



“Native Girl Lost”

by Jimmy Longoria (BF'10)

This piece is a four-panel mural installation commissioned in 2015 for the Bush Foundation offices. The inspiration for the composition comes from the artist's experience working with Native youth in the Hennepin County Juvenile Detention Center. Despite having difficult lives, both on and off the reservation, the youth remain optimistic in the face of oppressive realities.

See Inside

- Learn about Bush Foundation grantees
- Poster featuring artwork by Jimmy Longoria (*above*)
- Hear from Bush Foundation President Jennifer Ford Reedy



Oyate Hotanin
(Voice of the People)

JADA GREY EAGLE

OPPORTUNITY FOR ORGANIZATIONS

Community Innovation Grants

APPLY — Applications are accepted year-round.

SUPPORT AMOUNT — \$20,000 and up

We invest in big ideas each year through our Community Innovation grants. These funds provide organizations with the space to develop and test ideas to solve problems and create opportunity, and then spread those ideas within and across sectors. We consider organizations of all sizes and ideas at all stages of development.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PEOPLE

Bush Fellowship

APPLY — 2023 Bush Fellowship applications will be open September 1 through September 29, 2022.

SUPPORT AMOUNT — \$100,000 / 12-24 months

The Bush Fellowship is an investment in accomplished leaders thinking big about what is possible for our region. Designed to support individual leadership growth, Fellows develop self-defined plans to strengthen the personal skills, connections and experiences needed to make even greater impact within their communities.



Dr. Brittany Lewis (BF'20) and
Dr. Joy Lewis (BF'06)

CHRIS MAGUIRE

Recent bMag Stories

Inspiring ideas from people thinking big about our region



ZACH STEWART

Wolakota (Community Innovation grantee)

The bond between buffalo and the Lakota people is immensely intertwined. So when a United States policy made the buffalo nearly extinct, "Our main source of food, shelter, clothing and spiritual sustenance was taken from us," says Wizipan Little Elk (BF'21), former CEO of the Rosebud Economic Development Corporation (REDCO). Our story details the Wolakota Buffalo Project, which aims to regenerate the buffalo herds and rebuild the Lakota economy.



DAN KOECK

Rural Access Distribution (Community Innovation grantee)

Facing a shortage of accessible grocery stores in small towns, the North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives (NDAREC) has piloted a new program called the Rural Access Distribution (RAD) cooperative. This story shares how this creative collaborative is impacting the food system in our region and includes advice from the leaders on how to effectively approach community-driven problem solving.



JADA GREY EAGLE

Mukhtar Ibrahim (BF'16)

Mukhtar Ibrahim's journey began in Somalia, when he left with his parents as an infant to live in Ethiopia and later in Kenya. After moving to Minnesota, he discovered a love for journalism, and a Bush Fellowship allowed him to obtain a master's degree in journalism from Columbia University in New York City. The founder of Sahan Journal, Mukhtar was named "Emerging Leader of the Year" in 2021 by the Institute for Nonprofit News. Our profile of Ibrahim spotlights his successes and his innovations.



ACKERMAN + GRUBER

Family Tree Clinic (Community Innovation grantee)

Minneapolis-based Family Tree Clinic is changing the health care experience for transgender patients. As a community clinic focused on comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care, they are leading the way in helping other health care providers better support the needs of transgender patients across the region.



Photo by
Carolyn Yang

Dear Bush Foundation community,

Over the past couple of years, we've made a lot of changes to how we do our work at the Bush Foundation. All these changes have upped our ambition and our focus on our core purpose: *to inspire and support creative problem-solving – within and across sectors – to make our region better for everyone.*

We do this by investing directly in people. We know that change only happens when people make it happen. We invest in people through our Bush Fellowship program and by supporting amazing programs like the Initiators Fellowship, Finnovation Fellows, and Native Nation Rebuilders. We were excited this past year to fund the creation of a program by Nexus Community Partners for healing and rejuvenation for racial equity leaders.

We do this by funding the development and spread of great ideas. In the past year we have made grants for ideas as varied as reimagining agricultural finance, Indigenizing tourism and adapting telehealth for people experiencing homelessness. We removed the funding cap for our Community Innovation grants and are making bigger commitments to ensure great ideas get the support needed for success. We also tripled our grantmaking through community partners that design their programs with the communities they serve.

We do this by supporting organizations that support problem solvers. We provide flexible funding to the organizations most highly valued by problem solvers in the region through our Ecosystem grant program. We know we can directly fund only a small fraction of the great efforts happening in our region. We want to be more broadly helpful by partnering with organizations that others tell us are most helpful to them.

(We are in the midst of redesigning the Bush Prize with partners to be more community-owned. That's another way we get flexible support to great organizations. Stay tuned!)

This past year we've continued to push ourselves to think and act bigger. Our region has big challenges. We want to invest boldly, for the most possible impact. We are inspired every day by people who have great ideas and are ready to do the work. We are here for them.

Jen Ford Reedy

President



BRUCE ELCOX



Addressing Racial Wealth Gaps

The Bush Foundation exists to do the most possible good with the resources given to the community by Archie Bush. As communities change and as needs change, our approach to doing good should change as well.

In March 2021, we committed \$50 million to address racial wealth gaps through our regular grantmaking programs over the next five years.

Just over one year later, we are already 70% of the way toward this goal. (This includes supporting work like Akiptan's innovative lending models for Native American farmers and ranchers in South Dakota and beyond.)

\$50 MILLION

This \$50 million is in addition to the \$100 million we committed to seed two community trust funds to support wealth-building for Black and Indigenous individuals in our region. Program design and grantmaking decisions for those funds are being led by two steward organizations, NDN Collective and Nexus Community Partners, with applications to open in late 2022 or early 2023.

26%
has been through PRIs (program related investments)

74%
has been through grants

89%
has been in Minnesota

2%
has been in North Dakota

9%
has been in South Dakota

12%
focused on Native nations and/or communities

+
We're looking for great ideas and people to invest in in ND and SD. Please contact us at bushfoundation.org

Who We Are

The Bush Foundation invests in great ideas and the people who power them in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and the 23 Native nations that share the same geography. Established in 1953 by 3M Executive Archibald Bush and his wife Edyth, the Foundation supports organizations and people to think bigger and think differently about what is possible in their communities. We work to inspire and support creative problem solving — within and across sectors — to make our region better for everyone. For more information, visit bushfoundation.org