The NYU Democracy Project



Background

The mission of the NYU Democracy Project is to build the habits and institutions of democracy, by uniting student expertise and energy with the ongoing work of non-partisan, pro-democracy organizations. Since 2020, the NYU Democracy Project has funded student fellowships to expand the reach of organizations doing critical voter advocacy work. The Project also connects students to volunteer opportunities and sponsors community-building, civic engagement, and professional development events.

The NYU Democracy Project relies on financial support from the NYU community. Please contact Erica Foldy (erica.foldy@nyu.edu) if you are interested in supporting our work.

Fellowships

The NYU Democracy Project offers two funded fellowships:

LEAD Fellowships

- Open to all NYU students and recent graduates;
- Matches students with a variety of non-partisan, pro-democracy organizations that fit their skills and interests.

Parke Fellowships

- Open to NYU Wagner students only;
- Fellows work with the Brennan Center for Justice.

During the Summer, all fellows work 40 hours a week for 10 weeks. During the Fall and Spring semesters, fellows work between 10-20 hours a week. Pending approval of their supervisor, fellows can renew their fellowship for up to one term.

Fellow Activities

The following are some of the activities students have carried out at their fellowships:

- Created and maintained databases and legislative trackers for voting rights bills;
- Conducted analyses of partisan bias to compare the impact of redistricting commissions;
- Wrote guides on voting requirements and deadlines for different states;
- Led activist recruitment and coordinated text and phonebank campaigns for GOTV;
- Managed communications and social media;
- Published op-eds and analyses on threats to democracy and voting rights.

Check out this <u>podcast</u> from the Wasserman Center to hear directly from a fellow on her experience.

Program Engagement

(Summer 2020 - Fall 2022)

Total fellows funded:

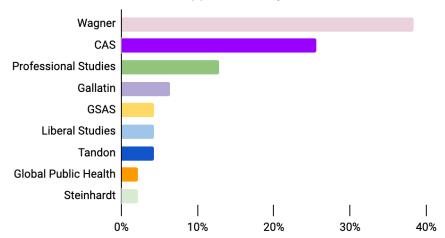
Total applicants:

67

249

Fall '22 LEAD Applications by School

From Fall 2021 to Fall 2022 the LEAD applicant pool nearly doubled, with 47 total applicants in 2022 from a wide range of NYU schools.



Fellow Demographics

Race (%)		Gender (%)	
African descent or Black	26%	Female, woman, or femme	70%
Asian descent	6%	Male or man	28%
European descent or white	41%	Non-binary	2%
Hispanic or Latinx descent	14%		
Middle Eastern descent	2%	Degree (%)	
"Mixed" or multiple of above	12%	Undergraduate	26%
		Graduate	74%

Organizational Partners

- American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD)
- Brennan Center for Justice
- Center for Popular Democracy
- Detroit Action
- Environmental Voters Project
- Headcount
- Make the Road
- Mi Familia Vota

- NALEO Educational Fund
- Ohio Organizing Collaborative
- One Fair Wage
- Pennsylvania Stands Up
- Protect the Vote Georgia
- Public Citizen
- Texas Organizing Project
- VoteRiders
- The Workers Circle

To contact us or sign up for our mailing list, please email us at DemocracyProject@nyu.edu.