



Luke Stalker Global Fellowship

Application Information

The Luke Stalker Global Fellowship was established to help young men and women develop their interest and aptitude in bridging different cultures to promote global good.

Background: Luke Stalker was born in Greenwich, CT, and he moved to Jackson, WY with his family at the beginning of his freshman year in high school. Luke was a college student of international affairs and a devoted internationalist when he passed away in 2013. The fellowship was established in his memory to celebrate and perpetuate his active, experiential approach to living and learning and communicating. The fellowship supports Luke's belief that this approach can make for a better, more peaceful world.

Luke was known for his ability to and interest in connecting to people from all walks of life. He went out of his way to befriend people from different socioeconomic and cultural streams. As a high school student, he felt the need to take time away for a semester to study at a school in a port village in Chile. He attended a school, but in all other ways the semester was unstructured and without a specific program or objective. It was nonetheless of great benefit to him; his interest in international affairs and other cultures subsequently mushroomed, and he made deep friendships in a corner of Chile.

This fellowship was created for those like Luke Stalker who have a deep need to experience and live in another culture; they are not fulfilled experiencing other cultures second hand through various media. The fellowship supports those who show aptitude for communicating, including skills in one or more foreign languages. It is for those who are socially aware and socially active and who care about their fellow human beings.

The fellowship provides financial assistance to these exceptional individuals to help them pursue their international and/or intercultural interests in a way that is intense, challenging, original and personal. Individuals supported by the fund are called Luke Stalker Fellows.

Grant Amounts: Grant awards will be up to six thousand dollars.

Eligibility: You are eligible to apply for the Luke Stalker Global Fellowship if you are between the ages of 17-26 years old (must be 18 at the time of travel), currently studying at an accredited U.S. college or university at the undergraduate or graduate level, or will be a participant in an established and structured program that travels abroad. Applicants must demonstrate a strong connection to Teton County, Wyoming. All majors and fields of inquiry are eligible. This fellowship can be used to participate in an existing program at your university, or through a project or program with an international organization. If you are proposing a project that works outside of an existing program from your university, then you must present a letter from the sponsoring organization you will be working with abroad. This fellowship can be combined with funds from other sources. Consistent with Community Foundation of Jackson Hole policy, this fellowship is not intended to support religious or political activities.

Selection Criteria: Qualities sought in fellows include:

- Flexibility/adaptability in new situations
- Self-reliance and resourcefulness
- Openness
- Foreign language skills
- Maturity/self-awareness
- Integrity
- Leadership

The Fellowship Selection Committee will assess proposals and personal essays to select finalists who will then be invited to participate in interviews.

Fellow Expectations

- Attend a pre-departure orientation from your university or sponsoring organization, or complete [The Project for Learning Abroad, Training, and Outreach \(PLATO\)](#) developed by the Center for Global Education at Loyola Marymount University;
- Adhere to the dates stated in your proposal unless there is significant reason to change the dates such as State Department warning, major medical issue, etc. Fellows must notify the Fellowship Committee and their university or sponsoring organization immediately if there are any changes;
- Submit a written final report and budget;
- Make a presentation to the community about your project and experiences if asked;
- Familiarize yourself with the checklist of action items and address the items on the list.

Criteria for Fellowship Activities

- Fellowships are given for residence in a particular place (“the Host Country”); fellowships may not be used to ‘see the world.’ Preference will be given to applicants who are experiencing a new culture or place unless the applicant can strongly demonstrate the value of previous engagement in the culture or place. The place will ideally not typically be home to expats. If there is an expat community, the fellow will ideally not regularly engage with them.
- Fellows may not be accompanied during their residencies, e.g. by family members or friends, nor may they reside with family or friends during their fellowship residence unless approved by the committee in advance;
- Fellows may not engage in illegal or aggressive acts;
- Fellows must remain outside countries that are on the [State Department Warning list](#), [Treasury Embargo list](#), or that are designated [CDC Level 3](#).
- The length of the fellowship must be no less than 4 weeks.

Sample Fellowship Projects

- Eligible projects include, but are not limited to: undergraduate or graduate level study abroad, international service programs, and overseas internships.
- Ineligible projects include, but are not limited to: solo trekking, special interest travel (culinary tour/class, photography tour/class, biking tour, etc...), working abroad for a relative, and programs or service work in high-risk countries.

Results and Expectations: Fellows are expected to have some language facility in the language of the country where they will reside during their fellowship, *before* they begin their residence. A portion of Fellowship funds may be used for language training during the pre-residence period. While this fellowship is not intended to fund language acquisition, fellows are expected to demonstrate a dedication to improving their language skills during their time abroad.

Fellows are expected to achieve significant improvement in the language of their residence country by the end of their Fellowships. They are expected to have met and interacted regularly with scores of people in their host community, and will be expected to provide, in their Fellowship Summary (see below) a brief introduction to significant members of their host community.

Fellows will be required to provide periodic updates while in the field.

- 4 – 7 weeks abroad = 1 update
- 2 – 5 months abroad = 2 updates
- 6 months – 1 year abroad = 4 updates

These updates can take the form of a video update or can be a written update. The following must be addressed in each update: health and wellness of Fellow, how work is progressing towards goals outlined in Fellowship proposal, highlights of time abroad, notable people the Fellow is engaging with, and any challenges faced by the Fellow.

Within three months of the end of a Fellowship, or a longer time if approved by the Committee, the Fellow will present a summary of the Fellowship. This summary may be a written document, a video, or a multimedia presentation. It shall take no more than 10 minutes to read/watch/listen to, although appendices and notes may be included in addition. It shall describe what the Fellow did, who the Fellow interacted with, issues the Fellow faced, and the positive as well as any negative aspects of the Fellowship, particularly for the Fellow, but perhaps for members of the host community as well. This summary shall be delivered or presented to the community at least once if asked.

Application Requirements: The application packet must include the following:

- *Online application* to collect basic information
- *Personal Statement:* This statement provides you with an opportunity to introduce yourself to the screening committee members on a personal level. The style is up to you, but the content should convey your background and your motivation for applying to the Luke Stalker Global Fellowship, how this background relates to the proposed project and your future goals, and what you hope to gain from the experience.
- *Proposal Outline:* In order to evaluate your proposal effectively, the Committee needs to know what you will do, how you will do it, the timeline for completion of the project, how much it will cost and how you hope to positively impact your host community.
- *Budget Form*
- *Letters of Recommendation:* Your application must include at least 3 completed Letter of Recommendation forms in the format provided.