

Yale University

President's Public Service Fellowship

Proposal for Fellowship Placement Summer 2023

Organization information

<i>Name of organization</i>	New Haven Symphony Orchestra
<i>Full street address</i>	4 Hamilton Street, Fl 2, New Haven, CT 06511
<i>Website or link to social media page</i>	www.NewHavenSymphony.org

PPSF Fellow's direct supervisor

The supervisor must be available to supervise Fellow on a daily basis.

<i>Name</i>	Elaine C. Carroll
<i>Title</i>	CEO
<i>Cell phone number</i>	9144397919
<i>E-mail address</i>	ecarroll@newhavensymphony.org

Placement dates (8-11 weeks between Tuesday, May 30, 2023 through Friday, August 11, 2023)

Tuesday, May 30 - Friday, August 11, 2023

Are placement dates flexible? Are there any dates on which your Fellow must work?

Dates are entirely flexible.

Proposed work schedule (*work week should equal and not exceed 37.5 hours per week*)

The NHSO administrative office is open 9:00 - 5:30, Monday-Friday with a lunch break. A flexible schedule outside of these hours is also available.

Organization description (*mission statement, population served. 1,000 characters or less*)

New Haven Symphony Orchestra's vision is to inspire, delight, challenge, and connect diverse audiences and communities through the power of live music. NHSO enriches Connecticut's cultural landscape through exceptional performances and education programs that are accessible to residents from all walks of life. Innovative programming offered statewide inspires deeper audience engagement and meaningful artistic and educational collaborations which increase the reach and impact of the Symphony. Authentic commitments to diversity, equity, inclusion, and access move the NHSO to provide representation that reflects the richly diverse communities we serve in all areas of Symphony leadership.

The fourth oldest orchestra in the US, NHSO entertained New Haven audiences since 1895. Its concerts and education services reach an average of 40,000 listeners each season. An anti-racist organization, NHSO fights hate, racism, and bigotry in all forms through our words, music, and actions.

Write a 1-2 sentence summary of the work that the Fellow would be conducting (500 characters or less).

Two projects to choose from:

1) Implement the recommendations of an accessibility audit in order to make concerts easier to navigate, especially for the blind or those with mobility limitations OR

2) work with New Haven arts and culture organizations to plan and organize a first-ever summit on Arts Administration and Cultural Equity, with a goal of inspiring more diverse people to consider jobs in the arts industry.

Write a more complete description of the specific project you propose and list the duties/outcomes expected of the Fellow.

Project #1: Accessibility Audit Implementation

The NHSO is committed to improving accessibility for all concertgoers. Under the guidance of accessibility consultant Maggie Rose Austen, the NHSO has completed an audit that included, among other aspects, our website, in-person concert experiences, and training for our house managers. Our goal is to move beyond compliance with Americans with Disability Act regulations to offer an easily accessible experience to a large and diverse audience. The Yale Presidential Public Service Fellow would assist the NHSO in making the recommended changes. This includes visiting different concert venues to create a

comprehensive resource for people with challenges. For instance, the Fellow will travel from the parking lot to the lobby and into the hall, describing in detail the distance travelled and any obstacles. This detailed work would provide information on improvements and also be made available through our website for audience members planning their trip. The audit recommends changes to the NHSO website that would make it easier to navigate venues especially for people with low vision. Finally, the Fellow would conduct surveys to gather feedback and insight from the disabled community.

Project #2:

In 2022, New Haven launched its Cultural Equity Plan to address inequity among arts and culture institutions in the City. The NHSO is working with City Hall's Culture Commissioner to develop a summit that will advance the work of diversifying the arts community and amplifying marginalized voices throughout New Haven. The Summit is planned for Fall of 2022. During the summer, the Yale Presidential Public Service Fellow would be responsible for gathering information from the City and other arts organizations, reaching out to organizations involved in work force development, planning the summit, and beginning to coordinate the event's logistics. These would include securing the participation of local arts groups and arranging guest speakers. The goal of this project is to provide information to New Haven residents on the varied and satisfying jobs that are available in the arts industry and to provide arts and culture organization with inform to prepare their workplace to be welcoming to a diverse work force.

List specific skills/experience required for the project

Project #1 Accessibility: Patience and an interest in serving people with challenges in their lives! Attention to detail, strong writing skills, and an interest in community engagement. Simple web editing skills are a plus, but we can provide training.

Project #2 Arts Administration Summit: Highly organized and an enthusiastic planner. Comfortable speaking with varied organization's leadership to secure their involvement in the program.

Additional requirements (e.g. a car or weekend working hours). If a car is required, include information regarding parking arrangements and mileage reimbursement.

A car would be useful for the Accessibility project, in order to make site visits. There is free parking at the NHSO administrative office and we pay the IRS rate

to reimburse any use of one's car for work. If the Fellow does not have a car, we can accommodate,

Briefly describe any work that Yale PPSF Fellows have done with your organization in the past and present. If you have not worked with Yale Fellows, describe any work that Yale students have done with your organization.

Last summer (2022), the NHSO had a wonderful experience working with a Yale PSSFellow. He did a thorough review of NHSO programs to determine which had the best potential for digital distribution. He evaluated their suitability for transfer to a digital platform and assessed potential audience involvement. He recommended that the best program to promote online was NHSO's "Listen Up!" broadcast. The Fellow devised a detailed business plan for getting a wider audience listening to the podcast. The Fellow work very independently, but with guidance from the NHSO CEO, Marketing Director, and Education Director.