



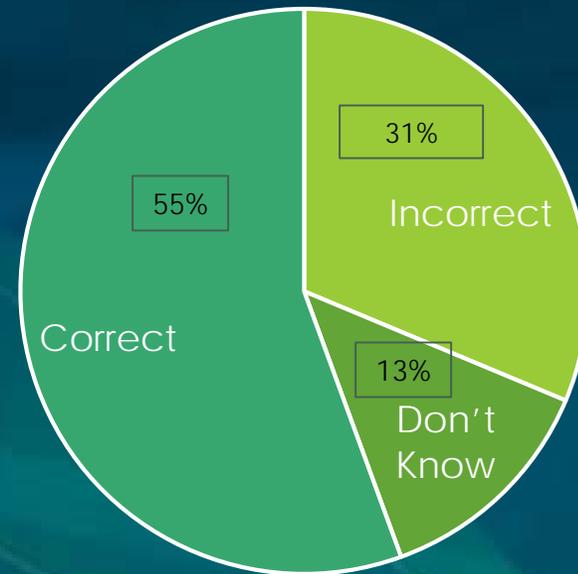
# Fulbright-in-the- Classroom

WEBINAR – AUGUST 9, 2018

## The Concept

- High School graduates are unprepared for the globalized world
- Fulbright alumni are ideally prepared to share their expertise
- K-12 education is ripe for sharing Fulbright experiences and understanding

Overall results out of 75 possible answers



Source: WHAT COLLEGE-AGED STUDENTS KNOW ABOUT THE WORLD: A SURVEY OF GLOBAL LITERACY, CFR & National Geographic Society, September 2016



## Four Chapters Piloted the Concept

- Central Virginia
- Iowa
- SF/Northern California
- Greater Los Angeles





## Some initial ideas

- Focus on American Fulbrighters and their experiences
- Prepare Fulbrighters for K-12 classrooms
- Integrate curriculum with needs of the classroom teacher
- Multiple interactions with students will have greatest impact





## Some initial ideas, cont.

- Develop curriculum in advance
- Work with cosponsors
  - Sister Cities International
  - National Council for the Social Studies
  - American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages
- Others:
  - World Affairs Councils
  - UNA-USA



## The reality: Central Virginia

- Focused on a school district with a rural, homogeneous student body
  - Pair international Fulbright students with an American Fulbright alumnus
  - Mixed signals from school district resulted in inability to implement proposal
- Find a Fulbright Alum who is actively working with or currently employed by the selected school system
- Alternately, select a school system in which known Fulbright Alum relationships exist to facilitate the communication and contacts



Central Virginia Chapter meeting with Mayor of Staunton and Sister Cities International Representative



## The reality: Iowa

- Focused on international Fulbright students
- Involved
  - 3 Fulbright Association members
  - 5 Visiting Fulbright students
  - 200 middle school students
  - 8 members of the middle school staff





## Iowa, continued

- Focused on global citizenship
- One Board member worked with school district and one Board member worked with the international Fulbright students
- 3-4 students were taken on each of two visits; in retrospect, one visit would have been sufficient
- All middle school students met in an assembly before breaking into groups with the visiting Fulbrighters





## Northern California/SF

- Volunteer recruitment proved to be a slower process than anticipated, so only one volunteer presented
- Curriculum focused on global citizenship, using elements of Fulbrighter's experience and hands-on activity related to the Fulbrighter's host country
- Fulbrighters completed a brief training that discussed lesson structure, modeling a sample lesson, and best practices for the classroom
- Fulbrighters were also put in touch with their host teacher and school prior to the lesson to encourage collaboration and alignment with the host teacher's curriculum

## Northern California/SF, cont

- Lesson learned:
  - Ensure that schools are on board for the next academic year (three school partnerships are already on board)
  - Continue recruitment events to get Fulbright alumni interested and committed to the project (9 Fulbright alumni are interested)
  - Offer option of “virtual training”





## Greater Los Angeles Chapter

- FiC should begin at the start of the new school year in August
- One school expressed need for an inventory of volunteer interests and skills so it could match volunteers with teacher and student needs
- School representatives saw this program as a strong fit for the Advanced Placement (AP) Capstone Project, as well as the International Baccalaureate (IB) CAS project
- School reps thought creating Common Core-compliant lesson plans was too disruptive of teachers' plans, and prefer to treat this program as a complement to preexisting classroom activity
- Volunteers must attend an orientation before visiting campus; the orientation should include an overview of American schools and processes
- Volunteers must undergo fingerprinting (around \$20/person) before being allowed on campus



## Recommendations

- Participate in a way that best suits you and opportunities around you:
  - Recruit those connected to teaching: ETAs, teachers
  - Connect visiting Fulbrighters to your local school
  - Ask your child's current or former teachers if you can visit
  - If recently returned, ask a teacher of yours from high school or middle school
  - Starting small is good!
  - Keep it simple to avoid volunteer burnout
- Follow appropriate rules like background checks
- But avoid unnecessary bureaucracy/politics
  - Generally no need to involve county/city officials
  - Principals not the best first contact; teachers can advocate for the program
  - Connecting to the curriculum may not be possible; "one-offs" are just fine
  - Chapter-based or not



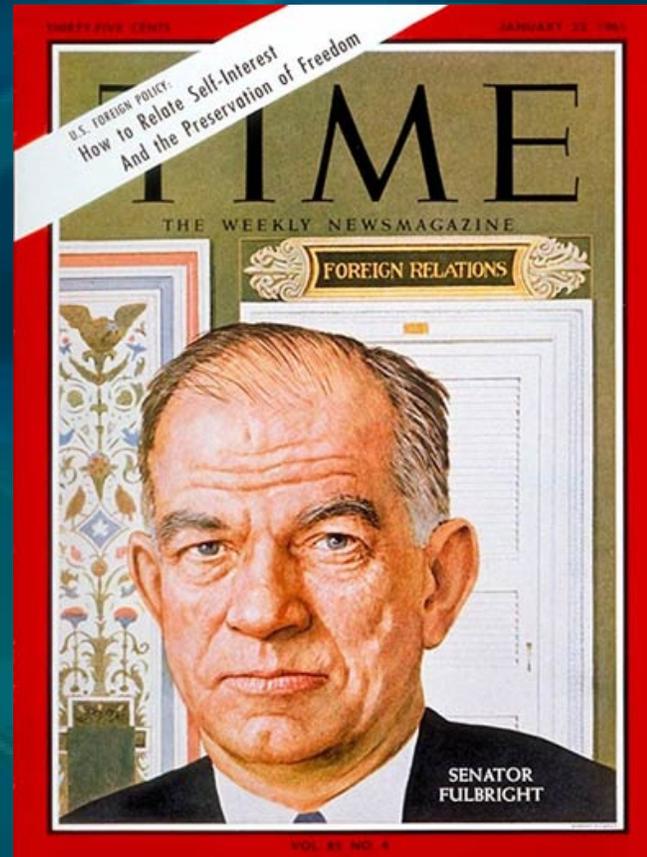
## Expectations for 2018-19

- Chapters are free to explore a variety of models
- Central Office stands ready to help
- Please keep us informed of your plans so we can share them with others
- This is the first Webinar
  - Please share with others in your chapter
  - Let us know what topics you'd like us to cover in the future
- Let us know what you want
  - ListServ to share experiences, problems, questions?
  - Facebook group?
- Document/Document/Document/Document/Document
  - Please take photos of your meetings, training sessions, presentations, etc. Candid shots are better than posed shots
  - Send them to us so we can share them.



## Some final thoughts

- While small, Fulbright-in-the-Classroom has been a highlight in the annual report
- The FA Board is enthusiastic about your work
- The State Department supports the program
- There is the potential for foundation funding for future efforts, so your reporting and documentation is essential





## Final thoughts

- Chapter Grants due September 14, 2018
- U.S. Alumni Engagement and Program Promotion
  - **Focus on Community Engagement**
- Expenses connected to the FiC can be included, including mileage, meals, fingerprinting, etc.
- Please contact:  
[Michael.Korff@Fulbright.org](mailto:Michael.Korff@Fulbright.org)
- Read the evaluation report at  
<https://fulbright.org/2018/07/26/fulbright-in-the-classroom/fic-report-062518/>



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