

MONROE AND BARBARA SCHLACTUS GIMILUS CHASSIDIM FELLOWSHIP

Deeds of Mercy and Lovingkindness

Annually (from Rosh Hashana to Yom Yerushalayim) / Sept-Oct (TISHREI) to May (SIVAN)

GIMILUS CHASSIDIM FELLOWSHIP

Gimilus Chasidim – acts of mercy and loving kindness. This annual \$1500 fellowship stipend specifically funds projects that demonstrate a deep commitment to human and civil rights, religious equality, inclusiveness, tolerance by participation and inter-religious endeavor. The *Gimilus Chassidim* Fellowship honors the cross-community bridge building work of Monroe and Barbara Schlactus. Projects should emphasize intersections and cross-denominational interfaith dialogue, enduring, evolving religious and human rights and should speak to constructing communities directly, vitally engaged in authentically living by Abrahamic faith. May include pastoral care, worship settings, and active fellowships in the arts and humanities.

BACKGROUND

Monroe and Barbara Schlactus dedicated their lives to building bridges across divides of faith, race and culture. Monroe's personal experiences with xenophobia and bigotry fueled his career in human-rights work. From his service in a segregated Air Force Unit in the Pacific during World War II, he fought prejudice by becoming committed to cross-cultural collaboration. Monroe's wife, Barbara said, "he believed he could motivate people to understand each other. He wondered why people had to hate each other." In 1950, Monroe opened the Anti-Defamation League office in Minneapolis and was instrumental in developing fair employment and housing legislation in Minnesota. From 1962-1965, he worked for the ADL's Atlanta office and assisted Martin Luther King, Jr. during the height of his civil-rights campaign in Birmingham, Alabama. He also worked to mandate recreation resorts allow Jewish and other minority vacationers, and in the early 1970s developed a human relations course that the state required teachers to take before they could be certified. He oversaw ADL's regional offices in Atlanta, Minneapolis, Dallas and Richmond, Virginia for 30 years. Schlactus lectured and taught extensively in human relations and civil rights at more than 40 colleges through the US. He was a member of the Governor's Task Force on Desegregation, Minnesota Civil Liberties Union and Minneapolis Urban Coalition and earned awards and honors from the Minnesota Council of Churches, Minnesota Educational Association and Minnesota Federation of Teachers.

Barbara Schlactus received numerous commendations over the course of her career as a community leader and volunteer. Barbara took leadership roles in organizations such as the American Association of University Women, National Council of Jewish Women, *B'nai B'rith* Women, *Hadassah* and ORT. She coordinated volunteer activities for the Minnesota Department of Civil Defense, chaired Minneapolis and St. Paul Community Testing for Tay-Sachs, was one of the organizers of Cornerstone (Women's Advocacy Services), chaired the Minnesota Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation, and directed seminars and workshops on communications and speakers' training. Two Minnesota governors, Orville Freeman and Wendell Anderson, cited her for volunteer activities, and she also received the *B'nai B'rith* National Gold Key Award.

On March 29, 1987, Minnesota Governor Rudy Perpich issued a formal proclamation declaring that day to be Monroe and Barbara Schlactus Day in the state of Minnesota recognizing them both for their long list of contributions. After retiring, they relocated to Albuquerque, New Mexico, immersing themselves in their new community. Monroe and Barbara actively participated in the Jewish-Catholic Dialogue of New Mexico as well as Albuquerque Interfaith, a local organization serving the homeless population.

GIMILUS CHASSIDIM FELLOWSHIP REQUIREMENTS

All works are vetted by the GUILDWORKS™ Review and Selection Committee; the committee is composed of a minimum of three (3), maximum of seven (7) GUILDWORKS™ advisory or full board-members and three pastoral-ecclesial-liturgical adjunct members including Rabbis or *Chazzanut* (*cantors*). Artworks accepted are considered exceptional in their articulation of rooted spiritual traditions and customs (*Minhag*) of the Hebrew Bible, and in messengering the Christian Gospel.

Work needs to embody faith based artistic expression voicing the Hebrew Bible and/or the Gospels (inclusive of basic tenets of Abrahamic faiths).

Works should cohere spiritually, devotionally, theologically in the Hebrew Bible and Gospels, additionally addressing fundamental tenets of the Abrahamic faiths. Works must be missional–encompassing and exploring interfaith and inter-religious dialogue. Form and Substance in artworks should imbue and impart what these artworks engender.

Artworks should be scripturally contextual or of scripture's substance in *holy tradition*, *minhag* (customs and tradition of the Hebrew Bible and Jewish cultural or faith-based life), and the lived faith of the gospels.

Works may not be strictly legalistic or proscriptive; rather, they are to be rooted in sound perspectival or emerging theology, and/or *holy tradition* encompassing the complex depth and dimension of the *Logos* of God's covenantal peoples.

Works should articulate contemporary expression in voicing a *joyful noise to God*—across the religious gamut from (small-o) *orthodoxy* to (small-r) *reformed tradition* to (small-c) *conservative theologies* – including new, vital forms of devotional artistic expression in the Abramahic faiths.

Work must adhere to the specified *Guildworks* genres of design, traditional and/or culturally recognized visual arts, sculpture, worship music and moving image (short video installation).

Artforms may include those historically established and endowed by patronage, may also be contemporary and modern, re-envisioned classically, customary, traditional, inspirational or ecumenically ecclesial.

Undertakings in the *Gimilus Chassidim* Fellowship must be rooted in *Gimilus Chassidim, acts of mercy and loving kindness*. The *Gimilus Chassidim* Fellowship is open to artistic and pastoral pursuits through endeavors in the Abrahamic faith traditions.

Note: Participants in Internships, Fellowships or in the Artists-Residencies Programs must provide a minimal written outline or sketch of the process by which their Guildworks pursuits, undertakings or enterprises will be documented; artists will also be expected to share and invite discussion on their process through weblog available on the Guildworks website.

DEADLINE

Deadline for applications is July 15th each year for the coming Fall. Submissions may be sent at any time to submissions@logosguildworksministries.org. The Review and Selection Committee reviews proposals annually notifying recipients on selection. Each proposal should include a one-page project summary, an approximately 3-page detailed explanation of the project and how it serves the mission and vision of both Logos Guildworks Ministries, and the *Gimilus Chassidim* Fellowship, and any other relevant materials. *Please provide us with two references (at least one must be professional) and their complete, current contact information. Proposals should include/ embed no more than (4)four images and must be submitted as both MS Word .doc (or) .docx and in standard Adobe PDF format.*