Artists, Scholars, Scientists, & Entrepreneurs of Tomorrow (ASSET)

Program Description

The Artists, Scholars, Scientists, and Entrepreneurs of Tomorrow (ASSET) program expands the successful Knox Ford Fellowship program by recruiting a student cohort with a wider range of aspirations. Students will pursue intensive individual projects and together they will identify and discuss connections across disciplinary boundaries, emphasizing a deepening understanding of how to create constructive dialogue across those boundaries.

Juniors with a 3.3 GPA or higher will be invited to apply to ASSET. Meetings during the winter and spring term will allow them time to build a sense of community and they will pursue an individual project during the summer. Summer dialogues will focus on technology, ethics, education, and other issues relevant to all disciplines. During the summer they will also engage in educational and social activities and prepare for their senior year and for post graduate experiences.

ASSET will seek students of exceptional promise who are capable of producing an individual project and who also want to learn, think, and engage across fields and disciplines. Selection criteria will focus on the student’s potential for outstanding achievement, originality of project, and willingness/ability to participate in a multidisciplinary dialogue. A second level of assessment will include prior achievement as it relates to the proposed project (e.g. coursework, employment, volunteer activities, leadership experience, internships, etc.) and future educational and career aspirations. While many students in the program will be those who intend to pursue graduate education, the goal will be to have at least five students in the program who intend to pursue a professional degree or immediately embark upon a career after graduation.

Knox College has an outstanding reputation for preparing undergraduates for graduate and professional school, for preparing future academics, and for educating a very diverse student population. ASSET builds on those strengths and embraces the opportunity to provide students with an immersive experience during which they devote themselves to a single independent project and come together as a group to examine their own and each other’s views on current issues relevant to all disciplines.

The ASSET Program offers three distinct opportunities:

1. The ASSET Seminar—the seminar is conducted during the Winter Term and includes conversations about career planning, including but not limited to graduate and professional school selection and application processes.

2. Funding to conduct an independent project during the summer. In addition to a stipend of $3000 students can apply for a housing stipend and funding to cover costs associated with the project.

3. Multidisciplinary dialogues throughout the summer along with social and educational programming.