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Media Contact:

Adena Miller

Break the Ice Media

adena@breaktheicemedia.com

C: 585-490-9437

Adirondack Experience Contact:

Tara Murphy

Director of Marketing and Communications

tmurphy@theadkx.org

O: (518) 352-7311 ext. 182

Adirondack Experience Announces New Research Fellowship Program Awards for the 2025-2026 Academic Year

Blue Mountain Lake, NY - Adirondack Experience, The Museum on Blue Mountain Lake (ADKX), is pleased to announce its fellowship class for the 2025-2026 academic year. This research fellowship program enables emerging and established scholars to make use of the unparalleled collections found in the ADKX library. Funded by Julie and Warder Cadbury and Peter C. Welsh endowments, these fellowships aim to support scholarly exploration of Adirondack history.

Selected from a highly qualified pool of applicants, the researchers chosen as this year's recipients represent a diverse range of academic backgrounds and interests:

- **Rachel Ameen**, a graduate student in Geography at Syracuse University will be exploring cultural representations of three "animals" – black bears, common loons, and blackflies – within the context of recreation and tourism in the Adirondacks.
Project title: Forever Wild: A Cultural History of Animals and Recreation in the Adirondacks.

- **Ella McPherson**, Associate Professor of Sociology at University of Cambridge, will be conducting research on Adirondack hermits, examining the ways hermits and their publics have jointly shaped the meaning and significance of being a hermit.

Project title: The Adirondack Hermit Imaginary.

- **Christopher Roy**, an Independent scholar with a strong background in the history and culture of the Abenaki community, will compile a catalogue of Abenaki archives and artifacts in public repositories in the North Country.

Project title: An Abenaki Catalogue.

“The research fellows contribute to the fundamental goal of sharing material in the library and archives with the public,” said Jenny Ambrose, Director of Archives & Special Collections at ADKX. “The Adirondack Experience’s impact in the communities it serves grows exponentially as fellows publish, integrate their research in teaching, and enhance our knowledge of the region.”

Applications were evaluated based on several criteria; the significance of the project to scholarship about the Adirondack region, the qualifications of the applicant to undertake the work, and the capacity of the ADKX collections to support the project.

The ADKX staff and trustees look forward to welcoming the fellows to the Adirondack Experience campus and the community in the coming academic year. Ambrose and other ADKX collections experts will work one-on-one with the scholars to assist with the research and discovery. Visiting scholars will also have the opportunity to consult other historical collections in our region as part of their research project.

“The Adirondack Experience has a long-standing commitment to encouraging inquiry into the region’s history through research and publication,” said Executive Director David Kahn. “We are very excited to be able to support the next generation of Adirondack researchers as they pursue answers to new questions being posed within the scholarly community.”

For information and updates, please visit theadkx.org/adkx-fellowships.

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About Adirondack Experience, The Museum on Blue Mountain Lake

Adirondack Experience, The Museum on Blue Mountain Lake (ADKX), accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, shares the history and culture of the Adirondack region through interactive exhibits, hands-on activities, and culturally rich collections in more than 24 historic and contemporary buildings on a 121-acre campus in the heart of the Adirondacks. The ADKX offers a

broad range of programs and activities including special and permanent exhibitions, the 19,000-square-foot Life in the Adirondacks interactive exhibition, and an outdoor hiking and boating experience on Minnow Pond. ADKX offers daily activities with artist-in-residence, workshops, lectures, nature walks, family and educational programs, and signature events like the Rustic Fair, FallFest, and the Adirondack Art Festival. The ADKX's library, which is free and open to the public year-round, is the largest, most comprehensive repository of material documenting the history of the Adirondack region. The museum is supported in part with donations from the general public, with some general operating support made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature. For additional information, call 518-352-7311 or visit theADKX.org.