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**SYRACUSE SYMPOSIUM FACULTY FELLOW APPLICATION**

**College of Arts and Sciences**

**Apply by Noon on October 17, 2025** for a Spring 2027 Fellowship

The **Syracuse** **Symposium Faculty Fellowship** carries a one semester, 2-course reduction to complete a research or creative project that **connects to the Syracuse Symposium theme** (see next page). Fellows must be in residence in the spring semester and contribute to Humanities Center programming that engages faculty and students from across the Humanities. The fellow will receive a research bourse of $2,500, issued once the academic year begins.

**Eligibility:**

Full-time tenure-line faculty from humanities departments and programs in the College of Arts and Sciences. (Faculty previously awarded a Humanities Center Fellowship may not re-apply.)

**Requirements:**

* Fellows are expected to participate actively in Humanities Center research activities.
* Fellows are required to be in residence during the spring semester and continue to contribute service to their departments/programs, the College, and the University.
* The fellowship period is **not** defined as a “research leave,” according to the terms & conditions of faculty policy. However, in consultation with your Department Chair, the fellowship may be combined with an official leave taken in the fall semester.
* Applicants from the College of Arts and Sciences are required to provide a signed letter of support from their Chair on department letterhead. This confidential letter should be sent via separate email (as a .pdf attachment) to the Humanities Center: humcenter@syr.edu.

\_\_\_\_ **Initial here:** I understand the requirements and expectations listed above.

**Application Checklist:**

\_\_\_\_ Completed Applicant Information section (*enclosed within this application*)

\_\_\_\_ Project description (*enclosed within this application*)

\_\_\_\_ Current CV, sent as .pdf attachment to humcenter@syr.edu

\_\_\_\_ Signed confidential letter of support from Chair on department letterhead, sent separately as .pdf attachment to humcenter@syr.edu

**Deadline:**Application form (to include personal data and project statement) and supporting documents must be submitted to **the Humanities Center by noon on Friday, October 17, 2025** emailed as attachments to humcenter@syr.edu.

***Awardees will be notified by early December.***

Syracuse Symposium theme for 2026-2027: DREAMS

Consider how your proposed Fellowship project draws from the humanities to advance the different valences and possibilities of the theme.

**“DREAMS”**

Bridging the corporeal with the fantastical, the physical with the mystical, dreams are replete with symbolism, wisdom, and truth-telling. They can manifest ideas, generate visions, reshape memory, draw on emotions, and offer glimpses of future selves. Dreams also take many shapes--they can be wildly creative in a positive sense or harrowing or apocalyptic and come in the form of nightmares.

As sites of visual splendor, or as manifestations of dread, dreams lie at the edge of consciousness. Both corporeal and metaphysical, dreams are understood as tied to the soul, the spirit world, and ancestors as much as to neuroscience, psychology, or cognition. Some see dreams as predictive, others find they offer guidance. Tapping into our longings as much as our fears, dreams can help repair old wounds and heal trauma, take us to places beyond reality, or, as “freedom dreams,” transform the shape of sociopolitical life.

By making the familiar strange, dreams prompt us to reflect on what has been lost or could have been, as much as what might be coming. As powerful rhetorical devices, dreams create room to express forbidden ideas, challenge current realities, and explore new desires and aspirations. Whether as a means of escape, prophesy, healing, or nostalgia, dreams can sustain, offering something to hold onto or hope for. Sparking individual and collective awakening, dreams often carry the aspirations of a community or generation forward. At the same time, dreams are frequently broken or destroyed.

From Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz’s “First Dream” … to the ancient Chinese volume *Duke of Zhou Interprets Dreams* … to Queen Maya’s dream foretelling Buddha’s birth… to Aztec dreams anticipating conquistadores … to William Blake’s visions inspiring romantic poetry and art … to films from the Wizard of Oz to Fantasia to Black Panther … to Langston Hughes’ poems about dreams to hold onto and dreams deferred or Dr. Martin Luther King Junior’s speech, “I Have a Dream,” dreams have been at the heart of miracles, premonitions, divination, creative endeavors, political movements, and social change.

**1. APPLICANT INFORMATION**

**Name**:

**Program or Department**:

**Your professional title**:

**Contact info**:

Email address:

Office phone number:

Cell phone number:

**Date of last research leave or administrative leave**:

## **2. LETTER OF SUPPORT**

**Department Chair:**

Please request a signed, confidential letter of recommendation / support on letterhead from your Department Chair.

Letters should be emailed separately via .pdf attachment to humcenter@syr.edu by **Noon, Friday, October 17, 2025.**

## 3. PROJECT INFORMATION

**Applicant name:**

**Project title:**

**Project abstract** (100-150 words)**:**

**Project overview** (*no more than 2 pages, single-spaced*):Provide an overview of the project; discuss its current stage and projected timeline to completion; discuss the project’s significance to and engagement with the humanities, *specifically with regard to the Syracuse Symposium theme*.