

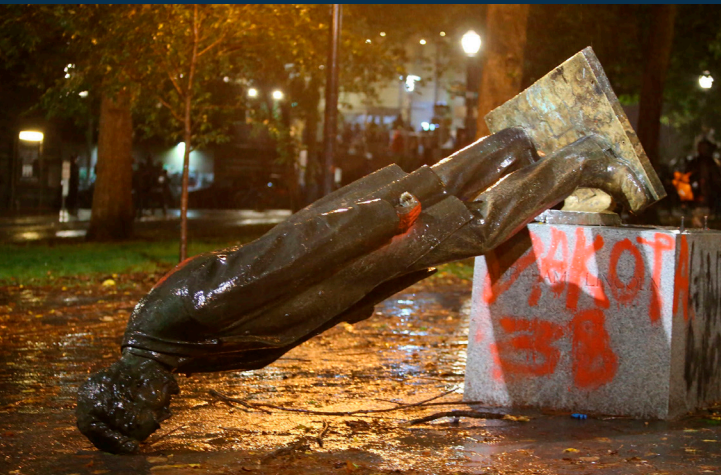
DEVELOPING COURAGEOUS LEADERS



The
FUND for
AMERICAN
STUDIES

BLUEPRINT
for LIBERTY

WHO WILL WIN THE FUTURE?



A group of protesters toppled a statue of Abraham Lincoln in Portland's South Park Block. Photo: Sean Meagher, Associated Press



In contrast to college campuses where speech codes and other limits to free expression are commonplace, TFAS offers a learning environment where free speech is encouraged. Photo: Todd Balfour



In 2020, widespread protests advocating for the destruction of capitalist economic structures rocked the United States.

“FREEDOM IS A FRAGILE THING AND IT'S NEVER MORE THAN ONE GENERATION AWAY FROM EXTINCTION ... IT MUST BE FOUGHT FOR AND DEFENDED CONSTANTLY BY EACH GENERATION.”

President Ronald Reagan

The foundations of our American political system, economy, culture, and communities are under attack.

Ever-growing, intrusive government. Economic shockwaves in the wake of a global pandemic. Mushrooming public debt. Ignorance of basic history and economics. An increasingly virulent cancel culture. A serious lack of respectful engagement among competing factions in society. These pressures jeopardize the American experiment in liberty.

The freedoms and prosperity we enjoy as Americans cannot survive when we are divided about the most basic values we once shared, including freedom of speech, freedom of association, and economic and religious liberty. The experience of other countries has shown over and over again what happens when these basic freedoms are undermined and individual autonomy is eroded. The outcome is predictable and dangerous: nothing less than tyranny.

COVER IMAGE: Rep. David Rouzer, a 1993 TFAS alumnus who represents the 7th District of North Carolina, joins TFAS students on the steps of the U.S. House of Representatives after a private briefing on the House floor.

Our challenge—if we want our republic to survive—is to renew our commitment to the unifying principles that define us as Americans and restore faith in the fact that these principles give all people the opportunity to thrive.

The Fund for American Studies (TFAS) has developed a new strategic plan, its “Blueprint for Liberty,” to develop and equip thousands more young leaders and teachers who are ready, able, and willing to face our present challenges with courage and a commitment to a free society.

TFAS has been teaching freedom for over 50 years. Having joined together with the Foundation for Teaching Economics (FTE)—an organization that introduces high school students and teachers to the economic way of thinking—in 2013, the combined organizations now have a reach that stretches from high school through college to law schools and young professionals in leadership positions. Now is the time to expand and adapt these programs to win freedom for this generation and those to come.



TFAS students participating in DC Summer Programs visit the Lincoln Memorial.



In accepting the 2019 TFAS Congressional Leadership Award, Sen. Tim Scott of South Carolina said, “The greatest economic opportunity presented to the world will come through the free market and not government.”



Dr. Christopher Coyne, professor of economics at George Mason University, teaches a course on “Economic Problems and Public Policies” to TFAS students.

DEVELOPING COURAGEOUS LEADERS

TFAS builds the intellectual rigor and sustained relationships over time that result in deep impact and long-term change. After more than 50 years of programs, the evidence of TFAS's success is clear.

TFAS alumni are the leaders our nation needs right now and in the decades to come.



TOM ROONEY
FTE '97

Teacher **Tom Rooney** has taught history, economics, and social studies for nearly 25 years. He discovered the Foundation for Teaching Economics in 1997 when he was looking for ways to better convey economic concepts to students. He participated in an FTE teacher program in Madison, Wisconsin, and his classroom model changed forever. Since then, he has introduced thousands of students to the economic way of thinking in his classroom and has served as mentor teacher in FTE's programs.

“ FTE PUT LIFE IN MY ECONOMICS CLASS. THE CHANGE IN THE WAY I TAUGHT ECONOMICS WAS HUGE.”

Tom Rooney



CLARA PIANO
TFAS '16

“ I LEARNED THE IMPORTANCE ECONOMICS HAS IN HUMAN FLOURISHING AND THE KIND OF OPPORTUNITIES THAT WE TAKE FOR GRANTED [IN THE U.S.].”

Clara Jace Piano

TFAS alumna **Clara Jace Piano**, who attended a TFAS summer program in 2016, has turned her passion for economics and international affairs into a dream career. Inspired by TFAS professor Dr. Anne Bradley, Clara is a Ph.D. candidate at George Mason University. This fall, she joined the faculty of Samford University as their newest Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics, Finance, and Quantitative Analysis, where she will educate and inspire other young leaders.

“ IT'S AN HONOR TO REPRESENT THE FUND FOR AMERICAN STUDIES AS A PROUD ALUMNUS. IT IS ONE OF THE FEW ORGANIZATIONS THAT MAKES A PROFOUND DIFFERENCE IN THE MOST CRITICAL OF WAYS, AND THAT IS BY TOUCHING THE MINDS AND LIVES OF YOUNG PEOPLE.”

Clint Bolick

A legal pioneer, TFAS alumnus **Clint Bolick** participated in the TFAS summer program in 1978. He currently serves as an Arizona Supreme Court Justice. He has argued and won cases in the United States Supreme Court, the Arizona Supreme Court, and state and federal courts from coast to coast. He has won landmark cases defending school choice, freedom of enterprise, and private property rights.

“ I CAN'T IMAGINE HOW DIFFERENT MY CAREER WOULD BE WITHOUT THE NOVAK FELLOWSHIP. IT ENABLED ME TO TAKE A YEAR OF IN-DEPTH STUDY AND BECOME KNOWLEDGEABLE ON MY BEAT. IT HELPED ME GET PLACED IN NATIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND PUT ME IN CONTACT WITH OTHER FELLOWS WHO ANSWERED MY QUESTIONS AND HELPED ME LEARN THE ROPES.”

Mollie Hemingway

TFAS alumna **Mollie Hemingway** won a Robert Novak Journalism Fellowship in 2004. She is now a senior editor at the online magazine The Federalist, contributor to Fox News, and co-author of a best-selling book, “Justice on Trial: The Kavanaugh Confirmation and the Future of the Supreme Court.”



CLINT BOLICK
TFAS '78



MOLLIE HEMINGWAY
Novak Fellow '04

GENERATIONS OF IMPACT

Since its founding in 1967, TFAS has influenced hundreds of thousands of young leaders through programs that:

- Teach young people about the ideas that offer the greatest opportunity for personal fulfillment and human flourishing
- Instill an understanding of the economic way of thinking and how economic freedom sparks human ingenuity and prosperity
- Provide real world experience that helps students put theory into practice
- Bring young people face-to-face with inspiring leaders who serve as role models for a lifetime
- Gather people from all walks of life together for serious discussion of ideas and the chance to reach common understanding together
- Incorporate rich, academically rigorous content that advances students from the basics to real understanding
- Offer continued support and community to alumni as they pursue careers
- Inspire participants to make a difference in their communities and our nation



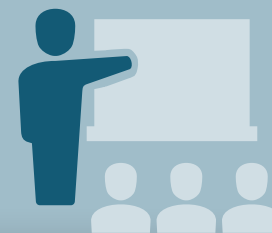
46,000+
ALUMNI WORLDWIDE

50
STATES
140+
COUNTRIES

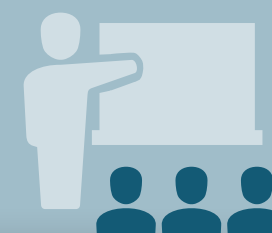
13,000+
FTE HIGH SCHOOL
ALUMNI



18,000
UNDERGRADUATE
ALUMNI



15,000
HIGH SCHOOL
TEACHERS
EQUIPPED



1,755,000
HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS REACHED
ANNUALLY

MISSION

To develop courageous leaders inspired and equipped to protect and advance the ideas of individual liberty, personal responsibility, and economic freedom in their communities and throughout the world

TFAS President Roger Ream thanks supporters at the conclusion of the 50th anniversary Liberty + Leadership campaign.



VISION

To win over each new generation to the ideas of individual liberty, personal responsibility, and economic freedom. TFAS desires nothing less than a restoration of faith in what men and women can accomplish when they are free and have the opportunity to thrive

Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky speaks with congressional interns at TFAS's Capitol Hill Lecture Series.



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Fund for American Studies champions a core set of principles that define the essence of the American Idea. The pursuit of these ideas has led to unmatched levels of prosperity and served as a beacon for tens of millions throughout the world seeking a better life. Through its programs, TFAS encourages America's future leaders to bring reason to bear upon the problems which confront us, to separate the truth from fallacy, to seek the wisdom of the past, to find the patience to deal with the present, to find the courage to face the future, and to commit themselves to the following principles, which are essential to human flourishing.

INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY

TFAS founder Charles Edison wrote, "Liberty means the right to control one's own destiny and, above all, the God-given right of each individual to pursue his life as he sees fit—without interference or control except as he is responsible to his neighbors and his community." TFAS upholds this concept of liberty and educates people regarding the role of our institutions and our own actions in protecting this inalienable right.

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Personal responsibility is essential to the proper exercise of one's liberty. TFAS programs develop personal responsibility through their strong emphasis on honor, defined by TFAS founder Charles Edison as "duty, responsibility, knowledge, adherence to one's heritage and traditions, and respect for the eternal values." TFAS seeks to develop courageous leaders who embrace this robust concept of honor that enables them to "live a life free from fear."

ECONOMIC FREEDOM

When men and women are free and their property rights are secure, they work, exchange, save, invest, build, invent, innovate, and prosper. With this freedom, they can satisfy their own needs, as well as those of their families and communities, in a manner consistent with their own priorities rather than those of a distant ruling power. Economic freedom has been a powerful engine of growth that has dramatically improved the lives of billions of people around the world.

LIMITED GOVERNMENT

TFAS upholds the fundamental principle of a free society: that all men and women are endowed by their Creator with the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. The role of government is to protect these God-given rights. TFAS understands that only in a free society where the power of government is strictly limited will individuals have the scope to exercise their minds, talents, and skills to solve problems and pursue prosperity.

“THE TIMES CALL FOR COURAGE. THE TIMES CALL FOR HARD WORK. BUT IF THE DEMANDS ARE HIGH, IT IS BECAUSE THE STAKES ARE EVEN HIGHER. THEY ARE NOTHING LESS THAN THE FUTURE OF HUMAN LIBERTY, WHICH MEANS THE FUTURE OF CIVILIZATION.”

Henry Hazlitt
Economic Journalist

For more than 50 years, TFAS has been teaching freedom to students throughout the world, including in Asia, South and Central America, Europe, the Middle East, and the U.S.

OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL

Echoing Theodore Roosevelt, TFAS believes that every person should "have a fair chance... to reach the highest point to which his capacities, unassisted by special privilege... can carry him," and that true human flourishing is found not just through success but through failure, recovery, and the freedom to start again.

THE RULE OF LAW

The Constitution is the foundation of the rule of law in the U.S. It provides for the separation of powers and defines the functions of government. TFAS champions the constitutional limitations contained in the U.S. Constitution, as well as the freedoms outlined by the Bill of Rights.

FREE SPEECH AND CIVIL DISCOURSE

TFAS is committed to creating a space for conversation, the exploration of ideas, vigorous debate, and a genuine learning experience in pursuit of what is true. By protecting the freedom of speech of both teachers and students, TFAS allows a true diversity of ideas to be expressed and considered. We reject efforts intended to propagandize or shout down dissent, calling on all to engage with civility in the search for the ideas and institutions that lead to human flourishing.

THE TFAS LEADERSHIP PIPELINE



INTRODUCE + IDENTIFY

Broaden number and reach of programs that introduce high school and college students to TFAS principles and identify promising rising leaders



ENGAGE + INSPIRE

Recruit outstanding TFAS programs and inspire participants in rising leaders to intensive utilize programs to engage to defend and advance their professional lives



SUPPORT + CONNECT

Support and connect the TFAS community to help build networks, continue learning, and deepen a commitment to upholding the values essential to the preservation and success of a free society

LANDMARK GOAL

By 2026, TFAS will be the foremost organization educating and equipping exceptional young people to become influential leaders who advance individual liberty, personal responsibility, and economic freedom. TFAS programs will encourage vigorous debate about the ideas and institutions that offer the greatest opportunity for human flourishing and will prepare students with the knowledge, passion, and connections to become honorable leaders of courage and integrity.

High school students learn about the economic way of thinking at one of the Foundation for Teaching Economics' residential programs.



BLUEPRINT HIGHLIGHTS

- Substantially increase the number and scope of programs designed to REACH STUDENTS EARLIER in their educational careers, introducing them to the ideas that best promote human flourishing
- SEND MORE STUDENTS back to school better equipped to defend our core values
- UTILIZE PARTNERSHIPS and alliances to increase the audience for TFAS content
- Enhance the TFAS Journey and GIVE STUDENTS MULTIPLE OPPORTUNITIES to engage with TFAS programs and ideas as they progress from high school to careers
- BROADEN THE RECRUITING POOL and increase selectivity for TFAS intensive programs
- DEEPEN ENGAGEMENT WITH TFAS ALUMNI and help place them in positions to advance freedom
- GROW THE COMMUNITY of people dedicated to the TFAS mission



CORE STRATEGY INTRODUCE + IDENTIFY

OBJECTIVE

Broaden the number and reach of programs designed to **introduce** high school and college students to TFAS principles, and **identify** the most promising rising leaders to participate in other TFAS programs

WHO

High School Students and Teachers
Undergraduate Students

WHAT

High School Programs
Campus Lectures
Student Conferences
Online Courses

HOW

- Enhance programs, build referral pipelines, and reach new audiences by establishing strategic partnerships with other campus and educational organizations, schools, and professors
- Introduce more high school students and teachers to TFAS principles by significantly expanding the number of in-person and virtual programs offered through the TFAS program, the Foundation for Teaching Economics
- Introduce more students to TFAS ideas and programs by expanding outreach programs, including the campus speakers program and one-day and weekend conferences
- Identify students with leadership potential and attract them to intensive leadership development programs by concentrating resources and communications for these students and increasing continuity of program content
- Reach new audiences with TFAS ideas by developing online courses and other digital content and leveraging distribution platforms of TFAS partners



CORE STRATEGY

ENGAGE + INSPIRE

OBJECTIVE

Recruit outstanding students and rising leaders to intensive TFAS programs and utilize these transformative programs to **engage** in lively discussions and civil discourse, instill a deep understanding of the principles and ideas necessary for human flourishing, and **inspire** participants to become courageous and honorable leaders who defend and advance these principles in their professional lives

WHO

Undergraduate Students
Rising Young Professionals

WHAT

In-Person Leadership Programs
Professional Fellowship Programs
International Programs

HOW

- Attract exceptional students to TFAS intensive programs and encourage rigorous debate by focusing admissions on highly-qualified, thoughtful participants open to new ideas, including young leaders who are already committed to free societies
- Increase TFAS's ability to enroll outstanding student leaders to its intensive programs by expanding the availability of scholarship opportunities
- Evaluate the effectiveness of TFAS programs, both in the short term and long term, by developing, implementing, and tracking improved metrics and evaluation methods including student evaluations, pre- and post-tests, and longitudinal surveys
- Support TFAS's strategic goals and increase efficiency and impact by evaluating existing intensive programs and modifying or adding new programs as needed



TFAS students meet before economics classes on George Mason University's Arlington Campus.



“TFAS PLAYS A VITAL ROLE IN THE LIVES OF THE STUDENTS IT SERVES. AT A TIME WHEN OUR COUNTRY IS SO POLITICALLY DIVIDED, TFAS'S VALUES OF HONEST, OPEN, AND CIVIL DEBATE ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER.”

Andrew Powaleny
TFAS '08, '11
Senior Director of Public Affairs at PhRMA

Left: 2019 TFAS Law Fellows tour the U.S. Supreme Court. Each summer, TFAS selects 25 top law students for an intensive nine-week program that prepares law students to defend the values of liberty, limited government, free enterprise, and constitutional originalism.



CORE STRATEGY

SUPPORT + CONNECT

OBJECTIVE

Support and **connect** TFAS alumni and others within the TFAS community through continued programming, events, and communications that help build networks, continue learning, and deepen a commitment to strengthening our communities and nation by upholding the values essential to the preservation and success of a free society.

WHO

Alumni
TFAS Supporters
General Public

WHAT

Alumni Engagement Programs
Public Lectures
Conferences and Events
Online Resources

HOW

- Engage FTE and TFAS alumni in meaningful ways by building out a robust, purposeful alumni program that identifies and engages those most able and willing to advance TFAS guiding principles and provides them ongoing support, resources, and recognition for their accomplishments
- Strengthen the TFAS community by increasing opportunities for alumni, donors, and others committed to the TFAS mission to come together to learn from each other, network, and renew their commitment to TFAS's guiding principles
- Promote education and engagement with alumni, donors, and the general public by leveraging existing TFAS program content and intellectual assets and sharing more broadly on digital platforms
- Advance TFAS's strategic goals by building the community of donors committed to the TFAS mission and pursuing opportunities to bring in additional earned revenue
- Support the significant expansion of TFAS's programs by adding staff and developing new systems and infrastructure as needed

KEY GOALS AND METRICS

- Train at least 5,000 additional **HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS** over the course of the plan. These teachers would impact an estimated 585,000 students in their classroom *per year* and an estimated cumulative total of 1,600,000 students over the course of the plan
- Teach basic economics principles to at least 4,300 **HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS** through FTE programs over the course of the plan
- Create **NEW INTRODUCTORY PROGRAMS** including an annual national student

conference and new DC-based mini-programs to introduce additional students to TFAS

- Pilot a **NEW CIVICS PROGRAM** for high school students to complement our longstanding economics programs and create an additional pipeline for TFAS undergraduate programs
- Achieve a **350% INCREASE** in alumni engagement through interactions on our TFAS Connect Alumni Community



TFAS academic courses challenge students to think about the connections between economic freedom and human flourishing. Pictured here in the classroom are TFAS Dr. Anne Bradley and Dr. Donald Boudreaux.

50+ YEARS OF TEACHING FREEDOM

1970

Under direction of founding leader **DAVID R. JONES**, TFAS holds its first program for undergraduates in Washington, DC. Held at Georgetown University, the program combined classwork on **comparative political and economic systems** with practical internship experience and additional enrichment activities. 57 students attend.

1987

The Fund for American Studies name is adopted to honor Edison's request that the organization only bear his name for 20 years.

1993

Four years after the fall of the Berlin Wall, TFAS launches its first **international program** in Prague, Czech Republic, to reach young leaders of former Soviet Bloc nations with the principles of market economics and constitutional democracy. In later years, TFAS international programs expand to Greece, Asia, and Latin America.

1998

Following David Jones' death, **ROGER REAM**—who had been working at TFAS since 1991—is elected president.

RANDAL TEAGUE—a TFAS trustee since 1979—succeeds Jones as board chair.

2007

TFAS celebrates its 40th anniversary. Also this year, TFAS **expands into graduate studies** with the launch of a program for law students designed to give them firsthand exposure to the American legal system while exploring the important historical underpinnings of the Constitution.



2020

TFAS navigates a global pandemic and reaches 1,041 students and 2,140 teachers by temporarily moving its many programs to **virtual formats**, and begins a strategic planning process to guide its future.

1967

A group of concerned citizens, including **CHARLES EDISON**, former governor of New Jersey and son of the inventor Thomas Alva Edison, sets out to form an organization to educate young people about American political and economic institutions. Edison, together with **DR. WALTER H. JUDD**, **DAVID R. JONES**, **MARVIN LIEBMAN**, and **WILLIAM F. BUCKLEY JR.** establish what was then called the Charles Edison Youth Fund.



1985

In response to a growing mistrust of American media, TFAS establishes a **journalism program** in order to develop a new generation of objective journalists with high ethical standards and solid understanding of free-market economic principles.

1990

Following a decade of dramatic increases in federal regulations on businesses, TFAS launches a **business and government relations program** to teach future leaders about the economic and political issues that shape how business and government interact. Also in the early 1990s, TFAS receives a transformational estate gift from **JOHN ENGALITCHEFF** that enables the organization to rapidly grow its programs.

2003

With the launch of student programs during the fall and spring semesters, TFAS transforms into a **year-round educational institution**.



2013

TFAS announces a new academic partnership with **George Mason University**. Also in this year, TFAS announces strategic partnerships with two programs that complement and extend the TFAS mission to new audiences: the **Robert Novak Journalism Fellowship Program**, which awards fellowships to young working journalists, and the **Foundation for Teaching Economics**, which introduces high school students and teachers to the economic way of thinking. With these additions, the TFAS Journey of programs is expanded to serve more leaders, from high school students to young professionals.

2018

Joseph Rago Memorial Fellowship for Excellence in Journalism is established, which places a rising journalist in a nine-month position at The Wall Street Journal.



ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP

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The Board of Trustees is the governing body of TFAS, comprised of individuals dedicated to promoting the mission of the organization through time, talents and financial support.

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TFAS Chairman Randal C. Teague and his wife Darlene connect with Trustee Fred Barnes and Regent Bob Pruger at the 2020 Founders' Day event to celebrate the successful completion of our 50th Anniversary Liberty + Leadership Campaign.

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The Board of Regents was established in 1999 to reinforce the mission, policies, programs, and development work of the Board of Trustees.

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Help TFAS develop courageous leaders. Get involved by:

- **GIVING.** Your support is critical to the future of our country. Consider funding a scholarship for a TFAS student or teacher, underwriting a student program, or helping TFAS increase our reach
- **SHARING.** Attend a TFAS event, refer a student or teacher to a TFAS program, or read and share TFAS content
- **LEADING.** Host a TFAS intern, mentor our students, or organize an event



“THE BASIC
INGREDIENT OF
MY ADVICE IS A
RESURRECTION OF
HONOR.”

Honor, an old-fashioned word but one that encompasses everything—duty, responsibility, knowledge, adherence to one’s heritage and traditions, respect for the eternal values. An honorable man can live a life free from fear. He knows his duties to his family, his community and his nation, and will exercise them to the best of his ability. He is aware of his responsibilities—first to himself and then to the world around him. He takes the trouble to learn his background—his family, his nation and his God—and uses this knowledge to enrich his own life and the life of all around him.

... He knows and respects the eternal values which have come to him from all these years and from all these peoples. A man’s honor is the greatest treasure he owns. It will make him rich beyond all dreams of avarice.

And so the essence of my advice is to seek out the meaning of honor, and, once this is realized, to exercise honor as the basic force in life.”

TFAS Co-Founder Charles Edison
advising young Americans in the 1960s



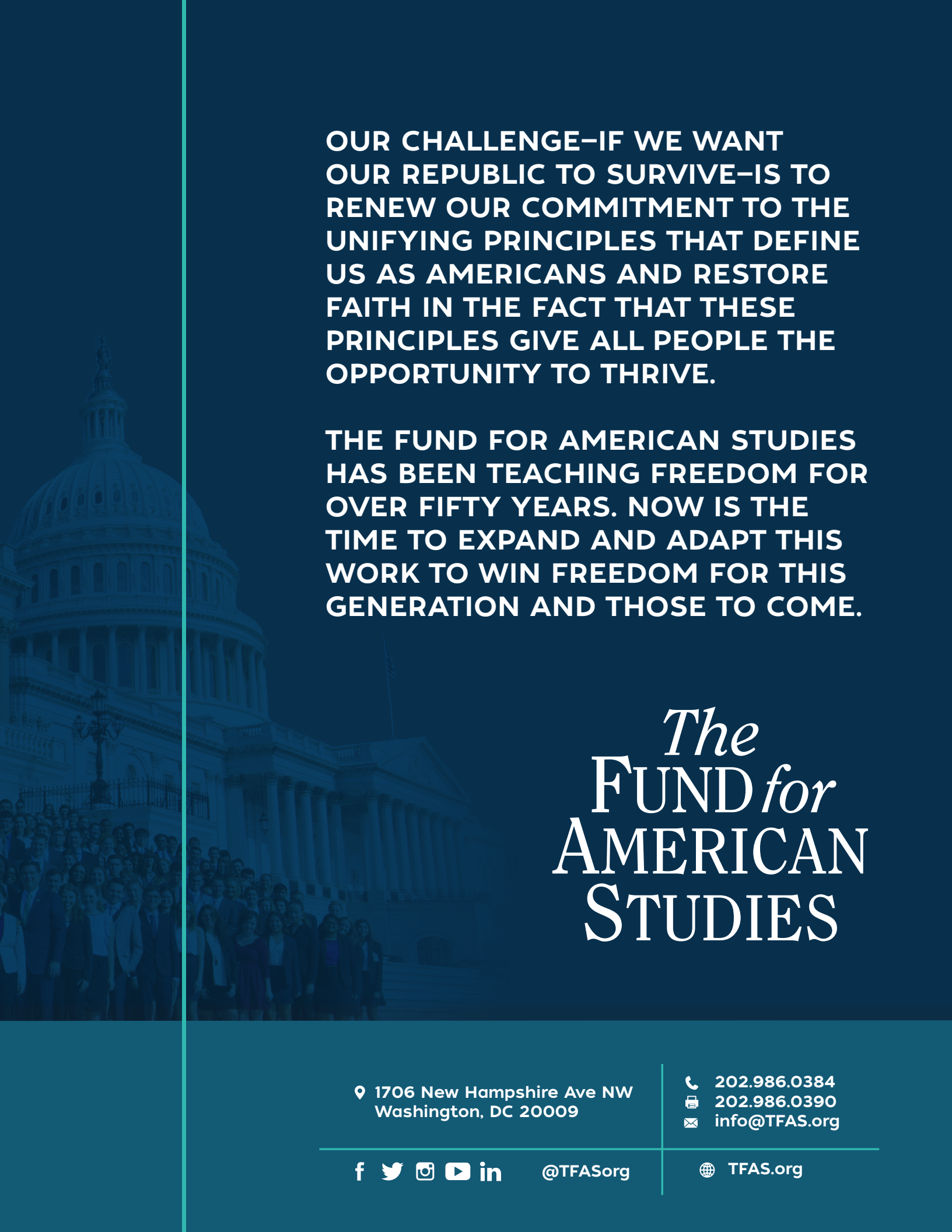
Students in TFAS programs are encouraged to ask questions, express opinions, and engage civilly in a search for truth.



TFAS students learn lessons from leaders of the past, while exploring the monuments and memorials in Washington, DC.



At our Economics for Leaders program, high school students participate in an interactive simulation that integrates economic reasoning principles.



OUR CHALLENGE—IF WE WANT
OUR REPUBLIC TO SURVIVE—IS TO
RENEW OUR COMMITMENT TO THE
UNIFYING PRINCIPLES THAT DEFINE
US AS AMERICANS AND RESTORE
FAITH IN THE FACT THAT THESE
PRINCIPLES GIVE ALL PEOPLE THE
OPPORTUNITY TO THRIVE.

THE FUND FOR AMERICAN STUDIES
HAS BEEN TEACHING FREEDOM FOR
OVER FIFTY YEARS. NOW IS THE
TIME TO EXPAND AND ADAPT THIS
WORK TO WIN FREEDOM FOR THIS
GENERATION AND THOSE TO COME.

The FUND *for* AMERICAN STUDIES

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