

2002

Tamar Zinguer studied the relationship between the built environment and architectural toys, like this Erector Set.



2004

Sarah Gillespie explored Samuel Morse's technical and cultural contributions to early American photography.



1999

Regina Blaszczyk examined the inventive processes for creating and standardizing new colors during the 20th century's "Color Revolution."



2005

Aaron Alcorn examined connections between childhood model building and aeronautical engineering.



2008



Fellows Program

Program Information and Eligibility

The Lemelson Center Fellows Program supports projects that present creative approaches to the study of invention and innovation in American society. These include, but are not limited to, historical research and documentation projects resulting in publications, exhibitions, educational initiatives, and multimedia products. The fellowship program provides access to the Smithsonian's vast artifact and archival collections, as well as the expertise of the Institution's research staff.

The Center offers fellowships to scholars and professionals who are pre- or postdoctoral candidates or who have completed advanced professional training.

Fellowships are awarded for a maximum of ten weeks and carry a prorated stipend. Fellows are expected to reside in the Washington, DC area, to participate in the Center's activities, and to make presentations on their work to colleagues at the Museum.

The Lemelson Center

The Lemelson Center was established at the National Museum of American History in 1995 through a gift from The Lemelson Foundation. Jerome Lemelson (1923–1997) was an independent inventor who earned more than 600 patents, representing one of the largest patent portfolios in the nation's history.

The Center's mission is to document, interpret, and disseminate information about invention and innovation, to encourage inventive creativity in young people, and to foster an appreciation for the central role invention and innovation play in the history of the United States.

To Apply

More information about the fellowship program and application materials are available on the web at invention.smithsonian.org/fellowships. Or send a request including your address, phone and fax numbers, and e-mail address to:

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Historian and Fellowship Coordinator
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Researchers are required to consult with the fellowship coordinator prior to submitting a proposal.

Application materials must be received by e-mail by January 15. Decisions will be made by April 15. Fellowships begin on or after June 1.

The Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention & Innovation



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History