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THE FULBRIGHT EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

The Fulbright Educational Exchange Program is the premier US Government exchange initiative. By facilitating the free flow of knowledge and ideas, it helps to create mutual understanding and cooperative relationships between the United States and partner nations abroad. Through this extraordinary endeavor, students, scholars, and other professionals also gain critical international skills and develop the resources necessary for leadership in a world that is increasingly interconnected. With its unparalleled global reputation for excellence, the program draws participants from 130 countries, including the United States. In partnership with the US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, US embassies and Fulbright Commissions abroad, IIE has administered the Fulbright Student Program for more than fifty years.

Broadening cultural horizons opens a person's mind to the world and increases his or her capacity to think globally. With the globalization of the world economy, success will demand such competence. IIE and its Fulbright partners pursue this goal by working to assure the selection of the most competent candidates, through open competition, involving the broadest possible pools of applicants. The Institute coordinates a national recruiting effort for outstanding US students and senior scholars and convenes selection panels through its offices around the country, in tandem with hundreds of US institutions. For Fulbright students coming from abroad, IIE arranges appropriate university placement, negotiates and administers cost sharing, and provides effective supervision. For the Fulbright Senior Scholar Program, this academic network is equally important. Working with Fulbright campus representatives throughout the country, IIE's affiliate, the Council for International Exchange of Scholars, responds to inquiries throughout the year and manages thousands of applications. It convenes peer review panels comprised of faculty and professionals of all disciplines, and provides logistical and other support to both US and foreign scholars during their exchanges.

In addition, IIE works to enrich the Fulbright experience for students and scholars through leadership convocations, round-table discussions, and other personal interactions. It also provides other unique value added services to the Fulbright program, including special enrichment seminars, cultural activities, and the leveraging of additional financial assistance for Fulbrighters from its own endowment and other private sources.

One example of such leveraging is the **Kenneth Holland Award**, named after the Institute's third president, which provides additional financial support to afford Fulbright students the opportunity to build on their US experience upon their return home by supporting innovative projects of the students' own design.

This year 2,800 of the world's future leaders honed their skills and 1,400 faculty and other professionals shared their knowledge through the Fulbright Program.