THE DANIEL L. PATTERSON FELLOWSHIP FOR FOLKLORE FIELDWORK
at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

PURPOSE: To support folklore “fieldwork.” Recognizing that funds for field research at the M.A. level have always been scarce, we offer this fellowship to support research that directly contributes to the applicant’s MA thesis. In the past, this fellowship has encouraged students to “step into the field,” either ethnographically or in field-based historical projects (like Professor Patterson’s multi-sited gravestone project, focused on material culture). We realize, of course, that the pandemic has now transformed all definitions of the “field,” inviting a new degree of definitional creativity. It’s with this creativity in mind that we invite your applications, trusting that your proposed research will unfold in the finest tradition of Professor Daniel Patterson’s own work, marked by sensitivity, compassion, and a commitment to collaboration and public engagement.

ELIGIBILITY: UNC students working toward the MA in the Folklore

AWARDS: The Patterson Fellowship provides a cash stipend of up to $5,000 to cover research expenses including but not limited to travel, lodging, living expenses, research supplies, and up to half the cost of durable equipment. We will ask award recipients to present their work as part of the American Studies colloquium.

TO APPLY: Applicants must provide:
- a CV (2-page maximum)
- a second document consisting of:
  - a proposal that describes the research to be undertaken and explains its significance and impact (750 words maximum)
  - a line-item budget that pertains only to the proposal request
  - a brief, bullet-point project timeline for the period covered by the proposal
  - a brief bibliography of works with which the research engages
- a letter of endorsement from the thesis or dissertation advisor

Application materials should be submitted as email attachments (one email from the student with CV and proposal, etc.; one email direct from advisor with endorsement letter) to the Director of Graduate Studies, Department of American Studies amstdgs@unc.edu.

DEADLINE: Applications for the Fellowship must be submitted by 4 pm on the third Tuesday in April. The Fellowship will be awarded in early May, and funds may be expended any time within the following twelve months.