

FULBRIGHT



A M B A S S A D O R

# Overview

- ***WHY*** I applied for a Fulbright Scholar grant
- ***WHAT*** I did on my Fulbright Scholar grant
- ***IMPACT*** of my Fulbright Scholar grant
  - Personal
  - Professional
- Additional Fulbright Scholar opportunities
- How to Stay Engaged



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# Rosemarie M. Esber

## Independent Scholar



- Effat University, Jeddah
- Teaching and Research
- Preserving the Cultural Heritage of Jeddah: An Oral History Project

## Fulbright Scholar 2014-15 Saudi Arabia



- University Library and Museum Projects
- Career Days Presentations
- University Community Seminars



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# Why I Chose to Apply

**Teaching:** I taught a seminar on oral history techniques to introduce the methodology to Effat University undergraduate students. I wanted to impress on the students that women's history matters and should be recorded and preserved.

**Research:** I conducted oral histories with educators about the early years of girls education in Saudi Arabia and different aspects of Jeddah's history as the gateway to the Holy Cities of Makkah and Medina.

**Learn:** The Fulbright Scholar's grant to Jeddah enabled me to learn more about a country that I had studied and researched intensively for years. It was a wonderful opportunity to live in the country and meet Saudis on a daily basis.

**Cultural Exchange:** I was honored to represent the United States as a Fulbright Scholar and to learn about the history and culture of the people of Saudi Arabia and the many other nationalities living and working in the Kingdom.



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# Preserving the Cultural Heritage of Jeddah: An Oral History Project



I taught oral history methodology at Effat University in Jeddah. The students interviewed an older female family member and presented their interviews to the entire class using videos, pictures, and other creative methods of their choosing.

I also presented lectures to the university community about my research on Palestine and my other oral history projects. I participated in career days and advised students on careers in international development, and initiated several projects for the Effat Library and Cultural Museum, including creating an Arab women authors' collection.



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# Personal Impact

**Teaching:** I enjoyed teaching university students a new research methodology which they found intriguing and interesting. I learned from their presentations how women's lives had evolved in Saudi Arabia and in other Arab countries.

**Friendships:** I met teachers and professors from around the world and developed lasting friendships. We continue an ongoing exchange of information.

**Professional Development:** The Fulbright Scholars experience has opened other international opportunities with Fulbright alumni and grant programs.

**Exploration:** I visited different parts of Jeddah and regions of Saudi Arabia. The landscape and history is rich and varied as are the people. I was amazed to see baboons and monkeys in the mountains near Taif.

**Learning:** Living in Jeddah was a great learning experience. I was impressed by the culture and diversity of Saudi Arabia and I learned a great deal from my colleagues and students at Effat University.



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# Professional Impact

**Teaching:** The opportunity to teach in Jeddah was a learning experience for me in tailoring courses to non-native university speakers.

**Network of Colleagues:** I have developed a network of colleagues in Jeddah as well as with international professors who were teaching at the university. And I remain in contact with students.

**Research:** I was able to conduct my own oral history research as well as conduct research at the Effat University Library and Cultural Museum.

**Professional Collaboration:** Future research collaboration with students, professors and the professional staff is ongoing and I hope to have another opportunity to do research or teach in Saudi Arabia.



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# Question & Answer



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# Other Fulbright Programs

## Fulbright U.S. Student Program

- Recent graduates, postgraduate candidates through dissertation level, developing professionals and artists to study and research abroad

## Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Program

- Principally for primary- and secondary-level educators

## Fulbright-Hays Awards

- Faculty research, group projects and seminars in designated social sciences and humanities fields

## Fulbright Specialist Program

- Short term grants that promote linkages between U.S. scholars and professionals and their counterparts at host institutions overseas



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# Stay Engaged!

- Sign up for [MyFulbright](#) to receive tailored messages regarding the Fulbright Scholar Program
- Invite a Visiting Scholar to your campus through the [Outreach Lecturing Fund](#)
- Register for an upcoming [Webinar](#)

Questions?

Email [outreach@iie.org](mailto:outreach@iie.org)



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