

April 12, 2021

Dear Member of the ASLA-Fulbright Alumni Association,

I hope this letter finds you well and healthy.

With this letter, I hope to shed light on the aspirations of our ASLA-Fulbright Alumni Association. We continue to be deeply committed to creating and fostering connections and exchange of ideas between our members, Finnish alumni and American grantees. To accomplish this important task, we need your help and your unique expertise and ideas! **By participating in our activities, and by bringing forth your voice and your knowledge, you can help us maintain and enrich the amazing network that we are as Fulbright Finland Alumni. Thank you for your membership and all your contributions so far!**

The past year has been challenging in many ways and this has also shown in the Association's activities. The Association had its General Annual Meeting in March where a new board was selected, and among other things the by-laws of the Association were slightly changed. The last year truly brought out the need to be able to participate in meetings virtually and this was something the board felt needed to be made possible in the Association's Meetings as well. The board is enthusiastic to offer more opportunities for the members in this coming year. **We would highly appreciate hearing about any new event or activity ideas you may have or comments on what you want from the activities of the Association!** If you are getting together with fellow alumni or U.S. grantees in your area, we are more than interested in hearing about it! Please feel free to send us a quick message or a photo, or even an invitation if you want us to pass it along.

For the upcoming year the Board and our past Chair Kirsi Cheas have been in talks with our fellow alumni in Lithuania to organize a joint virtual seminar series. The board is hoping to be able to organize multiple low threshold events once it is safe to get together, such as happy hours or picnics. If you have ideas for such events or would like to organize one in your home city, feel free to contact us. The Association is also continuing the [Fulbright Buddy program](#) and you will be receiving a separate message about this shortly.

The ASLA-Fulbright Alumni Association wants to provide all alumni of the Fulbright Finland Foundation the opportunity to continue engaging with the community. Our Association functions completely on a voluntary basis, **and your support is vital for us to continue our activities. Our membership payment for the year 2021 is only 25€ in total, and the invoice will be sent to you in the next few weeks. Warm thanks for your support!**

We want to wish you a fantastic summer 2021. In case of any thoughts, feedback, or ideas, we would love to hear from you!

On behalf of the Board of the ASLA-Fulbright Alumni Association,

Sincerely,
Inari Ahokas, Chair
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