



AHAWAYET FELLOWSHIP

for Teachers and Writers of Indigenous Traditions

Fellowship: The Ahawayet Fellowship for the Middlebury Bread Loaf School of English was established in April 2017 to provide a fellowship for teachers and writers committed to the study and celebration of the Indigenous traditions of the Northeastern United States. The fellowship honors the one of the great chieftains of the Indigenous people of New England, historically recorded as Squaw Sachem, the 17th century leader of the Massachusetts tribe of the Eastern Algonquian. During her lifetime, the Massachusetts culture thrived in villages from Charlestown to Concord to Marblehead, and then was decimated in a period of only a few years through tribal warfare, plague, and the encroachment of Plymouth Colony and other European settlements. Known respectfully only by her title of "Sachem" or leader, she led her people through a period of extraordinary grief and loss. The fellowship title honors the unnamed Sachem through the name of her daughter, Ahawayet. The Ahawayet Fellowship bears witness to the intertwined history of Indigenous peoples and colonial settlers in New England and the Northeast and affirms the responsibility of their descendants and all Americans to remember and celebrate these vibrant traditions.

Eligibility: To be eligible for the Ahawayet Fellowship, applicants must be engaged in the study and expression of Indigenous traditions. Preference will be given to teachers and writers of Northeastern (Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania) Indigenous traditions, but applications from writers and teachers of Indigenous traditions from any region of the United States are welcome. Applicants must be admitted to the Bread Loaf School of English for the 2026 summer session, and they must submit an application for the Ahawayet Fellowship.

Award: Fellowship recipient will receive up to \$10,000 for the 2026 Bread Loaf summer session, to help cover costs of tuition, room, and board. Applications are due by February 16; award decisions will be made in March.