Humanities Engage: Ph.D. Student Opportunity

Summer Immersive Fellowships

*Humanities Engage* fosters experiential learning and immersive experiences for doctoral students across our arts and humanities programs in support of our mission to deepen and broaden all students’ intellectual and professional development, and make Humanistic careers across all employment sectors visible, valued, and viable.

- **Eligibility:** DSAS Humanities Ph.D. students with no university academic appointment in summer 2021 (TA/TF/GSA/GSR/other full summer funding) or external fellowship and who expect to be enrolled in fall 2021. Preference will be given to students in earlier years of their graduate studies and those who have not previously received funding via *Humanities Engage*.

- **Stipend:** $4,000 for ca. 200 hours of effort

- **Timeline:** Immersives can begin as early as May 3, 2021 and must be completed by August 20, 2021.

- **Humanities Engage expectations:** Contribute at least one blog post to the project website, no later than two weeks after the immersive begins; submit a reflective essay (or equivalent, e.g. video) on the experience for the project website by September 1, 2021. Participate in cohort activities. Help co-mentor subsequent cohort.

Please note the following:

The feasibility of any in-person components will be assessed in accordance with the University’s risk posture and COVID-19 standards and guidelines and the host organization’s health and safety protocols.

International Ph.D. students will need to consult with OIS and obtain their Immigration Specialist’s endorsement prior to accepting a Fellowship.

Students are responsible for reporting taxable stipend payments and for remitting any tax due to their local taxing authority.

Students may submit separate applications to multiple opportunities but may only accept one immersive fellowship. Students may not accept more than one *Humanities Engage* fellowship or grant of any type over the summer.

**OPPORTUNITY**

**ARYSE**

**Organization Description**
ARYSE supports immigrant and refugee youth in becoming prepared, engaged, and confident members of American society. Through individualized mentoring, out-of-school time programming, and advocacy, ARYSE helps refugee and immigrant youth take their place as leaders within their community and our world.
The summer immersive Fellow will work at PRYSE Academy, ARYSE’s flagship program. PRYSE Academy is a summer camp for immigrant youth in middle and high school who live in Allegheny County. Over the course of 6 weeks, participants develop literacy skills, build community, participate in arts workshops, and become engaged in the broader community. PRYSE Academy has proven to improve participants’ self-confidence and academic achievement while fostering a strong sense of belonging.

The summer immersive Fellow can start with ARYSE between May 3rd and May 29th, 2021. PRYSE Academy takes place between June 21st and July 31st (subject to slight changes). Prior to the start of PRYSE Academy, the Fellow will work alongside the Executive Director and relevant staff/board members to finalize the evaluation methods, prepare a binder of materials, and finalize a timeline for implementing the evaluation tools.

**Immersive Fellowship Description**
ARYSE is seeking someone to support the facilitation of evaluation methods at their summer camp, PRYSE Academy. The individual will be required to attend the program at least 2-3 days/week throughout the 6-weeks of PRYSE Academy. The main responsibilities will be preparing documents and tools needed to implement the evaluations; implementing those tools; and compiling, organizing, and analyzing the data to understand the program impact, as well as areas in which the program can improve.

**Responsibilities**
- Attend meetings with Executive Director and relevant stakeholders prior to the start of PRYSE Academy
- Prepare and keep organized a binder(s)/resource folder(s) of relevant documents
- Prepare a timeline for implementing evaluation methods and analyzing the data
- Attend counselor training week to learn about PRYSE Academy youth, program structure, and staff expectations
- Prepare presentation on assessment and evaluation tools and train PRYSE Academy staff on how they can assist in the process/what they can expect to see during camp
- Attend PRYSE Academy sessions to understand and observe program culture and implement the assessment/evaluation tools
- Organize and analyze the data, which will be presented to the Executive Director. A preliminary report will be expected by August 20th, 2021.

**Qualifications**
- Strong organizational skills
- Ability to follow timeline and meet deadlines
- Ability to work independently and take ownership of responsibilities/tasks
- Ability to work on a team, receive feedback, and support others
- Enthusiasm for cultivating a safe and positive space for youth
- Cultural empathy and open-mindedness
- Strong commitment to anti-oppression work
- Must apply for PA Act 33/34 Clearances, FBI Fingerprint Background Check
Application

Applicants should please provide the following materials in this order and in a single .pdf to michele.krugh@pitt.edu by March 26, 2021, at 5PM.

A. Cover Letter (2 pages max) addressing these key points:
   1. Which host organization opportunity are you applying to?
   2. How does this project draw on your academic preparation and professional experience to help advance the host organization’s goals?
   3. How will this opportunity contribute to amplifying your research training and advance your professional goals? Explain why the timing makes sense in light of where you are in your program.

B. Brief, current CV (2 pages max)

C. Brief letter of support from primary Ph.D. advisor. (Note: This letter can also be sent directly from the faculty member to michele.krugh@pitt.edu.)

Shortlisted applicants will be interviewed via Zoom by representatives of the prospective host organization and of Humanities Engage.