CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
THE LUCE SCHOLARS PROGRAM
Academic Year 2018-2019

The Committee on General Scholarships is pleased to announce the internal Harvard University competition for the Luce Scholars Program. The program is an enterprise of The Henry Luce Foundation, which has invited Harvard to nominate three students (Harvard College seniors, graduate students, and/or recent alumni as part of its national search for fifteen to eighteen Luce Scholars for the 2018-2019 academic year.

The goal of the Luce Scholars Program is to enhance the understanding of Asia among potential leaders in American society. The program is aimed at a group of highly qualified young Americans in a variety of professional fields who have limited experience in Asia and who might not otherwise have an opportunity in the normal course of their careers to come to know Asia. The Luce Scholar Year is a cultural and experiential opportunity rather than an academic one. Students are not enrolled in colleges or universities and no academic credit is extended for the program. Luce Scholars gain new perspectives and cultural insights through immersive living and working experiences in Asia. A professional placement is individually arranged for each scholar on the basis of his or her professional interest, background, and qualifications.

Presently, the Luce Foundation can place its Scholars in the following countries or regions: Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam.

The program begins in late June with an orientation in New York and San Francisco. Luce Scholars engage in intensive language study in Asia in July and August. Placements begin in September, and conclude with a wrap-up meeting in July of the following year. Scholars receive a monthly stipend from the Foundation sufficient to meet normal expenses in the country of their placement. Travel expenses, a onetime freight shipment, and medical and travel insurance are provided for scholars and their spouses.

The Henry Luce Foundation maintains a detailed website describing the program, criteria for selection, and guidelines for the application; http://www.hluce.org/lsprogram.aspx
APPLICATION TO THE HARVARD UNIVERSITY COMPETITION

The internal competition at Harvard uses the same criteria for selection as the Luce Foundation, with minor modifications to the Foundation’s application requirements (please see below).

Eligibility

- The competition is open to Harvard College seniors who expect to graduate by May 2018, current graduate students, or recent graduates of the College or Harvard’s graduate and professional schools. Nominees need not be present on campus to apply.

- Candidates must be U.S. citizens who have not reached their 30th birthday by July 1 of the year they enter the program.

- Candidates must be in physical health that will not restrict them from working in a foreign environment.

Candidates should demonstrate an outstanding capacity for leadership and have a record of high achievement. They should have mature and clearly defined career interests with evidence of potential for professional accomplishments. Personal qualities such as flexibility, adaptability, creativity, humility, openness to new ideas, and sensitivity to cultural differences are as important as academic achievement.

The intent of the program is to provide an immersion experience in Asia. Those who already have significant experience in Asia or Asian Studies are not eligible for the Luce Scholars Program. Candidates may have taken Asian language or Asia-focused courses on a U.S. campus without majoring in Asian Studies. They may have spent up to a total of twelve (12) weeks, or have participated in a university-organized summer program, in one or more countries where Luce Scholars are placed.

Application Requirements

All applicants must submit application materials directly to the Committee on General Scholarships at Harvard University.

The application forms are available in word template format and may be downloaded from the Luce Foundation website, at: http://www.hluce.org/lsapp.aspx. The application should include:

- A completed “Luce Scholars Program Application” form. Do not attach a separate resume in lieu of this form. The answer to question 2 is HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

- A completed “Luce Scholars Program Contact Information Form.”

- Use the two-page Personal Statement to discuss (a) your long range career interests, and how they developed; (b) your understanding of leadership; and (c) your reasons for applying to the Luce Scholars Program.
Application Requirements, continued

- Official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate work.

- TWO letters of recommendation written specifically for the Luce Scholars application. Copies of letters written for Fulbright or other fellowship applications will not be accepted.

Please be aware that candidates who are nominated by Harvard for the Luce national competition will be required to provide two recent passport-size color photographs, as well as two additional letters of recommendation. The Luce Foundation requires four letters from all nominees, but the Harvard competition requires only two letters.

Completed applications (in hard copy) are due before 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 10, 2017 to:

Committee on General Scholarships
Harvard University
14 Story Street, 3rd Floor
Cambridge, MA 02138

Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

The Committee on General Scholarships will convene a Selection Committee in mid-to-late October to interview finalists. Candidates selected for interviews will be contacted by the Committee. The Selection Committee at Harvard University will select three nominees to be submitted for further consideration in the Luce Scholars Program national competition.

For more information about this program, please contact Rebecca Lock [rbauerlock@fas.harvard.edu] or Lisa Bruzzese [bruzzese@fas.harvard.edu] at the Committee on General Scholarships.