THE DECORATIVE ARTS TRUST

For Immediate Release:

2027 IDEAL INTERNSHIP GRANTS AWARDED TO SIX INSTITUTIONS WITH SUPPORT FROM THE JOHN M. AND ELLEN B. CLEVELAND FOUNDATION

Media, PA – The Decorative Arts Trust has selected six institutions to receive IDEAL Internship Grants in 2027: the **Asheville Art Museum** in **Asheville, NC**; the **Bennington Museum** in **Bennington, VT**; the **Cincinnati Museum Center** in **Cincinnati, OH**; **Historic Cherry Hill** in **Albany, NY**; the **Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture** in **Spokane, WA**; and the **Ogden Museum of Southern Art** in **New Orleans, LA**.

This year's cohort is especially meaningful. The Trust is most grateful for the generosity of the **John M. and Ellen B. Cleveland Foundation** for underwriting the IDEAL Internship Grant program in 2027. The Foundation's mission is to provide philanthropic support to charitable partners in Delaware, Pennsylvania, nationally, and abroad whose work aligns with the vision of its founders, Jack and Elly Cleveland. This mission is realized primarily by providing financial support to initiatives focused on civic engagement, native and ornamental horticulture, historic preservation, and collections and museum management. The John M. and Ellen B. Cleveland Foundation IDEAL Internships will honor the Clevelands' interest in creating vibrant opportunities for young people and emerging scholars in the decorative arts by supporting valuable professional development opportunities.

The Asheville Art Museum's internship will introduce the intern to the museum's decorative arts collection through hands-on training in object handling, condition assessment, preventive conservation, and professional display standards.

At the Bennington Museum, an intern will receive practical experience with collections and key areas of nonprofit administration, including marketing, education, and visitor services. This is the first internship intended for a high school student.

Cincinnati's long tradition of craftsmanship, particularly in the 19th and early 20th centuries, is reflected throughout the decorative arts collection at the Cincinnati Museum Center (CMC), which includes locally made furniture, carved woodwork, ceramics, glass, silver, and Rookwood Pottery.

At Historic Cherry Hill, the intern will support a series of interpretive updates by assisting with new content for an introductory exhibition and the basement kitchen. The capstone project will focus on Dinah Jackson's bedroom, guided by ongoing research into the lives of enslaved people at Cherry Hill.

The internship at the Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture will center on researching and interpreting the decorative arts of the late-19th-century Campbell House.

At the Ogden Museum of Southern Art, the internship will build on the Museum's long-standing collaboration with Xavier University of Louisiana and Dillard University through the annual HBCU Art Showcase. The capstone will center on a focused research project examining contemporary ceramics produced at local HBCUs in relation to historic regional traditions and the broader canon of Southern art.

William Purcell McDonald (artist), Rookwood Pottery (manufacturer), Chief Little Wound "pillow" vase, 1899, Cincinnati, OH. Ceramic. Cincinnati Museum Center, 2011.108.01. Photo by Katherine Gould, Curator of Historical Objects and Fine Art.

Anna Frances Simpson (decorator), Newcomb College Pottery (manufacturer), *Iris Vase*, 1910. Ceramic. Roger Houston Ogden Collection. Photo courtesy of Ogden Museum of Southern Art.

Shreve & Co., Iris sterling silver tea service, 1903–05, San Francisco, CA. Sterling silver and imitation ivory. Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture, 4225.1. Photo by Brooke Shelman Wagner.

For information about IDEAL Internship Grants, see decorativeartstrust.org/ideal.

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