



## Imagination Grant

The aim of the “Imagination Grant” program is to enhance students’ vocational aspirations by extending educational programming at Vanderbilt Divinity School by providing seed funding for special projects that address issues of religion in the global context. These grants seek to advance global learning, theological reflection, and leadership skills; and fund awards that are initiated and inspired by students rather than by standard summer internships (CPE, missionary work, camp counseling, etc.).

Awardees are competitively selected on the basis of their proposals, which should outline a course of study, research, travel and/or experiential engagement that advances global learning and leadership skills. Projects may be local, regional, national or international. Projects may not bear academic credit, nor may the grant subsidize tuition, fees or travel for Vanderbilt coursework.

Amounts requested may range from \$250 - \$2500.

A successful proposal will be no more than five pages and will include:

- A brief biographical statement about the student, his/her vocational and academic goals, previous preparatory study, and future degree program plans;
- A detailed description of the project envisioned;
- A budget for the proposed project, listing the student’s expected contribution;
- A project work plan with calendar deadlines.

All applications should include two confidential letters of reference (at least one academic) that attest to the student’s eligibility to carry out the goals of the proposal and ability to complete the proposed project successfully. Referees may submit letters via email or in a signed, sealed envelope.

Grant applications are due by February 10, 2017, to Graham Reside ([graham.reside@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:graham.reside@vanderbilt.edu)). Award decisions will be made within one month.

Grantees must complete their projects within one year of receiving the grant, provide a written final report on their projects (identifying key insights and their impact on their vocational and academic development) to the Imagination Grant Committee, provide a blog post and photo journal, and present on their project in a Monday forum.<sup>1</sup> Graduating students must complete all elements of grant before graduating.

These grants are funded by an anonymous donor who provides Vanderbilt Divinity School funding for global education initiatives.

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<sup>1</sup> Research completed through the Imagination grants may not be published unless the student received prior approval for the research from the University’s Institutional Review Board.