My name is Julie Woodson, and this summer, I have had the wonderful opportunity to intern at the Mint. I am an Art History and Spanish double major, with a Business minor at Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC. To become an intern, there is an online application. This is submitted with a Letter of Recommendation, a resume, and a cover letter. Once the deadline passes, applicants are selected to be interviewed for a specific department. Thankfully for me, the museum was flexible on the nature of these interviews, because at the time I was 4,000 miles away, studying in Spain for the semester. This summer, I have been working with the museum's database to develop the organization of the docents, researching trends and tours, and creating tutorial videos on using the database. This experience has been invaluable for showing me exactly what goes on behind the gallery walls and meeting the people that make it all happen. Interns also get a summer membership to the museum and to attend special intern-specific programs led by museum staff to hear about other areas of the museum. Interning at the Mint allowed me to learn real-world things that I can’t learn in a classroom and gave me the encouragement to continue my path towards a career in the arts.
My name is Gabrielle Marshall, a native of Reidsville, NC. I am a senior at Johnson C. Smith University majoring in business administration with a concentration in accounting. Upon the completion of my undergraduate degree, I would like to attend graduate school and pursue a degree in accountancy. I was recommended by one of my professors for this prestigious internship through an initiative from UNCF called the AAMD/UNCF Museum Diversity initiative. I applied and was placed at the Mint Museum. I was an intern in the accounting department working directly under the CFO and the accounting team. I helped the accounting team with journal entries, accounts payable, and other tasks that needed to be completed daily. I gained an exceptional amount of knowledge in the short amount of time that I spent with the CFO and the accounting manager. The most valuable project that I worked on was helping the CFO with the fiscal year budget by consolidating each departmental budget into one master budget.

The importance of internships is to gain real world experience in a professional environment. It allows you the opportunity to “test drive” a career to determine whether or not the career is the best fit for your future. I thoroughly enjoyed my experience at the Mint with the CFO and the accounting team, especially since I was able to see the nonprofit side of accounting. The relationships that I have built along with the knowledge and experience that I have gained from the Mint will only propel me further in my future endeavors.