



Fact Sheet  
Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program | Class of 2021

The public announcement of the 26 scholars is April 28, 2021, at 5 a.m. EST. The main online source for information is Carnegie Corporation of New York's website, [Carnegie.org](https://www.carnegie.org), and [this program page](#).

The goal of the Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program is to support scholarly research in the humanities and social sciences that addresses important and enduring issues confronting our society. The fellows' projects focus on a broad range of complex political, economic, technological, humanistic, and sociological subjects.

The Corporation established the fellows program in 2015 under the guidance of the late Vartan Gregorian, who was president of the foundation from 1997 until his death on April 15, 2021, one week after the 2021 fellows were named by the selection jury. Gregorian, a former history professor and past president of Brown University, often noted that an important fellowship early in his career contributed to his success in higher education and then philanthropy. He wanted the Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program to advance and elevate the work of the honorees in the same way.

Gregorian participated actively in the development and oversight of the program and reviewed every nomination that was submitted. For decades, he was a leading supporter of education initiatives, and created multiple scholarly research programs in the U.S. and internationally, particularly in Africa. Under Gregorian's leadership, between 2015 and 2021, the Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program has funded a total of 216 scholars, journalists, and authors, representing an investment of \$43.2 million.

This year, jurors selected 26 fellows. Fourteen are from public institutions of higher education, 12 are from private colleges or universities. Among the fellows, there are 18 women and eight men, including one transgender person. After the announcement, information about the winners, their professional affiliations, and the titles of their projects will be available [here](#).

The fellowship carries a \$200,000 stipend, making it possible for recipients to devote up to two years to significant research and writing. It is one of the most generous awards of its kind supporting scholarship in the humanities and social sciences. Honorees include established and emerging scholars, journalists, authors, and public intellectuals.

The fellowship program builds on a century-old tradition of investing in creative scholarly research — a longtime focus for Carnegie Corporation of New York, the philanthropic foundation established by Andrew Carnegie in 1911. [The Corporation](#) has a long history of supporting individual scholars and their research, in addition to a wide variety of institutions, causes, and organizations. This support is a continuation of Andrew Carnegie’s mission: “the advancement and diffusion of knowledge and understanding.”

Nominations were received from some 700 leaders of independent research institutes and societies, universities, preeminent think tanks, major university presses, and prominent newspapers and magazines, among others. Universities may nominate one senior and one junior scholar (a junior scholar is defined as someone who received a doctorate within the last 10 years). This year, a total of 311 nominations were submitted.

The following criteria were used to select this year’s fellows: the originality, promise, and quality of the proposal; its potential impact on the field; and the nominee’s qualifications and plans to communicate the findings to a broad audience.

The final selections were made by a distinguished panel of 14 jurors, comprising the heads of some of the nation’s preeminent institutions dedicated to the advancement of knowledge. They include six current and former presidents of universities, as well as presidents of foundations and scholarly societies.

The founding chair of the jury was [Susan Hockfield](#), professor of neuroscience and president emerita of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She stepped down last year and was replaced by Georgetown University president [John J. DeGioia](#), who has

been a member of the jury from the start of the program. In addition, [Alondra Nelson](#), president of the Social Science Research Council, stepped down from the fellows jury after three years of service when she was asked to join the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy as deputy director for science and society. Detailed information about the jurors is available [here](#).

The program is promoted on social media with the hashtag #CarnegieFellows and the Corporation's Twitter handle @CarnegieCorp. News will be disseminated through all of the Corporation's social media channels, including [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Twitter](#). After the announcement, a social media toolkit will be available [here](#).

For more information, members of the media should email Celeste Ford at [cfc@carnegie.org](mailto:cfc@carnegie.org). Those seeking information about communications related to the program should email Debra Wexler at [dw@carnegie.org](mailto:dw@carnegie.org).