THE MELLON MAYS UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP (MMUF) PROGRAM

BARNARD COLLEGE

APPLICATION FORM

# DUE DATE: Monday, January 27, 2020 at 5:00 PM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Barnard UNI/email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Intended/declared major: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

TWO FACULTY MEMBERS WITH WHOM WE CAN DISCUSS YOUR CANDIDACY:

1. Name/Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Name/Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**I affirm that:**

1) I am a U.S. citizen, a Legal Permanent Resident, or DACA Recipient;

2) I am committed to preparing an application to a Ph.D. program;

3) All statements in this application are, to the best of my knowledge, correct.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Please attach the following to this application form:**

* **Essay:**  In 3 double-spaced pages, explain your academic plans, incorporating any courses or texts that have shaped your thinking; also, please provide a sense of a research project that you might undertake as a Mellon Fellow. How have your academic experiences inspired you to go to graduate school, become a professor, and teach at the university level?
* **Personal Statement:** The Mellon Mays Program is named after Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, a lifelong advocate for increasing access to higher education for people of color and diversifying the academy more broadly.  In 2-3 double-spaced pages, discuss your own commitment to diversity, including how your personal experience, goals, and activities reflect this commitment.
* **Graded Assignment:** Please submit a copy ofa paper or other formal assignment which represents your best academic work **(**with comments from the professor).
* **Unofficial Transcript**
* **Résumé/CV**

Please submit three (3) hard copies of the application packet by **5pm on Monday, January 27th, 2020** to:

Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program

c/o Prof. Monica L. Miller, Barnard College, 214 Barnard Hall

(Please leave applications in Prof. Miller’s faculty mailbox on the 2nd floor, CCIS suite)

**THE MELLON MAYS UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP (MMUF)**

**PROGRAM**

With funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Barnard College has established a fellowship program (the MMUF program) for promising undergraduates considering graduate study towards the Ph.D. in selected fields. Under the terms of the Mellon grant, participation in the program is open to talented undergraduates who are U.S. citizens, permanent residents of the U.S., or DACA Recipients, and who demonstrate a commitment to diversity and diversifying the academy. Students must be currently studying, and planning graduate study towards the Ph.D. in the following disciplines: **Anthropology and Archaeology, Area/Cultural/Ethnic/Gender Studies, Art History, Classics, Geography and Population Studies, English, Film/Cinema/Media Studies (theoretical focus), Musicology/Ethnomusicology/Music Theory, Foreign Languages and Literatures, History, Linguistics, Literature, Performance Studies (theoretical focus), Philosophy and Political Theory, Religion and Theology, Sociology, Theater (theoretical focus).** *Due to the Foundation’s requirements, no disciplinary exceptions can be made.*

The goal of the Barnard MMUF program is to engage gifted undergraduates, selected during the spring term of the sophomore or junior year, in the process of research and other important facets of academic life, thereby encouraging their interest in academic careers. The program is structured to address two issues contributing to the low numbers of students who pursue Ph.D.s: (1) lack of familiarity with the nature of academic careers, and (2) relatively high undergraduate loan indebtedness. Under this program, promising candidates will be identified and assisted with establishing mentoring relationships with members of the Barnard (or Columbia) faculty. To overcome any disincentive to pursue an academic career caused by high undergraduate loan indebtedness, participants who pursue a Ph.D. in one of the designated fields will be eligible to have up to $10,000 of their undergraduate guaranteed student loans repaid by the Mellon Foundation.

Students can be awarded the fellowship during their sophomore or junior year in college. The program begins with a required 10-day summer research colloquium (*tentatively scheduled for June 8th -16th, 2020*) that will pair students with graduate students (and former MMUF fellows). During this colloquium, students will prepare a prospectus on a research topic of their choice, work on public speaking and presentation skills, discuss topics such as the importance of mentorship, the graduate school application process (including testing), work/life issues specific to women and gender non-conforming people in the academy, and diversity issues within the academy. During the academic year, students will work with a faculty member on a research project, or serve as a research assistant to the faculty member. There will be bi-monthly meetings for current MMUF fellows in which students present their ongoing research and participate in activities that promote graduate school success and further serve to demystify academic life.

**APPLICATION PROCESS**

The Barnard MMUF program is directed by Professor Monica L. Miller (mmiller@barnard.edu) and Dean Nikki Youngblood-Giles (nyoungbl@barnard.edu) who will review the applications and interview selected candidates.

Participants will be chosen on the basis of their academic performance, level of interest in pursuing graduate study toward the Ph.D., commitment to diversity, and overall promise as scholars.

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c/o Prof. Monica Miller, Barnard College

214 Barnard Hall

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*(Updated: 11/25/2019)*