

Ongoing Grants

Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations (ALTAFF) Major Benefactor Citation

The Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations (ALTAFF), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), awards the Major Benefactor Citation to recognize individuals, families, or corporations that have given them major tangible gifts. The citation comes with a plaque for the library, a plaque for the donor, a library celebration, and a library press release to let the community know that gifts to the library are truly appreciated and make a real difference.

Libraries may apply for the Major Benefactor Citation at any time by visiting the [grant website](#). Requirements include benefits to the library in the form of money, real or personal property, negotiable paper or other tangible contributions, endorsement by the Board of Trustees of the library involved and a fee of \$400 (\$300 for ALTAFF members) to cover all administrative costs and materials.

Deadline: Ongoing

Beyond Words: the Dollar General School Library Relief Fund

Dollar General, in collaboration with the American Library Association (ALA), the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) and the National Education Association (NEA), sponsors a school library disaster relief fund for public school libraries in the states served by Dollar General.

Grants will be awarded to public school libraries that have incurred substantial damage or hardship due to a natural disaster (tornado, earthquake, hurricane, flood, avalanche, mudslide), fire or an act recognized by the federal government as terrorism. Grants for \$5,000 to \$15,000 are to replace or supplement books, media and/or library equipment in the school library setting. The impact can be through direct loss or through an increase in enrollment due to displaced/evacuated students. More information and the grant application are available through the [AASL website](#).

Deadline: Ongoing, applications reviewed monthly

Build-A-Bear Literacy and Education Grants

Build-A-Bear Workshop, Inc. is accepting grant applications as part of its annual giving program. The Build-A-Bear Workshop Bear Hugs Foundation supports charities in the US and Canada through grant programs including Literacy and Education Grants which provide support for children in literacy and education programs such as summer reading programs, early childhood education programs, and literacy programs for children with special needs. Grants are a one-time contribution, and range from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

For 2010, they began accepting literacy and education applications on March 2nd and review them on a rolling basis throughout the year. For more information visit the Build-A-Bear Workshop [website](#).

Deadline: Ongoing, starting March 2010

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 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

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 librarian 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

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 and inner-city libraries, schools and alternative reading centers 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. The DUC is a program of Art Resources Transfer, Inc., a non profit organization founded in 1987, that is committed to documenting and supporting artists' voices and work, and making these voices accessible to the broadest possible audience. For more info and how to order these free books visit: <http://www.ducprogram.org/orderform.php>

Pepsi Refresh Grant Project

In an effort to support those who generate innovative, optimistic ideas, the [Pepsi Refresh Project](#), awarded more than \$20 million in 2010 to move communities forward. The program launched on January 13, 2010 and exceeded expectations by receiving the monthly limit of 1,000 submissions in less than seven days with at least one from each state in the U.S.

Individuals and organizations can apply for grants to benefit a variety of projects and site visitors vote for the best ideas for funding. Pepsi will fund projects that make a difference in six categories: Health, Arts & Culture, Food & Shelter, The Planet, Neighborhoods and Education. Simply submit an idea and get your supporters to vote and vote and vote — the projects with the highest number of votes each month win the grant. Grants are accepted for \$5,000, \$25,000, \$50,000 or \$250,000. Grants projects should be submitted as close to the first of the month as possible.

Deadline: New Grant Cycle Every Month

USDA Funding for Rural Libraries

United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development Housing and Community Facilities Program - Designated Funding for Public Libraries

This American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funding for Rural Libraries is a grant and/or loan opportunity for libraries serving communities of 20,000 and less. The Secretary of Agriculture has designated \$100 million of USDA's Community Facilities funds for public libraries. The stimulus funding will help give rural communities the opportunity to improve their library facilities, enhance educational opportunities, and improve economic conditions in America's rural communities.

Loans and grants are available to public entities such as municipalities, counties, and special-purpose districts, as well as non-profit corporations and tribal governments. Applicants must have the legal authority necessary for construction, operation, and maintenance of the proposed facility. They must also be financially sound and able to organize and manage the facility effectively.

Funds may be used to construct, enlarge, or improve public libraries. This can include costs to acquire land needed for a facility, pay necessary professional fees, and purchase equipment required for a facility's operation. Funds can be used to purchase shelving, furniture, computers, audio-visual equipment, distance learning equipment, and bookmobiles. A loan may be made in combination with other Community Facilities financial assistance such as a grant, applicant contributions, or loans and grants from other sources.

Applications are handled by USDA Rural Development field offices. Rural Development staff will be glad to discuss a community's needs and the services available from USDA. Field staff can provide application materials and current program information, and assist in the preparation of an application. You may also visit their website at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs>.

Interested applicants and lenders may also contact the Housing and Community Programs National Office staff at the following address:
USDA Rural Development, Community Programs Division, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-0700 Phone: (202) 720-1490; Fax: (202) 690-0471

There is also a fact sheet available at: <http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2010/01/USDA.pdf>

The Wish You Well Foundation Literacy Grants

Established in 2002, the [Wish You Well Foundation](#) has the mission of "supporting family literacy in the United States by fostering and promoting the development and expansion of new and existing literacy and educational programs." A link to the short proposal and a list of past funded programs, including public and school libraries, is available on the [literacy grant website](#). The Wish You Well Foundation reviews donation requests with a wide array of funding needs. Most requests range from \$200 to \$10,000. Organizations are reminded to base their requested amount on the program's unique needs for funding.

Deadline: Ongoing