Proposal for In-Person Fellowship Placement • Summer 2022

If conditions allow, PPSF will offer in-person fellowships in the summer of 2022. In the event that in-person summer placements are not approved by Yale University, prospective sites will be notified and asked to modify proposals to reflect remote work.

- **Organization**: Discovering Amistad
- **Organization’s street address**: 129 Church Street  New Haven, CT
- **Website**: https://www.discoveringamistad.org
- **Name and title of person who will be the Fellow’s direct supervisor (the supervisor must be available to supervise Fellow on a daily basis)**: Chris Menapace, Lead Educator
- **Phone number and e-mail address of proposed direct supervisor (please note: during the application process, we encourage prospective Fellows to contact organizations directly with any questions about organization placements or projects)**: 860-992-5298 C-menapace@discoveringamistad.org
- **Placement dates (8-11 weeks between Tuesday, May 31 and Friday, August 12, 2022)**: May 31- Aug 12
- **Are placement dates flexible? If so, please describe**: Placement start and end dates can be flexible based on the student needs.
- **Proposed work schedule (placements should be equivalent to full-time and not more than 37.5 hours/week)**: 37.5 hours weekly

Placement Description

- **Organization description (mission statement, population served. 150 words or less.)**:
The mission of Discovering Amistad is to utilize the story of the Amistad and the replica ship as a floating classroom to advance racial and social justice through a multitiered educational experience.

Discovering Amistad is a unique educational organization which was formed in 2015. The organization owns and operates the Amistad replica, Connecticut’s flagship, which serves as a floating classroom. Our aim is to educate students on the story of the 1839 Amistad Uprising and the subsequent landmark Supreme Court decision while highlighting themes of social justice such as dehumanization, resistance, and modern-day comparisons.

The interactive, proprietary curriculum addresses equity and adheres to the most up-to-date national C3 (College, Career and Civic Life) social studies framework. The programs are conducted by our trained educators virtually, in-classroom, and aboard the ship. History comes to life as we use the past as a framework for addressing present challenges related to diverse social issues and activism. Population served are New Haven youth.

- **Write a 1-2 sentence summary of the proposed work for a summer 2022 Fellow:**

Proposed work will includes:
- Co-facilitating Amistad educational and leadership classes, workshops, and discussion groups for middle and high school students. The program uses the Amistad story and “floating classroom” to address contemporary issues of racial and social justice.
- Additional work includes operational duties, marketing and coordination.

- **Write a more complete description of the specific project you propose and list the duties/outcomes expected of the Fellow. (Suggested length: one to two pages.)**

**Summer 2022 PPSF Fellow Project- Amistad Summer Leadership Educator.**

The specific proposed project will include eleven weeks of co-facilitating Amistad educational and leadership classes, workshops, and discussion groups for middle and high school students in the New Haven area. The selected fellow will experience a myriad of opportunities designed to gain/utilize leadership and facilitation skills while engaging youth in the City of New Haven. The foundation of each educational experience is the 1839 Amistad Uprising and the related contemporary issues of racial and social justice. The fellow will facilitate on the ship, dockside, in classroom and virtual.

Specific duties will include:
- Co-facilitating Amistad educational and leadership classes,* workshops, and discussion groups for middle and high school students in the New Haven area.
• Assisting in the implementation of the Amistad Summer Leaderships programs by planning, recruiting, facilitating, and evaluating.

• Assisting with recruitment efforts by connecting with prior channels of communication (New Haven schools and community organizations, etc.) and working to identify new avenues for promotion.

• Assisting with research and curriculum development to ensure the relevancy and effectiveness of the offerings.

• Assisting with social media and marketing programs. Advancing the social media presence of Discovering Amistad through regular content creation, audience identification and platform determination.

• Assist with recruiting Yale students of the African Diaspora to become involved with DA (as docents, interpreters, mentors)

• Attending weekly planning and outcome meetings to evaluate the programs and discuss action steps.

• Assist with Discovering Amistad community events including: DA annual Juneteenth program and Freedom forums.

*Specific details of educational program (One-Day Program)*

Duration: One 50-minute session Location: Virtual or in-person

Target Audience: 30 students or less, middle and high school

Focus: 25- minute story of the Amistad Rebellion designed for a general introduction and overview

Discussion: 10- minute interactive dialogue on racial injustice today. Using the Amistad rebellion as our platform for discussion, students will have a dialogue on what strengths they already possess to become active, and what skills they may want to acquire.

• **List specific skills/experience required for the project:**

  The fellow will need to possess the following skills.
  
  • Ability/ interest in facilitating positive youth development classes.
  • Interest/ knowledge in social media and marketing
  • Interest in social/ racial justice
  • Good communication (written and verbal) and interpersonal skills.
  • Adaptability, reliability and dependability
Additional requirements (e.g. a car or weekend working hours). If a car is required, include information regarding parking arrangements and mileage reimbursement):
- Car and weekend hours are not needed
- However, mileage reimbursement is provided between work locations

Briefly describe the 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.

In summer 2021, Discovering Amistad had an incredible Yale fellow. He assisted with Discovering Amistad’s marketing, recruitment, and communications. In addition, he researched prospective educational partnerships and collaborations and helped with the organization’s curriculum development and adaptation. He designed a marketing PowerPoint presentation that is a resource that will continually be used in our organization.

His quotes- “One of the things I’ve most enjoyed about my summer has been taking a deep dive into the history of the Amistad Uprising in 1839 and the commanding example of resistance we find in the illegally transported Africans who continued working for years in defense of their own freedom and dignity,” said the graduate student. “As a student of literature, I was amazed by the several Africans who learned English in prison to make their own case more powerfully (in speech and in writing) and to influence the strategies of their legal defense.

“More broadly, I learned about the resources they draw from their own rich and varied cultural backgrounds which became essential tactics in their struggle for freedom — an important reminder that our responses to injustice can never be homogenous.” The summer experience as a President’s Public Service Fellow made Schubkegel even more aware of “the ways our lives are so deeply enmeshed.”