

The 2026 Junior Faculty Writing and Creative Works Summer Academy Overview

**Office of Faculty Development
Office of the Provost
HOWARD UNIVERSITY**

PURPOSE AND OVERVIEW OF THE SUMMER ACADEMY

The Office of Faculty Development (OFD) in the Office of the Provost sponsors the **Junior Faculty Writing and Creative Works Summer Academy** (“Summer Academy”) to support faculty success with their scholarly publications and/or creative works. Scholarly publications include manuscripts for journal articles, book chapters and monographs in a university press or other academic presses. Creative works include, for example, original compositions, orchestrations, arrangements, original scripts, adaptations, theatrical designs, choreography, installations, and exhibitions of two- and three-dimensional works of art, video and motion graphics, or performance/conceptual works of art and design.

The 2026 Summer Academy will be conducted **in person and online**, and runs from May 14, 2026, to September 25, 2026. The Summer Academy will offer up to twenty (**20**) junior faculty (“Faculty Scholars”) the opportunity to participate in this community of scholars at Howard University. Additionally, the Summer Academy seeks the service of ten (**10**) mid-career or senior faculty (“Scholar Coach”) who will mentor to the Faculty Scholars. Each Scholar Coach will mentor two Faculty Scholars during the program.

THE FACULTY SCHOLAR

Who Should Apply for the Junior Faculty Scholar Opportunity?

Junior faculty who are assistant or associate professors on tenure track are invited to apply as a Faculty Scholar. Junior faculty who are probationary career status lecturers, instructors or clinical assistant professors on the clinical educator track are also eligible for this program. **Junior faculty are limited to participating in the Summer Academy up to three times. Any junior faculty who participated in 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025, is eligible to apply again unless they have already met the three-time only participation threshold.** Full-time junior faculty members who apply must be interested in enhancing their scholarly agenda through the process of writing or creating, reflecting, and receiving critical feedback in a summer-long faculty development learning community.

The key components of the Summer Academy include coaching through the writing or creating process of a publication or creative work; interacting with peers in small accountability groups; attending required retreats; participating in brown bags to help with research, writing and overall development as a member of a learned community; and whenever possible having fun with other colleagues in the Summer Academy.

In the Summer Academy, junior faculty will commit to writing and submitting a piece for publication or producing a creative work for submission to a juried show or other exhibition opportunity, exhibition design, or a musical/theatrical recording/performance. A small stipend will be provided to each Faculty Scholar who successfully completes the program with a submitted piece for publication or exhibition consideration.

Although junior faculty from all disciplines are encouraged to apply, we strongly encourage faculty from Fine Arts, Humanities (English, Classics, and Foreign Languages), History, Philosophy, Sociology, African Studies, and Afro-American Studies to participate in

this Summer Academy. The Summer Academy promotes cross-disciplinary collaboration and coordination throughout the program and it is important to have these disciplines represented in the scholarly community.

Finally, faculty members who take part in this opportunity must commit to attending all mandatory activities in their entirety. The full schedule for the 2026 Summer Academy is provided on page 6.

A Successful Faculty Scholar (Junior Faculty) Application

To be considered for the Summer Academy, the faculty member must submit an online application and an abbreviated CV (only 5 pages) by **Friday, March 20, 2026, 5:00 p.m. using the InfoReady platform.**

A successful Faculty Scholar applicant for the Junior Faculty Writing and Creative Works Summer Academy will possess the following:

- A current project that can be developed into a solid piece of writing ready for publication or a creative work ready for submission and review by the end of the program. **For written projects, an abstract must be included with the application. For creative works projects, a project description, including materials, methodologies, outcomes, etc., must be included with the application. *Important Note:*** If you are still collecting data during the summer program then your project is not ready to be completed during this program.
- A commitment to the writing and/or creative process;
- A commitment to submit assignments and meet all deadlines of the Summer Academy;
- A commitment to submit a final product (summer project) to their Scholar Coach and the Office of Faculty Development on or before **Friday, August 28, 2026, by 5:00 p.m.**; and

- Proof that the final product was submitted to a publisher or appropriate external party for the creative work to the Office of Faculty Development by **Friday, September 25, 2026, by 5:00 p.m.**

Each junior faculty member accepted in the Junior Faculty Writing and Creative Works Summer Academy benefits from the following:

- An encouraging environment to work on and complete a journal article, monograph, or book chapter;
- An encouraging environment to develop and work on a creative work;
- An Opening Retreat and a Research Retreat where everyone comes together to build a network of scholars on whom you can rely and to work on scholarship;
- A Scholar Coach from Howard University who will offer feedback and advice throughout the writing and/or development process for your creative work;
- Information from experienced colleagues about successful strategies to achieve scholarship objectives;
- Interdisciplinary opportunities catalyzed by faculty interactions across disciplines; and
- A network of colleagues across the University to support you beyond the Summer Academy.

FACULTY SCHOLAR APPLICATION and AN ABBREVIATED CV are due by Friday, March 20, 2026, 5:00 p.m.

Apply on InfoReady at: <https://howard.infoready4.com>. Use your Howard University email address and password to log in (SSO).

THE SCHOLAR COACH

Who Should Apply for the Scholar Coach Position?

Senior and mid-career faculty members at Howard University who have excelled in the following two areas should apply: **scholarship and mentorship.**

The Summer Academy is seeking colleagues who have an established track record of pursuing their scholarly agenda. In addition to scholarly productivity, Scholar Coaches should also have a background or experience in patiently and successfully mentoring junior colleagues. In other words, senior and mid-career colleagues who thoroughly enjoy and have excelled at providing mentorship to non-tenured full-time faculty are encouraged to apply.

Senior and mid-career faculty from any discipline can apply, but those from the Fine Arts, Humanities, (English, Classics, and Foreign Languages), History, Philosophy, Sociology, African Studies, and Afro-American Studies) are especially encouraged.

Scholar Coaches will also be required to attend all mandatory activities including the monthly Scholar Coach meetings during the summer months (with exception of peer accountability groups). A stipend will be provided to Scholar Coaches who mentor Faculty Scholars. To be considered for the Summer Academy, the faculty member must submit an online application and an updated CV by **Friday, March 20, 2026, 5:00 p.m. using the InfoReady platform.**

Apply on InfoReady at: <https://howard.infoready4.com>. Use your Howard University email address and password to log in (SSO).

MANDATORY DATES FOR THE 2026 JUNIOR FACULTY WRITING AND CREATIVE WORKS SUMMER ACADEMY (DISCRETIONARY DATES FOR THE FACULTY SCHOLARS AND SCHOLAR COACHES ARE DESIGNATED WITH AN ASTERISK (*))

a. Pre-Retreat and Orientation Meeting (Meeting on Zoom)	Wednesday, May 13, 2026
b. Opening Retreat in Wintergreen, Virginia (In-person, overnight)	Tuesday, May 26, 2026 through Friday, May 29, 2026
c. Faculty Scholars meet with Scholar Coaches (Choice to be on Zoom, Teams, or in-person)	2 hours in June 2026 2 hours in July 2026 2 hours in August 2026
d. Scholar Coaches meet with Summer Academy Leadership Team (On Teams or on Zoom)	1 hour in June 2026 1 hour in July 2026 1 hour in August 2026
e. The Research Retreat	Tuesday, July 28, 2026 Wednesday, July 29, 2026 Thursday, July 30, 2026
f. Accountability Group Meetings (Group choice to be on Zoom, Teams, or in-person)	June, July, and August Meet at least once every two weeks and submit a meeting report.
g. Brown Bags* (Typically 3 brown bags held during the summer) Could be on Teams, on Zoom or in-person	Dates TBA *Attendance at 2 of the 3 brown bags is mandatory.
h. Deadline for submission of summer work product to the Office of Faculty Development	Friday, August 28, 2026, 5:00 p.m.

i. Deadline for proof of submission of summer work product to the Office of Faculty Development	Friday, September 25, 2026, 5:00 p.m.
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Attendance at and/or adherence to this schedule of activities and deadlines is MANDATORY.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Each Faculty Scholar and Scholar Coach will be expected to sign a contract committing to the Summer Academy’s scheduled activities and deadlines.

REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS

The applications will be reviewed by a committee and decisions will be sent to Faculty Scholar and Scholar Coach applicants no later than **Friday, April 17, 2026.**

LEADERSHIP TEAM FOR THE 2026 JUNIOR FACULTY WRITING AND CREATIVE WORKS SUMMER ACADEMY

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Elka Marie Stevens, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Art, Chadwick A. Boseman College of Fine Arts
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QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SUMMER ACADEMY OR THE APPLICATION

If you have any questions about the program or the application, then please contact the Co-Directors or **Ms. Jacqueline C. Young, Program Manager, Office of Faculty Development, Office of the Provost,** at jyoung1@howard.edu.

Information about the program can also be found online at: [Junior Faculty Writing and Creative Works Summer Academy](#) | [Howard University Provost's Office](#).

You may also attend an information session. The next information session will be held on Wednesday, March 4, 2026, 12:00 – 1:00 pm on Zoom.

Rev. February 17, 2026