

Creative Expressions in Times of Extremity

FR
AH
ME

Fundamental Role
of the Arts and Humanities
in Medical Education

Creative Expressions in Times of Extremity

For the last three years, the AAMC, with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities, has been working to better delineate the current landscape of the arts and humanities in medicine and the best ways to integrate them through the [Fundamental Role of Arts and Humanities in Medical Education initiative](#). We now find ourselves in times of extremity — grappling with the impacts of the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic and of racism and persistent inequities in America. Supporting creative outlets for health care professionals and trainees is critical. By finding and amplifying the meaning of impactful moments through stories and poems, we can learn lessons for professional practice and personal and systemic renewal.

Seeking Your Voice

With new support from the National Endowment for the Arts, the AAMC is leading a collaborative project to share oral and written narratives, including stories, poems, and visual images, from our health care professionals' lived experiences in this age of uncertainty and extremity. We aspire to build and share a collection that chronicles a diverse range of stories from our community and articulates how we can make meaning from this unprecedented time through the humanities and the arts.

Two Ways to Share

➤ Participate in a StoryCorps Guided Interview

In this historic time, people across the country are feeling alone. One meaningful conversation can make all the difference. The AAMC is proud to partner with StoryCorps to help you share a moment of connection with your loved ones through a new remote technology.

StoryCorps Connect is a first-of-its-kind platform that enables anyone to record a StoryCorps interview with a loved one remotely using video conference technology. The audio and a still photo from each interview will be preserved at the Library of Congress. Your interview will become part of American history, and hundreds of years from now, future generations will listen. Learn more and honor a loved one with an interview today at storycorps.org/aamc. Be sure to tag your interview with the keyword [AAMC].

Learn more here: [Join](#) or [view the community of stories](#)

➤ Create 55-Word Stories and Poems

The AAMC is currently collecting original [55-word stories](#) and poems (with or without images) that capture health care professionals' and trainees' experiences during these unprecedented times.

To submit your original work, [use the submission form linked here](#).

A diverse team will review submissions to curate collections of pieces. The AAMC will notify authors if their 55-word story or poem will be shared.