

OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE-BALTIMORE

BOLD THINKING, STRATEGIC ACTION, JUSTICE FOR ALL



FELLOWSHIPS APPLICATION



JOIN 200 SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS
WORKING IN THE CITY

OSIBALTIMORE.ORG



OSI AND THE BALTIMORE COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM

The Open Society Institute-Baltimore launched the Community Fellowships program in 1998 and continues to build this program as an ongoing resource for Baltimore with the support of additional funders. OSI-Baltimore was started in 1998 by philanthropist George Soros as a means to better understand and

solve the most intractable problems facing urban America. OSI-Baltimore focuses its work exclusively on the root causes of three intertwined problems – drug addiction, an over-reliance on incarceration, and the obstacles that keep youth from succeeding inside and outside of the classroom.

OSI-Baltimore also sponsors the Baltimore Community Fellows who work to create opportunity and bring justice to the city's most underserved.

We are grateful to the current supporters of the Baltimore Community Fellowships Program:

Cohen Opportunity Fund
Cooper Family Fund
Moser Family Foundation
The Jim and Patty Rouse Charitable Foundation
...and numerous individual donors.



THE BALTIMORE COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM

has been working to improve life in Baltimore's underserved communities since 1998. Now 200 individuals strong, they are a corps of social entrepreneurs working throughout our city—one sees their imprint everywhere.

BALTIMORE COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM

THE PROGRAM

The Open Society Institute-Baltimore launched the Community Fellowships Program in 1998. The program seeks dynamic activists and social entrepreneurs interested in implementing projects that address problems in underserved communities in Baltimore City. It is now a corps of social innovators 200 strong. The goals of these fellowships are to encourage public and community service careers, expand the number of mentors and role models available to youth in inner-city neighborhoods, and promote entrepreneurial initiatives that empower communities to increase opportunities and improve the quality of life for their residents.

Each year, up to 10 individuals are awarded a Baltimore Community Fellowship to implement innovative projects that seek to improve the circumstances and capacity of an underserved community in Baltimore City. Applicants may apply for a fellowship to work under the auspices of a nonprofit organization in Baltimore City, or to work independently.

Applicants may come from all walks of life, including—but not limited to—business management, the arts, law, public health, education, architecture, and engineering. Individuals from underserved communities and people of color are strongly encouraged to apply.

FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship awards are in the amount of \$60,000 for a term of 18 months.

The Fellowship grant is intended to provide a living stipend to support an individual's full-time, independent work on a project. It is awarded directly to an individual to guarantee flexibility in carrying out the objectives of the project.

Other entities may augment the stipend. The Baltimore Community Fellowships Program provides limited relief for graduate school debt payments on a case-by-case basis. The program also reimburses the individual for the cost of medical insurance, if necessary.

ELIGIBILITY

The Fellowships Program solicits proposals that address a wide range of issues, needs, and solutions. Applicants need not be from Baltimore City, but should be knowledgeable about social and economic justice issues affecting Baltimore's communities.

Individuals currently receiving wages or a salary to undertake the proposed project are not eligible to apply. Fellows may not use stipends to supplant funding for activities or projects that are fully funded and are being implemented with the full support of a non-profit organization. The program **does not** award fellowships to conduct research or to implement lobbying initiatives. Fellows **must be** willing to participate fully in meetings scheduled for the Community Fellows.

LETTER OF INQUIRY

Interested applicants will submit letters of inquiry according to the specifications on page 3, and OSI-Baltimore will select a handful of applicants to submit full proposals. Program staff and independent readers, as well as a selection committee comprised of local community leaders, review the proposals. The selection committee interviews approximately 20 semi-finalists and recommends up to 10 fellows.

To be considered for a fellowship, the 20 semi-finalists **must** attend the interview session with selection committee members. Selection is based on:

- The applicant's competence in and commitment to his or her chosen field
- The need for the proposed project or technical assistance
- The responsiveness of the project to the community involved
- The capacity of the individual and host organization to implement the project
- A sound implementation, governance, and sustainability plan

All information submitted to OSI-Baltimore is confidential.

TIME FRAME

All letters of inquiry are due by **Monday, March 11, 2019**. Applicants will be notified of their application status in May 2019. OSI will invite applicants chosen for further consideration to develop a more detailed proposal. It will outline details/steps in the process for the selected applicants at that time. Fellowships begin in November 2019.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The Community Fellowships application is now online:

osibaltimore.org/fellowshipapplication. If you prefer, you can submit a paper application using the process described here instead. Please submit two copies of paper applications.

I. COVERSHEET

This should be the first page of the letter of inquiry (see page 4).

II. LETTER OF INQUIRY

This should be no more than three pages, double-spaced in 12-point type, on white paper. The letter should begin with a one-sentence description of the proposed fellowship project that states the goals and the means the applicant will use to attain the goals. The letter of inquiry should describe:

1. Where the project will take place;
2. The social or economic need for and the anticipated impact of the proposed project;
3. The applicant's past experience with the targeted Baltimore community;
4. Why the proposed work is important to the applicant and to the community;
5. How the applicant will accomplish the goals of the project; and
6. How the project will stimulate social change.

III. APPLICANT'S RESUME

Please submit your resume or CV.

IMPORTANT NOTES

All applications are due by **5:00 PM ON MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2019**.
If submitting a paper application, please submit two copies.

Materials should be mailed or delivered to:

PAMELA KING

Director, Community Fellowships
and Initiatives

Open Society Institute-Baltimore
201 North Charles Street, Suite 1300
Baltimore, MD 21201
(410) 234-1091

- All materials must be received or postmarked by 5:00 PM on Monday, March 11, 2019.
- OSI-Baltimore will acknowledge all letters of inquiry with a receipt.
- Applicants should not send a full proposal or other materials unless requested to do so.
- OSI-Baltimore will discard all unsolicited materials.
- Applicants should not email or fax the letter of inquiry.

The applicant's name should be printed or typed in the upper right-hand corner of each page of the submission. **Please do not submit an application with covers or binders of any sort.** If you have questions regarding the letter of inquiry submission process for the OSI-Baltimore Community Fellowships Program, please call Pamela King at (410) 234-1091. For additional information on the program, please visit OSIBaltimore.org.

BALTIMORE COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIPS

APPLICATION COVERSHEET

DEADLINE: Monday, March 11, 2019 by 5:00 PM

I. APPLICANT INFORMATION

NAME (LAST) _____ (FIRST) _____ (MIDDLE INITIAL) _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

BEST NUMBER TO REACH YOU _____ E-MAIL _____

HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY APPLIED FOR FUNDING FROM THE OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE? Yes No IF YES, WHICH PROGRAM? _____

WHEN? _____

HOW DID YOU FIND OUT ABOUT THE BALTIMORE COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM?

- | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> OSIBaltimore.org | <input type="checkbox"/> Faith-based Institution | <input type="checkbox"/> Past Fellow |
| <input type="checkbox"/> College/University | <input type="checkbox"/> Library | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Organization | <input type="checkbox"/> Open Society Foundations' Website | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

II. PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT TITLE _____

PROJECT DESCRIPTION (ONE SENTENCE) _____

WHAT COMMUNITY WILL YOUR PROJECT SERVE? _____

PLEASE SELECT THE CATEGORIES THAT BEST REPRESENT YOUR PROJECT'S ISSUE AREA:

- | | | | |
|---|---|----------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts And Culture | <input type="checkbox"/> Drug Addiction Treatment | <input type="checkbox"/> Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civil Liberties/Legal Rights | <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Justice/Empowerment | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Empowerment | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Media | |

III. AFFIRMATION OF ELIGIBILITY

I understand that the Baltimore Community Fellowships Program is a full-time commitment, that I may not be enrolled as a full-time student in an academic institution during the fellowship period, and that I cannot hold a full-time position in addition to the fellowship obligation. I further declare that I am not requesting the Baltimore Community Fellowship to conduct work for which I am presently being compensated or that is already being implemented by the host organization. I will participate fully in the meetings scheduled by OSI for the Community Fellows.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

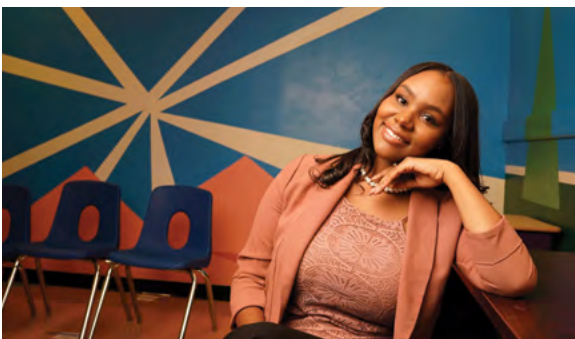
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2018 FELLOWSHIP COHORT



Graham Coreil-Allen

Graham Coreil-Allen will launch the *Druid Hill Park Complete Streets Project* to advocate for transportation and green space equity through public art and creative planning. The project aims to increase access for pedestrians, bicyclists, and people with mobility devices to correct for the history of civic planning in the area that prioritized commuter traffic, despite the fact that about half of the local residents don't own cars.



Ciera Daniel

Ciera Daniel will establish *Young Kings Leadership Academy*, an after-school leadership development program targeting African-American middle-school boys at East Baltimore's City Springs Elementary Middle School. The project hopes to counteract negative stereotypes about black men in popular culture and help students realize their potential to serve their school and their community.

2018 FELLOWSHIP COHORT



Eric Fishel

Eric Fishel's *Baltimore Foodparks* will convert vacant lots into mixed use parks using native edible plants for the benefit of both the nearby human and bird communities. Through educational events, Eric will also introduce community members to related employment opportunities. The project will conserve the city's greenspace, improve local ecosystems, and rehabilitate blighted areas.



Jennay Ghowral

Jennay Ghowral will improve the experience and representation of criminal defendants facing mental health challenges with her program, *REMIND*, which will train defense attorneys to understand and communicate better with such defendants. This population made up 40 percent of Maryland Public Defender's clients in 2017. The goal is to improve outcomes, increase access to services, and reduce recidivism.



Shelley Halstead

Shelley Halstead's organization, *Black Women Build – Baltimore*, will teach black women carpentry skills as they rehabilitate houses in the Upton community, helping them to build careers as well as wealth through home ownership..



Ava Pipitone

Ava Pipitone will establish *HostHome*, a community-owned online housing platform designed to address housing instability in the transgender community. It will allow hosts to provide temporary housing for people in distress. In the future, the platform could become a national model.

Visit OSIBaltimore.org
to read profiles of previous
Baltimore Community Fellows.



Aarti Sidhu

Aarti Sidhu's *Represent Youth: Baltimore School Justice Initiative* will provide legal representation to Baltimore school children in suspension and expulsion proceedings. The initiative will empower youth and families by educating them about their rights in schools and advocating for policy reform to decrease and ultimately end exclusionary discipline.



Emily Thompson

Emily Thompson will establish *PIVOT* as a comprehensive re-entry program for women returning to Baltimore City from the criminal justice system. The initiative seeks to address the gap in gender-specific programming for ex-prisoners.



Fred Watkins

Fred Watkins will build *Lil' Laughs* as a vehicle to increase the self-esteem of students using entertainment and programming that incorporates de-escalation and confidence building techniques.



Brittany Young

Brittany Young's *B-360* will utilize the dirt bike culture to equip disconnected youth and young adults with the skills to secure educational and career opportunities in STEM fields. The initiative also seeks to change the negative perception of dirt bike riders.

2017 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Jackie Bello	Munib Lohrasbi
Matthew Burke	Alex Long
Ausar Daniels	Kim Loper
Ryan Flanigan	Shantell Roberts
Eric Jackson	Amy Tenney

2016 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Melissa Badeker	Eliseba Osore
Jermaine Bell	Deborah Ramsey
J.C. Faulk	Gianna Rodriguez
Katie Miller	LaMarr D. Shields
Isa Olufemi	Jennifer Will-Thapa

2015 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Hari Adhikari	Dave Eassa
Hannah Brancato	Brian Gerardo
Meryam Bouadjemi	Brion Gill
Greg Carpenter	Evelyn (Chavi) Rhodes
Darlene Crider	Menes Yahudah

2014 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Van Brooks	Zina Makar
Shawn Burnett	Vincent Purcell
Brian Francoise	Renita Seabrook
Catherine Gonzales	Agatha So
Dwayne Johnson	Roxanne E. Umphery
Charlotte Keniston	

2013 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Katheryn Anderson	Jessica Lewis
Bernice Bishop	Melissa Moore
Ulysses Cofield	Emily Schappi
Lanaea Featherstone	Bill Tiefenwerth
Matthew Hanna	Andre Turner
Megan Leschak	Denene Yates

2012 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Harold Bailey	Anne Kotleba
Antoine Bennett	Pascha Lee
Lawrence Brown	Christopher Merriam
Cheryl Carmona	Arthur Morgan
Lauren Goodsmith	Akil Rahim
David Hornbeck	Bashi Rose

2011 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Emily Datnoff	Lara Law
Andrew Gaddis	Jill Pardini
Natalie Keegan	Jason Reed
Maya Kosok	La Tasha Vanzie

2010 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Gary Ashbeck	Koli Tengella
Rebecca Coleman	Sarah Tooley
Meshelle Foreman Shields	Jessica Tural
Stephanie Murdock	

2009 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Efa Ahmed-Williams	Herbert Johnson (Deceased)
Rhonda Elsey-Jones	Melissa Ruof
Sarah Hemminger	Tresubira Whitlow
Dwayne Hess	Jill Wrigley (Deceased)

2008 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Patrice Hutton	Ashley Minner
Jon A. Kaplan	Ivy Parsons
Laurie Kendall	Joyce Smith (Deceased)
Cydne Kimbrough	Shirell Tyner

2007 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Miriam Avins	Irene Muñiz
Kristina Berdan	Deborah Patterson
Paige Fitz	Nicholas Petr
Ashley Milburn	Shantel Randolph

2006 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Luisa C. Bieri de Rios	Aisling McGuckin
Tonya Featherston	Philip J. Merrill
Helen Keith	Galen Sampson
Kenya Lee	Beth Wacks

2005 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Peter Babcox	Najib Jammal
Michelle Blue	Bonнита Spikes
Michelle DeBruin	Matt Warfield
Bernard Fayall (Deceased)	Christina Youngston

2004 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Maria Broom	Jay Wolf Schlossberg-Cohen
Allison Brown	Zara Urgiles
Nancy Lord Lewin	Charlotte Walters
Stanley Markowitz	Jodie Zisow
Sarah Penna	
Abbie (Riopelle) Flanagan	

2003 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Samuel Epps	Betty Robinson
Leon Faruq (Deceased)	Steven Rubin
Shawn James	Mellissa Rudder
Bridget (Muller) Sampson	Ameriga Strache
Dale Reid (Deceased)	Joseph Williams

2002 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Tammy Pinchin Brown	Avis Ransom
Rebekah Burgess	Jacqueline Robarge
Keri Burneston	Paul Santomena
Elissa Leif	Leonard Sparks
Tracey Oliver-Keyser	Afefe Tyehimba

2001 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Wanda Best	Stephanie Joseph
Chauna Brocht	Gary Letteron
Marshall Clarke	Curtis Obi Obike
Jennifer Ferrara	Betty Thomas
Kara Hanson	Jean Yahudah

2000 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Lacey Benton	Richard Rowe
Julianne Franz	Tony Shore
Gordon Glover	Russell Wattenberg
Clayton Guyton	Christopher Wright
Jean-Marie Holloway	Kalima Young

1999 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Karen Brown	John Millen
Alison Burke	David Miller
LaTanya Bailey Jones	Vernell Murray
Diane Kuthy	Daniel Sekowski
Corinne Meijer	Rebecca Yenawine

1998 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Lauren Abramson	Terrence Hickey
Janet Felsten	Cinder Hypki
Mary Ferguson	Maria Johnson-Poole
Gayle Hafner (Deceased)	Alexandra Natapoff
Rachelle Harris	Lola Willis

