The Jaffe Fellows are immersed in their schools where they are teaching full-time in the Bronx, Queens, Manhattan and Brooklyn while earning their master's degrees at Teachers College, Columbia University. All of the 2018 Jaffe Fellows applied for and accepted teaching positions over the summer. The Jaffe Fellows' schools range from alternative schools to dual language elementary programs in Mandarin and Spanish.

The 2017 & 2018 Jaffe Cohorts!

Storytelling Workshop

We welcomed 2018 Jaffe Fellow Nosipho Dichaba McGinty's mother Olive to our Intensive Summer Institute storytelling workshop. Dichaba comes from a Peace Corps family. Her father, now a public school teacher, was a Peace Corps Volunteer who met Olive when serving in Botswana. Olive supports and advises refugees.

Jaffe Fellows in the Forest

Our monthly seminars started out in September with the traditional Friday evening meeting that featured activities & idea sharing. For a special October meeting, we changed the formula. After some enthusiastic planning, the Jaffe 2017 & 2018 cohorts joined TR @ TC Residents as we travelled to Black Rock Forest for an overnight trip where we built a campfire, roasted marshmallows, cooked each other meals, talked about our teaching, played cards and shared many laughs.
Jaffe Enrichment Grants

Jaffe Grants for alumni and current Jaffe Fellows of up to $500 are available for both enrichment projects and service learning. Applicants will be notified about the award three weeks after the application is submitted. Jaffe Fellows have recently been awarded Jaffe Grants for field trips, classroom books, and work stations. Please email the Director Elaine at esp2012@tc.columbia.edu for more information.

Welcome Benjamin Mensah, the PCFP New Program Assistant

Benjamin Mensah is a master’s student in the Philosophy and Education program at Teachers College and the new PCFP Program Assistant. Growing up in both Ghana and New York City, Ben attended Hunter College where he triple majored in philosophy, religion and English literature. He worked at the Iola Daycare Center as a teacher’s aide and currently runs a construction business during his free time. Ben enjoys reading, walking and biking in his spare time.

Jaffe Cultural Programs

This year, the Jaffe Cultural Programs have ignited excitement! The Jaffe Fellows’ have been granted unprecedented access to Lincoln Center’s programming. Jaffe Fellows and recent alumni have been offered free tickets for their classes to see a variety of programming throughout the school year, including Antigone, Peculiar Patriot, Nine, Is This a Dagger? The Story of Macbeth, Soul Science Kids, as well as You and Me and The Space in Between. The Jaffe Fellows and their students are so fortunate that the Jaffe family is providing cultural opportunities for students to visit Lincoln Center and experience the joy and wonder emanating from great performances.
The Peace Corps Fellows Program has a special relationship with the John B. Russwurm School PS 197 on 135th Street and Fifth Avenue. During the Intensive Summer Institute, the Jaffe Fellows conducted fieldwork observations, had a Q & A with the Principal Natasha Spann and taught health classes to the Pre-Kindergarten through fifth grade students. To thank the school last summer, we painted their playground. This summer, we painted four murals in the school’s hallway leading from the entrance to the cafeteria.

**The PCFP Mentors**

Every other month, the Peace Corps Fellows Program mentors meet for professional development. The mentors have begun their monthly visits that include time for observation, reflection and conversation. The PCFP Director also visits the Jaffe Fellows’ classrooms to provide encouragement and feedback.

**BBE’s Online Program**

For graduates interested in working with multilingual and multicultural learners, the Online Advanced Certificate in Bilingual/Bicultural Education Program can be taken while teaching full-time.
Profile of the Alumna, Miriam Nightengale

Recalling her Peace Corps service in the Central African Republic, Miriam Nightengale, a Jaffe Fellow from 1995, said, “The physical hardship and isolation was difficult at first, but that experience and teaching in Africa opened my eyes to other people’s experiences, cultures, and traditions.” Miriam is the principal of Columbia Secondary School for Math, Science, and Engineering. She was born in New York and later moved to Indiana where she attended a traditional public high school. During her undergraduate years, Nightengale studied at St. John’s College in Annapolis, Maryland where she earned her bachelor’s degree in interdisciplinary studies with a minor in philosophy. At first desiring to teach in Europe where her mother was born, Miriam then decided to serve in the Peace Corps where she taught math in the Central African Republic.

Once back in the United States, Miriam said, “After the Peace Corps, everything changed. I never intended to become an educator, but life kept on pushing me this way. As my mother would say, ‘When the door opens, you’ll need to go through it.’ I kept opening the door, and eventually I just stayed in the room.”

Miriam graduated from Teachers College’s Peace Corps Fellows Program, and advises current Jaffe Fellows to “be able to adapt, even when the resources aren’t there. Ask yourself, how do we use the same adaptability that we learned in the Peace Corps, to develop our school system for those who may not have the same resources or may have different attitudes?”

Over the years, Ms. Nightengale has worked in schools with West African students. Having served in that region, she felt that her experience there has been very helpful in incorporating students comfortably into school.

Outside of running the rigorous Columbia Secondary School, Ms. Nightengale loves to cook for her nephew, attend operas and theater, read, hike and listen to classical music during her spare time.

The Annual Jaffe Pizza Party

The Annual Jaffe Pizza Party was a great evening of celebration! In attendance were the Elliot, Roslyn, Helen, Richard, David Jaffe, President Tom Bailey, Provost Tom James, Suzanne Murphy, Maria Sebastian, Kimberle Triplettt, Aimee Katembo, Linda Colquhoun, Asha Griffith, Ben Mensah and the current Jaffe Fellows. Josh Heitkamp, Yin Lin, Jenesis Bonilla, Russel Ferguson, Sarah Lovejoy and Sarah Baggs all shared their experiences in moving speeches. Food, fun & friends. What could be better?