

Grant Opportunities

North Country Library System - 22072 County Route 190 - P.O. Box 99 - Watertown, NY 13601 - www.nclsweb.org



November/
December
2009



Northern New York
Community Foundation, Inc.



Since 1929, the Northern New York Community Foundation (NNYCF) has been helping make good things happen in northern New York and in the libraries within our communities. NNYCF's generosity and commitment to improve our communities' way of life has led to the funding of many projects for the North Country Library System and our member libraries such as:

- "Matching-funds" to aid libraries in the purchase of computers under the Gates Grant
- Support for the renovation and reconstruction projects at the North Country Library System, Flower Memorial Library, and the Reading Room Association of Gouverneur
- Rehabilitation of the Depauville Free Library after their tragic fire

Local Foundations...finding funding in your communities!

The Northern New York Community Foundation (NNYCF) accepts grant requests to support the work of non-profit tax exempt organizations in or serving Jefferson and/or Lewis Counties. (Non-profit organizations serving the Gouverneur area may submit requests for grants from the A. Eleanor Jackson Fund).

The Foundation encourages proposals for programs that are responsive to changing community needs in the areas of health, human services, education and cultural affairs. Grants are made only for capital items and for seed money for new agencies, or new projects by established agencies. The Foundation does not fund general operational costs or pay off deficits.

If you wish to submit a grant proposal, you must first contact the Foundation by letter, phone or email to provide a brief summary of your program and needs and to request grant application guidelines. After an initial discussion with the director of NNYCF, libraries would then submit a written application.

For more information, please visit <http://www.nnycf.org/grantguidelines.asp>



Have you tried to find funding in your community?
Contact local foundations today!
(More local foundations can be found on the back page)





Grants & Awards

The new “key” to library funding



How much good could you do?

My friends,

Yes, I am giving away two million dollars. The first million has already benefited thousands of people in 2008 and now I am looking for more “Heroes.” If you want to help your community, please send me your idea and let me know how much you need, up to \$25,000. Show the world how much of a difference one person can make.

All you need is a dream.

I can make it come true.

These Librarians are “Heroes” - Wouldn't you like to join them?

Read their stories at:
<http://www.jennysheroes.com/>



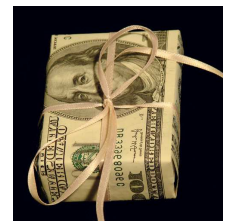
Jenny Jones Community Grant Program

Talk show host and philanthropist Jenny Jones has announced that she will donate an additional \$1 million to continue her successful Jenny's Heroes (<http://www.jennysheroes.com/>) community grant program. The Jenny's Heroes program awards grants to individuals who submit the best ideas for tangible, lasting community projects. Jenny's Heroes provides grants of up to \$25,000 each to fund projects that promise long-term community benefits. Through the fifty grant recipients so far, funds have been used to provide items and services such as library books, school computers, and coats for children in domestic violence shelters. The program's focus is primarily on smaller communities where fundraising can be difficult. For more information on Jenny's Heroes and grant guidelines, visit the program's Web site. RFP Link: <http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15016232/jennysheroes>

Deadline: Ongoing



*Capital Campaigns...
securing the funds for your future!*



Kresge Foundation Capital Challenge Grants

The Kresge Foundation's mission is to strengthen organizations that advance the well-being of humanity. Eligible and past applicants include libraries. The Capital Challenge Grant Program is designed to support an organization's immediate capital needs and to build its capacity to raise private support for the future. An organization applies to the Foundation after it has recruited campaign volunteers, secured leadership gifts, and developed firm project costs. A Kresge grant is awarded on a challenge basis. It is an “all or nothing” challenge and is usually one-third to one-fifth of the amount an organization has to raise to complete its campaign goal. <http://www.kresge.org/content/displaycontent.aspx?CID=98>

Deadline: Ongoing



Is your library in need of books or the funding to purchase books?



Distribution to Underserved Communities Library Program

The Distribution to Underserved Communities Library Program (DUC) distributes books on contemporary art and culture free of charge to rural libraries nationwide. The program aims to actively further a more egalitarian access to contemporary art, and is committed to fostering partnerships between publishers, non-profit organizations, librarians and readers to enrich and diversify library collections. The program offers well over 490 titles by more than 90 different publishers. The program reaches readers in all 50 states and has placed over 200,000 free books in public libraries, schools, and alternative pedagogical venues. For more info and how to order these free books visit: <http://www.ducprogram.org/orderform.php>

"We the People" Bookshelf Grant from NEH and ALA

The We the People Bookshelf, a collection of classic books for young readers, is a project of the National Endowment for the Humanities' (NEH) We the People program, in cooperation with the American Library Association (ALA) Public Programs Office.

The theme for the 2009-2010 Bookshelf is "A More Perfect Union". A total of 4,000 public and school (K-12) libraries will be selected to receive the "A More Perfect Union" Bookshelf, a set of classic hardcover books for young readers, all related to the theme. The set includes sixteen books in English appropriate for reading levels from kindergarten through twelfth grade. Applicants may choose to receive some of these books in Spanish translation. Three bonus selections will appeal to audiences of all ages. Libraries will also receive supplementary materials for programming, including bookplates, bookmarks, and posters. Awards will be announced in April 2010.

The "A More Perfect Union" Bookshelf grants are part of the NEH's We the People initiative, which aims to encourage and strengthen the teaching, study, and understanding of American history and culture through libraries, schools, colleges, universities, and cultural institutions.

Public and school (K-12) libraries are invited to apply online now at <http://publicprograms.ala.org/bookshelf>.

Deadline: January 29, 2010

Libri Foundation Grants for Children's Books

The Libri Foundation is a nationwide non-profit organization which donates new, quality, hardcover children's books to small, rural public libraries in the United States through its BOOKS FOR CHILDREN program. The Foundation awards grants three times a year.

The library director/library manager of each library participating in the BOOKS FOR CHILDREN program selects the books her library will receive from a booklist provided by the Foundation. The 700-plus fiction and nonfiction titles on the booklist have been judged as outstanding or highly recommended by recognized authorities in the library and education fields and have been published in the last 3 years or are classics. The guidelines and application can be found here: <http://www.librifoundation.org/apps.html>.

The Foundation will match any amount of money raised by your local sponsors from \$50 to \$350 on a 2-to-1 ratio. Thus, your library could receive up to \$1,050 worth of new children's books (about 70 books). Local sponsors have five months (or longer, if necessary) after their library has been selected as a participant in the BOOKS FOR CHILDREN program to raise the matching funds.

Deadlines: Annually, January 15th, April 15th, and August 15th

Usborne Literacy for a Lifetime Matching Grants

This is a matching grant program for schools and organizations that support literacy, including churches, to buy Usborne books. If your school or organization receives a grant or donation and uses it to purchase Usborne Books, EDC (Educational Development Corporation) will match it by 50% in additional books.

For example, a \$1,000 grant is matched with an additional \$500 and the organization receives \$1,500 in educational Usborne Books for their use.

Literacy for a Lifetime **can be used as often as grants or donations become available**, and there is no cap on the amount matched. The receiving school or organization can select the books, from over 1,800 titles. The books are shipped free (within the US).

For more information, visit <http://www.bookskidslove.com/grantmatching.htm>

Deadline: Ongoing



Local Foundations (continued)

The John Ben Snow Foundation <http://www.johnbensnow.com/jbsf>

The John Ben Snow Foundation provides funding to tax-exempt organizations (501c3) in Central and Northern New York State.

Grants have been made in the past in the following program areas: Arts and Culture, Community Development, Education, Environment, Historic Preservation, and Journalism.

Proposals seeking funds for new or enhanced programs, one-time, short-term grants to sustain a program until funding is stabilized, matching grants used to encourage the participation of other donors, and “last dollars” towards a capital campaign are given preference.

There are no minimum or maximum grant amounts; however, most grants range from \$5,000 to \$15,000. Letters of intent must be submitted and received by January 1st.

Pratt-Northam <http://prattnortham.thrivingdesigns.com/>

Pratt-Northam grants are provided to only not-for-profit organizations located between Boonville and Carthage. Thousands of dollars are given each year to various organizations in order to make the Black River Valley, from Boonville in the South to Carthage in the North, a better and more exciting place to live.

If you wish to apply for a grant from the Pratt-Northam Foundation, you are welcome to contact Tom Yousey at tlyousey@frontiernet.net for a grant application. They have also provided a printable form on the Internet. Merely print the application and send it to the address listed on the top of the form.

The Wal-Mart Foundation <http://walmartstores.com/CommunityGiving/>

The Wal-Mart Foundation offers two possibilities for funding: The State Giving Program and the Community Giving Program. Only organizations with a current 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status are eligible to request funding under either program.

The State Giving Program

- submit an application online
- only eligible to receive one grant within a fiscal year (February 1 – January 31).
- Minimum grant size for this program is \$5,000.

They are no longer accepting applications for the State Giving Program because New York state has exhausted its State Giving Program budget for this fiscal year. Updated program information, as well as the 2010 application submission deadlines, will be posted on their website at the beginning of February 2010. Please check back at that time to review any changes in the program's guidelines or funding priorities.

The Wal-Mart Store and Sam's Club Giving Program

(allows local facilities to support needs within the communities Wal-Mart/Sam's Club does business by providing grants less than \$5,000)

- Submit an application online or obtain one at your local store
- Award stipulations vary for each area store
- Applications can be made at BOTH stores, your local Wal-Mart AND your local Sam's Club. If you apply at Wal-Mart it does not exclude you from applying at Sam's Club.

You can learn more about requesting a Community Grant from your local Wal-Mart or Sam's Club as well as the award limits by speaking with the facility manager at your local Wal-Mart or Sam's Club Stores or contacting the Community Involvement Coordinator at the location closest to you.

If your library has grant information or grant acquisition stories to share in *Grant Opportunities*, please contact Dawn Vincent at NCLS: 782-5540 or dvincent@ncls.org