

## **Visiting Fellowships: August, 2021**

For the month of August, 2021, Chawton House is delighted to be able to offer three residential fellowships for UK-based postgraduate or early career researchers (within 5 years of PhD) working on women's writing of the long eighteenth century. These fellowships have been made possible by a generous donation from the Ardeola Charitable Trust.

In memory of Deirdre Le Faye, one Fellowship will be offered to a researcher working on Jane Austen. We are also interested to hear from those working on female botanists or on women's letters, who would be able to contribute to our planned academic programme during or after their residence (our Botanical Women exhibition opens in mid-July; and our 2022 exhibition, 'Quills and Characters' will explore women's networks of correspondence). However, research in all areas of women's writing will be considered.

We particularly welcome applications from women, from those on fixed-term contracts, and from BAME scholars.

## **Information for Applicants**

### **Chawton House & Collections**

Chawton House is an Elizabeth manor house and estate once owned by Jane Austen's brother Edward. When he inherited the estate from the wealthy but childless Knight family, he gave Jane, her mother, and her sister a cottage in the village (now a museum), where they lived from 1809. Today, Chawton House is a heritage site of interest to Jane Austen fans, runs [a lively events programme](#), and holds the Knight Family library on deposit. Its library is also home to a unique collection of over 10,000 works by women in the long eighteenth century, complemented by a wealth of modern critical resources. Since it opened in 2003, Chawton House has been a centre of research, fostering study of these early women writers. From 2007-2017, Chawton House offered a competitive Visiting Fellowship programme in partnership with the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Southampton, building up a community of scholars across the globe and supporting world-class research. However, changes to the funding structure of Chawton House led to the suspension of the programme to allow for a strategic reshaping of the organisation, ensuring it could become self-sustaining. In 2021, we are piloting a new summer Fellowship programme aimed specifically at early career researchers.

You can find out more about Chawton House and [access the catalogue](#) via our website.

## 2021 Fellowships

2021 Fellows will be offered onsite accommodation in a self-catering apartment annexed to Chawton House itself (shared kitchen and bathroom), and will be expected to be in residence for the duration of their fellowship. Fellows will be given space to work each day in the upper reading room, and lunch will be provided to Fellows on weekdays. A full induction to the accommodation, house and library will be provided upon arrival. Parking is available on-site for those with cars. Fellows will be expected to contribute to the outputs at Chawton House in some way (e.g. onsite tour/talk; online talk/workshop; blogpost/article in *The Female Spectator*), and to give an informal presentation on their work at the end of the Fellowship. They will be welcomed to join events planned for August.

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, we have to be flexible in responding to changing restrictions, including travel restrictions. We are therefore only offering fellowships to UK-based researchers this year, and reserve the right to cancel or postpone fellowships offered should the public health situation change. We hope to continue the programme in the Summer of 2022, opening up to international applicants.

## How to Apply

The deadline for applications is **21 May, 2021**. Please email the following documents to [visiting.fellowships@chawtonhouse.org](mailto:visiting.fellowships@chawtonhouse.org):

- **A cover letter, including a proposal for a contribution to the outputs at Chawton House** (1 page only; please see our website & YouTube channel)
- **A proposal for the work you intend to carry out as a Visiting Fellow, to include items in our collection that you would want to consult** (no more than 2 pages, 1.5 spaced)
- **Your CV** (no more than 2 pages)
- **One confidential letter of recommendation to be emailed separately by the referee before the deadline.**

Please note that incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Please direct general questions to Dr Kim Simpson: [kim.simpson@chawtonhouse.org](mailto:kim.simpson@chawtonhouse.org), and collections-specific questions to Curator and Collections Manager, Emma Yandle: [emma.yandle@chawtonhouse.org](mailto:emma.yandle@chawtonhouse.org)