



**American Friends
Service Committee**



ArteVism Fellowship

Latinx/Indigenous Youth Fostering Active Civic Engagement Through the Arts

Call for nominations for the **ArteVism** Fellowship Program
Nominations must be submitted by February 7, 2020

The American Friends Service Committee Pan Valley Institute (PVI), in partnership with Fresno State's College of Arts and Humanities, Department of Theatre and Dance are launching an ArteVism Fellowship to build a pilot program that inspires Latinx/Indigenous youth (18 – 29) to leverage the arts and create provocative programming that advocates for the change they want to see in the world. The Fellowship will bring together a cadre of four Fellows to produce original theatre pieces, which will serve as an on ramp to civil society involvement in their Central Valley communities.

We are inviting you to nominate a Latinx/Indigenous youth as a candidate with the potential to become an ArteVism Fellow. We need your support finding the right candidate for this exceptional program. We are looking for a fellow in each of the following counties: Fresno, Madera, Merced and Tulare. **ArteVism** Fellows are expected to participate in the program from March to December 2020.

All we are asking from you is to identify a youth that meets the below requirements, inform he/she/they of the program, fill in the nomination form and send it back to us.

Aspiring **ArteVism** Fellows candidates are individuals who:

- Are open to learning new and creative organizing strategies
- Demonstrate capacity and commitment to engage their peers in work that interconnects, culture, the arts, advocacy and civil society involvement
- Understand the principles of popular education such as, building collective learning that leads to action for social change
- Is committed to making California's Central Valley a more just and democratic place
- Understand and value California's Central Valley cultural diversities
- Demonstrate interest and/or are actively involved in community work yet is not already overcommitted
- Is able to understand the daily issues in the community and also have a larger vision
- Is able to make links and connections between people, places, organizations
- Demonstrate interest and commitment to ensure that the issues of the community are addressed
- Have strong ability to bring people together and organize for social change

How Fellows Get Selected?

Aspiring candidates are nominated by partners of the Pan Valley Institute and The College of Arts and Humanities at CSU Fresno who have a depth knowledge and understanding of our work plus share the core principles and goals of the program. The nominations are submitted to a selection committee for a thoroughly review and the selection of 9

semifinalists. The semifinalists are then invited to submit a personal statement and to participate in an in-person interview with members of the selection committee. Finalist Fellows will be selected by the end of February 2020.

What Fellows Gain by Participating in the program?

Through a series of residential gatherings and intensive trainings, Fellows will be immersed in creative skill building and relationship development. They will be equipped with community engagement tools in disciplines such as popular education and applied community theatre. Our core objectives for this program is too increase youth leadership skills, self-expression, sense of agency, storytelling ability, and identity creation through theatre training and artistic production. This program will offer creative opportunities for Latinx/Indigenous youth to learn how public policies impact personal lives, the potential benefits of becoming politically active and building power in community, and how to creatively reshape environments of social exclusion and discrimination.

In addition to the above learning opportunities Fellows will receive an honorarium of \$15,000 dollars as an award of their commitment to expanding and sustaining cultural and artistic expression and their present and future contribution to creating vibrant and engaged Central Valley communities. The \$15,000 dollars honorarium is also intended to cover travel expenses related to their fellowship work and other expenses their participation in the fellowship may incur

What is expected from the fellows?

- Commit 10 months (March to December 2020) to participate in the program.
- Invest about 100 hours per month to the program.
- Have flexibility to allocate time for office work, participate in a residential gathering that starts on a Friday and ends on a Sunday, in addition to participate in one day trainings and community visits.
- Recruit and form a group of about 10–15 youth to voluntarily participate in the program and be part of the production and presentation of an apply theater play. Participants in the Fellows group might receive an incentive at the conclusion of the program and might have opportunities to become fellows if the program continues.
- Demonstrate early in the process a clear understanding of the core values, principles and objectives of the program
- Demonstrate capability to communicate to others the purpose of the fellowship program
- Demonstrate early in the process clear understanding of what is expected from them
- Have the time and commitment to stay in the program from the beginning to the end
- Respond in a timely manner to all communications from the staff involve in the program

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