

2025 Margaret “Maggie” Nolan O’Neill Fellowship

For a student pursuing a summer research project at the nonprofit Jay Heritage Center (JHC), on the former Westchester estate of John Jay, the jurist, statesman, peacemaker, anti-slavery advocate, Governor of New York and Chief Justice of the United States.

The Center for American Studies is pleased to announce the Margaret “Maggie” Nolan O’Neill Fellowship, intended to support a student pursuing a summer research project for 8-10 weeks. The fellowship was established in 2022 in memory of Margaret “Maggie” Nolan O’Neill, Class of 2021, who studied political science and government at Columbia University with a keen interest in the application of those studies in the modern world. This academic opportunity aims to advance scholarship in American history and geopolitics while fostering respectful dialogue on topics relevant to the evolution of our nation, the shaping of its democracy and place in the global arena. Inspired by Maggie’s own passion for intellectual discourse and boundless curiosity about our country’s history and political landscape, the fellowship allows an undergraduate or law student at Columbia University to use the JHC campus, archives and advisors as resources and includes a stipend for an immersive summer experience. The fellow is invited to present their final research to the public in a fall program.

JHC is an educational organization and steward of a 23-acre National Historic Landmark site and public park in Rye, New York, hosting programs in American history, social justice, architecture, environmental stewardship, and historic preservation. Learn more at www.jayheritagecenter.org.

The fellowship amount is **\$7,000**, plus a \$500 honorarium for the faculty advisor(s) and remuneration for transportation expenses. Applicants must be in their second or third year in Columbia College or General Studies at Columbia University or a 1L or 2L at Columbia Law School. Students majoring in American Studies are especially encouraged to apply.

How to Apply

The application consists of a proposal and a letter of support. The proposal must include: (1) a description of the research project noting how the fellow will use resources at the Jay Heritage Center (750-800 words); (2) a resume; (3) a bio paragraph (50-100 words); (4) a current transcript. Please submit the proposal as a PDF by email to mg3898@columbia.edu

Applicants should also contact a potential Columbia faculty advisor to request a brief letter of support for the project, to be sent separately by email to mg3898@columbia.edu.

Deadline: 5pm Friday, March 7, 2025 for the application and brief letter of support.