John Belle traveling in England between studies at the Architectural Association in London.

2021
2021 JOHN BELLE TRAVEL FELLOWSHIP

The John Belle Travel Fellowship is a $10,000 annual award by the Beyer Blinder Belle Foundation in honor of John Belle, FAIA, RIBA, Hon. PhD, a founding partner of Beyer Blinder Belle Architects & Planners. John devoted his career to the public realm—the planning, design, restoration and adaptive reuse of public buildings and urban centers. The purpose of the Fellowship is to expand students' understanding of the public realm in existing cities through travel and research, and how the knowledge gained might be applied to contemporary urban needs and design challenges.

ELIGIBILITY

Application is open to students of any nationality in their penultimate year of a three or more year Master’s degree program (or second year for a two year Master's program) in Architecture, Historic Preservation and/or Urban Design at the following schools in the USA, UK and Canada:

USA  Carnegie Mellon University • Catholic University of America • Columbia University • Cornell University • Georgia Institute of Technology • Harvard University • Howard University • Massachusetts Institute of Technology • Pratt Institute • Princeton University • Rice University • Rhode Island School of Design • State University of New York at Buffalo • Syracuse University • The City College of New York • University of California, Berkeley • University of California, Los Angeles • University of Maryland • University of Miami • University of Michigan • University of Pennsylvania • University of Texas at Austin • University of Virginia • Virginia Tech • University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee • Yale University

UK  Architectural Association • Manchester School of Architecture • University College London (The Bartlett) • University of Bath • University of Cambridge • University of Cardiff

CANADA  McGill University • University of British Columbia • University of Toronto

SCHEDULE

February 8, 2021  Fellowship Application Deadline
March 24, 2021  Announcement of Award
Summer 2021  Travel & Research Period
October 13, 2021  Deadline for Submission of Final Report

JURY

A jury to review submissions will be led by architectural, urban design and historic preservation professionals of Beyer Blinder Belle Architects & Planners, along with invited members of the design profession.

Contact info@beyerblinderbellefoundation.org for more information or questions.
SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants are required to submit a digital copy of each of the following submission documents to info@beyerblinderbellefoundation.org, no later than February 8, 2021. Please do not send hard copies.

APPLICATION FORMS (ATTACHED)
(1) Registration Form, (2) Copyright Release Form, and (3) Endorsement Form. The Endorsement Form must be completed and signed by the chair or dean of your school. There is a limit of two applicants per school.

TRAVEL/RESEARCH PROPOSAL
Proposals must be submitted on a single page of 500 words or less, including graphics and text. The proposal should outline the topic; its relevance to the Fellowship’s mission; and location for the travel/research, an itinerary, and a budget. Applicants should plan their travel for the summer of 2021.

DESIGN PORTFOLIO
The Design Portfolio should demonstrate the applicant’s knowledge of the topic of the travel proposal and other relevant work. The portfolio should not exceed 10 pages (11”x17” maximum page size).

ATTRIBUTION
Neither the Travel/Research Proposal nor the Design Portfolio should include the student’s name or school. This information is to appear on the Application Forms only.

TERMS OF FELLOWSHIP
• The $10,000 stipend will be distributed to the Fellow in two (2) installments:
  ▪ $8,000 after receipt and approval of the Fellow’s itinerary, budget, and travel proposal
  ▪ $2,000 upon receipt of the final report
• A final report of the travel and research, in a format of your choice not to exceed 11” x 17”, shall be submitted digitally in accordance with the Fellow’s approved itinerary and prior to receipt of the final payment.
• Fellows will be required to present their report to the Beyer Blinder Belle Foundation (travel costs to be provided by the Foundation) and to their respective schools.
• The Beyer Blinder Belle Foundation reserves the right not to award a Fellowship in any given year.

EXAMPLES OF TRAVEL/RESEARCH TOPICS
For the purpose of the following examples, public buildings are defined to be for government, cultural, educational, transportation, institutional or religious uses.
• Adaptive reuse, restoration of, and the design of additions to public buildings in historic urban settings.
• Analysis of how people use and are affected by the design and planning of the public realm: public and private buildings in historic urban spaces.
• Evolution of historic transportation hubs, how they have adapted to changing technologies, and their impact on the adjacent urban fabric.
• Accommodating new technologies, sustainable design and contemporary program needs in the restoration of public buildings.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING SUBMISSIONS
• Overall quality and originality of the proposal.
• Reference in the design portfolio to the premise of the applicant’s proposal.
• Relevance of the proposal to John Belle’s career and commitment to the public realm.
• Practicality of the proposed itinerary in terms of time, travel, and cost.
“The Fellowship offered a chance to pursue a latent intuition about the built environment, explore its prevalence and thus significance in context, and to broaden my understanding of architecture beyond the studio environment.”

Samantha Radice
University of California, Los Angeles
2020 Fellow

“The opportunity to travel, to study architectural history as an act of social justice and cultural engagement made this Fellowship uniquely significant in my eyes.”

James Piacentini
Columbia University
2019 Fellow

“John Belle was clearly someone who left a positive mark on the people, places, and work in his life. In a sense, that legacy served as a point of inspiration for my project proposal but also presented a model of a person who many designers aspire to be like.”

Miguel Sanchez Enkerlin
Yale University
2018 Fellow
John Belle (1932–2016), a founding partner of Beyer Blinder Belle, was dedicated to social and cultural responsibility through architecture. This viewpoint was solidified early on for John as an architectural student when he traveled every summer throughout England and Europe, and while working on a project in the coal mines of Wales. There, John made the connection between the fabric of a community and the impact that an architect could have on its preservation and growth, and particularly on the day-to-day lives of people.

Under John’s philosophy, Beyer Blinder Belle advanced a contemporary approach to preservation that promoted authenticity over replication and building insertions that were both contextual and of their time. John was an unrelenting advocate for improving the public realm in cities through the planning, design, and preservation of public buildings and urban spaces. Many of his projects are beloved New York City, national, and international icons, including: Grand Central Terminal, the Ellis Island National Museum of Immigration, Rockefeller Center, Lincoln Center, the US Capitol, and the Red Star Line Museum in Antwerp, Belgium.

His work has been recognized with numerous awards, including three Presidential Design Awards—the nation’s highest design award for public architecture—and the TIME Magazine Design Award. John was honored individually for his illustrious career with a Lucy G. Moses Preservation Leadership Award from New York Landmarks Conservancy and an Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts from Stony Brook University.

John graduated from the Architectural Association School, London. He served as a member of the Commission of Fine Arts, Washington, DC; President of the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects; and Chairman of the Graduate Department of Urban Design and of the School of Architecture at Pratt Institute. He was also a past President of The New York Landmarks Conservancy.

John co-authored Grand Central: Gateway to a Million Lives, which won the Silver Medal by The Chartered Institute of Building Literary Awards, London; and he was also an editor of Traditional Details, published by J. Wiley.
(1) Registration Form

Complete this PDF form in the most recent version of Adobe Acrobat or Reader and save the file as your digital copy.

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(2) Copyright Release Form

I hereby affirm that I am the sole author and copyright holder of all materials submitted for the John Belle Travel Fellowship, including text, drawings, diagrams, and photographs (the Submission). I also affirm that I will be sole author and copyright holder of all Travel Reports and of all Final Report materials, including text, drawings, diagrams, photographs, and video (Final Report), or that if any report contains materials by others, that I will obtain all necessary permissions for the use of such materials. I hereby grant my permission for publication of the Submission, Travel Reports and/or Final Report for the John Belle Travel Fellowship to the Beyer Blinder Belle Foundation for potential use in digital or hard copy media, such as press releases, marketing publications, website, social media, presentations, exhibitions, history books and similar publications; as well as for public access for student and educational purposes in all digital or hard copy media. I understand that the Beyer Blinder Belle Foundation will credit me as the author of the published work. If there is any separate publication of any portion of my Submission, Travel Reports, Final Report, or other materials that I develop during or based upon the John Belle Travel Fellowship, I will ensure that the John Belle Travel Fellowship receives appropriate credit for its support.

If the Submission, Travel Reports and/or Final Report are selected for publication, I hereby grant a nonexclusive, perpetual, royalty-free license to the Beyer Blinder Belle Foundation and any designated assignee of any and all copyright and trademark rights in the Submission, Travel Reports and Final Report, solely for the uses described above. It is understood that this license is granted without reservation and remuneration, the publication being the sole consideration for the granting of permission.

Print Name: 

Signature: __________________________ Date: __________________________

to be completed by the applicant
(3) Endorsement Form

to be completed by the endorsing institution's dean or chair

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I, the dean/chair of the endorsing institution, affirm that the above student is approved as **one of two possible candidates** for the John Belle Travel Fellowship and that the student is expected to graduate from our University/College on the date stated above.

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