Community Programs for Alumni
Apply now!

Over the years Fulbright Canada has created opportunities for alumni to engage with their community. Our programs support alumni projects with a social or environmental impact. Community Leaders have provided workshops to youth to raise awareness about gender diversity, increase understanding of native teaching through workshops, and a wigwam building project. Eco-Leaders have created organic gardens in schools who rely on meal-tickets, transformed dark alleys into beautiful green spaces, and implement a program to teach young people about the important role bats play in their local ecosystem.

The Killam Community Action Initiative also allows Killam alumni to initiate such projects. This year, two Killam Fellows organized education summer camps for youth. Make a difference in your community; apply to one of the program below!

The Community Leadership Program (CLP) encourages groups of three or more Fulbright alumni, as well as alumni from other U.S. government sponsored exchange programs to apply for this award, which carries a value of up to $8,000. If you are interested in developing a volunteer-led project that responds to a need within your community*, download the application online. Only Canadian communities are eligible. Should you require help locating alumni in your area to participate in your program, please email alumni@fulbright.ca with your project description and proposed location. Deadline: November 15th.

The Fulbright Canada-RBC Eco-Leadership Program encourages Fulbright alumni to engage in a volunteer-based, environmental initiative in Canada or the United States. This grant, which carries a value of up to $4,000, allows alumni to undertake a project that will transform unused alley space into beautiful green alleys, create a medicine wheel garden to be used for education purposes, or morph parking spots into green spaces in order to challenge the views of urban planning. Deadline: November 15th.

The Killam Community Action Initiative encourages Killam alumni to undertake a community-based or environmental-based project in their home or host communities. During our pilot year, one group of Killam Fellows organized an educational summer camp for youth. These awards are offered on a continued basis.
The Fulbright Student Program (2013-14 academic year)

Fulbright student awards are for Canadians to study in the United States, or for Americans to study in Canada. They are intended for graduate students, prospective graduate students, and promising young professionals who wish to enroll in a graduate studies program, continue their current course of graduate study or research, or pursue an independent research project for nine months in the other country. Fulbright Canada scholarships offer a fixed sum of US$15,000 for a nine month academic year beginning in September. Grantees are expected to use the award to cover expenses, such as housing, travel, school fees and the like. Basic health insurance is also provided, along with visa services. Fulbright enrichment opportunities are available on a competitive basis.

Traditional Fulbright Canada Student awards may be held at any University, Research Centre, Think Tank, or Government Agency.

Deadline for American applicants was October 17th. The 2013-14 competition is open for Canadian students. The deadline is November 15th. For eligibility requirements, or to apply online, please visit the website: www.fulbright.ca

Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Award for U.S. Graduate Students (2013-14 academic year)

The Fulbright Canada STEM Award is a new initiative, in cooperation with the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada and six of Canada’s leading research universities. The STEM award is a three year award valued at some $120,000 (tuition, fees, and an annual stipend of $20,000). Canada is the home to top-ranked research institutions and leading research scientists. As such, Canada is a premier destination for scientific study and research. The Fulbright Canada STEM Award offers an opportunity for a select group of American students to pursue their PhD in Canada. They will study, conduct research, and be inspired in a technologically-advanced, diverse, and dynamic country. Fulbright Canada has partnered with the following universities to provide the very best opportunities in both basic and applied fields of science, engineering and mathematics:

Stories from Fulbright Students

Pearl Kaplan - Environmental Issues Matter

Reflecting on the nature of successful research, Pearl Kaplan notes that, “a process of continuous questioning and investigation is required.” To this end, Pearl was lucky to be able to extend the research of her Fulbright project, “Preserving the St. Lawrence River: Toxicological Impacts of Ozonated Wastewater” at McGill University in Montréal, Québec this summer. During the tenure of her Fulbright grant in Dr. Viviane Yargeau’s laboratory, Pearl worked in collaboration with NSERC Post-Doctoral Fellow Pedro A. Segura, and they successfully identified a potential ozonation by-product (OBP) of an endocrine disrupting compound (EDC) and monitored changes in the estrogenic activity of the ozonated samples. “This summer our research goal was to enhance our understanding of the chemical structure and toxicity by isolating large quantities of the generated OBP and determining its estrogenic activity and the exact chemical structure,” states Kaplan.

As the summer months draw to a close in Montreal, Pearl will follow the warm weather and move to Atlanta, Georgia for an Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) Fellowship at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, aiding in the development of methods to assess human exposure to environmental chemicals, toxins, and chemical threat agents using analytical chemistry techniques. “Raising environmental awareness is important to me both in my professional career as a chemist and in my personal life, and I am conscious of the impacts of scientific research on the environment,” she says. To educate others on careers in the increasingly important fields of environmental chemistry and environmental health, this autumn Pearl will give a lecture at her alma mater, Penn State University, in the Department of Chemistry, focusing on applications of chemistry in the environmental field, based on her experiences in consulting, academic, and government settings in both the U.S. and Canada.
The Romantic Adventure Company by Shannon Risk

Dr. Shannon Risk was a Fulbright student who earned her M.A. and Ph.D. in American History from the University of Maine. In 2008, Dr. Risk went on her Fulbright educational exchange, “Fulbright allowed me to meet truly terrific people, and to be mentored by some great women historians! (Gail Campbell and Linda Kealey at the University of New Brunswick, especially) I’ll always consider Canada as my second home.”

Risk has always had a fascination with history and women’s studies. “I do have a feminist motivation,” says Risk. “Women still don’t hold their representative share of positions of power in Canada and the United States. There is still too much violence against women, and we still pay the Mommy Tax. It is important to keep getting women’s voices heard in a post-modern world where many of the old inequalities are still with us.”

While Risk is an established author in her field, she is also an avid fiction writer who has recently published a novel, The Romantic Adventure Company. “I have an interest in writing about women, both academically and in fiction.” This novel, a sequel to Pirate Shirt Dot Com, follows three women; sisters Sophie and Susana, and their friend Gabby, as they face the challenges of running an online dating agency. In their personal quest for romance, they wind up in a ridiculous murder mystery weekend at a neglected mansion in Bar Harbor, Maine. Then, they must face up to new challenges as a NYC tycoon, who is quite taken with Sophie, tries to buy them out.

Dr. Risk is currently an assistant professor in history, and director of women’s studies department at Niagara University in New York. Find out more about Dr. Risk and her work at: www.shannonrisk.weebly.com.
Traditional Fulbright Scholar Awards (2013-14 academic year)

Traditional Fulbright Scholars awards offer awards to emerging and established scholars, postdoctoral researchers, and experienced professionals. These awards, valued at $12,500, allow them to conduct research, teach, or undertake a combination of these activities for one semester in either Canada or the United States. The Fulbright Scholar Program is open to academics in all disciplines except clinical research involving patient care. The award may be held at any University, Research Centre, Think Tank, or Government Agency.

This competition is currently open to Canadian applicants, the deadline to apply is November 15th. The deadline for American applicants was August 1st.

For more informations, visit fulbright.ca

Fulbright Visiting Research Chairs (2013-14 academic year)

Fulbright Visiting Research Chairs enable promising and prominent scholars, as well as experienced professionals to conduct research, develop collaborations, guest lecture and/or teach at select American or Canadian universities and research centres, normally for one semester, though this may be extended to a full academic year. These awards carry a value of $25,000 for one semester.

In addition, successful candidates will have the opportunity to deliver public lectures, give seminar presentations, participate in conferences and otherwise contribute to ongoing research activities at the host institution. Applicants must have received a Ph.D. or equivalent professional/terminal degree by December 31, 2012 or have equivalent professional experience.

This competition is currently open to Canadian applicants, the deadline to apply is November 15th. The deadline for American scholars was August 1st.

If you are eligible, please visit the website for more information.

Stories from Fulbright Scholars

Pure Magic: Le Forum mondial de la langue française, Quebec City

Eileen M. Angelini received a Fulbright Chair award in 2011. She is a professor of French at the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures at Canisius College. “My Fulbright experience as Visiting Research Chair in Globalization and Cultural Studies at McMaster University did not end in May 2011, but continues to thrive.” says Dr. Angelini. In October 2011, Angelini was invited to present at the U.S.-Canada Exchange Alumni Symposium, Partners, Allies, Friends: U.S.-Canada Relations in Focus in Ottawa, which then led to an invitation from Joel J. Sokolsky, Principal of the Royal Military College of Canada, to deliver a presentation at his campus.

“One of the most magical Fulbright opportunities came this July when I was part of the panel, “L’Enseignement du français langue étrangère et influence des cultures d’origine,” at the first Forum mondial de la langue française.” Dr. Angelini learned of the Forum from the Consulate General in Quebec City. When she was notified that her paper had been accepted, she also learned that she would receive full funding from the Organisation internationale de la francophonie (OIF) to support her participation.

“By far the most amazing aspect of the Forum was that of the 1,100 participants from 104 countries, I only encountered five Americans. Imagine the reward of presenting on the teaching of French and Francophone culture in the U.S. to a group from Vietnam, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Malta, Belgium, Switzerland, Mali, Cameroun, to name but just a few countries represented.”

Angelini describes the highly rewarding intellectual exchange: “while I was explaining how French enrollments compete with those of Spanish in the U.S., they explained to me how their enrollments compete with those of English, and that French is now considered an African language since many native African languages exist only in oral format”.

The experience and exposure was exceptional, “ the fifty business cards that I brought with me did not last beyond Day 1 of the five-day Forum. The contacts I made will serve me well... and the memories I have from the Forum will provide much inspiration for my teaching at Canisius College.”
HIV and Rehabilitation

Denver Lewellen, Ph.D., and 2011-2012 Fulbright Research Chair in Society and Culture at Dalhousie University, is partnering with the Nova Scotia Advisory Commission on AIDS. The Commission will help defray expenses related to Dr. Lewellen’s travel to rural and remote areas of the Nova Scotia as part of his year-long investigation of health care service issues for persons with HIV in the Province. In turn, he will share the results of his research study with the agency. “I am delighted to collaborate with the Nova Scotia Advisory Commission on AIDS,” Dr. Lewellen said. “Together, we are hopeful that the results of my research study will help to inform the planning and delivery of vital services for the HIV population in Nova Scotia.”

In addition to this research project, Dr. Lewellen has also collaborated with researchers in the Department of Health Promotion in the School of Health Professions at Dalhousie. He contributed to an assessment of the readiness of health providers in Canada and the UK to provide services to HIV populations within the context of the shift in classification of HIV to a “manageable chronic illness.” He is a co-author, along with Jacqueline Gahagan, Alexandra Hill-Mann, and Eric L. Ross, of the upcoming online final report for this project, entitled: “HIV and Rehabilitation: A Scan of Policies Related to Rehabilitation in Canada and the United Kingdom.”

In the “belly of the beast” of American politics

Dr. Peter Stoett was 2011-12 Fulbright Visiting Research Chair in Canada-U.S. Relations at the Woodrow Wilson International Centre for Scholars. As Professor and Chair of the Department of Political Science at Concordia University, Stoett is an expert in his field. “I was fortunate enough to spend the winter of 2012 in Washington, D.C.,” says Stoett, “I worked primarily with the Canada Institute, though my work also involved the Environmental Change and Security Program. This was a unique opportunity to live in the “belly of the beast” of American politics, while studying international affairs with some of the top scholars in the world.”

Although he had visited D.C. several times, Stoett had never experienced living there. “The cityscape is quite pleasant today, very cosmopolitan, and – once you get accustomed to several metal detector tests daily – the availability of cultural and scientific resources in the Smithsonian system is fantastic”. Not only was the experience rewarding on a professional level, Stoett and his family also enjoyed the cultural atmosphere that D.C. had to offer. “My children had a great time when they were able to visit for a few days (my son was almost inseparable from the Air and Space Museum, while I enjoyed a few Nationals’ games with my wife and older daughter).”

Stoett relays that his first task at the Center was to finish a book he was working on, which has subsequently been published: Global Ecopolitics: Crisis, Governance, and Justice (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2012). “Work at the Center was a pleasure – highly professional staff and a supportive, collegial atmosphere.”

The second, more concentrated effort involved beginning the work on a book focused exclusively in Canada-U.S. environmental relations (working title: Fairweather Friends? Canadian-American Environmental Diplomacy in an Age of Climate Change). “I conducted interviews with key people, hours of background reading (aided with my new Library of Congress membership), and hammered out the basic structure.” The Wilson Center Press and Johns Hopkins University Press have expressed an interest in co-publishing it.

“Over all, this was a very productive time for me, made possible by Fulbright Canada”
The Killam Fellowships Program for undergraduates

The Killam Fellowships Program provides an opportunity for exceptional undergraduate students from universities in Canada and the United States to spend either one semester or a full academic year as an exchange student in the other country.

The Killam Fellowships Program provides a cash award of US$5,000 per semester ($10,000 for the full academic year), along with three-day all-expense paid orientation in Ottawa and Washington. The Foundation provides all Killam Fellows with a health insurance allowance of US$500. All Killam Fellows are also eligible to apply for a mobility grant which allows students to undertake an educational field trip to gain a greater understanding of the host culture.

Students may participate in the program either as a direct exchange student (registering at their home university, paying their home fees, and attending the host university as an exchange visitor) or as a self-placed visiting student (registering at the host university and paying host tuition fees).

Applicants interested in the direct exchange program must be registered at one of our partner universities (in either Canada or the USA) and be planning to visit one of our partner universities in the other country.

Partner Institutions in Canada:
- Acadia University
- Carleton University
- Dalhousie University
- McGill University
- McMaster University
- Memorial University
- Mount Allison University
- Queen’s University
- University of Alberta
- Université de Montréal
- University of PEI
- University of Ottawa
- University of Toronto
- University of Victoria
- Western University
- York University

For application instructions and to learn more about the Killam Fellowships Program, visit www.KillamFellowships.com. The deadline for the open competition is January 31. For the direct exchange program, contact a study abroad advisor at your institution to determine when your institutions’ internal deadline. Partner institutions deadlines can be as early as December.

A Killam’s Journey

Rebecca Cohn is a 2012-13 Killam Fellow from McGill University, who is spending a semester at the University of Washington this January. Rebecca shares her excitement about embarking on her Killam academic exchange: “I am looking forward to being able to truly experience all that Seattle has to offer, not just as a tourist, but as a full-time student.”

While on exchange, Rebecca intends to apply for a Cultural Awareness grant which provides US$800 to enhance cultural awareness by visiting another area in the USA. “I cannot wait to explore the United States, to meet new people and to absorb the culture of the American way of life, as well as to share my Canadian culture with others,” explains Rebecca. With a goal to study medicine, Rebecca is especially excited to be studying at the University of Washington, a leading research institution, “I will be able to attend presentations by leading researchers in their fields, something I would never have been able to experience otherwise” says Rebecca.

“Over the years, whether through volunteer work, university, or extracurricular activities, I have met several fascinating individuals who have made an impact on my life. By far, my most meaningful memories are those that centre on those people with whom I have built connections and shared experiences. This is what is at the heart of this program and what I am most excited about discovering on my exchange in the United States.”
Back in the USA

Nicole Murrell, a 2010-11 Canadian Killam Fellow from the University of Alberta to the University of Maine, found herself in the United States once again. Having received a scholarship through the Government of Alberta to participate in an internship program through the Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars, Nicole spent the summer in Washington, D.C. soaking up American culture.

Pursuing her interest in public health, Nicole secured an internship with the Pan American Health Education Foundation where she works with the Communications and Development teams on their various initiatives to promote healthy living and education in Latin America and the Caribbean. Nicole also took a course through the Washington Center which addressed cause campaigning and fundraising - a course which complemented her experience working with non-profit organizations.

While in D.C., Nicole visited countless monuments, museums and outdoor concerts. “The highlights of my trip are both the Fourth of July celebrations in front of the Capitol, and a Canada Day soccer game between D.C. United and the Montreal Impact.”

After completing her internship program, the recent university graduate plans to travel along the east coast of the United States to see the sights, before embarking on an adventure into the work force. She expects to continue working in the health field and put her education, experience, and enthusiasm to good use.

The mandate of Fulbright Canada is to enhance mutual understanding between the people of Canada and the people of the United States of America by providing support to outstanding individuals. These individuals conduct research, lecture, or enroll in formal academic programs in the other country. In doing so, Fulbright Canada aims to grow intellectual capacity, increase productivity, and assist in the shaping of future leaders.

Educational exchange allows for the development of our future leaders, it encourages a more nuanced appreciation of each other, and it contributes to a more thoughtful and more reasoned public policy debate in both countries.