

Gotham Center Historic Walking Tours 2020 Summer Internship

About the Gotham Center

[The Gotham Center](#) is a research and public education institution, sponsored by [The Graduate Center](#), CUNY, devoted to advancing scholarly and public understanding of New York City's rich and living past. The organization was founded in 2000 by Mike Wallace, after his landmark work *Gotham: A History of New York City to 1898*, co-authored with Edwin Burrows, won the Pulitzer. For nearly twenty years, it has been the one academic institution devoted exclusively to promoting this critical field of study. Our goal is to support historical work examining the various forces and figures that have shaped life in the city, and to demonstrate New York's unmatched contributions to the development of the nation, and connections to the world. Through a variety of research programs (grants, fellowships, seminars, conferences) we hope to underwrite the production of this knowledge, and shape the next generation of scholarship. Through a variety of public-facing initiatives (blogs, podcasts, lecture and discussion series, K-12 programming) we also strive to make it available to the widest possible audience, including leaders in civil society and government. In all things, we ask New Yorkers to consider how the past has created the present, and what lessons it might offer for the challenges we face in our great city, now and in the future.

About the Institutes Initiative

The Gotham Center is now soliciting proposals for individual walking tours about important historic sites in New York City. Graduate Center doctoral students with expertise in New York City history will be chosen to lead tours in summer session I (June 1 to July 3, 2020) based on the strength of proposals. (The Gotham Center is also soliciting proposals for month-long, walking-tour based institutes, or non-credit bearing courses for the public, during summer session II). Both are pilot initiatives for a new, continuous program that may be expanded in the future to advance the Gotham Center's mission, to advance public understanding of New York City's rich and living past.

The internship will include:

- Researching and identifying locations;
- Providing historical/original research for supplemental content (as needed);
- Working with the Gotham Center's director on tour development; and
- Communicating with groups that may or may not be versed in New York City history.

Requirements

- Strong research, writing and organizational skills;
- Strong communication skills;
- Passion for and a deep knowledge of New York City history;
- Available for a minimum of 5 hours a week from June 1 to July 3, 2020, including weekly check-ins with The Gotham Center's director; and
- Ability to navigate the public transportation of New York City and engage in extensive walking.

Interns will receive

- \$42.95 per hour for a sliding number of tour-guiding hours during the 4-week period;
- Reimbursement for transportation during the program.

Timeline

- January 17, 2020: Applications open.
- March 15, 2020: Applications due.
- March 16, 2020 to March 30, 2020: Interviews conducted.
- April 13, 2020: Interns are notified.
- May 15 to May 30th: Group and individual training.
- June 1, 2020 Gotham Center Walking Tours begin.
- July 1, 2020: Internship program ends.

How to Apply

Applicants should send the materials requested below as email attachments and/or links addressed to The Gotham Center, at engagement@gc.cuny.edu. Please use the subject: "Gotham Center Institutes Application."

Submit the following items:

- Brief statement of interest
- CV/resume
- A one-page proposal on a NYC History Tour that contains the following:
 - The site(s) and overall subject/theme of your tour **in one or two sentences**.
 - Identify the place/neighborhood that you will explore.
 - Include the following:
 1. **Key Moments:** What are the key points in your narrative, or the "plot" of your overarching theme?
 2. **Key Characters:** Who are the key characters in your tour? Examples: the architect, the local entrepreneur, student activists?
 3. **Key Takeaways:** What are the 2-3 key takeaway points you want to highlight or conclude with?
 - A foot map of the location.

**Please note:*

- *Grad A and B's are eligible for this internship.*
- *Proposals may be for **either** a "short," 1.5-hour or an "extended" 3-hour tour.*
- *Multiple site proposals will be accepted (up to three).*