

# The Office of Grant Development Newsletter

## September 2023 Issue

All,

Welcome back! This summer Grant Development hosted workshops and tabled at Leadership Convening and New Hire Orientation. We enjoyed meeting and connecting with so many principals, teachers, and school-based staff and we look forward to working with your school communities in the year ahead. Special shoutout to the winners of our school supplies raffles: W. D. Kelley & H.S. of the Future won the principals' raffle; Nicole Lawton, Frankford H.S., & Sam Figarotta, Bache-Martin, won the new teachers' raffle.

This is our monthly newsletter of small grant opportunities, Donorschoose match offers, and other resources to help schools in their pursuit of additional funding. Formal central office "approval" to apply for any of these grants is not needed, but it is very important that you communicate with your principal about any resources you are hoping to bring into your school. We strongly encourage you to contact us in the Office of Grant Development if you are considering applying for a grant. Our team of experienced grant-writers can help you by discussing strategy or reviewing drafts. You can email us at [grants@philasd.org](mailto:grants@philasd.org), or find more resources on our webpage. <https://www.philasd.org/grants/>

We wish you a successful school year!

Michael Sonkowsky,  
Deputy Chief, Office of Grant Development

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**Dr. Edwards of W. D. Kelley, winner of the School Supplies Raffle at Leadership Convening**

## Applications are Still Being Accepted for School Resource Academy!



### SCHOOL RESOURCE ACADEMY

The Office of Grant Development (OGD) is seeking to build capacity for fund development in schools previously only minimally involved in raising funds and with few engaged community supporters.

- 10 schools raise \$10,000 each for principal priorities
- Sustainable school teams learn skills + tools to raise funds
- Develop wealth networks to potentially assist in yearly school needs

School teams must commit to attending twice monthly workshops (virtually & in-person) running from October 2023-June 2024. Teachers receive PD rate.

**Be a part of our 3rd year cohort of  
School Resource Academy!**  
**Scan the QR Code to Complete an Interest Form**



**Enrollment Deadline: Friday, September 29th**

**If you have any questions or need assistance,  
please contact Laura Lau at [llau@philasd.org](mailto:llau@philasd.org)**

# Grant Opportunities

*NOTE: Funders may change their mission, strategy, and target recipients at any time and some funders have stopped accepting proposals during the pandemic. The OGD has reviewed all of the opportunities to ensure that all are still accepting applications as of August 1st and are appropriate for our audience, however, it is possible that changes were made after our review. Please be sure to carefully review the funder's policies and practices before beginning any application and reach out to OGD with any changes you find.*

## Upcoming Deadlines

### Opportunity: Justin J. Watts Foundation

**Due Date:**

Winter Sports (Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb) - Apply through Sept 15

Spring Sports (Mar, Apr, May) - Apply through Sept 16 through Feb 15

**Eligible Applicants:** Schools serving grades 6-8 *that have not previously received funding.*

**Purpose:** The Justin J. Watt Foundation offers support to middle schools that do not have sufficient funding for after-school and athletic programs. The foundation offers Equipment Grants for after-school programs, such as athletic teams for grade 6 through 8. Examples of eligible items include uniforms with school name or numbers; safety equipment, such as helmets, pads, or mats; balls, bats, or nets; and reasonable storage equipment.

**Estimated Range of Awards:** Awards Vary

**Website:** <http://jjwfoundation.org/request-funds/>

# Grant Opportunities

## Opportunity: The Samull Classroom Grant

**Due Date:** October 1, 2023

**Eligible Applicants:** Elementary classrooms grades K-6 with ten students or more

**Purpose:** The Herb Society of America will select 15 elementary schools/classrooms to receive \$300 to establish an indoor or outdoor herb garden. In addition to plants, the funds may be used for supplies such as soil, plant trays, containers, child or youth sized tools, etc.

**Estimated Range of Awards:** \$300

**Website:** <https://www.herbsociety.org/get-involved/grants-scholarships/>

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## Opportunity: Environmental Education Mini Grants

**Due Date:** November 15, 2023

**Eligible Applicants:** Schools and Home and School Associations with Principal Approval

**Purpose:** The PA Department of Environmental Protection is offering schools mini grants of up to \$5,000 to fund innovative environmental education projects. The goal of environmental education is an environmentally literate citizenry, prepared to make informed decisions and take positive actions to help ensure the state's natural resources are available for the use and enjoyment of future generations. Priority is given to environmental education projects that engage people living, working and/or attending school within Environmental Justice areas in topics related to Climate Change and/or Water.

Eligible costs include travel, resources such as educational materials, supplies, and equipment/technology, and staffing if they do not exceed 50% of grant funds. *Involvement of partners is highly encouraged.*

**Matching Grant:** Yes - *A match of any amount is required (20% is encouraged). It can be cash and/or in-kind.*

**Estimated Range of Awards:** \$5,000

**Website:** *More information can be found [here](#). Assistance from OGD is required in order to apply. Please email [grants@philasd.org](mailto:grants@philasd.org)*

# Grant Opportunities

## **Opportunity: Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Program**

**Due Date:** November 15, 2023

**Eligible Applicants:** Schools, nature centers or youth groups

**Purpose:** The funds are designated for acquiring native plants and seeds for outdoor learning areas that engage children, preschool to high school. Youth participate directly in the planning, planting and caring for native plant gardens.

**Estimated Range of Awards:** \$100-\$500

**Website:** <https://wildones.org/seeds-for-education/>

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## **Opportunity: B'nai B'rith Educators Unit 5290**

**Due Date:** December 1, 2023

**Eligible Applicants:** Teachers of all grade levels

**Purpose:** B'nai B'rith Educators Unit, Charter No. 5290 is funding grants in support of the instructional program at schools. The purpose is to provide students with opportunities and/or materials not available within the confines of school budgets. This can include, but is not inclusive of, trips, bus rentals, admission fees, special projects, theater programs, enrichment activities, guest speakers, etc. All grants should foster the teaching of tolerance, diversity, equity, inclusivity and personal and group positive relations.

**Estimated Range of Awards:** Up to \$500

**Google Form Application:** <https://forms.gle/qSypJMc9NetQ5VYj6>

## Ongoing / Rolling Basis

### Opportunity: Lovett Fund for Elementary Drama

**Due Date:** Rolling basis, being in August of each school year

**Eligible Applicants:** Elementary Educators, 501c3s

**Purpose:** Funding is available for the production of plays and musicals performed by elementary school students (grades 1–5) in a school program.

**Estimated Range of Awards:** \$300

**Website:** <http://lovettfoundation.org/elementaryDramaFund.html>

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### Opportunity: Team First Book Philadelphia

**Due Date:** The 1st of every month

**Eligible Applicants:** community-based mentoring, tutoring, and family literacy programs

**Purpose:** TFBP provides new books to children in need addressing one of the most important factors affecting literacy – access to books. TFBP supplies books to schools, after-school programs and other organizations that already have the tools to teach and use the books for lessons, and then the books go home with the kids so they can share the joy of reading with their family and friends. All books distributed by First Book are brand new and are provided at no cost to the child.

**Estimated Range of Awards:** Varies

**Website:** <https://support.firstbook.org/campaign/team-first-book-philadelphia/c127319>



# Grant Opportunities

## Opportunity: Toshiba America Foundation

**Due Date:** Ongoing

**Eligible Applicants:** Teachers of grades 6-12

**Purpose:** Toshiba America Foundation (TAF) grants fund the projects ideas and materials teachers need to innovate in their Science, technology, engineering and math classrooms. TAF is interested in funding innovative projects designed by teachers or small teams of teachers for use in their own schools and classroom. Applications must be for project based learning.

*They do not consider requests for computer hardware (including computers, laptops, and tablets). Summer programs, after-school projects, and independent study projects are not eligible for funding.*

**Estimated Range of Awards:** Applications for less than \$5,000 are due 12/1, 3/1, 6/1 & 9/1. Applications for grants of more than \$5,000 are due 11/1 and 5/1.

**Website:** <http://www.toshiba.com/taf/612.jsp>

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## Opportunity: The Awesome Foundation

**Due Date:** Ongoing - every other month on the second Tuesday

**Eligible Applicants:** Anyone

**Purpose:** To support anyone working on a project to improve their community in Philadelphia

**Estimated Range of Awards:** \$1000

**Website:** <https://www.awesomefoundation.org/en/chapters/philadelphia>

# Literacy Resources for Teachers

**\*\*Please note that some resources require memberships\*\***

## 1) The Book Bank

<https://readingrecycled.org/the-book-bank-1>



The Philly Book Bank is located inside Martin Luther King High School and helps educators get books and resources for their students. In exchange for annual dues of \$25, educators can get up to 400 books per school year, as well as supplemental classroom supplies, with a combined value of over \$4,000.

## 2) Book Smiles

<https://www.booksmiles.org/>



BookSmiles, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, promotes literacy and the joy of reading by giving books to children throughout New Jersey and Greater Philadelphia. Teachers register for a \$25 yearly subscription to pick up books for their classrooms and students.

## 3) Tree House Book Visits

<https://www.treehousebooks.org/visits-to-the-tree-house-1>



Tree House is a Community Literacy Center headquartered in North Philadelphia on 1430 W. Susquehanna Ave. Tree House is excited to welcome local schools to enjoy a dynamic, customizable field trip experience at their Giving Library. Students participate in fun games, reading exercises, arts and crafts, and more! Plus, every child gets FREE Books to add to their home library.



# **School-Based Staff ONLY: DonorsChoose Match Offers**

**Make sure to check out this month's  
DonorsChoose Match Offers for  
Pennsylvania!**

Click here to view offers: <https://www.donorschoose.org/match-offers>

## **Some Current Highlights Include:**

**1) Tony the Tiger and Kellogg's Frosted Flakes® 2x  
Matching Donations on Middle School Sports Projects**  
<https://help.donorschoose.org/hc/en-us/articles/360032750234>

**2) Projects from Equity Focus Teachers who have Never  
Been Funded Before will Receive a 2x Match on New  
Donations**  
<https://help.donorschoose.org/hc/en-us/articles/17153043389207>

**3) 2x Match from Dial® on Health & Wellness Projects**  
<https://help.donorschoose.org/hc/en-us/articles/17151389842327>

***\*\*Please note that match offers change frequently\*\****

# Additional Resources

## Policy 702

[https://www.philasd.org/schoolboard/wp-content/uploads/sites/892/2019/07/702\\_Gifts-Grants-Donations-and-Student-Fundraising\\_Policy\\_May.pdf](https://www.philasd.org/schoolboard/wp-content/uploads/sites/892/2019/07/702_Gifts-Grants-Donations-and-Student-Fundraising_Policy_May.pdf)

## Policy 702.2

<https://www.philasd.org/schoolboard/wp-content/uploads/sites/892/2018/07/Policy-702.2.pdf>

## Philly Fundamentals (Principals ONLY)

<https://www.givecampus.com/schools/TheFundfortheSchoolDistrictofPhiladelphia>

## DonorsChoose (Teachers & School-facing Staff)

<https://www.donorschoose.org/>

**Contact us for more information.**

**440 N. Broad Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19130**

**Phone: 215-400-4150  
Hours: M-F 8:30 am-4:30 pm**

**Email: [grants@philasd.org](mailto:grants@philasd.org)**

**Website: <https://www.philasd.org/grants/>**