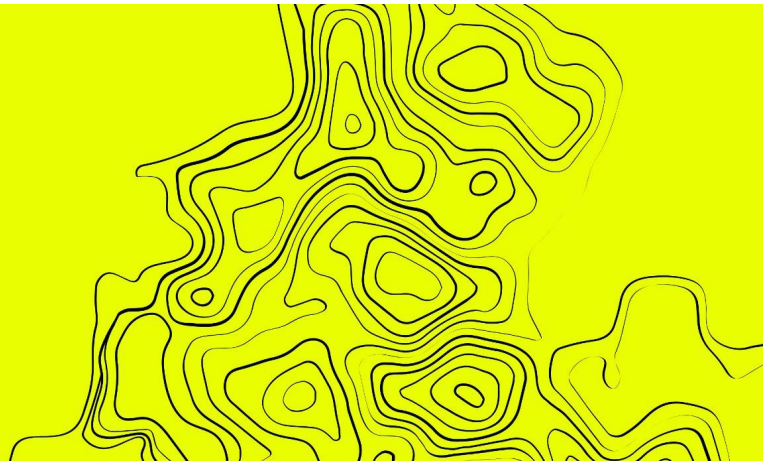


BLACK, INDIGENOUS, & TRANS OF COLOR HISTORIES LAB

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2025 Humanists-in-Residence Call for Applications

The Black, Indigenous, & Trans of Color Histories Lab (“the Lab”) is seeking applications for its first round of Humanists-in-Residence (March-September 2025). Thanks to a three-year grant awarded through the trans studies limited call run by the Mellon Foundation’s Higher Learning program, the Lab is expanding its scope, impact, and outreach. Humanists-in-Residence will support the Lab’s three initiatives—publications, events, and collaboratives—while co-developing an experimental project or workshop. We are looking for grassroots scholars, creatives, and community organizers who center trans of color historywork in their practice. Ideal candidates take innovative approaches to cultivate a sense of power and place for their communities.

About the Lab

Since its formation in 2021, the Lab has centered grassroots art and storytelling that engages trans of color histories and cultures. Its initiatives showcase trans of color knowledge production across divergent disciplines—including anthropology, sociology, archival work, curation, oral history, digital humanities, film studies, sound studies, performance, and poetry. Our four main focus areas are:

- art, folklore, and mythology as decolonial history;
- memory work and cultural work as activism and resistance;
- community care through grassroots preservation and knowledge production;
- historiographic reparations vis-à-vis the gaps and silences of the archive, especially those rooted in transmisogynoir.

The Lab’s goals for 2025 include:

- hosting a virtual symposium “Trans Histories of Pleasure, Intimacy and Joy”
- publishing our first blog series
- publishing our second zine
- organizing two experimental projects/workshops, co-developed by the four Humanists-in-Residence

Defining Historywork

We define historywork as any form of history-making or history-telling—beyond the dichotomy of academic and public history—inclusive of grassroots art and storytelling that engages the past. We are not mere subjects, but also creators of projects pertaining to trans life. We have found that universities and museums cannot teach us the power of our communities. We seek new avenues of creative kinship and scholarship. Our work is community-facilitated—conjuring creative, thought-provoking conversations and empowering our Black, Indigenous, and trans of color communities through tangible, joyful connections to their roots.

Position Details

Humanist-in-Residence positions are six months long, running from March to September 2025. Responsibilities include:

- Holding regular meetings with the Lab Co-Leads and other Humanists-in-Residence to discuss progress and plan Lab activities.
- Developing and organizing two Lab-funded experimental projects and/or workshops.
- Committing to 12 hours/month (~3 hours/week).

The stipend for each Humanist-in-Residence position is \$3,000. This is a virtual position and does not require relocation or travel. Computer and internet access is required (please contact us for possible workarounds). US citizenship is not required. The Lab does not cover health insurance, visa sponsorship, or other benefits. (Please note Lab meetings are held in English, but publications, events, and projects can be in any language.)

Humanists-in-Residence may explore trans of color histories from a wide range of disciplinary perspectives—artistic, literary, environmental, spiritual, and more. They will join a network of interdisciplinary scholars, artists, and activists to strategize, design, and create new workshops and experimental projects.

Humanists-in-Residence should have community connections with whom they will collaborate over the course of the residency.

Application Materials

- **Name & email**
- **Bio** (250-500 words)
- **Personal statement** explaining your work and its relevance to our mission, including your vision for a Lab-funded experimental project or workshop (feel free to dream big!). Please also explain your interest in the humanities and trans of color historywork. (1000-1500 words OR 5-7 minute video)
- **One reference** (can be a peer, mentor, organizational partner, etc.). Please provide name, email, and connection to applicant.
 - If unable to provide a reference due to personal circumstances, please explain why and offer a self-reference, including aspirations for building community and making future connections (100-200 words or 1 minute video).

- (OPTIONAL) Applicants are welcome to submit an abridged portfolio of media centering trans of color historywork. Three links maximum.

Eligibility & Evaluation Criteria:

- **Lived experience** will be prioritized above academic and professional experience.
- **Demonstrated need:** we are seeking applicants who have not had the opportunity to focus on their work due to financial constraints, or whose work is otherwise underfunded or overlooked.
- **Intersectionality:** we are seeking applicants whose work addresses intersectional issues (e.g., Indigenous trans of color historywork, disabled trans of color historywork, working-class trans of color historywork, trans women and femmes of color historywork).
- **Underrepresentation:** we are seeking applicants whose work addresses underrepresented communities, historical periods, and/or geographical regions (e.g., Indigenous trans people, Black trans women, the Global South, ancient to early modern history).
- **Community connection:** we are seeking applicants with a history of accessible, cooperative, grassroots engagement with their work.

Applications are due Friday, January 17th. The Lab will reach out for interviews in late January. Please direct questions to bitpochstories@gmail.com.

Application form: <https://forms.gle/qmXZVUzhvzgcATWG6>