

**The Alice S. Kandell Fellowship in Thangka Conservation**  
**Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery (Freer|Sackler), Smithsonian Institution**

Fellowship appointment is for 1 year, full time.

Start date will be between October 1, 2019 and January 31, 2020.

Annual stipend of \$45,000 with up to \$5,000 additional for related research and travel expenses

The fellowship will take place at the Freer|Sackler, Washington, DC with a short research residence at MFA, Boston.

Deadline for application: August 15, 2019

**Fellowship Description:** The Freer|Sackler received a Tibetan shrine as part of a generous donation from Alice S. Kandell. The shrine contains a collection of historic Tibetan Buddhist objects including sculptures, temple furnishings and thangkas. This fellowship provides a junior professional with the opportunity to apply the principles of painting, textile and paper conservation to the study and treatment of a number of thangkas from this collection.

The fellow will also carry out examination, documentation, treatment, analysis and research to understand better the complex nature and cultural context of these composite objects.

The fellow will receive training under the guidance of specialists in the Department of Conservation and Scientific Research. A study period of a few weeks at the MFA, Boston will provide additional training to broaden the fellow's educational experience. Practical instruction will focus on traditional materials and methods for stabilizing and mounting Tibetan thangkas in combination with modern conservation principles and practices. Training may include various techniques such as consolidation, compensation for loss, crease repair, inpainting/toning, lining and the study of traditional mounting styles and materials. The fellow will also gain practical, professional experience in museum operations by participating in departmental activities including object examination and documentation, exhibition rotations, and collections care that will be beneficial for the fellow's conservation career.

The fellow will have opportunities to present ongoing research during the fellowship and will be encouraged to publish or present at the end of the fellowship.

**Candidate Qualifications:** The ideal candidate will have a Master's degree in conservation from a recognized program or equivalent work/life experience. The candidate should have a high level of technical skill, relevant experience and knowledge of ethical and professional principles as well as the theories, principles, techniques, practices, and methodologies used to examine, study, treat, and preserve artworks.

Applicants should have proven writing ability, and proficient English language skills (written and spoken).

Finalists will be invited for an interview and asked to submit a portfolio of their conservation work.

**To apply:** Applicants should submit electronically a letter of interest, including a statement of career goals and areas of particular interest; a curriculum vitae; and the names and contact information of three references to [dcsr@si.edu](mailto:dcsr@si.edu) by the deadline of August 15, 2019.

We are excited about the opportunity to provide this one-year fellowship experience and look forward to receiving your application materials.

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**FREER|SACKLER**



**Office of Conservation and Scientific Research**  
Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery

[freersackler.si.edu](http://freersackler.si.edu)