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NEWS

Aspire . Learn . Achieve.

Summer 2014 | Issue #6

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The Jewish Foundation for Education of Women (JFEW) is a private, nonsectarian foundation. In partnership with schools and nonprofits, JFEW supports more than 350 aspiring women annually to meet their educational and career goals. Read about our [mission](#) and [history](#), and see [testimonials](#) from current recipients on our [website](#).

President's Message, Jill W. Smith



JFEW President Jill W. Smith

Since the 1880s, when it was founded as a [vocational school](#) for girls, JFEW has been concerned with the intersection of women's education and employment. This summer, the Foundation has expanded its [commitment](#) by supporting over 150 women taking unpaid internships. Little research exists on gender and internships, but according to one study, female interns are 75% more likely than male interns to work for free. At JFEW, we know that many women cannot afford to take unpaid internships, and the work experience an internship provides can help women better compete as they seek to achieve their educational and career goals. Read about the experience of two JFEW-funded [interns](#) and learn about our [internship and scholarship programs](#). I hope you will consider a [gift](#) to support our mission. *Read Jill Smith's [post](#) on the importance of investing in interns.*

News



Find Us on Social Media

JFEW is now on [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#)! Like us on Facebook and join our exclusive members-only [LinkedIn Scholars Network group](#). Connect with other Scholars (past and present) and network with like-minded women about careers, internships and much more. Share your photos, your stories, your hopes and your successes. We want to see them all.



New Grants for Internships, Service Learning

JFEW is committed to helping women bridge higher education and the workforce with financial support for substantive summer work. New grants to the CUNY Service Corps and to the John Jay College of Criminal Justice help women to gain professional experience and skills through summer internships and service learning opportunities. Read more about our grant programs [here](#).



JFEW Expands Commitment to STEM and Health Professions

With new grants to City College, the Macaulay Honors Program, New York City College of Technology and the New York University School of Nursing, JFEW has expanded its commitment to women studying to enter STEM and health professions in both its College and Heritage Programs. These grants complement the Foundation's existing grants to Stern College for Women and Long Island University. Read more about our grant programs [here](#).

Program Spotlight on Internships



JFEW Hunter College Scholar Jennett Pena with her supervisors from the Urban Justice Center.

For over ten years, JFEW has provided stipends for women to take unpaid summer internships. Read what two of last summer's interns have to say about their experience.

Mitsue Iwata, Hunter College Class of 2014, JFEW Eleanor Roosevelt Scholar, Intern at NYS Attorney General's Office |

Last summer's internship experience made me interested in working for government and I had never seen myself in that capacity before. But here, I saw firsthand the government's power to influence change and provide necessary help. I had a wonderful supervisor who worked on the Homeowner Protection Program under the National Mortgage Settlement. Even though I had no legal experience, this internship spoke to my passion about public policy around housing issues and gave me the opportunity to work with data to help assess funding priorities. This was my first office experience and while it wasn't easy at first to learn the office culture, everyone was very helpful and I learned how to create that important 'first-impression'. My advice to interns just starting out? I know that we can become unsure and afraid in these new environments and we don't always make the right first impression. But find an internship in an area you are truly interested in and then don't be afraid of looking silly or asking a lot of questions.

Mira Biller, Muhlenberg College Class of 2014, JFEW Fellow in the Collegiate Leadership Internship Program (CLIP), Intern at FECS Health and Human Services |

My internship through CLIP was great preparation for actual employment because of the many similar professional aspects. I had to dress professionally, commute, conduct individual meetings with clients and supervisors, and learned to be on time and organized. I also got used to being evaluated on my performance. It was all great practice. My internship was with FECS Health and Human Services, helping people with mental and physical barriers to employment. I had to be a good listener and help empower clients to capitalize on their skill sets to achieve professional goals. Most importantly, I recently interviewed for a job in youth and social justice organizing, and my internship allowed me to speak from experience about my understanding of the barriers faced by low income families and individuals and the different perspectives I have gained. In your internship, network as much as you can: network with people from your internship, your cohort, other young professionals - everyone! Ask them out to coffee and get to know them: people

are usually very happy to meet and help and you never know where it could lead.



We asked our Facebook Community for their "best piece of advice for new interns." A few favorites:

Lily Lozovsky: Learn to understand things from other peoples' perspectives. What's important to your boss, colleagues, and clients? Think of yourself as serving others and helping them achieve their day to day tasks.

Glorelys Mora-Liz: Ask questions to learn about the company, how it operates and about your supervisor's position. Network, learn, explore and be efficient!

Donate

Honor an aspiring woman in your life or help aspiring women with financial need to achieve their educational goals by making a donation. Donations by credit card can be made on JFEW's [website](#). Donations by check can be mailed to:
Jewish Foundation for Education of Women
135 East 64th Street
New York, NY 10065

For donations of stock, or to discuss other giving options, please [contact us](#) or call Elizabeth Leiman Kraiem at 212.288.3931.

All donations to JFEW, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, are tax deductible as allowed by law.

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