



Jimmy and Rosalynn  
**CARTER SCHOOL**  
for Peace and Conflict Resolution  
**GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY**

## The Carter School Political Leadership Academy & Instructor Mel Hardy Present:

Course takes  
place over eight  
sessions from  
3/2-4/13

### *Arts and Peacebuilding Culture for DMV Leaders*

In this course, a diverse group of citizens will learn from and dialogue with scholarly and practical thought leaders regarding the role of the arts and the humanities in peacebuilding culture. The course underpins the creation of a predicate for personal transformation and discovery of personal agency in catalyzing peacebuilding culture in our communities. Throughout our six-week course (18 learning hours), we'll cover:

- Visual art history and its influences on political awareness and justice movements
- Domestic Policy: U.S. government approaches to peacebuilding learning agendas
- Global Policy: Parastatal institutional approaches to peace education as a new literacy (including the U.N.)
- Deliberative Dialogue: Subject matter experts engage with participants to imagine peacebuilding as culture

#### **Who Should Apply?**

Those in education, cultural, and political leadership roles are encouraged to apply. This course is also open to civic and community group members, business and nonprofit leaders, and others interested in the intersection of conflict resolution and peacebuilding culture in American politics, with the greater DMV as our laboratory for examination and civic activism.

#### **What We'll Accomplish**

Participants will be equipped with ideas and skills to observe, analyze, and respond to contemporary American civic maladies. Sessions will include presentations from scholars and practitioners with an emphasis on group dynamics and networking. Participants will also gain membership in the Political Leadership Academy alumni organization, which holds engaging subsequent exclusive events.

## Fellowship Capacity

We are accepting applications on a rolling basis but will limit the cohort to 30 Fellows.

## Tuition

Early Application Tuition: \$750 (For applications received by February 4th)

Standard Tuition: \$1000

A limited number of need-based scholarships are available, see application for more details.

## Dates & Location (in-person times 10am - 1pm unless otherwise noted and hybrid times from 6-7:30pm)

**Saturday, March 2nd** | Venue: GMU, Arlington Campus at The Carter School | **Theme:**

Historical review of Art and Peace

**Saturday, March 9th** | Venue: Smithsonian American Art Museum | **Theme:** The Art of

Belonging: Spotlight on Americans First Nations' Creatives

**Thursday, March 14th** | Venue: hybrid (online or at Hillyer Art Space)

**Theme:** Spotlight on the Symphonic Gallery: Music and Art

**Saturday, March 23rd** | Venue: Artomatic | **Theme:** The Democracy of Creative Expression

**Thursday, March 28th** | Venue: hybrid | **Theme:** The Art of History: The Role of Institutions

**Saturday, March 30th** | Venue: The Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division | **Theme:** Activism in Prints Across the Ethno-cultural Spectrum

**Saturday, April 6th** | Venue: National Gallery of Art | **Theme:** German Expressionism and a Changing World

**Saturday, April 13th** | Venue: Point of View Retreat Center | Certificate Granting and Art and Peace Fellows chart the way forward.

## Scholarships and Registration

To learn more and apply please visit our [website](#) or [APPLY HERE](#). Please contact Julianna Donahue, PLA Program Assistant at [jdonahu@gmu.edu](mailto:jdonahu@gmu.edu) for information on scholarships or with any other questions.

## Course Topics and Goals

Through engagement with the PLA's guest speakers and instructors, you will explore topics such as

- The Lens of Visual Art in Domestic and Geo-political Affairs.
- Policing and conflict resolution and peacebuilding in both urban, ex-urban, and rural America.
- Art-making and art-makers in humanitarian progress with an especial focus on the role of art in conflict avoidance.

## Instructor Melvin Hardy

Mr. Hardy is a creative-class theoretician, and educator, political analyst and practitioner in the arts. He is credentialed at the United Nations, is an arts administrator, and sits on the boards of numerous arts, culture and humanities organizations. His reference groups include those advancing democracy, peace education as literacy, domestic and global economic development, and social mobility and cohesion in American society. He is a graduate of Columbia University's School of International Affairs (Economics and African Affairs).