

Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund (AEIF)



Since 2011, the Division of Alumni Affairs has sponsored the Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund (AEIF) to support alumni initiatives that promote shared values and offer innovative solutions to challenges faced around the world. Working in teams of four or more, past and current participants of U.S. government-sponsored exchange programs use grants to carry out public service projects that apply skills and knowledge the alumni gained through their exchange experiences. Teams compete to win up to \$25,000 in support of their public service projects.

This year's themes are:

- Empowering Women and Girls;
- Human Rights and Social Inclusion of Vulnerable Populations;
- Entrepreneurship and Youth Employment;
- Access to Education;
- Climate Change and Environmental Protection;
- Civic Participation.

Alumni Eligibility:

Project teams must comprise at least four alumni who are verified members of the International Exchange Alumni website and registered by noon ET on March 9, 2016. Click [here](#) for more requirements.

FY2016 Important Dates:

February 9, Noon ET: AEIF launches – alumni may begin to submit proposals and budgets

March 9: Proposal and budget submission deadline at Noon ET

March 11 - 31: Posts review proposals and send rankings to Alumni Affairs by COB March 31.

Late April: Winners announced

The AEIF will go a long way in advancing a cause that matters to you, so grab your team and start your proposal today!



In this issue:

Halifax Alumnus Tom Osborne Elected as Speaker of the Newfoundland and Labrador House of Assembly

Montreal Alumni Recognized at *Prix Hommage*

Calgary Promotes Cultural Awareness for Youth

Fulbright in the News

Upcoming IVLPs:

March 7-25: Anti-Radicalization and Combatting Violent Extremism for Law Enforcement

April 25-May 13: Opportunities for Young Entrepreneurs

Fulbright Community

What's Happening in Your Alumni Community?

Halifax

[Alumnus Tom Osborne Elected as Speaker of the Newfoundland and Labrador House of Assembly](#)

We would like to congratulate Alum Tom Osborne (IVLP 2000), who was recently elected as Speaker of the Newfoundland and Labrador House of Assembly. Speaker Osborne is the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Waterford Valley, located in St. John's, NL. Traditionally appointed by the Premier, Tom Osborne is the first Speaker to be elected by his peers. The Speaker of the House of Assembly of Newfoundland and Labrador is the presiding officer of the Newfoundland and Labrador House of Assembly and is responsible for ensuring that the rules of the House are followed. We wish Tom well in his new role!



[U.S. Department of State Alumnus Wins Canada's Resource Champions Award](#)

We are pleased to congratulate one of our U.S. Department of State Alumni from New Brunswick, Neil Jacobsen, on a recent award. In 2013, Neil travelled to the United States as part of a Voluntary Visitor Program on energy strategy. On November 12, 2015, Neil was presented with Canada's Resource Champions Award from the Canadian Chamber of Commerce. The Honourable Perrin Beatty, President and CEO of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, and David Duplisea, CEO of The Saint John Region Chamber, presented Neil with the award at the Chamber's Annual Outstanding Business Awards.

Montreal

[Multiple Alumni Recognized at *Prix Hommage* Ceremony](#)

For the 40th anniversary of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms of the Person, the Commission for Rights of the Person and Rights of Youth introduced *Prix Hommage*, or Paying Homage, a ceremony dedicated to honoring 40 outstanding individuals who through their tireless work, benevolent actions, and civic gestures, have defended and promoted the rights of the person and the rights of youth. The event took place on December 12, 2015, in Montreal and was hosted by Québec Minister of Justice Stéphanie Vallée.

Montreal alumni Melissa Mollen Dupuis (2015 International Visitor Program on First Nations governance) and Marc-Antoine Cloutier (2012 International Visitor Program on agriculture policy and implications) were named to this prestigious list. Carla Beauvais (2014 International Visitor Program on entrepreneurship and innovation) was recognized for her contributions by being named to the *Prix Hommage* jury. The U.S. Mission to Canada is proud of these alumni and congratulates them on their recognition.

Details of the event and award winners can be found [here](#).



Carla Beauvais is the coordinator of the Mois de l'Histoire des Noirs in Montreal and is also the founder of Groupe Style Communications, a firm specializing in media relations and event organization in the cultural sector. She is also recognized for her citizen involvement in public debates. She has worked with different media, such as Magazine Souche and the Première Chaîne de Radio-Canada. Carla Beauvais is an alumna of our entrepreneurship and innovation program.



Melissa Mollen-Dupuis has been engaged for years in the defense of indigenous rights and is the co-founder of the Idle No More movement in Quebec. She works as a community organizer for the Centre de développement communautaire autochtone à Montréal. She is also involved with Wapikoni Mobile, Femmes autochtones du Quebec and Femmes autochtones du Canada. She is an alumna of our First Nations governance program.



Marc-Antoine Cloutier is the founder and president of Juripop, an organization which offers legal services at very modest cost to people excluded from government legal aid, but who are financially unable to pay for the defense of their rights. He is also an associate at Deveau Avocats on the south shore of Montreal. Marc-Antoine Cloutier is an alumnus of our agriculture program.

Calgary

[Building Cultural Awareness at a Young Age](#)



Dr. Rahat Naqvi is the editor of the recently launched Living Together: Muslims in a Changing World curriculum. The project is sponsored by the Canadian Islamic Congress to supplement the early learning of students in grades 1-6. It builds upon concepts already covered in the current curriculum, while incorporating aspects of Muslim culture into classroom teaching. The idea behind this integrative curriculum is to build awareness of other cultures at a young age, promote multicultural attitudes, and encourage curiosity in children about other cultures. The website (www.living-together.ca) provides an overview of this curriculum, summarizes the units in each grade, and provides activities for students to work on in the classroom.

Dr. Naqvi is an Associate Professor in Second Language Pedagogy at the Faculty of Education, University of Calgary, and is an alumna of the Studying Religious Tolerance in America International Visitor Program in 2010.

Fulbright Community



Andrew Royce Bauer started working for his parents' leather business at 16. Today, at the "old" age of 22, he is the CEO of the \$6,000,000 company and currently on a Killam Fellowship at McGill University. Read and watch his story [here](#).

Previously featured Willamette University law professor Warren Binford and State University of New York professor of pharmacology and physiology Diana Dow-Richards continue to make headlines. Check out their latest respective works below:

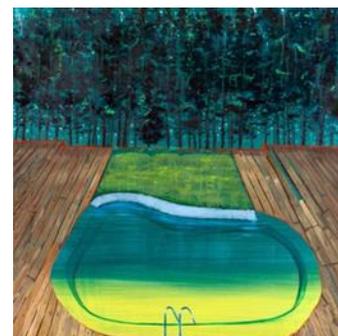
<http://www.statesmanjournal.com/story/opinion/readers/2015/11/21/will-americans-follow-heritage/76174426/>

<http://lethbridgeherald.com/news/local-news/2015/12/04/marijuana-use-can-severely-affect-the-brain/>

Halifax artist and Fulbright alumna Hangama Amiri's landscape, inspired by a dream she had as a child in Afghanistan, won the \$15,000 honorable mention award in the 17th annual RBC Canadian Painting Competition. Read about it [here](#).

Carleton University's David Carment, professor at the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs (NPSIA) and editor of the Canadian Foreign Policy Journal (CFPJ), thanks Fulbright Canada for its contributions towards the latest special issue of CFPJ.

<http://newsroom.carleton.ca/2015/12/22/carletons-canadian-foreign-policy-journal-examines-sub-national-politics/>



Share your Fulbright Experience!

"I was a U.S.-Canada Fulbright Fellow back in 1998-1999 at the University of Toronto. It was my first experience in bioinformatics and it set the course for my career, becoming a professor at Harvard Medical School. I am currently in the UK as a Fulbright Scholar in Glasgow. I have come back full circle to the Fulbright program. Thanks so much for [Fulbright's] support and help in my career. I have met so many interesting people and learned about new perspectives along the way!" **Gil Alterovitz, 1998-1999 Fulbright Alumnus, University of Toronto**

Contact Information

U.S. Mission Public Affairs Staff

| U.S. Mission Public Affairs Staff | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Canada-Wide Alumni Coordinator | | 613-688-5440 | alumnicanada@state.gov |
| Halifax | Marcia Seitz-Ehler | 902-429-2480, ext 2000 | seitz-ehlerMR@state.gov |
| Montreal | Alyson McPhee | 514-908-3657 | mcpheeA@state.gov |
| Quebec City | Alexandre Ruel-Bourassa | 418-692-4008 | RuelBourassaA@state.gov |
| Toronto | Claudia Valladolid | 416-595-1721 | valladolidCL2@state.gov |
| Winnipeg | Brad Kirbyson | 204-940-1801 | kirbysonBR@state.gov |
| Calgary | Casey Bohn | 403-444-5221 | bohnCX@state.gov |
| Vancouver | Corina Vlad | 604-642-6657 | vladct@state.gov |
| Fulbright Alumni Relations | Janika Heim | 613-688-5519 | jheim@fulbright.ca |