



2022-23 Competitive Grant Recipients

\$500/ \$1,000/ \$2,000 grants

Frisbee Golf for All submitted by Tim Bicknell Kenwood and Christopher Bazzell Urbana Middle School. 1,200 students will participate in designing a 9-hole frisbee golf course at each school. All students will learn the basics of participating in this life-time sport during their PE classes.

All Fired up with American Raku submitted by Josh Doniek, Centennial and Carol-Lynn Comparetto, Central. This grant will allow Central and Centennial art students to actively participate in the raku firing process of their own created materials. All student ceramics will be fired at Centennial as Central students join in learning the firing process.

Sand Therapy for Elementary students submitted by Daniel Elgin of Thomas Paine Elementary and Julianna Murphy from Dr. Williams. Funds will be used to purchase materials and support sand therapy interventions for mental health, social emotional learning, and maintaining behaviors that improve learning at four Urbana elementary schools.

Farm to Garden to Table submitted by Meghan McGreevy from Edison, Elizabeth Evans, from Franklin, and Hendrick House will be a community partner. Funds will be used to restore and expand the garden beds at Fowler Farm and Franklin, expand the garden at Edison, manage the seed sharing program between schools, and establish cooking programs at both Edison and Franklin with foods produced.

Learning about bike maintenance in a STEAM setting submitted by Joe Meyer at Central High and Molly Hooper at International Prep Academy. Funds will create new shop spaces at Central and IPA to be utilized for teaching maintenance and repair of student bicycles. Students will become exposed to hands on STEAM curriculum that can support increased use of bicycles.

Lighting Thief Project submitted by Krista Ruud, Urbana Middle and Jennifer Heaton, Yankee Ridge. Funds to be used to purchase *The Lightning Thief* books for 350 middle school students to build their literacy skills through this high interest novel. UMS students will also attend The Lightening Thief play (produced by UHS Drama students).

Super sensory speech and social work supports submitted by Alexis Delmar and Heather Terry from Stratton Academy of the Arts. Funds will be used to provide hands on materials; light tables, specialized reading materials, and durable sensory and tactile toys which allow special education students to engage in learning in the school setting.

Cross Curricular materials and in-depth sculpture submitted by Tara Starling Centennial, and Enrika Stulpinaite from Central High. 250 high school art students will learn how to turn their design drawings into a 3D sculpture as they practice sawing and filing metal to make jewelry pieces and small-scale metal sculptures.

Helping everyone learn with decodables submitted by Kari Surratt and Marisha Garcia from Thomas Paine. Funds will be used to build early literacy skills and independent readers through decodable books for struggling 2nd and 3rd graders.

JMS Students Love Reading: Nos étudiants à JMS adorent lire! submitted by Kim Anderson and Laura Furrer from Jefferson Middle. Funds will be used to promote literacy engagement with 50 multi-language learners, by purchasing library books in French to support the new French Heritage program at JMS.

Art Institute of Chicago Field Trip submitted Jill Lagerstam and Roberta Bennett from Urbana High. Funds will partially support 47 students to travel to the Art Institute of Chicago, to explore student-centered strategies that support learners to consider their own sense of self and place in the world.

Dramatic Play Extraordinaire submitted by Katijia Eisele and Josh Hansen from Dr. Howard Elementary. Funds would be used to purchase dramatic play materials for a post office, vet, hair salon, and grocery store so kindergartners can practice self-regulation, conflict resolution, language development, as well as math and literacy skills.

Decodable books for Yankee Ridge submitted by Allison Reif and Kelsey Outlaw from Yankee Ridge Elementary. Funds will be used to purchase whole phonics decodable books for classroom teachers to use during small guided reading groups.

Growing our gardens with compost submitted by Jennifer Jamieson and Lindsay Hewitt from Booker T. Washington Elementary. Funds will be used to purchase a large compost bin to support the BTW garden and the adjacent Douglas Community Garden. Community partner, Sola Gratia Farm staff will be helping students learn and practice how to compost school lunch foods to build healthy plant growth in both gardens.

Learning through the push of a button submitted by Allyssa Harpst and Lexi Vignos from Wiley Elementary. Funds will be used to purchase activated technology to support students with visual and auditory challenges.

Biliteracy at Carrie Busey submitted by Tyler Reifstek and Ana Plazolles from Carrie Busey. Funds for this project will purchase folktale stories to be read by English Language Learners and their families

Pre-K STEAM: Thinking, creating, sharing submitted by Londa Neely and Renee McElwain from Urbana Early Childhood. This grant will fund the purchase of *Be a Maker* books and STEAM manipulatives that teachers will use to guide students through inquiry-based learning activities in STEAM and early literacy.

Changing a mindset through realistic fiction submitted by Joanne Schnelle and Zabrina Comer at Jefferson. Funds will be used to purchase high interest fiction for students struggling with reading engagement.

A book can bring us together submitted by Sequoia Munoz and Kinnerly Croisant from International Prep. Funds will be used to purchase materials to create a collaborative learning space with flexible seating and reading materials for student centered and independent learning activities in their new school.

Exploring Painting submitted by Janice Knight and Rusty Clevenger at Urbana Middle School. Funds will be used to purchase high quality paints and brushes so all UMS art students can learn about the science behind color theory, the math behind color mixing, and the spatial rules in composition.

Digital design and jewelry making submitted by Tara Lash and John Anderson from B.T. Washington Elementary. Funds will be used to purchase materials for jewelry making projects. Students will use a combination of technology and hand-drawn designs to create jewelry. They will work with a combination of laser engravers, 3D printers, and traditional jewelry-making techniques and will plan a jewelry show to showcase their creations.

How does your garden grow? submitted by Bryan Lake and Maggie Byrne from Dr. Williams. Funds will be used to purchase an indoor garden growing space to expand their Innovation and Inquiry Lab supporting 450 students engaged in STEAM and multi-language learning activities.

Moveable Art walls submitted by Shane Rodems and Kameron Phanrana from Central. Funds will be used to build a mobile, modular art gallery to give students the ability to present their work in a professional manner to the school and wider community.

Recipe for Reading submitted by Lisa Stiverson and Amy McCartney from Dr. Williams. Funds requested will provide *Recipe for Reading* materials that will help build early literacy skills for special education and emerging new readers.

SeaPerch Underwater Robotics submitted by Geoffrey Freymuth from International Prep Academy. Funds would be used to purchase three *SeaPerch* kits that includes the parts to build and operate a remotely operated vehicle.

Kindergarten and 5th grade buddies submitted by Steve Keeps-England and Rylee Kastengren from Bottenfield Elementary. Funds will be used to purchase CUMTD bus tokens for a field trip to Parkland College and Staerkel Planetarium with 5th grade and kindergarten class buddies.

Restore U Haven submitted by Amani Carr and Mr. Jack from Urbana Middle School. Funds requested will be used to purchase painting materials, and flexible seating to create a restorative space for students to reset, meditate, take a pause, and/or have restorative conversations with staff.

Becoming Creators submitted by Molly Hopper and Carly Sakowski from International Prep Academy. Funds will be used to purchase STEAM manipulatives for IPA classroom activities

A seat at the science table submitted by Tara Olson and Katherine Jones from Thomas Paine Elementary. Funds would be used to expand flexible seating and STEAM manipulatives to help develop logical thinking, problem solving, motor skills, social development and creativity.

Graphic Novels for the Classroom submitted by Heather Bailey from Jefferson. Funds will be used to purchase high interest graphic novels for a classroom library.

Calming the Classroom for success submitted by Stephanie Bennett from Barkstall Elementary. Funds would be used to purchase materials for creating a safe space for students to step away from instruction and refocus before returning to learning.

Technology student suits submitted by Malik Berry from Franklin Middle School. Funds will be used to purchase technology suit bands for 7th grade science students.

Soundtrap for education submitted by Madison Bertha from Wiley Elementary. Funds will purchase 50 *Soundtrap for Education* subscriptions which provide technology that makes music class accessible to all students.

Flexible Seating submitted by Dawn Beyler from Barkstall Elementary. Funds will be used to purchase flexible seating for a third-grade classroom.

Extending the garden season submitted by Jess Wilson from Gerber School. Funds will support the purchase of a mini green house to be used for extending the growing season in the Gerber gardens.

I Can do it! submitted by Elizabeth Winn from Carrie Busey Elementary. Funds would be used to purchase hands on materials to support early literacy gaps in students due to Covid closure.

Team Building through STEAM projects submitted by Paige Waggoner from Yankee Ridge. Funds will be used to purchase STEAM manipulatives and materials to incorporate science, technology, engineering, and math with hands-on, project-based learning.

We are going to the farm submitted by Jamie Spencer-Tanner from Barkstall Elementary. Funds will be used to support all Barkstall kindergarten classroom visits to Fowler Farm.

Poster making supplies submitted by Felix Cardoso from Urbana Adult Education. Funds will be used to purchase poster making supplies for Urbana Adult Ed's cultural, career oriented, and historical activities.

Books Like Me submitted by Chris Brunson from Franklin STEAM Academy. Funds will purchase age-appropriate novels whose characters are dealing with mental illness including; anxiety, eating disorders, body dysmorphia, and other challenges.

Awareness and Control submitted by Barb Sebens from Urbana Early Childhood. Funds will be used to purchase art supplies to help students express and communicate their feelings.

US graphic history analysis submitted by Thaddaeus Carlson from Central High. Funds will support the purchase a wide range historic graphic novels to give students new opportunities to engage with history.

Coping, calming, and comforting corners submitted by Ellen Schultz from Kenwood. Funds would be used to purchase supports that help k-2nd grade students manage stress, anxiety and stay in the classroom to learn.

Caminando Juntos submitted by Wendaliz Rodriguez Torres from Urbana Middle School. Funds will be used to purchase science and literacy materials to help students with disabilities or academic lags to participate in the curriculum alongside others.

Terrific Textiles submitted by Emily Pawlicki from B. T. Washington Elementary. Funds will be used to purchase materials for 2-5 grade students to learn about textile artforms, such as batik, tie-dye, and embroidery.

Everyone deserves a voice submitted by Caitlin Rexroad from Urbana Middle School. Funds will be used to purchase materials to assist students who have Childhood Apraxia of Speech (AOS)-- a motor speech disorder that makes it hard to speak. These kits assist with teaching children to combine consonants and vowels to form words while controlling for speech motor coordination difficulty.

Dungeons and Dragons: A fantasy approach to writing instruction and STEAM learning submitted by Kyle Snyders from Franklin STEAM Academy. Funds will purchase Dungeons and Dragons materials to promote storytelling and teamwork while building social-emotional skills.

Planting trees submitted by David Finn from Gerber School. Funds will be used to purchase three trees that students research, select and plant on the school campus.

Flexible Seating submitted by Erin Carmichael from Central High. Funds will support the purchase a variety of flexible seating for students.

SLANT structured reading submitted by Katie Carson from Westview. Funds would be used to purchase a comprehensive set of SLANT system decodable readers and instructional materials.

NESSY for reading and spelling submitted by Florence Mathieu from Yankee Ridge. Funds will be used to purchase 4 student licenses for NESSY, a computer program aligned with the Science of Reading.

There's a bug in my room submitted by Phil Dreeste from Kenwood Elementary. Funds would be used to purchase microscopes and live insects for observation and analysis.

STEAM bins submitted by Amanda Daniels from South Side. Funds will be used to purchase a variety of STEAM manipulatives for classroom use.

Leal photo impact in and out submitted by Patricia Leon Quecan from Leal. Funds would be used to purchase photo processing materials for a darkroom to process photos students take at school.

Newcomer Equitable Participation submitted by Nicole Owens from B.T. Washington. Funds will be used to purchase four sets of translation devices so non-English speaking students can fully participate in their classroom, interact with their teacher, and peers.

Jabari Dreams of Freedom submitted by Paul Myers from Dr. Williams Elementary. Funds will be used to purchase tickets and provide transportation for 4th graders to see this play at the Krannert Youth series during Black History Month 2023.

Stempathy at Westview submitted by Lisa Nguyen from Westview. Funds would be used to purchase STEAM materials that will be combined with social emotional lessons that build student engagement and understanding of one another.

Jump rope at Leal submitted by Ladonna Helm from Leal Elementary. Funds will be used to purchase a set of classroom jump ropes so 1st grade students can learn double dutch and be exposed to learning new jumping styles.

I can, you can, we can READ submitted by Julia Fernandez-Clegg from Stratton. Funds will be used to purchase 5 sets of magnetic journals with letter tiles to build early literacy skills with special education students.

I see me submitted by Jessica Chiu from Westview. Funds would be used to purchase self-published stories created by 2nd and 3rd grade students from a wide range of cultural backgrounds.

Middle School Ceramics submitted by Whitney Huber from International Prep Academy. Funds will be used to purchase clay, tools, and glazing materials to increase participation of IPA art students.

Explore cloth of Africa submitted by Grant Thomas from Barkstall Elementary. Funds will be used to purchase traditional cloth that originates from families attending Barkstall from Nigeria and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Students will learn about the cloths as an art form.

Podcasting submitted by Jasmine Henderson from Franklin STEAM. Funds would be used to purchase a class set of 30 microphones to use for class recording podcasts.

Building a Math Center submitted by Katjia Eisele from Dr. Howard. Funds will be used to purchase math learning center materials and games for kindergartners.

Learning with Legos submitted by Jacqueline Hammond from Edison Middle. Funds will be used to purchase 5 sets of Lego creative building sets to support STEAM with multi language learners.