Mellon-Fronteridades Creative Scholars  
COHORT 2 - CALL FOR PROPOSALS  
DUE WED 4/15/20 by 5:00PM

The Confluencenter for Creative Inquiry (CCI) is pleased to accept applications for the Mellon-Fronteridades Creative Scholars program, Cohort 2, made possible through a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Cohort 2 will consist of three scholars completing a scholarly or research-based project from August 2020 through April 2021. Applications are due Wednesday, April 15th by 5:00pm.

The Mellon-Fronteridades Creative Scholars program seeks to expand interdisciplinary scholarship, service, and engagement with Arizona-Sonora border communities through the lens of the humanities, arts, and humanistic social sciences. This program offers a unique opportunity to amplify new voices in the border narrative and enrich public understanding of border life. Additionally, this program elevates research/projects that engage with the social and cultural resources and the complex challenges among marginalized communities in the borderlands (e.g., food security, job scarcity, migration, environmental challenges, public health, regional challenges, human security etc.).

COHORT 2 ELIGIBILITY AND TERMS OF APPOINTMENT:

Eligible applicants propose humanities-based research or a scholarly project which addresses challenges in one or more communities in the Arizona-Sonora borderlands. Applications from students, post-doctoral scholars, or research professionals are welcome, as well as those affiliated or non-affiliated with University of Arizona. Qualified candidates must be eligible to work in the United States.

Proposals should include at least one discernible scholarly product and a research communication component, which advances scholarship on the Arizona-Sonora border, reports findings back to relevant border community/s, and promotes a novel public narrative of border life. Examples of scholarly products include books, articles for publication in peer reviewed journals, or book chapters in peer reviewed texts. Examples of a research communication component include a community event where research is presented for a popular audience, 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. Research communication methods described must include a plan for reporting research back to the partnering border community.

Each selected awardee will receive $33,455 total compensation ($3,717.20 per month for nine months) for the project period. UArizona Employees Please Note: Your compensation is subject to ERE. After ERE, UArizona employee participants will receive $25,460 total compensation ($2,829/month for nine months). This compensation may be paid to one individual applicant only per proposal.

Up to $3,500 for approved project-related travel (including travel to and from Arizona for the project term) and up to $1,500 for approved project-related expenses. Additionally, a final compensation payment of $1,000 will be awarded upon successful completion of the project.

Successful completion of the program includes the submission of a final impact report, evidence of final scholarly product created, evidence of communication of research, and a brief exit interview with Confluencenter director and staff.
Confluencenter works in partnership with over 30 border-engaged organizations on both sides of the AZ-SON border, and can bridge critical connections between fellows and related organizations, community contacts, or local academic networks as applicable. Cohort members have the opportunity to participate in other Confluencenter border-related scholarly activities throughout their appointment, such as presentations and conferences.

A library carrel in the University of Arizona Main Library can be provided for the project period as needed. Confluencenter equipment (e.g., camera, portable projector, laptop) will be available for project-related use. Additionally, Creative Scholars may be eligible for Designated Campus Colleague (DCC) status at the University of Arizona, which provides an email address and access to university library resources.

HOW TO APPLY FOR COHORT 2:
Cohort 2 applications must be uploaded to the Cohort 2 submissions portal with all required materials by 5:00pm on Wednesday, April 15, 2020. Only complete applications will be considered. Applications submitted outside of the online portal will not be reviewed.

REQUIRED MATERIALS FOR COHORT 2 APPLICATION:

1. **Project proposal** (Suggested length: 3 pages, 12 pt. font, double spaced) describing:
   a) The proposed project and its objectives
   b) The border community of focus and particular community challenges addressed by the research
   c) The applicant’s expertise and capacity to successfully complete the project
   d) Theoretical frameworks and research methodology
   e) Scholarly product(s) that will be produced

2. **Diversity statement** (Suggested length: 1 page)
3. **Statement of research ethics**- How will you maximize benefit and minimize potential for harm to partnering border communities? (Suggested length: 1 page)
4. **Project budget, using template provided**
5. **Project budget justification, using example provided**
6. **Project timeline, using template provided**
7. **CV**
8. **Three letters of recommendation** (Must include letters from any partnering organizations or groups, if applicable)
9. **A sample of past scholarly product** (publication, film, e.g.)

**SELECTION PROCESS**

Applications for the Mellon-Fronteridades Creative Scholars program will be evaluated by a selection committee composed of UA faculty and CCI staff. The committee will assess applications with reference to the following criteria:

- Proposal includes clear goal(s), supported by realistic timeline and budget
• Clear description of theoretical framework(s) used in research
• Research/scholarly methods are clear and realistic
• Research communication methods are clear and realistic
• Applicant describes prior experience and current capacity of completing proposed activities
• Project would contribute novel dimensions to the public border narrative

The selection committee additionally encourages candidates who:

• Are currently or previously active in border-related work
• Represent diverse backgrounds/minoritized groups
• Have lived experience in the borderlands
• Identify at least one community partner or collaborator, with letters of recommendation from identified partner(s)

Candidates will be notified by email of their award status by May 29, 2020.

Neither CCI nor the selection committee discriminates on the basis of age, gender, race, ethnicity, physical disability, marital status, sexual orientation, religion, citizenship or immigration status, or political affiliation.

Please contact Leona Davis with any questions at leonafdavis@email.arizona.edu or 520-621-0599.

ABOUT THE CONFLUENCE CENTER FOR CREATIVE INQUIRY AND FRONTERIDADES

CCI at the University of Arizona is a campus-wide research institute that unites three large and robust areas – arts, humanities, and social sciences – as a point of intersection for inquiry across all disciplines. The Confluencenter’s mission is to provide a physical and intellectual home for interdisciplinary inquiry that focuses on the grand challenges of society today. The center convenes faculty and students from across disciplines, develops collaborative research projects, funds proposals and shares knowledge in engaging ways with the broader community. CCI is a member of the Consortium of Humanities Centers & Institutes and has held a seat in its international board since 2014.

Fronteridades, a project made possible by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, seeks to promote and define an intersectional space where borders (fronteras) and humanities (humanidades) collide, coexist, and give rise to Fronteridades [fronteras + humanidades]. This work is possible through close collaboration with multiple partners, including Southwest Folklife Alliance, Colibrí Center for Human Rights, and IMFOCULTA in Nogales, Sonora. As part of this partnership, border residents, migrants, and their families are recording and sharing their stories to promote a more nuanced, multidimensional understanding of life on the border. Additionally, this project provides funding for Creative Scholars, and microgrants for border artists. A two-day intercambio symposium highlighting much of the Fronteridades work will take place in Fall 2020.