



# Smithsonian Latino Center

## 2012 YOUNG AMBASSADORS PROGRAM

### ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Young Ambassadors Program (YAP) is a national program for graduating high school seniors aimed at fostering the next generation of Latino leaders in the arts, sciences, and humanities via the Smithsonian Institution and its resources. YAP is a college preparatory and leadership program encouraging participants to explore various academic and career opportunities through the lens of the Latino experience.

Students with an interest in and commitment to the arts, sciences, and humanities as it pertains to Latino communities and cultures are selected to travel to Washington, D.C. for a week-long seminar at the Smithsonian Institution. This enrichment opportunity is a leadership development and skill-building training conducted by renowned experts in their respective fields. It exposes youth to a wide array of academic disciplines promoting higher education and encouraging youth to explore and understand Latino identity and embrace their own cultural heritage through visits to the Smithsonian's Latino collections and one-on-one interaction with anthropologists, artists, curators, historians, scientists and other professionals. Following the training seminar, students participate in a four-week interdisciplinary education internship in museums and other cultural institutions in 16 regions across the United States and Puerto Rico, including Smithsonian-affiliated organizations. This hands-on component allows students to gain transferable knowledge and apply the skills acquired during the training seminar to their internship assignments. This program is made possible by Ford Motor Company Fund.

### INTERNSHIP PARTNERS

**Phoenix (Scottsdale),  
Arizona**

Arizona Science Center  
Scottsdale Public Art

**Los Angeles/Long Beach,  
California**

California Science Center  
Museum of Latin American  
Art

**Oakland (Bay Area),  
California**

Chabot Space and Science  
Center

**Washington, D.C.**

National Museum of the  
American Indian

**Miami, Florida**

Adrienne Arsht Center for  
the Performing Arts of  
Miami-Dade County  
Miami Science Museum

**Chicago, Illinois**

Adler Planetarium  
National Museum of  
Mexican Art

**Albuquerque, New Mexico**

Explora  
National Hispanic Cultural  
Center

**New York, New York**

National Museum of the  
American Indian:  
The George Gustav Heye  
Center

**Philadelphia,  
Pennsylvania**

Philadelphia Museum of Art

**San Juan, Puerto Rico**

Museo de Arte de Puerto  
Rico

**Austin, Texas**

Austin Children's Museum

**Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas**

Fort Worth Museum of  
Science and History

**Houston, Texas**

Children's Museum of  
Houston  
Talento Bilingüe de  
Houston

**McAllen, Texas**

International Museum of  
Art and Science

**San Antonio, Texas**

San Antonio Museum of Art

**Seattle, Washington**

The Museum of Flight



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## FEES AND EXPENSES / PROGRAM STIPEND

Participation in the Young Ambassadors Program is sponsored by Ford Motor Company Fund and includes meals and accommodations for the duration of the one-week training seminar, round-trip travel costs to Washington, D.C., and a program stipend. **Students selected are responsible for all expenses during the four-week internship, including transportation, accommodations, and meals.** Upon completion of the five-week program, participants will receive \$2,000 to contribute to their higher education. Students that do not complete the training seminar and four-week internship will not receive the program stipend.

## ELIGIBILITY

Admission is competitive. To be eligible for the program, you must:

- Be a high school senior graduating in 2012
- Be a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident of the United States with a valid Social Security Number at the time of application
- Have a minimum weighted cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.25 on a 4.0 scale.
- Be fluent in English
- Commit to participate in the one-week training seminar at the Smithsonian Institution and complete a four-week paid summer internship
- Be enrolled full-time in a degree-seeking program at an accredited college or university (enrollment will be verified in the fall 2012)

## EVALUATION CRITERIA

Up to 24 participants are selected through a competitive process, guided by a selection committee comprised of museum and education professionals. The selection committee evaluates all application materials and submissions based on the following criteria:

1. Excellence in the:
  - a. **Arts** (film, visual, performing, design, etc.);
  - b. **Sciences** (natural, biological, chemical, planetary, etc.); or
  - c. **Humanities** (language, literature, social sciences, etc.).
2. Academic record
3. Leadership experience
4. Commitment to education
5. Community service



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## APPLICATION CONTENTS

The 2012 Young Ambassadors application includes:

- A complete online application form. The application includes two short statements (250 words) and two essays (400 words). The application can be found at <http://solaa.si.edu> (Search for Smithsonian Latino Center 2012 Young Ambassadors Program) or by linking to the site from <http://latino.si.edu/programs/youngambassadors.htm>
- An unofficial transcript, which includes weighted cumulative grade point average (please include conversion instructions or equivalents if GPA is not on a 4.0 scale)
- Two (2) letters of recommendation that have been completed by instructors, mentors, and/or advisors. The letters of recommendation must be submitted by the recommender directly to the SOLAA system (online application) or emailed to [SLCEducation@si.edu](mailto:SLCEducation@si.edu)
- **Please read the How to Apply Instructions for further information**

## DEADLINE

**All application materials are due in the Smithsonian Latino Center office no later than 5:00 pm ET on April 9, 2012.**

## UPS/FEDEX DELIVERIES

**Note: Do Not Send Regular Mail.**

Young Ambassadors Program  
Smithsonian Latino Center  
600 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Suite 7042 MRC 512  
Washington, DC 20024

## CALENDAR

February 1, 2012	Application available: <a href="http://latino.si.edu/programs/youngambassadors.htm">http://latino.si.edu/programs/youngambassadors.htm</a>
April 9, 2012	Application deadline
Late April, 2012	Applications process and selection committee convenes
May, 2012	Selection process finalized; all applicants will be notified of their application status via their SOLAA account
June 24-30, 2012	Washington Week Training Seminar
July 9- August 3, 2012	Internship Experience

## INQUIRIES

For more information please visit the Smithsonian Latino Center online at <http://latino.si.edu/programs/youngambassadors.htm>, or contact Emily Key, Education Programs Manager at 202.633.1268 or email [SLCEducation@si.edu](mailto:SLCEducation@si.edu).



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