



May 2009 Issue Highlights

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Whew! Weathering the Financial Storm.



Iola Cox, CPA, Chair
Rushmore University Board of Governors

Whew! Is it safe to come up for air? The current economic environment certainly requires much thought and courage before making plans for the future. Certainly, economic downturns and cycles are nothing new. America has averaged an economic crisis every 7 years since the 1800s; however, this crisis is unprecedented in the amount of credit created. We are not guaranteed that life will be without challenges; yet each day opportunities exist. During these times it is very important to get as much information as possible and be able to weigh the relevance of the information received.

The following is a quote from an Orlando businessman, James Seneff, Jr., founder of CNL Financial, when he was interviewed by a local business magazine, *Orlando CEO*. "Business is a liberal art, more so today than at any time in the past. Your ability to manage a business, to have an emotional IQ and an intellectual IQ is a result of your ability to read and look at things from different points of view. If you only have a business point of view, you will tend to do the same thing everyone else is doing. We try to take ideas from all of the disciplines - math, physics, science, etc. - and bring that to how we think about our business. People are reading less all the time, and I think that's a mistake."

I was able to hear Mr. Seneff speak at my sons' school. Mr. Seneff is a strong proponent of education so he titled his talk, "The 7 R's Needed to Weather the Current Economic Storm". The seven R's are listed below:

Review – Look at your expenses through a microscope and your investments through a telescope.

Reflect – Even within the scope of the present economic conditions we have many reasons to remain thankful. Make sure that you grow through painful experiences. Recognize that money does not make us

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rich and the temporary absence of money doesn't make us poor.

Recalibrate – Manage your expectations and recalibrate. Don't look at your situation through a rearview mirror; rather redefine normal and build from where you are today. Each day brings obstacles and opportunities; don't obsess either one.

Reconnect - Use this time to reconnect with neighbors, family, and those in your community.

Read – Read and think across a broad range of disciplines. Do this in order to understand the complexity of our global situation.

Reform - An Economic crisis is also a crisis of character. If you embrace a bad idea at some time in the future you will attend a banquet of consequences.

Remember - Remember who you are. This is a time to minister to others.

If you care to hear the whole talk you can download it off the Internet at <http://www.genevaschool.org>.

I am anxious to hear from you. What are some great books that are helping you weather the economic storm?

Accomplish and Enjoy More by Being Grateful



The Rushmore Ongoing Article Series
By: Dr. Don Mitchell, JD
Rushmore University Faculty

Many of you have seen Dr. Mitchell's articles online about Rushmore Alumni and Friends. This is one of his Alumni stories which has been read, literally, thousands of times online. It focuses on Rushmore Alumnus Dr. Krisztian Fekete.

When you first walk into a room containing lots of people you don't know, what thoughts go through your mind?

Stop a minute to review any such experiences you remember and jot down what those thoughts were.

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In such social circumstances, some people are excited about the opportunities to meet new people and to enjoy time with people they already know.

Others look on with trepidation, concerned that others may be harsh with them.

Still others imagine having lots of fun.

Busy people may start thinking of excuses to leave.

Those who like to make an impression may stand a little straighter and make a noteworthy entrance.

People in sales begin sizing up the crowd for potential prospects.

And a few, just a very few, people will simply feel grateful to be alive and to experience whatever happens. In such gratitude are seeds of great accomplishments and enjoying life to the utmost.

Gratitude clears the mind of preconceptions to see the situation with an open and energetic perspective. For instance, a grateful person in a room full of strangers will be eager to listen and to offer help to anyone who needs it.

Now, think about the person you would most like to spend time with at such a gathering. I believe that you would enjoy the occasion most by being with a grateful person. While those who look forward to being with you and having fun will certainly be entertaining, they usually won't make a deep and personal connection with you. Certainly those who are averse to the whole experience won't be much fun or very helpful. And anyone who is mainly interested in what other people can do for them can be a positive pain.

Having thought about the potential for gratitude to improve life for grateful people as well as others, let's examine what a lifetime of gratitude can do for you by considering a grateful person, Krisztian Fekete, Ph.D.

Dr. Fekete was born and raised in Budapest, Hungary as part of a loving family which lived in a pleasant part of the green belt. His family was proud of his grandfather's success as a physician. Everyone in the family gave him lots of love. Like many young men, Dr. Fekete enjoyed sports including swimming, tennis, and acrobatic diving. He also appreciated trips to Germany where he learned a second language.

You may be thinking that someone with such a nice life would find it easy to be grateful. Yet many young people just accept the good things of life as their due and become very self-centered. That wasn't the case for Dr. Fekete. Part of the reason for his gratitude may lie in his

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family's severe financial difficulties when he was 16, which helped him understand that being materially well provided for shouldn't be assumed. As a result of those setbacks, he lost his loved ones and his life style. From then, his family became a heavy load to carry rather than a source of blessing.

As an adult, Dr. Fekete decided he wanted to repeat the best of his youthful experiences. That desire was combined with a yearning to learn. Knowing that he wanted to create a loving, secure environment and to learn more, you might imagine that he became an academic. If you drew that conclusion, you would be very mistaken.

Dr. Fekete was drawn instead to practical and spiritual learning. On the practical side he earned a bachelor's degree in computer science and became a software engineer. After three years, he started a successful software company and worked there as a software developer. Drawn to learn more, he later enrolled in the Open University and earned a Professional Diploma in Management.

From these entrepreneurial and educational experiences, he learned what makes a company operate smoothly and how to identify and solve company problems. This new knowledge made him eager to learn still more, in keeping with his philosophy that the benefits from whatever love and wisdom have been gained in life can never be lost.

In parallel to this practical learning, Dr. Fekete also began to look for role models and mentors, realizing that others had experience that could help him. He read lots of biographies, joined the Club of Budapest International (an organization committed to creating a better future for all), and began corresponding with Patrick Byrne, Ph.D. who was then the CEO of Overstock.com, a company that sold excess inventory over the Internet at bargain prices. In Dr. Byrne, Dr. Fekete found a true Renaissance man.

Dr. Byrne advised him to learn about value investing, and Dr. Fekete began studying that investment discipline. As a result, Dr. Fekete's investing results were quite good, and he gained another way to improve his financial security.

The insights Dr. Fekete gained from earning the management diploma and his experiences in making investments encouraged him to work toward becoming a highly skilled international-value investor. To make that possible skill acquisition possible, he enrolled at Rushmore University to study one-on-one with expert professors in this field.

Dr. Fekete did well in his studies and gained the admiration and support of his professors who encouraged him to share his new knowledge. Soon, his articles about international value investing were being read around the globe.

From this new-found visibility and academic support, Dr. Fekete

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gained confidence that encouraged him to seek opportunities to serve the many investors who began to contact him. He therefore became a professional investor as well as an IT entrepreneur and software developer.

Inspired to share even more of what he had learned, Dr. Fekete soon completed a book, **Inspiring Mix for Titans**, which he intended to be an inspirational blessing for readers with high aspirations. He continues to seek more knowledge, currently as a student of metaphysics at Oxford University.

Dr. Fekete has gained much from what others have taught him and wishes to share some of that wisdom with you. Dr. Fekete kindly offered a few thoughts that were inspired by Dr. John F. Demartini (a philosopher and chiropractor) about how he gained this larger vision and greater inspiration for his life:

“I realized that my greatest gift is my mind. I decided to fill my mind with how I want to live my life instead of how I did not. Most people are concentrating on the weeds instead of the flowers, and they blame the world around them instead of taking command in their own life.

“Inspiration is key to this journey. There is a science to inspiration which is based in the science of gratitude. The ability to stay grateful opens up the heart.

“When we are not grateful, we live in fear and guilt. Fear follows from a negative assumption about the future. Guilt is a negative perception of memories.”

What is the positive side of inspiration? It's vision:

“Most people don't know that if you want to make a difference in yourself and get beyond yourself, you require a vision at least as big as your family.

“If you want to make a difference in your family, you must have a vision and a calling at least as big as your community.

“If you want to make a difference in your community, you must have a vision and a calling as big as the city.

“If you want to make a difference in your city, you must have a vision and a calling as big as the nation.

“If you want to be a leader in the nation, you have to have a vision as big as the globe.

“But if you are like me and you desire to create a global vision, you have to have an astronomical vision.

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“If the ‘why’ is big enough, the ‘how’ will take care of itself.”

Are you grateful enough to have a heart that’s open to a vision that’s as large as your potential?

If not, be grateful for whatever thankfulness you already feel, and your gratitude will begin to grow to match your ability to be inspired and enjoy accomplishing.

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Put Things Off and Stop Caring to Realize Your Dreams

Article by Zen Habits contributor [Jonathan Mead](#); follow him on [Twitter](#).

(Another great posting from www.zenhabits.com)

Caring is supposed to be a good thing; yet, it can become unhealthy and have an adverse effect on our lives.

When we care too much, we become obsessive and it often leads to dysfunction.

There are definitely times where passion fuels our desire to act. Working towards change, being involved in a social movement, and contributing in a meaningful way to others are all examples of this. But it’s the *not caring* about things that don’t matter that allows you to focus your attention on these big, important things. It’s the lack of out-of-control caring that brings more levity into your life.

Here are a few classic examples of caring gone too far:

- Caring too much about things that don’t matter.
- Caring too much about things being perfect and reach a point of diminishing returns. It can take four hours of studying to get a 95% on a test, but it may take fifteen hours of studying to get a 100%. Are those additional eleven hours really worth it?
- Caring too much about always being updated. We want to know what’s happening on Facebook, Twitter, email, and we lose our ability to focus.

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The Rushmore Worldwide News is published monthly to disseminate information of general interest to Rushmore University Students, Faculty, Alumni and Friends.

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- Adversely caring about what others think and don't give enough credit to what we think.
- Caring too much about the future. We're always thinking about what will happen next.

I could go on and on about all the possibilities of toxic caring. It's already plain to see that caring — something usually seen as a positive action — can be highly undesirable. I've seen so many people waste so much time caring about things that don't really matter. They have dreams and they have big ideas, but they can't get them off the ground because their attention and concern is in the wrong place.

If your mind is too focused on what's happening in the next five minutes, you'll never make progress on the things that will impact your life five years from now. If you're too focused on tidying up your desk, reorganizing your paper clips and making sure everything is filed immaculately, you're just spinning your wheels. Things like this have a place, and organization is important. But when it's taking up more time than your most important tasks, you might want to rethink things.

The same thing applies not just with organization, but with caring too much about getting everything done. If you have a lot of little loose ends and small tasks that you need to close, you could easily get overwhelmed. And you might think that finishing those things is a bigger priority than working on your something amazing.

But trust me, it's not. There will be more little things to obsess over. There will be other things that you can find to do that will creep into your consciousness. These things are your enemies.

I repeat: These minutiae must be not be allowed residence in your mind. They cannot take up the precious and sacred focus of your attention.

This is where you need to learn the art of putting things off.

Yeah, I know that might sound controversial, given how many of us have issues with procrastination. But, this is actually good news for you procrastinators! Now you can use this valuable skill to your advantage.

Put off or procrastinate all the stuff that doesn't matter. Do this for the survival of your dreams.

If you don't learn how to skillfully put off the trivial details of your to-do list, your dreams will suffer for it. If you don't learn how to stop caring about all the stuff that won't matter in ten minutes or ten years, your

dreams will be left as nothing more than a phantom of your imagination.

I will admit, this is something I've struggled with for a long time. While I haven't fully learned the skilled art of putting off the inconsequential, I am making serious progress.

I used to obsess about the little things, partly because I'm a recovering perfectionist. But it's also largely due to the fact that I was afraid of facing my dreams. I was putting off the wrong stuff. I was putting off facing the reality of what I really wanted and coming to terms with whether or not it was truly possible. I was afraid of failure; but most of all, I was afraid of the unknown.

Now I see that when I'm putting off the wrong stuff (my true desires), I need to take a closer at myself. I see it as a clue that I might be avoiding what I really want for some reason. Maybe it's fear, maybe it's something else. But I know that getting too wrapped up in the details means that I need to step back and take a look at the bigger picture.

Take a step back, and breathe...

When you realize that you're spending time on a lot of insignificant things, take a look at what the deeper message might be. Maybe you're afraid of taking the first step toward your dreams.

See what happens when you put off or stop caring about...

- Checking your email every ten minutes.
- Having everything finished on your to do list.
- Having an immaculately clean house.
- Trying to please everyone.
- Seeking praise and popularity.
- **[Your malady here.]**
- See this article for a full list of things worth giving up.

When you're left with your real, authentic self, you will probably be a little uncomfortable, as I was. But it's better to be face-to-face with this discomfort than letting this lawless caring get in the way of you living your dreams.

So put things off, be flaky. Stop caring about the stuff that doesn't matter ... your dreams depend on it.

Scholarship Opportunities from Around the World Paper Presentation Opportunities

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: The 2009 Ryutaro Hashimoto APFED Awards

The Asia-Pacific Forum for Environment and Development (APFED) is pleased to invite all eligible organisations that have made contributions to the promotion of sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific to apply for the 2009 Ryutaro Hashimoto APFED Awards for Good Practices.

The applications that satisfy the eligibility requirements and qualify by means of a peer-review will be registered in the APFED Database. After a comprehensive evaluation process, winners will be presented with monetary awards. These awards are the Gold Prize (USD 20,000), the Silver Prize (USD 7,000) and the Incentive Prize (USD 2,000).

The deadline for applications is Sunday, 31 May 2009 (17:00 pm Japan Standard Time).

For further details, please visit <http://www.apfed.net/ki/awards/>

E-mail: apfed-award@iges.or.jp

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: 2009 APFED Showcase Programme

The Asia-Pacific Forum for Environment and Development (APFED) is now calling for proposals under the Showcase Programme, which supports the development, implementation, monitoring, and information dissemination of innovative policies, measures and actions for promoting sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific. A grant of up to USD 30,000 will be provided to each selected project.

The deadline for proposal submission is Sunday, 31 May 2009.

For further details, please visit <http://www.apfed.net/showcase/>

Contacts: APFED Showcase Facility Secretariat
c/o Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP/ROAP)
Email: unep-apfed@un.org

Monsanto's Beachell-Borlaug International Scholars Program

This program is a result of a pledge that Monsanto made to help improve rice and wheat yields as part of the company's commitment to sustainable yield. Monsanto established this program in honor of two of the world's most preeminent rice and wheat breeders: Dr. Henry Beachell and Dr. Norman Borlaug. The objective of this prestigious Fellowship program administered by Texas A&M University is to develop highly educated rice and wheat plant breeders who can serve as agricultural leaders.

Applicants with a master's degree or equivalent in Plant Breeding and Genetics. They should also be enrolled or accepted in a rice or wheat breeding PhD program and be supported by a professor at the university where the degree will be awarded.

Deadline: 31 May, 2009.

<http://www.monsanto.com/default.asp>

The World Forestry Institute (WFI) International Fellowship Program

The World Forestry Institute (WFI) Fellowship program brings professionals in natural resources to conduct a practical research project at the World Forestry Center. In addition to projects, fellows participate in weekly field trips, interviews and site visits to Northwest forestry organizations, research labs, universities, public and private timberlands, trade associations, mills and corporations. The Fellowship is a unique opportunity to learn about sustainable forestry from the Pacific Northwest forestry sector and to work with colleagues from around the world.

Fellowships are open to all countries. Applications are accepted throughout the year.

<http://wfi.worldforestry.org/fellowship-1.htm>

UNESCO/L'ORÉAL Co-Sponsored Fellowships for Young Women in Life Sciences

Within the of the UNESCO Co-sponsored Fellowships Scheme, a joint program has been launched with the L'ORÉAL Corporate Foundation with a view to promoting the contribution of young women - from all over the world – in research developments in the field of life sciences. The award of the fellowships constitutes a key strategy through which impetus is being given to the enhancement of the role of women in devising scientific solutions to problems confronting humankind in the twenty-first century.

Candidates must already be engaged in pursuing research at the doctoral or post-doctoral level in one or allied fields of life sciences including biology, biochemistry, biotechnology, agriculture, medicine, pharmacy and physiology. Projects involving animal models (i.e. experimentation using vertebrate laboratory animals) are rejected, and proposals in the area of cosmetics research are NOT encouraged; preference is given to non cosmetic researches. Special attention will be given to candidatures from the Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

Deadline: 30 June 2009.

http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=44170&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

Ernesto Illy Trieste Science Prize

The academy of science for the developing world is seeking nominations for the Trieste Science Prize. The prize, sponsored by Trieste-based illycaffè, has been established to give international recognition and visibility to outstanding scientific achievements made by scientists living and working in the developing countries. The prize which includes a US\$100,000 monetary award will be given for outstanding achievements in climate change and its impact on agriculture in developing countries. For additional information, refer to the website.

This prize is open to nationals of developing countries. The individuals will be awarded for scientific research of outstanding international merit carried out at institutions in developing countries.

Deadline: 31 May 2009.

<http://www.twas.org/>

Farm Foundation Competition for Innovative Agricultural Solutions

The Farm Foundation has organized a competition seeking innovative and promising public policy ideas in global financial markets and recession, food security, energy security, climate change, competition for natural resources and economic development.

The competition is open to anyone with an interest in the public policy issues.

Deadline: 1 June 2009 by 5 pm.

<http://www.farmfoundation.org/>

UN-HABITAT's Opportunities Fund for Urban Youth-Led Development

Youth-led development is about young people pro-actively creating a better future for themselves and their communities. it involves business and community improvement

projects, devised and managed by young people, often working alongside adults who are able to pass on their skills and experience.

Youth, especially girls and young women, are most vulnerable to social problems caused by unemployment and poverty and also, make up the majority of the population in many developing countries and their cities. With over 1 billion youth living in poverty, 30 million illiterate, 88 million unemployed and 10 million young people living with hiv/aids, there is a clear need to meaningfully engage and support youth.

The Fund aims to advance the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the Habitat Agenda through the following:

- Mobilizing young people to help strengthen youth-related policy formulation;
- Building the capacities of Governments, non-governmental and civil society and private-sector organization to ensure a better response to the needs and issues of young people;
- Supporting the development of interest-based information and communication-oriented networks;
- Piloting and demonstration of new and innovative approaches to employment, good governance, adequate shelter and secure tenure;
- Sharing and exchange of information on best practices;
- Facilitating vocational training and credit mechanisms to promote entrepreneurship and employment for young women and men, in collaboration with the private sector and in cooperation with other UN bodies and stakeholders; and
- Promoting gender mainstreaming in all activities of urban youth.

UN-habitat recognizes that to achieve these global benchmarks, advances must be made in both policy and practice. For this reason the Fund is committed to supporting both leading edge youth-led project and research. In regards to policy and research, UN-habitat recognizes that research on youth-led development, especially in the developing world, is a new and expanding field. UN-habitat will contribute to this field by undertaking research on projects supported by the Fund. The knowledge obtained from this research will be used to strengthen local, national and international youth-related policies as well as to ensure that gender concerns are addressed in those policies.

The Fund will also assist governments, civil society organizations and the private sector in addressing youth concerns, and support new information and learning channels for young people.

Currently in its pilot phase, the Fund will be managed by a committee of experts, researchers and practitioners drawn from UN-habitat academia, donor governments and youth.

Small, grassroots initiatives are eligible for grants up to USD 5,000. Larger projects are eligible for grants up to USD 5,000. Grants will be awarded to projects that best meet the following criteria:

- innovation – project uses a new method to address a local or global challenge;
- impact – project has potential to produce significant or measurable impact on the issue it addresses;
- sustainability – project has potential to produce on-going positive change. In other words, it's not a one time event; and
- Youth-led and youth-driven – Leaders of the project should be between 18 and 30.
- urban youth organizations dedicated to solutions that sustain communities.
- partnerships with governmental organizations, private enterprises and UN institutions are encouraged.

More info: <http://www.unhabitat.org/content.asp?typeid=19&catid=531&cid=6329>

The World Young Reader Prizes

The World Young Reader Prizes are awarded annually to innovative newspapers that have devised, in the judges' opinion, the best project or activity in the past 24 months in one or more of the main areas of young reader development.

It's easy to enter! Just send us a PowerPoint presentation (maximum size 15 megabytes on a CD or 5 megabytes via e-mail) in English that describes your project and its impact.

We are looking for innovative strategies that produce measurable results, particularly those that can be adapted for use in other countries. Use of multiple platforms is particularly encouraged.

SIX CATEGORIES:

1. Editorial: A newspaper content strategy
2. Making the News: Activity that gives young people the chance to experience professional newspaper practice
3. Newspapers in Education (NIE): Use of the newspaper as a teaching tool
4. Public Service: Public service project in areas such as the environment, literacy, youth civic involvement, etc.
5. Brand: Other projects that improve a newspaper brand's relationship with the young

Deadline: June 5 2009 (with an April 15 deadline for the Press Freedom prize)

<http://www.wan-press.org/nie/wyrp.php>

International Children's Day of Broadcasting (ICDB) Award

Encouraging youth participation in media throughout the year, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) will award the annual International Children's Day of Broadcasting (ICDB) Awards. The competition is open to radio and television broadcasters who participated in the 2008 ICDB with programmes on the theme "The World We Want". To be eligible for the ICDB Award, broadcasts must have taken place on or around March 1 2009, and should be for young people and created with some aspect of youth participation. The 2009 theme is "Unite for Children - Tune in to Kids".

Deadline: June 15 2009

http://www.unicef.org/videoaudio/video_18112.html

2009 Goi Peace Foundation UNESCO International Essay Contest for Young People

The United Nations has designated 2001-2010 as the "International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World" and 2005-2014 as the "United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development." Not only should young people benefit from these global initiatives, but they should be empowered to play a leading role in them. The theme of this year's International Essay Contest is "The role of science in building a better world." Young people from around the world are invited to submit their innovative ideas on this theme.

Scientific progress has brought many benefits to humanity, while some applications of science have had adverse impacts. What kind of science and technology do you think is needed for realizing a more equitable, prosperous and sustainable world for all? Please express your vision for the future of science, including examples of studies or researches you wish to engage in.

Essays may be submitted by anyone up to 25 years old (as of June 30, 2009) in one of the following age categories: a) Children (ages up to 14) b) Youth (ages 15 - 25).

Essays must be 800 words or less, typed or printed in English, French, Spanish or German.

Deadline: Entries must be received by June 30, 2009.

For more information please visit

<http://www.goipeace.or.jp/english/activities/programs/0901.html>

International Peace Pals Art Competition and Exhibition

Encouraging children throughout the world between the ages of 5 and 15 to participate in

The 11th Annual International Peace Pals Art Competition and Exhibition. Entries are divided into 4 age categories for the awarding of prizes: 5-8 years, 9-12 years, 13-15 years, and 16-19 years of age. The competition's theme is 'Peace in My Community'. Pictures should include the message "May Peace Prevail on Earth". Awards will be decided by a panel of international judges. First, second, and third place entries in each of the categories will be made into greeting cards, which will be awarded to all winners.

Deadline: July 30 2009

<http://www.wppspeacepals.org/>

AAAS Kavli Science Journalism Awards

Honoring outstanding reporting for a general audience by individuals (rather than institutions, publishers, or employers) for their coverage of the sciences, engineering, and mathematics.

United States (U.S.) Categories: large newspapers; small newspapers; magazines; television (2 awards: spot news/feature reporting and an in-depth reporting); radio; and online.

International Category:

Children's Science News award is for work distributed via any medium - print, broadcast, or online. The prize recognizes excellence in reporting science news for children, including young teens up to age 14. Note: Provide English translations of international entries whenever possible.

Deadline: August 1 2009

<http://www.aaas.org/aboutaaas/awards/sja/index.shtml>

Documentary Photography Distribution Grant: A Grant to Encourage

New Ways of Presenting Documentary Photography to the Public Offering a grant to documentary photographers who have already completed a significant body of work on issues of social justice, to collaborate with a partner organization and propose new ways of using photography as a tool for positive social change. All photographers must have another entity (such as a nonprofit, NGO, or community-based organisation) that will work with the photographer to design an innovative distribution strategy that focuses on specific communities and advocates for social change. Grants of US\$5,000 to US\$30,000 will be awarded.

Deadline: June 19 2009

http://www.soros.org/initiatives/photography/focus_areas/distribution/guidelines

KPC Mentorship Program

Seeking new grantees preparing to embark on their first Knowledge Practice Coverage (KPC) Survey or a veteran in need of an extra and conducting a KPC survey and host participant organisations. This KPC Mentorship Program is designed to match new trainees with a CORE member's KPC survey teams to learn by going through the entire process. Trainees must be an employee or consultant for a CORE member organisation or a new Child Survival and Health Grants Program (CSHGP) grantee, and must be sponsored by a CORE member organisation.

Deadline: July 14 2009

http://www.coregroup.org/conf_reg/mentors.cfm

New Media Fund

Seeking to nurture ideas that hold promise for wider adoption by independent media in developing democracies. The New Media Fund of the Media Development Loan Fund (MDLF) will provide financing for projects that further independent journalism and/or open debate about current affairs which incorporate: innovative editorial models for participative and citizen journalism; sustainable business models for open-content journalism; or

sustainable business models for journalism that do not primarily or exclusively rely on advertising sales or pay-for-use.

Deadline: Rolling deadline

<http://www.mdf.org/en/mdf/apply/>

Open Society Fellowship

Supporting idea entrepreneurs from around the world through a fellowship that focuses on 4 areas: 'National Security and the Open Society'; 'Citizenship, Membership and Marginalization'; 'Strategies and Tools for Advocacy and Citizen Engagement'; and 'Understanding Authoritarianism'. The Open Society Fellowship seeks professionals, including journalists, activists, scholars, and practitioners, to work on projects that inspire meaningful public debate, shape public policy, and generate intellectual ferment within Open Society Institute (OSI). Fellows' projects may include books, articles, outreach for documentary films, online media, and efforts to seed new campaigns and organisations. Fellowships are awarded for one year, but in some cases OSI considers requests for shorter or longer durations. Preference is given to applications for full-time fellowships, but OSI also considers applicants who can only work part-time on their projects.

Deadline: Rolling deadline

http://www.soros.org/initiatives/fellowship/focus_areas/guidelines

Scholarship for Master in International Media Studies

The Master's Program International Media Studies is a four-semester, full-time program for further education. It is a joint project from the University of Bonn, the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences and Deutsche Welle, Germany's international broadcaster with its headquarters in Bonn.

The bilingual Master's Program offers a unique course offer given the current development of global media and the connection between media and cooperative development. Students from around the world will benefit from the inclusion of partners and the unparalleled mix of research, lectures and practical experience.

The program combines topics like media and development, journalism, communication science and media economics, while developing practical skills and competencies that are important for the world of media.

Philosophy

Free and independent media is a significant factor for a functioning democracy, social justice and the protection of human rights. The Master's Program is based on the belief that there is a connection between democracy and development, between the freedom of opinion and democracy as well as between free media and development. The prerequisite for the establishment of a functioning, free media system are journalists who realize their role as a critical observer and reporter. This can only be guaranteed when they are professionally trained and feel obligated by a set of journalistic ethics.

By training journalists academically, the Master's Program is therefore a targeted step towards making the media spokespeople for openness within democracy.

The courses are based on the values of democracy, freedom and conflict prevention, civil society and good government – representative of the connection between the media and cooperative development.

Objective

Students will acquire the knowledge and skills that are essential for a journalistic career. They will be able to meet specific occupational requirements with expertise and communicative independence.

The Master's Program trains students – personally and professionally – to be competent journalists and prepare them for a challenging role as expert or manager in the media sector.

Target Group

The program is targeted at students from around the world that want to work in a position of responsibility in journalism or the communications sector. It especially addresses journalists-in-training, media representatives from radio, TV, online and print and communication experts.

Those interested must have already completed an academic program (bachelor's or equivalent) and have at least one year of professional media experience.

The program will be bilingual (English and German), whereby English will be the prevalent course language.

Especially targeted at:

Media representatives from radio, TV, online and print
Journalists-in-training, especially from electronic media
Journalists and management from community radio stations
Communication experts
NGO employees
Employees from ministries
Employees from cooperative development groups and projects
Representatives from regional working groups and national broadcasters
Media association representatives

Scholarships

15 Scholarships will be awarded to applicants from Africa, Asia, Latin America or Eastern Europe. The scholarship will be about 750 Euro covering your cost of living and costs for accommodation. The tuition fee and the flight will be remunerated, too. A committee will decide which applicant will receive a scholarship. If you would like to apply for a scholarship, you are required to submit the following documents:

completed application form (attachment)
curriculum vitae in table form
statement of purpose
academic degree including transcripts
proof of at least one year's work experience in the field of media after your degree
proof of English-language skills (TOEFL: score of 550 or higher, IELTS: Score of 6.0 or higher, BULATS: score of 70 or higher, LCCI: level of 3, etc.)
proof of German-language skills (TestDaF level TDN 3 or DSH level 1)
one passport-size photograph
copy of the first two pages of passport

Please note that the copies of the certificates and the translations into German or English need to be certified. Please send your application form to: Deutsche Welle, DW-AKADEMIE, International Media Studies, Dr. Christoph Schmidt, 53110 Bonn, Germany, E-Mail: Barbara.Hiller@dw-world.de

More information is available at <http://www.dw-world.de/dw/0,,12278,00.html>

Asia Democracy and Human Rights Award

Each year, the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy confers the Asia Democracy and Human Rights Award on one individual or organization that has made significant contributions to the advancement of democracy and human rights through peaceful means in Asia. As the first national democracy assistance foundation in Asia, the TFD is committed to supporting courageous individuals and groups who build democracy, stand up for justice and defend human rights, especially those in our home region.

The Asia Democracy and Human Rights Award is presented to the laureate at a ceremony in Taipei on December 10th, International Human Rights Day. The Award consists of a sculpture and a US\$100,000 grant to support the ongoing work of the laureate. The TFD also pledges to deepen its relationship with each Award laureate to help sustain and increase the impact of their work.

After an open call for nominations, the Award laureate is chosen by a rigorous review

process that spans several months and adheres to strict principles of fairness and confidentiality. A preliminary board of domestic reviewers shortlists five candidates for the final review, which is then conducted by an international panel of distinguished experts. Nominations are now open to the public and due by 30 June 2009. For more information, please write to award@taiwandemocracy.org.tw or call the TFD at +886-2-2708-0100 ext. 211.

Nominations are open to the public, and each nominee must be nominated in writing by at least two credible organizations or individuals from the field of democracy or human rights. The nomination form is available for download from the TFD's website, and all pertinent documents must be received by the TFD no later than June 30 of each year.

More information is available at
http://www.tfd.org.tw/english/HTML/ADHRA_2009_main.html

Call for community-level project proposals focusing on local experiences with climate change impacts and adaptation

Community-level projects focusing on local experiences with climate change and its impacts are encouraged. These could involve field research, interviews with community members, workshops, photo projects, film projects etc.

Proposals can be made by interested groups or individuals, for example, local and indigenous organisations, research centres, researchers, graduate students with interdisciplinary training, community members (youth groups, women, elders) etc.

Projects could explore any topic relating to climate change and local communities. For example:

- a) Local observations and understandings of climate change impacts (negative or positive) on communities, livelihoods or local environments;
- b) Ways that your community is adapting to or dealing with climate change;
- c) Strategies and practices developed by local communities to cope with changes in the environment;
- d) Local impacts (positive or negative) of measures to fight climate change. For example, planting trees to reduce greenhouse gases (through carbon sequestration); or building hydroelectric dams or avoiding deforestation (e.g. REDD) to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases.

However, we invite all kinds of proposals related to climate change and local communities, so do not feel limited by these suggestions.

We invite proposals from anywhere in the world, as long as they are for local-scale projects involving peoples and places vulnerable to climate change.

Proposals should reach UNESCO on or before 15 July 2009.

For further information, please write to peoples@climatefrontlines.org or visit <http://www.climatefrontlines.org/en-GB/node/191>.