

Photo from **5280 Magazine** article about New Era's young voter engagement programs.  
**Denver, CO**



**New Wave**  
Colorado's political landscape just got a whole lot younger.

If New Era Colorado's bus and offbeat candidate debates that impact young voters, like looks like a cross between a (including an *American Idol*-renters' rights and election

## Democracy Done Right.

New Era Colorado Foundation is an innovative vehicle for hands-on democracy. We engage, educate, and train a new generation of active citizens and young leaders in Colorado.

We provide the resources and tools for young people to gain collective power in the political process. We're grassroots. We're nonpartisan. And we're all about empowering our generation to lead Colorado not left, not right, but forward. We do it all with one constant: making politics fun again. **And yes, it's often on a bus.**

## The Summer Democracy Fellowship

New Era Colorado's Democracy Fellows program is an intensive, ten week-long summer bootcamp that trains the next generation of progressive young leaders to create change in their communities. Fellows work to build a more hands-on democracy, developing their leadership skills while learning and applying the principles of grassroots organizing and political advocacy.

The program's curriculum is a combination of classroom-setting instruction and on-the-ground grassroots work. During each morning's classroom session, fellows learn from the best in their fields, including current and former legislators, campaign managers, media strategists, and local political leaders. Fellows spend the afternoons in groups working on issue campaigns, which could include building support for anything from comprehensive immigration reform to stronger fracking regulations that protect public health.

In short, Democracy Fellows is a training program designed to act as a springboard for young leaders to enter the life of public service in Colorado. Fellows will leave the program with the tools and skills to advocate for the issues they are passionate about, organize others to take action, and lead in their communities.

**PROGRAM GOALS:**

1. **Leaders for the long-term.** Gain invaluable leadership skills, and flex those new muscles all over this great state...New Era style.
2. **Engagement that matters.** Conduct on-the-ground grassroots work to impact top-level policies and make a lasting impact on Colorado's political landscape.
3. **Democracy for the win.** Do the heavy lifting to create a more hands-on democracy that works for everyone.

**WE'RE LOOKING FOR YOU:**

*This program is for hardworking young folks, college students, and recent grads. We look for the following:*

- Passion for civic engagement, democracy, and politics
- A high energy and contagiously fun(ny) personality
- Proven and highly effective organizational and written/oral communication skills
- A strong affinity for thinking outside of the box
- A self-starter that shows strong initiative and can work independently or in teams
- Ability to work within diverse and underrepresented communities
- Willingness to work non-traditional work hours (nights and weekends)
- Ability to work efficiently under tight deadlines

**SNAPSHOT: Week 2****Thursday, June 13**

- Classroom session: Speaking your cause
- Field trip: City of Longmont, where voters passed a fracking ban in 2012

**Friday, June 14**

- Classroom session: Training for weekend events
- Confirm volunteers & finalize costumes for the weekend

**Saturday, June 15**

- Denver Pride Festival!
- Register hundreds of young folks to vote
- Hit up One Colorado's annual Pride event afterwards to network with legislators, peers, and community leaders

**Sunday, June 16**

- Dress up the bus
- March in the Pride Parade alongside our bus, Tiny Dancer

**Monday, June 17**

- Sleep in (just a little), because it was a big weekend
- Classroom session: Education funding in Colorado
- Classroom session: Amplifying your message using social media

**Tuesday, June 18**

- Panel discussion with Colorado's youngest legislators
- Field trip: Colorado State Capitol tour

**Wednesday, June 19**

- Classroom session: Grantwriting and fundraising for a cause
- Field trip: Gill Foundation
- Evening: BBQ with Board members and Advisory Committee



# FAQ's

**How long is the program?** It's a 10-week program, running from June 5 to August 7, 2013.

**How much does it cost?** It doesn't. The program costs approximately \$5,000 per Fellow, but we cover the cost to make sure that finances aren't a barrier to you getting your democracy on.

**But do I get paid?** It depends. Need-based stipends are available on a case-by-case basis, averaging between \$500-\$1,000.

**Who is Tiny Dancer?** That'd be our big, beautiful bus.

**Where am I going to sleep?** Those who live outside of the Denver metro area may be eligible for a homestay placement based on need. Those who are from Denver who want to avoid their parents may sleep in our cozy second floor bathtub whenever.

**Who does the Fellowship?** Young folks (from Colorado and from out of state) who are absolutely, out of their minds excited about grassroots politics, democracy, and creating change. That's it.

**How much will I be working?** The Fellowship is full-time plus (up to 50 hours per week), and requires a willingness to work nontraditional hours, including nights and some weekends.

**I'm from out of town. Is Denver the coolest city this side of the Atlantic to spend my summer in?** Why yes, yes it is.

## HOW TO APPLY:

Get your hands on an application at [www.NewEraColorado.org/DemocracyFellows](http://www.NewEraColorado.org/DemocracyFellows)

**Early decision deadline: April 12**

**Final deadline: May 17**

*Applications are accepted on a rolling basis until the deadline. We strongly encourage you to apply early for a better chance of being accepted.*

**GET ON THE BUS.**

