

The Office of Grant Development Newsletter

December 2023 Issue

All,

This is our December edition of our monthly small grants newsletter. 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, or find more resources on our webpage.

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

Additionally, if you are a new teacher to Donorschoose there are several match offers to support your first project (see page 8). Our office is also providing an optional professional development on Donorschoose on the upcoming District-wide PD day on Friday, December 15th. You may sign up in Cornerstone.

Good luck in your pursuit of additional funding for your school community!

Michael Sonkowsky,
Deputy Chief, Office of Grant Development

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Grant Opportunities

NOTE: Funders may change their mission, strategy, and target recipients at any time. The OGD has reviewed all of the opportunities to ensure that all are still accepting applications as of December 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: Kids Gardening - Youth Garden Grant

Due Date: December 15, 2023

Eligible Applicants: schools and youth organizations planning a new garden or expanding an established one

Purpose: To support school and youth educational garden projects that enhance the quality of life for students and their communities

Estimated Range of Awards: 50 programs will receive award packages consisting of a cash prize and a variety of gardening tools and supplies.

Website: <https://kidsgardening.org/grant-opportunities/>

Opportunity: Bonnie Plants 3rd Grade Cabbage Program

Due Date: January 15, 2024

Eligible Applicants: 3rd grade teachers

Purpose: This program offers free cabbages to students in the 3rd grade. The mission is to inspire a love of vegetable gardening in young people, teach kids where their food comes from, and grow our next generation of gardeners. At the end of the season, teachers from each 3rd grade participating class select the student who has grown the “best” cabbage, based on size and appearance. The program then awards a \$1,000 scholarship to one student in each participating state.

Estimated Range of Awards: classroom set of cabbage plants and lessons

Website: <https://cabbageprogram.bonnieplants.com/products/bonnie-3rd-grade-cabbages>

Grant Opportunities

Opportunity: Good Sports Equipment Grants

Due Date: December 22, 2023

Eligible Applicants: athletic directors at schools and athletic programs

Purpose: Good Sports gives all kids the lifelong benefits of sport and physical activity by providing equipment, apparel and footwear to those most in need.

Estimated Range of Awards: Receive equipment donations that meet your school's top needs for a five-year period. The school only pays shipping and handling fees.

Website: <https://www.goodsports.org/school-info/>

Opportunity: Lindback Award for Distinguished Principals & Teachers

Due Date: Principal nominations are due by noon on January 12, 2024. Teacher nominations are due by noon on February 12, 2024.

Eligible Applicants: A committee of past teacher Lindback awardees, the principal, students, and/or parents can nominate teachers and principals.

Purpose: For the 2023-2024 year, the Lindback Foundation will award 60 distinguished teachers and seven principals from The School District of Philadelphia public schools who demonstrate excellence in promoting learning at the highest levels. The teacher award recipients will be chosen based on their activities that improve the intellectual and character development of students. Similarly, the Lindback Distinguished Principal Award recognizes and rewards school principals who have made significant leadership and humanitarian contributions to his/her school community.

Estimated Range of Awards: The ceremony for the Lindback Award for Distinguished Principals ceremony will be held on April 16, 2024 and the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teachers ceremony will be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2024. Both ceremonies will be held at the Philadelphia Film Center.

Website: <https://www.philasd.org/cso/about/lindback-foundation-awards/#1675253918736-686a6997-ec5c>

Grant Opportunities

Opportunity: Justin J. Watts Foundation

Due Date: Spring Sports (Mar, Apr, May) - Apply through February 15, 2024

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/>

Principals ONLY - Grants from Elected Officials

We highly encourage principals to reach out to your state representatives to request funding. If you receive a link to apply to a state grant, please reach out to OGD for assistance. The state application may be difficult to complete and our grant-writers can guide you through the process.

Find your PA Legislator:

<https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/findyourlegislator/index.cfm>

Ongoing / Rolling Basis

Opportunity: Lovett Fund for Elementary Drama

Due Date: Rolling basis, beginning 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>

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 5/1 and 11/1.

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

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.

UPDATE: Book Bank has resumed in-person visits on Wednesdays from 3-6pm or by appointment.

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) Wawa is supporting literacy and math requests from never-before-funded teachers

<https://help.donorschoose.org/hc/en-us/articles/17155656084119>

2) An anonymous donor is matching donations on Pennsylvania projects that are a total of \$600 or less from teachers who have never been funded before

<https://help.donorschoose.org/hc/en-us/articles/17153043389207>

*****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

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

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