

# THE SWEDEN-AMERICA FOUNDATION

SVERIGE-AMERIKA STIFTELSEN



## Annual Report for 2024

1919-2025

## THE SWEDEN-AMERICA FOUNDATION

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The Sweden-America Foundation is a non-profit organization that enables studies and research in the United States and Canada for accomplished Swedish students and researchers through fellowships. The Fellows return to Sweden with knowledge, contacts, ideas, and experiences of great importance for Swedish research, business, and society at large.

### THE FELLOWSHIP PROCESS

- The fellowship application is announced annually, for studies at graduate, doctoral and postdoc levels, at leading institutions in the United States and Canada.
- Senior experts from leading positions of Swedish academia review fellowship applications in their respective fields. Applications are ranked and submitted with written reviews to the fellowship committee.
- The fellowship committee evaluates and prioritizes applications.
- The board of directors confirms the fellow- and scholarship recipients.

In addition to the fellowship program for research and graduate level education, the Sweden-America Foundation administers two smaller programs with tuition waivers for high school and undergraduate studies in the United States, and two programs with travel grants for non-research purposes.

### Nobel Prize laureates among the Sweden-America Foundation alumni



**Hugo Theorell**, Medicine 1955

**Ragnar Granit**, Medicine 1967

**Hannes Alfvén**, Physics 1970

**Bertil Ohlin**, The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 1977

**Kai Siegbahn**, Physics 1981

**Sune Bergström**, Medicine 1982

**Arvid Carlsson**, Medicine 2000

Nobel Prize Medal image used with kind permission:  
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## Origin, mission and operations

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The Sweden-America Foundation is a non-profit organization established in 1919 on the initiative of Swedish leaders of science, religion, business, politics, and the arts. Among the founders and founding Members of the Board were scientists and Nobel laureates Svante Arrhenius and Theodor Svedberg; Archbishop and Nobel laureate Nathan Söderblom; banker and industrialist Jacob Wallenberg; industrialist and businessman Axel Ax:son Johnson; Prime Minister Hjalmar Branting; author and Nobel laureate Selma Lagerlöf; and artist Anders Zorn.

In accordance with the Foundation's statutes, the objectives are to "work for the development of a relationship between Sweden, on the one hand, and the United States of America and Canada on the other, by promoting the exchange of scientific, cultural and practical experiences between the countries and in particular through presenting fellowships to young men and women for research, post graduate and graduate level studies in the USA and Canada." The Sweden-America Foundation administers fifteen permanent funds. The returns from fourteen of the funds are used to finance fellowships.

These funds are:

The Anders Zorn Fellowship Fund	The Ernst O Ek Fellowship Fund
The ASEA Fellowship Fund	The Roland Nilsson Fellowship Fund
The Kooperativa Förbundet KF Fellowship Fund	The Prince Bertil Fund*
The J Sigfrid Edström Fellowship Fund	The Nils Björkman Memorial Fund
The J P Seeburg Fellowship Fund	The Ingemar Dörfer Fellowship Fund for studies at Harvard University
The Fritz O Fernström Fellowship Fund	The Bicentennial Swedish-American Exchange Fund
The Hans Werthén Fellowship Fund	The Mix Family Entrepreneur Foundation
The Axel Ax:son Johnson Fellowship Fund	

The Sweden-America Foundation is dependent upon donations from Swedish companies, organizations and private individuals. The range of activities include:

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\* Prince Bertil's Fund supports the foundation's operation and is not used to finance fellowships.



## The Fellowship Program

Fellowships are awarded for research and graduate level education in the United States and Canada, with funding from the fellowship funds, partners, companies, organizations and private individuals. The Sweden-America Foundation also collaborates with Swedish and American partner institutions within the Fellowship program:

- *Borgrättsfonderna*, which is administered by The Marshall of the Realm at the Royal Court in Stockholm. The Sweden-America Foundation annually nominates candidates for fellowships announced by this fund.
- *Thanks To Scandinavia Inc.* (New York). Each year, Thanks To Scandinavia offers fellowships to the Scandinavian countries in gratitude for their efforts to save Jews during World War II. The Sweden-America Foundation nominates candidates for two fellowships annually.

## Other Programs

The Sweden-America Foundation annually nominates one Swedish high school student for studies at The Lawrenceville School in New Jersey, USA. The Sweden-America Foundation nominates two young students for undergraduate level scholarships at Augustana College in Illinois, USA.

Since 2016, the Sweden-America Foundation has administered the *Bicentennial Swedish-American Exchange Fund* that awards travel grants for professionals in the United States and Sweden for opinion forming purposes. *Nils Björkman's Memorial Fund*, one of the Foundation's permanent endowment funds, grants a very small stipend to one or two young students from the cities Varberg, Halmstad and Olofström in Sweden.

Corresponding organizations in the Nordic countries are *The Finnish American Studies Association (FASA)*, *The Icelandic-American Foundation* and *The Norway-America Association (NORAM)*. The Sweden-America Foundation's sister organization in the United States is *The American-Scandinavian Foundation*.

## Organization

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*The Sweden-America Foundation's Patron is H.M. King Carl XVI Gustaf.*

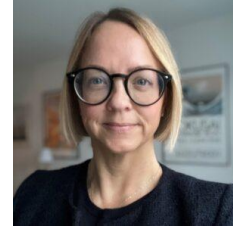
Board of Directors



Christian Salamon  
*Chair*



Henrik Ekelund  
*First Deputy Chair*



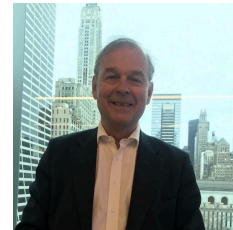
Linn Edström Larsson  
*Second Deputy Chair*



Håkan Ekström



Anders Flodström



Reinhold Geijer



Anders Hammarbäck



Axel Mörner



Denise Persson



Annika Rembe



Joanna Rubinstein

The electoral committee consists of Magnus Sjöqvist (chair), Christian Salamon, and Håkan Ekström. The presidium consists of the foundation's chair, first deputy chair, and second



deputy chair. The executive director is secretary for both presidium and electoral committee.

## Board of Trustees

### *Elected until 2025*

Olle Andreasson  
Viveca Ax:son Johnson  
Bengt Braun  
Mariana Burenstam Linder  
Kerstin Calissendorff  
Madeleine Ekholm  
Sverker Johansson  
Fredrik Lundberg  
Leif Pagrotsky  
Anders H Pers  
Per Strömberg  
Sten Westerberg

### *Elected until 2026*

Pär Arvidsson  
Bengt Baron  
Dag Blanck  
Karin Forseke  
Christer Fuglesang  
Sven Hindrikes  
Larry Leksell  
Sture Lindmark  
Anders Ljungh  
Annika Rembe  
Magnus Sjöqvist  
Madeleine Sjöstedt  
Hans T:son Söderström

### *Elected until 2027*

Ylva Berg  
Katarina Bonde  
Martin Börresen  
Lars Heikensten  
Lena Kaplan  
Christina Lampe Önnerud  
Svante Lindqvist  
Kenneth Macartney  
Björn Savén  
Lars Strannegård  
Lisa Emelia Svensson  
Elisabeth Tarras-Wahlberg  
Udo Zander

## Committees

### **Research, Doctoral and Graduate**

#### **Fellowship Committee**

Professor emeritus Anders Flodström

*Chair*

Professor emeritus Erling Norrby

Maria Persson Gulda, PhD

Professor emeritus Daniel Tarschys

Executive Director Anna Rosvall Stuart

#### **The Lawrenceville Committee**

Frances Broman

Linn Edström Larsson

Anna Rosvall Stuart

#### **The Augustana Committee**

Dag Blanck

Anna Rosvall Stuart

Helena Törnkvist

#### **The Bicentennial Swedish-American Exchange Fund**

Lisa Emelia Svensson

*Chair*

Dag Blanck

Peter Dahlen

Anders H. Pers

Anna Rosvall Stuart

## Staff

Anna Rosvall Stuart



*Executive Director*  
Hilda Blomqvist

## Auditors

Peter Nilsson (Certified Auditor, PWC)

*Auditor*

Peter Danowsky (Senior Counsel, Time Danowsky Advokatbyrå AB)

*Layman auditor*

Elin Götling Christiansson (Certified Auditor, PWC)

*Deputy auditor*

Kenth Skogsvik (Professor emeritus, Stockholm School of Economics)

*Deputy auditor*



## Fellowship Donations and Financial Contributions

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### Fellowship Donations

Camilla Modéer and Ninni Weyde  
Ingegerd & Viking Olov Björk Fellowship Trust  
Peter Baldwin & Lisbet Rausing  
Sten Westerberg  
Stockholms Grosshandels societet  
Tetra Laval

### Financial Contributions

Handelsbanken  
Jeanette & Harald Mix Stiftelse  
The Ministry of Education and Research  
Riksbankens Jubileumsfond  
Stena AB  
Sture Hedlund  
*All board members of the Sweden-America Foundation are donors.*

### Fellowship Financial Contributions

The Ingegerd & Viking Olov Björk Fellowship Trust  
The Mix Family Entrepreneurship Foundation  
Peter Baldwin & Lisbet Rausing  
Sten Westerberg  
Stockholms Grosshandels societet  
Tetra Laval

**Handelsbanken**



 **Tetra Laval**

*We welcome donations.*  
*Swedish Bankgiro: 607-9065*  
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BIC Code: ESSESESS.



## Annual Report for 2024

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During the Foundation's 105th year, a total of 31 fellowships with a value of approximately MSEK 5,8 were awarded for higher education and research in the United States and Canada. In addition, two students were awarded tuition waivers to Augustana College in Illinois, and one Swedish high school student was awarded a full tuition scholarship to The Lawrenceville School in New Jersey.

### Reception at the Consulate General residence in New York

On February 7, 2024, the Consulate General in New York hosted a reception with The Sweden-America Foundation. Alumnus Sebastian Andersson, who received a scholarship in 2020/2021 for graduate studies in urban planning at Columbia University, was keynote speaker. He presented the background and development of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, where he has been one of the project managers since March 2022. Ragnhild Kvist, last year's fellow at NYU Steinhardt for graduate studies in music, played the viola. The reception was hosted at the Swedish Consul General residence on Park Avenue.



*Alumna Ragnhild Kvist, Executive Director Anna Rosvall Stuart, former Consulate General in New York Camilla Mellander, and alumnus Sebastian Andersson.*

### Annual meeting and award giving ceremony

The Sweden-America Foundation hosted the 105th annual meeting and fellowship award ceremony on April 24 in central Stockholm. Among the guests were the Foundation's Board of Directors, Trustees, alumni, donors, fellows and friends. This year's speaker was Professor Lars Trägårdh. Trägårdh is responsible for developing a Swedish cultural canon, a political



project that was frequently discussed in the Swedish news outlets during 2024. The canon is supposed to include a broad spectrum of Swedish culture. Trägårdh shared his thoughts on what a cultural canon means and what such a canon should contain, while offering several anecdotes and memories from the decades he spent in the United States. Trägårdh was a fellowship student at the Lawrenceville School in New Jersey in 1970. He presented a PhD in History at UC Berkeley. Previous to his return to Sweden, he taught Swedish and German modern history at Barnard College, Columbia University in New York.



Hedda Thorell and Chair Christian Salamon.

Executive Director Anna Rosvall Stuart, Chair Christian Salamon, and alumnus and keynote speaker Lars Trägårdh together with 2024 year's fellowship recipients who attended the annual meeting: Agnes af Sandeberg, Hedda Thorell, Viking Bohman, Elias Lindstenz, Jolin Björinder, Isabella Cramner, Filippa Ronquist, Emma Eckerlid, Katarina Sandberg, Love Eriksson.





Pictures from the mingle after the annual meeting.



Fall events

On October 16, the Foundation organized a reunion for Lawrenceville alumni. Each year since 1961, the Sweden-America Foundation has selected one outstanding high school student to the private preparatory school in New Jersey. Alumnus Mikael Hallåker (senior student at the Lawrenceville School 1976/1977) hosted the alumni meeting, which resulted in a wonderful gathering of alumni from seven decades.



The Foundation organized a second alumni event in connection with the U.S. election. Keynote speaker alumnus Jan Hallenberg (Princeton University 1980) analyzed the outcome of the U.S. Presidential Election. He is an expert on US foreign and security policy at the Swedish Institute of International Affairs (UI) and professor emeritus in political science at the Swedish National Defense University.

The Fellowship Program 2024

During the Sweden-America Foundation’s 105th year, a total of 31 fellowships with a value of approximately MSEK 5,8 were awarded for higher education and research in the United States and Canada. In 2024, the fellowship funds were obtained from:

- The Sweden-America Foundation Fellowship Funds SEK 2,475,000
- The Mix Family Entrepreneur Foundation SEK 1,040,900
- Donations from Swedish businesses and organizations SEK 1,378,260
- Borgrättsfonderna SEK 500,000
- Thanks To Scandinavia Inc. USD 40,000



The announcement for the 2025/2026 year fellowships for graduate studies and research in the U.S. and Canada resulted in 81 applications. The scholarship applications were screened by 27 senior faculty members and experts within each academic field of the applications at Swedish universities. The Foundation's fellowship committee under Chair Professor Anders Flodström, made the final selection, and the Board confirmed the list of fellows for the academic year 2025/2026 in January, 2025.

### Other programs 2024

The Sweden-America Foundation nominated one Swedish High School student for studies at The Lawrenceville School in New Jersey, USA. Two young students were nominated for undergraduate level scholarships at Augustana College in Illinois, USA.

Two high school students from Varberg and Halmstad in Southern Sweden received grants from *Nils Björkman's Memorial Fund*.

Within the framework of *The Bicentennial Swedish-American Exchange Fund*, the American grantees Gersh Kuntzman and William V. Hedden visited Sweden, and the Swedish grantees Camila Salazar Atias, Anders Bjers, and Lars Olof Andersson visited the United States.

### Board of Directors, Board of Trustees, and Auditors: updates

In 2024, the Board of Directors consisted of eleven members. At the annual meeting, Axel Mörner, Denise Persson, and Joanna Rubinstein were elected as new members of the board. The board held five meetings during the year. For 13 of the 39 members of the Board of Trustees, the term of office expired in 2024. Nine members were reelected, and four new members were elected: Ylva Berg, Katarina Bonde, Lars Strannegård, and Lisa Emelia Svensson.

The auditor was Peter Nilsson, and deputy auditor Elin Götling Christiansson, both certified auditors from PWC. Peter Danowsky, senior counsel at TIME DANOWSKY, served as layman auditor and professor emeritus Kenth Skogsvik, Stockholm School of Economics, served as deputy layman auditors. Anna Rosvall Stuart, the Foundation's Executive Director, worked together with Hilda Blomqvist.



## Financial Position

The Sweden-America Foundation manages fifteen affiliated foundations. Each foundation submits its own annual report. The Mix Family Entrepreneurship Foundation has its own investment policy.

The Sweden-America Foundation operates with limited financial resources. The Board of Directors and the Board of Trustees fulfill their assignments without remuneration. The same applies to the members of the Foundation's Fellowship Committee, as well as the large number of experts who review fellowship applications. The Foundation is dependent on donations and grants from businesses, organizations and individuals. The Foundation's board members have decided to be donors to the Foundation.

During 2024, the Foundation awarded fellowships for a total value of MSEK 5,8 to 31 Swedish students and researchers for higher education in the United States and Canada, as well as tuition waivers for three younger students. Swedish businesses, foundations and private individuals donated approximately SEK 1,378,260 toward fellowships. Fellowship donors are expected to contribute 10% of the fellowship amount as compensation to the Foundation's scholarship administration. Contributions to the Foundation's operation amounted to approximately MSEK 1,2 and contributions to the Foundation's scholarship administration fees amounted to approximately SEK 330,000.

At the end of 2024, the total of the Foundation's jointly administered assets amounted to approximately MSEK 202,7 (compared to MSEK 180,1 in 2023). The 2024 audit report can be found in the Swedish section. The Board of Directors has appointed a financial committee that manages assets on their behalf.

For individual members, the annual fee in 2024 was SEK 150. The fee for permanent membership was SEK 2,250. The Foundation expresses gratitude to all companies, foundations, organizations and private individuals who through fellowship donations, operating grants or other help have facilitated the Sweden-America Foundation's work. Thank you!



## The 2024 Sweden-America Foundation Fellows

During the Foundation's 105th year, a total of 31 fellowships with a value of approximately MSEK 5,8 were awarded for higher education and research in the United States and Canada. In addition, two students were awarded tuition waivers to Augustana College in Illinois, and one Swedish high school student was awarded a full tuition scholarship to The Lawrenceville School in New Jersey.

### The Prince Bertil Honorary Fellowship



**Hedda Thorell**

PhD candidate in Economics at Stockholm University and visiting scholar in Economics at the University of California Berkeley in Berkeley, CA, USA. *Research in macro-economics with a particular focus on the effects of monetary policy on the economy.*

Donor: The Ernst O Ek Fellowship Fund

### The Anders Zorn Fellowship Fund



**Filippa Ronquist**

PhD candidate in Philosophy at University College London and visiting scholar in Philosophy at the University of California Berkeley in Berkeley, CA, USA. *Research in political philosophy. A study of authority, which focuses on how authority can be justified.*

Donor: The Anders Zorn Fellowship Fund

### Fellowships from The Sweden-America Foundation's other Fellowship Funds and Donors



**Mona Ahmed**

PhD in Medicine from Karolinska Institutet. PostDoc in Cardiovascular Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School in Boston, MA, USA. *The project aims at integrating coronary adverse anatomical and physiological features for prediction of acute coronary syndromes. These features will be studied by developing innovative technological approaches applying machine learning to CCTA that will provide unique mechanistic insights into coronary pathobiology and pathophysiology responsible for the development, progression, and destabilization of coronary atherosclerotic lesions. The goal is to integrate these features into a clinical workflow for risk-prediction after validation.*

Donor: The Ingegerd & Viking Olov Björk Fellowship Trust




**Siri Beck-Friis**

BA in Law from the University of Cambridge. Graduate studies in International Law (LLM) at Harvard University in Cambridge, MA, USA. *Studies in international law focusing on human rights, technology and security.*

Donor: Peter Baldwin & Lisbet Rausing


**Alexander Blom Vigsoe**

Master of Laws degree from Lund University. Graduate studies in Law (LLM) at Stanford University in Stanford, CA, USA. *Studies in international corporate governance and company law with a specialization in the governance of publicly listed companies.*

Donors: The Hans Werthén Fellowship Fund & The Axel Ax:son Johnson Fellowship Fund


**Viking Bohman**

MSc in International Affairs from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). PhD candidate in International Relations at Tufts University in Boston, MA, USA. *Research on the relationship between international trade and national security, with a focus on China.*

Donor: The Ernst O Ek Fellowship Fund


**Elizabeth Castaldo Lundén**

PhD in Fashion Studies from Stockholm University. PostDoc in Fashion and Cinema Studies at the University of Southern California, School of Cinematic Arts in Los Angeles, CA, USA. *Research on newsreels with focus on the fashion segment of Fox Movietone News between 1929 and 1963.*

Donor: The Fritz O Fernström Fellowship Fund


**Isabella Cramner**

MSc in Media Management from KTH Royal Institute of Technology and Stockholm School of Economics. Graduate studies (MBA) in Technology and Entrepreneurship at New York University, Stern School of Business in New York, NY, USA. *Accelerated MBA studies at the intersection of business and technology, with a focus on emerging technologies.*

Donor: The Mix Family Entrepreneur Foundation


**Emma Filippa Eckerlid**

MA in History from Copenhagen University. Graduate studies in International and World History at Columbia University in New York, NY, USA. *Studies in international and world history that will include a master dissertation focusing on sex work primarily through a perspective of the history of emotions.*

Donor: Sten Westerberg





### **Anton Ekelund**

BSc in Peace and Conflict Studies from Uppsala University. Graduate studies in International Affairs (MIA) at Columbia University in New York, NY, USA. *Studies in international affairs with a concentration in economic and political development and a specialization in international organization and U.N. studies.*

Donor: The Marshall of the Realm Fellowship Fund (Borgrättsfonderna)



### **Pontus Elmrin**

BSc in Mathematics from Uppsala University. Graduate studies in Statistics at Columbia University in New York, NY, USA. *Studies in statistics with a focus on the theory of decision-making using statistical methods.*

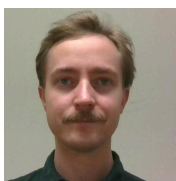
Donor: The Ernst O Ek Fellowship Fund



### **Erik Engberg**

MSc in Economics from Uppsala University. PhD Candidate in Economics at Örebro University and the Ratio Institute. Visiting scholar at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Cambridge, MA, USA. *Research about artificial intelligence and its impact on the labor market.*

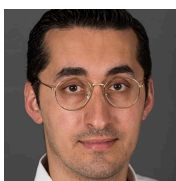
Donor: The Marshall of the Realm Fellowship Fund (Borgrättsfonderna)



### **Love Eriksson**

MSc in Environmental Archaeology from Umeå University. Visiting Scholar at Arizona State University, School of Mathematical and Natural Sciences in Phoenix, AZ, USA. *This research project aims to study subfossil beetle remains and their application in palaeoentomology and archaeological contexts. Because many beetle species are highly specialized it is possible to study prehistoric living conditions and provide an opportunity to detect long-term change in the climate and the development of cultural and natural landscapes.*

Donor: The Ernst O Ek Fellowship Fund



### **Aram Ghalali**

PhD in Medical Science from Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm. PostDoc in Medicine at Boston Children's Hospital; Harvard Medical School in Boston, MA, USA. *Research on what drives cancer progression, metastasis, and how to design drugs that selectively target late-stage cancers. Despite recent progress in characterizing the molecular determinants of tumor growth and progression, current approaches to cancer treatment only rarely provide long-term tumor stabilization or regression. A large number of agents have been applied to a small number of targets, and relatively few new targets have been identified. The research will 1) Study the complexity of cancer metastasis, and 2) Identify new targets for late-stage cancers.*

Donor: The Ingemar Dörfer Fellowship Fund for studies at Harvard University

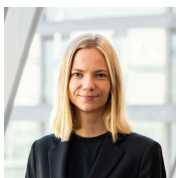




### **Gustav Granlund**

BSc in Industrial Engineering and Management from KTH Royal Institute of Technology. Graduate studies in Engineering and Management at Dartmouth College in Hanover, NH, USA. *Studies in engineering management that will include an industry-sponsored internship.*

Donor: Thanks to Scandinavia Inc.



### **Johanna Jacobson**

Master of Laws degree from Uppsala University. Master of Laws (LLM) at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY, USA. *Graduate law studies focused on human rights law and information technology law.*

Donor: The Marshall of the Realm Fellowship Fund (Borgrättsfonderna)



### **Kasper Johansson**

MSc in Engineering Physics from KTH Royal Institute of Technology. PhD candidate in Electrical Engineering at Stanford University in Stanford, CA, USA. *Researching convex optimization applied to risk management, statistical arbitrage, portfolio optimization, and other problems in quantitative finance.*

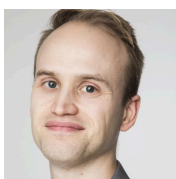
Donor: The ASEA Fellowship Fund



### **Elin Karlsson**

PhD in Disability research from Örebro University. PostDoc at Western University in London, ON, Canada. *Research on hearing rehabilitation and cognitive impairment. The studies in the project intend to validate the Hearing and Functioning in Everyday Life Questionnaire (HFEQ) for an elderly population with and without cognitive impairment. Furthermore, the project will investigate the possibility of using the HFEQ to identify people with hearing loss at an early stage with the goal of starting hearing rehabilitation early as an intervention to delay the onset of cognitive impairment and dementia.*

Donor: The Ernst O Ek Fellowship Fund



### **Lars Karlsson**

PhD in Medical Science from the University of Gothenburg; Pediatrician at Queen Silvia's Childrens Hospital in Gothenburg. PostDoc in Pediatric Oncology at Stanford University in Stanford, CA, USA. *Studies on molecular mechanisms behind perivascular inflammation and blood-brain barrier dysregulation after CAR T cell-treatment for diffuse glioma in children. The purpose of the study is to improve safety and efficacy for this promising treatment.*

Donor: The J Sigfrid Edström Fellowship Fund

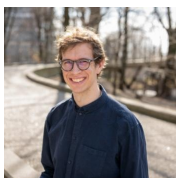




### Benjamin Kjell

MA in Organ and Related Keyboard Instruments from the Academy of Music and Drama in Gothenburg. PhD candidate in Musical Arts at Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY, USA. *Studies in performance & literature with a major in organ and minor in early music.*

Donor: The Kooperativa Förbundet KF Fellowship Fund



### Axel Larsson

M.Res. in Architecture and Digital Theory from University College London, Bartlett School of Architecture. PhD candidate in Civil and Environmental Engineering at Princeton University in Princeton, NJ, USA. *Studies in structural mechanics which will result in a dissertation on the optimization of multi-stable structures.*

Donor: The Mix Family Entrepreneur Foundation



### Hugo Laurell

PhD in Physics from Lund University. PostDoc in attosecond transient absorption spectroscopy at The University of California, Berkeley - Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in Berkeley, CA, USA. *Research on coherence and dynamics of single semiconductor nanowires on the attosecond timescale.*

Donor: Camilla Modéer & Ninni Weyde



### Henrik Marklund

MSc in Computer Science from Stanford University. PhD studies in Computer Science at Stanford University in Stanford, CA, USA. *Machine learning research focusing on “continual learning” and “alignment”.*

Donor: The Ingegerd & Viking Olov Björk Fellowship Trust



### Nicole Nova

PhD in Biology from Stanford University. PostDoc in Ecology at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, NC, USA. *Research on climate change impacts on the survival of endangered bats with white-nose syndrome in Mammoth Cave National Park.*

Donor: The Roland Nilsson Fellowship Fund



### Varsha Prakash

PhD in Medicine from Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm. PostDoc in Cancer Cell Plasticity at NYU Grossman School of Medicine in New York, NY, USA. *Research on translation control of cellular plasticity in cancer.*

Donor: The J P Seeburg Fellowship Fund





### **Katarina Sandberg**

PhD Candidate in Political Science at Linköping University. Visiting scholar in Political Science at the University of California Berkeley in Berkeley, CA, USA. *Research on the effects of inter-municipal cooperation on cost, service quality, and local democracy.*

Donor: The Roland Nilsson Fellowship Fund



### **Agnes af Sandeberg**

PhD Candidate in Agricultural and Food Economics at The Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. Visiting Scholar in Agricultural Economics at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY, USA. *Research on the link between profitability and animal health and welfare in dairy farming.*

Donor: The Roland Nilsson Fellowship Fund



### **Tilda Sander**

BSc in Business and Economics from Stockholm School of Economics. Master studies in Sports Management at New York University in New York, NY, USA.

Donor: Stockholms Grosshandelsbundet



### **Esther Serger**

BA in Politics and International Relations from SOAS University of London. Graduate studies in Foreign Service (MSFS) at Georgetown University in Washington, DC, USA. *Studies in international relations focused on Chinese politics and the geopolitical consequences of emerging technologies.*

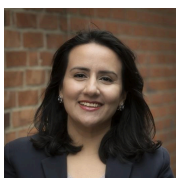
Donor: Tetra Laval



### **Salomon Tendler**

MD and PhD in Oncology from Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm. PostDoc in Medicine at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York, NY, USA. *Improving the efficacy of immunotherapy on lung cancer patients.*

Donor: The Ingegerd & Viking Olov Björk Fellowship Trust



### **Mehreen Zaigham**

PhD in Medical Sciences with a focus on Obstetrics and Gynecology from Lund University. Postdoctoral Fellow in Global Surgery at Harvard Medical School; Graduate studies in Public Health at Harvard University, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in Boston, MA, USA. *Research on global surgery where the aim is to evaluate the functionality and adequacy of a wireless monitoring system for postpartum women undergoing cesarean section in Pakistan.*

Donor: Thanks to Scandinavia Inc.



## *Cancelled Fellowships during 2024:*

Larissa Barhebréus, The Ernst O Ek Fellowship Fund  
Sigrun Einarsdottir, The J P Seeburg Fellowship Fund  
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Freija Haas, The Marshall of the Realm Fellowship Fund (Borgrättsfonderna)  
Sofia Olofsson, The Ernst O Ek Fellowship Fund  
Alice Svedberg, The Mix Family Entrepreneur Foundation  
León Zendejas Medina, The Marshall of the Realm Fellowship Fund (Borgrättsfonderna)

## Fellows and grant recipients from other programs

### **Augustana College**



Elias Lindstenz  
Caspian MacDowall

### **The Lawrenceville School**



Jolin Björinder

### **Nils Björkman's Memorial Fund**

Emma Björklund, Halmstad  
Meja Olausson, Varberg

### **The Bicentennial Swedish-American Exchange Fund**

Lars Olof Andersson (Sweden)  
Anders Bjers (Sweden)  
William V. Hedden (USA)  
Gersh Kuntzman (USA)  
Camila Salazar Atías (Sweden)



## Submitted travel reports during the year

After the Foundation's fellows have completed their study or research visit, they are required to submit a travel report. The reports are written both from a formal and personal point of view. The fellows' travel reports mention, among other things, access to world-leading authorities from various faculties as well as unique laboratory equipment and other resources; their new network; and not the least, their experiences of day-to-day life in the United States and Canada. Since the purpose of the fellowship program is to bring back acquired knowledge and experiences to Sweden, most reports are written in Swedish. During the year 2024, eighteen reports from previous fellows were submitted:

**Noura Alkhalili**, PostDoc, 2021-2022 – Columbia University in the City of New York, NY, USA

**Johan Ascard**, PostDoc, 1994-1995 – Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA

**Alexandra Berg**, Graduate Student, 2022-2023 – Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, MA, USA

**Niklas Dahl**, Visiting Scholar, 2023-2024 – Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, USA

**Matilda Eriksson**, Graduate Student, 2022-2023 – University of Colorado Boulder, CO, USA

**Johan Fagerberg**, Visiting Scholar, 2022-2023 – University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD, USA

**Jacqueline Fritzson**, Graduate Student, 2022-2023 – Columbia University in the City of New York, NY, USA

**Emilia Goland**, PhD Candidate, 2022-2023 – University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NC, USA

**Alexandra Landby**, Graduate Student, 2022-2023 – Kennesaw State University, Atlanta, GA, USA

**Isa Lappalainen**, Visiting Scholar, 2023-2024 – University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, USA

**Elin Lindfors**, Visiting Scholar, 2023-2024 – University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), Los Angeles, CA, USA

**Elin Manell**, PostDoc, 2022-2023 – Columbia University in the City of New York, NY, USA

**Melina Maraki**, Graduate Student, 2021-2022 – Columbia University in the City of New York, NY, USA

**Anna Nyman**, Visiting Scholar, 2023-2024 – University of Arizona in Tucson, AZ, USA

**Linda Pipkorn**, PostDoc, 2023-2024 – Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)-CTL AgeLab, Cambridge, MA, USA

**Nicolas Rodriguez Hedenbratt**, Visiting Scholar, 2023-2024 – University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Kanada

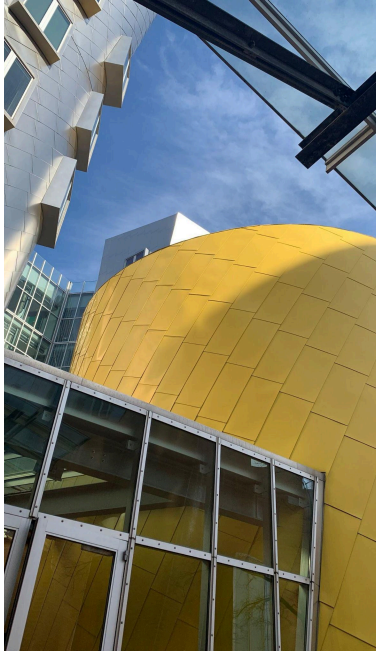
**Henrik Schildt Lundberg**, Graduate Student, 2023-2024 – Georgetown University, Washington, DC, USA

**Therese Scocco**, Graduate Student, 2021-2022 – Columbia University in the City of New York, NY, USA



## Excerpt from a report 2024

**Alexandra Berg**, Graduate Student, 2022-2023 – Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, MA, USA



*Cambridge is an exceedingly pleasant college town, characterized by meandering, leafy streets that converge onto quaint little neighborhood squares. One of these is Central Square, which offers a quintessential college town experience through its colorful music venues like the Middle East, vegetarian diners like Veggie Galaxy, and vintage clothes shops and vinyl records stores. Another is Kendall Square, which, in remarkable contrast, feels like a tiny sliver of New York City with its towering, shiny sky-scrapers and gourmet restaurants. My tight-knit group of lab colleagues would regularly descend upon either square to celebrate publications and birthdays, enjoying each other's company over a wide range of cuisines and discussion topics.*

*My time at MIT, supported by the Sweden-American Foundation and the Mix Family Entrepreneur Foundation scholarship, has exceeded my expectations in every aspect. The unique integration of AI engineering and life sciences has prepared me for a career in bioinformatics, and I wholeheartedly recommend this path to other*

*Swedish students interested in the intersection of these fields. The opportunities for research, the supportive academic community, and the vibrant campus life have made my experience truly remarkable. I extend my deepest gratitude to the Mix Family Entrepreneur Foundation for their support, which has been pivotal in my academic and personal development.*

