



# OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE-BALTIMORE

AUDACIOUS THINKING FOR LASTING CHANGE



## FELLOWSHIPS APPLICATION



JOIN 170 SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS WORKING IN THE CITY

[OSIBALTIMORE.ORG](http://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 laboratory 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 Fellows Program:

The Clayton Baker Trust  
The Lois and Irving Blum Foundation Inc.  
Cohen Opportunity Fund  
John Meyerhoff and Lenel Srochi  
Meyerhoff Fund

Moser Family Philanthropic Fund  
...and numerous individual donors.



THE BALTIMORE COMMUNITY FELLOWS  
*have been working to improve life in Baltimore's underserved communities since 1998. Now 170 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 Baltimore Community Fellowships Program was established to assist individuals wishing to apply their education, life experiences and professional experiences to serve marginalized communities. 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.

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—or an organization on an individual's behalf—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.

## 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 the host organization is already implementing. 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.

## HOST ORGANIZATION (NOT REQUIRED)

A host organization, serving as an incubator for a fellow's project, can both facilitate and benefit from the lessons learned throughout the fellowship about community change and the challenges facing underserved populations. The host is expected to provide the fellow medical benefits, workspace, and support overhead costs as necessary. In cases of hardship, the Fellowships program reimburses the host organization for the cost of medical insurance.

Applicants must secure sponsorship from their host organization. The applicant's project must be harmonious with the mission of the host organization.

## 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;
- And, selection is also based on 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 7, 2016**. Applicants will be notified of their application status in May 2016. OSI will invite applicants chosen for further consideration to develop a more detailed proposal. Further details/steps in the process will be outlined for the selected applicants at that time. Fellowships begin in November 2016.

# APPLICATION PROCESS

Individuals interested in applying for Community Fellowship funding must submit two copies of the application, which includes the following:

### 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

Please submit two copies of the application by  
**5:00 PM ON MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2016.**

**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 7, 2016.
- All letters of inquiry will be acknowledged by receipt.
- Applicants should not send a full proposal or other materials unless requested to do so.
- All unsolicited materials will be discarded.
- 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 Fellowship Program, please call Emily Smith at (410) 234-1091. For additional information on the program, please visit [OSIBaltimore.org](http://OSIBaltimore.org).



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?

☐ OSIBaltimore.org

☐ Faith-based Institution

☐ Orientation

☐ Other:

☐ College/University

☐ Library

☐ Past Fellow

☐ Community Organization

☐ Open Society Foundations' Website

☐ Social Media

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:

☐ Arts And Culture

☐ Drug Addiction Treatment

☐ Health

☐ Youth Development

☐ Civil Liberties/Legal Rights

☐ Economic Justice/Empowerment

☐ Housing

☐ Other:

☐ Community Empowerment

☐ Education

☐ Media

III. HOST ORGANIZATION INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE)

HOST ORGANIZATION NAME

ORGANIZATION ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

CONTACT PERSON

TELEPHONE

HAS THE ORGANIZATION PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED A GRANT FROM THE OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE?

☐ Yes

☐ No

IF YES, WHICH PROGRAM?

WHEN?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SIGNATURE

DATE

IV. AFFIRMATION OF ELIGIBILITY

I understand that the Baltimore Community Fellowship is a full-time commitment. I also understand that I may not be enrolled as a full-time student in an academic institution during the fellowship period. I also understand 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

2015

FELLOWSHIP

COHORT



**Hari Adhikari**  
Through the Baltimore Bhutanese Committee, Inc. Adhikari will work to ensure that Nepali-speaking Bhutanese refugees gain access to medical, mental health, and educational resources. Adhikari will also work with the community to preserve their traditional arts and culture.



**Meryam Bouadjemi**  
Bouadjemi will establish MakeMoveMedia as a communications and outreach campaign designed to positively impact employment opportunities for returning citizens. The initiative will also build a social justice platform designed to amplify the voices of local artists.

# 2015 FELLOWSHIP COHORT



**Hannah Brancato**  
Brancato will establish Gather Together: A Survivor Support Network as a vehicle for survivors of domestic and sexual violence to design public campaigns or creative interventions that support the healing process and prevent rape and abuse.



**Greg Carpenter**  
Carpenter will establish Eye Can Bmore as a vehicle to provide job skills and employment services to African American men with criminal records by training them in entrepreneurial skills related to the food service industry.



**Darlene Crider**  
Crider will expand on her efforts with Sisters-In-Law-mentoring program that uses retired female law enforcement officers in their efforts to ensure a safe positive learning environment for young ladies nine to 18 in the Oliver community.



**Dave Eassa**  
Eassa will expand on his work with Free Space using written and visual art classes as a vehicle to stress individual and collaborative growth that aids in breaking down boundaries between the men at the Maryland Correctional Institution in Jessup.



**Brian Gerardo**  
Gerardo will expand on his work with the Baltimore Dance Crews Project by launching the Young Teaching Artists—an artist residency program for high school students that incorporates personal, artistic and career mentoring to transform young hip hop dancers into afterschool program leaders.



**Brion Gill**  
In partnership with Dew More Baltimore, Gill will establish the Free Verse poetry workshop series designed to support the emotional, cognitive, and social development of youth in prisons and group homes.



**Evelyn (Chavi) Rhodes**  
Rhodes will expand on her work with the Baltimore Youth Kinetic Energy Collective (BYKE) as a youth enrichment program designed to develop personal and professional skills in young people ages 12-17. Youth will learn bicycle mechanics, practice respectful safe ridership, and build community in a safe place.



**Menes Yahudah**  
Yahudah will establish the Muze It Outreach Program, a music and cultural program targeted to youth in the Greater Charles Village community. The program is designed to use music and cultural heritage to promote positive images. It will help young people become better students and have the opportunity to reach their full potential as leaders in the community.

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	

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

2010 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

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

2008 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

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

2006 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

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

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

2011 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

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

2009 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

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

2007 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

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

2005 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Peter Babcox	Najib Jammal
Michelle Blue	Bonnita Spikes
Michelle DeBruin	Matt Warfield
Bernard Fayall	Christina Youngston

2004 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

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

2002 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

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

2000 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

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

1998 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

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

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

2001 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

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

1999 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

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

 Visit [OSIBaltimore.org](https://OSIBaltimore.org) to read profiles of previous Baltimore Community Fellows.

# **OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE-BALTIMORE**

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Baltimore MD 21201

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