Since 1977, the Fulbright Association has been a force for positive change, extending and magnifying the impact of the Fulbright Program through education, community service and outreach, networking, and advocacy. As the American alumni organization of the Fulbright exchange program, the Association serves a vibrant, diverse, and inclusive community committed to international cooperation through cultural understanding and respect. Visit fulbright.org for more information and to become a member.

FULBRIGHT ASSOCIATION

The Fulbright community has always been committed to building person-to-person connections as a prerequisite to understanding, cooperation, and peace. That is why “Reaching Out” was both a theme for the Fulbright Association in 2023, and is a mission deeply embedded in our culture. Reaching out to each other, to our partners, and to our neighbors gives us purpose, energy, focus, and inspiration.

This annual report provides many examples of how we reached out in 2023. Allow us to highlight a few key moments:

- Chapters across America became more engaged than ever in grassroots advocacy, reaching out to congressional offices in their districts and states.
- Reaching out to corporate, foundation, and university partners for support, we awarded the Fulbright Prize to an audience of 500 in Washington and thousands online.
- Chapters reached out to their members through a variety of creative community-building events, including happy hours, service projects, and discussions on foreign policy. With strong leadership from nearly 1,000 volunteers and generous funding from the State Department’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, our chapters helped reconnect us all post-pandemic.
- The Fulbright alumni community is deeply committed to inclusion and to ensuring that the next generation of Fulbrighters fully represents all Americans. That is why we have reached out to our neighbors, especially in under-represented communities, to share our love of international exchange. We have done this for years through Fulbright in the Classroom, and in 2023, we added an exciting new program, a Youth Summit, to promote study abroad.

With this annual report, we are reaching out to you to express our sincere appreciation for your membership, engagement, donations, volunteerism, and leadership. These successes and many more found in this report and on our website, www.fulbright.org, are possible because of you.

On behalf of the Association team and the national Board of Directors, we thank you for all you do to make our alumni community an engine of hope and positive change.

Sincerely,

Hon. Cynthia Ackron Baldwin
Fulbright to Zimbabwe, 1994
Chair of the Board

John B. Bader, Ph.D.
Fulbright to India, 1985-86
Executive Director

FROM THE BOARD CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
In October, fueled by the Fulbright spirit and a shared commitment to global betterment, over 300 Fulbright Association members and friends gathered in Denver, Colorado, at the 46th Annual Conference, “Our Responsibility for a Better World.”

Annual Conference presenters highlighted the need for empathy, community engagement, and a long-term perspective when addressing complex issues. Panels discussed how Fulbrighters, with their diverse experiences, can bridge gaps in social justice, public health, and education by leveraging their cross-cultural insights to foster global dialogue on equity issues.

Thank you to the Colorado Chapter leadership and volunteers, especially President Nancy Sayre, and conference sponsors, especially Florida International University, the Peace Corps, Auburn University, Rice Global, and United Airlines. A special thank you to the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs at US Department of State for sponsoring a Chapter Leadership Workshop, held at the Conference.

The inaugural Pathways to Global Leadership Youth Summit was held concurrently, bringing together 100 students, most of whom identified as people of color and first-generation college students.

Designed to connect young U.S. exchange alumni and Denver students, the summit provided networking, information on international exchange opportunities, and a forum to discuss how young people can help tackle major international challenges facing America.

Thanks to Leland Lazarus and Wen-kuni Céant for organizing and leading the 2023 Youth Summit. Thank you to the Citizen Diplomacy Action Fund, Hivebrite, and the Lincoln Hills Cares Foundation for making this event possible.

TRAVEL TO SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

In May 2023, 27 Fulbrighters and friends, led by Fulbright Association Representative Laurie Feldman, took part in an Insight Trip to Spain and Portugal through the Fulbright Association’s Travel Program. The group enjoyed informative tours in ancient cities, cutting-edge contemporary art, and stimulating discussions with fellow travelers.
In April 2023, the Fulbright Association presented the Fulbright Prize for International Understanding to Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett and Dr. Anthony Fauci in a Washington D.C. ceremony with an in-person audience of 500 and a livestream audience of 2,700.

Doctors Corbett and Fauci led the development and distribution of the lifesaving COVID-19 mRNA vaccine and other efforts to control the virus. They were instrumental in a global effort that brought us all back from a precipice.

In her acceptance speech, Dr. Corbett shared, “In the beginning, I had no international understanding at all. All I had was a little motivation. What I have learned from this vaccine development moment is that one’s purpose is not always clear cut and defined. I started this pandemic as merely a scientist and by way of the universe, now I am so much more than that.”

Dr. Fauci stated, “Looking ahead to my own future goals, I am committed to continuing to contribute however and wherever I can be most effective to support activities that in the spirit of William Fulbright enhance the health and wellbeing of all people in the United States and around the globe.”

Thank you to the generous sponsors, including Pfizer, ADP Foundation, Rice University – Global, Highmark, Georgia-Pacific, Leo Berwick, EY, Venable, UPMC Health Plan, and The Pennsylvania State University, who made this event possible.
In 2023, the Fulbright Association’s network of 600 chapter leaders organized over 200 events designed to extend the Fulbright mission in their local communities. Highlights include:

The **Colorado Chapter** celebrated Martin Luther King’s legacy in January by teaming up with the local food bank, United Way, and the Avery Center to build care packages for sex traffic victims, make literacy and housing insecurity go-to kits for at risk populations, cook and package food for the Food Bank, and complete a beautification project for the University of Northern Colorado’s Black-identifying student center.

In celebration of Earth Day, the **newly formed South Florida Chapter** spent the day doing beach cleanup, providing an opportunity for Fulbright alumni and visiting scholars to connect while taking care of the environment and contributing to the community.

In September, the **Minnesota Chapter** raised over $1,000 for Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) through participation in Minnesota’s Walk Like MADD event. Former Minnesota Chapter President Erin Randall was killed by a drunk driver in 2015, and participating members carried a banner in Erin’s memory.

In October, the **Chicago Chapter** continued their mentorship program with a kick-off event for mentors and mentees. Participants, including Fulbright alumni mentors and visiting Fulbrighter mentees, had the opportunity to identify and articulate their goals and expectations for their mentorship experiences. Leaders offered resources and support for mentees beyond their mentor-mentee relationships.

In 2023, the Fulbright Association launched six country-based interest groups (Ireland, Israel, Italy, Norway, Spain, Taiwan) in collaboration with Fulbright Commissions across the globe. Interest groups allow Fulbright Association members to connect with other alumni who share their Fulbright country. Since launching, the interest groups have been a forum for sharing Fulbright stories, learning history, and appreciating the unique culture of each country.

To learn more about joining or starting a group, visit [www.fulbright.org/chapters](http://www.fulbright.org/chapters). For more chapter highlights, please see the digital version of this report at [www.fulbright.org/annual-reports](http://www.fulbright.org/annual-reports).
In honor of Martin Luther King Day, the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter worked with JPCS Pittsburgh, All for All, and Global Hub to provide resources to serve refugees and immigrants in the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, region. The event fed families, provided a safe education space for children, and informed parents about their rights in the local school system.

In May, Massachusetts Chapter members volunteered at the New England Center and Home for Veterans. There, they served lunch to veterans and learned about the Center’s mission and local veteran homelessness, while taking care of the environment and contributing to the community.

2023 Virtual Interest Group Events Highlights


Israel: Dr. Lala Straussner presented virtual session “Understanding and Addressing Individual and Communal Trauma,” at which members gathered to learn more about trauma and its effect on people of different ages and how it can be address by professionals, families, and colleagues.

Italy: The Italy Interest Group held a Spring Mixer where the group’s plans were discussed and special guest with special guest and Executive Director of the U.S.-Italy Fulbright Commission Paola Sartorio, who shared program updates with alumni.

Spain: At “Thankful for Fulbright,” member connected virtually to share members with other Fulbright Spain alumni.

Norway: “Meet & Greet with the Norway Commission” featured speaker, Executive Director of the US-Norway Fulbright Foundation Petter Næss who shared Foundation updates with members.

Taiwan: Through monthly meetings and mentorship, leaders and members have discussed current events and politics and have built strong connections with grantees from Taiwan.

Many thanks to our Chapter and Interest Group Leaders for their dedication and support.
IN MEMORIAM

HARRIET MAYOR FULBRIGHT (1933-2023)
As the founding Executive Director of the Fulbright Association in 1977 and as spouse to Senator J. William Fulbright, Harriet Mayor Fulbright served as one of the Fulbright Program's greatest advocates. 1946 Society Member Sherry Mueller shared that Harriet's "generosity, her vivaciousness, and her encouraging ways are remembered with gratitude. She was a remarkable ambassador for the Fulbright Program and a force for good in our turbulent world."

HOYT HUGHES PURVIS (1939-2023)
“A mentor and friend, [Hoyt] showed me what one individual can do to promote peace through education, one step at a time. As a teacher, an advisor, a journalist, a public servant, and advocate, he played a vital role in the history and success of the Fulbright Program. To date, he is the only person to serve both on the Fulbright Association Board of Directors and the presidentially appointed Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board.”

– remembered by DeDe Long

Thank you to those who donated to the Fulbright Association in honor of their friends and thank you to those friends who inspired their generosity.

GIFTS IN MEMORY OF
Awad Abdelgadir, by Linda Boxberger
Josephine Valenza Arnold, by Albert James Arnold
Gretta & Bill Bader, by John Bader
Robert B. Bizal, by Clyde Munster
Robert B. Bizal, by Roger Waldon
Robert Bernard Bizal, by Mark & Carol Lester
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Robert C. Ferguson, Greece '86, by Christine Vonder Haar
Harnet Fulbright, by Ann Lewis
Jerome M. Ginsberg, by Carol Ginsberg
Ellen E. Kloehn, Venezuela 1967, by Edward Kloehn
Dr. Heimit Liedloff, by Janet Van Valkenburg
Dr. Ruth Lorbe, by Janet Van Valkenburg
Hoyt Purvis, by Steven Beaupre
Hoyt Purvis, by Laura Burns
Hoyt Purvis, by Wilda Campbell
Hoyt Purvis, by Lowell and Kathryn Grahham
Hoyt Purvis, by Ivar Glen Harrison
Hoyt Purvis, by A. Thomas King
Hoyt Purvis, by DeDe Long
Hoyt Purvis, by Rebecca Thompson
Ofra Yogev Quinn, by Martin Quinn
Jonathan Strongin, MD PhD, by Ellen Seely
Anna Tanenbaum, by Melvyn Tanenbaum
Jack Turner, by David F. Eliet
Zipangani Vokhiwa remembers her mother

The 1946 Society is a giving society that honors the founding year of the Fulbright Program. 1946 Society members support the Fulbright Association’s mission, in part, by donating $1,946 or more annually.

Thank you to this group of generous donors who propel and fortify the Fulbright Association’s vision of a peaceful and cooperative world.

**1946 SOCIETY MEMBERS OF THE YEAR**

**ALISON GARDY**

Most recently, Alison serves as the Co-Founder and Facilitator of Life Chats, a virtual gathering for lifetime members. She also advocates for the Fulbright Program outside of the Fulbright Association community by finding synergy between Fulbright alumni and other community-oriented projects. One of Alison’s colleagues shared that “There are few people in the world who exude the passion, love, professionalism, and dedication to their work that is so clear the first time you meet Alison.”

**DR. WILLIAM VOCKE**

From 2011 to 2019, Dr. Vocke promoted public diplomacy, ethics, and international exchange as Executive Director of the Foundation for Scholarly Exchange, Fulbright Taiwan. Under Dr. Vocke’s leadership and following Senator Fulbright’s vision, the Foundation sought to build a “world with a little more knowledge and a little less conflict.” As Treasurer of the Fulbright Association Board of Directors, Dr. Vocke is known by his colleagues for his integrity and determination.

**2023 FULLBRIGHT FRIEND HONOREES**

Thank you to those who donated to the Fulbright Association in honor of their friends and thank you to those friends who inspired their generosity.

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**For a complete list of 2023 Fulbright Association donors, please visit www.fulbright.org/donor-honor-roll/2023.**
In 2023, the Fulbright Association continued its Advocacy efforts through an in-person Advocacy Day on Capitol Hill on April 23. In meetings with 75 Congressional Offices, 92 Fulbright Association members and friends from 30 states and countries advocated for increased support for the Fulbright Program.

In addition to the in-person meetings in 2023, chapter advocacy directors organized 30 additional meetings with congressional offices in their home states.

In these meetings, nearly 60 Fulbrighters shared stories of Fulbright Program impact in their local communities.

Fulbright Association’s 2022 Advocacy efforts resulted in a $12.5 million increase for the Fulbright Program – the first Congressional increase in Fulbright funding in 12 years!
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