



Runoko Rashidi Institute (RRI) Adopt-A-Classroom Program Selection Process

RRI Adopt-A-Classroom Program

The Runoko Rashidi Institute (RRI) is committed to ensuring that the Adopt-A-Classroom Program reaches classrooms where students will most benefit from both financial support and African-centered educational engagement. Classroom partners are selected through a thoughtful and values-driven process aligned with RRI's educational mission and the legacy of Dr. Runoko Rashidi.

1. Application Submission

Interested teachers or instructors are invited to submit a brief application that includes:

- Classroom grade level(s) and subject area
- School or educational setting (public, charter, private, community-based, after-school, etc.)
- Number of students served
- A short statement describing:
 - How the classroom aligns with African-centered or global history learning
 - The specific needs of the classroom or students
 - Interest in mentorship and educational engagement opportunities
- Confirmation of willingness to participate in a one-semester partnership

2. Eligibility Criteria

To be considered, applicants must:

- Be a currently active classroom teacher or instructor serving K–12 or equivalent educational settings
- Demonstrate a commitment to student learning, cultural awareness, and educational growth
- Agree to collaborate with RRI on mentorship and educational activities during the semester
- Commit to using program funds to directly benefit students and classroom instruction

3. Review Process

Applications are reviewed by a **small RRI Program Review Committee**, which may include board members, educators, and program advisors. Reviews focus on:

- Alignment with RRI's mission and Dr. Runoko Rashidi's legacy
- Demonstrated classroom need
- Potential impact on students
- Opportunities for meaningful educational engagement and mentorship
- Geographic and grade-level diversity, when possible

4. Selection Priorities

While all eligible applications are carefully considered, priority may be given to classrooms that:

- Serve historically under-resourced or marginalized student populations
- Integrate African, African Diaspora, or Global African History into their curriculum
- Demonstrate strong interest in mentorship, guest speakers, and project-based learning
- Show a clear plan for how financial support will be used to enhance student learning

5. Notification and Agreement

Selected teachers or instructors are notified via email and provided with:

- A program overview and timeline
- A brief participation agreement outlining expectations
- Payment details for the \$500 classroom donation
- An initial planning conversation with RRI representatives

6. Program Implementation

Once selected:

- Funds are distributed at the start of the semester
- RRI collaborates with the teacher to plan mentorship and educational engagements
- Ongoing check-ins occur throughout the semester to ensure program goals are being met

7. Program Reflection

At the conclusion of the semester, participating teachers may be asked to:

- Provide a brief written reflection or testimonial
- Share examples of student work or classroom impact
- Offer feedback to help strengthen future program cycles