



A Philanthropic Partnership for Black Communities

Connecting Leader's Fellowship Application 2017-18: Essay Questions

Please answer the following questions in the space provided. Each essay question has room for 300 words.

In the Connecting Leaders Fellowship, we often speak of "stepping into a leadership moment," which are those opportunities when a change needs to occur and someone has to catalyze that change. Often, the "leader" in these moments does not necessarily have the position or authority to lead the change, yet he or she leads, nonetheless. Describe for us a "leadership moment," you have encountered. What change needed to occur? Did the change take place? What role did you play? What did you learn about yourself as a leader from this experience?

Tell us about experiences you have had leading teams, projects, or initiatives. From the successful experiences, what did you do to make it successful? From those in which the outcome did not meet your expectations, what were the challenges? How will you set up your next opportunity for success from the outset?

Stay In Touch with ABFE:

www.abfe.org | On Facebook: ABFE: A Philanthropic Partnership for Black Communities

On Twitter: @ABFE #ABFE | On LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/abfe>

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What issues or challenges facing Black Communities are of most interest to you at this time? What role do you see organized philanthropy playing in addressing these issues or challenges more effectively?

We often speak of ABFE as the place where "personal passion connects with professional mission." Please reflect upon the journey of your career to date and anticipate the career you want to create going forward. What difference do you want to make through your work? What skills and experiences do you need to gather to meet your goals? What role do you see the Connecting Leaders Fellowship playing in your career journey? Check out [The Exit Interview](#) to learn about some experiences from current and former Black professionals in philanthropy.

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Conversations on racial equity are gaining increased attention within philanthropy. It is, generally, not easy to discuss race, racism or anti-Black racism beyond safe spaces. Have you engaged in these conversations at work? What have you learned? What did you hope to change and what steps (if any) have you taken to advance conversations on race/racism within your organization? Outside of your organization?

ABFE recently launched the Black Social Change Funders Network. It includes our case for Black social change. Tell us, what does Black Social Change mean to you?

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