

Mary Graham Harvey

## Internship Final Report

This Summer, I did a development internship at Anderson Ranch Arts Center located in Snowmass Village, Colorado. Anderson Ranch Arts Center is a one of a kind place. At the Ranch, we have several different workshops that take place during our summer high season such as painting workshops, ceramic workshops, wood-working classes, printmaking classes and so many more. All summer long, students come from all different locations, backgrounds, and artistic levels to take classes and grow at the Ranch. The Ranch houses all of the students and faculty that lead classes during this time. The café at the Ranch serves everyone all summer long with local and organic food creations. Additionally, lectures, talks and other events are held at the Ranch as well, in addition to these daily classes, which typically last between one and three weeks.

I became interested in Anderson Ranch through a Sewanee friend, who did the internship the summer before and told me about it. Knowing that it was my dream to move to Colorado, as well as the fact that I was a painter, she suggested that I apply. Thus, I flew out to Snowmass Village for Spring Break, interviewed and was offered the position. For my internship, specifically, I worked in Administration. My title was Development & Summer Series Intern and I had one other intern working with me under the same title.

During my time as an intern here, I was in charge of event planning, coordination and the entire planning of Anderson Ranch Arts Center's Summer Series Featured Artist Lecture Program. For the Summer Series, ten contemporary artists come to the Ranch and speak on their work, as well as meet with faculty, staff and students. All events,

travel arrangements, payments and coordination of the artists' trips was my responsibility. Although this type of pristine organization in an office environment challenged me, I had the opportunity to speak and build one-on-one relationships with famous contemporary artists such as Carrie Mae Weems, Titus Kaphar, Jerry Saltz and the Haas Brothers. I grew immensely as a person and artist this summer. Not only did I learn how to work in an office environment and remain professional in chaotic situations, I learned how to utilize the interpersonal skills from Sewanee and incorporate them into a world outside of the domain. Every day, I wore "class dress" to work. I wrote my emails in Professor Reishman form, reading them aloud to double check errors. I even wore my Sewanee ring, proudly, everyday!

To say the least, my internship has opened a million and one doors for me. During my time here, I was exposed to all sides of Development at a non-profit organization – the career path I plan to continue pursuing. I also plan to go to business school down the road and this internship exposed me to the benefits of having more schooling in the future.

In the middle of my internship, the Executive Assistant to the Director of the Ranch left to go to graduate school in New York for Arts Administration. Since I had worked closely with her all summer as a result of my internship, she had seen my work ethic and professionalism – two traits that Sewanee taught me. She encouraged me to apply for the job and I did. I accepted the job as Executive Assistant to the Director at Anderson Ranch Arts Center shortly after and I now work full time at a non-profit arts program that I am extremely passionate and proud to be a part of.

I cannot thank Sewanee enough for giving me the opportunity and funding to intern here. Without funding, I would not have been able to take part in this unpaid internship, an internship which led way to a full-time, paying job in my dream place, working my dream job. Now, everyday, I am inspired by artists, creators and business men and women that come to the Ranch. I work closely with the National Council of the Ranch as well as the Board of Trustees. I have been exposed to the incredible contemporary art world and all of the jobs which one can pursue in this small but poignant field in the Aspen/Snowmass area. I truly realized what was missing from my life during this internship – art. Always an artist, I did not take the time to pursue art at Sewanee, although I loved it in high school and took AP Art as well as one three awards.

Coming to the Ranch, I combined my writing skills from my English major, as well as my creative skills and interpersonal skills that I learned from Sewanee. Now, my office is very similar to my time working as a volunteer and resident of the Sewanee Women’s Center. I work in an all-female office and feel comfortable collaborating and communicating with all of my co-workers, thanks to my Sewanee experience. Thank you, Sewanee, for providing me with the tools to excel. I cannot thank you enough.



## **Mary Graham Harvey**

### **Executive Assistant to the Director**

Mary Graham is from Nashville, Tenn. She is a recent graduate of Sewanee, the University of the South, where she majored in English and worked in admissions. She recently took part in an art history study abroad program called European Studies where she studied at Oxford University.

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Liza Lou – famous contemporary artist, bead working.



The Haas Brothers – famous contemporary artists.



A picture of the Ranch that I took during the summer.