

Fall 2021 Internship Summary
To: Internship Stipend Committee
From: Priscilla Foreman
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Over the semester, I have had the opportunity to familiarize myself with fascinating parts of music history while actively contributing to its preservation. As a Stax Museum intern, I was able to have learned a great deal about the impact of Stax Records and see how museums operate behind the scenes. Learning Stax lore was one of the more enjoyable elements of the job. Still, when it came to our day-to-day responsibilities, other interns and I worked with a massive collection of photos, records, and memorabilia from the late soul music historian Bob Abrahamian.

The Abrahamian collection is a critical addition to the Stax Museum. It is a massive acquisition for the museum, and it was exciting to get involved during the initial stages of processing. Our first task was sorting through and creating a finding aid for several hundred photos. They included everything from signed headshots to Abrahamian's fan mail. After several weeks of processing, we went from having loosely alphabetized, overstuffed binders to well-organized boxes with a thorough finding aid as well. We were also able to assist in accessing several hundred LP records, understanding the typical catalog process for museum or archival work.

Another aspect of the internships was creating content for social media pages that highlight certain items within the collection. We had the opportunity to visit the Memphis Listening Lab, where we recorded videos to utilize in social media marketing and promotions. With these added experiences, we highlighted new exhibits and additions at the Stax museum to various audiences through social media. You can check out some of our created posts on the Stax Museum social media, including Twitter, Instagram, & Facebook, @staxmuseum.

This experience has been so impactful. Being completely new to the museum studies field, I am so thankful for this opportunity to contribute to the Stax Museum. The Stax Museum staff welcomed me as a part of the team and lent their resources to learn and succeed. I have been exposed to industry standards and have been able to produce work that I am proud of and contribute to the Stax Museum's future mission. Thank You, ARCS, for your time and dedication

and for allowing me this experience that I most likely would not be able to engage with without your generous gift.