

New College's Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Grant

New College and the Cross-College Alliance in the Community: Strengthening Community Outreach and Engagement

Call for Course Proposals

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation awarded in 2019 a five-year, \$750,000 grant to New College of Florida to support curricular and research initiatives that preserve local history, integrate social and racial justice work into artistic practice and teaching, and work with community members and groups on issues identified by the community on which the arts and humanities bear. The project is intended to create an infrastructure to evaluate and sustain the resulting community partnerships and courses. It would provide pathways that allow the work done in concert with community partnerships to result in mutual benefit to the community and the educational programs of the Cross-College Alliance (CCA) institutions.

We are seeking proposals from the CCA alliance for the development of credit-bearing courses that involve substantive community engagement and reflection on that community engagement. The grant will support the planning and development of courses that would be taught during the academic year 2023-2024. We strongly encourage courses that involve collaboration between CCA institutions, and between CCA institutions and members of the local community. You can read about the courses the grant has already supported [here](#).

Each of the courses development grants will include stipends of up to \$7,500, to be distributed in the following way, to develop syllabi, identify and purchase course materials, plan off-campus visits, strengthen community relationships, etc.:

- \$3,000 for each of 2 co-teachers for developing the course and preparing curricular materials = \$6,000;
- \$1,500 for course materials = \$1,500
Future iterations of a course would need much more modest support
- If necessary, candidates can also apply for up to an additional \$4,000 as course replacement funds for each of the 2 co-teachers, to replace courses that are institutionally necessary and could otherwise not be taught (up to a total of \$8,000).

Grant Proposal Requirements

Narrative (1,000 words)

Please describe your proposed course. Please address how your program explores initiatives that preserve local history, integrate social and racial justice work into artistic practice and teaching, and work with community members and groups on issues identified by the community on which the arts and humanities bear. Please also address how the program responds to a community need as well as how the program could build sustainable bridges between CCA institutions and the community that would continue after the Mellon funding expires. Please also let us know if you have previously received funds from this Mellon grant to develop a course, or other Mellon funding as well as other funding for a related project.

CCA and/or Community Partners

Please introduce the members of the team that will work on the development of the course, including faculty and members and organizations of the local community. Include CVs when necessary. Please indicate whether you have collaborated with the proposed partners or organizations previously, and if so, in what capacity.

Budget and Planning

Please provide a detailed budget for your program and a budget narrative as to how those funds will be used. Describe also how your team is planning to develop the course (conversations with other CCA partners, community members), develop materials, assignments, etc.

Reporting

Successful applicants will be expected to submit two reports: a brief progress report three months after the award of the grant period (September 1, 2023), and a two- to four-page final report summarizing the results of the project (including a detailed syllabus for the class, with assignments and readings), and plans for offering new or revised courses at the end of the grant period (December 15, 2023). Teams will be asked to participate in occasional meetings with fellow awardees and with members of the Mellon II Curriculum Committee, and to present a public individual presentation or participate in a panel discussion about their work during the period of their award.

Selection Process

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following elements: alignment with the mission of the grant, creativity, innovation, feasibility, sustainability, scope, cost, and expected impact.

Please send the proposals to mlopezzafra@ncf.edu.

Application Deadlines

Application deadline: Tuesday, November 1, 2022

Applicants will hear from the committee no later than Thursday, December 1, 2022.

If you have any questions please contact Maneesha Lal (mlal@ncf.edu) or Manuel Lopez (mlopezzafra@ncf.edu).

General Description of the Mellon Grant**New College and the Cross-College Alliance in the Community:
Strengthening Community Outreach and Engagement**

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation awarded in 2019 a five-year, \$750,000 grant to New College of Florida to support curricular and research initiatives that preserve local history, integrate social and racial justice work into artistic practice and teaching, and work with community members and groups on issues identified by the community on which the arts and humanities bear. The project will create an infrastructure to evaluate and sustain the resulting community partnerships and courses. It would provide pathways that allow the work done in concert with community partnerships to result in mutual benefit to the community and the educational programs of the Cross-College Alliance (CCA) institutions.

The grant from the Mellon Foundation's Higher Education and Scholarship in the Humanities program is a testimony to New College's strength in the humanities, to the vibrancy of the arts community in the Sarasota-Manatee area, and to the promise of the Cross-College Alliance.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the grant has been extended for an additional year; it is now due to end on June 30, 2025.

The project has three main goals:

1. create an institutional structure at New College to systematize, support and coordinate community engagement at New College and the other CCA institutions;
2. enter community engagement courses and activities by embedding crucial parts of them in credit bearing courses;
3. help students link community engagement in college and life after college.

We believe that this project will transform New College and the other CCA institutions. It will harness the yearning of many of our students to heal this world, and it puts in place courses that will allow students to explore ways in which they can realize these aspirations by engaging with the larger community. It will build on the links that previous Mellon support has allowed us to create, and embed our colleges into the larger community.