

# Leading Edge Fellowship Program

## Fall 2020 Competition

The American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) is pleased to announce the Fall 2020 competition of the Leading Edge Fellowship program. The program promotes the visibility and value of the humanities PhD beyond the academy by offering opportunities for PhDs to contribute to projects at organizations around the country, to help communities respond to issues caused by the COVID-19 crisis and advance public understanding of the pandemic. ACLS welcomes applications from PhDs in religious studies and philosophy as well as PhDs in other disciplines whose research contributes to the understanding of the cultural, social, and political dimensions of religion, theology, or ethics. The deadline for applications is **Monday, November 2, 2020, by 9pm EST**.

Fellows receive a stipend of \$60,000 for the year and have access to funds for health insurance and professional development. This initiative is made possible through the support of the Henry Luce Foundation.

In this round, ACLS will place up to 11 PhDs as Leading Edge Fellows with the following organizations and projects:

- **African Communities Together** (New York, NY) – Mapping African Immigrant Communities Post-2020
- **American Friends Service Committee** (Newark, NJ) – Testimonies of the Detained: Understanding the Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Incarcerated People
- **Breakthrough** (New York, NY) – Assessing the Cultural Impact of Our Stories: In Vivid Color, a Multimedia Project
- **Common Cause** (Washington, DC) – Private vs. Public Interests: Sheriffs' Elections and Mass Incarceration
- **Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW)** (Washington, DC) – Advocating for Ethics and Money-in-Politics Reform Using Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic
- **Freedom for Immigrants** (Los Angeles, CA) – The Global Dimension of Immigration Detention
- **Kairos Center for Religion, Rights, and Social Justice** (New York, NY) – Analyzing the Impact of COVID-19 on Poor and Low-Income People to Transform Conditions on the Ground
- **National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution** (Washington, DC) – Ethical Considerations: COVID-19 Vaccine Research
- **PublicSource** (Pittsburgh, PA) – Reporting on Faith and Religion in Pittsburgh Amid the Pandemic
- **Southern Coalition for Social Justice** (Durham, NC) – Collateral Consequences: COVID-19 and the Criminal Justice System in North Carolina
- **The Southern Poverty Law Center** (Montgomery, AL) – The Third Edition of *Whose Heritage? Public Symbols of the Confederacy*

Applicants must have a PhD in the humanities or humanistic social sciences conferred between September 1, 2016, and December 31, 2020 and must have defended their dissertations no later than November 2, 2020.

Applicants must be authorized to work legally in the United States.

Applications will be accepted only through the ACLS online application system.

Applicants should not contact any of the organizations directly. Please visit

<https://www.acls.org/Competitions-and-Deadlines/Leading-Edge-Fellowships>

for complete position descriptions, eligibility criteria, and application information.

