

The Office of Grant Development Newsletter

April 2024 Issue

All,

This is our April 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, 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 April 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: McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation

Due Date: Application closes April 15 *OR before they reach 200 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/>

Opportunity: Dollar General Youth Literacy Grants

Due Date: April 25, 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>

Grant Opportunities

Opportunity: Freedom to Read Foundation -- Judith Krug Fund Banned Books Week Event Grants

Due Date: April 30, 2024

Eligible Applicants: Schools, nonprofit organizations, and libraries are encouraged to apply. To be eligible, you must not have been a recipient of an FTRF grant within the past five years.

Purpose: Each year the Freedom to Read Foundation (FTRF) distributes grants to organizations to support activities that raise awareness of intellectual freedom and censorship issues during the annual Banned Books Weeks celebration (September 22-28, 2024). Grants are evaluated based on the following criteria: imagination, schedule/action plan, pr plan, budget, and evaluation.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$1,000

Website: https://www.ftrf.org/page/Krug_BBW

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: July 1st, October 1st, January 1st, & April 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/>

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>

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) National Havoc Robot League (NHRL) is supporting STEM projects from never-before-funded teachers

2) Oak Foundation is supporting projects for K-2 students with disabilities at Equity Focus Schools

3) Tony the Tiger and Kellogg's Frosted Flakes® matching donations on middle school sports projects

4) Center for Disaster Philanthropy matching donations for projects requesting ELL resources and items for students whose families are new to the country

*****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.

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

Email: grants@philasd.org

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