

GLOBAL ARTS + HUMANITIES DISCOVERY THEME
SOCIETY OF FELLOWS:
EXTERNAL FELLOWSHIPS
2025-26 Theme: Creativity | Intelligence | Automation

DEADLINE
February 15, 2025

Independent and academically-affiliated scholars and artists may apply for two-semester, nine-month Society of Fellows residencies (autumn 2025 and spring 2026). Scholars and artists are expected to work on their own scholarly, artistic, advocacy and/or policy-oriented work, as well as to engage Ohio State faculty, students and local Columbus community organizations by participating in a monthly seminar with other fellows, build community and attend related events.. Fellows will be expected to teach one undergraduate course during the spring semester of 2025. Independent artists may pursue an aspect of creative leadership, professional development and/or research towards a project that engages the annual theme Creativity | Intelligence | Automation. The residency does not support production or exhibition and does require teaching and participation in an interdisciplinary seminar with the other fellows.

SOCIETY OF FELLOWS 2025-26 THEME

The technological advances and broad applications of artificial intelligence (AI) have profoundly impacted nearly every aspect of human society. But while AI may offer potential solutions to some of the world's most intractable problems, it also comes with its own perils. Increasingly, the same tools that promise creative innovations, democratic access and economic growth may also reiterate structural inequities, increase corporate influence and jeopardize lives, careers and the environment.

The Society of Fellows 2025-26 theme, Creativity | Intelligence | Automation foregrounds the challenges and opportunities of automation and alerts us to the ethical obligations arising from the simulation of human intelligence. For example: *How might the history of automation inform how we reckon with this new age? How does this moment push us to reimagine the nature of intelligence? How might we hold to account the automation of biases and erasures? Are there intelligences that should not be automated? What happens to artistic life when creative labor is automated? What other intelligences might we turn to beyond doctrines of human uniqueness?*

GAHDT welcomes critical humanistic orientations that bring together an interdisciplinary cohort of scholars, artists and practitioners from a range of fields (arts, architecture, design, engineering, humanities, medicine, social sciences, etc.). The theme focuses on how creativity, intelligence and automation operate across different scales in global contexts and within wider assemblages of biomedical, communicative, cultural, educational, environmental, geopolitical, socioeconomic, carceral and technoscientific forces and relations.

GAHDT invites Society of Fellows proposals for projects that **grapple with the relationship** between creativity, intelligence and automation. We welcome projects that **compel new understandings** of techno-human interdependencies and histories; automation and the politics of labor; theories of personhood; and forms of performativity, communication, learning and cultural expression.

SALARY AND BENEFITS

Fellows in residence for two semesters during the academic year will receive \$60,000 in salary plus benefits and a \$4,000 professional development fund. Ohio State will cover expenses related to obtaining a visa, if needed. Ohio State will provide the resident access to a shared office space as well as library privileges and access to Ohio State instructional resources.

HOW TO APPLY

All applications must be **submitted online**, where applicants will be guided through the application process for their proposal type. Applicants must provide the following materials by February 15, 2025. For more information, visit the Funding Opportunities webpage: go.osu.edu/gahdt-funding.

Submit electronic copies of the following materials:

- 1.** A current curriculum vitae.
- 2.** A sample related to the fellowship theme (one published article, book chapter or multimedia video documentation of artistic practice).
- 3.** A 100-word abstract describing the project (research, creative, public-facing) the applicant will pursue during the term of the fellowship.
- 4.** A brief statement (1,000-1,500 words) describing how your project engages the annual theme, your interest in participating in a multi-disciplinary research community and the specific contributions you would hope to bring to the cohort. The statement should also describe the cross-disciplinary dimensions of your project.
- 5.** A course proposal for an undergraduate course. This could be either a version of an existing course or a special topics course related to the applicant's research, consisting of a brief course description (50 words), summary of topics/learning outcomes (up to 300 words) and a provisional list of required texts for the course or a syllabus if the course has been previously taught.
- 6.** Two reference letters.

EVALUATION PROCESS

Proposals will be evaluated by a sub-committee consisting of faculty from the GAHDT Advisory Committee. The committee will interview all finalists via a virtual platform. evaluate proposals.

TIMELINE

+ Call for proposals issued	October 1, 2024
+ Application deadline	February 15, 2025
+ Fellowships announced	April 1, 2025
+ Research funds released	August 1, 2025
+ Fellowship appointment begins	August 15, 2025

CONTACT

Applicants may email questions to GAHDT Associate Director, Puja Batra-Wells (batra-wells.1@osu.edu).