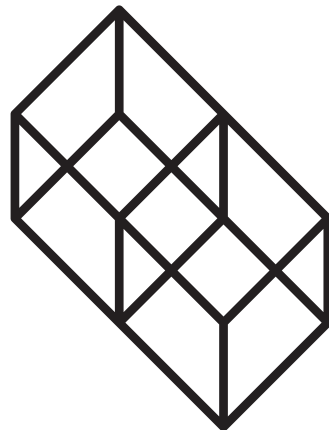


**Benjamin  
Menschel  
Fellowship**

# Creative Inquiry

## **The Benjamin Menschel Fellowship Program to Support Creative Inquiry**

was endowed by a grant given to The Cooper Union by the Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation in 1994 to support work in the fields of art, architecture, design and engineering. This generous grant was intended to provide funding to exceptional students who propose scholarly, independent projects that will in some way provide a culmination to their educational endeavors at The Cooper Union. It is the hope of the Goldsmith Foundation that the students designated as Benjamin Menschel Fellows will be encouraged by their awards to complete bodies of artwork, develop scientific protocols, or otherwise further their intellectual investigations in a manner that will provide inspiration and illumination to the community as a whole.



**THECOOPERUNION**

The Benjamin Menschel Fellowships will be awarded in the spring of 2017 for use during the summer of 2017 and the fall 2017 semester. The fellowships will be made on the basis of merit to students who have attended The Cooper Union for at least one year and who will be enrolled for the 2017–2018 academic year.

Fellowships are intended to cover eligible expenses for travel and materials used to complete the proposed project, up to a maximum of \$4,500 per project. Students who are awarded Fellowships must agree to exhibit or present their work publicly during the following academic year. Winners are expected to reserve up to 25% of their fellowship for the exhibition expenses.

The intent of the award is to support independent projects that are not subject to evaluation for grades in courses.

**Joint submissions and interdisciplinary submissions from students in more than one school are encouraged.**

**CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY**

- To be considered for a Benjamin Menschel Fellowship, a student must:
1. Be a full-time matriculating student at The Cooper Union with a minimum of two semesters remaining before graduation, excluding the present one;
  2. Be in good academic standing;
  3. Provide a letter of support from a faculty member willing to evaluate the project proposed by the student and to attest to the student’s ability to complete the project.

**PLEASE BE ADVISED: PRIVACY ACT ADVISORY STATEMENT**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579), please be advised: Public Law 99-661 authorizes solicitation of this information, which will be used to select Menschel Fellows. The information may also be used to publicize your selection as a Menschel Fellow. Furnishing the information is voluntary; however, failure to do so may prevent your selection as a Menschel Fellow.

**APPLICATION DEADLINES**

Applications must be submitted to The Offices of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Rm 327  
**by 5 pm on Friday, March 10, 2017.**  
Faculty evaluations must be submitted  
**by 5 pm on Friday, March 24, 2017.**  
No file will be reviewed without the faculty evaluation.

**Semifinalists will be interviewed by the Faculty Review Committee.**  
**Finalists will be notified by Friday, May 5, 2017.**

**APPLICATION MATERIALS**

This package contains the forms necessary to apply for a Benjamin Menschel Fellowship.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Complete and sign the transcript request form;
2. Complete and sign the **Menschel Fellowship Program to Support Creative Inquiry at the Cooper Union Application Form for 2017.** The application should be typed. Applicants are encouraged to visit the Center for Writing for assistance in drafting their proposals.  
  
Your proposal should accurately describe the work you intend to complete using the Fellowship monies. The description should include (1) a rationale for the project in creative inquiry that explains the intellectual, social, scientific, or cultural issues you mean to engage; (2) a schedule for completing the project and presenting your work; and (3) a detailed budget that accurately reflects the expenses you anticipate. If you plan to use specific studio or laboratory facilities, you should check to make sure you have permission to use these facilities during the times necessary for the completion of the project; some facilities are not available during the summer.

**DEADLINE**

Your application must be submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Office, Rm 327 by 5 pm on **Friday, March 10, 2017.** Late applications will not be reviewed.

The Menschel Committee, which is composed of one faculty member from each of the three Schools and the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, will review all applications and select a roster of semifinalists to be interviewed. Appointments for these interviews will be made starting in the last week of March, 2017. While a well-conceived, carefully written proposal is essential to the selection process, semifinalists may choose to supplement their proposals with a portfolio or other visual materials relevant to their proposal when they appear for their interviews. At the interview, semifinalists should be prepared to make a formal presentation of no more than 15 minutes; questions from the Committee will follow. If appropriate, semifinalists may also request that, at the time of the interview, the Committee visit their studio or work space to view relevant materials.

3. Use the **Benjamin Menschel Fellowship Program to Support Creative Inquiry at the Cooper Union Evaluation Form for 2017** to secure an evaluation from a faculty member at The Cooper Union who knows you well enough to assess your potential for completing the project you describe. The evaluation form should be sealed in an envelope and returned to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Office, Rm 327 by **Friday, March 24, 2017.**

# NOTIFICATION AND PAYMENT OF FELLOWSHIP AWARDS

### NOTIFICATION

You will be notified by letter as to whether you have been selected for a Benjamin Menschel Fellowship. Winners will be announced by May 5, 2017.

### CALENDAR

- May 2017** Award checks distributed
- Summer 2017** Winners pursue their projects
- Fall 2017** Projects are reviewed  
Catalog and exhibition prepared  
Exhibition date to be determined; usually in the first weeks of Spring semester, 2017

### WARNING ABOUT TAX CONSEQUENCES

Monies awarded under this program are intended primarily for materials and supplies needed to complete the proposed project. No tax need be paid on monies awarded to students for this purpose, although students currently supported by federal financial aid will need to file the budget portion of this application with their financial aid application to document their increased expenses. Any monies awarded under this program that are used for travel are taxable and must be declared as income on the student’s tax form.

# The Benjamin Menschel Fellowship Program for Creative Inquiry at the Cooper Union APPLICATION 2017

### APPLICANT’S STATEMENT

I, \_\_\_\_\_, understand that I am applying for a Benjamin Menschel Fellowship and affirm my wish to be considered. Permission is hereby given to the Registrar of The Cooper Union to release my academic transcript to the selection committee. I understand that this application will be available only to qualified people who need to see it in the course of their duties.

I affirm that the information contained herein is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Date	Signature
	Name
	School (and Major if applicable)
	Address
	City/State/Zip
	Telephone
	E-mail
	Name of Faculty Evaluator

1. Please describe the rationale for the project in creative inquiry you are proposing for funding. The description should convey the conceptual basis for the project and pose the problems in science or art that are the subject of your inquiry. You should also give some indication of how the project relates to your studies at The Cooper Union and explain how completion of the project might provide a culmination to your educational endeavors. [Note: This section is two pages.]

2. Please describe your schedule for completing the project.  
Be as specific as possible.

3. Provide an estimated budget for your project.  
Since the amount of funding you are given for the project will be determined by the information you provide here, please be very detailed.  
(Applicants should consider the expense of buying art supplies, construction materials, technical books and manuals, or any other materials necessary for completion of the project in preparing their budgets.)

# Benjamin Menschel Fellowship

# Evaluation 2017

**To be completed by a faculty member  
who can accurately assess  
the applicant's potential for  
completing the project proposed.**

Name of Applicant

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The student named above has applied for a Benjamin Menschel Fellowship. To assist in its selection of students who will be fellows, the selection committee would like your assessment of the student's proposed project, motivation and preparation. Your recommendation must address the following: In your opinion, based on your previous experience of the applicant, is the applicant capable of completing the proposed project? On what criteria do you base your judgements? How does the applicant meet your criteria? How does the applicant compare to other students engaged in the same program of study at The Cooper Union? Be as specific and candid as possible, citing any information that attests to the nominee's maturity, talent, and motivation.

Your evaluation should be typed on the back of this form or submitted on letterhead. Please be sure to sign your name. Your letter will become part of the applicant's confidential file, intended solely for the use of the Selection Committee.

This form should be sealed in an envelope and returned to Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Office, The Cooper Union, 41 Cooper Square, New York, NY 10003, Room 327 **no later than 5 pm on Friday, March 24, 2017.**

Name of Evaluator

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Office Address

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City/State/Zip

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Office Telephone

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E-mail

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Length of Time You Have Known the Applicant

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In What Capacity?

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