Engaged Learning & Action Research Fellowships for Cornell Students
Summer 2017 Projects in Buffalo NY

If YOU are interested in . . .
grassroots economic development. . .urban revitalization. . .social innovation. . .worker co-operatives...
. . .poverty alleviation. . .the green economy. . .civic engagement. . .labor-community alliances. . .
public economic policy. . .quality job creation. . .creative culture and the new economy . . .

Then consider this summer experience . . . working in Buffalo’s living co-laboratory . . .

This fellowship program has opportunities for Cornell undergraduate students to participate as a group in engaged research, applied learning and service in community-based economic development in Buffalo. Undergoing dynamic reinvention, Buffalo is home to a rich array of creative organizations tackling rust belt challenges. Students learn about and contribute to vibrant local innovation by working with nonprofit organizations, government officials, businesses, and labor advocates focused on revitalizing the metro Buffalo economy.

The program: The summer fellows in Buffalo work through June and July, earning $4000 for eight 35-hour weeks. Students work on a specific project with their partner organizations 7.5 hours per day, Monday through Thursday. Every Friday the students as a group are immersed in the city life of Buffalo, with neighborhood walking tours, field trips and cultural experiences; meetings with guest experts and civic leaders; and sharing their weekly journals, project experiences and research. This spring, a required two-credit pre-course will be offered. The course will introduce fellows to the types of innovative organizations they’ll be working with—those creating the community resources and capacities needed to redirect investment and control of economic development for the benefit of all. The course will emphasize issues like ethical citizenship, intercultural competence and community power dynamics.

Each student is placed with a partner organization of the Partnership for the Public Good, a civic organization made up of over 200 affiliated partners promoting more equitable and sustainable economic development in Greater Buffalo. Students gain hands-on experiences working with organizations in the vital nonprofit sector of the economy where job creation, neighborhood revitalization, and the greening of the economy are everyday reality.

2017 High Road Placements:

- Arts Services Initiative of WNY
- Bak USA
- Breadhive Worker Cooperative Bakery
- Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens
- Buffalo Arts Studio
- Buffalo Center for Arts and Technology
- Buffalo State College Center for Excellence in Urban and Rural Education
- Buffalo State College Community Academic Center
- Community Action Organization of Erie County
- Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo
- Cornell Cooperative Extension
- Food Bank of WNY
- Jericho Road Community Health Center
- The John R. Oishei Foundation
- Grassroots Gardens
- Learning Disabilities Association of WNY
- Massachusetts Avenue Project
- Open Buffalo
- Partnership for the Public Good
- Starlight Studios
- WNY Area Labor Federation AFL-CIO
- WNY COSH Worker Center
- WNY Law Center
- Westminster Economic Development Initiative
- Young Audiences of WNY

See [www.ilr.cornell.edu/highroad/](http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/highroad/)

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I am in awe that I’ve been living just three hours away from this growing, spectacular city my entire life, and I’ve only visited once before. I’ve been forced to feel uncomfortable and do new things, but most importantly, I’ve been forced to immerse myself in this wonderful city – the good parts and the bad parts – and I will take back to Cornell with me an experience unrivaled by any other that I’ve had. . . . from Kyle’s reflection journal

Kyle Friend
Coalition for Economic Justice

From a young age I have always wanted to be an attorney. My work at CEO confirmed my desire to attend law school and fight for young, minority, low-income citizens who too often are the make-up of disenfranchised groups. My placement at CEO exceeded my expectations. Not only did I get to put together a report, I also got the chance to job develop directly with participants. . . . from Amber’s program evaluation

Amber Aspinall
Center for Employment Opportunities

This internship has surrounded me with people who will stay up until four in the morning debating reforms of affirmative action or the systematic oppression of minorities because we care. Because we notice. Because we really want to be the ones to help it change. . . . from Deandra’s reflection journal

Deandra Fike
Partnership for the Public Good

“The High Road Fellowship has helped me learn that Buffalo’s labor movement is incredibly active and interconnected. My daily interactions with other fellows showed me how diverse community-based organizations are, yet how intertwined their organizational missions are.” . . . from Grace’s evaluation

Grace Bogdanove
WNY Area Labor Federation
AFL-CIO