

CICC Proposal Funding Guideline

Updated 10/3/23

Goal: All components of the proposal should be critical to the intellectual and/or cultural experience as it relates to the published theme for the year.

2023-2024 Theme: #Access and Opportunities

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The Cultural and Intellectual Community Council (CICC) selects the annual intellectual theme related to the Summer Reading and distributes funds for related programming during the Academic year. The Intellectual Theme for CICC sponsored programs in 2023-24 is Access and Opportunities. Access and Opportunities focuses on structures that enable (or constrain) certain groups to have a real chance for advancement or progress based on their intersecting identities. For many people, access and opportunity can be a mirage that is hard to understand and navigate especially given cultural narratives that frame access and opportunity as freely and equally available to all.

The 2023 Summer Reading for the class of 2027 is *The Book of Unknown Americans* by [Cristina Henríquez](#). Henríquez observed the broad range and humanity of the immigrant experience through her father, who came from Panama. She paints a vivid and nuanced image of not only the challenges immigrants face but also the enduring powers of love and sacrifice needed to meet these challenges. *The Book of Unknown Americans* received numerous accolades: it was a *New York Times* and *Washington Post* Notable Book, an NPR Great Read, and was chosen as one of the best books of the year by *BookPage*. It was also longlisted for the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction and was a finalist for the Dayton Literary Peace Prize.

In *The Book of Unknown Americans*, Henríquez explores the stories and testimonials of men and women who have come to the United States from all over Latin America. These narratives investigate the intersections of multiple identities and experiences (i.e., race, disability, socioeconomic status, immigration status, etc.) and how these interface with the (lack of) access and opportunity in the United States.

Henríquez challenges us to grapple with the typical stereotypes of Latin American immigrants, redefine what it means to be American, and celebrate our shared humanity despite our cultural differences. We hope that reading this book will inspire the student body to think critically about how their intersecting identities impact access and opportunities in their lives both within and outside of the TCNJ community.

We invite the campus community to organize and participate in dynamic and meaningful programming under this unifying concept.

Funding Guidelines: In general, CICC will provide matching funds for events related to the theme. The committee seeks to sponsor a wide range of events related to the theme throughout

the campus community. There is generally a \$2,000 limit on requests per proposal and an expectation of co-sponsorship. CICC will provide at most 50% of the funds for an event. In addition, at the conclusion of the event, recipients must provide a short program report that includes pictures of the event(s), attendance at the lecture, and perceived outcomes within two weeks from the scheduled event.

Evaluation Rubric

Criterion	Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory
Complete description of the event provided?		
Complete information on speakers/presenters and their credentials?		
Explanation of how the proposal relates to this year's theme?		
Explanation of provisions for student involvement?		
Explanation of what efforts will be made to engage the outside community?		
Announcement suitable for campus-wide circulation provided?		
Proposed budget: Include advertising plan and related cost, secured funding from other sources, speaker fees?		

For those areas considered "Not Satisfactory," what are the Council's questions and concerns? And, what are the Council's recommendations for addressing these questions and concerns?

Submission guidelines:

Funds will be distributed on a rolling basis, so please submit your proposal early before funds are depleted. CICC welcomes inquiries about whether or how a proposed event could relate to the theme or about the application process. Questions, completed applications and reports should be emailed to the co-chairs of CICC, Forrest Link and Emily Meixner, at cicpc@tcnj.edu.