

Buffett Undergraduate Research Fellowship Opportunity

Digital Performances in Viral Times

Faculty Mentor: Marcela Fuentes, Associate Professor, School of Communication

Project Synopsis: This project seeks to research and analyze virtual performances conducted during the recent global pandemic in non-US locations, particularly in regions where artists lacked resources and tech skills but nevertheless crafted aesthetic experiences for their audiences to enjoy. The project will also explore how themes such as racial justice, climate change and domestic violence were represented in mediated performances.

Job Description:

Activities include:

- Research current scholarship on pandemic performances.
- Review already compiled case studies and contribute to our developing archive.
- Contact artists to procure access to the performance documentation.
- Conduct interviews with artists.
- Learn Scalar (digital platform) to create a digital collection of specific case studies in transnational perspective.
- Consult with Digital Humanities expert at NU Libraries.
- Meet with PI to discuss scholarly literature (theater and performance studies), methodology and findings.

Language skills are preferable as well as familiarity with digital communication and publishing tools (Wix, WordPress, GoogleSites, Omeka, etc.) Social media scraping would be excellent but not expected.

Because scholarship (theory and analysis) is part of the preparation to do this research well, the candidate should have a good predisposition to engage with fairly complex materials on performance theory, digital performance, and theater studies.

Project Term: Summer only

Project Location: Remote

Northwestern

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Time Commitment: 10 hours/week

Number of available positions: One

