



## **Blossom Hill Fellowship Application Class of 2019**

Blossom Hill seeks passionate, committed individuals with innovative ideas about how to improve the lives of war-affected children from the Middle East. We are looking for ambitious candidates who:

- Demonstrate an ability to succeed and commitment to social change
  - Present bold, innovative and viable approaches that address an authentic need and have potential for exponential impact
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### **A. APPLICATION GUIDELINES**

#### **Overview of Candidates**

**Strong CANDIDATES possess two core values:**

*Personal Integrity* – a potential fellow...

- Is empathetic and compassionate toward others
- Has leadership experience or potential (passionate, trained, loyal, dedicated)
- Has confronted adverse circumstances and demonstrated resilience
- Shows a sense of purpose for common good

*Commitment to Social Change* – a potential fellow...

- Has a proven track record of genuine commitment to the cause he/she proposes and/or other social causes (work, study and/or personal experience with the proposed plan and/or community)
- Shows interest in changing the status quo and/or is knowledgeable of those who have done so, serving as models and inspiration
- Has a collaborative spirit in order to broaden reach, particularly by involving those in need and aiming to empower them

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**Strong IDEAS show three key characteristics:**

*Demonstrated Need* – a strong idea...

- Articulates an authentic need that if addressed can make positive change in the community
- Shows clear evidence of the need and likelihood for success of the proposed approach based on knowledge of the community

*Innovation* – a strong idea...

- Is creative and bold, presenting a novel approach to a social problem serving a population in need
- Employs critical thinking and in-depth analysis to alleviate social need
- Recognizes the appropriate tools for community outreach, awareness, education, and action

*Impact* – a strong idea...

- Is a thoughtful plan with specific, measurable, realistic goals and benchmarks
- Welcomes input and feedback in order to refine and improve the approach
- Aims to continue, expand or replicate what is proven effective

**Overview of Proposal**

Blossom Hill Fellowships are awarded for the pursuit of one of three types of innovative projects: a novel project, sustainable program or impactful product. Based on performance, fellowships may be renewed on a yearly basis.

Example: Syrian refugee children are at risk of falling behind in their education due to displacement and lack of access to schools or informal education. Their literacy skills – the ability to read and understand what they are reading – is critical to their future. Create a mobile app that boosts their literacy skills independent of teacher supervision.

## B. APPLICATION FORM

Thank you for your interest in the Blossom Hill Fellowship Program. Please read through the application carefully before completing it. Kindly ensure that you have answered all the questions. **All applicants must complete an [online registration form](#) before emailing your application to [fellowship@blossomhill-foundation.org](mailto:fellowship@blossomhill-foundation.org).** If applying as a team, both applicants must complete the online registration form, as well as the candidate profile portion below.

**Applications are due on March 31, 2019. All attachments must be submitted as PDFs.** Incomplete applications will not be considered. Thank you!

### 2019 Fellowship Application Checklist

- Completed online registration form
- Completed candidate profile for each applicant (Section 1) and proposal (Section 2)
- Headshot (photo in jpeg format)
- Pitch Video (limited to two minutes): This is your “Shark Tank” moment - you are in front of four investors making your best pitch for why they should fund you.
- All attachments are in PDF format
- Attached two (2) letters of recommendation per applicant
- Attached required fiscal sponsor documents:
  - 501(c)(3) determination letter
  - Board of Directors
  - Most recent financial audit
  - List of major supporters

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## **SECTION 1: Candidate Profile**

### **Candidate #1 Profile**

Name:

Age, as of 4/16/2019:

Gender:

Country of Origin:

Current Citizenship, if different from Country of Origin:

Legal Status in Program Country (if different from country of origin and/or citizenship):

Will a visa be required for your proposal?

What time limitations are imposed on the visa?

Highest formal education attained (name of school/degree/discipline):

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Employer (if applicable):

Languages: Primary \_\_\_\_\_ Proficiency in Other(s)

What language(s) will be required for your proposal?

Address:

Phone:

Email:

**If applying as a team, please complete this second candidate profile.**

### **Candidate #2 Profile** (if applicable):

Name:

Age, as of 4/16/2019:

Gender:

Country of Origin:

Current Citizenship, if different from Country of Origin:

Legal Status in Program Country (if different from country of origin and/or citizenship):

Will a visa be required for your proposal?

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What time limitations are imposed on the visa?

Highest formal education attained (name of school/degree/discipline):

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Employer (if applicable):

Languages: Primary \_\_\_\_\_ Proficiency in Other(s)

What language(s) will be required for your proposal?

Address:

Phone:

Email:

**How did you learn about the Blossom Hill Fellowship?** Please be specific and identify the organization, individual or social media outlet that alerted you to this opportunity.

**Please provide two letters of reference per candidate.** Each letter should be one page maximum. References should speak to your personal character and leadership ability; they may be academic, extracurricular and/or work-related. Include name, title, organization, relationship to you, duration of relationship and email address for each reference.

1.

2.

**Second candidate references (if applying as a team):**

1.

2.

**Fiscal Sponsor Profile**

All applicants will be required to have a fiscal sponsor, which must be a U.S. registered 501 (c) (3) charitable organization. The role of the Fiscal Sponsor is to receive the grant from Blossom Hill and disburse to our Fellows for a small fee. Our recommended fee is 5 percent of the grant. Fiscal sponsors will be required to agree to manage and disburse funds to the fellow according to the terms of the project.

Name of Organization:

EIN:

Address:

Phone:

Primary Contact Name, Title:

Email:

What percentage of the administrative fee will be assessed to the Blossom Hill Fellowship?

Please describe history of your relationship with fiscal sponsor, including if this is a new relationship (100 words maximum):

**Please submit a copy of the Fiscal Sponsor's:**

- 501(c)(3) determination letter
- Board of Directors
- Most recent financial audit
- List of major supporters

If you do not have a Fiscal Sponsor, you can reach out to the following non-profit organizations in the US who have agreed to work with us:

- Social Good (for projects anywhere): Michael Pace at [mdpace@socialgoodfund.org](mailto:mdpace@socialgoodfund.org)
- Collateral Repair Project (for projects in Jordan): Amanda Lane [amandalane@collateralrepairproject.org](mailto:amandalane@collateralrepairproject.org)
- Turkish Philanthropy Fund (for projects in Turkey): Senay Ataselim [senay@tpfund.org](mailto:senay@tpfund.org)
- PARSA (for projects in Afghanistan or Farsi communities): Yasin Farid at [yasin@afghanistan-parsa.org](mailto:yasin@afghanistan-parsa.org)

## SECTION 2: Proposal

Project Summary	
<b>Title of Project</b>	
<b>Is this a pilot idea, not previously implemented? If not, when did it begin?</b>	
<b>Location of project</b>	
<b>Duration of project (add end date)</b>	July 16, 2019 -
<b>Number of beneficiaries (boys/girls)</b>	
<b>Summary of Idea: Describe the goal of your project idea including brief problem statement and how you propose to solve it.</b>	
<b>Grant Sum Requested from Blossom Hill</b>	
<b>Total Budget for the year including grant sum requested from Blossom Hill</b>	

- 1. What is your project idea (for an approach, program or product)? (500 words maximum)**

Please include the following information:

a) What problem do you seek to solve? Why is it urgent to solve this problem? What specific needs will it meet within the intended community? Where will your idea be implemented? Who will benefit from your idea (describe the population to be served including number of beneficiaries, age, gender, ethnicity, community)? How will it be implemented in Year 1? What is the required/requested amount of funding?

b) What humanitarian sector does your innovation aim to serve? Please chose from the following: education (specify early childhood, primary, secondary or vocational), health, nutrition, child protection, food security, livelihoods, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) projects, emergency response (shelter, relief items) or other (please specify).



- c) Why is your approach, program or product innovative and unique?  
Provide specific examples of innovative activities or strategies that will make your project more effective than that taken by others.

**2. How will you attract participants with this idea? (300 words maximum)**

Have you reached out to this constituency or community? If so, what was their reaction? How does your idea support their already identified needs?

**3. Please list 3-5 central objectives and their anticipated outcomes. (300 words maximum)**

Example: a) This project will use a student-centered, participatory approach to teaching 50 mothers in an impoverished village about hygienic practices in order to reduce existing preventable diseases by 25% within one year.

Example: b) This product will reuse locally sourced material and be developed by training 25 youth from a specific town to reduce litter by 50% and increase employment by 10% in this area within 6 months.

**4. How will you measure your outcomes to demonstrate success? (300 words maximum)**

Please explain how you will assess progress using measurable indicators. Provide any specific details that may indicate how you may make a positive difference.

**5. Why are you the best person to lead this endeavor? (500 words maximum)**

a) Please explain why you want to address the problem and/or population you aim to serve and demonstrate any relevant experience that makes you capable/competent to address this issue and/or population.

b) What makes you a leader? Please cite examples that demonstrate your leadership potential and describe what inspires you. Provide an example of your leadership and how this motivation or these characteristics will inform how you manage your idea.

6. Please provide a table indicating full “organizational” budget (in U.S. dollars) for Year I and a general line-item breakdown of the budget. If your budget exceeds the grant amount requested from Blossom Hill, please make sure to indicate what portion of the budget is requested from this Fellowship.

Itemize your budget with related costs and succinctly explain how funding will be used. Here is a sample budget you can use to customize to your own Fellowship.

Item	Unit type (monthly/hourly/lump sum)	Number of units	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Administrative staff				
Program staff				
Transportation				
Equipment (digital tablets and other technology)				
Programmatic costs (materials, training, setup, rent)				
Travel				
Fiscal Sponsor fee				

*Budget Restrictions:* Fellow travel expenses to the program site (e.g. flight from New York to Turkey) should not exceed 20% of the Fellowship budget. In addition, Fellows may include a stipend for themselves if they are part of the staffing budget for the Fellowship.

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**7. Please list additional sources of income, if applicable.**

**8. Please provide a timeline for proposal development and implementation.**

**9. Please provide name, contact information and description of partner organization, if partnering with local NGO. (1-2 sentences/50 words maximum)**

**Terms of Agreement:** If awarded by Blossom Hill, I agree to honor the following areas:

- Expend the grant funding in the manner indicated in this grant proposal.
- Honestly reflect on the effort and progress made by fulfilling reporting requirements and submitting them according to deadlines.
- Communicate with my thought partner (assigned by Blossom Hill) and/or Blossom Hill as required and to share both concerns and progress.

Signature (electronic): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_