

2026-2027 ASF FELLOWSHIPS FOR ICELANDIC CITIZENS IN THE U.S.

New York, NY—The American-Scandinavian Foundation (ASF) is pleased to announce its 2026-2027 Fellows from Iceland. ASF and the Iceland-United States Educational Commission joined forces in 2024 to promote educational and cultural exchange between Iceland and the United States. ASF's fellowships advance academic scholarship across all fields of study. Fellowships are awarded in all fields and are made possible by the following ASF Endowment Funds: the Thor Thors Memorial Fund and the Charles K. Willey Memorial Fund.

To learn more about our yearly fellowship competition for Icelandic residents, visit our website: <https://www.amscan.org/fellowships-and-grants/>



IMAGES: (Left to right) An image of Ómar Ingi Halldórsson (left) and Kristján Egilsson (right) with classmates at Stanford School of Engineering. Photo credits to Saul Bromberger for @stanfordeng on Instagram. A headshot of Berglind Bjarnadóttir. An image of Elín Claire Heba Ramette holding a camera.

BJARNADÓTTIR, Berglind to Dartmouth College

PhD, Molecular and Cellular Biology

Berglind Bjarnadóttir is pursuing a PhD in Molecular and Cellular Biology at Dartmouth College, where she is researching the cellular regulation of actin, a fundamental protein that gives cells their shape and enables movement, division, and proper function. In particular, she is interested in continuing her work in Dartmouth College's Higgs Lab, investigating how two proteins—thymosin beta 4 and beta 10—regulate the cell's structural framework, with the goal of understanding their distinct roles in normal cell function and disease. Ms. Bjarnadóttir earned an advanced diploma in classical bassoon and piano from Reykjavík College of Music in 2021 and a BS in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Iceland in 2024. In recognition of her research excellence, she was named a SURF Fellow at the California Institute of Technology in 2023 and a Fulbright Scholar in 2025.

EGILSSON, Kristján to Stanford University

MS, Computational and Mathematical Engineering

Kristján Egilsson will pursue his MS in Computational and Mathematical Engineering at Stanford University, where he plans to specialize in artificial intelligence. Building upon his prior expertise in deep learning theory and work with large language models, Mr. Egilsson intends to use his studies to establish a strong foundation for future research in artificial intelligence. He earned his BS in Applied Mathematics from the University of Iceland in 2025 and has worked at Veitur, where he developed internal chatbots to improve operational efficiency, and at Arev Securities, where he applied machine learning techniques to model the escape patterns of Icelandic salmon from open-sea pens. He is also a recipient of the Val Bjornson Icelandic Exchange Scholarship and the University of Iceland Student Achievement and Incentive Fund.

HALLDÓRSSON, Ómar Ingi to Stanford University

MS, Electrical Engineering

Ómar Halldórsson will pursue his MS in Electrical Engineering at Stanford University, where he will further specialize in artificial intelligence, signal processing, control, and optimization. His research focuses on developing AI systems that efficiently extract meaningful information from complex data. Mr. Halldórsson earned his BS in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of Iceland in 2025 and has since worked as an associate software engineer at Lucinity and co-founded SagaReg, a company addressing inefficiencies in pharmaceutical regulatory document automation. In recognition of his work, he received first place at KLAKE Icelandic Startups in 2025 and was awarded the University of Iceland's Achievement and Encouragement Fund in 2022.

RAMETTE, Elín Claire Heba to the School of the Art Institute of Chicago

MFA, Writing

Elín C. H. Ramette will pursue her MFA in Writing at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, where she will explore adaptations of film screenplays into publishable literary works that address the creative and economic divide between literature and filmmaking. Her project aims to lay the groundwork for a new publishing model in which screenplays—traditionally treated solely as production documents—are developed as readable, marketable narratives in their own right. By advancing this hybrid literary form, Ms. Ramette seeks to create new professional pathways for screenwriters, broaden readership among contemporary audiences, and foster cross-cultural exchange between Icelandic and American storytelling traditions. She holds a BA in Filmmaking Practice from MetFilm School London (2022) and has since worked on productions for Vogue Scandinavia, Sensor TV, and the BBC, among other projects.