

Fondazione Giorgio Cini onlus, Venice
"Vittore Branca" International Center for the Study of Italian Culture

**3 and 6
month
residential
scholarships
in Venice**

Application deadline: 31 January 2015

www.cini.it/en/vittore-branca-center



THE “VITTORE BRANCA” INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF ITALIAN CULTURE RESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

RESIDENCY PERIOD: APRIL 2015 - APRIL 2016

Application deadline: 31 January 2015

ELIGIBLE CANDIDATES

The “Vittore Branca” International Center for the Study of Italian Culture offers two different types of residential scholarships to scholars wishing to spend a research period in Venice between April 2015 and April 2016:

- **TYPE A SCHOLARSHIPS – 3 scholarships worth 12,500 euros each** for PhD students who must not be over 35 years old on 31 January 2015, willing to spend **six months** doing **research** at the Vittore Branca Center;
- **TYPE B SCHOLARSHIPS – 6 scholarships worth 6,250 euros each** for **post-doctorate** students who must not be over 40 years old on 31 January 2015, willing to spend **three months** doing **research** at the Vittore Branca Center.

The residential scholarships are offered to Italian and international¹ scholars wishing to further their studies of Italian culture – especially that of the Veneto – with an interdisciplinary approach in one of the following fields: art history, literature, music, drama, early printed books, Venetian history and comparative cultures and spiritualities.

Candidates shall propose a research topic *specifically* focused on the archives and documents kept in the Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Venice.

For a guide to research topics of particular interest to the Fondazione Institutes and Research Centers, please visit the “Research topics” section on the web page: www.cini.it/en/vittore-branca-center.

¹ **Please note:** Any international scholars who win a scholarship must have an Italian tax code (*codice fiscale*), *conditio sine qua non* for the scholarship. Anyone staying in Italy for a long period must regularize their position with the relevant Immigration Office. The Fondazione Giorgio Cini declines all responsibility concerning individual visas and stay permits.



TYPE A SCHOLARSHIPS

3 TYPE A six-month residential scholarships are awarded to **PhD students** who must not be over 35 years old on 31 January 2015.

Each type A scholarship will be divided as follows:

- a gross sum² of **6,200 euros** as a contribution to general expenses, travel and board, paid in two equal installments at the end of each three-month period by bank or postal order only;
- **accommodation free of charge** (equivalent to a conventional cost of **6,300 euros**) for **six months** in the Vittore Branca Center Residence on the Island of San Giorgio Maggiore and **free use of the Vittore Branca Center facilities**.

TYPE B SCHOLARSHIPS

6 TYPE B three-month residential scholarships are awarded to **post-doctorate researchers** who must not be over 40 years old on 31 January 2015.

Each type B scholarship will be divided as follows:

- a gross sum³ of **3,100 euros** as a contribution to general expenses, travel and board, paid in one installment at the end of the three-month residency period by bank or postal order only;
- **accommodation free of charge** (equivalent to a conventional cost of **3,150 euros**) for **three months** in the Vittore Branca Center Residence on the Island of San Giorgio Maggiore and **free use of the Vittore Branca Center facilities**.

² Article 50, clause 1, letter c) of the *Testo Unico delle Imposte sui Redditi* includes among incomes considered to be similar to those of employed labor “sums paid by anyone in the form of a scholarship, check, prize or subsidy for the purposes of study or professional training, if the beneficiary is not bound by relations of regular employment to the provider of funds” (tax law in force as of 31.07.2010). The net sum paid will thus vary according to the overall tax situation of the recipient of the payment.

³ *Idem*.



WHAT THE VITTORE BRANCA CENTER HAS TO OFFER

The Vittore Branca International Center for the Study of Italian Culture offers the opportunity for **interdisciplinary exchanges with fellow scholars** attending the Center as well as with the academic community at the Fondazione Giorgio Cini.

Facilities and benefits include:

- a) **The Libraries and Photo Library** in the Fondazione Giorgio Cini, specialized in art history, Venetian history, literature, music, dance, drama and early printed books. The libraries are equipped with wi-fi connection. Vittore Branca Center scholars can enjoy extended opening hours on weekdays, advice by specialists and the possibility of borrowing books.
- b) **Cultural events** (seminars, conferences, exhibitions, concerts, etc.) organized by the Fondazione Giorgio Cini. Residents thus have the opportunity to explore the broader background to their own work.
- c) **The Residence** - situated in the grounds of the Island, the Residence can accommodate around 90 scholars in self-catering mini-apartments with a telephone, cable connection to Internet (residents shall bring their own ethernet cable) and shared laundry services. Kitchen facilities enable residents to economize on food expenses. The Residence is also equipped with reception, surveillance and cleaning services plus a laundromat and food dispensers. To encourage social life and exchanges of ideas, there are a number of shared spaces for use by all guests: the living room, music room, fitness area and terrace.
- d) **Tutors** to assist scholarship holders in becoming familiar with the island and its documentary and artistic heritage as well as offering guidance about the cultural offering of the Fondazione Giorgio Cini and the city of Venice.
- e) **Other services**, such as:
 - a work station with an Internet connection in the Nuova Manica Lunga, the Fondazione main documentary center;
 - an international newspaper library, available in the Residence living room;
 - social initiatives specifically aimed at residents;
 - guidance on the Venetian heritage and on how to use libraries and archives in the city of Venice.



HOW TO APPLY AND SELECTION

Candidates shall send their scholarship application, complete with the required documents (see below), by registered post or courier to:

Fondazione Giorgio Cini onlus
Secretariat - Vittore Branca Center
for the Study of Italian Culture
Island of San Giorgio Maggiore
30124 Venice
Italy

Applications must arrive **by 31 January 2015** with the following enclosed documents:

- paper application form – downloadable from: www.cini.it/en/vittore-branca-center;
- degree certificate(s) with marks for individual exams, or an equivalent or superior qualification – *printed document*;
- a copy of a degree dissertation (for PhD students) or doctorate thesis (for post-doctorate researchers) and copies of any other relevant academic works – *saved on CD ROM or DVD*;
- *curriculum vitae*, including knowledge of languages, and authorization to handle private data according to Italian Legislative Decree 196/2003 – *printed document*;
- research topic and a description (around 1,500 words) of the study program that the candidate will follow, specifying aims, time scale, and materials and documents to be consulted at the Fondazione Giorgio Cini – *printed document*;
- three reference letters from professors and scholars who supervise or have supervised the candidate (**NB** the letters shall be *originals printed on headed notepaper* of the relevant university or institution).

Candidates considered to be suitable on the grounds of the documents presented will be invited for an interview in Italian or English (possibly in video-conferencing) with one or more directors of the Fondazione Giorgio Cini and may be asked to provide supplementary information.

The scholarships will be awarded by the Fondazione with no right of appeal.

Both positive and negative **results of the assessment** of the scholarship applications will be communicated by **February 2015**.

The Fondazione will not return any of the documents received. Any candidates willing to have their documents back shall arrange a courier at their own expenses.

Anyone who has already been awarded a scholarship to the Vittore Branca Center is not eligible to re-apply, whereas those who have applied but received no scholarship can apply again.



OBLIGATIONS FOR SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS

To receive payment and to continue enjoying the benefits of a scholarship at the Vittore Branca Center, scholarship holders are expected to:

- **stay in the Vittore Branca Center Residence for three or six consecutive months** in a chosen period from April 2015 to April 2016. Trips for research purposes, attending conferences or work commitments related to the research project at the Vittore Branca Center must be documented in writing in advance and will not be added to the days of absence for personal reasons. Days of absence for personal reasons must not add up to more than 30 working days for the six-month Residence and 15 days for three-month Residence. Absences are counted from Monday to Saturday; Sundays are excluded;
- **present their research project to the academic and professional community** at the Fondazione and possibly to all scholars and researchers at the Vittore Branca Center during the scholarship period;
- **report regularly to their academic tutor** on research work in progress and submit a three-monthly written report of 10 pages on the *status* of their research project;
- **mention the scholarship**, using the exact wording, in their *curriculum vitae* and in any publications associated with their research at the Vittore Branca Center of the Fondazione Giorgio Cini.

Venice, 3 November 2014

Pasquale Gagliardi
Secretary General