Baylor University Office of the Vice Provost for Research
Arts & Humanities Faculty Research Program
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Principal Investigator: Lorynn Divita
Department: Family & Consumer Sciences
College/School: Robbins College of Health and Human Science
Project Title: A Parisian Salon: Nurturing the Creative Spirit

Abstract:
This grant request is for airfare and meals that I will incur associated with my participation in ‘A Parisian Salon: Nurturing the Creative Spirit’ experience for educators that will be held July 1-3 in Antwerp, Belgium and Calais, France and July 4-17 in Paris, France. This is a comprehensive experience for which the trip fees include lodging, breakfasts, professional visits, museum and performing arts visits and other cultural experiences, all based on the topic of creativity and how different artistic disciplines relate to and influence apparel. Attendants have opportunities to extract inspiration from cultural traditions, fine art, architecture, technical innovation, and museum exhibitions. Interaction with Parisian industry professionals and artisans will inform and guide these experiences. Sponsored by the Paris American Academy and organized in collaboration with apparel studies faculty at Oklahoma State University, University of Delaware and Mount Mary University this trip has never been offered before and there are no plans to offer it again in the future. A list of planned activities includes: a visit to a Trend Union, a prominent fashion forecasting bureau and attending a couture fashion show, which are never open to the public. The trip also includes workshops with and/or visits to artisans that work for the haute couture industry: hats, gloves; umbrellas; handbags or shoes; feather embellishments; embroidery; and/or perfumes. Other visits include a Shibori dyeing and Nuno-felting lesson, meeting with luxury level designers, and explore retail resources for fashion, fabrics and notions, and fashion publications. I am requesting funding to assist with attending this developmental experience because it will support my research for a book proposal to Bloomsbury Press on the topic of principles of art and design in high fashion with the current working title of Fashion Design Principles. A major focus of the book are the subjects of creativity and innovation, and many of the designers I intend to feature
as subjects of the book are French. By attending this professional experience, I will have access to a variety of artisans who employ principles of art and design in diverse ways, which will provide me with a broad perspective when drafting the manuscript. The potential for articles in academic journals also exists.