**MOREMI INITIATIVE FOR WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP IN AFRICA**

MILEAD FELLOWS PROGRAM

Engaging, Inspiring and Equipping

A New Generation of African Women Leaders

Application Package for 2017 MILEAD Fellows



**MISSION:** Moremi Initiative for Women's Leadership in Africa strives to engage, inspire and equip young women and girls to become the next generation of leading politicians, activists, social entrepreneurs and change agents: Leaders who can transform and change institutions that legitimize and perpetuate discrimination against women. We firmly believe that the full and active participation of women in leadership is a pre-requisite for positive change and development in Africa”

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[www.facebook.com/MoremiAfrica](http://www.facebook.com/MoremiAfrica) | [www.moremiinitiative.org](http://www.moremiinitiative.org)

 **EMPOWENT ALEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (MILEAD) PROGRAM**

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS - 2017 MILEAD FELLOWSHIP**

Moremi Initiative for Women's Leadership in Africa (Moremi Initiative) hereby announces its annual call for applications for the 2017 MILEAD [Moremi Initiative Leadership Empowerment and Development] Fellows Program- *to identify 25 of Africa’s most outstanding emerging women leaders.*

The MILEAD Fellows Program is a long-term leadership development program designed to identify, develop and promote emerging young African female leaders to attain and thrive in leadership in their communities and Africa as a whole. The program targets dynamic young women interested in developing transformational leadership skills that help them address issues facing women and girls across communities in Africa. The MILEAD Program equips Fellows with the world class knowledge, skills, values and networks they need to succeed as 21st century women leaders. Applications are invited from young African women between **19 – 25 years of age, living in Africa and the Diaspora.**

The MILEAD Fellowship will be awarded to 25 outstanding young women who have exhibited leadership potential in their community, organization, and/or profession. To be eligible for the program, an applicant must be African, living on the continent or in the Diaspora; agree to participate in ***all***required activities related to MILEAD – beginning with a three-week residential Summer Institute in Ghana; and commit to a community change project. Specific requirements of the program and related dates are outlined in the application package. Please review program and application guidelines carefully, before completing your application

***Please note****that this one year program is not a full-time fellowship. Selected candidates may remain full time students or work full time for the program duration, except during the 3–week summer institute. The 3-week summer institute is an intensive and full-time residential program and all fellows will be required to attend. The rest of the program involves community-based, online and other distance activities.*

We invite you to share this application information with emerging African women leaders in your network who have the passion and potential to help transform the continent.

**How to Apply:** Applications are available online at [www.moremiinitiative.org](http://www.moremiinitiative.org/undefined/) or by request via email. Download the full 2017 Application Package and Forms below.

Completed application forms must be submitted along with **a CV** and **two recommendation letters**. **All applications and supporting documents must be submitted via email.**

The application deadline is: **Wednesday 15th March, 2017**.

For more information, visit: [www.moremiinitiative.org](http://www.moremiinitiative.org/) or Join us @[www.facebook.com/MoremiAfrica](http://www.facebook.com/MoremiAfrica) or contact the MILEAD Program Coordinator:

**GHANA: Email: partners**@moremiinitiative.org **Tel:**+233 242 901222 or +233 302 50701

**USA:**

  **Tel:** +1 510 648 1021 | +1 917.327.5235

**MOREMI INITIATIVE FOR LEADERSHIP EMPOWERMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (MILEAD) PROGRAM 2017**

Engaging, Equipping and Inspiring the Next Generation of African Women Leaders

**APPLICATION OVERVIEW**

The MILEAD Fellows Program is a one-year leadership development program designed to identify, develop and promote emerging young African Women leaders to attain and succeed in leadership in their communities. The one-year program targets dynamic young women interested in developing transformational leadership skills that help them tackle issues affecting women and girls in their communities. Applications are welcome from young women living in Africa and the Diaspora. Application forms are available online or upon request via email: partners@moremiinitiative.org

**Interested applicants should submit the following materials by the application deadline of Wednesday 15th March, 2017:**

1. Completed “2017 MILEAD Application Form”.
2. Resumé/ CV
3. Two letters of recommendation from professional, community or academic referees.

**Application and all supporting documents must be submitted by email.**

**Note:** Applications will only be reviewed upon receiving all **four documents by 15th March, 2017** to be considered for selection.

**ABOUT MOREMI**

Moremi Initiative is widely recognized today as the leading and pioneer organization promoting women’s leadership and social justice in Africa. Our investments in transformational leadership over the past 12 years continue to inspire and equip a new generation of women leaders on the continent. Moremi Initiative is a United Nations Accredited organization- in Special Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and has official partnerships with UN WOMEN, UNAIDS and other local and international partners.

Moremi Initiative boasts of a growing and dynamic alumni network with over 200 strong membership of exceptional young leaders, who share a commitment to shape the future of African and their respective communities. Each year, upon graduation from the yearlong leadership training, 25 selected Fellows join the network. Together they form a powerful pan-African community that can dramatically impact the future of our great continent.

One of the distinguishing features of our program is the deliberate integration of community service to leadership development. Every Fellow conceptualizes and implements a community change project that addresses a critical issue of importance in their community. Currently, there are over 100 MiCHANGE projects in operation across the continent- positively and meaningfully impacting thousands of lives in various communities.

**The MILEAD Program**

Moremi Initiative was established in 2004 in response to the gross under-representation of African women in leadership positions. The absence of women in leadership positions means that they are also excluded from important decision-making processes that are crucial to influencing national and international policy. At Moremi Initiative, we strongly believe that the full and active participation of women in leadership is a pre-requisite for positive change and development in Africa.

Each class of MILEAD Fellows consists of twenty-five exceptional young women who participate in yearlong transformational leadership training and community leadership projects with support and mentoring. The one-year curriculum involves approximately 25 days of face-to-face and online training plus the time allocated to mentoring and community service projects. The MILEAD program includes a three-week summer institute, quarterly online seminars, informal networking, mentoring, community leadership projects and exchange programs with other professionals. The three-week summer institute is a residential training session comprised of lectures, discussions and workshops, visits to institutions, meetings with key leaders, case studies of successful leaders, assigned readings, research, presentations, and internships. The institute is intensive and highly participatory, providing a supportive learning environment for exchange of best practices and experiences, technical depth, strategy development and skill building. Participants will develop a greater appreciation for their individual leadership styles and capabilities and enhance their understanding of women’s rights issues, advocacy and mentoring.

The MILEAD program partners with a broad diversity of international leaders, trainers, mentors and institutions ranging from the private sector to academia and civil society. Our world-class faculty, influential speakers and trainers have included three former Presidents: Mrs. Mary Robinson of Ireland and Former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; Jerry John Rawlings and John Agyekum Kufour of Ghana. Other inspirational speakers include Dr. Joyce Aryee—Former CEO of Ghana Chamber of Mines and current Board Chair of Moremi Initiative; Ms. Leymah Gbowee, Nobel Peace Laureate, Ms. Theo Sowa- CEO of African Women Development Fund, Ms. Sylvia Vollenhoven of Vision in Africa (South Africa)- an international award winning journalist, Mr. Mawuli Dake (C.E.O of Africa Group Consult and Co-Founder of Moremi Initiative), Her Ladyship Mrs. Georgina Wood-The Chief Justice of the Republic of Ghana, Prof. Akosua Adomako Ampofo and Faustine Odaba, CEO of Kenya based organization Natural Resources and Waste Management Alliance among other top African activists, scholars and leaders from business, academia and public spheres.

**Objectives of the MILEAD Program**

* To foster a cadre of young African women leaders empowered to promote social justice and transform their communities through long term investments.
* To enhance the capacity of women and girls as advocates and agents for advancing women’s rights and empowerment.
* To develop leadership capacity in women and girls using different mentoring approaches, such as role modeling, shadowing, peer review and internships placements.
* To equip women and girls to build intra-and inter-generational solidarity that cuts across borders.
* To expand and facilitate world-class opportunities for MILEAD Fellows for their personal, professional and leadership development.
* To profile and increase visibility of the achievements of women and girls through advocacy and by sharing information on Fellow’s accomplishments and efforts.
* To identify, strengthen, and maintain critical partnerships that leverage and facilitate the development of networking and solidarity among alumni and other strategic stakeholders.

**Key topics to be addressed in the Summer Institute:**

Through lectures, plenaries, skills training workshops, role-plays, practical projects, field trips, interactive exercises and open discussions, the program will address key topics such as:

* Dimensions of Leadership
* Women’s Human Rights
* Pan-African Leadership
* Social Activism
* Technological Development/ Change
* Networking and Collaboration
* Entrepreneurship
* Women’s Health and Safety
* Economic Justice
* Political and Civic Participation
* Environmental Justice
* Peace-building & Movement Building
* Holistic Personal Development
* Social Justice
* Sexual & Reproductive Health Rights

**Program Timeline**

* ***March 15, 2017:*** MILEAD Application deadline.
* ***May 1-20th, 2017:*** Interviews with shortlisted candidates.
* ***May 25, 2017:*** OfficialAnnouncement of 2017 MILEAD Fellows.
* ***July 10- August 2, 2017:*** 2017 MILEAD Leadership Institute.
* ***Sept. 2017- Aug 2017:*** Online Seminars & International Programs.
* ***October 2017-*** Fellows activate and launch MiCHANGE community projects.
* ***Sept 2017- Sept 2017:*** Implementation of MiCHANGE Projects.
* ***September 2017- On-going***: Mentoring, Networking and Solidarity.

**Eligibility**

We are seeking exceptional young African women between the **ages of 19 and 25**, of all backgrounds and career interests who have the potential and commitment to make meaningful contributions as leaders in their communities, in politics, business, and other areas of development.

To participate you must:

* Be a young African woman- between 19 and 25 years of age

## Demonstrate leadership potential and promise

## Show track record of interest in service to the community

## Demonstrate high academic potential- with ability to participate in vigorous university level program

## Have a working knowledge of the English language

## Outstanding personal qualities, including openness to interpersonal and multicultural experiences

Applicants will not be denied admittance to the MILEAD program based on education, class, religion, financial need, or orientation. The MILEAD program places importance on recruiting applicants from communities that are under-represented in public leadership.

**Program Benefits**

Program benefits for selected candidates include:

* Fellows will gain excellent skills in leadership, activism, research, mentoring, public speaking and advocacy among others.
* National to global recognition as one of Africa’s most promising women leaders.
* Access to opportunities and resources for education, professional, leadership and personal development. Fellows are supported to enter into top Universities for further education.
* Knowledge of critical cutting-edge issues such as human rights concepts, women’s human rights, leadership concepts, gender equity and social justice.
* Upon successful completion of the program, fellows become automatic members of the Moremi Fellow’s Network.
* Long term Support:
	+ Fellows’ achievements and initiatives are promoted through our partner networks and the media for visibility and exposure.
	+ Fellows will have access to readily available Moremi Initiative mentors including some of the most outstanding African women leaders.
	+ Fellows are supported to implement personal community leadership projects on issues of importance to their peers, school, community or country.

**Terms, Conditions, Fees and Scholarships**

**The three-week MILEAD Summer Institute:** All selected fellows must commit their availability on full time basis for the 3-week residential summer institute from **July 10 to August 2, 2017**; and to participate in the rest of the program from their home country or country of residence.

* **SCHOLARSHIPS & FEES**: A limited number of selected candidates will receive full scholarship. The fee for the 2017 MILEAD Institute is **$4,500** and covers travels, accommodation, tuition, all meals, site visits, local events, training materials and all program related costs. Moremi Initiative will ensure the participation of all selected candidates regardless of their financial situation. No qualified candidate will be denied participation due to financial need. However, due to the increasing demand for the programs, and for sustainability purposes, we are encouraging participants to approach local donors for partial sponsorship to meet their costs. A limited number of **full scholarships** are available.
* The appointment as a participant in the MILEAD program carries **no stipend**.

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**How to Apply**

Interested applicants should submit the following materials by the application deadline of **Wednesday 15th March, 2017:**

* Completed 2017 MILEAD Fellows Application Form
* Resumé/Curriculum Vitae (C.V.)
* Two letters of recommendation from professional or academic contacts

Please submit all materials **by email** as part of your application. Send any additional materials to: partners@moremiinitiative.org

##### Selection Process

Fully completed Applications will be reviewed by the MILEAD Selection Committee from **March through May**. Shortlisted applicants may be called for a telephone and or direct interview prior to selection. Following the interview, a list of admitted fellows will be finalized and posted on Moremi Initiative’s Facebook and Website on **May 25, 2017**. Fellows are selected through a vigorous and highly competitive process.

**Application Steps**

**Step 1:** Complete Application Form *[Please download and fill out the application form in* ***word document. DO NOT PRINT or SCAN****]*

**Step 2:** Submit your resume/ CV and two reference letters by email. Reference letters can be submitted together with application or separately. Referees can also send letters directly to us.

**Step 3:** Check Facebook page/ email in April to find out if you have been selected for an interview. Sign up for a phone interview, if invited. Shortlisted candidates for interviews will be announced on our facebook page in April. Join us at **www.facebook.com/MoremiAfrica** to receive updates.

**Step 4:** Participate in a 30-minute phone interview.

**Step 5:** Check online/email to see your acceptance status.

**Step 6:** If offered the Fellowship, **accept or decline** our offer by **email or by phone.**

**Step 7:** Participate in media related announcements at national level.

**Step 8:** Make logistical arrangements to attend summer institute in **July/August 2017.**

**Step 9:** Prepare for institute by reading pre-institute materials and completing assignments.

**Step 10:** Identify and approach personal mentor.

**APPLICATION FORM**

**Moremi Initiative for Women’s Leadership in Africa**

Engaging, Equipping and Inspiring the Next Generation of African Women Leaders

**Confidential Application – Class of 2017**

1. **GENERAL INFORMATION**

|  |
| --- |
| ***Please type or print in ink.*** |
| **PARTICIPANT NAME:**  |
|  | surname | first/given |
| **DATE**  | **OF BIRTH:** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  day | month | year |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:** |
| **SCHOOL/ ORGANIZATION :** |
| **LEVEL/ JOB TITLE:** |
| **MAILING ADDRESS:** |
|  |
| City | province/state | country | postal code |
| **PHONE:** | **FAX:** |
|  | include country and city codes | include country and city codes |
| **E-MAIL ADDRESS:** |
|  |  |  |  |
| **OTHER PHONE:** | **FAX:** |
|  | include country and city codes | include country and city codes |
| **ADDITIONAL E-MAIL ADDRESS:** |
| How did you hear about MILEAD Fellows Program?  |
| Have you participated in any other Leadership programs? If so, list programs.  |  |

1. **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAME AND LOCATION OF INSTITUTION** | **FIELD OF STUDY** | **DEGREE/ CERTIFICATE** | **YEAR** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
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1. **COMMUNITY SERVICE**\*Include community, civic, religious, political, or government activities. Please do not include business or professional activities.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MOST SIGNIFICANT COMMUNITY ACTIVITY**  | **ORGANIZATION** | **YEAR** | **ROLE/ RESPONSIBILITY** |
|  |  |  |  |
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1. **COMMUNITY OR CIVIC AWARDS AND HONORS**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **AWARD OR HONORS** | **ORGANIZATION** | **DATE** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
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1. **FIELDS OF WORK AND AREAS OF INTEREST**

**Health and Safety**

* HIV/AIDS
* Reproductive Health
* Maternal and Child Health

**Education**

* Education
* Formal / Non-formal Education
* Vocational training

**Democracy & Governance**

* Civil Society Strengthening
* Conflict Mitigation & Management

**Economic Empowerment**

* + Poverty Reduction/ Income Generation
	+ Entrepreneurship
	+ Small/Medium Business Development

**Gender Equity and Women’s Rights**

* + Women’s Rights/ Human Rights
	+ Social Justice
	+ Gender-Based/ Child Violence
* Women’s Political participation
* Pan-Africanism / Social Justice

**Please list/include other areas that are equally important but not listed:**

1. **EMPLOYMENT**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **EMPLOYER** | **RESPONSIBILITY** | **START DATE** | **END DATE** | **TITLE** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
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1. **PROFESSIONAL or COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS/ MEMBERSHIPS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ORGANIZATION** | **POSITION HELD** | **DATE** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

1. **APPLICANT ESSAY**

Do not attach a separate page. Please answer the following ***briefly*** in the spaces provided.

* What do you consider your most important accomplishment and why? What leadership role did you play?
* What do you consider your highest career or academic achievement to date? Briefly explain.
* What do you think are the three most critical problems confronting women in your community today and what do you think should be done about them?
* Why should you be selected for the MILEAD Program?
* What do you hope to gain from your experience? List and briefly explain your top three expectations in order of importance to you.
* Moremi Initiative is committed to selecting a diverse class of participants that reflects the diversity of the continent in terms of geography, education, class, religion, financial need, or other categories. Also important are diverse political opinions and worldviews. Please briefly characterize how your political views, faith, or other aspects of your “worldview” will contribute to the diversity of the class.
* Is there any additional information that you believe would assist the selection committee in assessing your qualifications? If so, describe briefly.

I have read the above and understand the commitment involved in the MILEAD participation. I affirm that all of the information listed on this application is true. **[Please sign with your initials or electronic signature. DO NOT PRINT & SCAN]**

**Signature of Applicant** **Date**