Fellowship Description
This information will be made available to all fellowship applicants.
Please type or paste responses directly into boxes below. Boxes will expand to fit.

Organization Name: New Era Colorado
Location (City/State): Denver & Boulder

X Yearlong Fellowship (June 2015-May 2016) □ Summer Fellowship (June-August 2015)

About the Fellowship
Title of PIFP Fellow: Denver Organizer

Primary Responsibilities of PIFP Fellow:
- Work closely with the Denver Lead Organizer to create & execute a city-wide civic engagement (voter registration & turnout) program targeting young voters for fall 2015, and lay the groundwork for a large-scale program for 2016.
- Lead on executing a volunteer recruitment & management workplan in Denver
- Co-lead events in Denver with Denver Lead Organizer and African American Outreach Organizer
- Potential to develop and implement a high school civic engagement program with a New Era-style curriculum and a team of volunteer leaders to execute it
- Assist with legislative activities, including preparing volunteers and interns to lobby for or testify on specific bills
- Work with field team on planning & executing New Era events, including Trick or Vote, Opening Day Happy Hour, our Spring Dinner fundraiser, and our Candidate Survivor debate.
- Potential to work on several special projects, including some communications work & our 2015/2016 leadership development programs.

How Fellow Will Contribute to Capacity-Building/Systemic Change:
The addition of a PIFP fellow to our staff will add a significant amount of capacity to our organization and programs, enabling our organization to build a stronger foundation going into the 2016 elections. We hope to be able to further develop our leadership development curriculum, run educational and outreach programs targeting
youth we otherwise could not reach, and deepen our online communications.

The PIFP fellow will allow us to build more leaders and engage hundreds more young people on important issues throughout the Denver-Metro area, including state and local-level elections. Our work to expand election access and increase the youth vote share in Colorado has significant impacts on our current democracy as well as our generation’s level of civic engagement long-term.

Training & Networking Opportunities for Fellow:
The PIFP fellow will have the opportunity to work with many of our partner organizations throughout the Denver-Metro area, get to know our Board of Directors, and work with the staff at the Bus Federation—a national network of grassroots, youth-focused organizations with which we are affiliated. The fellow will receive a significant amount of “learn by doing” training as well as other training through brown bags and attendance of the annual Bus Federation conference. During our summer fellowship program, Democracy Fellows, the PIFP fellow will be invited to attend any of the relevant Democracy Fellows’ classroom sessions led by leaders in Colorado politics. The fellow will be treated as a full staff member and as such will learn to use the Voter Activation Network, the databases we use for fundraising and communications, and event planning.

Supervision of PIFP Fellow:
The fellow will work out of New Era’s Denver office and be supervised by our Denver Organizing Director. The Fellow will be treated as a full staff member and will play an active role in staff meetings and other existing organizational structures.

Qualifications Sought in Fellow:

**Required:**
Although previous relevant experience is preferred, we don’t require it. We look for an individual who is hard working, energetic, extremely passionate about our mission, and willing to work hard in a team-oriented workplace that is fast-paced and includes many moving parts.

We look for the following:

- Passion for civic engagement, democracy, and politics
- A high energy and contagiously fun(ny) personality
- Proven and highly effective organizational and written/oral communication skills
- Strong track record of setting and meeting goals
- A self-starter that shows strong initiative and can work independently
- Strong affinity for networking and building strategic relationships
- Ability to work efficiently under tight deadlines
- Commitment to the organizational mission in order to effectively promote and advance the goals of New Era Colorado Foundation
- Willingness to work non-traditional work hours (nights and weekends)
- Has high expectations for one’s own quality of work
- A passion for advancing progressive values and ideals through action
Preferred:

- A strong affinity for thinking outside the box, especially in terms of outreach, fundraising, and communications
- Experience with and ability to work within diverse and underrepresented communities
- Experience engaging young people in advocacy efforts
- Has a sense of humor, is creative & irreverent
- Knows at least the chorus of Elton John’s Tiny Dancer

Beneficial:

- Basic knowledge of Colorado politics
- Adobe Creative Suite, Excel

Comfortable roller skating in jorts to register voters (really)

Skills/Experience Sought in Fellow:

- Activism
- Advocacy
- Campaigning
- Children’s issues
- Civil rights/social justice
- Coalition work
- Community/political organizing
- Criminal justice
- Customer service
- Data analysis
- Disabilities issues
- Diversity issues
- Domestic violence issues
- Economics
- Editing
- Education
- Environmental issues
- Event Planning
- Film
- Finance/business
- Fundraising/development
- Government
- Healthcare/health sciences
- Human services
- Journalism/publications (print/online)
- Law
- Legislative process
- LGBTQ issues
- Lobbying
- Marketing/sales
- Performing/fine arts
- Policy:
  - Education
  - Environmental
  - Fiscal
  - Environmental
  - Legislative
  - Other:

Technology Skills Required:

- Excel
- PowerPoint
- Publisher
- Other:
- Graphic design
- Database management
- Constant Contact
- Social media
- Video/film production
- Website design

Certifications Required:

- WFA
- WFR
- First Aid
- CPR

Language Skills Required:

- Spanish
- Other:

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About the Organization

Public Interest Fellowship Program
226 Worner Center, 14 East Cache La Poudre Street, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903-3298
Lani.Hinkle@ColoradoCollege.edu  719-227-8175 tel  719-389-6804 fax  www.CCpublicinterest.com
MISSION:
New Era Colorado Foundation is an innovative vehicle for hands-on democracy. We engage, educate, and train a new generation of active citizens and young leaders in Colorado.

We’re a full-spectrum civic engagement organization; we provide the resources and tools for young people to gain collective power in all levels of the democratic process, including issue organizing, electoral mobilization, and the legislative process. We’re multi-issue, grassroots, and nonpartisan. We’re all about empowering our generation to lead Colorado not left, not right, but forward. We do it all with one constant: making politics fun again. And yes, it’s often on a bus.

We focus on the largest and most diverse generation in American history: the Millennial generation. This generation has the power to transform our nation—not just through voting, but through leading.

We work to engage the Millennial generation in building a more hands-on democracy year-round through civic engagement, leadership development, and issue advocacy. Our aim is to make politics more relevant and exciting to young people than they have been in the past. As a homegrown organization focusing on state- and local-level organizing, we use nontraditional methods across each of our major program areas to engage young people in our democracy.

PRIMARY ACTIVITIES & PROJECTS
The best way to understand our work is to see it in action:
*Who we are: http://www.youtube.com/watch?list=UU_FErR_dIIouqoayXFpOJq&v=pIHvSiS6OJs
*2013 Campaign for Local Power story: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xh1qCf-ohOQ
*2011 Candidate Cribs – Denver Mayoral Edition: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W1xCZNwnLO4

More about our major program areas:

Electoral Civic Engagement
Whether it’s the costumed door knocking we do for Trick or Vote each Halloween, our voter registration teams strapping on roller skates to get the job done, or the MTV Cribs-style video we made for Denver’s mayoral race, our civic engagement programs do it all with one constant: combining fun, irreverence, and politics. These innovative programs have registered more than 90,000 young voters and repeatedly achieve one of the highest voter turnout rates of any voter registration drive in the country. Our work takes aim primarily at community events that attract large numbers of young folks in Denver and Boulder (Pridefest, Tour de Fat, Creekfest, Black Arts Festival, Vine Street Pub’s...
Block Party) and on college campuses across the state.

**Leadership Development**
New Era runs hands-on internship and leadership development programs that utilize an intensive “learn by doing” approach. Our fall/spring internship programs as well as our fulltime summer fellowship program have become the cornerstone for our organization because they are the foundation of every other program at New Era. Both programs’ curriculums include a combination of classroom setting instruction and on-the-ground grassroots work that includes organizing issue campaigns, registering voters, executing lobby days, and recruiting volunteers.

**Issue & Lobbying Campaigns**
In addition to electoral civic engagement programs, New Era runs issue and lobby campaigns year-round through Colorado’s state- and local-level elections as well as during our legislative session. These campaigns advance issues in the near-term while simultaneously building leaders and organizational capacity for the long-term. We frame all of our issue work through what we call our 6 E’s:
- Education Access
- Economic Strength
- Equal Rights
- Environment & Clean Energy
- Election Reform
- ‘Ealthcare (silent h)

In the past, we have worked with our partner organizations to expand election access for young voters, pass civil unions, strengthen regulations on the oil and gas industry, increase funding for education, expand renters’ rights, and secure in-state tuition for undocumented immigrants. We passed Colorado’s Online Voter Registration bill, ran a historic campaign in Boulder to create a local electric utility powered by clean energy, and established the first energy efficiency standards for rental units in the country. Most recently, we ran an innovative Campaign for Local Power that battled a coal-dominated utility for local control and clean energy. The story of that campaign went viral after being featured by Upworthy, and was viewed over 1 million times.

**Number of Staff:**  We will have a permanent staff of 10 employees in 2015. We will also have a team of about 15-20 summer fellows, and 20 interns in both the fall and the spring. During the election cycle’s height, we increase our paid staff to about 25-40 full time employees.

**Organization’s Non-Discrimination Policy Statement:**
An environment characterized by diversity, free inquiry, free expression, sexual and religious freedom, and balanced by interpersonal civility is now, and always will be, a top priority of New Era Colorado Foundation. This environment is an essential aspect of building new leaders, promoting civic engagement, and sharing knowledge.

New Era Colorado Foundation follows an equal opportunity employment policy and employs personnel without regard to race, creed, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression, age, physical or mental ability,
veteran status, military obligations, and marital status.

This policy also applies to internal promotions, training, opportunities for advancement, terminations, outside vendors, members and customers, volunteers, service clients, use of contractors and consultants, and dealings with the general public.

Is there anything else a fellow should know about the organization?

We’re a tight-knit group of young people who work really hard for the mission of this organization. We’ve got a very casual office environment (working out of little houses in Denver & Boulder) and take the work very seriously, but not ourselves. We believe democracy works best when more people show up, and we’re ready to think outside of the box to figure out the most cutting-edge ways to engage young people in our democracy.