



# FULBRIGHT Romania



Annual Report

# FISCAL YEAR 2022

October 1, 2021–September 30, 2022









# FULBRIGHT Romania

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Connecting people and places.  
Advancing ideas.  
Creating opportunity.

The Fulbright Program is the U.S. government's flagship international educational and cultural exchange program, creating connections in a complex and changing world. Led by the U.S. government in partnership with more than 160 countries worldwide, Fulbright offers programs

for passionate and accomplished students, scholars, teachers, artists, and professionals of all backgrounds to study, teach, and conduct research, helping to build mutual understanding and find solutions to critical international concerns.

## **One connection at a time, Fulbright brings people together and moves nations towards a more peaceful world.**

In Romania, the Fulbright Program has been present since 1960, bringing durable changes on Romania's path to progress and democratization, and profoundly influencing lives and professional careers, communities at large.

Since 1960, over 3500 Romanians and Americans participated in these exchanges, benefitting from funding

for graduate studies, research, teaching, professional development, and cultural exchanges in general.

The Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission was inaugurated in May 1993 with the support of the American and Romanian Governments, following the bilateral agreement between the U.S. Department of State and the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

## Board of Directors

The activities of the Commission are carried out in virtue of Law no. 50/2014 and supervised by its Board of Directors, a bi-national body with planning and coordinating responsibilities. The Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission board consists of ten members, five American citizens and five Romanian citizens. The Ambassador of the United States to Romania and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Romania serve as honorary co-chairs and appoint the members of the board.

### Honorary Co-Chairs:

**David Muniz**, Chargé d'Affaires, a.i., U.S. Embassy

**Bogdan Aurescu**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Romania

## U.S. Board Members

### Timothy Gerhardson

Public Affairs Counselor, U.S. Embassy

### William J. O'Connor

Cultural Affairs Officer, U.S. Embassy

### Monica Cure

Author and Fulbright Alumna

### Radu Florescu

CEO, Cheil Centrade South East Europe

### Daniel F. Vișoiu (starting March 2022)

Registered Foreign Lawyer,  
Bucharest (Romania) Bar,  
Member of Florida (USA) Bar

## Romanian Board Members

### Remus Pricopie – President of the Board

Rector, National University of Political Studies  
and Public Administration

### Daniela Gîțman (until February 2022)

Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

### Janina-Mirela Sitaru (starting February 2022)

Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

### Adrian Curaj

General Director, The Executive Agency for  
Higher Education, Research, Development and  
Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI)

### Alexandru Mihai Ghigiu

Vice-Rector, National School of Political Studies  
and Public Administration

### Marian Preda

Rector, University of Bucharest

## Fulbright Team

### Mircea Dumitru

Executive Director

### Corina Dănăilă-Guidea

Romanian Program Director

### Mihai Moroiu

American Program Director

### Loredana Bucuroaia

Program Assistant

### Laura Pari

Financial Manager

### Mihaela Doagă

Educational Adviser

### Ruxandra Rădulescu

Educational Adviser

### Maria Ciobanu

Building Custodian



# The Fulbright Grants

## Grants for Romanian Citizens

The Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission offers exchange opportunities to Romanian citizens – scholars, students and professionals – for study, research and teaching in the United States.

Grants are awarded through open merit-based competitions supervised by bi-national panels.

Candidates may apply in any field except clinical disciplines, allowing for the specific timeline of each competition for Romanian citizens. Grant duration varies from a couple of weeks to one academic year, depending on the category of grant the applicant wants to apply for.

- **The Fulbright Student Program** – awards for Romanian graduate students for master's study or research at accredited U.S. universities;
- **The Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program** – awards for Romanian professors, researchers and professionals who have a doctoral degree or equivalent (certified) to conduct research and/or lecture at accredited U.S. universities.
- **The Fulbright-RAF Visiting Scholar Award** – dedicated to Romanian academics from technical universities/faculties who wish to carry out a semester-long fellowship in residence at the University of Rochester – AIN Center for Entrepreneurship.
- **The Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program** – for mid-career professionals with demonstrated leadership potential, public service commitment and the capacity to take full advantage of a self-defined program of independent study at a leading U.S. university.
- **Fulbright Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program** – Media Literacy Cohort: a six-week professional development program for secondary-level school teachers;
- **Study of the U.S. Institutes for European Student Leaders** – a five-week academic program meant to provide undergraduate student leaders with a deeper understanding of the United States while simultaneously enhancing their leadership skills.
- **The Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence Program** – offers opportunities to non-U.S. visiting scholars from different countries, including Romania, to teach at U.S. colleges and universities for one or both semesters of one academic year.
- **The Fulbright Schuman Program** – offers scholarships to European citizens for research or lecture in the United States on a topic that is relevant to US-EU relations, EU affairs/policy, or EU institutions and shows relevancy to at least two EU member states.

# ROMANIAN GRANTEES 2021–2022

## FULBRIGHT VISITING SCHOLAR PROGRAM

### 1. Antonio Roberto MOMOC

**Home University:** University of Bucharest

**Host University:** Ohio University

**Field:** Media/Journalism

**Type of Grant:** Research

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### 2. Alexandru Sorin NISTOR

**Home University:** "Victor Babeș" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Timișoara

**Host University:** Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC)

**Field:** Medical Sciences

**Type of Grant:** Research

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### 3. Cristina Nistor BEURAN

**Home University:** Babeș-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca

**Host University:** Columbia University

**Field:** Media/Journalism

**Type of Grant:** Research

.....

### 4. Florin OPREA

**Home University:** "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași

**Host University:** University of Michigan-Flint

**Field:** Public Administration

**Type of Grant:** Research

.....

### 5. Alina Brindusa PETRE

**Home University:** "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași

**Host University:** Clarkson University

**Field:** Mass

**Spectrometry/Proteomics**

**Type of Grant:** Research

### 6. Cristian RUSU

**Home University:** Politehnica University Bucharest

**Host University:** North Carolina State University at Raleigh

**Field:** Machine Learning/  
Artificial Intelligence

**Type of Grant:** Research

.....

### 7. Igor SÎRODOEV

**Home University:** University of Bucharest

**Host University:** Michigan State University

**Field:** Remote Sensing

**Type of Grant:** Research

.....

### 8. Mihai TOMA

**Home University:** Bucharest University of Economics

**Host University:** California Institute of Technology

**Field:** Cognitive Sciences/Neuroeconomics

**Type of Grant:** Research

**Note:** In addition to the above-mentioned scholars, five 2020-2021 Fulbright Visiting Scholars were deferred to the following year due to the pandemic and started their programs in AY 2021-2022.

## FULBRIGHT-RAF VISITING SCHOLAR AWARD

### 1. Adriana BUJOR

**Home University:** Gheorghe Asachi Technical University of Iași

**Host University:** University of Rochester, AIN Center for Entrepreneurship

**Field:** Entrepreneurship & Entrepreneurial Studies

**Type of Grant:** Research & Academic Training

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### 2. Mădălina ERAȘCU

**Home University:** West University of Timișoara

**Host University:** University of Rochester, AIN Center for Entrepreneurship

**Field:** Entrepreneurship & Entrepreneurial Studies

**Type of Grant:** Research & Academic Training

.....

### 3. Roxana Ioana NEDELCU

**Home University:** Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy Bucharest

**Host University:** University of Rochester, AIN Center for Entrepreneurship

**Field:** Entrepreneurship & Entrepreneurial Studies

**Type of Grant:** Research & Academic Training

.....

### 4. Attila TURI

**Home University:** Politehnica University of Timișoara

**Host University:** University of Rochester, AIN Center for Entrepreneurship

**Field:** Entrepreneurship & Entrepreneurial Studies

**Type of Grant:** Research & Academic Training

**Note:** In addition, four 2020-2021 Fulbright-RAF Scholars were deferred to the following year due to the pandemic and started their programs in AY 2021-2022.





# Romanian Grantees

## FULBRIGHT STUDENT PROGRAM

### 1. Anda BOLOGA

**Home University:** College of Europe, Warsaw/ The University of Bucharest

**Host University:** Fordham University, NY

**Field:** ITech law

**Type of Grant:** Master's

### 2. Horia DOMNARIU

**Home University:** The University of Bucharest; SNSPA

**Host University:** Oregon State University, Corvallis; United States Department of Agriculture - Pacific Northwest Research Station

**Field:** Soil Ecology

**Type of Grant:** Research

### 3. Oana GEAMBAȘU

**Home University:** University of Bucharest

**Host University:** Harvard University

**Field:** Public Health

**Type of Grant:** Master's

### 4. Aurelian Dragoș MOHAN

**Home University:** University of Bucharest

**Host University:** Columbia University

**Field:** Political Sciences/Public Policies

**Type of Grant:** Master's

### 5. Alina Maria PAVELEA

**Home University:** Babeș-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca

**Host University:** Arizona State University, Tempe

**Field:** Public Administration

**Type of Grant:** Research

### 6. Andrei PETRUȘ

**Home University:** University of Bath

**Host University:** Brown University

**Field:** Biomedical Engineering

**Type of Grant:** Master's

### 7. Radu PÎRLOG

**Home University:** Iuliu Hațieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy Cluj-Napoca

**Host University:** University of Texas

**Field:** Oncology

**Type of Grant:** Research

### 8. Ioana Laura POP

**Home University:** "Ion Luca Caragiale" National University of Theater and Film, Bucharest

**Host University:** Arizona State University, Tempe

**Field:** Art/Media and Film Studies

**Type of Grant:** Research

### 9. Cătălina Maria POPOVICIU

**Home University:** University of Bucharest

**Host University:** Stanford University

**Field:** Mental Health/Psychology

**Type of Grant:** Research

### 10. Florentina Cornelia ULMEANU-ENEA

**Home University:** University of Bucharest

**Host University:** Arizona State University, Tempe

**Field:** Social Sciences/Social Network Dynamics

**Type of Grant:** Research

**Note:** In addition, one 2020-2021 Fulbright Student was deferred to the following year due to the pandemic and started the program in AY 2021-2022.



# 2021–2022

## FULBRIGHT TEACHING EXCELLENCE AND ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

### 1. Adina IONESCU (Spring 2022)

**Home Institution:**

Roşia-Jiu Technological  
High School

**Host Institution:**

Kent State University  
**Field:** Media Literacy

### 2. Brigitta KONCZ (Fall 2022)

**Home Institution:**

"Ady Endre" High School,  
Oradea

**Host Institution:**

University of  
Wisconsin-Madison  
**Field:** Media Literacy

### 3. Maria Cristina MOCANU

(Fall 2022)

**Home Institution:**

"Costache  
Negruzzi" National College, Iaşi

**Host Institution:**

University of  
Wisconsin-Madison  
**Field:** Media Literacy

### 4. Mirela Ofelia SĂNDULEANU

(Fall 2022)

**Home Institution:**

"Nicolae  
Iorga" Pedagogical High School,  
Botoşani

**Host Institution:**

University of  
Wisconsin-Madison  
**Field:** Media Literacy

## 2022

## SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN STUDENT LEADERS

### 1. Xenia-Iulia CARAMETE

**Home University:** Babeş-Bolyai  
University of Cluj-Napoca

**Host University:** Arizona State  
University

**Field:** Journalism and Media

### 2. Răzvan-Ionuț FONCEA

**Home University:** Babeş-Bolyai  
University of Cluj-Napoca

**Host University:** Arizona State  
University

**Field:** Journalism and Media

### 3. Laura-Antonia PUP

**Home University:** West  
University of Timișoara

**Host University:** Arizona State  
University

**Field:** Journalism and Media





# The Fulbright Grants

## Grants For American Citizens

Fulbright offers programs for passionate and accomplished U.S. students, scholars, teachers, artists, and professionals of all backgrounds to study, teach, and conduct research in Romania, helping to build mutual understanding between our two countries and to find solutions to critical international concerns.

Applications in any field are welcome. According to the policies established by the Romanian Fulbright Board, the program tries to reach as many local universities and students as possible. The Commission strongly encourages grantees to travel to other university centers to give public talks and lectures, attend conferences and participate in American Corners events and other similar activities.

- **The U.S. Scholar Program** is designed for American academics, professionals, and artists with a Ph.D. (or other terminal degree) interested to teach, conduct research and/or undertake professional or artistic projects in Romania in a wide variety of academic and professional fields. The U.S. Scholar Program also includes "Hyphenated" grants, which are partly sponsored by Romanian universities and mirror both the interest in the Fulbright program of higher education institutions and the intention of the Fulbright Commission to increase the number of grants it offers.
- **The U.S. Student Program** offers recent graduates, post-graduate candidates, professionals and artists an opportunity to teach or conduct research in Romania, through English Teaching Assistant (ETA) Awards or Research Awards. Candidates at all degree levels will be considered, but preference is given to advanced graduate students who are interested in international education and teaching. The Commission accepts proposals in all disciplines.
- **The Fulbright Specialist Program (FSP)** promotes linkages between U.S. academics and professionals and their counterparts at host institutions in Romania. The program is designed to award grants to qualified U.S. faculty and professionals, in select disciplines, to engage in short-term collaborative projects at host institutions which initiate these projects. To participate in the program, host institutions must develop and submit project proposals, and U.S. experts must apply to join the Fulbright Specialist Roster.



# American Grantees 2021–2022

## U.S. FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS

### 1. Tanya BENNETT

Fulbright - University of Bucharest Award

**Home University:** University of North Georgia

**Host University:** University of Bucharest

**Field:** American Literature

### 2. Sarah BROWN

**Home University:** University of Memphis, TN

**Host University:** "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu

**Field:** Drama/Theater Arts

### 3. Theresa BURRISS

**Home University:** Radford University, VA

**Host University:** Transilvania University of Braşov

**Field:** Cross-Cultural Studies

### 4. Paul GARDNER

**Home University:** Luther College, Iowa

**Host University:** West University of Timişoara

**Field:** American Democracy

### 5. Tyler LIPPERT

**Home University:** Independent Scholar

**Host University:** University of Bucharest

**Field:** Political Science

### 6. Cristina MARINE

**Home University:** University of Maryland Global Campus

**Host University:** Bucharest University of Economic Studies

**Field:** International Business Relations

### 7. Mirela TANTA

**Home University:** Millikin University, IL

**Host University:** National University of Arts, Bucharest

**Field:** Art History

**Note:** Due to the pandemic, all 2020-2021 U.S. Fulbright Scholars (8 grantees, including one U.S. Fulbright Global Scholar) and one 2019-2020 U.S. Scholar were deferred to AY 2021-2022, meaning that we had a total of 16 U.S. Scholars present in Romania during this academic year.



# American Grantees 2021-2022

## U.S. FULBRIGHT STUDENTS

### 1. George ANDREI

**Home University:** Indiana University-Bloomington, IN  
**Host University:** Institute for South-East European Studies, Romanian Academy  
**Field:** History

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### 2. Zoë AQUA

**Home University:** At-Large  
**Host University:** Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca  
**Field:** Music Pedagogy

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### 3. Katherine RUPRECHT

Romania-Bulgaria Fulbright Award  
**Home University:** Azusa Pacific University, CA  
**Host University:** University of Bucharest  
**Field:** Education and Libraries

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### 4. Jenna WATSON

**Home University:** The University of Tennessee-Knoxville  
**Host University:** Francisc I. Rainer Institute of Anthropology  
**Field:** Anthropology

### 5. Eliot USHERENKO

Romania-Bulgaria Fulbright Award  
**Home University:** Boston University  
**Host University:** Babeş-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca  
**Field:** Political Science

**Note:** Due to the pandemic, all 2020-2021 U.S. Fulbright Students (10 Student Researchers and ETAs) and 1 Fulbright-Hays Fellow were deferred to AY 2021-2022, bringing the total of **U.S. Students** present in Romania in this academic year to **16**.

## FULBRIGHT SPECIALIST PROGRAM

Applications approved in FY2022 for the Fulbright Specialist Program

### 1. Project title:

American Literature for Romanian Readers  
**Discipline:** American Studies  
**Host University:** Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu (November 2022)  
**Fulbright Specialist:** Merritt Wayne Moseley - University of North Carolina, Asheville

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### 2. Project title:

Crisis in American Popular Culture  
**Discipline:** American Studies  
**Host University:** West University of Timisoara (March-April 2023)  
**Fulbright Specialist:** World Learning will be sending a list of potential Fulbright Specialists

### 3. Project title:

Perspectives on Jazz with Armen Donelian  
**Discipline:** Music and Performing Arts  
**Host University:** National University of Music of Bucharest (May 2022)  
**Fulbright Specialist:** Armen Hrant Donelian - New School Jazz And Contemporary Music Program Associate Adjunct Professor

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### 4. Project title:

Power microgrid topologies and control  
**Discipline:** Engineering Education  
**Host University:** Politehnica University of Bucharest (May-June 2023)  
**Fulbright Specialist:** Morgan Kiani - Texas Christian University

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### 5. Project title:

Stop Motion Photographic Techniques  
**Discipline:** Computer Science and Information Technology  
**Host University:** University of Craiova (May-June 2022)  
**Fulbright Specialist:** Thomas Downs Gasek - Rochester Institute of Technology

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### 6. Project title:

Support Program for Teaching Romanian as a Foreign Language  
**Discipline:** Education  
**Host University:** University of Bucharest (September 2022)  
**Fulbright Specialist:** Luis Javier Pentón Herrera



# Fulbright Exchanges in Numbers

## AY 2021-2022

# 47

FULBRIGHT  
GRANTEES

29 RO/18 U.S.

## GRANTEES BY CATEGORY

### Romanian

- 8 Scholars
- 4 Fulbright-RAF Scholars
- 10 Students
- 4 Fulbright TEA
- 3 SUSI

### American

- 7 Scholars
- 5 Student researchers
- 6 Specialists

## 1960-2022

# 3531

FULBRIGHT  
GRANTEES

# 2265

Romanian Grantees

# 1266

American Grantees

# COMMISSION UPDATES

## Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the Fulbright Program



Throughout 2021, we celebrated the 75th Anniversary of the global Fulbright Program. Since the program's inception in 1946, over 400,000 people from 160 countries have participated in the Fulbright Program, enriching their education, advancing their careers, and making meaningful contributions abroad and at home.

The capstone anniversary event took place on November 30, 2021 at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. and included personal stories and performances by some of the most extraordinary alumni

from around the world, including recent participants and those who have had long and distinguished careers. The celebration highlighted the Fulbright Program's impact in five important areas: the environment; education; public service; science, technology, and public health; and the arts. The Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission was represented by Prof. Remus Pricopie, President of the Board, and Prof. Mircea Dumitru, Executive Director. The event was the perfect occasion for the global Fulbright community to celebrate the accomplishments of the past 75 years and to look ahead to the exciting future of

the U.S. government's flagship educational and cultural exchange program.

In the days following the anniversary event, Prof. Mircea Dumitru participated in the 293rd Quarterly Meeting of the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, had meetings with ECA representatives, cooperative agencies and other U.S. partners, but also had the chance to meet Executive Directors from other Fulbright Commissions around the world and discuss current policies, share experiences, and compare good practices.



# & GRANT-SUPPORTING ACTIVITIES

## The Pre-departure Orientation for 2022-2023 Romanian Fulbright Grantees



The Pre-departure Orientation for 2022-2023 Romanian Fulbright Grantees

On June 23, 2022, the Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission hosted its Pre-departure Orientation Seminar devoted to the Romanian Fulbright grantees and independent students leaving for the U.S. to study, teach or conduct research in the 2022-2023 academic year.

The event started with a series of welcome speeches by distinguished U.S. and Romanian officials: Mr. Sandeep Paul, Information Officer at the U.S. Embassy, Ms. Janina Mirela Sitaru, Secretary of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Remus Pricopie, President of the Commission's Board of Directors, Dr. Dragoș Ivana, Fulbright Ambassador, and Dr. Mircea Dumitru, Executive

Director of the Fulbright Commission.

The speakers insisted on the importance of the Fulbright program in creating academic and cultural connections in a complex and changing world, helping to build mutual understanding between our two countries and to find solutions to critical international concerns.

After the welcome address, the participants had the opportunity to interact with Ms. Amanda Dixon, Consul at the U.S. Embassy, who provided specific details and advice on J & F visas.

Next on the agenda, Romanian and U.S. Fulbright alumni conducted several panel discussions, offering practical information about living and

studying in the U.S. to the current grantees starting their Fulbright experience in the coming months.

Concluding the seminar, Dr. Julie Leventhal, U.S. Fulbright Scholar from the University of North Texas, coordinated the workshop "Ways to Improve Emotional Resilience in a New Environment. Addressing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the U.S. Academia and Beyond" to help the grantees overcome the pressure of adjusting to a new environment.

The Reception held at Casa Oamenilor de Știință provided the participants with yet another occasion to meet with alumni, partners and friends of the Commission and to celebrate this day within the community of Fulbrighters.

## Orientation for the 2021-2022 U.S. Fulbright Grantees



On October 7-9, 2021, the Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission organized the in-country Orientation in honor of the new cohort of U.S. Fulbright grantees. The in-person meeting took place at the National Library of Romania and brought together both the current cohort of grantees along with their families and the U.S. Fulbrighters deferred from 2020-2021 due to the pandemic.

On October 7, the group was officially welcomed by U.S. and Romanian officials: Mr. Timothy Gerhardson, Public Affairs Counselor at the U.S. Embassy, Mr. Bogdan Filip, General Director, Department of Interinstitutional Relations and Projects, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Remus Pricopie, President of the Commission's Board of Directors, Dr. Adrian Cioroianu, Manager of the National Library of Romania, and Dr. Mircea Dumitru, Executive Director of the Fulbright Commission.

The grantees also received information on different topical subjects from U.S. Embassy experts. In the second part of the day, Prof. Adrian Cioroianu, historian, former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Ambassador of Romania to UNESCO, delivered a lecture on the "Romanian History – Between East and West," followed by Prof. Romiță Iucu, expert on teacher education and higher education policies, who kindly accepted to introduce the American Fulbrighters to the "Romanian Higher Education in the Intercultural Context."

Next, Fulbright alumnus Dr. Mugur Zlotea, Vice-Rector at the University of Bucharest, discussed about the "Romanian Academic Life and Culture," while Fulbright alumna Dr. Bogdana Neamțu, professor at Babeș-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca, talked about "Living in Romania, Adjusting to a New Social and Political Environment."

On October 8, the Fulbright grantees had the occasion to talk about "The Media Landscape in Romania with a Focus on Digital News & Media Literacy" with Prof. Raluca Radu, University of Bucharest, but also about the "Psychological Aspects of Studying, Working and Living Abroad" with Fulbright alumna Dr. Meda Veronica Pop.

For the parallel sessions, the Fulbrighters were split in two groups. The group of Fulbright Scholars and Student Researchers discussed about "Research in the Context of Romanian Higher Education" with Dr. Carmen Chifiriuc, Vice-Rector at the University of Bucharest, while the Fulbright ETAs met with their mentors from universities in Bucharest, Sibiu, Craiova, Brașov, Constanța, Iași, Cluj-Napoca, Galați, and Suceava who delivered a "Crash Course on Teaching Methodology in Romanian Classes."



## Cybersecurity in Universities Study Visits to the U.S.

The Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission together with Fulbright Commissions based in Poland, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, and Slovak Republic developed the "Cybersecurity in universities – Study visits to the U.S." program in partnership with World Learning and Marymount University.

The aim of the program was to acquaint participants with the scope of cybersecurity studies conducted in the U.S., the catalog of specializations, most common course content/curriculum and thus to facilitate the development of cybersecurity programs in universities of Central and East European countries.

30 scholars representing universities that have cybersecurity programs (or with a program near to open)

from 8 countries (Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, and Slovak Republic) participated in the program. The study visits have been carried out in a hybrid form in 2021 and 2022, combining virtual meetings with an in-person visit to the U.S.

The in-person component took place in March/April 2022, once the pandemic restrictions became more manageable. The participants were divided in two groups and visited various higher-education institutions in Washington D.C. and New York City. Both groups had the chance to meet and discuss about cybersecurity education with academics and administrators from Marymount University, George Washington University, Prince George's Community College,

University of Maryland Global Campus, Howard University, City College of New York, New York University, and Columbia University, but also with cybersecurity experts from the National CyberWatch Center, Maryland State Department of Information Technology, U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Diplomatic Security at the U.S. Department of State, New York City Economic Development Corporation, Financial Services Information Sharing and Analysis Center, and various companies.

The program was coordinated and sponsored by Fulbright Poland, with funding provided by the U.S. Department of State, and implemented by World Learning.



## New Program: U.S. Study Tour for Journalists from Central and Eastern Europe



The Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission partnered up with the Bulgarian-American Commission for Educational Exchange to develop a new regional joint program titled "Reporting Complexity: A Study Tour in the U.S. for Journalists from Central and Eastern Europe."

The initiative brought together Fulbright Commissions based in Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, and Slovak Republic and U.S. Embassies in Albania, Kosovo, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Republic of North

Macedonia, and Serbia. Journalists from 12 countries were invited to apply for a two-week learning experience in the U.S., aimed at building skills, knowledge and awareness related to reporting on complex issues.

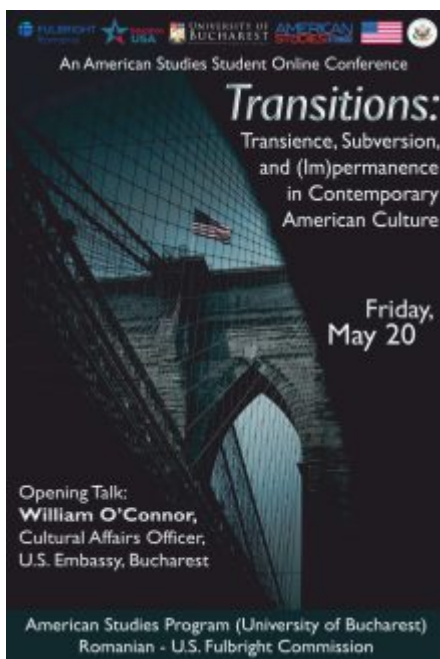
The Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission coordinated the application process (January-March 2022) and the nomination process (April-May 2022) in collaboration with all participating countries.

Out of 287 applications received during the recruitment phase, 36 practicing journalists

representing 12 countries were selected to participate in the study tour to take place in FY2023 (October/November 2022).

The program is sponsored jointly by the Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission, the Bulgarian-American Commission for Educational Exchange, and the Polish-U.S. Fulbright Commission, with funding provided by the U.S. Department of State, and implemented by World Learning.

## The Annual American Studies Student 2022 Conference Virtual Edition



On May 20, 2022, the Fulbright Commission had the pleasure of acting, once again, as virtual host of the annual American Studies Student Conference, organized by the English Department of the University of Bucharest. The theme of this year's edition was a topical one: "Transitions: Transience, Subversion, and (Im)permanence in Contemporary American Culture".

This year's edition brought together undergraduate and

graduate students from around the country. Following an engaging presentation by the guest of honor, William O'Connor, Cultural Affairs Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Bucharest, the participants delivered thought-provoking presentations on topics ranging from gender stereotypes and hyphenated identities to Romanian migration to the U.S. The quality of the papers and the dynamic presentation style were highly appreciated by the audience.



## Enrichment Program for U.S. Fulbrighters

From April 13 to April 15, 2022, the Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission organized a meeting with the U.S. Fulbrighters teaching and/or conducting research in Romania. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, this was the first time after the Orientation in October 2021 when the entire group was brought together in person.

Only this time, we were also joined by the U.S. Scholars who arrived in Romania in the second semester and by several U.S. grantees displaced from the Republic of Moldova, who were continuing their grants in Bucharest.

The U.S. Fulbright Students, Scholars, and ETAs had the opportunity to visit Peleş and Pelişor Castles, to learn about

the art of producing sparkling wine in Azuga, and to hear about George Enescu's impressive life and music at his Memorial House in Sinaia. But most importantly, this gathering was a great opportunity to exchange opinions and experiences, sharing and reconnecting in a manner almost forgotten after the long Covid years.

## Final meeting of the 2021-2022 U.S. Fulbrighters

The final meeting of the year for the 2021-2022 American Fulbright grantees in Romania was hosted by the Multicultural Center of Transilvania University of Braşov on June 8 and 9, 2022.

The U.S. Fulbright Scholars, Student Researchers and ETAs, as well as their accompanying dependents, traveled to Braşov from Bucharest, Cluj-Napoca, Craiova, Timişoara, Iaşi, Sibiu, and Constanţa. The group was welcomed by Prof. Mihaela Gheorghe, Vice-Rector at Transilvania University of Braşov, Prof. Adrian Lăcătuş, Dean of the Faculty of Letters,

Conf. Gabriela Chefneux, coordinator of the American Studies program, Mr. Timothy Gerhardson, Public Affairs Counselor at the U.S. Embassy, and Prof. Mircea Dumitru, the Executive Director of the Fulbright Commission.

The Fulbrighters presented their main teaching and research activities, as well as an impressive number of academic and artistic projects & events in which they participated, such as conferences, exhibitions, public lectures, poetry readings, theatre festivals, and volunteering work. All in all, lots



of hard work, dedication and inspiration!

Once more, the Fulbright program demonstrates its virtue of creating long-lasting relationships and friendships, bringing invaluable benefits for the grantees, but also for their Romanian colleagues, students, and friends.



## Program Presentations and Seminars for Romanian Fulbright Applicants



### WEBINAR FOR FULBRIGHT STUDENT AWARD APPLICANTS



[www.fulbright.ro](http://www.fulbright.ro)

Monday,  
March 7, 2022

4:00 p.m.

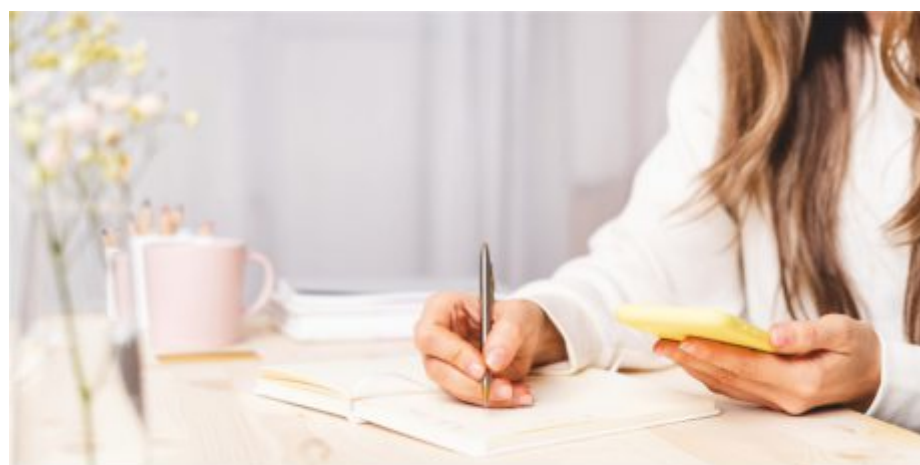
As the Covid-19 pandemic continued to pose significant challenges throughout FY2022, most program presentations and seminars for promoting Fulbright competitions and offering guidance to potential applicants pivoted to an online format.

We are including below a selection, with special thanks to the Fulbright alumni and grantees who accepted to share their experience and knowledge

#### **On October 28, 2021,**

the Fulbright Commission hosted a new webinar dedicated to Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program applicants, addressed to Romanian professors, researchers and professionals, with a doctoral degree or equivalent, interested in conducting research and/or lecturing in U.S. universities.

Fulbright alumni Dr. Alina Rusu and Dr. Mihai Bogdan Iovu, Associate Professors at Babeş-Bolyai University shared useful information about the application process and practical suggestions from their U.S. experience as Fulbrighters.



### GRADUATE ESSAY WRITING WORKSHOP



<https://fulbright.ro>

Tuesday,  
March 29, 2022

4:00 p.m.

### On March 7, 2022,

Fulbright Student applicants had the opportunity to meet Carina Cozminski, 2020-2022 Fulbright Grantee, Master's in Media Management at The New School, and Robert Chiș-Ciure, 2020-2021 Fulbright Visiting Student Researcher in the field(s) of Philosophy/ Cognitive Neuroscience, University of Wisconsin-Madison, during the webinar titled "A Fulbrighter's Guide to Studying in the U.S. Tips for Making Your Application."

Carina and Robert offered insider's tips on the application process, together with their suggestions and best practices to help the applicants structure the most important components of their application and select their U.S. school/program options.

### On March 29, 2022,

the Commission organized an online workshop on graduate essay writing, coordinated by Bri Ard, Director International Education & Study Abroad, University of South Alabama, and U.S. Fulbright ETA affiliated with the University of Bucharest.

The participants, mainly prospective Fulbright applicants, got to discuss components of strong essays, analyze excerpts from successful Fulbright applications, and consider which skills or qualifications to highlight in their texts.

The workshop also covered topics like language and style for effective essay writing.



### On April 11, 2022,

the Commission hosted another online seminar dedicated to Fulbright Student Award applicants and titled "Apply to the Fulbright Student Award: Don't Miss the Chance to Experience Study in the U.S."

The webinar was conducted by Anamaria Georgescu, 2020-2022 Fulbright Grantee, Master in Regional Planning, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and Ioan Daniel Mihalcea, 2020-2021 Fulbright Student Researcher in Communication Studies, Northwestern University Illinois.

Anamaria and Daniel offered their perspective on the application process for graduate admissions, along with practical suggestions from their own experience as Fulbright Student grantees in the U.S.

### On July 7, 2022,

the Fulbright Commission organized a webinar dedicated to Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program applicants.

Our special guests were Humphrey Fellows Amedeea Enache, (University of Minnesota, Economic/ Sustainable Development), Delia Marinescu (Arizona State University, Communication/ Journalism), and Ioana Morar (University of Minnesota, Law and Human Rights).

The invited speakers offered useful information about the application process, and shared practical suggestions about the Humphrey experience in the U.S.

# Fulbright Educational Advising Center (FEAC-EducationUSA)

## ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

### 1. Outreach

In the context of the covid-19 pandemic and its aftermath, our outreach efforts were conducted exclusively via online means, which enabled us to continue to promote our programs to students across the country. Despite the challenges, we managed to acquaint an average **1,000** prospective applicants with the opportunities afforded by the U.S. higher education system and the advising services and generous resources awaiting them at FEAC-EducationUSA.

### Webinars and Virtual Workshops

We conducted monthly webinars and virtual workshops on topics ranging from "Campus Life in the U.S." and "How to Build an Effective Resume" to "The Right Fit -- Choosing the Right U.S. School for You", in close collaboration with the American Spaces network. Guest speakers included U.S. HEI reps from a variety of schools, U.S. Fulbright ETAs, and virtual interns joining us via the VSFS program.

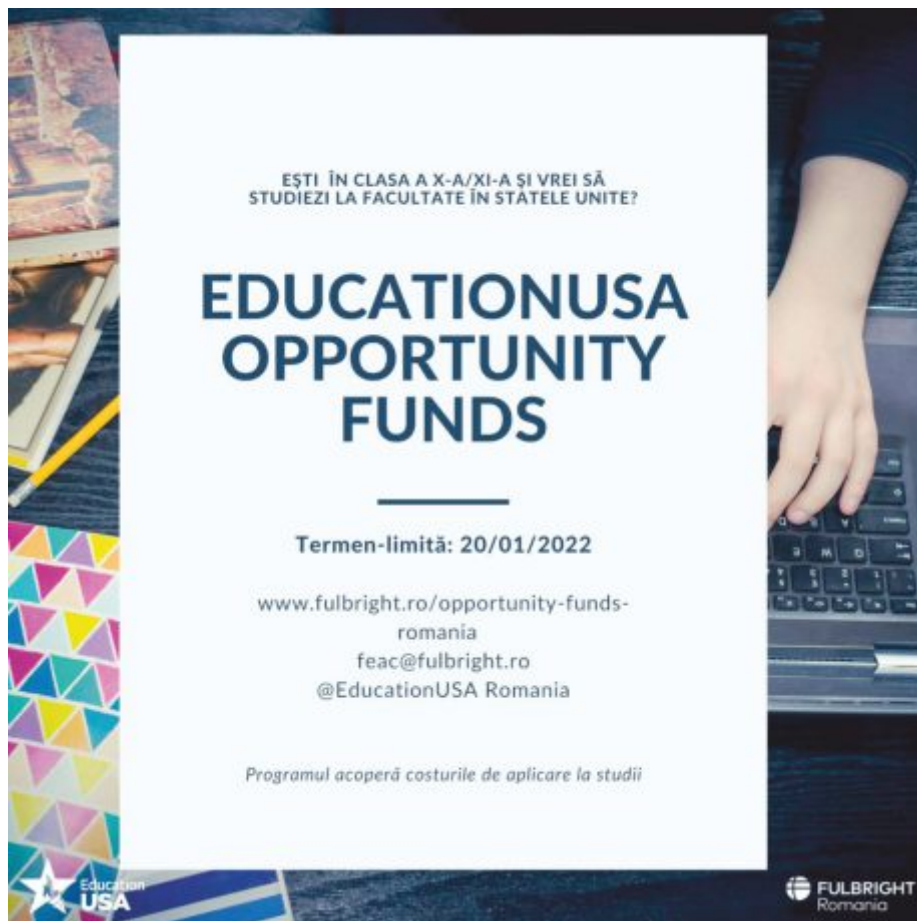
We also joined in the first online edition of our International Study Day project, developed in collaboration with British Council, Campus France, and DAAD. An average 1,000 students from high schools in Bucharest, Bacău, Braşov, Cluj-Napoca, Craiova, Constanţa, Călăraşi, Medgidia, Piteşti, Sibiu, Târgu Mureş, and Timişoara joined us online for these events.





## 2. Opportunity Funds Program

FEAC-EducationUSA kicked off the first Opportunity Funds program in Romania in the spring of 2016. In March 2022 we started working with our seventh cohort, made up of five highly promising high school students from Bucharest, Brăila, Cluj-Napoca, and Piatra Neamț. They are currently receiving funding from EducationUSA to cover their application-related fees and personalized guidance every step of the way to boost their chances of admission, with a full scholarship, at a U.S. university. Our cohort advising activities were also conducted exclusively online. The EducationUSA Opportunity Funds program assists highly qualified students who are likely to be awarded full financial aid from U.S. colleges and universities but lack the financial resources to cover the up-front costs of obtaining admission, such as testing or application fees.



Campus Life in the U.S.  
November 2021



University of South Alabama  
information session  
January 2022

## A Secret about Joy

U.S. Fulbrighter Sarah Brown's play, titled "A Secret About Joy", premiered on June 24, 2022 at the Grand Synagogue of Sibiu, during the International Theatre Festival in Sibiu (FITS 2022).

The play, which was written and directed by Sarah, is a "unique and surprising theatrical event where twenty-seven performers portray characters from the past who come alive all around the audience –



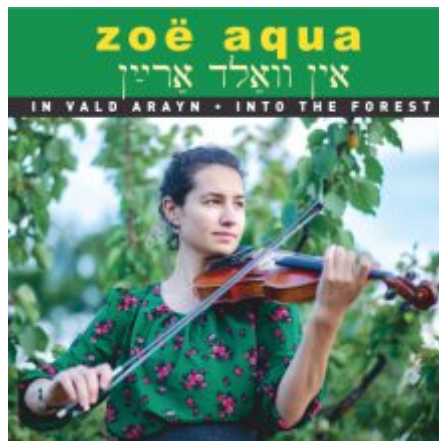
revealing stories full of the humor, hope, and heartaches of a once-thriving Jewish community.

Set in 1927 Sibiu, 'A Secret About Joy' is an uplifting site-specific play with music, performed in Sibiu's 123-year-old Grand Synagogue!" Sarah Brown is a playwright, an international performer, a creator of mega site-specific shows, and a Fulbright Scholar from the University of Memphis, USA.

## In Vald Arayn

On September 1st, 2022, U.S. Fulbrighter Zoë Aqua released her first solo album of original compositions, recorded with Eastern European musicians. "In Vald Arayn" is a collection of 11 string compositions drawing from the Klezmer and Transylvanian musical traditions.

The album's Yiddish title translates to "Into the Forest", a play on the literal meaning of the word Transylvania, "beyond the forest" in Latin.



Zoë Aqua is a violinist, music educator, and composer. She has been awarded a Fulbright Student research grant in Cluj, Romania for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 academic years to study Transylvanian folk music pedagogy and the way musical folk traditions are passed on from generation to generation.

Read more about her work at: [www.jta.org/2022/08/26/ny/klezmer-meets-transylvania-in-violinist-zoe-aquas-magical-mix](http://www.jta.org/2022/08/26/ny/klezmer-meets-transylvania-in-violinist-zoe-aquas-magical-mix) and [www.zoeaqua.com](http://www.zoeaqua.com)

# ALUMNI AND GRANTEES

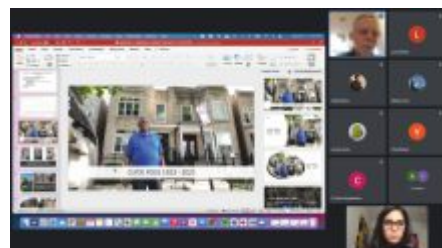
## Joint Class Session on Race, Inequality, Slavery and Reparations

U.S. Fulbrighters Dr. Paul Gardner and Dr. Ioanida Costache collaborated to teach a class session on race, inequality, slavery and reparations within American and Romanian societies.

Dr. Gardner invited Dr. Costache to speak in two classes he is teaching at the West University of Timișoara on "Discourses of Diversity" to discuss how legacies of enslavement affect the present-day situation of formerly enslaved peoples.

The sessions centered around Ta-Nehisi Coates' brilliant essay "The Case for Reparations" and both lecturers spoke about how it is important to understand the historic dimension of present-day inequality, such as the wealth gap.

Dr. Gardner focused on tracing this lineage in the U.S. context and Dr. Costache put the African-American experience in conversation with her work on Romani abjection.



You can read more on Romani enslavement, including an essay by Dr. Costache, in a recent series published by *Decât o Revistă* on the topic. [www.dor.ro/obiceiulpamantului/](http://www.dor.ro/obiceiulpamantului/).

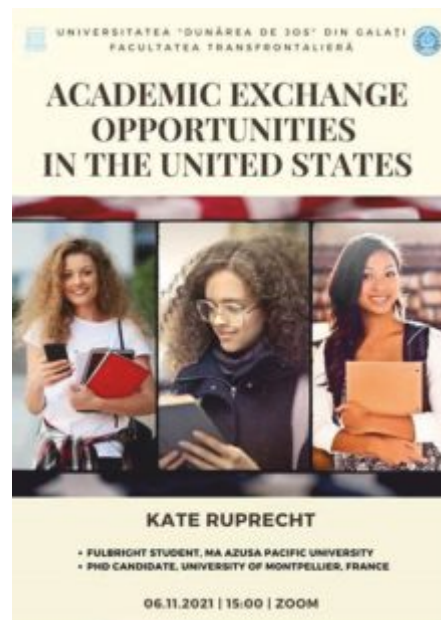
## Academic Exchange Opportunities in the U.S. or Romanian, Moldovan and Ukrainian Students

Kate Ruprecht, 2021-2022 U.S. Fulbright Student Researcher affiliated with the University of Bucharest and a Fulbright ETA at "Dunărea de Jos" University of Galați back in 2018-2019, gave an online presentation on November 6, 2021 about Fulbright Student Grants, the Global Undergraduate Exchange Program and the Study of the U.S. Institutes for Student Leaders from Europe to students from Cahul, Republic of Moldova and Izmail, Ukraine enrolled in the

Cross-Border Faculty at "Dunărea de Jos" University in Galați.

More generally, the event discussed the benefits of studying abroad and tips for writing successful application essays.

The presentation included a variety of study abroad program suggestions for Romanian, Moldovan and Ukrainian citizens, since students at the Cross-Border Faculty represent all of these nationalities.





## Let's Speak Media Literacy



sessions on integrating media literacy skills in their regular classes.

The training will increase the media literacy knowledge of these teachers and their students, improve their critical thinking abilities about media, and improve teachers' pedagogical methods and techniques.

The Global Teacher Grants are sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs with funding provided by the U.S. Government and administered by IREX.

Romanian Fulbright TEA alumna Nadina Nicolici is one of the 2021-2022 winners of the Global Teacher Grants competition with a project titled "Let's Speak Media Literacy."

14 winning projects representing 13 countries were selected from more than 150 proposals.

The goal of Nadina's project is to provide twenty teachers of English as a Foreign Language with ten training

## (Post)Pandemic Changes in the Fields of Arts and Artistic Education

On November 19, 2021, Fulbright Scholar Mirela Tanta participated as a guest speaker in a workshop facilitated by Cristian Nae, curator and associate professor at "George Enescu" National University of Arts in Iași.



The event titled „(Post)pandemic changes in the fields of arts and artistic education: new approaches to connecting artist to public and professor to student” was organized by Ephemair Association.

The aim of the workshop was to discuss about changes in

the area of culture and education which emerged during the pandemic, by analyzing the usefulness of a series of virtual tours in art galleries, recorded talks, and online meetings carried out in Bucharest, Cluj, Arad, and Iași, June through November 2021.

## Fulbright Alumna Receives Romanian Academy Award

On December 8, 2021, the Romanian Academy granted Professor Violeta Ristoiu the „Emanoil Teodorescu” award in Biological Sciences for a series of scientific papers completed from 2011 to 2019 in the area of “mechanisms of generation and maintenance of the neuropathic pain”.

Professor Ristoiu is an alumna of the Fulbright Program, in 2015 she was granted a Visiting Scholar Award to conduct research in the field of Neurobiology at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Neurosciences.

## Lions Abroad: Stories of Cultural Exchange and Engagement

To celebrate 2021 International Education Week, Loyola Marymount University's Office of National & International Fellowships organized an event titled “Lions Abroad: Stories of Cultural Exchange and Engagement.”

One of the invited guest speakers was our own U.S. Fulbright ETA Jennifer Mendez.



Jenny is a first-generation Guatemalan-American and college graduate, she has an MA in Higher Education Administration and she is affiliated with “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași.

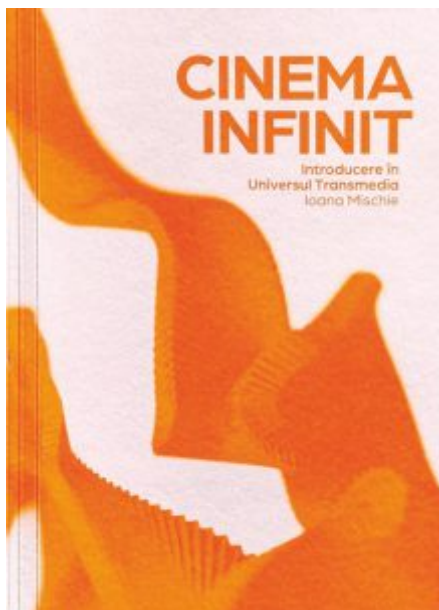
The panelists, alumni of Loyola Marymount University, shared stories of cultural exchange through participation in postgrad fellowships abroad.

The full webinar recording is available at:

[www.youtube.be/BZSmcj34iMo?t=1054](https://www.youtube.be/BZSmcj34iMo?t=1054)

## Cinema Infinit

Romanian Fulbright alumna Ioana Mischie published her first book titled *Cinema Infinit*, “a groundbreaking manifesto for meaningful, noetic, holistic transmedia worlds.” The volume is addressed to students and professionals in the fields of cinematography, media, visual arts and contemporary storytelling. Writer, director and transmedia artist Ioana Mischie was a 2017-2018 Fulbright Student Researcher at the University of Southern California, School of Cinematic Arts.



## Literary Events in Braşov

Professor Theresa Burriss, Director of Appalachian Studies at Radford University and 2021-

2022 U.S. Fulbright Scholar at Transilvania University in Braşov, together with Prof. Adrian

Lăcătuş, Dean of the Faculty of Letters, hosted a poetry reading with Diane Gilliam, a poet of the "complexities of history."

The event took place on November 9, 2021 at the Multicultural Center in Braşov.

On December 14, 2021, Dr. Burriss organized another event for her students, this time in collaboration with American fiction writer and essayist Ann Pancake.

Dr. Pancake read from her novel, *Strange As This Weather Has Been*, and participated in lively discussions with the students.



## America's Multiracial Democracy



U.S. Fulbright Scholar Paul Gardner, affiliated with West University in Timişoara, and U.S. Fulbright alumnus Robert Manning (2006-2007) spoke on "America's Experiment with Multiracial Democracy" to Dr. Ruxandra Ivan's University of

Bucharest's 2nd year undergraduate International Relations class.

The lecture and discussion took place on January 6, 2022, the one year anniversary of the assault on the U.S. Capitol.

On January 12, the two U.S.

Fulbright Scholars were also invited by Romanian Fulbright alumna Loredana Bercuci to lecture and lead a discussion on America's Multiracial Democracy in her American Culture class at West University of Timişoara.



## The 26th Symposium of Students in English

On April 8 & 9, 2022, the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, West University of Timișoara, organized the 26th Symposium of Students in English.

Among the international participants to the event, three of the keynote speakers were U.S. Fulbrighters in Romania: Fulbright Specialist Dr. Catherine DeLazzer, Teacher's College, Columbia University: "The Value of Student Research for

Contributing New Knowledge"; Fulbright Scholar Dr. Paul Gardner, Professor Emeritus, Luther College: "How to Think about Russia's War on Ukraine"; and Fulbright Scholar Dr. Eric Fure-Slocum, Associate Professor, St. Olaf College: "A Croatian-American Woman's Path to Labor-Left Racial Egalitarianism in the Industrial City, 1922-1944."

More on:

[www.timword.ro/studentsymposium](http://www.timword.ro/studentsymposium)



## Fake News in Interdisciplinary Perspective

Ron Keefover, Fulbright Specialist in communication and journalism, gave a series of talks at West University of Timișoara (UVT) on "Fake News in Interdisciplinary Perspective."

The events, organized by the Faculty of Letters, History and Theology in collaboration with Radio România Timișoara and the Faculty of Political Sciences, Philosophy and Communication, took place from 9 to 20 May, 2022.

The Fulbright Specialist gave an interactive talk addressed to UVT academics and staff, coordinated a workshop for UVT students, and was the guest speaker at a roundtable with local journalists at the American Corner.



Ron Keefover is a judicial media relations and public outreach expert with over 30 years of experience.

He has been a journalist at Topeka Capital-Journal for 15 years, the spokesman of Kansas Supreme Court for 32 years, and the president of Kansas Sunshine Coalition for Open Government.



## International Knowledge Fair

On November 15, 2021, U.S. Fulbright Scholar Cristina Marine made the opening presentation for the launch of the annual one-month International Knowledge Fair organized by Bucharest University of Economic Studies. Professor Marine focused on the advantages of online higher education, addressing some of the challenges of the online format.

The event was attended by about 45 faculty members.



Professor Marine was also invited by the colleagues at the University to contribute a chapter in the upcoming book on *Active and Transformative Learning in Higher Education: Strategies, Technological Innovations and Cases*, to be published in the well-established series "Emerald Studies in Higher Education, Innovation and Technology."

## Whose Nature Is It?

An article by Fulbright researcher George Andrei has been published in volume 16, issue no. 2 of the French area studies journal *Balkanologie*.

In the article, George investigates the incorporation of Transylvania into Romania after the First World War by looking at how forest regulation and land reform created differing ideas of rural administration and development.

Described by the issue's editors as a combination of "classical historical research techniques" with "a problematization stemming from postcolonial studies," the article uses innovative lenses



and underutilized historical documents to paint a unique image of political and economic modernization in interwar Romania from an environmental perspective.



See the latest issue of *Balkanologie* at:

<https://journals.openedition.org/balkanologie>

## CommuniTIES – Media Literacy in Practice

Romanian Fulbright TEA alumna Nadina C. Nicolici, EFL teacher at Lorin Salagean Technical High School in Drobeta Turnu Severin, was a partner within the project "CommuniTIES – Media Literacy in Practice," a collaborative initiative involving schools from Greece, Bulgaria and Romania.

The project addressed the need to strengthen ties and bonds of mutual understanding, respect and cooperation among high school students and educators from Southeast Europe, in an effort to combat disinformation. The first phase of the project (Sept 2021-June 2022) included 10 classroom training sessions for 75 students (25 from each country) and a field-trip to local radio/TV stations.



The second phase (April-Sept 2022) consisted of three 2-day events for educators, administrators and librarians in Sofia, Drobeta-Turnu-Severin, and Thessaloniki, Greece. The event in Romania took place on June 9-10, in a hybrid format, and it was attended by more than 100 teachers.

The meeting was officially opened by William J. O'Connor – Cultural Attaché, U.S. Embassy Bucharest, Mircea Dumitru – Executive Director, Fulbright Romania, and Leontina Nitoi – principal, Lorin Salagean Technical High School. Among the speakers, there was also Iuliana Dode, Fulbright TEA alumna, who held a presentation on "The Social Dilemma. Analyzing Jeff Orlowski's Documentary in a 21st century EFL classroom."

The organizer of the event, Nadina Nicolici, coordinated the workshop "Checking facts like a Pro," during which the participants learned about deepfake and the way in which AI can alter almost everything we find online. The project is funded and supported by the U.S. Embassies in Romania, Greece, and Bulgaria. <https://bit.ly/3l5Xp7y>

## Romanian during the Copper Age

Aurélien Tafani, PhD candidate in Archaeology at the University of South Florida, published an article on isotopic data in Romania during the Copper Age in *Data in Brief* journal (Vol. 42, June 2022).

The article entitled "Stable isotope data of Neolithic and Eneolithic populations in the Balkans, 6600 to 4000 BC" is the result of his activities carried out as a Fulbright Student Researcher in Romania during 2021-2022.



Read more at:

[www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2352340922003249?via%3Dihub](https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2352340922003249?via%3Dihub)



U.S. Fulbrighter Dr. Ioanida Costache gave a guest lecture at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst on the Romani Holocaust as part of Prof. Jonathan Skolnik's Holocaust history course.

In addition to providing a broad overview of the history of Romani persecution during the Second World War, the lecture presented major themes and debates surrounding Romani Holocaust historiography and

## The Romani Holocaust

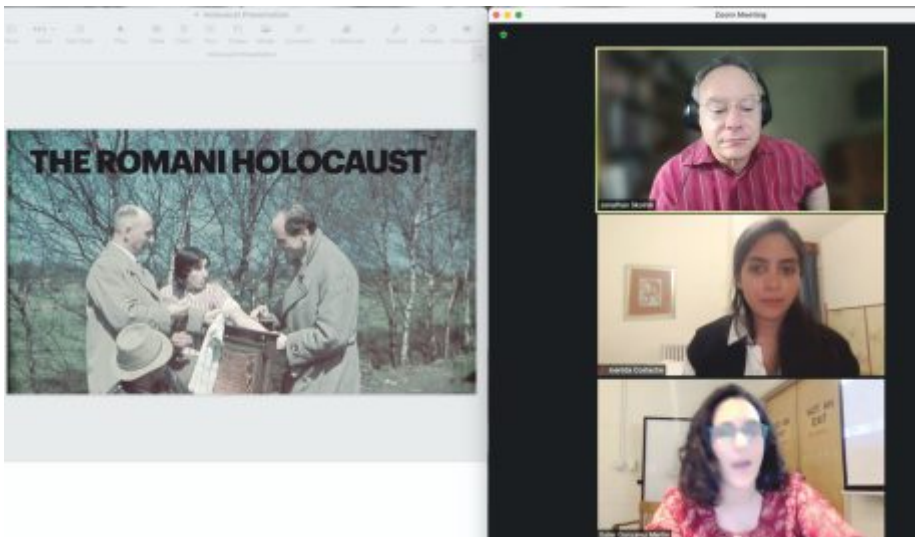
memory, problematizing the "forgotten-ness" of the Romani genocide.

Ioanida shared testimony from Romani survivors and Roma Holocaust songs, encouraging the students to think about what gets lost in written archives versus musico-oral archives of persecution.

Ioanida is a U.S. Fulbright researcher affiliated with the "Elie Wiesel" National Institute for the Study of the Holocaust in Romania.

More details about the project at:

<https://www.microderlab.upb.ro/futureengineers>



## Engineer Your Future



Romanian Fulbright Alumni Dr. Mihaela Albu, Dr. Claudia Chițu, Dr. Radu Plămănescu, and Dr. Grigore Stamatescu partnered up and won a grant from the U.S. Embassy for an educational project addressed to high-school students.

The program, titled "Engineer Your Future" and carried out between September 2021 and

April 2022, aimed to encourage high school seniors, mostly from disadvantaged backgrounds and underrepresented categories, to continue their education in engineering studies through focused trainings, mentorship and a technical skills competition and award event.







# FULBRIGHT STORIES

Read more stories from Fulbright alumni:  
<https://fulbright.ro/alumni>



"Looking back, I realize that the goals, hopes and dreams I had at the beginning of my Fulbright journey were far more modest than what was fully offered to me. Not just from an academic point of view, but the travels that I've made, the professors and colleagues I have worked with, the people I met and the entire cultural experience of having lived in the United States for two years have been an axial part of this experience."

**Anamaria Georgescu**

Fulbright Student, 2020-2022

"Living and researching in the U.S. as a Fulbright scholar representing Romania is a life-changing experience, and I truly believe that any student, teacher or researcher should apply. This is an effective way we could use to bring about change in our academic system, both by enriching our education and by developing new educational and cultural relationships."

**Florin Oprea**

Fulbright Visiting Scholar, 2021-2022



"The experience as a Fulbrighter will define my approach in driving entrepreneurship development and has reinforced my knowledge and expertise to become a changemaker in my community."

**Cătălina Crișan**

Fulbright-RAF Visiting Scholar, 2020-2021 (deferred to 2021-2022)

"I am very thankful and proud of my Fulbright Scholarship, it was my first time in the United States of America and it gave me a fantastic insight into entrepreneurial culture. [...] I feel I have an improved mindset and plan to apply, shift and transfer some of this added value in the years to come in all my career projects."

**Attila Turi**

Fulbright-RAF Visiting Scholar, 2021-2022



"I would say that the Fulbright TEA Program is ultimately about people. It is about a hardworking and committed team of professionals being there at your every beck and call. A collective effort meant to ensure a safe and rewarding time and space for each and every participant irrespective of their ethnicity, race, gender, religion or ableness. It is an enlightening lesson about democracy, acceptance and equity. Far-reaching and all-embracing!"

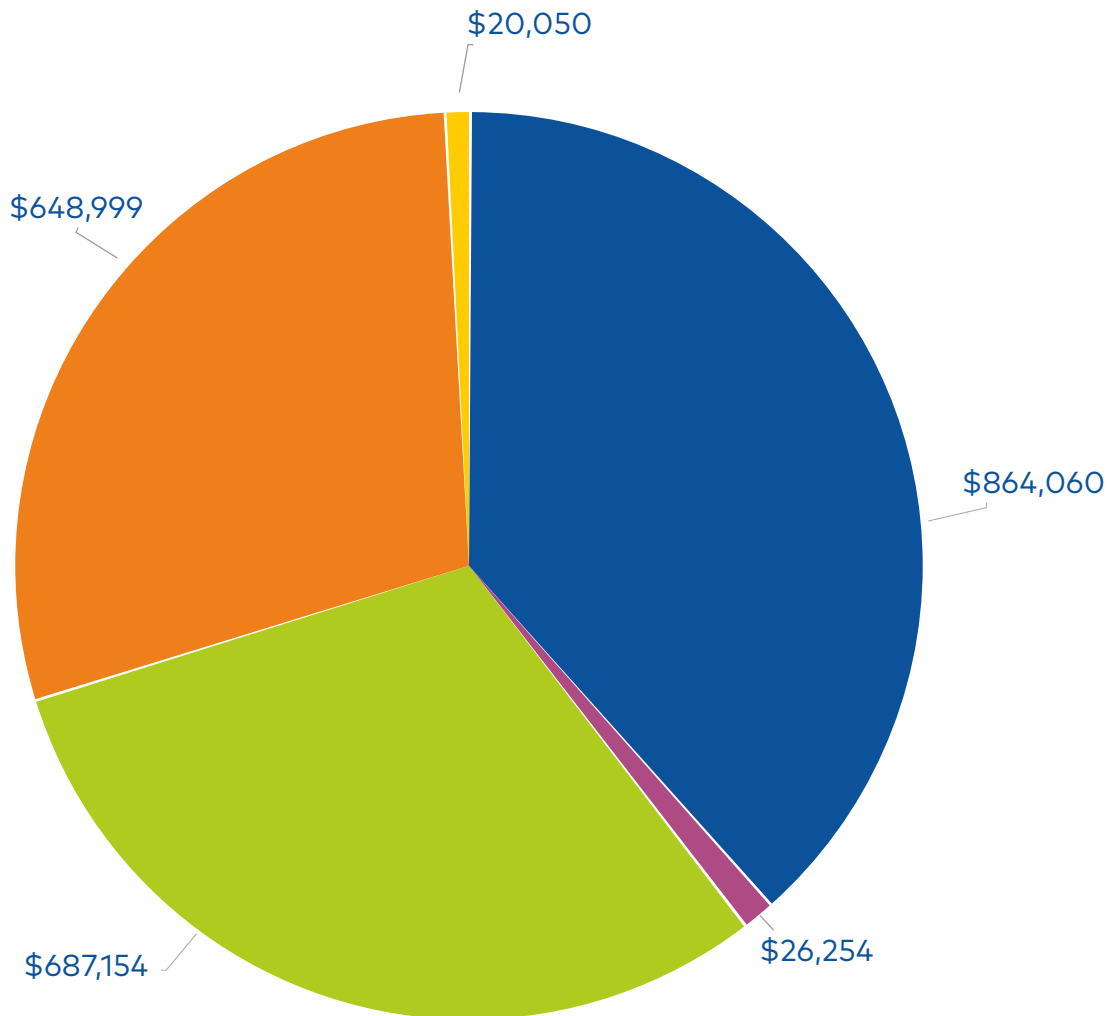
**Mirela Sănduleanu**

Fulbright Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program, Fall 2022



# FY 2022 BUDGET

In FY 2022 the Commission's total budget amounted to \$2,246,517



**\$864,060** funding from ECA/US Department of State (**\$852,875** allocation; **\$1,300** Interagency Funds; **\$9,885** Assistance offered to US Fulbright displaced from the Republic of Moldova)

**\$26,254** EducationUSA grant for advising and Opportunity Funds Program

**\$20,050** US Embassy Grant - Support for Fulbright Alumni Development Grants

**\$687,154** funding from the Romanian Government (amount received in Romanian currency)

**\$648,999** Additional funds from the Romanian Government for 2015-2022 (amount received in Romanian currency)

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## Additional Support:

\$80,000 (estimated amount) - In kind support from the Romanian Government (office space and utilities)



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