

SMALL GRANTS

Lynwood Elementary

CSI (Cougar Scholastic Investigations) – Rachel Green, Kim Groce, Sarajane Garzolini, Danielle Otero, Lesley Tyra, Tim Werner

Students will use two donated sand pits (15' x 15' x 2' deep) to do archeological excavations of a variety of artifacts that will be parts of learning activities designed by teachers to meet specific academic standards across the curriculum. Students will use math skills to conduct the dig, analyze and problem-solve the artifacts they find, and delve into the artifacts backgrounds through reading and writing activities.

Young Author – Cathy Feldhake

This project will show the students how authors go about getting their books published. The students will use the five stages of the writing process as they write their own stories for publication. Their final products will be compiled in a hard back book.

Elementary Schools

“The World Around Me” Summer Science Camp for At-Risk Students – Jean Trusedell, Rhonda McCort, Sheila Corbin

The students will be exploring the environment in their neighborhoods and how they fit into that environment. Students will learn how scientists examine the world around them. As novice scientists, the students will begin their journey by examining human beings and by reading a comical view of human development, *Dr. Xargle’s Book of Earthlets* by Jeanne Willis.

Decatur Discovery Academy

Chihuly Intensive – Kathryn Hahn Fowles

Dale Chihuly is a world famous glass artist who has not blown glass in three decades because of physical disabilities. He relies on a team of people to translate his drawings and paintings into beautiful glass sculptures and installations. In this

intensive, students will study Dale Chihuly’s work as well the history and techniques of glass blowing to learn teamwork. The culmination of this study will include the opportunity to work with molten glass at the Indianapolis Art Center.

Comprehensive Water Testing – Jena Hanes, Jamie McClellan

The students will participate in the Hoosier Riverwatch program. They will test river water at various locations throughout the city. By studying the levels of micro organisms and various chemicals in the water, students will become scientific experts as they learn about the effects of human impact on waterways such as the White River.

FIRST Robotics Engineering – Matthew Weimer, Sarah Weimer

Currently a class is being conducted at the DDA through an organization titled, FIRST. This organization is dedicated to catapulting science and engineering in the eyes of students beyond a purely academic pursuit, to a similar status of sports. To accomplish this goal, FIRST designs and sponsors a new competition each year in which students, with aid from community members with a background in engineering, must build a robot to compete.

Fitness, Balance, & Confidence – Rich Dimmack, Matt Weimer

Using unicycles and roller blades, students will learn perseverance and teamwork – two fundamental character traits of the DDA. Team building skills would be practiced as the students work in pairs to support each to maintaining balance. Perseverance occurs as the students continue to work on the roller blades and unicycles twice a week during Flex Fitness class.

Intensive Grant – Rich Dimmack

Students at the DDA who choose to participate in this program would spend three days of their week long intensive attending Readers and Writers Symposium Series at the Madam C.J. Walker Theatre. This program places students in an environment that will inspire creativity while they work with professionals to learn about the process of writing, reading and possible production of their work.

Decatur Central High School

Creating a Vocational Workshop – Suzanne Burl

This is an opportunity for developmentally disadvantaged students to learn hands on clerical skills. The students would take on DCHS clerical projects including, sorting, counting and distributing items, mass mailings, and document shredding. This innovative plan would offer valuable vocational training, eliminate some of the schools outsourcing and establish community partnerships. The program would run through the end of the school year.

“This is Jeopardy!” – Amy Haywood

The goal of encouraging students to become involved in the process of learning is essential to the overall success and foundation of learning. The Classic Jeopardy II Gaming System will be purchased for the science department of DCHS. The Classic Jeopardy game actively involves students and helps relieve test anxiety by “bringing all the sights, sound, and thrills” from one of the most popular TV game shows in history. Students can be broken up into teams or, by using the multiple wireless remote systems, up to 30 students can participate at the same time. Teachers from the various science areas can collaboratively create universal review games that can be saved, shared, and updated.

ARTS IMMERSION GRANTS

Valley Mills Elementary

Music-Reading Program Enhancement– Diane Stebbe

The request is for a 2-octave chromatic set of tone chimes for the classroom as an enhancement to the present music-reading program. Tone chimes are very similar to hand bells. The two main differences are that they are less fragile than hand bells, and that they are less expensive.

West Newton Elementary

Glass Works – Tracey Krell

Every student at WN will learn the history of glass blowing and experience the art medium of glass as they create glass bowls. This proposal serves to enhance students' love of art.

Decatur Middle School

Decatur Intermediate Learning Center

Sound System Enhancement – Norma Gaston

The vocal music (choir) students need a sound system to enhance their performances and rehearsals. The equipment can be used successfully in the classroom as an educational tool for recording rehearsals enabling students to build listening, critical thinking, and analyzing skills.

**Decatur Intermediate Learning Center –
Blue**

Weaving Out of Poverty – Cheryl Helton

Students will feel a sense of accomplishment through the art of weaving as well as the completion of their project. This form of art is a chance for the students who do not excel, in the traditional academics, to shine.

CRITERIA FOR GRANTS

The following elements must be included when submitting a grant request.

1. Congruence with the foundation's mission.
2. Relating to the foundation's stated goals or primary funds.
3. May include fees to bring in outside experts or artists but not to pay salaries or stipends to school personnel.
4. Must be innovative or creative.
5. May include equipment or materials but only if they directly provide the means to achieve the educational objectives stated in the application.
6. Must conform to the minimum and maximum dollar-award guidelines.
7. Must be completed within the semester awarded.
8. Funds must not be available from any other source.



Grant Program
Spring 2007

Providing young people with the best possible education is becoming more and more challenging with each passing school year and the hurdles that students clear each day in the educational setting seem to grow higher. At the same time, students also require valuable life experiences to accompany the foundational learning opportunities provided by the school setting. A partnership of education and the community and business has been created in Decatur Township to enrich our young people's lives. The opportunity to help fund important programs in technology, the arts, scholastic enrichment, professional development and cultural enrichment has been realized through this grant program.

Included in this brochure are the projects funded in the spring of 2007.

We encourage each and every teacher in Decatur Township to apply to the Foundation. You deserve the opportunity to challenge your students with a new learning experience.

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