



TELLURIDE ASSOCIATION

THE MIKE YARROW ADVENTUROUS EDUCATION AWARD 2017

*“We want to fund projects that have the potential to be quietly life-changing,
and which couldn’t take place without our help.”*

Summary

The Yarrow Award was set up to help a Telluride Association affiliate who is a student undertake non-paying public-service work during the summer. It is a single award of up to \$3,000 to cover travel and living expenses.

Eligibility

Applicants must be:

- An alumnus/alumna of a Telluride Association program (e.g. TASS, TASP, Branch members)
- Enrolled in formal education at some point during the calendar year 2017
- Over the age of 18 by the time of travel

History

Clarence “Mike” Yarrow (DS’25 CB’28 TA’28) led the establishment and operation of the Pasadena Branch of Telluride Association, which ran from 1947 to 1952. In addition to his many Telluride activities, Mike was a committed Quaker who worked for world peace at home and abroad. After his death, his friends established this Award in his memory.

The Award

The Award, of up to \$3,000, is designed to allow the recipient to undertake a non-paying, public service activity during the summer. This activity should reflect Mike Yarrow’s interests in peace and service to humanity.

The winning proposal will be designed to do meaningful good in the world, as well as challenge the recipient with unfamiliar destinations and unexpected ideas. The activities should take place outside of an academic institution. The applicant must have demonstrated a commitment to Telluride Association and have a clear need for summer earnings.

The recipient may be any Telluride Association affiliate who is currently a student. The successful applicant will be required to submit a short report about their project within one month of their return.

If you’re interested please complete the attached form and return it the Telluride Office in Ithaca no later than **March 24, 2017**. More information about the Yarrow Award and other awards offered by Telluride Association can be found at www.tellurideassociation.org.

Please send a Word or PDF document to mboff@tellurideassociation.org with the subject line: Yarrow Award 2017

Candidates may find the following helpful when drawing up their plans:

Previous Yarrow Award Winners

2016 ~ Melissa Kil

Melissa originally received support for a project to volunteer on the Island of Lesbos in Greece to provide support for incoming refugees from Syria, Afghanistan, and Iraq. Subsequently to receiving the award, circumstances forced a revision of the project to providing support for refugee camps at Calais and Dunkirk; however a lack of affordable accommodation due to a surfeit of volunteers necessitated a second change in plans to a project supporting refugees in El Cajon, CA.

“I was filled with excitement from the moment I began writing my plan for the Yarrow Award to travel to Greece and volunteer with an NGO to help Syrian refugees. After my project was approved however, the European Union signed a deal with Turkey to send all refugees back to Turkey from Greece, making me unable to fulfill my original project. While there were many setbacks along the way, I ultimately changed my plan and fulfilled by goal of helping refugees by collecting and donating goods to refugee families relocated in El Cajon, CA. I helped organize Arabic speakers, collected clothes and toys for refugee families and drove down to El Cajon multiple times throughout the holiday season to help distribute the donated goods to refugee families in need. While this was not my original plan, I was fulfilled by my Yarrow Award experience and was able to contribute to the cause I originally set out to help.”

2015 ~ Ibironke Otusile

Ibironke received support for an internship to compile data on pollution and to work on water collection and conservation practices in partnership with the Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency in Nigeria. A highlight of her trip was teaching grammar school students about water sanitation and building and installing a water filtration system for the school in Lagos.

“They were so attentive and unbelievably respectful. I have never seen such focus before... The students held on to my every word and followed along although the teachers said the topic was out of the scope of what they were learning. It was so exciting to see hands fly up and hear them answer each question correctly. It was even more exciting to hear their ideas when I asked thought-provoking questions about how we could resolve the issue at hand and how to possibly prevent a future water crisis in Lagos.”

2014 ~ Angela Abiodun

Angela’s project involved supporting the work of the Paolo Freire Project at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, an experimental institute that puts the pedagogical theories of Freire into effect. In particular, she helped to develop a film series, organized data on bullying and conflict, and laid the groundwork for a Trade School program in which individuals from varying backgrounds teach classes about areas in which they have expertise.

“Through working on the foundational work for a Trade School, researching films and videos documenting human movement around the globe, supporting a staff member on compiling data about violence in schools and building engaging relationships, I was able to explore my understanding of Freirean thought and see a part of the world that I otherwise would not be able to engage with. [...] This trip solidified my desire to leave the US for an extended period of time and confirmed that I could do it by myself. It showed me ways to continue to challenge the systems that oppress us and allowed me to reflect on ways for the systems and the challenging of them to not overwhelm or burn me out. I’m incredibly grateful for the experience...”

2013 ~ Abdramane Diabate and Jonathan deBorst

Abdramane and Jonathan were the joint recipients of the 2013 Yarrow Award. Their project included supporting the work of the organization, Casa Adobe, in Costa Rica where they tutored public school children. They also planned to work on sustainability projects such as a community garden and a composting toilet.

“The aim of Proyecto Aventura was to enhance the educational experience of kids living in the area of Santa Rosa, Santo Domingo. We organized several activities including trips, art work, and physical labor which we believe benefited the kids more than we could have imagined. All our participants were from disadvantaged social and economic backgrounds with challenging familial problems. . . Most of them had never engaged before in creative activities or physical labor that could contribute positively to their community. We are grateful for the opportunity and look forward to organizing more education projects in Latin America and Africa in the years to come, and will surely use what knowledge we have gained in this time to do so.”



TELLURIDE ASSOCIATION

**THE MIKE YARROW ADVENTUROUS EDUCATION AWARD
2017 APPLICATION**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE(S): _____

E-MAIL: _____

TELLURIDE AFFILIATION: _____

Please address the following in full paragraph responses:

- 1) Please summarize your Yarrow proposal. (One or two double-spaced pages)
- 2) What inspired you to travel to this community? What needs in the community will your project address?
- 3) If you're planning to work with a charity, please tell us about their work.
- 4) What specific skills will you be bringing to the community you're planning to serve? If you don't have these skills yet, please indicate what training you have planned.
- 5) Please summarize, to the best of your knowledge, what your typical week during your Yarrow award will be like.
- 6) Please give a cost breakdown for your proposed project. This should include transportation, accommodation, and living costs based on an understanding of the local economy. If you plan to use part of your three months for leisure travel, please specify any leisure travel costs.
- 7) Are there other funding sources available for this project?
- 8) How does this project relate (or not) to your own political or academic interests?

Application due March 24, 2017