



2025-2026 Publicly Active Graduate Education (PAGE) Fellows Program

Application deadline: Friday, May 31, 2025

Imagining America invites [applications](#) from graduate students enrolled at an IA [Member institution](#) and with a demonstrated interest and commitment in public scholarship and/or artistic practice.

[PAGE Co-Directors](#) are thrilled to invite graduate students with an interest in public scholarship or artistic practice and activism to [apply](#) for the [2025-2026 Publicly Active Graduate Education \(PAGE\) Fellowship](#). PAGE Fellows participate in a yearlong working group in support of collaborative art-making, teaching, writing, storytelling, and co-creating knowledge with and within community. We are artists, scientists, researchers, instigators, cultural leaders, care workers, and community activists. We are what Toni Cade Bambara called “culture workers,” people who are accountable to themselves, the land and water, the communities our work touches, and who creatively use our ability to “freedom dream” (Kelley 2002) and do “otherwise possibilities” (Crawley 2024) within and outside of our work.

In 2003, graduate students began laying the foundation for the fellowship, continually crafted by a cadre of co-directors. Ultimately, the fellowship centers on care and enduring relationships rather than temporary and transactional engagements. It offers a network of support from publicly engaged scholars and artists to graduate fellows working toward navigating unjust institutional barriers. While there are no limits to the amazing work we can accomplish together in a fellowship year, we prioritize physical, emotional, and mental well-being and loving accountability throughout the process.

As PAGE fellows build capacity with other publicly engaged scholars across campuses, they will join the Imagining America network of activist-scholars, administrators, artists, and media makers shifting culture toward justice within higher education and society. Examples of ongoing local projects by PAGE fellows include a Bay Area movement history website, a national report on LGBTQ+ youth, a resource hub for Indigenous playwrights, a photography series on the colonial foundations of neoliberal universities, and much more.

The PAGE Fellowship Program and Eligibility

PAGE Fellows will receive:

- \$1000 fellowship stipend

- Lodging and waived registration fee to attend the 2025 PAGE Summit (Oct 2, 2025) and IA National Gathering. The three-day gathering will be held in collaboration with New Mexico State University in Fall 2025 (Oct 3-5), in Las Cruces, NM. Applicants must be able to attend the PAGE Summit and National Gathering to be considered.
- Opportunity to apply for professional development funds.
- Access to year-long bidirectional mentorship and community-building events, both within PAGE and the Imagining America networks. These can include but are not limited to research projects, publication opportunities, and skill-building workshops.

PAGE Fellows are expected to:

- Contribute to the [PAGE Blog salon](#).
- Attend and share their work at the PAGE Summit (Oct 2, 2025) and IA National Gathering (Oct 3-5, 2025).
- Participate in bi-monthly conference calls, webinars, cluster meetings.
- Work towards a publicly engaged project.

Through these engagements, PAGE aims to foster a cohort of fellows interested in pursuing collective and innovative scholarly and community-engaged practices.

Eligibility

STUDENTS must be enrolled in a graduate program at an [IA Members institution](#) in order to [apply](#) to be a PAGE Fellow. Applicants can be at any stage of their graduate programs. Applicants must be graduate students during the entire 2025-2026 academic year, but they do not have to be planning a career within higher education.

Historically underrepresented groups in higher education (e.g., people of color, international students, non-US citizens, persons with disabilities, veterans, LGBTQIA persons, first-generation students, non-traditional students, and/or individuals from working-class backgrounds) are especially encouraged to apply.

Application Instructions

Completed application answers must be [entered in the online form](#) and received by midnight (EST) on Friday, May 31, 2025, to be considered. Applicants will be notified of their status by July 5. Participation in the program begins with an informal virtual gathering in early September 2025 and continues through May 2026.



The PAGE Fellowship application includes the following components:

1. Two 350-word essays inspired by the prompts (outlined below)
2. Four logistical questions (listed below)
3. 50-word biography
4. Current Curriculum Vitae
5. If selected, a photo will be requested to be used on the IA website to announce our new cohort of 2025-2026 Fellows!

Please respond to both essay prompts listed below. We are most interested in understanding the publicly engaged roles and commitments that inform your thinking, work, and/or scholarship. Remember to provide concrete reflections on your public work and spaces of engagement. Also be sure to draw upon your individual, community, and institutional positionalities as you respond to these questions.

Essay Prompt #1 (350 words)

Imagining America envisions a world of expansive social imagination, constructed by multiple ways of knowing, where people work together to nurture healthy, vibrant, and joyful communities.

- How do you see your public scholarship and/or engaged artistic practice in conversation with the values of [Imagining America](#) and PAGE? As a peer-run fellowship, how do you envision PAGE aligning with your short- or long-term goals?

Essay Prompt #2 (350 words)

Universities can be sites for critical learning and unlearning but are also historical and ongoing mechanisms of institutional violence. Doing community-focused work from within universities/institutions can be fraught and complicated for these reasons.

- How might you describe your public scholarship and/or engaged artistic practice as contributing to your communities? How does your work resist and/or subvert institutional absorption and instead, enable reconfigurations of institutional approaches to collaborative and community-based work?

Please answer ALL four logistical questions:

1. What is your degree and area of study? Where are you in your course of study, and what is your anticipated graduation date?
2. If accepted into the 2025-2026 PAGE Fellow cohort, are you able to attend the PAGE Summit (October 2, 2025) and IA National Gathering (October 3-5, 2025) in Las Cruces, New Mexico. If not, please let us know of any schedule conflicts.



3. The PAGE Fellowship covers the cost of registration, lodging, and airfare to attend the PAGE Summit and IA National Gathering. If you will need additional travel support beyond this, please tell us about your anticipated need and what level of additional support you would require to make participation possible.
4. We all have access needs to feel fully present and engaged. Please let us know of any anticipated needs that we can support to make your participation possible.

Since 2012, PAGE has been led by a team of co-directors, past PAGE fellows who have chosen to stay on and direct the fellowship. Please contact current co-directors at pagedirectors@gmail.com with any questions about the program or application/selection process. Any way that we are able to walk with you, we will.