



**Indianapolis Cultural Trail, Inc.
Public Space Fellowship
Call for Applications**

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS RELEASED: **April 27, 2021**
VIRTUAL INFORMATION SESSIONS (will be recorded):
Monday, May 10, 2021, 12:00-1:00pm
Wednesday, May 19, 2021, 5:00-6:00pm
APPLICATION DEADLINE: **Sunday, May 23, 2021**
FELLOWSHIP DATES: **June-December, 2021**

ABOUT THE INDIANAPOLIS CULTURAL TRAIL

The Indianapolis Cultural Trail: A Legacy of Gene and Marilyn Glick is an internationally-recognized linear park and bike and pedestrian pathway that seamlessly connects cultural districts, neighborhoods and destinations while also serving as downtown hub for the city's greenway network. The Indianapolis Cultural Trail includes five acres of lush gardens, a vibrant art and culture program and is open and accessible 365 days a year. The Trail has become the way by which most people experience downtown Indianapolis and is managed by a non-profit organization, Indianapolis Cultural Trail Inc. (ICT).

Indianapolis Cultural Trail also manages Pacers Bikeshare and oversees three city-owned public spaces along the Trail -- the Downtown Canal, Georgia Street and Lugar Plaza. In 2021 the Cultural Trail will break ground on its first expansion. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the Cultural Trail and the city's public spaces have provided respite as free, accessible spaces for people to safely gather outdoors.

ICT is a team of motivated and enthusiastic individuals that take great pride in what we do with and for the community. We have a flexible work environment and encourage big ideas and creative thinking. We work with volunteers and community partners to help carry out our mission and rely on generous contributions from donors to keep the Trail beautiful and accessible for everyone.

PUBLIC SPACE FELLOWSHIP

The Indianapolis Cultural Trail is looking for two highly motivated individuals to join our inaugural fellowship cohort focused on creating equitable, attractive and lively public spaces in downtown Indianapolis. With the addition of the Downtown Canal, Georgia Street and Lugar Plaza to the Cultural Trail's portfolio in 2020, we have an enhanced opportunity to develop activities and partnerships that make downtown Indianapolis more interactive, inclusive and accessible to all.

The overarching goal of the fellowship is to more deeply understand what Indianapolis residents want to experience in their public spaces. The fellows will have the opportunity to research best practices from public spaces around the globe and design a plan for activating these public spaces, all while listening to our community's needs and interests. They will be able to think

creatively, test ideas, try and fail, and ultimately enliven our public spaces through public engagement.

Our hope with the Public Space Fellowship is to build capacity in the next generation of diverse leaders that will steward the future of public space in downtown Indianapolis while ensuring inclusion and equitable access. Fellows will receive hands-on experience engaging with creative partners, neighborhoods, peer organizations, community stakeholders and City departments. Fellows will benefit from exposure to the day-to-day realities of public space operations, and will have the opportunity to actively guide new and creative programming in these spaces.

Indianapolis Cultural Trail is committed to creating opportunities for Black, Latinx and other underrepresented communities that are frequently left out of civic dialogue and city-building.

DETAILS

The Cultural Trail will select two (2) individuals to work as part of the ICT team for a 6-month period, on a full-time basis. Due to the nature of public space engagement, some weekend and evening hours are likely. Please note that due to COVID-19, ICT has a greater reliance on remote work and digital communication.

Stipend: \$625 per week

Fellows will also receive an annual Pacers Bikeshare membership

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must reside in the Greater Indianapolis Area and have a keen interest in public space (its use, development, programming, and guiding policies) and be able to infuse their own expertise and enthusiasm into the process. Applicants can have (but are not required to have) professional degrees in the following categories: urban planning and design, architecture, landscape, governmental studies, public art, public health, public policy, advocacy, unhoused communities, sustainability, and environmental studies.

We recognize and appreciate a wide range of experiences and expertise, both traditional and applied. We encourage applications from individuals who are undertaking relevant community initiatives to engage in city-building processes of critical importance in maintaining or regaining the strength and resilience of cities.

Priority will be given to individuals from historically marginalized communities, who have valuable professional and/or lived experience.

FELLOWSHIP EXPERIENCE

The Fellowship will include work on one or more of the following areas:

- Data and Evaluation
 - Evaluate current use of public spaces (Who is using them? When? Why?)
 - Explore and recommend practices and tools to seek feedback and learn from the community
 - Research common methods for tracking use of public space
 - Create surveys and creatively distribute and evaluate those surveys

- Public Space Programming

- Evaluate and seek feedback on existing programming (music, workouts, games, play, etc.) to determine effectiveness
- Draw on research, surveys and conversations to create, plan and execute new opportunities for engagement
- Community Engagement
 - Develop a Request for Expression of Interest or Request for Proposal to further engage the wider Indianapolis community
 - Work with community, nonprofits and minority owned businesses to determine additional programming interests and use
 - Support underrepresented and suppressed voices by listening, learning and creating meaningful partnerships

The Fellows will report directly to the Director of Community Engagement. Based on personal experience and perspective, applicants are invited to outline or describe what they wish to explore during the fellowship. Tasks will be guided by the interests and abilities of the fellows, in addition to current needs of the Cultural Trail.

HOW TO APPLY

Complete applications must be received by no later than **May 23, 2021** to be considered. Applications may be submitted via email with the subject line **'Public Space Fellowship'** to Carrie Tracy at ctracy@indyculturaltrail.org.

Application Package Components:

- Letter of Interest (no more than two pages) or video statement (no more than three minutes) addressing the following:
 1. What is your vision for engaging the community through the fellowship?
 2. How do you think you would benefit from the Public Space Fellowship?
- One (1) letter of support from someone who is familiar with your experience and skills
- Resume optional (no more than two pages)

PROCESS OF SELECTION

Proposals will be evaluated by the Cultural Trail team and candidates selected for interviews will be contacted in late May to make arrangements. Accommodations will be made available to those prospective candidates that are unable to attend an online interview, either through a phone-based interview or by means of an in-person, physically distanced interview.

Candidates who are not part of the interview shortlist will be notified no later than June 5, 2021.

PLEASE NOTE:

- All submissions are considered confidential
- The submission of this application does not guarantee selection
- Fellowship is contingent upon successful completion of a background check
- The deadline for submissions is **11:59 pm on May 23, 2021**