



The Minnesota Historical Society is a private, non-profit educational and cultural institution established in 1849 to preserve and share Minnesota history. The Society collects, preserves and tells the story of Minnesota's past through interactive and engaging museum exhibits, extensive libraries and collections, educational programs and book publishing.

Title: Editorial Assistant

Department: Minnesota Historical Society Press/Borealis Books

Supervisor: Head of Minnesota Historical Society Press

Hours: 12-15 hours per week

Timeframe: Spring 2012 (January-May)

Status: Unpaid, a limited number of [stipends](#) are available to students from underrepresented communities

Project Summary: Minnesota Historical Society Press publishes books on the history, art, and culture of the Upper Midwest. Founded in 1859, it is the oldest publisher in the state and the largest historical society press in the country. Borealis Books, the national trade imprint of Minnesota Historical Society Press, strives to publish works of enduring value that illuminate our shared quest for identity, place, and heritage.

The student will support the co-authored volume, "The 70's in Minnesota." S/he will work directly with authors Dave Kenney and Thomas Saylor. The student will conduct research on topics of gay rights, Minnesota economic and demographic data, and produce annotated primary and secondary sources lists.

Student Qualifications: Undergraduate senior or graduate level students. Must have knowledge of history and popular culture of Minnesota, experience researching the 1970s, and excellent communication skills (verbal and written). Student must be a self-starter and possesses good organizational skills.

Ideal degrees: English, Communication, History, American Studies or related degree.

Student Responsibilities:

- Research topics identified by Press staff and co-authors
- Review and recommend objects, videos, and other content in the Society collections and elsewhere.
- Procure photographs, clear permissions, prepare source list, and compile data.

Topics include:

1. Gay rights
 - Survey visual materials at the U of M's Tretter Collection.
 - Locate specific video clips in the Society's KSTP-TV archives.
2. Research MN economic and demographic data and include a list of sources.
 - Population by municipality and county; GDP, including per capita; economic sectors (e.g. farming, mining, manufacturing, services); ethnicity and race percentages, including by county
3. Develop annotated primary and secondary sources list (online and print) for the period 1970-79 focused on:
 - Prairie Island radiation leak (with aftermath post 1979)
 - Industries (taconite, meatpacking, railroads, computers and medical devices, snowmobiles)
 - Interstate 35 planning and construction
 - Minnesota Experimental City

Knowledge intern is expected to gain:

- Experience with book research, print and online content development, manuscript preparation, editing, and production editing.

To apply please visit www.mnhs.org/intern for more information about the program and application process.