For 75 years, the Fulbright Program has engaged passionate and accomplished students, scholars, artists, teachers, and professionals of all backgrounds. We believe that by living and learning together with people from different countries and cultures we can shape a more positive vision for our communities and our world. We strive to ensure that Fulbright reflects and values the diversity of U.S. society and societies abroad and encourages the involvement of people regardless of their race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, geographic location, socioeconomic status, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity. Equally important to diversity is inclusion. Fulbright takes steps to ensure that the Program's diverse participants have successful and rewarding exchange experiences. Our work includes:

A sustained commitment to increase institutional diversity by prioritizing outreach to Minority-serving Institutions (MSIs), community colleges, military academies, and higher education institutions in rural and economically disadvantaged areas.

A strategic expansion of the network of Fulbright Student and Scholar campus representatives at U.S. colleges and universities, with a special emphasis on increasing engagement with MSIs, community colleges, and other institutions that serve diverse populations underrepresented in education abroad and competitive fellowships. Currently, over 1,700 U.S. higher education institutions have a Fulbright campus representative, including more than 350 MSIs and 300 Community Colleges.

The HBCU Institutional Leaders Initiative recognizes HBCUs that have demonstrated noteworthy engagement in the Fulbright Program and have promoted Fulbright Program opportunities on campus.

The launch of a robust toolkit of trainings, resources, and discussion forums for Fulbrighters embarking on their grant experience that address diversity, equity, and inclusion topics.

The Fulbright Program Adviser Development Initiative has supported 265 institutions that serve diverse student populations, through a program of hands-on training, selection panel observation, and specialized support.

A Scholar Liaison development fund has provided more than 100 administrators from MSIs, community colleges, and other priority institutions to attend specialized workshops to help expand their institution’s engagement.

The involvement of Scholar peer reviewers and National Screening Committee members that represent all institution types and a range of backgrounds in a variety of disciplines.

Fulbright Alumni Ambassadors are selected to represent the diversity of the Fulbright U.S. Student and Scholar Programs and are trained to further outreach efforts and share their perspectives to inform program management.

Investment in initiatives and structures to support diverse participants’ inclusion, safety, and security while on program, which includes the hiring of regional diversity and inclusion liaisons, stationed abroad, as well as support for various internal and alumni working groups.

FULBRIGHT OUTREACH PARTNERS

Fulbright Outreach Partners represent a diverse network of leadership organizations, minority-serving associations, and professional institutions with experience engaging populations historically underrepresented in educational and cultural exchange programs. These value-aligned partners have made a commitment to assist in the promotion of the Fulbright Program with their constituents.
Jenné Nurse and Y-Binh Nguyen, 2019 Fulbright U.S. Student English Teaching Assistants (ETA) to South Africa

“What I’ve learned from being a part of Fulbright...is that we really want all different types of perspectives. When we’re sending people out to represent this country, we want to show them all that we have to offer. So, for me it was important to push down the imposter syndrome of ‘you can’t do this, you don’t belong,’ just thinking about my upbringing and some of those things... At first, I just didn’t know if Fulbright was the place for me. But, what I realized is that Fulbright is the place for everyone.”

JENNÉ NURSE