Call for Proposals

Mellon-Fronteridades Graduate Fellowships

Description

The Mellon-Fronteridades Graduate Fellowship program aims to support current graduate students with interdisciplinary research projects seeking to advance our understanding of the narratives, experiences, knowledges, histories, performances, spaces and heritages that shape and are shaped by the U.S.-Mexico borderlands.

The goal of this program is to foster and promote scholarship and creative activities that explore, analyze, and elevate the lived experiences and cultural resources of this region. Additionally, these projects should create new ways for understanding border dynamics in Arizona-Sonora communities. Ultimately, this scholarship and/or activities should bring about a positive impact in these communities.

The Mellon-Fronteridades Graduate Fellowship program offers one-time awards for individual applicants. Applicants should propose activities that can be completed within a six-month period. Fellowships are disbursed as two separate deposits into student bursar accounts: $4,000 in January, and $4,000 in April. Projects must be finished by July 2021.

Before preparing a proposal, applicants should familiarize themselves with the mission and vision of Confluencenter’s Fronteridades programs.

Award Amount
$8,000 (to single applicants)

Proposal Due Date
By November 11, 2020 (before 5 p.m.)

Anticipated Award Notification Date
Beginning of Spring 2021

Project Completion Date
July 2021

Eligibility

Both domestic and international UArizona students are eligible to apply for Confluencenter’s Mellon-Fronteridades Graduate Fellowship program. Applicants must be enrolled in one of the following programs:
• A terminal graduate program (PhD or MFA) in the College of Fine Arts (CFA), the College of Humanities (COH), the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences (SBS), the James E. Rogers College of Law, College of Education, and College of Architecture, Planning, & Landscape Architecture.

• A relevant Graduate Interdisciplinary Program (GIDP) firmly connected to one of the three colleges identified above, such as Second Language Acquisition and Teaching (SLAT).

Additionally, proposed projects must be 1) interdisciplinary 2) focused on U.S.-Mexico border, and humanities centered. The projects must also include at least one discernible product which advances scholarship and understanding of the Arizona-Sonora border. Past products have included exhibitions, websites, chapter or article manuscripts, conference presentations etc. Fellows may be asked to participate in a research communication event for a popular audience. This may involve preparation of written materials, visuals, or videos created and distributed for a popular audience, or web-based tools to communicate research in engaging ways to the public.

Submit an Application
Applications are submitted through the Using the online submission portal found here. The information requested through the submission portal is Please add all of the requested information, outlined in the components section below. The review committee will not consider applications that are incomplete or that arrive after the deadline. Application details are below.

Application Components
In the online submissions portal, applicants will be asked to upload the following materials.

1. Project Summary (250 words max): This concise overview (abstract) of the proposed project should be understandable to a lay audience and appropriate for posting on the Confluencenter website.

2. Project Narrative (1,200 words max, double-spaced, 12-point font): In language accessible to non-specialist readers, describe the specific creative/interdisciplinary activity for which funding is being sought. The narrative should accomplish the following:

   • Provide a general project overview and timetable for completion that covers the duration of the award (January 2021 – July 2021).
     o Overview should explain how the proposed project will contribute to our understanding of the history, culture, art, context, and experience of the borderlands in ways that challenge or transcend existing disciplinary frameworks and boundaries.
     o Timetable must explain the stages of project completion during the grant period and the resulting product and/or outcome. If the funded project is part of a larger project, applicants must specify the feasibility of finishing within the grant period and/or the tangible final product (even if only preliminary) that will be completed by
the end of the grant period. Past products have included exhibitions, websites, chapter or article manuscripts, conference presentation etc.)

- Describe how funding will help participants advance in their careers and accomplish long-term goals.
- Provide an explanation of applicant’s qualifications to complete the proposed project and how activities will advance the applicant’s broader research agenda, intellectual development or scholarly/artistic career.
- Provide a statement of research ethics and commitment to diversity

3. Curriculum Vitae (two pages max): CVs should note any scholarly or creative achievements pertinent to the project.

4. Budget: Using Confluencenter’s budget template, applicants must include a budget of project expenses. Awards will not exceed $8,000. Matching funds are not required for this grant. However, if the costs of a project exceed $8,000, the budget should identify where the additional funding will come from.

5. Letter of Support: One letter of support is required from the applicant’s major advisor or someone familiar with the applicant’s work.

**Selection Process**
A review committee comprised of advisory board members and other faculty from relevant areas will evaluate the proposals and make recommendations to the Confluencenter Director, who will announce the awards. Award notifications will be sent via email by December 31st.

**Award Distribution**
Graduate fellowships are awarded as two separate deposits into student bursar accounts: $4,000 in January, and $4,000 in April, pending satisfactory participation in Confluencenter workshops and events, which will be outlined for award winners.

**Post-Award Commitments**
The names of the Fronteridades-Mellon Graduate Fellowship recipients along with a description of funded projects will be posted on Confluencenter’s website. Recipients are encouraged to attend an award ceremony, and if applicable, present their work at events connected to Confluencenter programs.

During the funding year, award recipients may be required to attend professional development workshops, meet and greets with fellow cohort members, special events, and to present their outcomes at one of the Confluencenter programs like Show & Tell or in the Fronteridades symposia.
All projects must be completed by July 2021. A final report must be completed within 30 days after July 2021.

**Final Reports**
Within 30 days of project completion, award recipients are required to submit a final report on the Confluencenter website using the “Final Report” online submission portal on the Creative Scholars webpage.

This report should summarize the objectives and results of project activities and note any publications, performances or external funding awarded as a result of the project. Recipients who receive external funding for projects initially supported by these awards should report this funding to the Director of the Confluencenter in order to track the impact of the Graduate Fellowship program.

Confluencenter staff may contact award recipients on an ongoing basis after the fellowship year for periodic updates on outcomes such as tenure-track hires, fellowships, post-docs, and additional external funding.

**Acknowledgements**
Successful award recipients should acknowledge the Confluencenter’s support in any publications made possible by Confluencenter Graduate Fellowships, and display the Confluencenter and Fronteridades logos in any project-related publicity. This includes websites, press releases and printed materials. We request that you share publicity and event information with the Confluencenter’s Events and Programs Coordinator.

**Questions**
Please contact Leona Davis, Events and Programs Coordinator, with any questions at leonafdavis@arizona.edu.