

Grant Newsletter

Youth Advisory Committee Grants



What is the Youth Advisory Committee?

The Ionia County Community Foundation's Youth Advisory Committee is composed of students representing high schools located in Ionia County. We are committed to addressing and improving problems concerning young people, by funding programs directed toward youth. Membership on the Youth Advisory Committee is open to Belding, Ionia, Lakewood, Portland, and Saranac youth. The Youth Advisory Committee is affiliated with the Ionia County Community Foundation. The members of the Youth Advisory Committee are concerned with the status of the youth in our community. We wish to promote positive youth action by generating youth involvement.

What will be funded?

Programs that benefit Ionia County youth will be funded. A total of \$9,750 is available for

grants. The Youth Advisory Committee conducts a needs assessment every two years to identify funding priorities. Focus groups conducted in fall 2004 by members of the YAC with students attending five Ionia County High Schools identified the following grant priority areas:

- Drug, alcohol, tobacco use
- Teen pregnancy
- Depression/suicide
- Parent education
- Service-learning
- Guest speakers that address youth issues
- Literacy
- Obesity
- Teen driver safety

The YAC is especially interested in youth projects that assist students in bridging the achievement gap. The YAC is using the definition below:

- An achievement gap refers to the observed disparity on a number of educational measures between the

performance of groups of students, especially groups defined by gender, race/ethnicity, ability, and socioeconomic status.

- The achievement gap can be observed on a variety of measures, including standardized test scores, grade point average, dropout rates, and college-enrollment and completion rates. Such standardized tests are ACT, SAT, and MME.

Who is eligible for this grant?

The Ionia County Community Foundation Youth Advisory Committee is offering student groups and local nonprofit organizations (with 501(c)(3) nonprofit status), an opportunity to apply for grants. Grants will be made with income derived from the Ionia County Community Foundation Youth Fund
Deadline: February 8, 2010

<http://www.grfoundation.org/ionia-yac.php>

Service-Learning Mini Grants Available to Teachers and Students in Ionia and Montcalm County

Service learning is a method of teaching, learning and reflecting that combines academic classroom curriculum with meaningful service, frequently youth service, throughout the community. As a teaching methodology, it falls under the philosophy of experiential education. More specifi-

cally, it integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, encourage lifelong civic engagement, and strengthen communities for the common good.

Deadline: Ongoing

Summit online:

http://www.ioniaisd.org/General_Education/Service_Learning/service_learning_resources.php

State Farm –Ionia County only

Learn & Serve-Montcalm County only

GE Foundation Educational Grants

Giving on a national and international basis, with emphasis on China, India, and Mexico to support organizations involved with education, youth development, minorities, and economically disadvantaged people. No grants to individuals (except for employee-related scholarships), or for capital campaigns, endowments, or other special purpose campaigns; no loans; no equipment donations. No support for religious or political organizations and applications are not accepted.

Program Area:

Early Childhood, General Education, Math, Reading, Science/Environmental,

Social Studies, Technology

Recipients:

Public School, Private/Charter School, Higher Education, Other.

Total Amount:

\$88,253,000.00

Contact:

3135 Easton Tpke.,
Fairfield, CT 06828-0001
203-373-3216

gefoundation@ge.com

<http://www.gefoundation.com/>



Herrick Foundation Educational Grants

Giving primarily in MI; giving also in Washington, DC, IN, MS, OH, OK, TN, and WI with emphasis on higher education, including research grants, scholarship programs (made through college and postgraduate educational institutions, not individual scholarships), and capital funding; grants also for church support, youth, health and welfare agencies, hospitals, and libraries. No grants to individuals and no support for international organizations, or for do-

Total Amount:

\$8,295,000.00

Contact:

First National Bldg.,
660 Woodward Ave., Ste. 2290,
Detroit, MI 48226-3506

AT&T Foundation Educational Grants

Giving on a national basis in areas of company operations to support organizations involved with education. Special emphasis is directed toward programs designed to create learning opportunities, promote academic and economic achievement, and address community needs. No grants for capital campaigns, endowment funds, goodwill ads, sports programs or events, or cause-related marketing. No support for religious organizations not of direct benefit to the entire community, or for

political, discriminatory, or disease-specific organizations, or medical clinics and research and no applications are accepted.

Program Areas:

General Education, Math, Reading, Science/Environmental, Social Studies.

Recipients:

Public School, Private/Charter School, Higher Education, Other.

Art Council of Greater Grand Rapids

Mini grants are available to non-profits through a competitive grant application and peer review process administered three times a year. The Arts Council of Greater Grand Rapids administers the Mini grant program for seven counties in West Michigan: **Ionia, Kent, Lake, Mecosta, Montcalm, Newaygo and Osceola.**

Service organizations, arts organizations, parks and recreation organizations, professional associations, public and non-public schools, labor unions, cities, townships and villages are among the groups who may apply, but this list is not all inclusive. You may request up to \$4000 on a matching funds basis. Matching funds are donations of cash, goods, and services to the project. You are encouraged to include cash in your matching funds. The program is competitive and grants are typically less than \$4000. Not all applications are funded.

Requests for Mini grant Funds

Going Green!!

The Ionia County ISD is trying to become more eco-friendly and that means that the grant newsletter is going to start being posted online at www.ioniaisd.org.

We will continue to print the grant newsletter, but we will also be posting the newsletter online. We encourage you to start reading the newsletter

may not exceed one-half of your project costs. For example: If you request \$1500, your project must cost \$3000 or more. You must match your request with \$1500 or more of your own funds.

Your match could be...

- Cash totaling \$1,500 or more
- In kind funds totaling \$1,500 or more
- Any combination of in kind or cash totaling \$1,500 or more

Mini grants may be used for arts and cultural activities including, but not limited to, the following:

- Exhibits, readings, performances, workshops, broadcasts
- Artist residencies, consultancies, design activities (includes computerized work)
- Commissioning of art work, restoration of public works of art
- Festivals, pow wows, conferences, seminars
- Video and film production

and screening

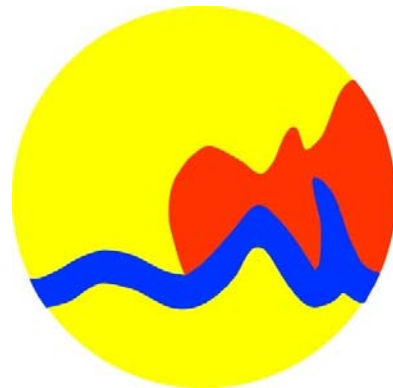
- Publication of limited edition, original works by an independent, non-profit press
- Art activities for students

Contact:

<http://www.artsggr.org/Grants/MinigrantFAQs.html>

Deadline:

February 24, 2010



online, so we can be paper free by the end of the year! . Thank you for your support with our goal of becoming paper free!

Remember to check us out at www.ioniaisd.org under Grants

Helpful Hints to Grant Writing

Following are some tips to keep in mind during the grant-writing process:

1. **Research before beginning!** Do not submit a proposal to any foundation or funding agent without first verifying that your project fits within the founder's guidelines.
2. **Read the grant guidelines!** Many foundations have detailed guidelines available to grant-writers. These guidelines are made available so that proposals submitted to them will meet their funding initiatives. Applications that carefully follow the published guidelines allow them to easily determine if your project is one that matches their interests.
3. **Be concise!** Put yourself in the place of the foundation's proposal reader. They receive and must review hundreds of proposals. The more easily and quickly they can determine if your project meets their objectives, the happier they are going to be.
4. **Clarity is important!** Keep in mind that acronyms and terms specific to your profession may mean nothing - or may mean something different - to the foundation. Write your proposal as if you are communicating with someone who is not an educator and knows nothing about the field.
5. **Proofreading is imperative!** Have someone who was not involved in the writing process proofread your proposal before it is submitted. Typos, poor grammar, and other errors that are easy for a separate set of eyes to recognize are easy to overlook in your own work. Submitting a proposal with such errors, however, gives the impression that you either don't know better or are willing to submit shoddy work.
6. **Collaboration is vital!** Foundations often prefer to fund projects that have the greatest impact for the community and that are non-duplicative in nature.
7. **Realistic budgets are a must!** Research your budget needs carefully before submitting your proposal. Do not ask for more - or less - than you feasibly need to ensure your project's success.
8. **Don't forget the evaluation component!** Your proposal should include methods for evaluating the effectiveness of your project. Evaluation is a necessary component of all projects - without it you will not know if your project is progressing as it should.
9. **Address project sustainability!** Foundations and governmental agencies want to know that, if your project is successful, it will be continued even after