SAADA Archival Creators Fellowship Program
Call for Applications (2020-21)

With support from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, SAADA invites applications for its Archival Creators Fellowship Program. Six fellows will be selected in the 2020-21 cohort.

At a glance:
Applications due: August 24, 2020 by 11:59pm Pacific Time
Fellowship period: October 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021
Fellows' workshop: October 3 & 4, 2020 (held virtually)
Fellows receive: $5,000 stipend; $500 equipment budget; $1,000 event budget; $1,000 advisor group budget

Meet our past fellows
• 2019-20 SAADA Archival Creators Fellows

Please note: Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, all fellowship activities will be conducted online. The health and safety of our fellows and SAADA staff and advisors is our primary concern, and we will only resume in-person activities once it is safe to do so.

Since its founding in 2008, SAADA has enabled academics, artists, journalists, students, and community members to write books, create new content, and shape public understanding about the South Asian American community. SAADA is at the forefront of advancing a distributed, post-custodial community-driven approach to archival collecting, where archival work is done by and with the community, and not just for the community. Through the Archival Creators Fellowship Program, fellows partner with SAADA to create archival collections that reflect the histories and perspectives of marginalized groups within the South Asian American community. These include, but are not limited to, communities that are working class, undocumented, LGBTQ+, Dalit, Muslim, Indo-Caribbean, or otherwise excluded or overlooked in mainstream South Asian American narratives.

This fellowship program is open to all US-based individuals with valid work authorization who are themselves members of the community they will be archiving, or in which they otherwise have deep existing relationships. No formal archival training is necessary, but applicants should have a strong demonstrable interest and commitment to community memory and storytelling. Fellows are expected to dedicate approximately 5 hours/week to their project over the duration of the fellowship period from October 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 (40 weeks).
**Application Timeline**

July 15, 2020: Call for fellowship applications is made available online
August 24, 2020: Fellowship application deadline
Late-August / Early-September 2020: Phone interviews with fellowship finalists
September 21, 2020: Fellows are announced to the public

**Fellowship Timeline**

October 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021: Fellowship period; includes bi-weekly video calls with fellowship cohort and SAADA staff
October 3 & 4, 2020: Two-day online workshop on digital archival practices, oral history methodology, and community relationship building.

**During the fellowship period, Archival Creators Fellows will be responsible for:**

- Participating in a two-day online workshop on digital archival practices, oral history methodology, and community relationship building led by SAADA staff and advisors.
- Participating in bi-weekly video calls with fellowship cohort and SAADA staff to provide updates on progress, ask questions, etc.
- Convening a community-based advisory group for your archival collection project.
- Conducting at least 10 oral history interviews and identifying, digitizing, describing, and providing online access to archival materials related to these interviews.
- Writing one new article for *Tides*, SAADA’s online magazine, highlighting findings in your new archival collection.
- Authoring two blog posts detailing the process of building relationships and working within your community.
- Developing an online exhibit for the SAADA website highlighting a narrative thread in your newly created collection.
- Organizing an event (likely online), launching your collection to the public and collecting community member stories and reflections.

**Archival Creators Fellows will receive:**

- Training on digital archival practices from SAADA staff and advisors, including appraisal, digitization, metadata creation, interviewing, and transcription, as well as relationship-building and event planning.
- Consistent support and guidance from SAADA staff and advisors throughout the duration of your project.
- A stipend of $5,000 (paid in three installments over the fellowship period).
- A budget of $500 to equipment costs, including (scanners, audio recorders, etc.), software (image or audio editing, etc.), and other miscellaneous expenses.
- A $1,000 budget for collection launch event, to cover the cost of event space rental, refreshments, documentation, equipment, local travel, and other expenses.
If this event is held online due to safety considerations, the budget can be used creatively to share your project with the public.

- A $1,000 budget to provide honoraria for advisory group members.

**Application Form**

*Please note that your application must be submitted online at [https://www.saada.org/fellowship](https://www.saada.org/fellowship).*

First Name:

Last Name:

Email:

Phone:

Address:

Institutional affiliation (if applicable):

Please upload your professional CV / resume (2-page maximum):

Please describe the community you would like to work with during your fellowship and your personal connections to this community. [up to 500 words suggested]:

In what ways is this group marginalized within mainstream narratives of the South Asian American community? [up to 400 words suggested]:

Describe the steps you will take to begin conducting oral history interviews and collecting, preserving, and sharing stories and archival materials from this community. [up to 400 words suggested]:

In what ways is participating in this fellowship program meaningful to you? [up to 400 words suggested]:

Please list names and contact information for two individuals you will invite to serve on your advisory group that we may contact as a reference for your fellowship application. These individuals should also be members of the community you will be working in through the fellowship.

**Reference #1**

First Name:
Last Name:
Email:
Phone:
Institutional affiliation (if applicable):
What is your relationship to this person?
Please briefly describe this person's role in your community and why you would want them as an advisor.

**Reference #2**

First Name:
Last Name:
Email:
Phone:
Institutional affiliation (if applicable):
What is your relationship to this person?
Please briefly describe this person's role in your community and why you would want them as an advisor.

The fellowship workshop will be held virtually on Saturday & Sunday, October 3-4, 2020. Please confirm your availability for the workshop on those dates.
[ ] Yes, I am available.
[ ] No, I am not available.