



Dorothy A. Johnson Center
FOR PHILANTHROPY

Joel J. Orosz Fellowship in Philanthropy

\$2,500 Fellowship Opportunity for GVSU Undergraduate and Graduate Students

Learn more about philanthropy and earn valuable resources.

Request for Proposals

The Johnson Center for Philanthropy is committed to introducing all students to philanthropy — a lofty and important goal to help students of all majors, interests, and backgrounds, explore the ecosystem of nonprofit organizations, foundations, intermediaries, and institutions that support mission-driven organizations to best serve the needs of our society. You could learn more about philanthropy and earn valuable resources to assist in your education journey.

All undergraduate and graduate students enrolled at Grand Valley State University are invited to submit a proposal for the 2024-2025 Orosz Fellowship in Philanthropy. The fellowship begins in August of each academic year. Students should be actively enrolled, with a tentative graduation in 2025 or beyond.

Dr. Joel Orosz, distinguished professor of philanthropic studies emeritus at GVSU, founded The Grantmaking School (TGS) at the Johnson Center and served as interim executive director of the center from 2005 to 2006. Before joining the Johnson Center, Orosz was a program director at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. The Fellowship was initiated by friends and colleagues of Joel Orosz in recognition of his years of service and contributions in the field of philanthropy.

Each year, two Orosz Fellows are awarded research stipends of \$2,500 each to pursue original research in the field of philanthropy — exploring topics related to grantmaking, nonprofit organizations, and/or community activism — and how philanthropy intersects with the fellows' own academic discipline (e.g., environmental studies, finance, communications).

This could be the opportunity for you!

- Is there a question that lingers in your mind when you think of the issues facing our society?
- Have you ever wanted to learn more about public and private funding for nonprofit organizations?
- Do you have an interest in how your major/academic study intersects with the love of humankind?
- Do you want to expand your horizons about topics related to community activism, social justice, grantmaking and mission-driven work?



The Johnson Center is committed to student friendly submission practices. We recognize the many demands that students face. This opportunity has the potential to be life-changing, for your academic experience, career exploration, and personal/professional development.

Proposal Submission

If you have a student, mentee, past student or GVSU prospect, please consider making a referral and sharing this information today. As examples, potential topics for study include:

- the role and perception of trust-based philanthropy following the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- the role of business or accounting excellence in nonprofit board governance;
- evolving nonprofit marketing and public relations practices;
- the impact of emerging trends in philanthropy or generation Z;
- the ethics of patient giving to healthcare organizations; or
- the history of giving among specific affinity groups such as Latino communities, African American communities, immigrant communities, etc.

The fellow is expected to work with a faculty mentor of their choice. If academic credit is desired, the fellow should arrange for an independent study course with a faculty member of their choice and create a product suitable for obtaining credit. Students are encouraged and supported in their efforts to earn necessary financial resources and academic credit, simultaneously.

One-page proposals are invited. Proposals should include a brief description of the research project you would like to pursue and how your areas of interest, previous education and experiences, or other aspects of your personal or professional profile make you a good fit for the fellowship.

Proposals are due March 29, 2024. Submissions received after the deadline, but by the close of business on April 5, 2024, will receive consideration as resources allow. The award is expected to be announced the week of May 13, 2024. To submit, please send the following items to laramora@gvsu.edu with the subject line "Orosz Fellow Application."

1. A one-page proposal including all information described above.
2. Your program/major and expected graduation date; a proposed faculty mentor; and when you plan to conduct your research: fall, winter, or both semesters.
3. Your resume with contact information.



Do you need an idea? Reach out to us! We're happy to help.

If applicants have not selected a research project and are interested in engaging with staff experts, thought leaders, or the Johnson Center's applied research work, we can explore a possible fellowship opportunity together. Applicants are invited to look at the research and resources at johnsoncenter.org (e.g., Trends, *The Foundation Review*, community data, and more) for areas of interest, and send an email to Aimée Laramore (laramora@gvsu.edu) or jcp@gvsu.edu to set up a meeting about fellowship possibilities, or call 616-331-7033.