

Thomas Jay McCahill III Fellowship

The Society of the Cincinnati in the State of New Hampshire (hereafter SOCNH) is proud to announce the inception of the **Thomas Jay McCahill III Fellowship**. This award is made possible by a grant from the Thomas Jay McCahill III SOCNH Foundation, a New Hampshire non-profit corporation classified as an IRS 501(c)3 Support Organization. The McCahill Selection Committee intends for the inaugural McCahill Fellow to begin their term during the 2025-2026 academic year. This opportunity is being offered in collaboration with two partner organizations: The Society of the Cincinnati, Inc. (hereafter SOC) based in Washington, D.C., and the American Independence Museum (hereafter AIM) in Exeter, N.H.

The McCahill Fellowship will provide up to \$75,000 for a one-year period to support the cost of research, travel, housing, and per diem expenses for one or more scholars to undertake advanced research on a topic germane to American history in the Colonial and Revolutionary periods. Fellows will have sustained access to collections and professional staff in a quiet study room at the SOC National Historic Landmark headquarters, known as Anderson House, in Washington, D.C. The McCahill Fellowship is open to graduate students, and advanced and independent scholars who are conducting research that may benefit from various primary resources, with an emphasis on the collections of the SOC and/or AIM.

The SOC owns a research library that is the crown jewel of the SOC's educational brand known as the American Revolution Institute, which offers an array of public educational outreach including more than a dozen other research fellowships. The research library's collections feature in excess of 50,000 items including books, manuscripts, and prints along with modern reference sources which highlight the events and people of the American Revolution. The library also houses archives of The Society of the Cincinnati, the nation's oldest patriotic organization founded in 1783. The largest body of rare printed and manuscript materials in the library focus on the art of war in the period and document the conduct of the Revolutionary War, while also providing context for the achievements of American forces and their French allies in securing the independence of the United States.

The AIM, founded in 1991 in historic Exeter, N.H., develops programs, exhibits, tours, and events that advance a more inclusive understanding of the fight for Independence. The work of the Museum is guided by the Museum's Board of Governors. These individuals provide a link from the work of the Museum to the SOCNH, which owns the two buildings on the AIM's Exeter campus and much of the collection highlighted through its education programs and community events.

The McCahill Fellow's research is expected to involve one or more of the following periods:

- Revolutionary War
- Colonial British America; preference for research leading in some way to an issue of the Revolutionary Period

- The Early American Republic; preference for research leading in some way to an issue of the Revolutionary Period

Recipients will be required to accomplish the following:

- Complete their fellowship research within the respective academic year following the date of the award
- Submit a written report (at least a 500-word narrative) within 30 days after completion of the fellowship about actual work accomplished during the period of the fellowship
- Inform SOCNH and SOC of all subsequent publication(s) derived from their research (article, thesis, dissertation, or book)
- Offer an article on their research for possible publication in ***Cincinnati Fourteen***, the semi-annual magazine of The Society of the Cincinnati
- Present a lecture on the results of their fellowship at a meeting of the Society of the Cincinnati of the State of New Hampshire, likely at their headquarters in Exeter, N.H.
- Participate in an activity of the American Revolution Institute to share their project, work, or expertise in a public forum at Anderson House.

The recipients of each annual fellowship will be chosen from a single round of applications. Strong applications will exhibit one or more of the following characteristics (applicants should NOT be deterred by any of these characteristics listed, as these are by no means definitive or restrictive):

- Have a concentration or dimension of research on matters related to New Hampshire or New Hampshire involvement in the Revolution
- Junior, senior or independent scholars including scholars engaged in doctoral, post-doctoral, or book-length research
- Demonstrate the research value of the SOC library including citations of specific holdings therein
- Demonstrate a particular interest in some aspect of the AIM
- Applicant is a New Hampshire resident, or a student or professional faculty/staff member at a New Hampshire college or university
- Preference may be given to applicants whose projects draw on library collections at SOC headquarters
- Although the McCahill bequest was established with a preference for male applicants, which has been upheld by the State of New Hampshire Department of Justice Charitable Trust Unit and the Rockingham (NH) District Court, all applicants, regardless of gender, will be gratefully received

Applicants should submit the following:

- A curriculum vitae, including educational background, publications, and professional experience

- A brief outline of the research proposed (not to exceed two pages), along with an expectation of how the Fellow might use the research library and collections at Anderson House
- A writing sample of 10-25 pages in the form of a published article, book-excerpt, or a paper submitted for course credit, which can be submitted in Word or PDF format
- Budget for proposed research project to include a schedule and related costs for housing and travel
- (For current graduate students only) Two confidential letters of recommendation from faculty or colleagues familiar with the applicant and his or her research project. Note: If letters are to be mailed independently, please include the names of recommenders when submitting the application

The deadline for application is **31 October 2024**, and applicants should expect to be notified of the Selection Committee's decision by 31 January 2025.

Please submit application materials via the Application Portal:

<https://americanrevolutioninstitute.slideroom.com/>

The SOC research library staff welcomes questions about its library collections. To learn more, call the library at (202) 785-2040 x424 or send an email to library@societyofthecincinnati.org.

For questions and more information about the Thomas J. McCahill III Fellowship, contact:

Thomas Jay McCahill III Fellowship
c/o McCahill Selection Committee
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