

Antonia Schreier

**Graduation Year:** Senior

**College:** Arts & Letters, Business

**Major(s):** Art History, Finance

**Minors(s):** None

**Scholar Group Membership:** None

**Did you received other funding for this project?:** No

**Could you have completed this project without CUSE funding?** No

**More details on CUSE funding assistance?**

**Project Title:** Modern Patronage - Honors Art History Senior Thesis

**Project Location:** Houston, United States

**ND Faculty Mentor:** Professor Nicole Woods

**Project Type:** Research

**Why did you undertake this project/experience?** Deepen your knowledge of a topic or issue, Research/experience necessary for senior thesis or capstone project

**Did your funded experience help you:**

**[Deepen your understanding of your coursework or field of study]:** Yes

**[Discern your interests and post-bac goals]:** A Little

**[Become confident in your ability to set and achieve your goals]:** Yes

**[Gain a more nuanced view of local, national, or global communities]:** Yes

**[Improve your written and verbal communications skills]:**Yes

**Tell us about your experience.**

With the funding I received from CUSE, I was able to go to Houston to visit the Menil foundation, including the Rothko Chapel, Cy Twobly Gallery and old Byzantine Chapel, as well as the Museum of Fine Arts Houston. I am writing an Art History thesis on modern American art patronage, with a focus on the de Menil family in Houston. I gained a much better appreciation for their aesthetic taste while in Houston, visiting the galleries that they curated. I also had the good fortune to have a contact at the MFA Houston who was able to set up an interview with the curator of the Rothko Retrospective at the MFAH for me.

Experiencing the Menil foundation as a space helped me gain a better appreciation of how all of its components interact and are in dialogue with one another. Their are multiple different buildings in the complex, but a common theme runs through all of them which I hadn't picked up on in the past just reading about the different settings. Seeing works of art in a space designed specifically to exhibit them was also a powerful experience. Visiting the Rothko Chapel was the most eye opening, as I was able to observe other people experiencing the space in a variety of manners.

**Describe the impact this project had, both on you as a student-scholar and on the people you worked with.**



