ACLS Leading Edge Fellowship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project:</th>
<th>Hidden Histories Digital Humanities Training Program for K-12 Teachers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Organization:</td>
<td>Full Spectrum Features (Chicago, IL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
<td>Remote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stipend:</td>
<td>$60,000 per year, plus health insurance and professional development funding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start Date:</td>
<td>September 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

Full Spectrum Features (“FSF”) is one of the Midwest’s leading film and media nonprofit organizations working to increase diversity, equity and inclusion in the independent film industry. As a BIPOC-led/founded organization, FSF has developed numerous programs that address systemic issues that have historically prevented people of color, women, LGBTQ-identifying individuals, the disabled, and other marginalized groups from fully participating in the creation and exhibition of independent cinema. In addition to producing original short- and long-form content, FSF runs several artist development programs and labs, all aimed at identifying “root causes” and transforming the power structures that prevent marginalized communities from telling and sharing their stories. Learn more at www.fullspectrumfeatures.com

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Leading Edge Fellow will assume a key leadership role in designing and executing Hidden Histories, a teacher training program that will enable K-12 teachers to utilize FSF’s award-winning digital humanities programs to teach history in the classroom. The pilot iteration of this program will feature a collection of short narrative films that dramatize the forced incarceration of Japanese Americans during WWII. Funded by a multi-year grant from the National Park Service, this pilot will be conducted in partnership with the Virginia Public Library system. The libraries will serve as key locations for hosting (1) professional development seminars for K-12 teachers, and (2) public humanities programming. Pending additional funding, Hidden Histories will be expanded to more states.

At the center of Hidden Histories is an FSF-produced short film (www.theorangestory.org), which was awarded “Outstanding Public History Project” by the National Council on Public History in 2019. The Leading Edge Fellow will play a crucial role in developing and releasing Hidden Histories, which will serve as a model for teaching other histories of marginalized people through narrative cinema (as opposed to documentaries). In the future, FSF plans to expand this program to include iterations that explore other key moments in Asian American history, as well as African American history, queer history, Latinx history, and Native American history. In light of the global pandemic and racial uprisings of 2020, Hidden Histories addresses some pressing questions, including: What has COVID-19 revealed about inequitable social structures in public humanities and the teaching of history, and what are the underlying institutional and cultural forces that have caused these inequities to persist? What can we learn from the past that may inform a path forward towards racial healing and justice? How can communities of color work together, rather than in competition with one another, to build a more equitable and inclusive public humanities discourse?

The Leading Edge Fellow will help administer a project inspired, in part, by these questions, which will include the following key activities: (1) design a one-day professional development seminar for K-12 teachers that uses Hidden Histories as an educational tool, (2) deploy a series of Hidden Histories public
programs in partnership with the Virginia Public Library, and (3) research and develop curriculum materials to enhance the in-classroom experience. In addition to these key tasks and responsibilities, the Fellow may have opportunities, time permitting, to work on the development and implementation of program evaluation and impact assessment tools. There may also be opportunities to assist with grant writing and additional fundraising for an expansion of *Hidden Histories* into other states. The Leading Edge Fellow will join FSF’s programming team, reporting directly to the Director of Strategic Partnerships and collaborating with the Manager of Events and Communications, as well as other staff involved with the execution of *Hidden Histories*. This is a full-time commitment for the fellowship year, including dedicated time for professional development activities.

**Responsibilities and tasks:**

- Design a one-day professional development seminar for K-12 teachers around *Hidden Histories* that enables educators to teach the history and legacy of Japanese American WWII incarceration
- Research innovative K-12 classroom tools and teaching methods that utilize narrative cinema as a key driver of student interest and empathy
- Design and create supplemental materials that teachers can deploy in their classrooms
- Design a public engagement program around *Hidden Histories*
- Coordinate, book, and facilitate *Hidden Histories* events in libraries across the country
- Build strategic relationships with high schools, colleges, universities, and educators
- Assist in writing progress reports for existing funders, especially the U.S. Department of the Interior / National Park Service
- Develop data collection methods to study the impact in K-12 and public programs

**Qualifications:**

- PhD in any field of the humanities or humanistic social sciences. Read more about eligible fields [here](https://www.acls.org/Competitions-and-Deadlines/Leading-Edge-Fellowships);
- Commitment to racial justice and equity in public humanities;
- Excellent writing, research, and presentation skills;
- Ability to summarize and synthesize scholarly research for a non-specialist audience;
- Excellent organizational skills and attention to detail;
- Strong project management skills and the ability to collaborate in a team environment;
- Ability to work under time pressure, meet deadlines, and prioritize tasks;
- Alignment with FSF’s mission and values.

**Preferred:**

- Interest in K-12 curriculum development;
- Interest or specialization in Asian American history, WWII history, and/or the history and legacy of Japanese American incarceration camps

**APPLICATIONS**

- Information on the Leading Edge Fellowship Program: [https://www.acls.org/Competitions-and-Deadlines/Leading-Edge-Fellowships](https://www.acls.org/Competitions-and-Deadlines/Leading-Edge-Fellowships)
- All applications must be submitted through the ACLS Online Fellowship Application System (ofa.acls.org)
- Application deadline: 9pm EDT, May 6, 2021