

ROM

VERONIKA GERVERS RESEARCH GRANT

APPLICATION

Deadline: May 30, 2025

INSTRUCTIONS

The Veronika Gervers Memorial Research Fund was established in 1979 to honour the work and memory of Veronica Gervers, a pioneering scholar of textiles and dress and former ROM curator. The Fund awards an annual grant to bring one recipient to Toronto to carry out an innovative study on the ROM's exceptional collection of Global Fashion & Textiles, comprised of circa 40,000 objects from around the world and across time.

Applicants can include scholars, curators, educators, conservators, community members, artists, and makers. Projects must contribute new knowledge on some aspect of textiles, dress or fashion—their past, present or future. Through the support of these activities, the grant is meant to enhance access to, and stewardship of, ROM's Global Fashion & Textile collections, and further studies on the critical importance of cloth in the human experience.

The award has two components:

1. A **study of a select portion of ROM'S Global Fashion & Textiles collections**. Maximum of \$9,000, or residency of 2 weeks.
2. A **public offering** which may be a virtual ROM program, ROM emuseum enhancement, in-person presentation, workshop, or podcast. The format will be decided in conversations between ROM and the successful applicant.

Eligibility

The award can be made to a person or a group of people. It is open to residents of any country, 18 years and older. Non-Canadian applicants will be responsible for obtaining necessary visas, permits and any other permission that may be required.

Level of Award

A maximum award of \$9,000 CAD is available for the proposed project. The grant can be used for direct expenses related to the project such as transportation, visas, accommodation, supplies, equipment. Applicants without full-time employment are allowed a stipend up to \$2000. *The award does not cover travel to other Institutions or top-up of regular salaries.* See Budget section of the application for more details.

Award Selection Criteria

- Applicant's demonstrated history of engagement with textiles, dress or fashion
- Relevance and significance of the ROM collection to the project
- Originality and innovativeness of the project, especially toward new perspectives, sources, or methodologies
- Rigour of the project
- Care and clarity of objectives and design of the project
- The viability of the project within the time frame and budget, and how prepared the applicant is to carry out the project
- The contribution of the project to the applicant's professional or personal development
- The impact of the project on wider audiences and communities
- Letters of support

Application Materials

- Completed 2025 Application form. Total application must not exceed 7 pages.
- 2-page resume for the lead applicant(s). If more than one lead applicant, please designate who will be responsible for communication, reporting, and budget.
- 2 reference letters that testify to the applicant's ability to fulfill the proposed project(s). These letters are to be emailed separately and directly to VGerversFellowship@rom.on.ca by the deadline.

Pre-Application Inquiry:

Applicants are strongly advised to contact the museum in advance to seek specific information on suitable and relevant objects and collection areas related to their study before submitting an application. Some but not all objects are currently visible on ROM's online database (<https://collections.rom.on.ca/collections/14320/emuseum-home>). Please submit all queries to VGerversFellowship@rom.on.ca

DEADLINE for applications: May 30, 2025

- March 10, 2025, Call for proposals opens
- May 30, 2025, Deadline to submit application
- July 15, 2025, Notice of decision
- Sept 1, 2025, Funds made available

Part I: Applicant Information (Max 7 pages for full application)

Name of Applicant:	
Mailing Address:	
Telephone:	Email:

Project Title:
Summary of Project Objective(s):
Names of 2 referees – their letters should be emailed directly to VGerversFellowship@rom.on.ca by the deadline

Total Costs of Project:	\$
Funds Available from Other Sources (if none, put 0):	\$
Total Funding Request to Gervers Research Fellowship:	\$

Applicant Signature:	Date:

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Part II: Study Description

1. Project

Study Description: Describe in sufficient detail 1- the project objectives (what you propose to do), 2-significance (how it adds new knowledge), and 3- methodology (how you will carry out the study).

Additional Information Required:

It is important that you specify the particular objects in ROM Global Fashion & Textile collections that you propose to study.

Please include a bibliography with existing literature on the topic.

If this study is part of a longer, on-going project, please indicate other past or present funding, and how the Fellowship advances and adds new knowledge to the bigger project.

Proposed Timeframe: How many days does the study require, and when do you propose to carry it out?

Please note that the final details of residency dates at ROM will be decided in discussion with ROM staff.

Participants: Who is involved in the project, and what are their qualifications to conduct the work?

Results: What are the intended results and products? (Outcome examples may include but are not limited to: publications, installations, webinars, databases, websites)

Part III: Budget

PLEASE USE **CANADIAN DOLLARS** FOR CALCULATING YOUR COSTS. A final financial accounting will be required with the submission of receipts; all non-expended funds must be returned to ROM.

Allowable Expenses:

- Direct expenses related to the project and program, such as transportation, visas, accommodation, supplies
- Applicant stipend up to \$2,000
- Hard equipment such as a camera up to \$500

Non-allowable Expenses:

- Travel for applicant's students
- Exhibition costs
- Travel to other institutions

Project or Program Budget (provide details and calculation in space below headings) (\$CAD)	
Transportation (e.g. airfare, local transportation, e.g. flight Paris-Toronto @ \$1200):	
Accommodation (e.g. 4 nights @ \$200):	
Meals (e.g. 4 days @ \$50 per day):	
Supplies:	
Equipment up to \$ 500:	
	\$
Other Expenses:	
	\$
Stipend for Applicant(s) if not permanently employed, up to \$2,000 (indicate the time period and rate):	
Total (not to exceed \$9,000):	

APPLICATION SHOULD NOT EXCEED 7 PAGES