## PRESS RELEASE

## FULBRIGHT PROGRAM PRINCE OF ASTURIAS AWARD FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION 2014



The Prince of Asturias Foundation has awarded the 2014 Prize for International Cooperation to <u>the Fulbright</u> <u>Program</u>. The prestigious honor is given to an individual, institution, group of individuals or institutions whose work is outstanding in such areas as public health, the universality of education, the protection of the environment, and social and economic development, among others, and represents internationally a relevant contribution.

The award presentation ceremony is considered to be one of the most important cultural events on the international agenda. Throughout their history, these awards have been honored with different recognitions, such as UNESCO's declaration in 2004 acknowledging the extraordinary contribution of these awards to mankind's cultural heritage.

The Prince of Asturias Awards are divided into eight categories: Arts, Social Sciences, Communication and Humanities, International Cooperation, Technical and Scientific Research, Literature, Sport and Harmony. H.R.H. the Prince of Asturias, D. Felipe de Borbón, presents these awards each autumn in Oviedo, capital of the Principality of Asturias.

The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government and is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries.

The program supports academic exchanges between the U.S. and over 160 countries and has over 360,000 alumni including 53 Nobel laureates and 80 Pulitzer Prize recipients.

The primary source of funding for the Fulbright Program is an annual appropriation by the U.S. Congress to the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA). Participating governments and higher education institutions, corporations and foundations in foreign countries and in the United States also provide direct and indirect support.

Each year 8,000 Fulbright scholars worldwide experience what they themselves define as a "life changing" immersion in another culture. Although the world has changed since Sen. Fulbright conceived the program, the basic principles of striving for understanding and harmony among nations through the mutual understanding of their citizens still lives at the core of the Fulbright Program.