

2009 Grantees – Wright Family Foundation

The Wright Family Foundation encourages you to visit the websites of our grantees to learn more about the work they do to provide opportunities for youth in Austin, Texas and Baltimore City, Maryland. The following organizations received a grant in 2009:

A Step Closer Foundation – This Baltimore non-profit corporation is helping children involved in the judicial foster care system. The grant funds provided travel bags for children newly placed in foster care. www.astepcloser.org

ACEE Program (U of Texas at Austin) - The AmeriCorps for Community Engagement and Education (ACEE) program strives to make a difference in the lives of young school children who struggle with reading to ensure that all children develop a strong foundation in early literacy skills during their first years in school. ACEE members provide one-to-one literacy tutoring and classroom instructional support for students in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and first grade. This program grant supports AmeriCorps tutors in service to the Austin school district and two childcare centers.

American Youthworks – This non-profit is Austin’s first innovative one-stop comprehensive services model to serve high school dropouts from low-income areas of Austin and Travis County. The American Youth Works’ Charter School recovers high school dropouts, gets them into college or career training. Funding supports the Mentor Coordinator position. www.americanyouthworks.org

Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders – This public, college preparatory school for girls located in Austin provides young women from economically disadvantaged backgrounds the skills and confidence necessary to pursue college educations and careers. This grant provides support for the career day Speakers’ Series. www.annrichardsschool.org

Anthropos Arts – Anthropos collaborates with low-income Austin schools to provide supplemental educational opportunities and a creative outlet for at-risk students. Local professional musicians serve as instructors and mentors to participating at-risk youth, exposing them to cultural diversity through music while providing them a way to express themselves creatively. This grant provided Dobie Middle School with this opportunity. www.anthropos.org

Austin Theatre Alliance - The Austin Theater Alliance is the parent organization for the Paramount Theatre. This grant provided support for Skinny’s Gallery Program and Century Club programs. www.austintheatre.org

The Austin Waldorf School - Learning in a Waldorf school is an imaginative, enlivening, and creative process. The students learn with more than just their heads; they learn with their heads, hearts, and hands. This challenge grant supported the creation of an endowment fund. www.austinwaldorf.org

Badgerdog Literary Publishing, Inc. – This Austin non-profit established an intensive Language Arts instructional program that culminates with the tri-annual publication of the *Youth Voices in Ink* anthology. This grant provides funding to both the Youth Voices in Ink and BadgerPups language arts and creative writing academic support programs. www.badgerdog.org

Baltimore Academies, Inc. – The National Academy Foundation High School in Baltimore provides intensive college preparatory academic training and unique school-to-career experiences for high school students. NAF Baltimore operates three academy programs – Finance, Information Technology and Hospitality/Tourism. This grant helped secure a matching donation for the creation of a school library. www.nafbaltimore.org

Baltimore Chamber Orchestra – This grant supports the **Live Wire String Quartet**, a group of musicians who work with teachers to enhance their curriculum and student learning by bringing music to the classroom for Baltimore City low-income children. www.thebco.org

Baltimore Montessori Public Charter School - The Baltimore Montessori Charter School is the first public Montessori School in Baltimore City. This charter school follows the Montessori philosophy that every child can benefit from a Montessori environment. This grant provides funding for Playworks, a program that provides physical activity and leadership skills to the students. www.baltimoremontessoriinc.com

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra – This grant supports the ORCHkids program to provide at-risk elementary school-aged children in Baltimore City with equal access to high-quality music education and personal development experiences. www.bsomusic.org

Banner Neighborhoods Community Corporation – Support to this Baltimore non-profit provides out-of-school time youth enrichment programs that serve over 300 at-risk children each year in low income neighborhoods in southeast Baltimore city. www.bannerneighborhoods.org

Boy Scouts of America – The Boy Scouts of America is one of the nations largest and most prominent values-based youth development organizations. The BSA provides a program for young people that builds character, trains them in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and develops personal fitness. This grant supports the Pack, Troop and Crew #520 programs at the School of Original Thought. www.scouting.org

Boys Hope Girls Hope - Boys Hope Girls Hope is a non-profit organization that provides at-risk children with a stable home, positive parenting, high quality education, and the support needed to reach their full potential. This grant provided general support for the Boy's home in Baltimore. www.bhghbaltimore.org

Brown Memorial Tutoring Program – This tutoring program provides literacy skills through one-on-one tutoring as well as enrichment activities for disadvantaged elementary school children in three Baltimore City schools. This grant provides supports for the direct costs of the program. www.browndowntown.org

Building Steps – The grant supports this program that provides underserved Baltimore-area high school students the opportunity to explore science and technology-based professions. Multi-year program includes seminars, a summer internship, college counseling and alumni services.

www.buildingsteps.com

Business Volunteers Unlimited Maryland – BVU’s mission is to inspire volunteerism and connect motivated people and businesses to non-profit organizations, leading to stronger communities. Funding supports the Pencil Partnership program that links area businesses and Baltimore City Public Schools. www.bvumaryland.org

Capital of Texas Public Telecommunications Council – Support to KLRU, Austin’s PBS Station, provides funding to their early childhood literacy initiative, Ready to Learn. This program serves low-income families with a variety of critical skills that promote school readiness for pre-K learners. www.klru.org/readytolearn/

Columbia Center for the Arts - Established in 1959, CCTA provides educational opportunities to young people through the theatre arts. Funding supported The Ben Carson Project and The After School Theatre Project, both of which make theatre arts available and accessible to the students in Baltimore City. www.cctarts.com

Communities in Schools - Central Texas, Inc. - Communities in Schools is Central Texas’s leading dropout prevention program. Through campus-based programs and special projects, it creates a network of volunteers; social services, businesses, and community resources that work together to break down barriers and help students succeed. This grant was for general operating support. www.cisaustin.org

Donors Choose.org – This web-based program provides the opportunity for individuals to fund teacher projects throughout the country. The Wright Family Foundation issued the first Baltimore City Challenge grant to encourage individuals to support teacher projects in Baltimore City Public Schools. www.donorschoose.org

Enoch Pratt Library – One of the oldest free public library systems in the United States, the Enoch Pratt Library provides a wide variety of resources to individuals throughout Baltimore City. Our grant provided funding support for children and teen literacy programs.

www.prattlibrary.org

Father Charles A. Hall School - This Baltimore City Catholic elementary school is providing an opportunity for students to be their best and do their best.

Foundations Charter School, Inc. – An after-school literacy program at the Father Charles A. Hall School helping children reach their highest potential.

Heroes Helping Heroes - This Baltimore based organization provides support to at-risk children through academic support, community service and the opportunity to participate in competitive basketball leagues. www.heroeshelpingheroes.org

Incentive Mentoring Program, Inc. - Intensive academic and social support provided by mentors to Baltimore City teenagers who are in immediate danger of being expelled. Funding supported the program at Paul Laurence Dunbar High School in East Baltimore. www.dunbar-imp.org

Ready at Five - A statewide, public/private partnership to improve the care and education of young children aimed at improving school readiness. This grant provides program support for a Learning Laboratory promoting school readiness at the Patterson Park Public Charter School in Baltimore City. www.readyatfive.org

Maryland Academy of Technology & Health Sciences (MATHS) – This Baltimore City public charter school provides an intellectually rigorous, personalized and supportive college-preparatory education to 6th-12th grade students with an emphasis on the bioengineering, biotechnology, and health science fields. This grant provides funding to the *TutorCorps* program. TutorCorps Fellows provide students with low math and reading skills instructional support during the school day and individual or small-group tutoring after school. www.mathsbaltimore.org

MedStar Health – A leading healthcare provider in the region whose partnership with the Vivien T. Thomas Medical Arts Academy provides opportunities to students who desire to increase their knowledge of careers in the field of healthcare. This grant supported the summer internship program.

Middle Grade Partnership – This collaboration among Baltimore area public and independent schools, colleges and universities is dedicated to creating comprehensive academic out-of-school time programs for public middle school students of promise. www.middlegradespartnership.org

My Sister's Circle – A comprehensive, relationship-based program designed to mentor girls from disadvantaged Baltimore neighborhoods as they transition to middle school, throughout high school and into college. www.mysisterscircle.org

New Leaders for New Schools – A comprehensive program that attracts and prepares outstanding leaders to ensure high academic achievement for each student in the urban public schools they lead. Funding supports the cohort of leaders placed in the Baltimore City Public School System. www.nlms.org

New Song Community Learning Center - Funding support for New Song Academy, the independently run K-8 Baltimore City Public School #322 which serves students from the surrounding neighborhood. www.newsonglc.org/academy.thm

North Baltimore Center – This non-profit organization in Baltimore is dedicated to providing quality, comprehensive behavioral health care. This grant supports the Peaceable Education Program at Patterson Park Elementary School. The program provides the school a transition from a culture of violence to one of peaceable education and effective conflict resolution through a comprehensive approach to students, faculty and parents. www.northbaltimorecenter.org

Open Society Institute – Baltimore – Support for OSI-Baltimore’s Education and Youth Development Program that works to help Baltimore’s children and youth become successful citizens, workers and parents through improved public education and enhanced after-school and summer programs. www.soros.org/initiatives/baltimore

Partners In Excellence – A tuition assistance program providing scholarships to students wishing to attend a Baltimore City Catholic School. www.pieschools.org

People's Community Clinic - Founded in 1970, People's Community Clinic is a non-profit, primary health care facility whose purpose is to provide high quality medical, counseling and health education services at reasonable costs to individuals and families in the Austin area. People's Community Clinic is dedicated to responding to community needs, particularly those facing patients with limited incomes. This grant provided funding for the immunization program. www.austinpcc.org

Planned Parenthood - Austin - This grant funds a position for a Sexuality Health Coordinator to educate teens and help reduce teenage pregnancy through education. www.plannedparenthood.org/ppaustin

The SEED Foundation – The SEED School of Maryland is a new statewide college preparatory public boarding school located in Baltimore City that opened in August 2008. The school will grow to include students in grades six through twelve. This grant provided funding support for the SEED School of Maryland. www.seedschoolmd.org

Sisters Academy of Baltimore – An independent Catholic middle school for girls that provides a tuition-free education to low-income students. The rigorous curriculum and holistic program encourages each student’s intellectual, social, physical and spiritual development. This grant provides scholarship support. www.sistersacademy.org

Southwest Baltimore Charter School – SBCS is a vibrant, rigorous school of active learners at the heart of a thriving Southwest Baltimore community. This grant provided for general support for the school. www.sbc school.org

Spotlighters Theatre – A live theatre in Baltimore that provides exceptional, creative, diverse, and affordable theatrical productions, which stimulate and entertain both audience and artist. This grant supports The Young Actors Academy, a five-week, 130 hour summer program that focuses improving the skills young actors need to move to the next level. www.spotlighters.org

St. Ignatius Loyola Academy – Saint Ignatius Loyola Academy is an independent, tuition-free, Jesuit middle school in Baltimore City. The school is attended by a diverse group of boys from families of modest means. This grant provided funding for student scholarships. www.saintignatius.org

St. Vincent de Paul Baltimore – This grant provided funding for Camp St. Vincent, a summer day camp for children from households experiencing homelessness or poverty in Baltimore City and County. www.vincentbaltimore.org

Teach for America - Teach for America provides a talented corps of teachers for the Baltimore City Public School System. Funding supports the selection and training process for teacher recruits. www.teachforamerica.org

Texas Book Festival - The Texas Book Festival was established in 1995 to honor authors and promote the joy of reading. This grant funded "Reading Rock Stars," a dynamic program in which selected authors from across the country are invited to present their works to students in economically disadvantaged public schools. Each child receives an autographed book, and a set of books is also given to the school library. www.texasbookfestival.org

UpLift Austin – This non-profit offers an innovative career readiness program to underserved high schools, introducing students to promising "green" career fields, while designing and implementing projects to promote an environmentally sustainable campus. Funding supported the Campus Coordinator position at the newly launched program site - KIPP Collegiate. www.upliftaustin.org

The Village Learning Place, Inc. - This non-profit neighborhood lending library, learning center and community garden provide free resources and educational programming and events for toddlers, children, teens, adults and seniors. www.villagelearningplace.org

Winterline Foundation – The Winterline Foundation works to encourage the development of individuals to equip them to be citizens of the world through educational programs and projects, and to primary and secondary schools. www.winterlinefoundation.com

YouthLaunch – An Austin-based non-profit focused on positive youth development that empowers youth through peer-to-peer services. Funding provided support for the Urban Roots program that uses sustainable agriculture as a means to effect lasting change for youth participants, and nourishing East Austin residents who have limited access to healthy, local foods. www.youthlaunch.org

Trustees Fund Gifts:

The Arc of Howard County, Inc. – www.archoward.org

The Catholic High School of Baltimore – www.thecatholichighschool.org

College of Notre Dame of Maryland – www.ndm.org

Dairy Foundation of Virginia, Inc.

Herring Run Watershed Association – www.herringrun.org

Finding Our Wings (Fusion Partnerships, Inc.) – www.fusiongroup.org

Johns Hopkins Medicine – www.hopkinsmedicine.org

Lyric Foundation, Inc. – www.lyricoperahouse.com

Maryland Humanities Council – www.mdhc.org

The Natural History Society of Maryland, Inc. – www.marylandnature.org

Planned Parenthood of Maryland – www.plannedparenthoodmd.org

Welsh Hills School - www.welsh-hills.org

Young Victorian Theatre Company - www.yvtc.org