<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Project:</strong></th>
<th>Landscapes of Protest: Public Parkland and the First Amendment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Organization:</strong></td>
<td>National Park Service, Capital Area, Interior Region I (Washington, DC)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Location:</strong></td>
<td>Remote</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Stipend:</strong></td>
<td>$60,000 per year, plus health insurance and professional development funding</td>
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<td><strong>Start Date:</strong></td>
<td>September 2021</td>
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### ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

The Landscapes of Protest Fellow will serve in the National Park Service’s (NPS) National Capital Area Office of Resource Stewardship and Science, Division of Cultural Resources (CR Division). The CR Division has primary responsibility for the preservation of cultural resources within the National Capital Area’s 35 congressionally designated park units, as well as for providing technical and professional expertise and other consultation to parks, outside partners and programs related to preservation of the region’s historic resources. The CR Division is made up of an interdisciplinary team of cultural resource specialists with expertise in anthropology, archeology, historic architecture, history, landscape architecture (cultural landscapes), and museums and archives. We strive to connect all Americans to their heritage resources in a manner that resonates with their lives, legacies, and dreams, and tells the stories that make up America’s diverse national identity. Learn more at [https://www.nps.gov/](https://www.nps.gov/)

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

NCA parks have long played host to local and national protests. From the Bonus Army marches of 1932, to massive Vietnam War protests, to the recent clashes between law enforcement and those protesting white supremacy and police brutality at Lafayette Park in 2020, the National Mall and surrounding park land in D.C. is the premier location for Americans to exercise their first amendment rights. In 2020, the re-emergence of critical conversations surrounding memorialization along with lawful protests associated with the Black Lives Matter movement have spurred many institutions to examining their part in systemic racism and ways to dismantle it.

The CR Division wishes to engage a Leading Edge Fellow to explore the history and places related to protest and First Amendment activities on federal lands throughout the region and to examine the role that NPS’s design and management of public spaces have both negatively and positively influenced the arc toward social justice. How has NPS management contributed to the nation’s democratic experiment and how has its policies and design decisions suppressed or limited protests and excluded certain groups?

From the 1917 arrest of Alice Paul and the Silent Sentinels demonstrating for women’s suffrage in Lafayette Park to one of the largest national demonstrations held on NPS lands in the early 20th century--a 60,000-strong Ku Klux Klan march down Pennsylvania Avenue in 1925--the history of protest on federal land is layered and often problematic. By critically examining where, how, and why certain spaces have been used to demand and expand equitable treatment under the law and how NPS has contributed to or limited that expansion, NPS can improve management decisions and other barriers that affect access to public lands today and in the future.

Using historical and anthropological methods to understand the dynamics of human use of the landscape, the Landscapes of Protest Fellow will examine the historical patterns and events associated with protests and demonstrations in NCA parks over time and identify ways that NPS policy and design has impeded or discouraged certain groups and certain uses. Building on the work of historian Lucy Barber (*Marching on Washington: The Forging of an American Political Tradition*, University of California Press, 2002) and

This position is only available through the Leading Edge Fellowship program. You may not contact the host institution to inquire about this position.
NPS’s own historical and anthropological research conducted as a part of the NPS's Civil Rights Initiative, the Leading Edge Fellow will inventory spaces throughout the region’s parks that are officially designated for First Amendment activities, develop an analytical report explaining trends and patterns of First Amendment activities and NPS responses to those activities while identifying constraints and barriers built into the parks that discourage or control their use by various groups. The fellow will present findings and recommendations to the National Capital Area’s regional leadership team and other key staff. The inventory, report, and recommendations will be used by the CR Division to inform ongoing documentation of cultural landscapes and ethnographic and anthropological resources across the region, thus raising awareness in park managers about the complex and problematic history of access to First Amendment spaces. This is a full-time commitment for the fellowship year, including dedicated time for professional development activities.

**Responsibilities and tasks:**

- [Months 1-2] Working closely with the Regional Cultural Anthropologist, Historian, and Cultural Landscape program, develop a project research design and review background and other related research reports.
- [Month 3] Draft a historical overview of protest and demonstrations in NCA parks and plan inventory tasks.
- [Months 4-5] In collaboration with the Cultural Landscape Program staff, conduct an overview inventory of First Amendment spaces and collect existing historical data on these spaces from parks.
- [Months 6-8] Complete additional research and develop analytical report.
- [Months 9] Revise report in conjunction with CR Division and other regional staff. Plan outreach elements.
- [Month 12] Prepare and present findings and recommendations to senior staff.

**Qualifications:**

- PhD in any field of the humanities or humanistic social sciences. Read more about eligible fields [here](#);
- Interest or research in public history, cultural anthropology, cultural landscapes, cultural geography, landscape history, architectural history, or the history of social movements;
- Cross-disciplinary research and analytical skills;
- Knowledge of humanistic research methods, including identifying and defining historic contexts;
- Excellent research, writing, and communication skills;
- Ability to work both independently and collaboratively in a team environment;
- Skill in project planning, organization, and time management.

**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

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