



## ***NINA C. LEIBMAN FELLOWSHIP***

The California Women's Law Center (CWLC) is now accepting applications for the prestigious **Nina C. Leibman Fellowship** for the **Summer of 2008**. The Fellowship was established in 2006 for graduate students in film, television and theater arts. Named in the memory of Nina C. Leibman, a gifted scholar whose work was cut short by her tragic murder in 1995, the Fellowship supports efforts to continue to explore the issues and practices that formed the core of Professor Leibman's research.

This singular experience offers the recipient the opportunity to work with one of the Country's most influential organizations to explore and shape the future of women in media. Overseen by an extraordinary group of the leading scholars in the field, the Fellowship requires applicants [to](#) submit a proposal for a 10 week research project in any of the following areas:

- representation of women and/or girls in various media;
- representation of gender roles in various media; or
- treatment of women in either the creative or business side of media employment.

Projects can focus on a single medium (e.g., television) or compare two or more media. Projects must include the development of concrete advocacy strategies which can be implemented by the Fellow over the Summer and/or continued by CWLC following the Fellowship. Proposed advocacy strategies may include, but are not limited to, state or federal legislative action, public policy strategies, public education strategies, or justice system advocacy (e.g., litigation).

The Fellowship provides a \$4,500 stipend (with an additional \$500 allotment to be used toward purchasing project materials and supplies). The grantee will be required to work full-time, under the supervision of the Legal Director, for 10 weeks.

### **Nina C. Leibman Fellowship Advisory Board**

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and Television*

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*USC Department of Sociology*

#### **Kathryn Montgomery**

*American University School of  
Communication*

#### **Ellen Seiter**

*USC School of Cinematic Arts*

**ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND:**

The California Women's Law Center works to ensure, through systemic change, that life opportunities for women and girls are free from unjust social, economic, and political constraints. CWLC uses innovative strategies and partnerships with legal service agencies, community-based organizations, legislators and other policymakers to create systemic change and to meet the varied, while interconnected, needs of women and girls, regardless of race, class, sexual orientation or age. The Law Center focuses its efforts on sex discrimination, violence against women, women's health, race and gender, economic security, and the exploitation of women.

**NINA C. LEIBMAN**

Nina C. Leibman was a highly accomplished professor and author. She received her Ph.D. in Motion Picture/Television Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles and served on the faculty of Loyola Marymount University, the University of California, Santa Cruz, and Santa Clara University. Nina's work focused on the portrayal of women, girls and family in film and television. By the age of 38, Nina had authored numerous publications in her field and, in 1995, published a book entitled *Living Room Lectures: The Fifties Family in Film and Television*. In her book, Nina analyzes representations of family power, gender roles and economic attitudes set in the larger context of 1950's film and television. Nina was as passionate about her field of research as she was about teaching and mentoring her students. This Fellowship is a vehicle to help to continue both of her passions.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Currently working toward a graduate degree in Film Studies, Television Studies or Communications.
- Demonstrated interest in media issues affecting the civil rights of women and girls.
- Strong research, writing, and problem solving skills, excellent communication skills, ability to work independently, take direction and follow through on assignments.

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:**

A complete application must include all of the following three (3) items:

- θ **Resume**
- θ **Personal Statement**  
Describe why you are applying for the grant and what you hope to achieve in your work with the Law Center.

**[1 page or 500 words maximum, typed, double-spaced, 12 pt. minimum font size]**

θ **Project Proposal**

Describe your proposed project and anticipated advocacy strategies and outcomes (see description of proposal requirements on the first page of this application).

**[750 words maximum, typed, double-spaced, 12 pt. minimum font size]**

**SELECTION PROCESS:**

Completed applications are prescreened by CWLC staff and selected candidates will be interviewed in person or via telephone. Based on this initial screening process, CWLC will select approximately 5 final candidates. The applications for these candidates will be submitted to an external Advisory Committee for final selection. The Fellow will be selected by May 1, 2008. The deliberations of the Advisory Committee are confidential and final. All applications become the property of the California Women's Law Center.

**DEADLINE:**

All application materials must be submitted **together in one envelope**. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Deadline for submitting all application materials is **May 15, 2008**.

**SUBMIT COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:**

**CALIFORNIA WOMEN'S LAW CENTER  
NINA C. LEIBMAN FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION  
6300 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 980  
Los Angeles, CA 90048**