

# The Office of Grant Development Newsletter

March 2024 Issue

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All,

This is our March edition of our monthly small grants newsletter. It contains funding opportunities to support STEM, literacy, sports programs, youth-led projects, and other schoolwide initiatives. 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/>

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 March 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: Hershey Heartwarming Young Heros Youth Grants

**Due Date:** March 10, 2024

**Eligible Applicants** Youth changemakers between the ages of 5 and 25 are eligible to apply. *If you are a teacher or leader at a nonprofit who has a group of youth interested in applying, please ask your youth changemakers to select one of their peers to complete the application.*

**Purpose:** In partnership with The Hershey Company and Hershey's Heartwarming Project, YSA will award Hershey Heartwarming Young Heroes Youth Grants for Youth Service Month & Global Youth Service Day 2024 projects. Projects must

- Engage a diverse group of youth volunteers from different social backgrounds,
- Provide opportunities for youth volunteers to create meaningful connections with their peers, caring adults, and community partners, while developing social awareness and relationship skills,
- And take place during Youth Service Month (April 12-May 12, 2024), with some activity on Global Youth Service Day (April 26-28, 2024) strongly encouraged.

**Estimated Range of Awards:** \$250 to \$500 youth grants

**Website:** <https://ysa.org/grants/hershey/>

# Grant Opportunities

## Opportunity: Dollar General Youth Literacy Grants

**Due Date:** *Application opens March 7, 2024*

**Eligible Applicants:** Schools and nonprofit organizations who help students who are below grade level, have learning disabilities, are English Language Learners, or have Individualized Education Plans (IEP) are eligible to apply.

**Purpose:** Grant funding is provided to assist in the following areas: implementing new or expanding existing literacy programs; purchasing new technology or equipment to support literacy initiatives; and purchasing books, materials or software for literacy programs.

**Estimated Range of Awards:** up to \$4,000

**Website:** <https://www.dgliteracy.org/grant-programs/?#youth-literacy-grants>

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## Opportunity: McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation

**Due Date:** *Application closes April 15 OR before they reach 350 application submissions.*

**Eligible Applicants:** K-12 teachers

**Purpose:** The Foundation provides both academic enrichment grants and teacher development grants. The Foundation sponsors proposals that enhance student learning and educational quality, paying particular attention to those that best serve the at-risk and under-funded, including: curriculum that excites and challenges; inquiry projects that promote reflection and growth; and after-school programs that enrich and inspire. The Foundation partners with individuals to expand educational opportunities for America's youth that inspire students by nurturing their curiosity about the world and their place in it.

**Estimated Range of Awards:** Up to \$10,000 for a maximum budget of \$20,000 over 2 years

**Website:** <https://mccartheydressman.org/>

# Grant Opportunities

## Opportunity: Justin J. Watts Foundation Equipment Grants

**Due Date:** April 15, 2024 by 6PM for fall sports starting in August, September, or October 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/>

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## Opportunity: ACS-Hach High School Chemistry Classroom Grant

**Due Date:** June 1, 2024

**Eligible Applicants:** Applicants must be a high school chemistry educator teaching in the U.S.

**Purpose:** Since 2008, over 700 high school chemistry teachers received ACS-Hach High School Chemistry Classroom Grants to support ideas that enhance classroom learning, foster student development, and reveal the wonders of chemistry. Grants may fund laboratory equipment & supplies, instructional materials, professional development, and student-conducted field studies.

**Estimated Range of Awards:** Up to \$1800

**Website:** <https://www.acs.org/funding/grants/acs-hach-high-school-chemistry-classroom-grant.html>

## Ongoing / Rolling Basis

### 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>

### Opportunity: Karma for Cara Community Service Youth MicroGrant Program

**Due Date:** April 1st, July 1st, October 1st, & January 1st

**Eligible Applicants:** Students 18 years of age and under. Must have a teacher/adult advisor for their project.

**Purpose:** Students may apply to complete service projects in their communities throughout the United States.

**Estimated Range of Awards:** between \$250-\$1,000

*Note: They do not fund stipends, facility rentals, or transportation costs.*

**Website:** <https://karmaforcara.org/microgrant-application>

# Grant Opportunities

## Opportunity: Leveling the Playing Field

**Due Date:** Rolling Basis

**Eligible Applicants:** K-12 schools and nonprofits serving economically disadvantaged youth

**Purpose:** Leveling the Playing Field furnishes schools and community organizations with free new and gently-used sports equipment enabling those groups to provide affordable and accessible youth sports activities for their children who otherwise would not have such opportunities.

**Estimated Range of Awards:** Access to their warehouse space to take new and gently-used equipment on a continuous basis

**Website:** <https://www.levelingtheplyingfield.org/apply-for-equipment/>

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## 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>

# Grant Opportunities

## 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>

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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 6/1, 9/1, 12/1, and 3/1. Applications for grants of more than \$5,000 are due 5/1 and 11/1.

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

# 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) Dow is supporting identity-affirming resources projects with a 3x match
- 2) 2x match on projects requesting period products at Equity Focus Schools
- 3) Oak Foundation is supporting projects for K-2 students with disabilities at Equity Focus Schools
- 4) Tony the Tiger and Kellogg's Frosted Flakes® matching donations on middle school sports projects

***\*\*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.**

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**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/>**