



2016 Competitive Grant Recipients

Sound Production in a Recording Studio submitted by Becky Park from Urbana High School. Through this project, students will learn how to record and mix sounds to create a cohesive sound track. They'll gain work experience in the fields of music and film.

Break Out the Learning submitted by Heidi Bjerke from Jefferson Middle School in Champaign. Students must work collaboratively to solve puzzles and open the locks of a Breakout box. Heidi's project provides an opportunity for students to apply math, science, technology and research skills. Once they are comfortable with how the Breakout boxes work, Heidi's students will create challenges for their fellow classmates.

Fostering Language Development in Multicultural and Multilingual Early Childhood Classrooms submitted by Francinna Wright and Londa Neely from Urbana Early Childhood School. This project fosters storytelling through the use of bilingual books, props, music and other literacy materials.

Advanced Printmaking Master Class submitted by Stacey Gross from Centennial High School in Champaign. Through this project, AP Art students will have the opportunity to work with University of Illinois Art + Design Faculty at the Noble Ink Laboratory. These students will learn a variety of printmaking techniques, including relief printing, mono-printing, etching and letterpress. This partnership could open the door for other teachers to create similar "master classes on a range of topics.

Using the Arts to Enhance Science, Literacy and Engagement in First Grade submitted by Lisa Ferguson and Cara Maurizi from King Elementary in Urbana. Their goal is to enhance science and literacy instruction through the Arts. Their project combines inquiry, active exploration, performance, reading, science experimentation, dance, music and writing.

Retro Literary Arts Magazine submitted by Jena Garber and Melissa Freese from Edison Middle School in Champaign. This grant covers printing costs for a student run publication. Through this project students develop layout and design skills, make editorial decisions and determine publications costs. It encourages students to think creatively as well as critically.

Digitally Hand-Crafted submitted by Jill Lagerstam at Urbana High School. Jill's students will learn how artists are using technology like 3D printing in their work. They will be introduced to

the maker industry and given a choice of products to design. Each student will have a specific amount to spend, and they must design and print within that budget.

Real World 101 submitted by Kristan Maclin and Renayee Westfield from Bottenfield Elementary in Champaign. Real World 101 will expose 5th grade students to a variety of employment choices with varying levels of advancement. They will participate in a Real World Simulation in which they will translate their school performance into real world situations with situations with highs and lows. They will assess and reassess their behavior, academic performance, attendance and work ethic to get job promotions and increase their salary.

Bees, What's all the buzz about? submitted by Ashley Cunningham and Karla Schroeder from Wiley Elementary in Urbana. Through this grant, first graders will follow an exploratory project from farm to table. They will develop important skills such as formulating questions, testing hypotheses, collecting and representing data.

Krannert Field Trip submitted by Kristy Mrozek and Kathryn Vanhooetegem from Franklin Middle School in Champaign. This grant promotes cultural awareness by having all 7th grade students attend a performance of "Step Up Africa" at Krannert Center.

Crazy Traits submitted by Beth Waldhauser and Jacob Ramsey from Urbana Middle School. Through a series of games and activities, students learn that the traits people and animals inherit from their parents are based on chance. They create a Crazy Creature, test it in a game of Adaptation Survivor, and then engineer possible solutions.

Send books home with our students! submitted by Olga Halpern and Karolina Salaiza from International Prep Academy in Champaign. This project expands their classroom library to include more quality, authentic books that are written in Spanish. Students will be responsible for taking books home, reading them, sharing them with their family and returning them to school.

Helping Early Learners Develop Storytelling Skills and Creativity submitted by Heidi Meisner and Nilda Smith from Urbana Early Childhood School. This project is designed to encourage creative thinking with the use of multicultural and open-ended props. As students interact with familiar texts and associated props, they will build pre-writing and literacy skills.

Congratulations to the authors of our winning COMPETITIVE grant proposals!