Call for 2016-17 Faculty Public Scholar Program Applications

The Curb Center invites proposals from assistant professors and senior lecturers for the 2016-17 Public Scholar Program. As part of our mission to advance the standing of art and culture in the minds of policymakers as well as generate innovative approaches to real-world problems, the Curb Public Scholars Program is a research and collaboration opportunity designed to support faculty and graduate students as they put their research in arts, culture, and policy into practice.

The program facilitates initiatives that explore creative ways to implement research findings, develop evidence-based public policies, and transform academic work into publicly available resources that increase access to cultural life. The Curb Center’s Public Scholars engage in research with the potential to make an impact not only in academia but also in the public sphere.

Proposals may allow a faculty member to either research an arts and cultural policy issue related to a publication nearing completion or to adapt existing research for presentation to a public audience. Recipients of these grants will caucus with local and national leaders as well as fellow scholars regularly throughout the academic year, develop and deliver materials that advance understanding of, application of, or the impact of the scholar’s research on a segment of community life, and reflect on the outcomes of that development and delivery in a final symposium.
Curb Center Public Scholars Factsheet

Recent examples of projects
- Infographic for educators and policy makers detailing neurological effects of music on brains of school-aged children
- One-sheet for educators and school board members detailing outcomes of spoken word curriculum in high school classrooms
- Design and delivery of a board game to explore how Sri Lankan farmers make crop choices in order to resource policy makers transforming agricultural programs
- Public service video using time-lapse animation to show effects of tomb robbing and looting on a Peruvian excavation site
- Digital map detailing the origins, journeys, and spatial relations of storytellers included in Nashville Public Library’s “Faces of Nashville” story corps project

Benefits of the Curb Public Scholar cadre:
- Regular interdisciplinary conversation among fellow Vanderbilt researchers
- Facilitated exposure to local and national practitioners leading social change via arts, culture, and the creation & sharing of information
- Shared office space with Curb Center scholars, campus and community catalysts and fellows, and Curb staff
- Training for and access to Curb Center resources including large format printer, media lab, fabric lab, and sound recording studio

Proposals should be submitted by faculty engaged in research that promises to illuminate challenges or opportunities that face any cultural field, including (but not limited to) music, publishing, the graphic arts, film, television, theater, literature, the entertainment industry, or digital media. Policy concerns may involve race, class, gender, social or political concerns, economic issues, legal questions, government regulation, copyright, urban planning and development, public humanities and heritage preservation, indigenous cultures, international trade and diplomacy, distribution and access, artistic careers, nonprofits, new media, medicine and the arts, creativity and well-being, arts entrepreneurs, public support of the arts, arts education, and more.

About the Award
Faculty Public Scholars will receive up to $3500 in research funds; affiliation with the Curb Center for Arts, Enterprise, and Public Policy; and logistical support for public sharing of a final product, including reasonable expenses for the event up to $500 over and above research funding. In return, Faculty Public Scholars will be

“To have a space, to meet with other people that have projects straddling that academic-community fence, is really nice. The financial support is helpful, but it’s more the space, the energy that Curb provides for me and this project, the excitement ... to be able to bring attention to the good work that different units on campus are a part of.”

--Jim Fraser, Faculty Public Scholar 2015-16, on being a Curb Public Scholar
expected to participate in the program’s monthly seminars and end-of-the-year symposium, and help mentor their graduate student colleagues in the program.

**Award Requirements**
All fellows will be expected to:

- Attend the second annual Public Scholars Symposium on Wednesday, April 27, 2016, 1:00-4:30 (reception follows) at the Curb Center for Art, Enterprise, and Public Policy
- Be in residence during the 2016-17 academic year
- Participate in regular meetings (4 fall, 3 spring) with other faculty fellows and affiliated scholars including fall orientation and the spring symposium (schedule attached)
- Present a version of their public scholarship project to a relevant audience off campus during the 2016-17 academic year
- Present results of the public scholarship project at the third annual Public Scholars Symposium in April, 2017

**Application Requirements**
Send the following to kristin.r.bell@vanderbilt.edu by noon on Thursday, March 31, 2016:

- Letter of interest addressing how participation in the program will enhance your professional development
- Two-page CV highlighting relevant research projects and public scholarship experiences
- Attached information form
- Either a one-to-two page written description or a 3-minute video or slide show describing your project in terms of the policy realm, including such questions as issue identification, policy/program design, budgetary politics, implementation, or policy evaluation

Notes:
- Projects do not have to be fully conceived at this application phase. Both forum discussions and informal conversations with Curb Center community members likely will inform and guide your project’s design and implementation.
- Projects may address arts/cultural policy on a local, national, or international level.
- Center faculty and staff welcome conversation during the application phase—contact Administrative Assistant Kristin Bell at kristin.r.bell@vanderbilt.edu or 615-322-CURB.

**Review Process**
- All applications will be reviewed by an interdisciplinary committee of Vanderbilt faculty and community leaders engaged in policy research and application.
- Decisions will be communicated to recipients on Friday, April 8, 2016.
### Timeline

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tue, Feb 22</td>
<td>Call for Proposals distributed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue, Mar 1</td>
<td>Application period. Applicants are encouraged to meet with Curb Center staff to discuss proposals during this time.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu, Mar 31</td>
<td>Proposals due by noon. No proposals will be accepted after this deadline.</td>
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<td>Fri, Apr 8</td>
<td>Awards announced</td>
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<td>Wed, Apr 27</td>
<td>Second Annual Public Scholars Symposium 1:00-4:30 pm (reception follows)</td>
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<td>Curb Center for Art, Enterprise, and Public Policy at Vanderbilt</td>
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<td>1801 Edgehill Avenue</td>
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### About the Curb Center

The Curb Center at Vanderbilt is a national policy center committed to research and teaching that advocates for the centrality of the arts and creativity to civic and community engagement.
2016-17 Curb Public Scholar Schedule

All events are held at the Curb Center at Vanderbilt, 1801 Edgehill Avenue. Every effort is made to include every scholar in each event. However, this schedule is subject to change according to the availability of guest speakers.

Mon, Apr 15  Acceptance materials to 2016 kristin.r.bell@vanderbilt.edu, including: written acceptance email/letter, signed media release, high-res head shot, bio (100-150 words)

Wed, Apr 27  Second Annual Curb Public Scholar Symposium 2016 1:00-4:30 pm (pictures at 1:00 pm, reception follows symposium’s end)

Tue, Aug 23  2016-17 Curb Public Scholar Orientation 2016 8:30-10:30 am (breakfast included)

Thu, Sep 8 1st Public Scholars Forum (speaker TBD) 2016 4:10-6:00 pm (light reception included)

Tue, Oct 11 2nd Public Scholars Forum (speaker TBD) 2016 4:10-6:00 pm (light reception included)

Thu, Nov 10 3rd Public Scholars Forum (speaker TBD) 2016 4:10-6:00 pm (light reception included)

Dec  No formal meeting: scholars will be invited to gather informally to discuss projects and are encouraged to meet with Jay and/or Elizabeth as needed

Thu, Jan 12 4th Public Scholars Forum (speaker TBD) 2017 4:10-6:00 pm (light reception included)

Thu, Feb 16 5th Public Scholars Forum (speaker TBD) 2017 4:10-6:00 pm (light reception included)

Mar  No formal meeting: scholars will be invited to gather informally to discuss projects and are encouraged to meet with Jay and/or Elizabeth as needed

Wed, Apr 26  Third Annual Public Scholars Symposium 2017 1:00-4:30 pm (pictures at 1:00 pm, reception follows symposium’s end)
Curb Center Public Scholars Program
Information Form (2016-2017)

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ADVISOR SIGNATURE
(for students only)

DGS SIGNATURE
(for students only)

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

Please return this form with your application material.