



PEN America Campus Advocates Program

PEN America, a nonprofit organization working at the intersection of literature and human rights, is offering a Campus Advocates Program for undergraduate first years, sophomores and juniors passionate about free expression, advocacy and academic freedom on college and university campuses across the United States. This program is designed to offer students the opportunity to be better informed about campus speech issues and be empowered and equipped to advocate for free expression and academic freedom on their campuses.

The cohort of Campus Advocates will be a 2 semester commitment. First, these students will first complete their 14 week-long fellowship with PEN America from May 13th - August 16th 2024. In addition to their fellowship related tasks, fellows will also attend the Free Expression Fellows Plenary June 5th - 6th 2024, as well as the Higher Education and Democracy Summit II on July 9th in Washington, DC, where they will interact with leaders in higher education in the fight to preserve higher education from encroaching legislation. Finally, they will receive on-going mentorship and a stipend to run free expression and education advocacy activities, workshops or events, specifically designed to promote academic freedom and free expression on their campuses in the fall of 2024.

Payment for the entire program will be as follows:

- Summer 2024 Free Expression Fellowship — \$3,150 stipend, distributed in 3 payments of \$1,050.
- Summits — PEN America will pay for all travel expenses for the two summits in Washington D.C. This will include airfare or train ticket, ground transportation, lodging for 1 night for each trip, and all food costs.
- Fall Campus Advocacy Fellowship — \$2,500 stipend, distributed in two payments of \$1,250 on October 18, 2024 and December 13, 2024. Payment is contingent upon successful participation in fellowship requirements. Fellows will also receive a stipend of \$2,000 to cover costs for producing advocacy events, workshops, programs, etc. on their



campuses. This stipend will be paid to fellows during the planning phase of their fall advocacy project(s). Expenses may include, but are not limited to:

- Honoraria for guest speakers or guest facilitators for workshops
- Printing costs to publicize events
- Digital marketing costs to publicize events
- Space Rental costs

FELLOWSHIP LOCATION:

The fellowship is virtual, with the option to work in PEN America's New York City or Washington, DC office. Starting in the fall, the programs will be run on the fellows' individual campuses.

FELLOWSHIP REQUIREMENTS:

- Fellows must attend the Fellows Plenary in Washington D.C., June 5th - 6th, 2024.
 - All expenses are covered by PEN America
- Fellows must attend the Higher Education & Democracy II in Washington D.C., July 9th 2024.
 - All expenses are covered by PEN America
- Complete 2 - 3 campus speech advocacy activities that specifically promote academic freedom and free speech in the fall of 2024 on their campus.
 - Students will be working with a budget of \$2000 - provided by PEN America - to run their advocacy activities.
 - Activities may take the form of panels, workshops, training seminars, educational materials, op-eds, sign-on letters, etc.
 - Campus Advocates will be provided with PEN America's inaugural Free Speech Advocacy Calendar to develop programming that aligns with on-going issues of censorship in higher education, academic freedom and student speech.
 - Attend virtual meetings in summer/fall 2024 with the group and a mentor from PEN America: 2 meetings in August (time and dates TBA); Starting in the fall semester, virtual check ins every 3 weeks.
- At the conclusion of the campus advocates program, each fellow will be required to submit a summary of their activities documenting the programming including successes, areas for improvement, impact of the event on the campus community and themselves



as leaders. As appropriate, please include photography, video, other documentation like interviews, petitions, school newspaper articles, etc.

TO APPLY:

Please indicate your interest in the Campus Advocates Program in the Free Expression Leadership Fellows Program application on Submittable:

pen.submittable.com/submit/291052/free-expression-leadership-fellows-summer-2024

ABOUT PEN AMERICA:

PEN America stands at the intersection of literature and human rights to protect free expression in the United States and worldwide. We champion the freedom to write, recognizing the power of the word to transform the world. Our mission is to unite writers and their allies to celebrate creative expression and defend the liberties that make it possible.