



The Michael Manzella Fellowship for Summer, 2026 Supporting Projects in Cancer Research, Music and Performing Arts, Education, and Youth Development

Michael Manzella (Yale '93) touched all the people he knew with his energy, talent, and willingness to give of himself. He was an accomplished musician and composer who, while at Yale, devoted himself to music and volunteered much of his time to the community by working with children suffering from life-threatening illness, often in underserved communities. In 1993, this remarkable young man succumbed to a two-year struggle with cancer. **In 1994, the Michael Manzella Foundation was founded to honor Michael's legacy through its support of cancer research, music and the performing arts, education and youth development.** The Summer Fellowship program is the cornerstone of our philanthropic strategy to invest in talented undergraduates whose summer projects align with the Foundation's core areas of focus.

Who is Eligible to Apply?

Yale undergraduates who are currently in their First year, Sophomore or Junior year.

What Kinds of Projects will the Fellowship Support?

The project can be a pre-existing opportunity (internship, formal research position) or an innovative idea designed by the undergraduate him/herself. Previous fellowship projects range from conducting research in a cancer laboratory, to developing a playground for underserved children, to spearheading a summer choir program for low-income residents of New Haven. Regardless of the project's origin, those most likely to receive funding are designed with key partners in place (supervising faculty, community leaders, etc.), a realistic budget and timeframe for execution, and clearly articulated goals. While the Fellowship will support projects either in the USA or abroad, preference will be given to domestic projects.

How Much Funding Does the Fellowship Provide?

Grant awards range from \$3000 to \$5000, to be used toward expenses (e.g., project supplies and/or lab fees, room/board, project-related travel expenses) according to the application budget.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

1. A **resume** (with name, phone number, email and mailing address)
2. A proposed **budget** for the term of the project, itemizing expenses and including any sources of support (such as fellowships already received for the summer)
3. A **proposal** that describes the summer project (500 words or less), including its potential benefit to the student and, if applicable, to others in the community
4. A **personal statement** that outlines the applicant's motivation and preparation for the proposed project (500 words or less)
5. A Yale College **unofficial** academic record
6. A **letter of recommendation** from someone who can evaluate the candidate and the feasibility and value of the proposed summer project.
 - **Items #1-5** must be submitted via email as a **single PDF attachment** by the deadline to Diana Loukedis Doherty, President, at managerfoundation@gmail.com.
 - **Item #6**, the recommendation letter, should be sent via email directly from the recommending party to managerfoundation@gmail.com. Questions regarding the fellowship may be directed to Diana Loukedis Doherty via email.

Due Date: MARCH 29th, 2026 by 11:59 PM sent via email as PDF document

Invitations for interviews will be sent via email between March 30th and April 4th, and awards will be issued by April 18th. Learn more about the Foundation at www.themichaelmanzellafoundation.com.