RAMSA TRAVEL FELLOWSHIP 2021
The RAMSA Travel Fellowship is a $10,000 prize awarded annually by Robert A.M. Stern Architects for travel and research. The fellowship seeks to promote investigations into the perpetuation of tradition through invention—key to the firm’s own work—and is given to an individual who has proven insight and interest in the profession and its future, as well as the ability to carry forth in-depth research.

The fellows complete their travel in the summer and present their research to RAMSA’s office in New York City the following spring. This year the jury recognizes that summer travel may be postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions; if safe travel to the proposed location is not feasible in 2021, RAMSA will work with the fellow to determine an alternate timeline and/or proposal.

**ELIGIBILITY**

The RAMSA Travel Fellowship is open to graduate students in the penultimate year of a professional or post-professional degree program in architecture at a NAAB-accredited school. There is no limit to the number of students who may apply from each school.

**JURY**

A jury of three RAMSA partners selects a student based on the clarity, feasibility, and originality of the proposal. All applications remain anonymous to the jury throughout the selection process.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

- 03/31/2021: Submission deadline
- 04/21/2021: Award announcement

**RESOURCES**

The work of the first five recipients is featured in Tradition and Invention: RAMSA Travel Fellowship 2013–17 (New York: Robert A.M. Stern Architects, 2018). Through essays, maps, photographs, and drawings, the fellows present their trips to Austria, India, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Scotland, Slovenia, and the United States. Recent recipients have traveled to Hungary, Indonesia, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Ukraine.

www.ramsa.com/fellowship

fellowship@ramsa.com
SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Applicants are required to electronically submit a complete application no later than 5:00PM on March 31, 2021. Complete applications include the Registration Form, Copyright Release Form, Verification Form, a research proposal, and a design portfolio.

Application Forms – Complete the Registration Form, Copyright Release Form, and Verification Form attached to this packet. The Verification Form must be completed and signed by a department chair or school dean.

Research Proposal – Proposals must be presented on one single-sided 11” x 17” sheet in landscape orientation and cannot include your name or the name of your school. Include an abstract of no more than 500 words that outlines the following: the specific intent of research; the motive or background of the project’s origins; and the site(s) of research. Strong proposals will demonstrate prior knowledge of the research topic. In addition, the proposal should include a rough itinerary, budget, and title. We strongly encourage applicants to include helpful maps, images, or other supporting graphics. Proposed travel should be a minimum of four weeks.

Design Portfolio – The design portfolio should stand in support of the proposal and supplement the applicant’s profile. Strong design portfolios demonstrate interest in the topic of the research proposal. The design portfolio should not exceed 15 single-sided pages and cannot include your name or the name of your school. Standard tabloid paper (11” x 17”) is the maximum page size allowed.

PDFs should be sent via email, Dropbox, WeTransfer, etc., to: fellowship@ramsa.com

Robert A.M. Stern Architects, for any reason and at its sole discretion, reserves the right not to award the fellowship in any given year.

TERMS OF FELLOWSHIP

Upon notice of the award, the fellow will receive $1,000 to start the research; as soon as travel is deemed safe by CDC guidelines and/or other relevant domestic or international authorities, $7,500 will be sent to the fellow and the fellow will submit a final travel itinerary to RAMSA; if safe travel to the proposed location is not feasible in 2021, RAMSA will work with the fellow to determine an alternate timeline and/or proposal.

Fellows are required to present their final research to RAMSA’s office and submit a written report before a final check of $1,500 is disbursed.

Fellows are encouraged to work with their school deans to present their research at their home institution.

The fellow agrees to the use and publication by RAMSA of any part of the travel update(s), presentation, and final report in accordance with the terms of the Copyright Release Form; the fellow will be credited as the author of the work.

A book based on the final reports of the 2018–22 fellows will be published in the fall of 2023; fellows, jury members, and other RAMSA contributors will be appropriately credited.

RECENT RECIPIENTS

- 2020 Fellow Yaxuan Liu, Harvard University, Qilou: Where Freedom Takes Shape (Taiwan)
- 2019 Fellow Radu-Remus Macovei, Harvard University, Orthodox Sacred Space in the Rural Imagination (Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Ukraine)
- 2018 Fellow Wilson Harkhono, Harvard University, Rooted Future: Resurfacing Lost Identity (Indonesia)
- 2017 Fellow, Kyle Schumann, Princeton University, Alpine Modernism: Sensitive Identities and Regional Placemaking (Austria, Italy, and Slovenia)
- 2016 Fellow, Gerald Bauer, University of Notre Dame, Thomson and Wright (Scotland and the United States)
- 2015 Fellow, Michelle Chen, Yale University, The Myth of Pure Form (India)
- 2014 Fellow, Anna Antropova, McGill University, Japanese Wood Culture (Japan)
- 2013 Fellow, Jonathan Dessi-Olive, University of Pennsylvania, Catenary Vaulting on Mfangano Island (Kenya)
First name: __________________________ Last name: __________________________ Middle initial: __________

Name as it should appear in print and press materials: ______________________________________________________

Date of birth: __________________________

Mailing address: __________________________ City: __________ State: ____ Zip code: ______

E-mail: __________________________ Phone: __________________________ Country: __________________________

Current institution: __________________________ Degree(s): __________________________

Expected graduation: __________________________

Previous institution: __________________________ Degree(s): __________________________

Graduation: __________________________
I hereby affirm that I am the sole author and copyright holder of all materials submitted for the Robert A.M. Stern Architects, LLP (RAMSA) Travel Fellowship, including text, drawings, diagrams, photographs and slides (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, video and slides (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 RAMSA Travel Fellowship program to Robert A.M. Stern Architects, LLP for potential use in electronic or hard copy media such as press releases, marketing publications, its website, presentations, exhibitions, history books and similar publications; as well as for public access for student and educational purposes in all electronic or hard copy media. I understand that RAMSA 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 Travel Fellowship, I will ensure that the RAMSA Travel Fellowship receives appropriate credit for its support.

If the Submission, Travel Reports and/or Final Report is selected for publication, I hereby grant a nonexclusive, perpetual, royalty-free license to RAMSA 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: ______________
## Verification Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Student’s name:</strong></th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Degree(s):</td>
<td>Expected graduation:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verifier’s name:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail:</td>
<td>Phone:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

I, the dean/chair of the applicant’s current institution, affirm that the above student is expected to graduate from our University/College on the date stated.

Signature: ___________________________ Date: ___________________
**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

Q. Who is eligible to apply?
A. To be eligible, you must be in your penultimate year of a graduate-level professional or post-professional degree program in architecture at a NAAB-accredited school. You do not need to be a US citizen. Please contact us if you are unsure of your eligibility.

Q. Is there a limit to the number of students who can apply from each school?
A. No. Any eligible student at a NAAB-accredited school may apply, though a school dean or department chair must verify your enrollment by signing the Verification Form.

Q. Are team applications accepted?
A. No. At this time, the RAMSA Travel Fellowship is only awarded to individual recipients.

Q. How much time should I propose traveling?
A. Fellows should travel for a minimum of four weeks.

Q. Do I need to travel outside the United States?
A. No. Depending on your research interests, you may travel within the United States. All regions and cultures of the world are potential topics for study.

Q. When do I need to submit my application?
A. Applicants are required to submit an electronic application transferred no later than 5:00 pm on Wednesday, March 31, 2021.

Q. Why can’t I have my name or the name of my school on the design portfolio or research proposal?
A. The hard copy applications are reviewed anonymously by the fellowship jury. Therefore, any identifying information should be absent. If your portfolio includes team projects, you should denote them as such without using names.

Q. How are the proposals judged?
A. A jury of three RAMSA partners selects a student based on the clarity, feasibility, and originality of the proposal. All applications remain anonymous to the jury throughout the selection process.

Q. Can my abstract be over 500 words?
A. No. It is in your best interest not to exceed this limit. The jurors review a large number of proposals and portfolios for the RAMSA Travel Fellowship. A short, clear, and concise abstract will be most effective for conveying your ideas. Be sure to proofread as well!

Q. Should I include images?
A. Absolutely! We strongly encourage applicants to include helpful maps, images, or other supporting graphics. You should assume that the jurors have no knowledge of your research topic.

Q. What kind of work can I include in my design portfolio?
A. The only work that cannot be included in your portfolio is work completed for an employer.

Q. How should I name my digital files?
A. School - Last Name - RAMSA Travel Fellowship 2021. Only fellowship administrators will have access to identifying information, including filenames.

Q. Can I view proposals from previous years?
A. All proposals submitted by past recipients can be viewed at www.ramsa.com/fellowship.

Q. Can I view the final reports from past recipients?
A. The work of the first five recipients is featured in *Tradition and Invention: RAMSA Travel Fellowship 2013–17* (New York: Robert A.M. Stern Architects, 2018). Past recipients have also presented their research at external venues and events.

Q. My question isn’t answered here. Who should I ask?
A. The RAMSA Travel Fellowship is managed by the RAMSA Research Department. You can send fellowship-related questions to fellowship@ramsa.com, and someone from the department will be in touch.