Luce Scholars Program

Launched by the Henry Luce Foundation in 1974, the Luce Scholars Program seeks to enhance understanding of Asia among potential leaders in American society. The program provides stipends, language training, and individualized professional placement in Asia for up to 18 Luce Scholars each year. Seniors, graduate school students, professional school students, and alum in a variety of fields who have had limited exposure to Asia are eligible to apply.

Luce Scholars have backgrounds in virtually every field other than Asian studies, including, but not limited to, the arts, journalism, law, medicine, science, public health, environmental studies, and international relations. Luce Scholars gain new perspectives and cultural insights on their host countries through immersive living and working experiences in Asia. A professional placement is arranged for each scholar on the basis of his or her professional interest, background, and qualifications. Placements can be made in the following countries or regions: Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam. The fellowship begins in June with orientation in New York and San Francisco. Luce Scholars engage in intensive language study in Asia in July and August. Placements begin in September and conclude with a wrap-up meeting in July of the following year.

Eligibility Criteria

- Seniors, graduate students, professional school students and alum are welcome to apply. Northwestern students and alum must apply through Northwestern. The Luce Foundation will not accept individual applications submitted directly to the foundation.
- Those who have had significant experience in Asia or in Asian studies are not eligible for the Luce Scholars Program. Candidates may have taken Asian language or Asia-focused courses on a US campus, but Asian studies majors are not eligible. They may have spent up to a total of twelve weeks in one or more countries where Luce Scholars are placed.
- Candidates must be US citizens.
- Candidates must have received at least a bachelor’s degree by July 1, 2019.
- Candidates must be under 30 years of age by July 1, 2019.
Application Deadline
Northwestern’s campus deadline is **Monday, October 15, 2018**. As a participating university, Northwestern may nominate three applicants, which requires an internal review process, and possibly an interview. Therefore, **late or incomplete applications cannot be accepted. Reference letters must be submitted by the campus deadline of Monday, October 15, 2018**. The internal competition prohibits Office of Fellowship staff from providing feedback on essays before the nomination process is complete. However, conversations are encouraged. If you are interested in applying, set up an appointment with Amy Kehoe by sending her an email with your availability. (Note: the three nominees will have until **Monday, October 29** to submit their final, polished applications.)

Application Submission
The following materials should be sent electronically to Amy Kehoe:

- one signed PDF application [form](#), which includes a personal statement
- four signed confidential letters of recommendation sent electronically from the letter writer to Amy Kehoe as attached PDFs
- official academic transcript(s) of all undergraduate and graduate work
- two passport-sized color photos

Campus Contact
Amy Kehoe, Office of Fellowships
amy.kehoe@northwestern.edu

Recent Winners!
Rachel Stamler-Jonas, Thailand
Jessie Moravek, Nepal
Christina Cilento, Laos