2026 Leelanau Press Research Fellowship Application



Located in Northwest Lower Michigan, Leelanau County presents exciting possibilities for research on the peninsula's rich cultural history. The Leelanau Press Research Fellowship provides monetary support for an independent researcher to conduct original research on the cultural history of Leelanau County. College students may apply but Leelanau Historical Society staff, trustees, and their families are excluded.

The research project must focus on Leelanau County. Creative research projects may involve fieldwork and/or utilize the Leelanau Historical Society or other regional historical collections. Research areas are broadly defined, and include, but are not limited to: Great Lakes maritime history and culture, agricultural history and culture, tourism history and culture, Anishinaabek history and culture, family and genealogical history, historic preservation, environmental history, folklore, and oral history.

At the end of the twelve-month period, the Leelanau Press Research Fellow are asked to provide a finished product from a range of options of their choice: scholarly article, essay, book, research file for a museum, exhibit, presentation or audio/video recording such as a documentary, podcast, or lecture. This final product will be archived in the Leelanau Historical Society collection or otherwise made publicly available. The grant award is \$2,500. Fifty percent of the grant funds are distributed upon award of the fellowship and the remaining portion at the completion of the project. Although made possible by the Leelanau Press, a Michigan nonprofit, receipt of the Fellowship does not assure or promise publication by the Press.

Please contact the Leelanau Historical Society for the most up to date information on the application deadline and award notification. Applications are generally accepted in the Fall with award notification in January.

The Leelanau Historical Society is a non-profit, equal opportunity organization.

Questions about the Leelanau Press Research Fellowship can be directed to Kim Kelderhouse, Executive Director at (231) 256-7475 or info@leelanauhistory.org.

Leelanau Press Research Fellowship Application

On a separate document please provide the following required information:

- Full Name
- Mailing Address
- Phone Number
- Email Address
- Proposed Project Title
- 1) Statement of Purpose. Describe the research you will pursue as the recipient of the Leelanau Press Research Fellowship and the final product you hope to produce. Also describe the relevance of the fellowship to your studies and the research's relevance to the Leelanau community. Include pertinent information about your background and the objectives of your study. Please limit your statement of purpose to three pages.
- 2) **Budget.** Explain how you propose to utilize the \$2,500 grant. Uses may include but are not limited to personal expenses involved with conducting research, travel expenses to conduct research outside of the local area (such as a visit to the National Archives), payment for services associated with your research (contracting a researcher to visit an archival facility outside of the local area on your behalf), or publication, production or design costs.
- 3) **Timeline.** Develop an appropriate timeline for the 12-month period of the fellowship. A request for an extension may be made during the grant period.
- 4) **Curriculum Vitae/Resume.** Include education, relevant employment and professional experiences, publications, and presentations.
- 5) **Sample of previous work.** Work is broadly defined, and include, but are not limited to: essays, course papers, newspaper articles, books or book chapters, audio or video recordings, and photographs.
- 6) **Two Letters of Recommendation.** Letters must be from people familiar with you and your project. Letters may be submitted with the application or directly from the recommender.

Submit Applications to:

MAIL:	EMAIL:
Leelanau Historical Society	info@leelanauhistory.org
Attn: Leelanau Press Research Fellowship	Subject: Leelanau Press Research Fellowship
PO Box 246	
Leland, MI 49654	

^{*}Application deadline: November 30th, 2025.