



HILLSDALE COLLEGE

PURSUING TRUTH · DEFENDING LIBERTY SINCE 1844

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Hillsdale in D.C. Announces 2025-2026 James Madison Fellows

Fifteen young professionals meet once a month to discuss foreign policy, marriage and family, the rule of law, and more.

HILLSDALE, Mich. — Through Hillsdale in D.C.'s James Madison Fellowship, fifteen young professionals working in and around the nation's capital are thinking through important questions in modern politics while learning from primary documents, contemporary sources, and Hillsdale faculty and distinguished friends.

"The fellows in this class are serious young professionals in D.C. who seek to understand and influence national politics on the most important questions," said Matthew Spalding, vice president for Washington operations. "This fellowship helps them to see the current regime in light of the one established by the founders and to understand what is needed to restore American self-government."

The James Madison Fellows meet once a month to discuss issues such as identity politics, immigration, marriage and family, free speech, the rule of law, political economy, and the aims of American foreign policy.

The 2025-2026 fellows are:

- Asher Allman, senior policy advisor for the U.S. Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs
- Lyssa Bell, executive director of the Republican Study Committee
- Robert Bellafiore, managing director for policy at the Foundation for American Innovation
- Calvin Blaylock, chief of staff at Invictus Strategies
- Bart Connolly, foreign area officer in the U.S. Navy
- Sean J. Conway, associate counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee
- Andrea Fedrigo, director of outreach and mission advancement at the Napa Institute Legal Foundation

- Babs Hough, senior policy advisor for the Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Levi Lall, counsel in the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Legal Policy
- Blake Mueller, advisor for research and development in the U.S. Department of Energy
- John Rindone, policy advisor for national security in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy
- Charles Russell, communications director for Rep. Addison McDowell, R-N.C.
- Harry E. Scherer, speechwriter at the U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Delano Squires, research fellow in the Richard and Helen DeVos Center for Human Flourishing at The Heritage Foundation
- Daniel West, government relations director for Heritage Action

For bios of the fellows, click [here](#). For more information about the James Madison Fellowship Program, click [here](#). For photos of Hillsdale in D.C., click [here](#).

For photos of Hillsdale College, click [here](#). For a high-resolution copy of the Hillsdale College clocktower logo, click [here](#).

About Hillsdale in D.C.

Hillsdale College's campus in Washington, D.C., extends the College's educational mission to the nation's capital by teaching and promoting the principles and practice of American constitutionalism. As the home of the Washington-Hillsdale Internship Program, the James Madison Fellowship Program, the Van Andel Graduate School of Government, and a variety of lectures and events open to policymakers and the public, Hillsdale in D.C. seeks to inspire and form students, citizens, practitioners, and statesmen who will restore America's principles and revive self-government in the political life of the nation. For more information, visit dc.hillsdale.edu.

About Hillsdale College

Hillsdale College is an independent, nonsectarian, Christian liberal arts college located in southern Michigan. Founded in 1844, the College has built a national reputation through its classical liberal arts core curriculum and its principled refusal to accept federal or state taxpayer subsidies, even indirectly in the form of student grants or loans. It also conducts an outreach effort promoting civil and religious liberty, including a free monthly speech digest, *Imprimis*, with a circulation of more than seven million. For more information, visit hillsdale.edu.

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