Programming Testimonials

The AMS offers a broad array of programming & communications designed to deepen ties and productive exchange between the United States and the United Kingdom, including many regional programs in partnership with the British Consulate Generals and the annual Marshall Forum.

The Forum on the Rule of Law
May 2022

In May 2022, the AMS and the American College of Trial Lawyers hosted a Forum on the Rule of Law with distinguished American and British Justices, judges, lawyers, and legal experts at the Supreme Court of the United States. The delegations discussed legal issues in a post-pandemic world, including the rule of law and national security, separation of powers, free speech and the Internet, human rights and civil liberties, climate, and the courts.
The Rt. Hon. Lord Patrick Hodge  
UK Delegation Chairman and Deputy President of the UK Supreme Court

I cannot thank you and your colleagues enough for your hard work and enthusiasm which made the Marshall Forum last week such a success…. I have spoken to many of the members of the UK delegation since we returned to the United Kingdom and can say that they were inspired by the discussions at the Forum and very touched by the warmth of the welcome which we received. On this side of the Atlantic we view the event as a great success and we are grateful to the Justices of the US Supreme Court for their willingness to take part at a time of great stress for them.

The Rt. Hon. Lady Arden  
Former Justice of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom

The Forum was a success in many respects. Most especially, as it seems to me, it enabled the UK delegates to understand the US constitutional framework and institutions in depth and to learn about and discuss the concerns of the US delegates. Such discussion is mind-expanding and enriches the delegates’ performance and legal thought. It enables us to approach difficult issues with the knowledge of what solution the other jurisdiction has found to work. This enormously strengthens the discharge of the judicial role and reinforces the constitutional role which courts and judges play in our democracies. Even though I have recently stepped down from my judicial office, I continue to work with judges, at home and abroad, and the discussions we had will help me clarify issues for discussion in this work. The whole event enabled to make relationships which are both enjoyable and sustaining and they enable us to have important free-flowing discussions about common concerns.

The London Marshall Forum  
June 2022

Additionally, 2022 marked the 75th Anniversary of the Marshall Plan. To commemorate the historic occasion, the AMS and the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office co-hosted The London Marshall Forum in June at Lancaster House in London. This program featured discussions on past and present innovations in technology, finance, and data affecting the future of transatlantic cooperation, global peace, and security and included a special tribute to Ray Dolby OBE (Marshall Scholar 1957) and a performance by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra with Marshall Scholars.
We are grateful that AMS Patron His Majesty King Charles III shared his written reflections for this occasion:

“...You can be proud of the fantastic work the Association of Marshall Scholars does in championing our shared principles and values and in helping to maintain the special relationship between our two countries. The Forum, remembering as it does the past and looking to the future, provides a platform for a day of honest, open and challenging debate....”

Marshall Scholars and guest view Secretary Gina Raimondo’s greeting to The London Marshall Forum

Full details of these and other programs can be found at: marshallscholars.org.

**Scholarship**

The AMS has also, together with Marshall alumni and other strategic partners such as British Universities, initiated various programs to strengthen the Scholarship itself and enhance the experience of the Scholars in the U.K. These activities help encourage the British government to deepen its support of the Marshall Scholarship. Examples of this support includes:

- The Marshall Xtra grant (£1,000 GBP grant to each enrolled Marshall Scholar) to help enhance their experience of British life and culture
- The AMS Emergency Grant to provide one-time support for students in sudden financial crises
- the AMS Marshall Plus grant to support class-comradery-building activities run by current classes during their time in the UK
- Direct college gifts encouraging UK Universities to participate in a partnership scheme to receive one or more Marshall Scholars
- The AMS Scholarship Endowment establishes a single Marshall Scholarship in perpetuity.

Marshall Scholars use Marshall Xtra funds in various ways, including traveling across the UK, participating in a club or athletic activities, attending seminars or cultural productions, and/or covering unexpected costs relating to housing or living expenses.

**Current Scholars share, in their own words, the Marshall Xtra grant’s impact**

**Quinn O’Loane (2021)**

I thank you very much for the phenomenal gift of the Marshall Xtra Grant and the opportunities it has allowed me during my experience in the UK! Throughout my time here, I have tried to travel as much as possible and to experience and share its immense natural beauty. As a result of the Xtra grant, I have been able to hike the Three Peaks (including Ben Nevis twice with visiting American friends), tour Northern Ireland, learn how to drive a stick shift, spend several days in the Lake District, and visit the Isle of Skye. Moreover, in what has been the highlight of my time in the UK, I have been able to row for the University of York—a team I am thrilled to be on and a group I love to be with, who I will sorely miss when I leave at the end of my year-long term. I have come to truly love living in the United Kingdom (which, I admit, I did not expect to be the case in my first month or so in-country) and enjoy learning about its culture and diverse inhabitants, from the North of England to Scotland to Wales and Northern Ireland. I am excited for what comes next in my life, but I will look back fondly on the incredible experience here, much of which I enjoyed thanks to the Marshall Xtra grant.”

**Young Joon Kim (2020)**

Most of my Marshall Xtra Stipend allowed me to go to Cosyne, the premier computational neuroscience conference, this past spring in Lisbon. My first-year project, also enabled by the Marshall Xtra Stipend, was fortunately selected as a poster to be presented at the conference, and this year’s Stipend allowed me to present in person. While in Lisbon, I met many of the biggest names in the field of computational neuroscience and even became well acquainted with one or two of them. This year’s Stipend paved the way for an invaluable
opportunity to share my work with other researchers in my field and to build my professional network.

Emma Morgan-Bennett (2020)

This year I was delighted by the opportunity for domestic travel that the Marshall Xtra provided me with. Each year the Marshall Xtra provides necessary funds for Marshall Scholars to fully enjoy the offerings of the UK. We are encouraged to apply these funds in a manner that is personally impactful (and enjoyable), so I decided to use my Marshall Xtra funds twofold. First, I used the Marshall Xtra to fund my travel to a Film Festival Workshop in Sheffield. The Sheffield DocFest invited me to be a youth juror for the festival, and the Marshall Xtra allowed me to travel up to the training.

With the second portion of the Marshall Xtra, I self-conducted two creative residencies (one in Whistable and one in Folkestone). In Whistable, I walked along the coastline and let the sea’s waves inspire a script outline. In Folkestone, while hiking the region’s powerful cliffs, I turned off my phone to give myself time to think and organize my goals for the next few years. These trips have shown me the importance of nature and time away from my city and cosmopolitan life. The Marshall Xtra has made that possible and made these moments of intentional respite a priority in this next chapter of my life. I am deeply grateful and hope that you provide this support to future generations of Marshall Scholars.