

Proposal for Fellowship Placement • Summer 2017

- Organization:
International Festival of Arts & Ideas
- Full street address of organization:
195 Church Street, 12th floor, New Haven, CT 06511
- Website: www.artidea.org
- Name and title of the Direct Supervisor (*please note: the Direct Supervisor must be available to supervise Fellow on a daily basis*):
Sarah Sherban, Louise Endel Community Engagement Manager
- Phone number and e-mail address of Direct Supervisor:
203-498-3744, ssherban@artidea.org
- Placement dates (*8-11 weeks between May 30 and August 11, 2017*):
May 30 to July 7, 2017
- Are placement dates flexible? If so, please describe:
May 30 to June 30 dates are not flexible, we can be flexible from July 3rd to July 7th.
- Hours of the program (*placements should be equivalent to full-time*):
Generally 40 hours/week; nights and weekends are required during the Festival and preparation week June 10-24. We allow compensatory time off in the weeks following to make up for this.

Placement Description

Organization description (*Mission statement, population served. 150 words or less.*):

The mission of the International Festival of Arts & Ideas is to create an internationally renowned festival in New Haven, Connecticut that features the highest quality with world-class artists, thinkers and leaders, attracting and

engaging a broad and diverse audience. Our further aim is to celebrate and build community, while advancing economic development for the region. In 2016 the Festival drove \$15 million in economic activity, and the Festival's programs have an impact throughout the year, including engagement and educational programming such as the Festival Fellowship Program for under-served youth, and the Visionary Leadership Award held in winter of each year.

The Festival's core activity is a 15-day festival of performing arts, lectures, and conversations that celebrates the greatest artists and thinkers from around the world. Now in its 22nd season, each June the Festival takes over the theaters, open spaces, and courtyards of New Haven, attracting an attendance of more than 100,000 to its events, of which more than 80% of are completely free to the public. Festival events have featured some of the most prestigious jazz, classical music, dance, and theater artists in the world, and the Festival's free Ideas programs bring inspiring, provocative, challenging and delightful ideas to a wide public.

- Please write a 1-2 sentence summary of the work that the Fellow would be conducting (50 words or less):

Working directly with the Festival's Community Engagement Manager, the Fellow would work directly with 12-15 New Haven high school students who have participated in a Festival arts curriculum from January through May and will immerse themselves in the June programming of the International Festival and preparing for a Town Hall style presentation.

Please write a complete description of the specific project you propose and list the duties/outcomes expected of the Fellow. (*Suggested length: one to two pages.*)

The Festival Fellowship program was created to fill in the gaps and provide an access point for students who wouldn't otherwise have the opportunity to participate in creative fields or non-profit work. Now entering its 8th year, the Festival's Fellowship Program is one of the only arts-based education programs in the state, focusing on low-income high school sophomores and juniors from greater New Haven. Starting in January 2017, the program centers around weekly

classes, field trips, workshops with visiting Festival national and international artists, and one-on-one mentoring by Festival staff and board members.

By investing heavily in a small group of students, the Fellowship program profoundly transforms the lives of these youth by providing access points into new professional networks and connections into the fields that they are interested in pursuing. All of the elements come together creating a completely unique curriculum that takes standardized skills and applies them to real world experiences and work, giving the students the opportunity to better understand how working hard to improve these skills is important.

The Festival's Fellowship program has a track record of improving each Fellows' skills in critical thinking, writing, creating presentations, and speaking in front of others, giving them confidence needed for academic success.

The program has a 100% success rate of high school graduation from all Fellows who have completed the program. The program also has a very successful rate for going on to study at institutions of higher education (90% success rate - often the first in their family to do so), improving grades, and increasing the overall commitment and interest to their education and academic success

In June the Fellows prepare a presentation that takes place during the Festival. This presentation, which takes a Town Hall format, gives the Fellows a platform to engage the Festival's audience in an open dialogue about a topic of their interest that is also reflective of Festival themes and performances. Recent Fellows have led programs that look at issues around race-based opportunity gaps, the prevalence of gun violence in their communities and obstacles in employment opportunities.

The Festival office located at 195 Church Street, which will act as the headquarters for the Festival Fellowship Program. In the weeks prior to the Festival and including the 15-day festival, work will also be conducted at various off-site venues, including area theaters and the Festival Info Booth on the New Haven Green. During the Festival the Yale Fellow will accompany the Festival Fellows to all Festival performances and will work with the Festival Fellows to prepare expectations prior to performances and conduct summary sessions after performances that continue emphasize the critical thinking, creative expression, and writing skills and build the Fellows' confidence and oral presentation skills.



2016 Festival Fellows on the New Haven Green, 2015 Festival Fellows at the Yale Art Gallery, 2014 graduating Festival Fellows on the First Niagara Stage with their Aldermanic Citations from the New Haven Board of Alders.

- Specific skills/experience required for the project (*Please list*):

Excellent organizational skills with the ability to multi-task and be flexible in a creative, fast-moving work environment; outgoing personality, inquisitive and a sense of humor; strong leadership and interpersonal skills working with teenagers and adults and effective communication and problem-solving skills; experience working with students, computer expertise (Microsoft Excel, Word, Outlook, etc); Interest in the performing arts is also a plus, but is not required.

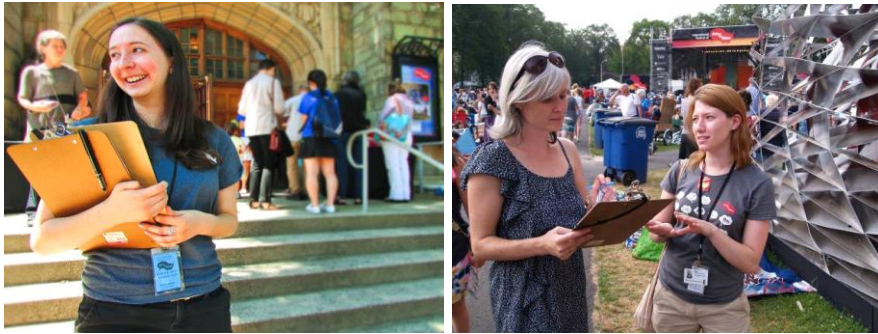
- Additional requirements (e.g. a car or weekend working hours). If a car is required, please include information regarding parking arrangements and mileage reimbursement):

No car is required, some work is completed in the Festival office, however much of the work is conducted on the New Haven Green and around the Yale campus. During the Festival from June 10-24, the Yale Fellow will accompany the Festival Fellows to all artistic performances throughout the Festival which take place in evenings and on weekends.

- Briefly describe the work that Yale PPSF Fellows have done with your agency in the past and present. If you have not worked with Yale Fellows, please describe any work that Yale students have done with your agency.

Fellows been instrumental in completing the Festival’s annual economic impact survey, and in helping to activate and engage our volunteers. As a community event on the international stage, we rely on the help of volunteers to create a

large, truly exciting, and feel-good event for the community. In coordinating the survey and engaging volunteers, the Yale PPSF Fellows have brought great enthusiasm, organizational skills, and insight. The Festival has consistently been impressed with the Fellows' energy, and is always grateful for their time and effort.



2013 Yale PPSF Fellow Renee Bollier (left) and 2012 Yale PPSF Fellow Katherine Seggerman (right) collecting Economic Impact surveys at Festival events.



This is one of the Festival's signature headline concerts, which draw between 10,000 to 20,000 people to the New Haven Green on weekends. Events such as these help to drive economic activity for the region each summer.

2011 Yale PPSF Fellow Lupita Nyong'o.