

COUNTRY BEFORE PARTY

MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

Effective January 2021

The Bridge Alliance is a diverse coalition of organizations committed to working together in new, creative ways to improve and revitalize democratic practice in the United States.

As a member of the Bridge Alliance you agree to these expectations:

- Bridge Alliance is a safe civic space where organizations can come together and speak their mind, even when differences in approach or perspective exist.
- We will treat our fellow Bridge Alliance members with professional and personal respect, open-mindedness, and collegiality.
- We agree to be an active and engaged participant, both as a teacher and student in our work within the Bridge Alliance.

Additionally, you agree to the Five Principles.

- 1. Embracing Our Differences:** We recognize that the richness of the American identity is due to our ability to accept our differences and embrace our cultural, ethnic, racial, and political diversity with dignity.
- 2. Collaboration:** Our country is stronger when we work together constructively to meet the challenges we face.
- 3. Citizen Voice:** Our country is well represented when informed citizens are active in the political and social processes.
- 4. Solutions:** Genuine, good faith problem-solving will lead to the best solutions to address our great challenges.
- 5. Open-mindedness:** We explore and learn from each other, seeking aligned efforts to raise visibility and effectiveness.

As a member of Bridge Alliance, you commit to these actions on behalf of your organization:

- **Participate** in the annual Bridge Alliance convening.
- **Author and/or forward** three relevant blog posts each year for the Bridge Alliance website.
- **Include** a link to the Bridge Alliance on the website (such as on the partnerships or resources pages) and/or place the Bridge Alliance member badge at the bottom (footer) of the homepage.
- **Allow** the Bridge Alliance to list the organization in its directory of members and to include a link to the organization's website on the Bridge Alliance website.
- **Suggest** articles to highlight in the Weekly Update and on the Bridge Alliance Education Fund's social media accounts, both about the work of the organization and the broad fields of civic engagement and democratic reform. Suggestions should be emailed to us.
- **Share** Bridge Alliance content at least two times a year with the organization's email list, on the organization's website, and with the organization's social media network (for example, a multi-member collective action announcement). These requests will not include funding requests.
- **Reach out** to at least four other Bridge Alliance members each year to compare notes and discuss possible joint work and joint fundraising.
- **Read emails** from Bridge Alliance, and respond as appropriate.
- **Follow on social media** the Bridge Alliance Education Fund's (BAEF) [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) accounts with the organization's accounts.
- **Retweet, share and like** the BAEF's social media content as appropriate.
- **Update** the organization's entry in the Bridge Alliance Member Directory.
- **Attend** at least one BAEF sponsored webinar learning session each year.

By continued membership in the Bridge Alliance, you agree to operate under this agreement.

Member benefits are listed on the next page.

Member Benefits

In addition, the Bridge Alliance offers the following benefits to its members:

Overall

- Bridge Alliance members agree to principles that define *how* we work together, creating a collaborative community.
- Bridge Alliance offers convenings (at no charge to members) that are focused within the democracy field to grow the community of people, organizations, funders, journalists and academics who are aligned.
- Bridge Alliance offers infrastructure support to members and the democracy field as a whole including strategic partnerships, briefing calls and referrals.

Media

- Promotion on our Facebook Page
- Promotion through our Twitter account
- Can send information to both members and supporters by email
- Added exposure by being featured on the Weekly Update
- Added exposure via [The Fulcrum](#)
- Added exposure through blogs posted and featured
- Access to the journalist database
- Promoted to journalists when queried on background (we refer to our members)

Collaboration

- Initiated Outline of Healthy Self-Governance document that includes all members, and is used by foundations, philanthropists, journalists, and other organizations
 - *Note: segment leaders volunteer to keep each segment updated*
- Ready connections to dozens of other democracy revitalization organizations through e-introductions and the Member Directory
- Inherent credibility with organizations beyond the Bridge Alliance
- Eligible to participate in the Bridge Alliance Portfolio of Political Reform and Revitalization, which includes access to funding
- Regular industry updates through the Weekly Update
- Annual meeting organized by the Bridge Alliance
- Skills training for staff via monthly peer learning sessions and consultant learning sessions
- Regular group conference calls/webinars within each sector of work