

Julia Wareham
Woodrow Wilson Fellowship Application

If I were fortunate enough to be a recipient of the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, I would like to work on researching Cypriot ritual forms, particularly from the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age.

Throughout the Neolithic, Bronze, and Iron Ages, the eastern Mediterranean, particularly Cyprus, was in a constant state of metamorphosis and progression, as the region became more interconnected through trading networks and diplomatic relations. Such progression and change manifested itself in many forms, particularly in ceramics, and such changes were reflected in both everyday and symbolic contexts.

If I were to receive the Fellowship, I would hope to investigate how such inter-cultural interactions manifested within the Cypriot ceramic repertoire. More specifically, I would be interested in examining how these interactions were represented within the context of ritual wares, such as ceramic figurines and vessels, many of which are a part of the Johns Hopkins Archaeological Museum's Cypriot Collection.

Last semester, I took the course Archaeology at the Crossroads with Dr. Emily Anderson. During the course of the semester, we were asked to select an unidentified object from the Johns Hopkins University Archaeological Museum to research. At the end of the semester, each student in the class presented their findings concerning the object's identification as well as its significance in a socio-cultural context to the class. For my research, I chose object A.1131 from the museum's Cypriot collection. Based on my research, I identified this object as a kalathos from approximately 750 BC. A kalathos is a shallow bowl with origins in the Aegean, thought to have been used in ritual and was often excavated from burial contexts.

While I was able to look into this particular object's history and significance, I was not able to delve into its history as much as I might have hoped. If I were to receive the Woodrow Wilson

Fellowship, I would look forward into examining this object, as well as the other ritual forms even further. In doing so, I might be able to connect object A.1131 with other objects at JHU Archaeological Museum, something I believe would be a significant contribution to the museum's knowledge of the collection. Additionally, I would be able to learn more about Cypriot ritual practice as a whole, as well as the effects of external influence on such practices.

In conducting this research, I would rely on archaeological field reports and object-specific studies to provide a foundation for my knowledge of Cypriot ritual wares. I would also be interested in conducting cross-collection comparisons of ritual forms. I have already identified several interesting pieces at the Metropolitan Museum of Art as well as the British Museum. Such comparisons could be most readily addressed by visiting the collections in person. This direct analysis of available comparanda would be critical to my research and would also allow me to draw comparisons between the Johns Hopkins collection and other, larger collections. I would also, with the help of the museum staff at JHU, hope to utilize the technology available here to analyze pieces from the museum's Cypriot collection. In this way, my research would be both literary-based and hands-on. Upon completion of my project, I would plan to submit a full report to the museum.

As an Archaeology and Anthropology double major, I am, of course, highly interested in such research. Additionally, my previous knowledge of Cypriot history gives me a firm basis on which to begin my research efforts. If I were to be a recipient of the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, my hope is that I would be able to learn more about Cypriot ritual practice and how and why such practices occurred, as well as be able to contribute information to the Johns Hopkins University Archaeological Museum regarding their Cypriot collection.