 as a Disciples of Christ denominational magazine, has grown into the flagship mainline Protestant magazine in the United States. Published monthly, the *Century* strives to inform and shape progressive Christians who are committed to thinking critically and living faithfully. As a voice of generous orthodoxy, the *Century* is both loyal to the church and open to the world. The magazine's tagline is "thoughtful, independent, progressive."

Location: The internship will be primarily remote, with the opportunity to come into the office (located in Chicago's West Loop) occasionally. Senior editor Elizabeth Palmer will supervise.



SACRED WRITES
PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP ON RELIGION

Organization: Sacred Writes

Website: <https://www.sacred-writes.org/>

Summary: Sacred Writes seeks a Summer Intern to work with our team on a project to refine our training curriculum (which was developed with scholars in mind) for Christian community leaders, as part of a collaboration with Christian Century. Work will include helping to identify effective public Christian storytellers, interviewing a select number of Sacred Writes alums who work with Christian communities about the challenges they have faced engaging the media, and brainstorming activities for training workshops. Although this is primarily a research project, the intern will gain insight into how grant funded organizations are developed and sustained, the role of foundation funding for this work, forms of effective non-academic communication, curriculum development, and cross-organization partnerships.

About: Sacred Writes supports public scholarship by training religious studies academics and theologians to communicate effectively with the public. We host trainings for scholars, create and fund media partnerships, and convene meetings to discuss best practices for public scholarship. Founded and Directed by University of Chicago Divinity School alum Liz Bucar, Sacred Writes is hosted by Northeastern University and funded by over \$2.2 million in grants from the Henry Luce Foundation, the ACLS, the Carpenter Foundation, and the John Templeton Foundation.

Location: 100% Remote



Organization: Interfaith America

Website: <https://www.interfaithamerica.org/>

Summary: Interfaith America has four (4) projects to which interns can apply:

- **Research and Administrative Intern to the President and Founder**
 - **Summary:** Interfaith America seeks an intern to archive and catalog the President and Founder's, Eboo Patel, writings over the history of the organization. In addition, there may be opportunities to provide research assistance for an upcoming book on pluralism.

- **Faith and Health**
 - **Summary:** Interfaith America's Faith & Health team seeks a full-time summer intern to assist with resource curation, network cultivation, and Summit track preparation. The intern will work closely with our team to identify and organize useful classroom, research, and public narrative materials to be shared with our growing faith and health network. In addition, the intern will play a key role in hosting our virtual networking platform (currently LinkedIn but likely a separate platform by summer), tracking and activating a growing network of educators and health leaders. Finally, the intern will support efforts to host the Faith & Health track at the August Summit.
 - **Project Information:** [The Interfaith Leadership Summit](#) (the Summit) is the largest gathering of students and educators with a commitment to American religious pluralism. The Faith & Health track is geared toward educators in health-related fields.

- **Evangelicals in a Diverse Democracy**
 - **Summary:** Interfaith America is seeking a full-time summer intern to help research and curate content for our Evangelicals in a Diverse Democracy (EDD) project. This intern will be tasked with helping develop a new fellowship program for next-gen Christian leaders serving in a variety of contexts. They will also work with the project team to develop a Bible study plan that will be proposed to You Version, a prominent Bible mobile app. This intern will also work with the EDD team in supporting our ongoing partnership with Fuller Seminary and Fuller Equip in developing online curricula for church leaders. This intern should have strong writing and research skills. Interest in American evangelicalism (theologically, historically, sociologically, etc.) is preferred.
 - **Project Information:** Evangelicals in a Diverse Democracy is a multifaceted initiative involving twelve of the most recognizable evangelical leaders in America today. Launched in 2022, our primary research question is how

Christians can live faithfully and act neighborly in a world they can't control. The goal of the EDD project is to inspire and equip evangelicals to build bridges across differences in our polarized society. In 2024, this project expanded to include partnerships with Christianity Today and Fuller Seminary. In 2025, we will continue our partnerships as we develop new opportunities to resource and equip Christian leaders.

- **The Team Up Project**

- **Summary:** Interfaith America seeks a full-time summer intern to support planning, coordination, and outreach efforts of the initiative, playing a key role in its continued growth and impact. The intern will gain hands-on experience in nonprofit operations, stakeholder engagement, and strategic communications while working alongside a dedicated team. Our ideal candidate for this internship would have an interest in interfaith cooperation, civic engagement, and non-profit leadership.
- **Project Information:** Founded by [Interfaith America](#), [Catholic Charities USA](#), [Habitat for Humanity International](#) and [YMCA of the USA](#), Team Up Project (Team Up)'s mission is to empower people to build connections and work together across differences with others in their communities for the common good. The goal is to elevate and support ordinary acts of kindness, human connection and cooperation – and demonstrate that bridgebuilding is an achievable and worthy pursuit that everyone should take part in. The Team Up Project will not only share stories about the value of building meaningful connections across differences but also create a platform for organizations and leaders to work together to create strong, cohesive communities.

Location: Hybrid. Interns would be invited to come into the office 2-3 days per week (or more!), with flexibility depending on team. Our office is in the Chicago Board of Trade building at 141 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604.



Organization: Religion News Service

Website: <https://religionnews.com/>

Summary: Do you have an interest in how religion in America interacts with the nation's politics, ideas and culture? Can you report from an objective stance on a wide range of faith traditions and concerns? Are you prepared to make an immediate contribution to a fast-moving news team with multiple assignments per week? If so, we'd love to have you at RNS, the 90-year-old secular news and opinion outlet that covers all things religion, from the political alliances of the religious right (and the revived religious left) to shake-ups in the major denominations to trends and innovation in worship and religious life.

This internship includes some story-loading and other routine website-management chores, but candidates should expect to pitch frequently and be busy every day with reporting and writing. Because our newsroom operates almost entirely virtually, we expect interns to be self-motivated and independent. Knowledge of religious doctrines or practices is not required, but a curiosity about the cultural and political ramifications of belief and a willingness to do your homework are musts.

About: RNS is an independent, non-profit news organization providing global news on religion, spirituality, culture and ethics. Founded in 1934, RNS provides objective reporting and insightful commentary about religion and how faith intersects with policy, politics, science, culture, education, gender, race and other critical issues. We serve about 1 million individuals per month through our website, email newsletters, podcasts, and partnerships with other media organizations, including the Washington Post, NPR, and the Associated Press.

Location: Remote unless otherwise arranged