Call for Proposals: CCI Horizons – AI Summer Grant 2025

The Confluencenter for Creative Inquiry (CCI) invites currently enrolled University of Arizona undergraduate and graduate students across transdisciplinary fields to submit proposals for creative projects that explore the evolving role of artificial intelligence (AI) in education, research, creative practice, and societal impact.

This initiative directly supports the University of Arizona's commitment to technological empowerment, educational innovation, and workforce preparation, as outlined in the President's Strategic Imperatives. It also advances Confluencenter's mission to foster creative, inclusive, and interdisciplinary inquiry that addresses real-world challenges and amplifies diverse perspectives.

We seek proposals demonstrating how students are engaging with AI to:
- Foster creative approaches to complex societal challenges
- Address ethical, cultural, or community-based impacts of technology
- Showcase the influence of humanistic knowledge (history, language, culture, philosophy, art, performance) in shaping AI's development and application
- Build transferable skills critical to thriving in a rapidly changing workforce

Project formats may include:
Essays, visual arts, multimedia storytelling, podcasts, zines, performances, video series, or other creative outputs.

Proposal Guidelines:
Applicants must submit the following materials by Friday, May 30, 2025, at 11:59 PM MST to be considered for $500 in funding:
- **Project Proposal** (PDF or Word Doc; File Name: *LastName_FirstName_Proposal_2025*)

Proposal Components:
- **Project Proposal include: Narrative, Personal or Community Impact and Budget/Timeline (max 500 words)**
  Expand on your creative idea, describing its interdisciplinary engagement and societal relevance. Highlight innovative, ethical, and transformative elements. Include at least one tangible deliverable.
    o Concisely outline your project, its objectives, and connections to AI, interdisciplinary humanities, and career readiness.
    o Explain how the project will contribute to your academic, professional, or creative growth and/or benefit your community.
    o Briefly describe how you will use the $500 award (e.g., for materials, software, exhibition costs, travel).
    o Timeline Provide a timeline covering key stages from development through final submission. All projects must be completed by August 15, 2025.

Award Amount: $500
Application Deadline: Friday, May 30, 2025, by 11:59 PM MST
Award Notification: June 16, 2025
Project Completion: August 15, 2025, by 11:59 PM MST

Eligibility:
- Open to currently enrolled undergraduate and graduate students at the University of Arizona for the 2025–2026 academic year.
- Applicants must be eligible to work in the United States.
- Students from ALL majors are welcome to apply.

Applicants from the following fields are specially encouraged to apply: cultural studies, literature, philosophy, history, languages, Indigenous studies, visual arts, performance studies, gender studies, communication, media arts, social sciences, and related fields.

How to Apply:
Submit all required materials through the **Application Form** by the application deadline.

Review and Notification:
A review committee will assess proposals based on creativity, interdisciplinary engagement, societal relevance, and feasibility. Notifications will be sent by June 16, 2025.

Funding Distribution:
Awards will be distributed in one installment following award notification and receipt of a signed agreement.

Post-Award Commitments:
Awardees will be invited to present their work at a public event in Fall 2025 and/or have it featured on Confluencenter platforms. All recipients must acknowledge Confluencenter support in any related presentations, publications, or materials.

Contact for Questions:
Yadira Caballero, yadirac@arizona.edu

About the Confluencenter for Creative Inquiry:
The Confluencenter for Creative Inquiry at the University of Arizona fosters collaboration across the arts, humanities, and social sciences. It supports boundary-crossing research, creativity, community engagement, and projects that amplify diverse voices and perspectives.