Each year the Human Rights Program selects several Trinity students to serve as Human Rights Summer Fellows. These students work for twelve weeks as interns at major human rights organizations, alongside law and graduate students, and they receive a $3500 stipend. The internships offer students a unique opportunity to translate what they have learned in their Trinity courses to hands-on professional experiences, often proving transformative. Students return to campus with a more sophisticated understanding of human rights issues and the world of advocacy.

Seven Trinity students served as Human Rights Fellows in 2013, interning at the following organizations: The Clinton Global Initiative (New York); The Connecticut Commission on Human Rights (Hartford, CT); The National Economic and Social Rights Initiative (New York); Amnesty International (New York); and the International Rescue Committee (New York). These fellowships are made possible by the generous support of Peter Blum, a Trinity alumnus and member of the Board of Trustees.

The annual fellowship competition is open to all Trinity students, except graduating seniors. Students are selected by a Human Rights faculty committee on the basis of an application, including an essay, transcript, and letter of recommendation. Electronic applications are posted on the Human Rights Program website and made widely available at the end of the fall semester. Please direct any questions to the Human Rights Program director.

2013 SUMMER FELLOWS:

**Stephanie Goetz,’15**  
*International Rescue Committee, NY*

Interning at International Rescue Committee (IRC) was a very rewarding experience for this Trinity junior. According to Stephanie, “IRC helped her realize the difficulties that refugees face while integrating into a new place, particularly New York City.” As a case management intern, Stephanie accompanied IRC’s clients to government welfare appointments, doctor and other health care visits and job interviews. She enjoyed getting to know the clients and helping assist them “from harm to home.” Stephanie’s summer at IRC confirmed that she would like to work for a non-profit organization one day.

**Samia Kemal, ’14**  
*Amnesty International, USA*

Spending the summer interning in the fast-paced Executive Department of Amnesty International NY gave this Trinity Senior a firsthand introduction to the inner workings of the World’s largest human rights movement (3 million members worldwide!). As an International Studies major, Samia found great purpose and relevance in her position as Executive Assistant to the Chief Digital Officer. She describes the experience as giving her a “new perspective on the effectiveness of Human Rights advocacy on a digital platform”. Samia also had the opportunity to attend protests, Amnesty events, and even march in the Pride Parade! She describes her experience challenging, exciting, and rewarding.
Maggie Lawrence, ’14  
National Economic & Social Rights Initiative, NY

As a Human Rights Studies and International Studies double-major, Maggie greatly enjoyed her summer internship at The National Economic and Social Rights Initiative in New York City. NESRI is a human rights organization that partners with grassroots organizations in “directly-impacted communities.” The Trinity senior served as their “cross-cutting intern,” meaning that she worked on any tasks that overlapped among NESRI’s four major programs; this was especially rewarding to Maggie because she was not confined to just one program, but instead could experience all of NESRI’s main foci. Throughout the summer, Maggie conducted research on the relationship between human rights, state budgets, and state and local taxes, preparing fact sheets and presentations on how human rights principles can make taxes and revenue spending more equitable in individual states. Aside from this, Maggie also helped in a social media video and webinar launch on this topic. This internship was an “enlightening and inspiring” experience for Maggie, and she greatly enjoyed her experience because it changed the way that she viewed grassroots human rights movements in the United States.

Shanelle Morris, ’16  
International Rescue Committee, NY

Shanelle Morris had a rewarding time working with newly arrived refugees at The International Rescue Committee (IRC). She worked as a case management intern helping refugees access social services and navigate their new home, New York City. Shanelle remarked that “it was an interesting experience for her because she saw people from different parts of the world who dealt with global issues she never even knew about.” While she recognized that refugees were fleeing persecution in their own country, she witnessed firsthand the struggles that came with trying to assimilate into a culture so different from their own. Her curiosity on politics, global events, anthropology, and history has peaked since interning at the IRC.

Stephanie Clemente, ‘14  
The Clinton Global Initiative, NY

Connecticut Commission on Human Rights, CT

Nicole Lukac, ‘15  
Witness, NY