

MARTHA HOLDEN JENNINGS FOUNDATION 2023 ANNUAL REPORT





The mission of the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation is:

*To foster the development of young people
to the maximum possible extent in Ohio's PK-12 public schools;*

*To provide a greater means for accomplishment on the part of Ohio's teachers
by encouraging creativity in teaching and bringing greater recognition
to the teaching profession.*

THE FOUNDATION WELCOMES A NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In October 2023, the Board of Directors of the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation appointed **Dr. Renée T. Willis** as the Foundation's new Executive Director. Dr. Willis succeeds five former executive directors who have served throughout the Foundation's history.

"Dr. Willis is a transformational leader," remarks Anne Juster, MHJF's Board Chair. "Her intelligence, judgment, and vision will significantly improve the quality of K-12 education throughout the state. She is a skilled communicator who will excel as the face and spokesperson of the Foundation."

A Cleveland native and a graduate of Cleveland Public Schools, Dr. Willis earned a Doctorate in Urban Education from Cleveland State University, a Masters in Educational Leadership from Baldwin-Wallace College, and B.S. in Mathematics from Spelman College. She served as the Superintendent of Richmond Heights Local Schools for the past 10 years. Her career in public education began more than 30 years ago as a teacher, and later, as a principal in the Cleveland Heights-University Heights School District. Prior to her work in Richmond Heights, Dr. Willis served in senior leadership roles with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, where her last position was Chief Strategic Implementation Officer.

"Having served as a K-12 public school teacher and administrator, I understand the challenges faced daily by teachers in the classroom, while I also understand the politics and policies that administrators must navigate to make the greatest impact," says Dr. Willis. "As a public school philanthropist, I look forward to assisting with these challenges by awarding funding with optimal and impactful results."

Dr. Willis' expertise will be invaluable as the Foundation continues its work as a thought leader, connector, and avid supporter of deep learning and excellent teaching in Ohio.



AS I STEP INTO THE ROLE OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR of the Foundation, it is with great admiration and respect for the accomplishments of the past year that I write this letter. Although I joined the Foundation in January 2024, it is clear to me that 2023 was a remarkable year of impact and progress.

The Martha Holden Jennings Foundation has a storied history, one that began in 1959 with a vision to enrich and support Ohio's pre-K through 12th grade public schools. For 65 years, this Foundation has remained steadfast in its mission to maximize the potential of students and foster creativity and innovation among our public school teachers. This mission is not just a statement of purpose but a guiding principle that shapes every grant, initiative, and partnership we undertake.

Over the last six and a half decades, the Foundation has generously awarded more than \$170 million in grants. These funds have touched countless lives, supporting transformative educational programs, pioneering teaching methods, and honoring the dedication of educators across the state. The Foundation's commitment to education is unwavering, and its impact profound.

In 2023, the Foundation continued to make significant strides in advancing educational excellence. Through strategic grants and collaborations, we have supported innovative teaching practices, enhanced educational resources, and recognized outstanding educators who inspire and lead. The work done in 2023 has set a high standard and provides a robust foundation for future endeavors.

As I take on the mantle of Executive Director, I am inspired by the legacy of Martha Holden Jennings and the remarkable achievements of this Foundation. I am committed to building on this legacy, ensuring that we continue to support and inspire the educators and students of Ohio. Our focus will remain on driving educational innovation, fostering creativity, and recognizing the outstanding contributions of our teachers.

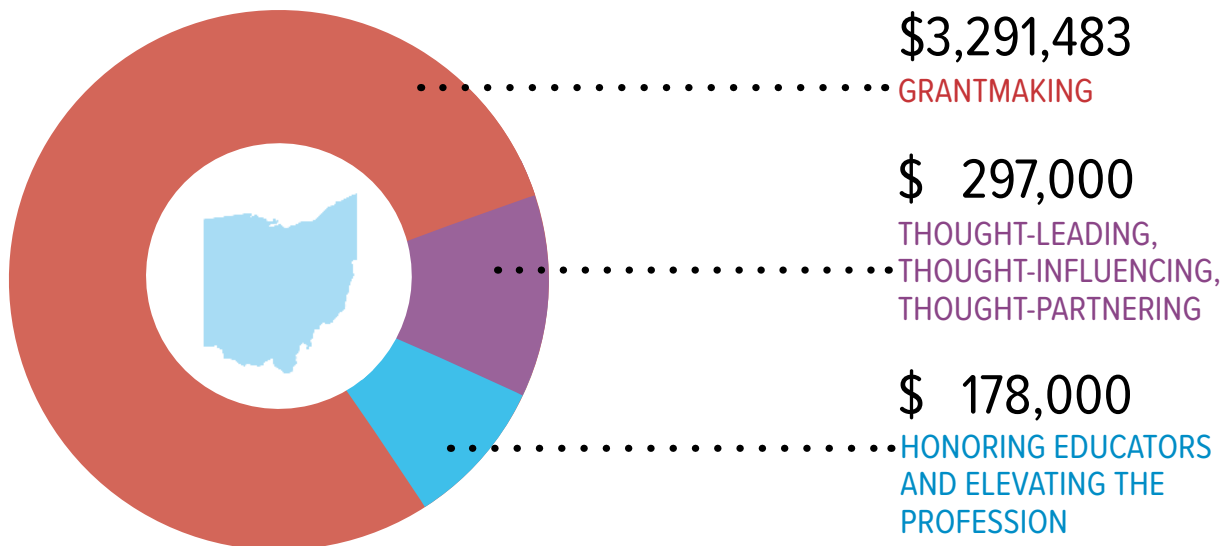
Looking ahead, I am filled with optimism and enthusiasm for the future of the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation. Together, with the dedication of our board, staff, and partners, we will continue to champion excellence in education and create lasting, positive change for the students and educators of Ohio.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to our mission. I look forward to leading this esteemed Foundation and working with all of you to continue the impactful work that has defined the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation for 65 years.

With gratitude and anticipation,

2023 TOTAL IMPACT OF FOUNDATION STRATEGIES

\$3,766,483





GRANTMAKING

The Foundation is committed to supporting teachers and students in Ohio's PK-12 public schools by investing in projects designed to advance **Excellent Teaching** and **Deep Learning** through Responsive Grants and Grants-to-Educators. Applications are reviewed six times a year and are evaluated on the quality of teaching and/or the depth of learning the experience has for teachers and students. **Apply for a grant at www.mhjf.org.**

Responsive Grants

These grants are available to any public school district, non-religious private school working with public schools, or tax-exempt organization that assists elementary and secondary schools in Ohio. Pages 4-9 highlight examples of exceptional projects taking place in schools throughout the state.

Rise-Up: Northeast Ohio Lincoln West High School Cleveland Metropolitan Schools

Rise-Up: Northeast Ohio builds capacity for rigorous, high-quality science experiences for students in urban districts, resulting in greater equity within science education. "You've heard of the 'glass ceiling'; in science, there's a 'glass floor,'" explains Rise-Up Co-Founder Dr. Marissa Scavuzzo. "Unless you come from a wealthier background, it's extremely hard to break into a science career. That leads to the field losing out on a whole group of diverse people." Rise-Up's *Life as a Scientist* program pairs professional scientists with students and leads them in immersive, cutting-edge scientific research. Students brainstorm ideas, develop and submit proposals, work in teams to complete projects, present results, and publish findings in a hardbound journal.

Right: Students proudly display their published work—JoyS: The Journal of Young Scientists.





**Center for Arts-Inspired Learning
Northeast Ohio High Schools**

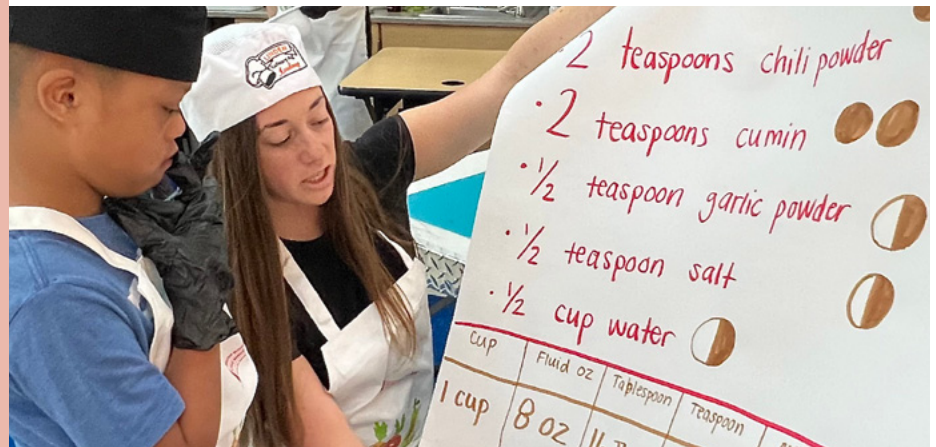
ArtWorks is an intensive summer arts program that gives teens an idea of what it would be like to be a professional artist. Described as “job readiness infused with the arts,” the program hones artistic talents while building skills needed to succeed in any career. Students participate in co-ops centered on specific arts disciplines and learn from professional artists and mentors. They work in teams, meet deadlines, create portfolios, and make presentations. In the process, they build self-confidence and learn to communicate, collaborate, network, and problem-solve.

Left: Students prepare for a “Met Gala” fashion show to showcase what they learned during the six-week program.

**Burroughs Elementary School
Columbus City Schools**

Growing Greatness with STEM is a building-wide science project designed to empower underserved students to cultivate healthy eating. With grant funds, the school is building on the success of classroom teacher Alana Eustace, who tested hydroponic gardening with her multiple disabilities students last year. “I’ve watched my students go through a transformation in their curiosity and in their confidence to ask difficult questions. This was paired with a joy in thinking critically to find the answers to those questions.” With a grant, Burroughs purchased hydroponic tower gardens and a mobile kitchen that can be wheeled from room to room. All teachers have access to a 9-week, project-based STEAM curriculum, too.

Right: Students make tacos using lettuce and tomatoes grown in their classroom.



Responsive Grants

2023 STATEWIDE GRANTMAKING IMPACT 390 TOTAL GRANTS*

- 42 NORTHWEST
- 233 NORTHEAST
- 57 CENTRAL
- 38 SOUTHWEST
- 20 SOUTHEAST



*Responsive Grants and Grants-to-Educators

Marietta College Washington County Elementary Students

Marietta College's Department of Education provided extended learning opportunities for 100 children in grades K-5 during a three-week summer camp. Students participated in deep learning STREAM activities, developed literacy skills, and engaged in science and social studies content under the direction of pre-service and experienced teachers. The academically-focused camp addressed the "summer slide" that often occurs in children from challenging economic backgrounds.

Right: Deep learning and "fun" go hand-in-hand as children learn and play at the College's Camp.





**Footpath Foundation
Cleveland Metropolitan Schools**

Through *Discover Your Path*, 6th graders in five Cleveland schools engage in science, language arts, and SEL standards through an 8-unit curriculum designed by Footpath Foundation. Lessons take place outside and dive deeply into topics teachers are required to teach. “We know that spending time outside has immense benefits for mental, physical, and emotional health, but many kids aren’t getting that,” says Mary Macias, Footpath’s Founder.

Left: Students discover that learning outdoors is both calming and centering and allows them a “breath of fresh air.”



**TomTod Ideas
Lake Elementary School, Uniontown**

Sixth graders at Lake Elementary interviewed community stakeholders to design projects to improve their community. Their ideas had to be “new and better; needed and wanted; and able to become real.” After researching and collaborating with a team, the students created prototypes and presented their designs to community leaders.

Left: Students design a prototype for a community art building for artists to buy, sell or create art, which they presented to members of the community.



**Partnerships for Authentic Learning & Leadership
Central Ohio Schools**

Partnerships for Authentic Learning & Leadership is committed to enhancing professional development for K-12 educators in Central Ohio through initiatives that impact hundreds of teachers and thousands of their students. Through workshops, school/district PD, coaching, and a Summer Institute, the organization has helped Ohio’s “community of innovators” reimagine education, reconnect with the joy of teaching, and empower students to change the world.

Left: More than 400 teachers and administrators attended the 2023 Summer Institute for two inspiring days of creativity and collaboration.

Grants-to-Educators

The Foundation recognizes and encourages outstanding classroom teachers and administrators by providing grants for classroom, grade-level, or school-wide projects.



Bruce Dewey, Math & STEM Teacher Lexington Jr. High School

With a Grant-to-Educators, Bruce Dewey designed a STEM class for 8th-grade students to explore robotics and other projects integrating math, writing, and technology. "This grant has allowed me to dive deeper into STEM topics," says Mr. Dewey. "Teaching outside of a standard, textbook-oriented class has been invigorating. I didn't know a lot about robotics and coding, so this has been a great opportunity for me to learn, too. I tell my students we are going to figure things out together."

2023 GRANTS-TO-EDUCATORS

Katarina Alexander Cleveland Metropolitan Schools • FDR Garden Program

Jennifer Allen Hilliard City Schools • Healing Power of Equine Partnerships

Monique Binkley Akron Public Schools • Engineering and Macromolecules

Heather Boggs Midwest Regional Educational Service Center • Career Highlights Program

Megan Brady Northwest Local Schools • Boosting Biliteracy

Steven Clark Shelby City Schools • Xcarve Laser Attachment

Fran Compton Warren City Schools • Lab Coats and Learners

Barb Currey Cuyahoga Heights Local Schools • Building Spatial Cognition

Bruce Dewey Lexington Local Schools • Experience Based Learning

Zachary Griffith Akron Public Schools • Solar Cells and Their Application; and A Lunar New Year PBL

Rebecca Grunda Fairport Harbor Exempted Village Schools • Our Yellow Star Can Eclipse

Mary Handley Cleveland Metropolitan Schools • Celebrating Culture Capital

Sherli Holbrook Apollo Career Center • Geometry Mini-Golf

Timothy Krier Educational Service Center of Central Ohio • Food for Thought/Access/Justice/Wellness

Stacy Latham Barberton City Schools • Science Around The World

Ann McNeil Triway Local Schools • Micro and Macro Study of the Human Body

Katie Metcalf Akron Public Schools • CapSTEM: Implementing Innovation

Laura Michel Miller City-New Cleveland Local Schools • Stem Exploration on Wheels

Lynn Nelson Lorain City Schools • The Literary Studio

Colleen O'Brien Friends of Breakthrough Schools • Instruments for Music Concert Ensemble

Gabe Oberlin Patrick Henry Local Schools • Robotics Engineering Design

Ericka Perry Perry Local Schools • Live from PPF

Alexis Pietra-Freeman Perry Local Schools • Our Class is a Zoo

David Saluga Shaker Heights City Schools • Garden/Nutrition Experiential Learning

Colleen Schloss Akron Public Schools • Safe Water Act: History & Engineering

Madeline Schnabel Anthony Wayne Local Schools • General's Sensory Room

Melissa Sheets Berne Union Local Schools • Dreaming Big: Our New School

Angela Siefker Elida Local Schools • 4th Grade Mystery Science

Tabatha Stover Hilliard City Schools • Ready, Set, Design: Exploration in STEAM

Rylee Walling Deer Park Community City Schools • Creating Trauma Informed Educators

Jill Weaver Valley View Local Schools • Illumi -Threads

Keven Wise Margaretta Local Schools • One School, One Book

“The Jennings Foundation is such a wonderful resource that we are fortunate to have in Ohio. Science is all about hands-on, but if you don’t have the materials, big projects can’t happen.”

- BARB CURREY, SCIENCE SPECIALIST, CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

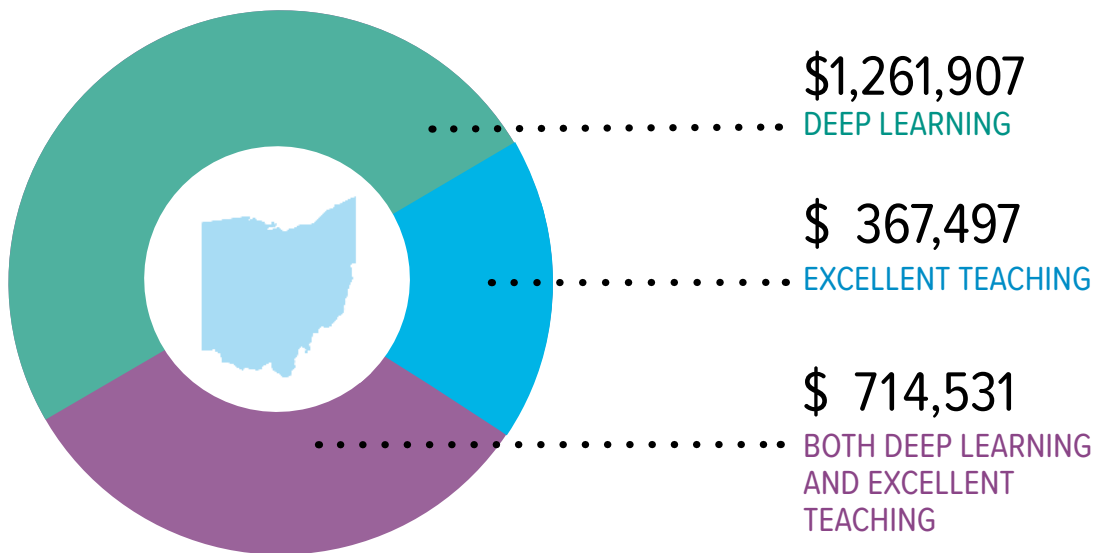


**Laura Michel, Kindergarten Teacher
Miller City - New Cleveland
Local Schools**

With a STEM wagon and various hands-on manipulatives, Laura Michel established a mobile classroom that transports STEM experiences to any class in the K-12 building. High school and middle school students organize the materials and mentor elementary students in STEM-focused activities. All students gain a deeper understanding of math and science concepts taught in the daily curriculum and develop problem-solving skills.

Left: STEM activities teach students to work collaboratively and think critically to solve problems.

2023 GRANTMAKING IMPACT RESPONSIVE GRANTS & GRANTS-TO-EDUCATORS





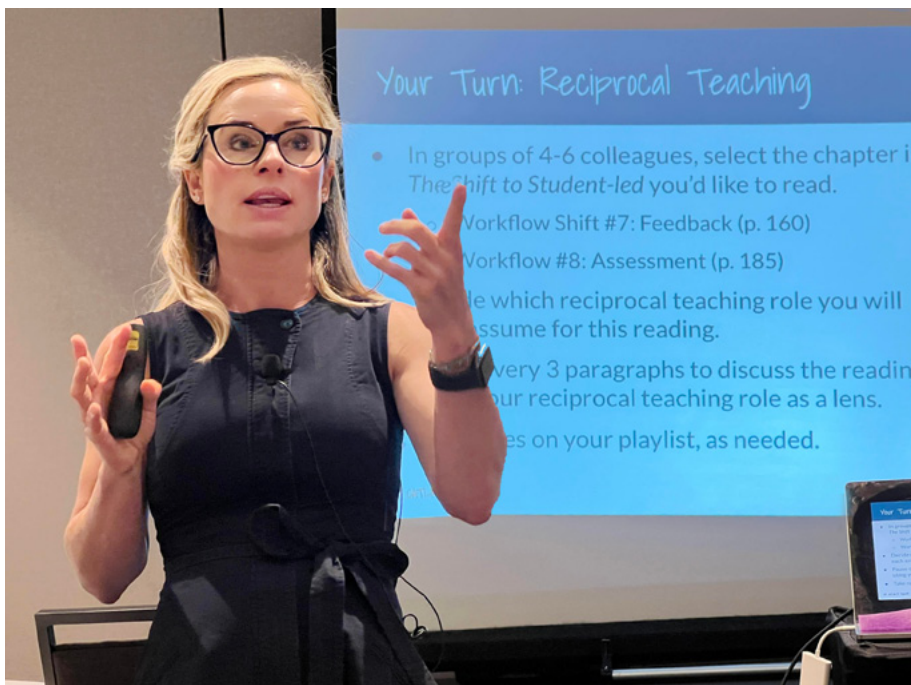
THOUGHT-LEADING, THOUGHT-INFLUENCING, THOUGHT-PARTNERING

The Foundation is a statewide leader in advocating for **Excellent Teaching** and **Deep Learning** in Ohio. Through Thought Partnership work, educational organizations and facilitators with missions that align with those themes have played a key role in joining in that effort. Programs that advance these themes include the **Educators Retreat/Summit**, **Educators Institute**, and the **Mathematics Institutes**. These programs improve teachers' skills, recognize their work, facilitate their passions, and provide forums for discussing educational theories and practices.

Jennings Educators Retreat/Summit

The **Jennings Educators Retreat/Summit** is an annual event designed for Ohio's educational leaders to discuss critical issues in education under the direction of renowned educational thinkers. The event takes place in July and allows participants to step away from daily challenges and dedicate time to focus on core work.

In 2023, Dr. Catlin Tucker facilitated two days of discussions around the theme **"From Burnout to Breakthrough: Engaging Teachers for Deep Learning."** A leading Blended Learning expert, Dr. Tucker helps educators worldwide personalize instruction and shift to sustainable student-centered workflows. She led discussions on ways to empower teachers to be their best and to emphasize aspects of the profession they know and love.



“Discussions are a vehicle for a community of learners to make meaning and construct knowledge together. Discussions shift students from consumers of other peoples’ ideas to producers of their own, positioning them in the role of active agent in the learning environment.”

- DR. CATLIN TUCKER
2023 EDUCATORS RETREAT/SUMMIT FACILITATOR

Jennings Institutes

The **Jennings Educators Institute** is a workshop held over three separate Saturdays in the fall that is aimed to encourage, support, and foster the development of teachers and their work in the classroom. In 2023, educators acquired strategies to cultivate creativity, critical thinking, trauma-informed approaches, and targeted capacities of thinking. Each half-day workshop featured networking, discussion, and a keynote speaker who is well-respected among educators in Ohio. The Institute was held at Otterbein University in Westerville.

Each year, participants in the Jennings Educators Institute may choose to continue their learning by becoming a Jennings Action Research Fellow. These teachers design a research project incorporating ideas presented at the Institute for their classroom. The research is completed with the guidance of a university mentor during the winter months and presented to colleagues in the spring.

2023 JENNINGS ACTION RESEARCH FELLOWS

Heather Woodruff

Intervention Specialist
Early Learning Center
New Albany-Plain Local Schools

Alexandra Rubenstein

Third Grade Teacher
Primary School
New Albany-Plain Local Schools



“What a fabulous experience it was to participate in the Jennings Educator Institute and Jennings Research Project! The inspiration for my research was...‘Can we create learning experiences that include choice, creativity, wonder, and curiosity that foster a true love of learning in our youngest learners? Can we be courageous and do school differently?’ I was inspired to create a space for my students (and teachers) that encompasses the idea of ‘meaningful mess and joyful chaos’ ”

- HEATHER WOODRUFF,
NEW ALBANY-PLAIN LOCAL SCHOOLS



Jennings Mathematics Institutes are sponsored by the Foundation each summer to re-energize math educators. Separate sessions for grades 4-5 and 6-8, are filled with practical strategies teachers can incorporate immediately in their classrooms. Those interested must be nominated by their superintendent.

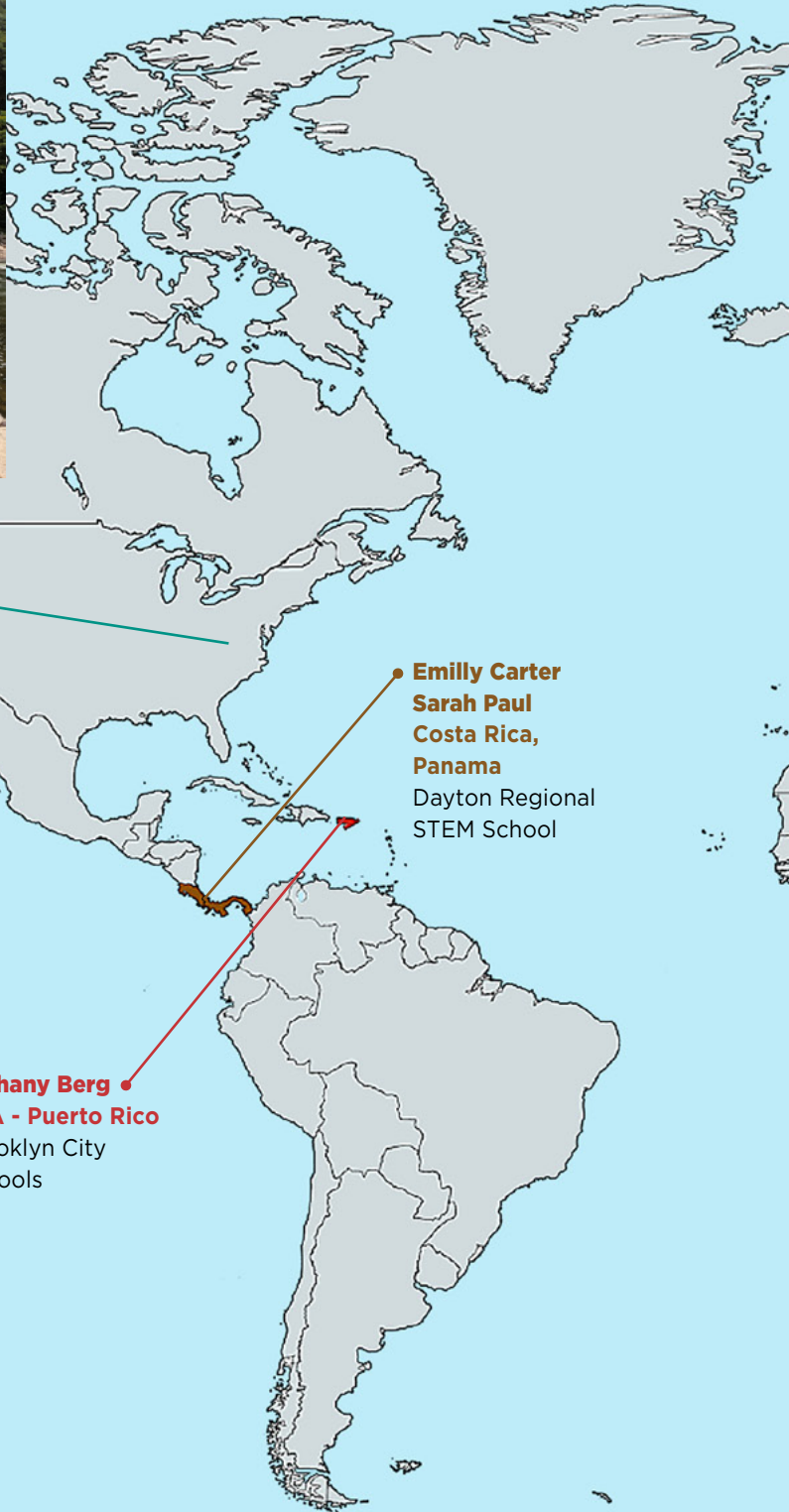
Dr. Jeffrey Wanko, Professor, Department of Teacher Education at Miami University, has led the hands-on sessions since 2008. Teachers gained ideas as to how they can implement rich mathematical tasks in their lessons.

“The Math Institute was a great way to network and learn about math techniques and puzzles to use in the classroom. As a math teacher, the more tools in your toolbox, the better. There is always so much to learn, the world is always changing. ”

- ERIN MALY, 6TH GRADE MATH TEACHER,
GERKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, FRANKLIN CITY SCHOOLS

Jennings-Fund for Teachers

In 2023, the Foundation invested \$80,000 in the **Jennings - Fund for Teachers Program (FFT)**. Teachers apply for fellowships through a partnership between the Foundation and the national Fund for Teachers Program. Fellowships are awarded annually and allow teachers to travel worldwide during the summer to explore subjects they are curious about and to nurture their passions. Teachers design their own experiences, either individually or as a group. After a rigorous selection process, individual teachers receive up to \$5,000 and teams of two or more up to \$10,000 to fund their journeys.



Bridget Royce
Angela Germano
USA - OH, TN, WV
Westlake City
Schools



Akshayaa Venkatakrisnan
USA - CA, ME, MT, NM, NV, NY, OR, PA, TX, UT, WA
Cincinnati Public Schools

Emily Carter
Sarah Paul
Costa Rica, Panama
Dayton Regional STEM School



Bethany Berg
USA - Puerto Rico
Brooklyn City Schools

“Our partnership with Fund for Teachers underscores our commitment to fostering creativity in teaching and elevating the teaching profession. Together we inspire educators to embark on transformative journeys around the globe, returning to their classrooms with renewed passion and dedication to shaping young minds”

- DR. RENÉE WILLIS, JENNINGS FOUNDATION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Malenys Cotto
Italy
Cleveland Metropolitan Schools

Chelsey Booth
Greece
Northmont City Schools

Daneé Pinckney
Benin, Ghana, Togolese Republic
Twinsburg City Schools

Tracy Huggins
Indonesia
Milford Exempted Village Schools

Bridget McCarthy
Thailand
Cleveland Metropolitan Schools

FUND FOR TEACHERS Fellow

AFRIQUE



HONORING EDUCATORS AND ELEVATING THE PROFESSION

The Jennings Foundation is dedicated to honoring educators who are advancing **Excellent Teaching** and **Deep Learning** in Ohio's public schools. Awards are intended to recognize their achievement, advance their professional interests, and inspire others throughout the state by sharing their input and classroom experiences.

Jennings Educator Awards

The Foundation recognizes Ohio public school educators in five award categories. To qualify, candidates must have earned respect from colleagues, demonstrate leadership in their field, and serve as a model of excellence for the teaching profession. Teachers are nominated by their superintendents and superintendents by their board presidents. All receive awards to fund projects in their classrooms or district.

OHIO SUPERINTENDENT
OUTSTANDING
PERFORMANCE AWARD

Donald Jolly II

Warrensville Heights City Schools



“Our story is one of teamwork and growth. It takes a community to educate children. It takes everyone believing that all children deserve a quality education.”

- DONALD JOLLY, II

ARTHUR S. HOLDEN TEACHER AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE EDUCATION



Dana Starvaggi
Akron Public Schools



“I love that I am able to teach chemistry and physics through the lens of nature and the environment. Students will always remember an experience that takes them out of the traditional learning environment.”

- DANA STARVAGGI



GEORGE B. CHAPMAN, JR. TEACHER AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS EDUCATION



Jennifer Theiss
Indian Hill Exempted Village Schools



“The most important concept I can teach students about math is that they have the power to solve problems in a way that works best for them.”

- JENNIFER THEISS

Jennings Educator Awards

MASTER TEACHER AWARD

Widad Mousa

North Olmsted City Schools



“To be an effective educator, you need to build strong relationships. You cannot educate a student without knowing their background, what they’ve been through, and what’s going on in their lives.”

- WIDAD MOUSA, ARABIC AND ELL TEACHER

STEM IS PBL

GEORGE B. MILBOURN TEAM TEACHING AWARD

Jamie Breen, Emily Carter, Stephanie Crosby, Owen Gonzalez, Katherine Kinnard, Pat Murakami, and Sarah Paul

Dayton Regional STEM School



“Working as a team helps to deepen the students’ understanding because they can make connections among all subjects. I think that’s really important.”

- KATHERINE KINNARD



Awards of Excellence expand the Jennings Educator Awards program to celebrate the efforts of additional practitioners in the following five award categories.

OUTSTANDING SUPERINTENDENT AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

- Tom Burton** Princeton City Schools
- Thomas Evans** Cuyahoga Heights Schools
- Kevin Finefrock** Osnaburg Local Schools
- Renée Willis** Richmond Heights Local Schools

MASTER TEACHER AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

- Amanda Fariello** Twinsburg City Schools
- Amber Jones** Princeton City Schools
- Scott Marsh** Mechanicsburg Exempted Village Schools
- Jenny Montgomery** Dayton Regional STEM School
- Carla Pleasant** Warrensville Heights City Schools
- Nicole Rice** Hudson City Schools

SCIENCE TEACHER AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

- Jill Campbell** Dayton Regional STEM School
- Tiffany Cross** Ravenna City Schools
- Brian Frew** Rocky River City Schools
- Erin Pekar** Maple Heights City Schools
- Lindsay Sereika** North Olmsted City Schools
- Jessica York** Twinsburg City Schools

MATH TEACHER AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

- Kendra Fashing** Ravenna City Schools
- Lisa Host** New Philadelphia City Schools
- Stephen Kerney** Lakewood City Schools
- Abigail Teel** Twinsburg City Schools
- Jody Zellers** Rocky River City Schools

TEAM TEACHER AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

- Christine Chandler and Timothy Pira**
Madison Local Schools
- Brenda Rodeheffer and Jeanna Heitkamp**
Marion Local Schools
- Jeremy Rodgers and Talin Petruccio**
New Philadelphia City Schools
- Lisa Crislip and Eric Johannisson**
Ravenna City Schools

Teachers Honor Teachers

The Foundation invites teachers to recognize a colleague they know is doing exceptional work in the classroom. Teachers submit an article and photos to showcase their colleague's work. The Foundation honors their efforts by providing funds for classroom materials to both educators.



Peter Barnes and Mandy McNamara, New Albany Intermediate School

Science teacher Mandy McNamara recognized her colleague Peter Barnes for his commitment to engaging students in learning and inspiring them to preserve our natural world. A leader and mentor in the school's science department, Mr. Barnes encourages staff and students to step into the outdoor classroom as much as possible.

“Mr. Barnes inspires me to find new ways to engage my students in STEM-based education and to learn in the out-of-doors. His passion motivates students and staff to take risks and try new things.”

- MANDY MCNAMARA

2023 HONORED TEACHER / RECOMMENDING TEACHER

- Barb Currey Courtney Dennison** Cuyahoga Heights Local Schools
- Sarah Rough Maggie Rapp Boggess** Columbus City Schools
- Stephanie Bierstedt Andrea Gale** Cleveland Metropolitan Schools
- Stacey Lucas Richard Schmidt** Riverside Local Schools
- Matthew Frischen Mark Vukovic** CTEC of Licking County
- Allison Shardell Samantha Wood** Par Excellence Academy
- Shawn Riley Carol Peterson** Painesville City Schools
- Madeline Schnabel Lauren Radwan** Anthony Wayne Local Schools
- Jean Koth Joshua Smith** Piqua City Schools
- Megan McKarns Joy McKarns** Dayton Public Schools/Northmont City Schools
- Peter Barnes Mandy McNamara** New Albany Plan Local Schools
- Jeff Webb Clare Volz** Worthington City Schools
- Gail Feix & Jennifer Christensen Jessica Lay** Miamisburg City Schools
- Nichole Bruce Ariana Sanders** Wyoming City Schools
- Kelly Moorman Lisa Whiteley** Three Rivers Local Schools
- Jean Metzger Kathy Frazier** Orange City Schools
- William Metcalf Kathleen Metcalf** Akron Public Schools
- Mike Dick Mandie Bentz** Maumee City Schools



GRANTS AND ALLOCATIONS

Grants are available to any public school district, non-religious private school working with public schools, or tax-exempt organization that assists elementary and secondary schools in Ohio.

The Board of Directors reviews grant requests six times a year.

Grant proposals are evaluated on the impact the quality of teaching and/or the depth of learning the experience has for teachers and students. **Excellent Teaching** involves motivating students, leading them in academic discovery, managing the classroom, and connecting concepts with personal experience.

Deep Learning refers to higher-level thinking, complex processing, critical thinking, and problem-solving.

2023 IMPACT PARTNERS
165 TOTAL

17

COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

100

AGENCIES SUPPORTING EDUCATION

48

OHIO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

AN ALPHABETICAL LISTING OF ALL GRANTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 2023

Akron Public Schools Middle School Instructional Framework Year 5	\$ 91,670	Bellevue City Schools Certified Language Practitioners	\$ 25,000
America SCORES Cleveland Literacy, Fitness & Youth Development	\$ 15,000	Benjamin Logan Local Schools, Bellefontaine Continuing to Expand Minds With Collaboration	\$ 12,915
Anthony Wayne Local Schools, Whitehouse Leveraging Instruction Achieves Literacy	\$ 15,000	Writing Across the Curriculum	\$ 14,900
Apollo's Fire: The Cleveland Baroque Orchestra 2023-2024 Apollo's Fire Workshops	\$ 15,000	Berkshire Local Schools, Burton Improving Learning/Speech Production Outcomes	\$ 3,544
Art House Inc. Urban Bright Arts in Education 2023	\$ 10,000	Boston College Trustees, Chestnut Hill NE Ohio Leadership Micro Academy	\$ 25,000
Art Possible Ohio, Columbus Adaptation, Integration, and the Arts	\$ 10,000	Boys Hope Girls Hope of Northeastern Ohio The Academy Program	\$ 20,000
ARTFUL Ohio Inc. This Art is for the Birds	\$ 8,050	Building Bridges to Careers Inc., Marietta Student Agency for Pathway Success	\$ 47,000
Arts Commission of Greater Toledo Inc. Young Artists at Work (YAAW)	\$ 18,000	Case Western Reserve University SEO/YES Program	\$ 25,000
ASM Materials Education Foundation, Materials Park Materials Science Evaluation	\$ 20,000	CATCO-Phoenix, Inc., Columbus In-School Residency Program	\$ 15,000
Athens Meigs Educational Service Center, Chauncey Early Childhood Language and Literacy	\$ 25,852	Center for Arts-Inspired Learning ArtWorks Summer 2023	\$ 15,000
Baldwin Wallace University CMSD Partnership	\$ 30,000	Champion Local Schools, Warren A Pathway to Learning for Every Child	\$ 19,311
Ballet Metropolitan Inc., Columbus Dance-in-Schools	\$ 15,000	Children's Defense Fund-Ohio, Columbus Supporting Whole Child Student Wellness	\$ 50,000
Beech Acres Parenting Center, Cincinnati The Character Effect FY24	\$ 25,000	Cincinnati Shakespeare Company PROJECT38: 2023-2024 School Year	\$ 10,000

AN ALPHABETICAL LISTING OF ALL GRANTS (CONTINUED)

City Year Inc. Whole School, Whole Child (2023-24)	\$ 25,000	Columbus Museum of Art Cultivating Creative & Civic Capacities	\$ 100,000	Granville Exempted Village Schools Students Lead the Way: 2023-24	\$ 40,000
City Music Cleveland Education Residency 2023	\$ 10,000	Columbus Preparatory Academy CPA Tower Garden Project	\$ 6,940	Great Lakes Museum of Science, Environment, and Technology Warrensville Heights School Partnership	\$ 20,000
Cleveland Botanical Garden Sprouting Young Scientists	\$ 14,480	Columbus Symphony Orchestra Inc. 2023 Columbus All City Orchestra	\$ 17,500	Great Lakes Theater Festival Inc. School Residencies 2023-24	\$ 20,000
Cleveland Classical Guitar Society CCGS Education Program in CMSD	\$ 10,000	Community Food Initiatives, Athens Strong Roots: CFI Garden Education	\$ 15,000	Greater Cincinnati Arts & Education Center Primary Instrumental Music Program	\$ 10,000
Cleveland Clinic Foundation Middle School Healthcare Careers Program	\$ 40,000	Cuyahoga Community College Foundation The Orchestra Program FY24	\$ 15,000	GroundWorks DanceTheater Miller South Dance PROject	\$ 10,150
Cleveland Council on World Affairs Bridges to the World Program	\$ 15,000	Cuyahoga County Public Library 123 READ Literacy Program	\$ 15,000	Hancock County Educational Service Center, Findlay Promoting Mastery Learning	\$ 25,000
Cleveland Heights-University Heights City Schools Children's Ink—Roxboro Readers	\$ 4,000	Daily Dose of Reading Early Literacy Program Expansion	\$ 11,136	Hiram College Tree Canopy Solutions to Climate Change	\$ 17,425
Cleveland Institute of Art Pathways to Careers in Art and Design	\$ 20,000	Dobama Theatre Inc. Young Playwrights Program	\$ 15,000	Ideastream 2023 NewsDepth	\$ 20,000
Cleveland Institute of Music 2023-24 CIM Teaching Artist Program	\$ 15,000	Economics Center for Education and Research, Cincinnati Student Enterprise Program (STEP)	\$ 15,000	International Student Services Association Inc. ESL Student Success and Development	\$ 12,944
Cleveland International Film Festival Inc. FilmSlam and FilmSlam Streams 2023	\$ 20,000	Educational Service Center of Central Ohio, Columbus OSU Student Leadership Research Collaborative	\$ 20,000	Invent Now Inc., North Canton 2023 Camp Invention Program	\$ 13,440
Cleveland Jazz Orchestra Expanding, Refining a CJO/CMSD Collaboration	\$ 15,000	Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West, Toledo Aspiring Teacher Internship	\$ 6,000	iSPACE Inc., Cincinnati iSPACE STEM Educator Academy (iSEA)	\$ 15,000
Cleveland Metropolitan Schools Arts Integration in CMSD Elementary Schools	\$ 15,000	Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio First Ring Student Leadership Institute	\$ 20,000	Jennings Arthur S. Holden Teacher Award for Excellence in Science Education Award for a science teacher in honor of the late Arthur S. Holden, Chairman Emeritus of the Jennings Foundation	\$ 8,000
Cleveland Museum of Natural History SLAM Dunk in East Cleveland 2023-24	\$ 20,350	NEO WORKS Continuation	\$ 35,000	Jennings Association Membership Fund Allows the Foundation to become a member in associations that share similar goals	\$ 8,000
Cleveland Play House CARE in 3 CMSD Schools	\$ 30,000	Ohio 8 Coalition: 2023-2024	\$ 20,000	Jennings Awards of Excellence Awards for select science and mathematics teachers, select outstanding classroom teachers, select outstanding teams of teachers, and select outstanding superintendents	\$ 25,000
Cleveland Print Room Inc. In Transformation Self-Portrait Workshops	\$ 10,000	Envision Excellence in STEM Education Artificial Intelligence Harnessing Power	\$ 35,000	Jennings Educators Institute/AR Fellows Otterbein University Professional development institute for teachers and administrators	\$ 42,000
Cleveland Public Theatre Inc. Student Theatre Enrichment Program (STEP)	\$ 12,500	Erase the Space, Columbus Undesign the Redline and Local History	\$ 23,000	Jennings Educators Retreat Annual retreat for educational leaders	\$ 58,000
Cleveland Public Theatre Inc. Student Theatre Enrichment Program (STEP)	\$ 12,500	Facing History and Ourselves Inc. Northeast Ohio Partner Schools Network	\$ 20,000	Jennings Elevate Community of Practice A cohort of Ohio's urban teachers examine teaching through the lens of how students experience learning	\$ 45,000
Cleveland State University Foundation Cleveland Teaching Collaborative	\$ 28,289	Fairview Park City Schools Back to Fairview's Future (Year 3)	\$ 23,200		
First Ring Leadership Academy	\$ 18,945	Footpath Foundation Discover Your Path	\$ 25,000		
Project-Based Learning Bootcamp	\$ 9,400	Friends of Breakthrough Schools Steplab: Teacher Coaching at the Next Level	\$ 18,900		
Youth Participatory Action Research	\$ 28,575	Friends of the Cleveland School of the Arts CSA New Works Program 2023-24	\$ 15,000		
College Now Greater Cleveland Inc. Early Action for the Motivated Middle Higher Education Compact	\$ 16,500 \$ 35,000	Girl Scouts of North East Ohio, Macedonia Journeys—Minoritized Girls in STEM	\$ 10,000		
College of Wooster B-WISER Science Camp for Girls	\$ 12,000	Graham School, Columbus Building up the Community	\$ 20,800		
Columbus City Schools Growing Greatness With STEM	\$ 15,000				
Columbus Council on World Affairs Global Fluency Training	\$ 25,500				
Global Scholars Diploma	\$ 20,000				

AN ALPHABETICAL LISTING OF ALL GRANTS (CONTINUED)



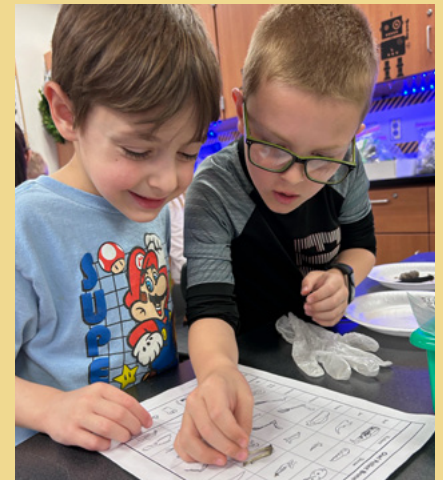
“Math is more than working on problems—it’s helping students understand Why. When working on puzzles, I ask: ‘What do you notice about these puzzles? What do you wonder about the rules to get to the solution?’”

- BROOKE HARE
MATH INSTITUTE PARTICIPANT
NORWAYNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Jennings Fund for Teachers Supports teachers' self-determined professional growth and development in order to enrich their own practice	\$ 80,000	Kulture Kids History, Science, & Arts at Midview Schools	\$ 5,175
Jennings George B. Chapman, Jr. Teacher Award for Excellence in Mathematics Education Award for a mathematics teacher in honor of the late George B. Chapman, Jr., former President/Chair of the Jennings Foundation	\$ 8,000	Lake Erie, Inc. - A Writing Space for Youth Finding Joy in Literacy	\$ 7,940
Jennings George B. Milbourn Award for Excellence in Team Teaching Award for an exceptional team of teachers in honor of George B. Milbourn, former President/Chair of the Jennings Foundation	\$ 9,000	Lake Local Schools, Uniontown What If 101? Lake + TomTod 2023-24	\$ 9,300
Jennings Grants-to-Educators Grants up to \$3,000 awarded to Ohio classroom teachers and administrators	\$ 108,000	Leadership Lake County Inc., Mentor Youth Programs FY 2023	\$ 15,000
Jennings Ieducate Partnership Supports an action research project as part of the ODE's statewide teacher recognition program	\$ 60,000	Learn to Earn, Dayton Civic Engagement in Education	\$ 35,000
Jennings Master Teacher Award Award for an exceptional classroom teacher	\$ 8,000	Learning About Business Inc., Painesville LAB Week 2023	\$ 12,000
Jennings Ohio Superintendent Outstanding Performance Award Award to recognize the efforts of a public school superintendent	\$ 11,000	LifeAct Suicide Prevention Programs	\$ 15,000
Jennings Opportunity Grants Grants up to \$1,000 awarded to schools and educational organizations for innovative projects	\$ 10,000	Loudonville Perrysville Exempted Village Schools STEM and Science with LEGO	\$ 14,458
Jennings Summer Mathematics Institutes Institutes designed to improve the skills of Ohio's mathematics teachers	\$ 49,000	Madison Local Schools Science of Reading Training	\$ 15,000
Jennings Teacher Voice and Professional Practice Teachers honored for exemplary practice convene with state-level leaders to discuss critical topics in education	\$ 15,000	Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage Stop the Hate: Youth Sing Out	\$ 15,000
Jennings Teachers Honoring Teachers Engages teachers in recognizing and honoring their peers' exemplary practice	\$ 49,000	Marietta College Marietta College STREAM Camp	\$ 15,000
Junior Achievement of North Central Ohio, Canton JA Financial Literacy for Ohio	\$ 15,000	Marlington Local Schools, Alliance Depth of Knowledge PLC	\$ 5,000
Kaboom Collective Kaboom in the Classroom - Series 23	\$ 23,500	Marysville Exempted Village Schools Strengthening Disciplinary Literacy	\$ 15,000
Kent State University Foundation Becoming a Brave Teacher	\$ 24,962	MetroHealth Foundation Inc. The MetroHealth SAFE Project	\$ 15,000
Elementary Design for 3D STEM	\$ 15,000	Minds Matter Summer College Immersion Programs	\$ 28,000
The E.D.U.C.A.T.E. Initiative	\$ 25,029	Montessori Development Partnerships Outspoken Literacy: Joyful Learning	\$ 15,000
Visualizing Math via Manipulatives	\$ 14,940	Musical Arts Association Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra Crescendo 2022-2023	\$ 40,000 \$ 15,000
		Musical Theater Project Rebuilding Kids Love Musicals (Part 2)	\$ 10,000
		Muskingum Valley Educational Service Center, Zanesville Science of Reading	\$ 10,500
		New Philadelphia City Schools The Katz Meow	\$ 12,867
		North Point Educational Service Center, Sandusky Building Career Awareness	\$ 32,000
		Growing Personalized Learning	\$ 20,000
		Northern Ohio Youth Orchestra Inc., Oberlin Direct School Outreach	\$ 11,760

Norwayne Local Schools, Creston Making Math Meaningful	\$ 10,611	Shaker Heights City Schools IB Training for Equity and Excellence	\$ 25,000
Ohio Energy Project, Worthington STEM Design Challenge	\$ 13,425	Shaker Lakes Regional Nature Center Experiential Science for CMSD Students	\$ 12,500
Ohio Excels, Columbus Improving Ohio's K-12 Literacy	\$ 30,000	Spice Acres Field Kitchen Inc. Understanding Our Community Food System	\$ 24,082
Ohio Soybean Council Foundation, Worthington ChickQuest: A Life Cycle Journey	\$ 12,879	Swanton Local Schools Put Me in Coach (Take 2)	\$ 15,000
Olentangy Local Schools, Lewis Center Footprint or Blueprint: Design Challenge	\$ 6,000	Tallmadge City Schools Excellence in Service-Learning Supporting Authentic Personalized Learning	\$ 14,500 \$ 15,000
Open Doors Inc. Robotics System Learning Project	\$ 15,000	Teach For America Inc. Refining Ohio Teacher Support	\$ 30,000
Osnaburg Local Schools, East Canton Enhancing STEM Through Mastery	\$ 15,000	Teaching Cleveland Foundation Teaching Cleveland Student Challenge	\$ 16,000
Otterbein University, Westerville NEXT Hub - Year 4	\$ 35,900	Toledo Science Center Engineering for Confidence	\$ 18,629
Partnerships for Authentic Learning and Leadership, Columbus System of Support	\$ 37,500	United Planet, Boston, MA AI Digital Storytelling Virtual Exchange	\$ 12,600
PAST Foundation, Columbus How Green is Your Footprint?	\$ 31,200	University Circle Incorporated Early Learning Initiative 2023 LEAD - Linking Education and Discovery	\$ 25,000 \$ 20,000
Perry Local Schools Energy	\$ 5,885	University of Akron Foundation Third Grade Reading Action Team	\$ 25,000
Philanthropy Ohio, Columbus 2023 Education Initiative	\$ 20,000	VH1 Save The Music Foundation, NY Columbus Music Saves	\$ 40,000
Piqua Arts Council Piqua Arts Council Creative Classrooms	\$ 8,625	Well Community Development Corporation, Akron Akron Hope In-Classroom Tutoring	\$ 4,215
Playhouse Square Foundation Virtual Classroom Connections Workshops	\$ 35,000	Westerville City Schools Digging Deeper Project Extension Well-Being in Schools	\$ 25,450 \$ 9,500
Preschool Promise Inc., Dayton Science of Reading Preschool Pilot	\$ 15,000	Westlake Chinese Culture Association Afterschool Program	\$ 10,322
Progressive Arts Alliance Incorporated SEL through Arts Integration	\$ 35,000	Wooster City Schools Metacognition in Mathematics	\$ 9,960
Putnam County Educational Service Center, Ottawa Mastery Learning - Critical Cohort	\$ 15,977	Young Mens Christian Association Lake County, Painesville Arthur Holden Leadership Institute	\$ 55,000
Rainey Institute El Sistema@Rainey Music Program	\$ 15,000	Youth Opportunities Unlimited Career Internships for CMSD Youth	\$ 45,000
Rise Up: Northeast Ohio Immersive Scientific Learning	\$ 50,700		
Riverside Local Schools, Painesville Unlock Worlds of Wonder with Decodables	\$ 15,000		
Roots of American Music Inc. Blues is the Backbone Music Residencies	\$ 10,000	Total	\$3,786,383
Rural Action Inc., The Plains Renewing our School Community	\$ 11,305	<i>All grantees are in Cuyahoga County unless otherwise noted in their title.</i>	
Science Education Council of Ohio, Cincinnati SECO Ambitious Science	\$ 14,971		

Below: Students in Cleves, Ohio, examine owl pellets in a STEM lab using hands-on materials purchased with funds from the Teachers Honor Teachers program.



“Thank you, again, for selecting ME as a recipient. I am ever so thankful to the Foundation and to Lisa Whitely for the nomination!”

**- KELLY MOORMAN
TEACHERS HONOR TEACHERS RECIPIENT
THREE RIVERS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board met six times in 2023 to review the recommendations of the Distribution Committee to approve grants. They also conducted other Foundation business, including establishing policy and providing direction and accountability for the Foundation's funds.

The Directors have a substantial background of business and educational experience and during their careers have been involved in educational activities at various levels. They volunteer their time as a further sign of their commitment to enhance public school education in Ohio.



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Spice Field Kitchen



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Co-Founder,
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**Dr. Renée Willis and Bridget McCarthy
Cleveland Metropolitan Schools**

In her new role as Executive Director, Dr. Willis has prioritized visiting classrooms, schools, and impact partners to learn how grantees help Ohio’s students and teachers achieve their full potential. She was a recent guest at Mound Elementary in Cleveland, where she visited Bridget McCarthy’s kindergarten classroom. Because of a Grant-to-Educators, Ms. McCarthy’s students are creating an “A to Z Fitness” video that utilizes kinesthetic learning to enhance social, emotional, and academic growth. Ms. McCarthy was inspired to apply for the grant after attending a fitness retreat in Thailand as a Jennings-Fund for Teachers Fellow.

“You can do anything if you have the right people behind you. Find your passion, then think about a lesson, unit, or theme to incorporate into your classroom. You don’t realize the impact your passion can have on your students.”

- BRIDGET MCCARTHY
2023 JENNINGS-FUND FOR TEACHERS FELLOW

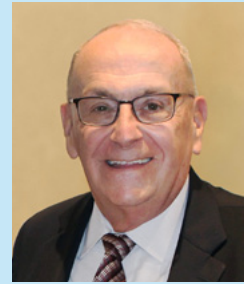
THE DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

The Distribution Committee met six times in 2023 to review Grants-to-Educators applications and make Open Grant recommendations to the Board of Directors. The committee members represent a balance of professional educators and experienced business persons who are dedicated to their responsibilities. Together, they brought keen insight and wisdom to their role as they individually read and weighed the value of 229 requests during the year.



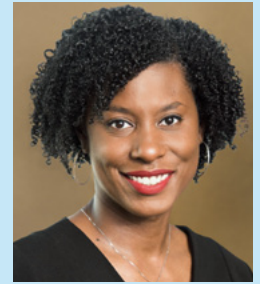
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Owner,
Sugar Pines Farm



Dr. James V. Connell

Retired Director,
Educational Administration
Ursuline College;
Retired Superintendent,
Berea City Schools



**Mrs. Habeebah Rasheed
Grimes, LSPSY**

Chief Executive Officer,
Positive Education
Program



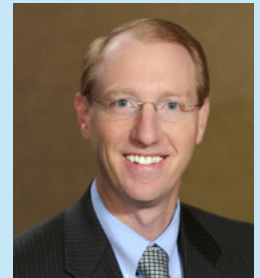
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Dr. Sajit Zachariah

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