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EDUCATION · ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT · CRIME PREVENTION · FAMILY · FINANCIAL LITERACY

## National Grant Opportunities 2017

### Support for Digitizing Cultural Resources

#### [Council on Library and Information Resources: Digitizing Hidden Special Collections and Archives](#)

Digitizing Hidden Special Collections and Archives, an initiative of the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR), is intended to help digitize and provide access to non-digital collections of rare or unique content in cultural heritage institutions. Through this program, CLIR aims to enhance the emerging global digital research environment in ways that support new kinds of scholarship for the long term and to ensure that the full wealth of resources held by memory institutions becomes integrated with the open Web. Grants, ranging from a minimum of \$50,000 to a maximum of \$250,000 in the case of a single-institution project or \$500,000 for a collaborative project, will be provided to colleges and universities, research centers, museums, libraries, historical societies, cultural associations, etc. To promote broad access, careful preservation, standardization, and usability, approaches to digitization should be coordinated across institutions when feasible. Online initial proposals must be submitted by April 3, 2017; final proposals are due September 20, 2017. Visit the CLIR website to review the program guidelines and application process.

### Creation and Touring of New Dance Works Funded

#### [National Dance Project: Production Grants](#)

The National Dance Project (NDP), administered by the New England Foundation for the Arts, fuels the creation of new dance works and brings the work of the most compelling dance artists of our time to audiences across the nation. NDP's Production Grants provide funding to artists and companies to create new dance works and touring subsidies to the U.S. organizations who bring that work to their communities. The program provides a package of support that includes up to \$45,000 towards the creation of a new work, approximately \$10,000 in general operating support, and up to \$35,000 distributed as NDP Presentation Grants to subsidize up to 50% of the artist fee and travel expenses to U.S. nonprofit organizations who present the new work on tour. Grants are highly competitive and are awarded to 18 to 20 dance projects each year. The upcoming inquiry application deadline is March 1, 2017. Visit the New England Foundation for the Arts website to review the funding criteria and access the application forms.

## **Grants Recognize Urban Economic Growth Initiatives**

### **United States Conference of Mayors: CommunityWINS Grant Program**

The CommunityWINS (Working/Investing in Neighborhood Stabilization) Grant Program, administered by the United States Conference of Mayors (USCM) and funded by Wells Fargo, supports local nonprofits in promoting long-term economic prosperity and quality of life for their community. The awards recognize outstanding mayoral-based initiatives that can assist their city in promoting economic growth and aim to share these best practices to assist other cities in developing local programs in their market. USCM members may nominate up to three programs run by nonprofit organizations that address one of the following categories: Neighborhood Stabilization, Economic Development, and Job Creation. Two awards in each of the following three population categories will be given in 2017: Large Cities (one \$300,000 and one \$75,000 award); Medium Cities (one \$150,000 and one \$50,000 award); and Small Cities (one \$150,000 and one \$50,000 award). All programs must be initiated with the full support of the mayor to be eligible, including those developed and implemented in collaboration with the private sector, community groups, and other partners. The application deadline is March 17, 2017. Visit the USCM website to learn more about the program.

## **Technology Education Projects Addressing the Environment Supported**

### **Captain Planet Foundation: ecoTech Grants**

The Captain Planet Foundation is dedicated to giving the next generation of environmental stewards an active understanding and love for the natural world in which they live. The Foundation is offering ecoTech Grants to schools and nonprofit organizations for the purpose of encouraging educators and students to explore the role technology can play in designing and implementing solutions to some of our most pressing environmental challenges. ecoTech Grants are specifically offered to engage children in inquiry-based, STEM-related projects that leverage technology and use nature-based design to address environmental problems in local communities. Grants of up to \$2,500 may be used for the purchase of materials and other expenses required to implement the project. The application deadline is March 15, 2017. Visit the Captain Planet Foundation's website to learn more about the program.

## **Funds for Literacy Programs in 43 States**

### **Dollar General Literacy Foundation**

The Dollar General Literacy Foundation supports nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and libraries that offer literacy programs in communities served by Dollar General in 43 states. The Foundation provides support through the following grant programs: Adult Literacy Grants support nonprofit organizations that provide direct services to adults in need of literacy assistance. Family Literacy Grants support family literacy service providers that combine parent and youth literacy instruction. Summer Reading Grants help nonprofit organizations and libraries with the implementation or expansion of summer reading programs for students who are below grade level readers or readers with learning disabilities. Online applications for the three programs described above must be submitted by February 23, 2017. In addition, Youth Literacy Grants support schools, public libraries, and nonprofit organizations that work to help students who are below grade level or experiencing difficulty reading. The application deadline for this program is May 18, 2017. Visit the Foundation's website to access guidelines for each grant program.

## **Grants Promote Innovative Programs in Hawaii and Northern California**

### **The Joseph & Vera Long Foundation**

The Joseph & Vera Long Foundation supports nonprofit organizations in Northern California and the state of Hawaii. The

Foundation's grantmaking categories include healthcare, education, and conservation, with a special interest in programs that benefit women, families, and seniors. Preference is given to new, innovative projects that will be completed with the Foundation's contribution. Requests for invitations (RFIs) for grants ranging between \$50,000 and \$200,000 will be accepted from February 6 through February 27, 2017. RFIs for grants ranging between \$10,000 and \$49,000 will be accepted from July 24 through August 14, 2017. (Organizations new to the Foundation are encouraged to apply during this cycle.) After the Foundation staff reviews the RFI forms, selected organizations will be invited to apply for grants. Visit the Foundation's website to learn more about the grant guidelines and application process.

## **Support for Social Justice Organizations in Minnesota**

### **Headwaters Foundation for Justice: New Majority Fund**

The mission of the Headwaters Foundation for Justice is to amplify the power of community to advance equity and justice. The Foundation's New Majority Fund supports organizations working in Minnesota that are led by and for communities of color and that use a community organizing approach to address root causes of injustice. Eligible organizations should have an organized constituency base, a clear analysis of structural causes behind the challenges their community faces, and concrete goals and strategies to build power and change systems. The Fund will award two-year general operating grants, totaling \$20,000. Grantee partners will be invited to nominate two to three leaders, staff members, or board members to participate in the Foundation's first-ever Movement Leadership Program in July 2018. The application deadline for the New Majority Fund is March 1, 2017. Visit the Foundation's website to learn more about the funding criteria and application process.

## **Programs for Jewish Seniors in the Carolinas Funded**

### **BJH Foundation for Senior Services**

The BJH Foundation for Senior Services is dedicated to enhancing the lives of Jewish seniors residing in North Carolina and South Carolina in accordance with Jewish values and beliefs. The Foundation supports new, innovative, community-based programs with an emphasis on special or unmet needs of seniors, particularly in areas where services do not exist or there are underserved seniors. In 2017 there are two priority categories: 1) Health and Wellness Programs, and 2) Socialization Programs. Grants generally range up to \$10,000. (Grants of up to \$50,000 will be considered in the Health and Wellness category.) The application deadline is February 28, 2017. Visit the Foundation's website to review the grant guidelines and download the grant application form.

## **Funds Available for Rural Internet Service**

### **Department of Agriculture**

The Community Connect Grants program offers support to provide broadband Internet service in rural, economically-challenged communities. The application deadline is March 13, 2017.

## **Support for Services Assisting Surrogate Parents**

### **Brookdale Foundation Group: Relatives as Parents Program**

The Brookdale Foundation Group works to advance the fields of geriatrics and gerontology and to improve the lives of senior citizens. The Foundation's Relatives as Parents Program provides support for the creation or expansion of services for grandparents and other relatives who have taken on the responsibility of surrogate parenting due to the absence of the parents. Funded programs must include supportive services to relative caregivers and the children they are raising, with

emphasis on families that are not in the formal foster care system. Programs must also include regular ongoing support, and educational or social groups for relative caregivers and the children in their care. Up to 15 programs will receive a seed grant of \$15,000 (\$10,000 and \$5,000 respectively), contingent on progress made during year one and potential for continuity in the future. Nonprofit organizations from throughout the country are eligible to apply. (State agencies in selected states may also apply.) The application deadline is June 15, 2017. Visit the Brookdale Foundation Group's website to download the guidelines and application forms.

## **Programs for Injured Service Members and Veterans Funded**

### **Infinite Hero Foundation**

The mission of the Infinite Hero Foundation is to combat the most difficult front line issues – mental and physical – facing returning military heroes and their families. The Foundation provides grants of \$25,000 to \$100,000 to nonprofit organizations offering effective programs or treatments at no cost to active duty service members or veterans for service-related mental and physical injuries. Grants must be applied directly to program costs and cannot be used for fundraising or administrative overhead. Letters of interest are due March 31, 2017; invited grant applications must be submitted by June 30, 2017. Visit the Foundation's website to learn more about the grant program.

## **Grants for Projects Addressing Music, Education, or Community Organizing**

### **Sparkplug Foundation**

The Sparkplug Foundation primarily provides grants to start-up nonprofit organizations or new projects of established nonprofits that are addressing the fields of music, education, and community organizing. In the Music category, the Foundation supports emerging professional musicians or music-development programs. In Education and Teaching, the Foundation funds projects that deal with "the whole student" and with learning as a community activity. Through Grassroots Organizing, the Foundation encourages activist strategies for addressing institutional injustices and for building a reasoned, just society. The current focus is on ground-level community organizing at the intersection of utilities/energy infrastructure, housing/community resources, and racial justice. The Foundation also provides limited support for projects in Israel that involve Palestinian communities. Online questionnaires must be completed by April 10, 2017. Letters of intent are due April 17, and the deadline for final applications is May 5, 2017. Visit the Foundation's website to review its mission and funding guidelines as well as the online application instructions.

## **Funds to Implement a Program to Help Low-Income College Students in Six States**

### **Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation: Dash Emergency Grant Program**

Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation (Great Lakes) supports colleges and community-based organizations in Arkansas, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, Ohio, and Wisconsin that address barriers to college success. Great Lakes is looking to partner with four-year colleges in the six target states committed to implementing its Dash Emergency Grant Program that pays unexpected, emergency expenses on behalf of low-income students with the goal of improving graduation rates. Four-year colleges, or foundations associated with those colleges, are eligible to apply for grants of up to \$300,000 for two years based on the institution's number of eligible students and their level of need. Up to 32 colleges will be selected to participate. The application deadline is March 23, 2017. Visit the Great Lakes website to learn more about this program.

## **Grants Promote Progressive Environmental Policies in Maryland**

### **Town Creek Foundation**

The Town Creek Foundation's mission is to provide resources to help catalyze, support, and accelerate progressive changes in environmental policy and practice within the state of Maryland. The Foundation supports nonprofit organizations that address one of the following programs: The Chesapeake Bay program focuses on ensuring that state and local leaders have the support necessary for developing, implementing, and sustaining robust Bay pollution reduction strategies. The Climate Change program works to identify and pursue necessary new laws, policies, and regulations, and to promote strong leadership and bold strategies from office holders, advocates, and citizens. The Sustainability program promotes public dialogue about the systemic challenges that the state faces, and helps leaders better understand and pursue the transformational opportunities facing Maryland in the 21st century. The Foundation reviews letters of inquiry twice each year; the upcoming deadline is April 21, 2017. Guidelines for developing online letters of inquiry are available on the Foundation's website.

## **Support for Programs to Improve the Health of Montanans**

### **Montana Healthcare Foundation**

The Montana Healthcare Foundation is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of all Montanans. The Foundation's 2017 Call for Proposals will provide grants to organizations that focus on one of the following areas: Behavioral Health (Mental Illness and Substance Use Disorders), American Indian Health, and Partnerships for Better Health. Montana-based nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and government agencies are eligible to apply. The Foundation is offering the following two types of grants in 2017: Rapid Response Grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$75,000 support proposals focused on planning, training, and smaller-scale pilot projects. The remaining proposal deadlines for 2017 are June 5 and October 6, 2017. Large Grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$150,000 support more extensive projects. Brief proposals are due April 7, 2017; the deadline for full proposals is August 4, 2017. Visit the Foundation's website to review the application guidelines for both types of grants.

## **Organizations Enhancing the Quality of Life in Texas Funded**

### **Ed Rachal Foundation**

The Ed Rachal Foundation is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for the people of Texas. The Foundation provides grants to nonprofit organizations in a wide range of areas, including education, children and youth, health and social services, environmental issues, arts and culture, and community and civic affairs. Grant applications may be submitted throughout the year and are reviewed quarterly. Visit the Foundation's website to learn more about the grant guidelines and application procedure.

## **Program Supports Local Food**

### **Department of Agriculture**

The Local Food Promotion Program seeks to increase consumption of and access to locally and regionally produced agricultural products, and to develop new market opportunities for farm and ranch operations serving local markets. The application deadline is March 27, 2017.

## **Funds for Minority Health Improvement**

### **Department of Health and Human Services**

The Partnerships to Achieve Health Equity program supports efforts to improve the healthcare of racial and ethnic minorities and disadvantaged populations, and to increase the diversity of the health workforce. The application deadline is March 31, 2017.

### Weyerhaeuser Family Foundation Children's Initiative

✚ The Weyerhaeuser Family Foundation is accepting applications for its Children's Initiative. The grant funds direct service, new programs for children, ages 0 - 14, who have witnessed domestic violence. Nonprofit organizations that use evidence-based strategies, include outcome-based assessment, and address the relationship between the child and parent/primary caregiver may apply. **Stage one applications are due March 1, 2017, invitation-only Stage two applications are due August 1, 2017.**

### Teen Tech Center Program

✚ Best Buy is partnering in 2017 with Clubhouse Network to open new Best Buy Teen Tech Centers in eight cities across the United States. These cities include: Cincinnati, Las Vegas, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Nashville, New Orleans and three other cities to be announced. Best Buy Teen Tech Centers are free afterschool programs that provide a creative and safe learning environment where teens can develop critical skills through hands-on activities and project-based learning. Best Buy will provide a combination of cash and in-kind support to each center during its first year of operation. In addition, grantees can subsequently apply for a community grant from Best Buy of up to \$10,000 each year to support its center. **Applications are due by March 10, 2017.**

### Signature Employment Grants Program

✚ The Kessler Foundation seeks to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities through pilot initiatives, demonstration projects and social ventures that lead to the generation of new ideas focused on addressing and solving the high unemployment and underemployment of individuals with disabilities. The foundation has specific interest in serving Americans with disabilities that live in rural states and other areas with more limited service delivery. Preference will be given to proposals that foster collaborations among different community agencies, local government and business to promote employment for people with disabilities. Grants of up to \$500,000 over two years will be awarded. **Applications are due by March 17, 2017.**

### The Two Georgias Initiative

✚ The Healthcare Georgia Foundation is accepting applications to support the statewide establishment in Georgia of rural Community Health Partnerships (CHP) with the vision and capacity to implement Community Health Improvement Plans (CHIP) that achieve measurable and sustainable improvements in rural health equity. They are anticipating making a maximum of 20 grant awards, up to \$70,000 each for a 12 month budget period. **Applications are due on March 31, 2017.**

## **APRIL 2017**

### Adaptive Sports Equipment for People with Spinal Cord Injuries

✚ The Kelly Brush Foundation has established an Adaptive Sports Grant program that will award grants to individuals with paralysis due to a spinal cord injury for the

purchase of adaptive sports equipment for recreation or competition. See the Kelly Brush Foundation website for complete program guidelines and application instructions. **Applications are due by April 1, 2017.**

### Young Scholars Program

✚ The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation is accepting applications from 7th grade students with financial need for its annual Young Scholars Program. From 8th grade through their senior year of high school, Young Scholars receive a personal academic and college counselor, funding for academic and enrichment programs in the summer and during the school year, internship and study-abroad opportunities and educational resources, including books and technology. Many Young Scholars have subsequently been awarded college scholarships of up to \$50,000 per year for four years. A maximum of 70 students will be selected to begin the Young Scholars Program when they start 8th grade in September 2017. **Applications are due by April 5, 2017.**

### Breakfast for Healthy Kids and Game on Grants programs

✚ Action for Healthy Kids combats childhood obesity, undernourishment and physical inactivity by helping schools become healthier places where kids can lead healthier lives. The organization is accepting applications for its Breakfast for Healthy Kids and Game on Grants programs. Up to 550 schools will receive School Breakfast grant awards, ranging from \$500 to \$3,000, to support increased breakfast participation. In addition, up to 500 schools will be awarded grants, ranging from \$500 - \$1,000, for physical activity and nutrition initiatives. **Applications are due by April 7, 2017.**

### Lead2Feed Challenge

✚ The Lead2Feed Challenge is the contest component of the Lead2Feed Student Leadership Program. Teachers/Advisor can enter a student team completed service learning project(s) once they have finished the 10-Lesson or 6-Lesson track. Projects are judged each April and teams can win up to \$20,000 for their charity and up to \$10,000 in tech products for their schools or youth club. **Applications are due April 9, 2017.**

### Challenge America Grant Program

✚ The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is accepting applications for its Challenge America Grant Program. Grants for guest artist, cultural tourism, or professionally directed public arts projects must provide opportunities to experience the arts to individuals limited by geography, ethnicity, economics or disability. The NEA encourages partnerships for the grant program and awards grants of \$10,000 that require a \$10,000 match. **Applications are due April 13, 2017.**

### Domestic Violence Shelter Grant Program

✚ The Mary Kay Foundation awards grants to organizations that operate emergency shelters for victims of domestic violence. These funds may be used for the operating budgets. The foundation will award a grant to at least one domestic violence shelter in every state. It anticipates awarding approximately 150 grants of up to \$20,000 each this year. **Applications are due by April 30, 2017.**