



**The United States Embassy
Windhoek, Namibia
Public Affairs Office**

October 7, 2015

Media Announcement: 2016 Applications for the Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders

The Public Affairs Sections of the U.S. Embassy is proud to announce the 2016 Application for the Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders (YALI). The applications are available at yali.state.gov/apply and the deadline for submission of online applications is November 11, 2015.

U.S. Embassy Windhoek is looking for dynamic, young Namibian leaders who can partake in a six week program of studying various courses at U.S. institutions of higher learning. The overall goal of the program is to enhance leadership skills and create a platform for networking with other young leaders from Sub-Saharan Africa and the United States.

The Mandela Washington Fellows represent the extraordinary promise of an emerging generation of entrepreneurs, activists, and public officials. Mandela Washington Fellows are between 25 and 35 years old; have proven track records of leadership in a public, private, or civic organization; and demonstrate a strong commitment to contributing their skills and talents to building and serving their communities.

The Mandela Washington Fellows will arrive in the United States in June 2016 and study at 20 top American universities. Their six-week academic coursework and executive leadership training focuses on one of three tracks: business and entrepreneurship, civic leadership, or public management. Formal university programming is augmented with workshops, mentoring, and networking opportunities with leaders in their fields.

The program culminates with all 1,000 young African leaders attending a three-day summit hosted by President Barack Obama.

For additional information, please contact Acting Public Affairs Officer, Steve Mraz, at 061 295 8500, or Program Specialist, George Beukes, at 061 229801 [ext. 223].

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