Fulbright: 75 Years of Impact

DR. ALIA KHAN
U.S. to Chile, 2018
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INTRODUCTION

Celebrating 75 Years of Impact
FOR 75 YEARS, the Fulbright Program has provided life-changing opportunities for over 400,000 people from all backgrounds—recent graduates, teachers, scientists and researchers, artists, scholars, and more—to learn from each other, advance ideas, and build understanding across borders. During Fulbright’s 75th anniversary celebration in 2021, we recognized the profound impact the Fulbright Program has had on the lives of individuals and communities across the globe.

75 YEARS OF IMPACT

Anniversary Highlights

162 Events
653 Stories Shared on Fulbright75.org
66 Fulbright Days
314 Featured Alumni on Fulbright75.org
100K+ Visits to Fulbright75.org

ABEL VERA (CENTER)
Peru to U.S., 2017
75 Years of Impact

Each month of Fulbright’s 75th Anniversary year, we focused on a theme and highlighted Fulbright leaders, events, and activities, sharing some of the many ways that Fulbrighters inspire, innovate, and find solutions to challenges facing our communities and our world. The full articles can be found at Fulbright75.org/impact.

January
Innovation in Health, Science, and Technology

Fulbrighters not only conduct groundbreaking research in public health, science, and technology, they also bridge the gap between science and other disciplines. Featured alumni study the effect of bias on artificial intelligence, search for common ground between biological evolution theory and religion, and create collaborations between physicists and artists.

February
Sharing Knowledge Across Communities

Fulbright alumni make use of their newfound knowledge to improve their host and home communities as well as foster new connections between groups. Some Fulbrighters have founded academic and professional groups to continue their Fulbright experience, some have volunteered their time to better their host communities, and some have founded affinity groups that bring together people with common interests and backgrounds.
MARCH
Bringing the World Closer Together Through Education

Fulbrighters are leaders in international education, forging lasting collaborations between educational institutions in the U.S. and throughout the world. Fulbright educators discover new ways to connect with underserved communities and introduce their students to learning experiences that they might otherwise miss.

APRIL
Protecting the Planet

Extreme weather, ecosystem disruption, food insecurity, pollution—around the world, communities face existential threats impacting every facet of life. As cultural ambassadors and environmental stewards, Fulbrighters work to create a sustainable future through scientific research and communication, habitat and wildlife conservation, and innovative policy and technology. This month highlights the author of *The Sixth Extinction*, the co-creator of PBS’s “Nature,” and other scientists who have worked to increase ecological resilience and prepare communities for natural disasters.

MAY
Advancing Opportunity at Home and Abroad

The Fulbright Program empowers young people to effect change in their host and home communities. Through working with outreach partners, alumni are inspired to expand the reach of their Fulbright experience. This article highlights the work of the Posse Foundation, Black Girls Achieve, and Reach the World.

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IMPACT ARTICLES

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JUNE
Creating and Connecting Through the Arts
Fulbrighters make art that inspires the world. From award-winning, globally recognized luminaries like Renée Fleming, Philip Glass, and Maya Angelou, to cutting-edge artists and changemakers, Fulbrighters create not only beautiful and thought-provoking works, but, through their art, also reveal—and champion—diverse perspectives.

JULY
Fulbright Partners
The Fulbright Program’s success is made possible through partnership with 49 bilateral Fulbright commissions, 160 U.S. embassies, and partner organizations worldwide. Fulbright brings opportunities to life through partnership, working with dynamic and forward-thinking organizations to expand the program’s reach, build diverse networks, and create impact in a variety of disciplines and fields.

AUGUST
Making History, One Fulbrighter at a Time
Throughout the Fulbright Program’s 75-year history, Fulbrighters have borne witness to world-changing historical moments; in some cases, they have made history themselves. This article shares dozens of alumni stories including a president who ended 50 years of civil war, the first Black woman to summit Mount Everest, a Fulbrighter present during the fall of the Berlin Wall, and a Fulbrighter who set foot on the moon.
SEPTEMBER
Diplomacy in Action
All Fulbrighters serve as unofficial citizen ambassadors, but some also become official diplomats and public servants. This month includes a former national foreign policy advisor, young diplomats, and former ambassadors.

OCTOBER
Innovators
During their grants, many Fulbrighters are confronted with seemingly intractable problems. This month’s Fulbrighters made use of their academic training, cultural knowledge, and entrepreneurial skills to solve them. This article features inventors who created bionic limbs, heart failure prevention devices, and fuel cell technology.

NOVEMBER
The Future of Education
Education has changed dramatically since the Fulbright Program was founded; what do the next 75 years have in store? Fulbright educators, academic administrators, and international exchange specialists discussed the ways the COVID-19 pandemic has changed education and how they believe learning will continue to evolve.

DECEMBER
The Future of Fulbright
At the end of the anniversary year, we took a moment to imagine how Fulbright will grow, adapt, and inspire in the years to come. The article uses the Q&A style of “Big Talk,” a project created by a Fulbrighter to improve the way that people communicate with each other, to share alumni views about the future.
Amar Bose (January)
 Founder, Bose Corporation
 1956 U.S. Student to India

John Hope Franklin (February)
 American Historian
 U.S. Scholar to multiple countries

Ruth J. Simmons (March)
 President of Prairie View A&M University
 1967 U.S. Student to France

Lillygol "Lilly" Sedaghat (April)
 National Geographic Explorer
 2017 Fulbright-National Geographic Storytelling Fellow to Taiwan

Na Eng (May)
 Journalist and Communications Director at the McKnight Foundation
 1999 U.S. Student to Zimbabwe

Maaza Mengiste (June)
 Writer; Assistant Director of CUNY Queens College MFA Program in Creative Writing & Literary Translation
 2010 U.S. Student to Italy
MORE THAN 400,000 individuals have participated in a Fulbright exchange experience and returned with enhanced skills, new connections, and greater global understanding. In celebration of Fulbright’s 75th Anniversary, we featured four notable Fulbrighters each month to represent all of our alumni who have made an impact on the communities and world. From government ministers, university presidents, and award-winning journalists and scientists to captains of industry, community organizers, inspiring artists, and classroom teachers, the diversity of the Fulbright program is on full display. Find all 48 of their stories at Fulbright75.org/alumni.

Kenneth R. Rutherford
(July)
Political Scientist and Disability Rights Activist
2005 U.S. Scholar to Jordan

Zahi Hawass
(August)
Egyptologist
1983 Foreign Student from Egypt

Mona Khoury-Kassabri
(November)
Vice President of Hebrew University of Jerusalem
2002 Visiting Scholar from Israel

Megha Rajagopalan
(December)
Pulitzer Prize-winning Journalist
2010 U.S. Student to China

Hilda Ochoa-Brillembourg
(October)
Former Chief Investment Officer for the World Bank
1971 Foreign Student from Venezuela

Amb. Thomas R. Pickering
(September)
Seven-time U.S. Ambassador
1954 U.S. Student to Australia
The Fulbright Community Celebrates 75 Years

The Fulbright Community, including U.S. embassies and Fulbright commissions, universities, alumni organizations, partners, and other Program stakeholders around the world helped us celebrate Fulbright’s 75th anniversary in 2021. 162 events were held throughout the anniversary year.
In May 2020, the Fulbright Program launched the first Fulbright Impact in the Field alumni panel. Each 90-minute panel convenes alumni experts to discuss timely topics such as COVID-19 research and treatments, the digitization of education, the future of international education, race and justice, and more.

In 2021, we held the following Fulbright Impact in the Field panels:

**JANUARY - Fulbright Impact in the Field: Global Health & COVID-19**

Fulbrighters have been on the frontlines of battling the COVID-19 pandemic. During this special virtual panel, Fulbright participants from the inaugural Fulbright Impact in the Field panel reunited to share their experiences as physicians and scientists working to combat the pandemic over the last year.

*Continued on page 14*
MARCH - Fulbright Impact in the Field: Strengthening International Engagement on U.S. Campuses

This Fulbright Impact in the Field panel convened higher education leaders from across the United States, including four university presidents, to discuss the benefits of increasing internationalization in post-secondary institutions. Panelists described how their Fulbright experiences abroad shaped their careers and influenced their outlook on international education.

APRIL - Fulbright Impact in the Field: Climate Change and Environmental Justice

Alumni scientists, researchers, and other experts working on combating climate change discussed the latest scientific and policy developments; how their Fulbright experiences enhanced collaboration within the international scientific community; and how the new ideas they brought back with them benefit their personal and professional communities.

SEPTEMBER - Fulbright Impact in the Field: 75 Years of Public Diplomacy

In celebration of the Fulbright Program’s establishment on August 1, 1946 and its role in public diplomacy, we gathered a panel of Fulbright alumni who are diplomats. The event included special remarks from Fulbright alumnus Ambassador Thomas Pickering, a seven-time U.S. Ambassador.
FEBRUARY
John Hope Franklin: Redefining the American Story
How we write history is often reflective of the viewpoints of the elite few who hold the pen—until the conventional narrative is challenged by inspired individuals. Moderated by African American Studies professor and Fulbright alumna Dr. Kalenda Eaton, the event explored Dr. Franklin’s life, including his pivotal work, *From Slavery to Freedom* (1947), which forever cemented the integral role of Black Americans in U.S. history. The panelists for this event were historian and son of Dr. Franklin, John Whittington Franklin, and Fulbright alumna, American Studies professor, and former personal assistant to Dr. Franklin, Dr. Nishani Frazier.

MARCH
The Fulbright Program Presents: An Evening of Poetry
In recognition of World Poetry Day, the Fulbright Program celebrated the power of words. Led by Fulbright-National Geographic Storyteller alumna and spoken word artist Alyea Pierce, this virtual evening of poetry featured readings of original works by accomplished poets and Fulbright alumni, including a special reading by former U.S. Poet Laureate Rita Dove.

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FEBRUARY
A Conversation with Fulbrighter Jeffrey Stewart
Dr. Jeffrey C. Stewart, a Pulitzer Prize-winning author and Fulbright Scholar alumnus to Italy, joined Frances L. and Edwin L. Cummings Professor of the Humanities Emerita at William & Mary and distinguished scholar of African American Literature and Culture Dr. Joanne Braxton to discuss his most recent work, *The New Negro: The Life of Alain Locke* (2018). Relying on extant primary sources including intimate personal correspondence, Dr. Stewart creates a vivid biographical account of the complex man many refer to as the father of the Harlem Renaissance.
ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

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APRIL

Protecting the Planet Day  
(Fulbright Impact in the Field: Climate Change and Environmental Justice; National Park Week: Explore Crater Lake National Parks)

In recognition of Earth Day, and to celebrate National Park Week with our friends at the U.S. National Park Service, Fulbright designated Friday, April 23rd “Protecting the Planet Day” and held two special events:

• A Fulbright Impact in the Field alumni panel on climate change and environmental justice
• An exploration of Crater Lake National Park with Fulbright Specialist John Duwe and Klamath tribal elders

APRIL

Laspau Presents: Fulbright 75th Anniversary Illuminations Series—Impact on Current and Former Grantees

Laspau—an implementing partner of the Fulbright Program—hosted a roundtable discussion on the impact of the Fulbright Program, spotlighting alumni panelists from the Latin American and Caribbean regions. The panelists discussed how Fulbright has impacted their lives and country and how their experiences enhanced their field and studies.

MAY

Roger Rosenblatt: The Writing Life

The Fulbright Program welcomed Roger Rosenblatt, writer, author, professor, Emmy Award winner, Peabody Award winner, and 1965 Fulbright U.S. Student to Ireland, for a discussion of his career and his award-winning new book, Cold Moon: On Life, Love, and Responsibility.
JUNE

In celebration of Pride Month, the Fulbright Program sat down with Sasha Velour, winner of RuPaul’s Drag Race (Season 9) and 2009 Fulbright U.S. Student to Russia. Sasha discussed her Fulbright experience, shared the behind-the-scenes influences that have shaped her career, and addressed the important contributions the LGBTQIA+ community has made on art, culture, and history in the United States and abroad.

AUGUST
Rights and Representation: Alumni with Disabilities Reflect on Fulbright’s Global Impact

The National Clearinghouse on Disability and Exchange (NCDE) held its second Joining Hands Virtual Symposium on disability inclusion in international exchange. As part of the symposium, the Fulbright Program hosted “Rights and Representation: Alumni with Disabilities Reflect on Fulbright’s Global Impact,” a panel of alumni who discussed the continued impact that their Fulbright experiences in the United States had on shaping their disability rights advocacy and leadership in their home countries.

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ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

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AUGUST
August 1 Fulbright Program Anniversary
On August 1st, we celebrated the 75th anniversary of President Harry S. Truman’s signing of the act that launched the Fulbright Program. Alumni and partners from around the world joined in the celebration, including U.S. Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken, several current and former U.S. Ambassadors, U.S. embassies and Fulbright commissions, and Program partners such as the National Park Service, the Posse Foundation, and Reach the World.

NOVEMBER
Fulbright Specialist Alumni Forum
The Fulbright Specialist Program hosted a Virtual Alumni Forum showcasing presentations from four alumni who are making an impact on communities in the United States and around the world. Specialist alumni to Bhutan, India, Trinidad & Tobago, and Rwanda described how their Fulbright experiences changed their personal and professional lives.

THROUGHOUT 2021
Amideast Creates 75th Anniversary Community Action Grant
The Alumni Community Action Grant (ACAG) program offers Fulbright Foreign Student Program alumni in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region unique opportunities to apply their creativity and leadership skills and help make an impact in their communities. Amideast, with the support of the U.S. Department of State, offered an ACAG special anniversary edition—open only to prior ACAG grantees. Starting in August and throughout 2022, seven awarded grantees are building on their initial ACAG activity and growing their idea into a second follow-on project. The seven finalist projects focus on grassroots capacity building, addressing disparities in public health, education, and community development in Iraq, Jordan, Morocco, and Yemen.
OLGA BODRUG
Romania to U.S., 2019

GUÐMUNDUR GUÐBRANDSSON,
Iceland to U.S., 2005

ANDILE MKHONTA, NOKWANDA HLOPHE, NOTSILE DLAMINI
eSwatini to U.S., 2021

FOREIGN FULBRIGHT STUDENTS
Lebanon to U.S., 2021
THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF State celebrated Fulbright’s 75th Anniversary on November 30 at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. Keynote speakers Second Gentleman Douglas Emhoff, U.S. Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken, and alumna Dr. Ruth Simmons praised the program and its alumni. Acclaimed soprano Renée Fleming spoke about her Fulbright experience, and newly appointed Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs Lee Satterfield provided closing remarks. Alumnus Jonathan Rabb, founder and CEO of Watch The Yard, a digital platform for Black college culture, served as host for the evening.
The over 40 alumni featured throughout the evening shared inspiring stories. They described key moments of their Fulbright experiences and the ongoing positive impact that they are making on communities in the U.S. and around the world. The program highlighted themes including the environment; education; public service; science, technology, and public health; and the arts. Two special montages showcased Fulbrighter success in journalism and the arts. A number of journalists were featured, including 2021 award winners - Maria Ressa, (Nobel Peace Prize), Megha Rajagopalan (Pulitzer Prize), and Daniel Alarcón (MacArthur Fellowship). Fulbright alumni artists, including Maya Angelou, John Lithgow, Sylvia Plath, Dale Chihuly, Philip Glass, and others were also honored during the event.

Senators Patrick Leahy (Vermont), Amy Klobuchar (Minnesota), John Boozman (Arkansas) and Fulbright alumni serving in Congress Tom Cole (Oklahoma) and John Sarbanes (Maryland) as well as their colleagues Barbara Lee (California) and Nita Lowey (New York), also shared their support for the Fulbright Program and praised its important role in public diplomacy.

“I am deeply grateful for my Fulbright experience. My year in Frankfurt, Germany transformed me.”

- RENÉE FLEMING
Two performances by Fulbright alumni were highlights of the event. Sam Nester, a trumpet player and electro-composer from Australia, performed an original composition. Alito Alessi’s DanceAbility International company—a mix of dancers with and without disabilities—performed one of Alessi’s original choreographies.

Dr. Ruth Simmons, president of Prairie View A&M University and former president of Smith College and Brown University, delivered powerful remarks about how a Fulbright experience uplifts individuals and positively impacts communities by providing people with opportunities to work across differences and find common purpose.

Alumni shared about the impact of the personal friendships and professional collaborations across countries that Fulbright has helped foster and expressed appreciation for the Program’s diversity and focus on providing international experiences to all, and especially those in underserved communities.

Watch the event recap on the Fulbright 75th Anniversary website, read more about the event on the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs website, view photos from the event, and view the event press release.

Keynote Speakers

- **The Honorable Antony J. Blinken**
  United States Secretary of State
- **Renée Fleming**
  1984 Fulbright U.S. Student to Germany
- **Douglas Emhoff**
  Second Gentleman of the United States
- **Ruth J. Simmons**
  1967 Fulbright U.S. Student to France
- **Paul Winfree**
  Chair, Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board
- **Lee Satterfield**
  Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs
75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Featured Alumni Included

Andrea Dutton, Geochemist & Paleoclimatologist, 2020 U.S. Scholar to New Zealand

Austan Goolsbee, Economist, 2007 U.S. Scholar to the U.K.

Benjamin tenOever, Virologist, 2018 U.S. Scholar to France

Branden Jacobs-Jenkins, Playwright, 2009 U.S. Student to Germany

Congressman John Sarbanes, 3rd District of Maryland, 1984 U.S. Student to Greece

Congressman Tom Cole, 4th District of Oklahoma, 1977 U.S. Student to the United Kingdom

Daniel Libeskind, Architect, 1985 U.S. Scholar to Finland

Guðmundur Guðbrandsson, Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources (Iceland), 2005 Foreign Student from Iceland

Jaime Saavedra, Global Director of Education at the World Bank, 1990 Foreign Student from Peru

James Orbinski, Former International President of Doctors Without Borders, 2016 Visiting Scholar from Canada

Javier Solana, Former Secretary General of NATO, 1966 Foreign Student from Spain

Jennifer Chavez-Miller, 2020 National Geographic Educator of the Year, 2014 Distinguished Awards in Teaching Program to Finland

Joan T.A. Gabel, President of University of Minnesota, 2018 International Educational Administrators Program to India

Jonathan Rabb, Founder & CEO of Watch the Yard, 2012 U.S. Student to Germany

Nicole Kanayurak, Deputy Director for the Department of Wildlife Management, North Slope Borough Municipal Government, 2018 Arctic Initiative Scholar

Rana Dajani, Biochemist & Literary Advocate, 2000 Foreign Student and 2012 Visiting Scholar from Jordan

Rita Dove, U.S. Poet Laureate, 1974 U.S. Student to Jordan

Yoko Kamikawa, Minister of Justice (Japan), 1988 Foreign Student from Japan

Live Performances

Alito Alessi 2009 Fulbright U.S. Specialist to Mexico
Dancer and choreographer

Sam Nester 2010 Fulbright Student from Australia
Trumpet player and composer
FULBRIGHT DAYS

75 YEARS OF IMPACT

Celebrating Around The World

FULBRIGHT COMMISSIONS, U.S. embassies, universities, and other Fulbright partners and supporters celebrated Fulbright’s 75th Anniversary with a wide range of activities that took place around the world. The Fulbright Program’s success is based on a sustained commitment to international bilateral partnerships and shared priorities. Fulbright Days celebrate the impact of these important partnerships across the globe. See all the Fulbright Days held in 2021 at Fulbright75.org/fulbright-days.
Countries and territories around the world celebrated their Fulbright Days in a number of ways, including virtual lectures, musical performances, panels, receptions, community service events, and art exhibits. The following Fulbright Day examples illustrate some of the activities that took place. For more information, view the Fulbright Days page at Fulbright75.org/fulbright-days and view the full list below.

**Iceland** - Hosting one of the first Fulbright Days, Iceland had three livestreamed events with several alumni speakers including Iceland’s Minister of Environment and U.S. scientist M Jackson.

**South Africa** - South Africa held an in-person event to celebrate the signing of the National Research Foundation – Fulbright Fellowship Funding agreement.

**Israel** - Israel launched an online exhibition, “The Archaeology of Fulbright Israel,” showcasing notable alumni throughout the program’s 65 years.

**Brazil** - The Fulbright Commission in Brazil hosted a livestreamed panel discussion and released the last of the alumni videos they produced throughout the year.

**India** - Fulbright India launched a collaborative art exhibition of American and Indian artists.

**South Korea** - South Korea's Fulbright day featured a webinar exploring the impact of the Fulbright Program among members and friends of the North Korean Defector community.
Throughout the 75th Anniversary in 2021, we celebrated the Fulbright Program’s longstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion and to striving to ensure that its participants and alumni reflect U.S. society and societies abroad. We believe that by living and learning together with people from different countries and cultures, we can shape a more positive vision for our communities and our world.

Fulbright Regional Diversity and Inclusion Coordinators Host “Unmasking Inequalities: Indigenous Pathways in the Time of COVID”

The “Unmasking Inequalities: The Global Impact of COVID-19” panel series, hosted by the Fulbright Program’s regional Diversity and Inclusion Coordinators, was composed of three panels that explored how the COVID-19 pandemic is making patterns of inequality, inequity, and systemic discrimination more visible as communities worldwide are faced with the political, economic, and social implications of the virus.

Fulbright Regional Diversity and Inclusion Coordinators Host “Navigating Blackness in the Western Hemisphere”

In June, the Fulbright Diversity and Inclusion Liaison for Programs in the Western Hemisphere (WHA) in collaboration with regional colleagues from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) at the U.S. State Department.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Fulbright: Advancing Opportunities

This special impact article outlines the strong engagement that HBCUs have had with the Fulbright Program throughout its 75-year history, from involving HBCU presidents and alumni as members of the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, working closely with the White House Initiative on HBCUs for three decades, and collaborating with partners such as the HBCU Faculty Development Network and Watch the Yard, a media company founded by Fulbright alumnus Jonathan Rabb that focuses on the Black college experience.
Department, Fulbright commissions, U.S. embassies, and Fulbright Program implementing partners hosted the Fulbright WHA panel “Navigating Blackness in the Western Hemisphere.” The panel featured Black and Afrodescendant Fulbright alumni and current participants from across the Americas and the Caribbean who shared reflections on how they made sense of their identity abroad, how they found community and connection during their Fulbright, and what the Program can do to foster greater inclusion of Black and Afrodescendant participants in Fulbright and in the international education space.

I Am Fulbright: 5 Takeaways from Fulbright HBCU Institutional Leaders

The U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) recognized 20 Historically Black Colleges and Universities as Fulbright HBCU Institutional Leaders for their noteworthy engagement with the Fulbright Program during the 2019-2020 academic year. Fulbright HBCU Institutional Leaders understand the benefit of developing a Fulbright culture on campus, send U.S. students and faculty from all fields and backgrounds abroad, and welcome and learn from foreign students and scholars. The development of these international and institutional networks enhances mutual understanding among participants and students, faculty, administration, and campus and community members.

Through virtual events, articles, and social media, the Fulbright Program and HBCU Institutional Leaders shared success stories and encouraged all HBCUs and Minority Serving Institutions to take advantage of the resources and opportunities that Fulbright offers.
Rights and Representation: Alumni with Disabilities Reflect on Fulbright’s Global Impact

During this panel, which was held during the Joining Hands Virtual Symposium, Fulbrighters from around the world reflected on the continued impact that their Fulbright experiences in the United States had on shaping their disability rights advocacy and leadership in their home countries. The Joining Hands conference is hosted by the National Clearinghouse on Disability and Exchange (NCDE), a project of the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) designed to increase the participation of people with disabilities in international exchange between the United States and other countries.

Fulbright at 75: Championing Diversity, Inclusion, and Campus Internationalization

In celebration of the 75th Anniversary, the Diversity Abroad 2021 conference plenary highlighted the role that the Fulbright Program plays in supporting campus internationalization, global awareness, diversity and inclusion, and engagement.

Fulbright Forward Podcast Releases Episodes Throughout 2021

Fulbright Forward, a podcast created and hosted by the Fulbright Program’s regional diversity coordinators, features alumni of the Fulbright Program who talk about their work and research, about regional and local ramifications of global diversity-related issues, and the impact their Fulbright experience has had on.

Continued on page 30

20 Fulbright HBCU Institutional Leaders Announced for AY 2019-2020

Fulbright HBCU Institutional Leaders understand the benefit of developing a Fulbright culture on campus through sending U.S. students, scholars, and administrators of all backgrounds and fields of study overseas and/or by welcoming and learning from foreign students and scholars.
their personal and professional growth. Episodes also feature advocates and professionals from diverse communities working towards greater inclusion in higher education/educational exchange.

**Amideast Hosts First-Ever Disability Webinar**

In March 2021, Amideast hosted a webinar on applying to the Fulbright Foreign Student Program for applicants with disabilities. The Fulbrighters answered questions from audience members, ranging from tips they had for future applicants, to how supportive they found the United States to those with disabilities and how the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) supports students.

**Fulbright Affinity Groups “Take Over” Flagship Instagram**

Throughout 2021, independent, alumni-led affinity groups hosted “takeovers” on the flagship Fulbright Program Instagram account to promote their organizations and encourage Fulbrighters to engage. The takeovers by Fulbright Prism, a group that defines itself as “for grantees, alumni, staff, and administrators who identify with a marginalized orientation, gender affiliation, or sex (or LGBTQ)”; Fulbright Noir, a group for Black Fulbrighters; and Fulbright Lotus, a group for Fulbrighters in the Asian diaspora are available as highlights on the flagship Fulbright Program Instagram account.

2019-20 Fulbright HBCU Institutional Leaders

- **Alabama A&M University**, Huntsville, AL
- **Bluefield State College**, Bluefield, WV
- **Central State University**, Wilberforce, OH
- **Fayetteville State University**, Fayetteville, NC
- **Florida A&M University**, Tallahassee, FL
- **Howard University**, Washington, DC
- **Jackson State University**, Jackson, MS
- **Lincoln University of Pennsylvania**, Lincoln University, PA
- **Mississippi Valley State University**, Itta Bena, MS
- **Morehouse College**, Atlanta, GA
- **Morgan State University**, Baltimore, MD
- **North Carolina Central University**, Durham, NC
- **Prairie View A&M University**, Prairie View, TX
- **South Carolina State University**, Orangeburg, SC
- **Spelman College**, Atlanta, GA
- **Tennessee State University**, Nashville, TN
- **Texas Southern University**, Houston, TX
- **Tougaloo College**, Jackson, MS
- **University of the District of Columbia**, Washington, DC
- **Xavier University of Louisiana**, New Orleans, LA
I’m convinced I have learned far more from my colleagues and students than I ever imparted. ... This is what the Fulbright experience is all about, the give-and-take educational process that is required for intercultural understanding. It is about questioning assumptions and digging deeper.”

- DR. MELISSA FITCH, 2016 U.S. SCHOLAR TO INDIA
University Distinguished Professor at the University of Arizona (2021 HSI Leader)

ECA Announces Inaugural Fulbright HSI Leaders Initiative

In October 2021, the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) announced its inaugural list of Fulbright HSI (Hispanic-Serving Institution) Leaders. Through this inaugural designation, ECA recognized 35 HSIs that demonstrated noteworthy engagement with the Fulbright Program during the 2019-2021 academic years and promoted Fulbright Program opportunities on campus. The inaugural Fulbright HSI Leaders were announced during the international plenary session at the annual conference of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU).

2021 Fulbright HSI Leaders

Associate & Baccalaureate Institutions:
CUNY LaGuardia Community College
Skyline College
Whittier College

Masters Institutions:
California State University-Chico
California State University-Dominguez Hills
California State University-Fullerton
California State University-Long Beach
California State University-Northridge
CUNY Hunter College
CUNY John Jay College of Criminal Justice
CUNY Lehman College
CUNY Queens College
Fairleigh Dickinson University-Metropolitan Campus
Mills College
New Jersey City University
Saint Edward’s University
San Francisco State University
San Jose State University
Sonoma State University

Doctoral Institutions:
CUNY City College
CUNY Graduate School and University Center
Florida International University
Montclair State University
Rutgers University-Newark
San Diego State University
Texas Tech University
University of Arizona
University of California-Irvine
University of California-Riverside
University of California-Santa Barbara
University of California-Santa Cruz
University of Central Florida
University of Houston
University of Illinois at Chicago
University of New Mexico-Main Campus
We encouraged all program alumni and partners to share their Fulbright experiences, engage with their local communities and schools, join the diverse and dynamic network of Fulbrighters around the world, and participate in special anniversary initiatives. Learn more at Fulbright75.org/get-involved/.

Connecting with Fulbright Alumni Networks

Fulbrighters were encouraged to engage with fellow participants and alumni to create connections and network during the 75th anniversary through platforms such as Fulbrighter, the exclusive online community for current Fulbrighters and alumni, and by joining alumni organizations in the United States and abroad.
Bringing Fulbright Into the Classroom
Fulbright alumni, current participants, and K-12 teachers bring the world into classrooms by sharing international experiences with students. We encouraged Fulbrighters to get involved and volunteer in local schools, and provided information on how teachers could invite Fulbrighters into their classrooms and use the resources provided by these programs to expand their students’ horizons, through programs like the Fulbright Association’s Fulbright in the Classroom Program, Reach the World, and the National Geographic Explorer Classroom Program.

Fulbright 75th Anniversary Classroom Visits
As part of the special activities marking the 75th anniversary of the Fulbright Program, Fulbright alumni volunteered to connect with 33 classrooms in 18 states for virtual presentations and discussions. Fulbrighters were paired with classrooms where their Fulbright experience had a direct connection to the class’s studies: for example, a Fulbrighter who traveled to South Africa engaged in discussions about apartheid and the U.S. Civil Rights Movement with a high school AP history class. An elementary school’s French students had the opportunity to meet a Fulbrighter who shared reflections about the culture and lifestyle she experienced while researching in the Ivory Coast, as well as introduce the students to one of her Ivorian friends, a native French speaker. Classrooms around the U.S. can continue to sign up to host Fulbright alumni through June 2022. A large number of alumni representing a variety of Fulbright programs have expressed interest in participating.

Celebrating Fulbright’s 75th Anniversary on Social Media
Partners and alumni were asked to share their stories on social media with custom #Fulbright75 templates by simply inserting their photos and sharing them on Twitter, Instagram, or Facebook to tell the world about the impact of the Fulbright Program. Throughout the year, Fulbrighters and friends of the Program were also able to show their support of Fulbright’s 75th Anniversary by adding a celebratory filter to their Facebook profile.

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**Special Initiatives**

**Fulbright Celebrates National Park Week**

As part of the new partnership between the Fulbright Program and the U.S. National Park Service (NPS), Fulbrighters were invited to celebrate National Park Week in April by taking advantage of volunteer opportunities through one of NPS’s art, science, or international programs, plan a wellness hike or activity for ParkRx Day, or share their favorite park visit, conservation project, or international exchange picture on social media.

**Fulbright 75 Virtual Art Exhibit**

The Fulbright 75 Virtual Art Exhibit at www.fulbrightart.com was curated in celebration of 75 years of the Fulbright Program. Throughout the Program’s history, Fulbrighters in the arts have utilized their awards to deepen their artistic practices through cross-cultural collaboration and the adaptation of novel tools, techniques, and resources.

The 75 pieces included in this exhibit were created during a Fulbright exchange or were inspired by the connections and experiences of our alumni while living, working, and creating within their host community.

“Twin Tempests,” by Fulbrighter Adam de Boer, was featured in the Fulbright75 Virtual Art Exhibit.
Fulbright Partners with National Park Service to Strengthen Exchanges

Fulbright and the National Park Service signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to partner on efforts to increase environmental and cultural awareness worldwide.

National Archives Signs MOU with Fulbright for Archival Science Fellowship

The National Archives and the State Department formalized a new partnership to establish the Fulbright-National Archives Heritage Science Fellowship.

2020-21 Fulbright Top Producing Institutions Announced

We congratulate the 2020-21 Top Producing Institutions of Fulbright U.S. Students and Scholars.

Egyptian Fulbright Alumnus Discovers “Lost Golden City”

Egyptologist and Fulbright alumnus Dr. Zahi Hawass’ discovery “has been hailed as one of the most important archeological finds since Tutankhamun’s tomb.”

Alumna Maya Angelou Among Women Chosen to be on Quarter

Writer, poet, and Fulbright alumna Maya Angelou was chosen to be one of the first women to appear on a series of quarters issued by the U.S. Mint.

Fulbright Alumnus Wins 2021 MacArthur Award

Daniel Alarcón, a 2001 U.S. Student to Peru, was named a 2021 MacArthur Foundation Fellow for his writing and radio production work.

Fulbright Alumna Awarded 2021 Pulitzer Prize

Megha Rajagopalan, 2010 U.S. Student to China, was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in International Reporting alongside her BuzzFeed News colleagues.

Fulbright Alumna Awarded 2021 Nobel Peace Prize

Journalist Maria Ressa, a 1986 Fulbrighter to the Philippines, was one of two people awarded the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize for her work against disinformation and for fighting for press freedom.

Alumna Maya Angelou Among Women Chosen to be on Quarter

Fulbright Anniversary Covered in State Magazine

The official magazine of the U.S. Department of State highlighted how the Fulbright Program continues to evolve as a foreign policy tool.

Global “Changemakers” Mark 75th Anniversary of Fulbright Program

The Washington Diplomat publication covered the Fulbright Program’s 75th anniversary event at the Kennedy Center.
Thank You For 75 Years of Impact
THE FULBRIGHT PROGRAM enriches the lives of hundreds of thousands of people around the world and forges friendship and cooperation across cultures, borders, and languages.

When President Truman signed the act establishing the Fulbright Program in 1946, it was less than a year after World War II had ended. The devastation of that war was still keenly felt. There was an urgent need to create lasting conditions for peace, to build mutual understanding among nations, to foster goodwill among their people.

The Fulbright Program helped answer that need. It brings people together through educational and professional exchanges, giving them a chance to learn about other countries and cultures, collaborate on issues of global importance, and create connections that last a lifetime. In the 75 years since its inception, the Fulbright Program has grown into our country’s premier international exchange program. Its alumni include more than 400,000 people from 160 countries. They’re students and recent graduates at the very start of their careers, as well as scientists, teachers, researchers, and artists with many years of experience. Fulbrighters are simply an extraordinary group of people who reflect all facets of our global diversity.

The power of personal connection that this Program makes possible is just as important as ever. The members of the Fulbright Community are changemakers. They care deeply about the problems facing our world today, from stopping COVID-19 to countering threats to democracy. And through Fulbright, they help strengthen our world, from classrooms, villages, universities, and cities across the globe.

As a diplomat, I love the Fulbright Program because it helps create the space for people to learn from each other and connect across cultural divides, which makes global cooperation possible. I can’t wait to see what this Program will become in the years ahead. Thank you, Fulbright.

These remarks were given by Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in honor of the Fulbright 75th anniversary celebration on November 30, 2021.