



FALL NEWS 2016

NORTHAMPTON EDUCATION FOUNDATION

P.O. BOX 44 · NORTHAMPTON, MA · 01060 · WWW.NORTHAMPTONEDUCATION.ORG

NEF Highlights 2015-2016

- The 2015- 2016 Small Grants to Teachers Program awarded \$63,156 to fund 26 projects. These grants supported curriculum and program development in a variety of subject areas, and also supported several projects in community building in Northampton.
- This year the Support Our Schools Book Fund awarded \$17,408 to Northampton's schools to purchase books and educational materials.
- Thanks to all of you, the annual Northampton Adult Spelling Bee and our Annual Appeal raised over \$35,345 in support of the Small Grants Program.
- The Daniel Stephen Goldstein Fund supported a remarkable performance by The Fourth Wall, a group of talented young performers who presented a lively and innovative classical music/dance/theater hybrid. As in the past, the performers also offered workshops for NHS students the day before the performance.
- The NEF Endowment Fund awarded over \$66,160 to exciting and innovative projects, including a multi-school theater project, a modification of high school biology curriculum to assist struggling students, and an energy and sustainability curriculum for fourth graders.

President's Message

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The Northampton Education Foundation began 25 years ago with a great leap of faith and the goal to raise \$10,000 annually. Last year, with your support, we raised over \$58,000, and distributed \$130,000 through our four programs. We have come a long way, and we plan to keep right on growing! Like everyone who volunteers with the NEF, I love being a part of making exciting projects happen for our schools and I can't wait to find out what great things our teachers have in store for us this year. Here are a few highlights:

Our Grants support programs and curriculum thru projects like the 2nd year of the Elementary School Garden Grant, new Energy curriculum for 4th Graders, and bringing 3D printers and other technology into our schools. Our children love it, the teachers are excited, and the school community is intimately involved. This is what NEF grants can do.

We strengthen our school's ties to the community with Community Outreach Grants, including Parents Café and Days of Service. Northampton High School will have Positivity Week, and Caught off Guard is fully funded for the wonderful work they do. This is what the NEF can do.

Your support provides training for teachers and staff, and materials to support their dedication. Your generosity strengthens our schools and creates excitement for our children. Your donations through the Annual Appeal and your support of the Plant Sale and Spelling Bee have enabled us to award more money through our Grant programs this year than any other year. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Jason Berg President

Adult Prom
Celebrating the Northampton
Education Foundation's
25th Anniversary

RE- PROM

You CAN go back

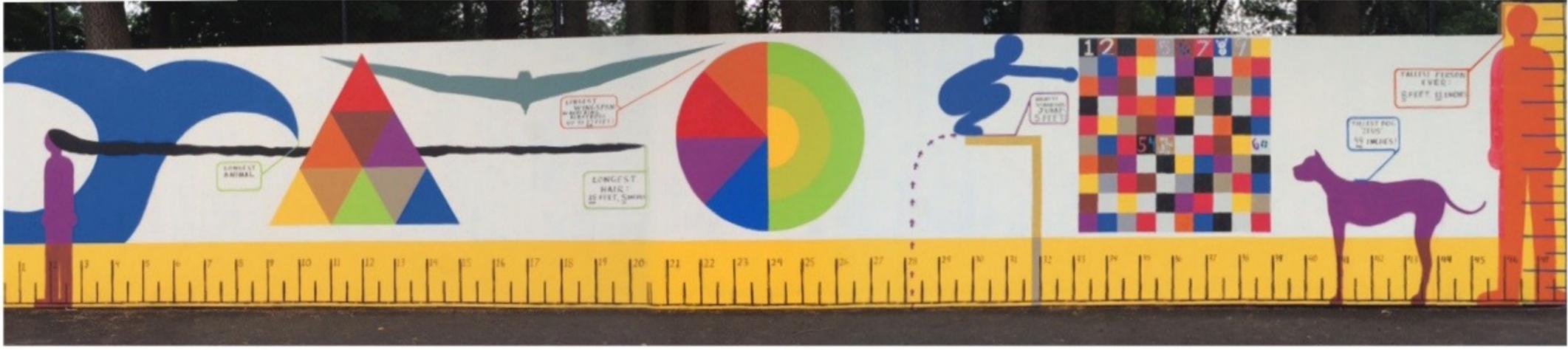
Saturday, Nov. 12, 2016
VFW, 18 Meadow St,
Florence MA 7:30-11 p.m.

Band: **21+**
The Mike Hooker Experience
Catering by Seth Mias

Tuxedos to tennis shoes,
anything goes

nefreprom.brownpapertickets.com

Grab your dancing shoes and fancy duds, and help NEF celebrate its 25th Anniversary at RE-PROM, the prom you always wished you had. Dance to live music from the Mike Hooker Experience, snack on refreshments catered by Seth Mias, and relax with a drink from the cash bar. Tuxedos to tennis shoes—anything goes!



▲ This mural was designed by Sean Greene with lots of input from the 5th grade class of 2015. The blue whale can be measured in full from the tail on the board 70 ft down to a marker for its head. There is an actual length of longest hair, highest standing jump, tallest dog and human. The numbers chart is 0-100, making it helpful for teachers to take their class outside for their math lesson.



▲ Elementary school students plant the seeds of their later gifts to local officials.



▲ Jackson Street School student offer their garden wares to local officials.

Daniel S. Goldstein Concert

Evelyn Harris with Ellen Cogen and NHS students

On November 22 the Daniel Stephen Goldstein Fund for the Arts at Northampton High School will present its annual arts event for the students and teachers of Northampton High School. This year's program will feature Evelyn Harris, a wonderful singer of jazz, blues and gospel, who at one time performed with "Sweet Honey in the Rock". In addition to singing to the accompaniment of pianist Ellen Cogen, Ms. Harris will also lead a group of NHS student singers in several songs.

(Note: these performances are NOT open to the general public.)

Comings & Goings on the NEF Board

Our Co-President Amy Cahillane stepped down to assume her new role as Downtown Northampton Association Executive Director. We thank Amy for her endless competency and congratulate DNA on a great new hire. Jason Berg steps in to fill Amy's shoes. Thank you, Jason!

We have two new board members:

Jennifer Sanders James moved to Northampton with her family 10 years ago from Tennessee. She has a 5th grader at Bridge Street School and has volunteered in Northampton schools since the first day. Jennifer works in municipal government in Western MA.

Lisa Papademetriou has lived in Florence since 2004. She served as president of the board at Sunnyside Child Care in Northampton and is currently on the board at Click Workspace. Her daughter is a third grader at wonderful Leeds Elementary. Lisa has authored over thirty books for young readers and is a part-time grammar diva at her website IvanaCorrectya.com.

26 SMALL GRANTS TO TEACHERS AWARDED

FOR FALL 2015 AND SPRING 2016 TOTALING \$63,064

For greater detail on the grants, please go to northamptoneducation.org.

Emotionally Responsive Classroom Study Group, Year 1 **\$2000**
JSS

Maria Garcia, Jen Reed, MaryElen Reed, Sarah King, Gwen Agna
A Professional Learning community book study group for staff and faculty to retool, renew and review current best practices in the field of emotionally responsive classrooms.

Stop Motion Animation, Year 2 **\$1370**
Leeds

Andrew Foster, Leslie Macutkiewicz, Andrea Marks
Fourth graders will learn how to animate and explore different stop-motion techniques, and will demonstrate concepts to first grade classrooms.

Tony Vacca Residency, Year 2 **\$3000**
Leeds

Sal Canata, Amy Seldin, Doug Wheat
Tony Vacca will lead workshops, organize an all-school assembly, and develop a cross-cultural art project between students at Leeds and Senegal. Leeds students will collect and send art supplies to Senegal.

Time Capsule Theater, Year 1 **\$1900**
RKFRR

Sarah Madden, Cindy Berry, Paula Cleary
Piti Theater will work with 3rd grade classrooms to create a musical inspired by Massachusetts and Northampton history.

Creative Forest Flags, Year 1 **\$2200**
RKFRR

Sarah Madden, Lindsay Fogg-Willits
Local artist Lindsay Fogg-Willits and students will create flags that exemplify values important to RKFRR, culminating in a display as part of the spring celebration of the school's 50th anniversary.

Summer Reading, Year 1 **\$2750**
RKFRR

MaryBeth O'Connor, Rachel Ellis
Struggling readers (Title 1 and ELL) receive books to read over the summer with a letter from teachers about the book and a pre-stamped postcard inviting feedback.

Parent Cafes, Year 1 **\$1500**
BSS/JFK

Erika Frank, Mandy Geary, Paul McNeil
Parents participate in guided conversations about challenging parenting issues. Dinner, childcare and transportation (where needed) will be provided.

Lego Robotics, Year 1 **\$2000**
JFK

Jim Kohrman, Jennifer Hodgdon, JFK Sci/Tech. Dept, and NHS Robotics Club
JFK students will work with the NHS Robotics Team to explore engineering and technology systems using Lego robotics kits.

Writing Group, Year 2 **\$1870**
JFK

Holly Graham, Kristen Picard
Students will write prose and poetry, work with peer feedback and do multiple revisions, bringing works to the publication level. Some students will submit pieces to the regional Scholastic Art and Writing Contest.

Jazz Experience, Year 1 **\$2000**
JFK

Claire-anne Williams
The JFK Jazz Band will work with young professional jazz musicians to learn different jazz styles and techniques.

Digital Storytelling, Year 1 **\$3000**
JFK

Dinah Mack, Henry White, Kate Way
The JFK SOCA (Students of Color Alliance) will work in teams with facilitators from NCTV to produce a digital story which will be exhibited in the school and the community.

Positivity Week Year 1 **\$1500**
NHS

Paul Fitzgerald, Karen Jarvis-Vance, Kathy Goodwin-Boyd, Trish Armstrong, Ellen Hirschberg, Rhiannon Diehl, Lily Ruderman
NHS staff and students will create a safer and more inclusive community through activities that de-stigmatize depression, anxiety and other mental health conditions.

Technology Media Collaborative, Year 1 **\$2200**
NHS

Jerome Whalen, Al Williams, Anne Marie Osheyak
Students will take photos of their sporting events, theater productions, assemblies, etc. to be uploaded to an online platform available for the yearbook and the school newspaper.

Teaching Number Book Group, Year 1 **\$3000**
All Elementary Schools

Mary Cowhey, Beth Brady, Tasha Rimany, Kate Nateley
A group of up to 12 teachers will read, study and implement Teaching Number: Advancing Children's Skills and Strategies (Math Recovery) by Robert J. Wright, et al.

ELL Acculturation Field Trips, Year 1 **\$2000**
K-12

Laurie Farkas
Field trips will introduce ELL students to elements of our history and culture through hands-on experiences, which they will document and share with peers. Students will take the PVRTA bus and develop some independence in the community.

Kindergarten Outdoor Classroom, Year 1 **\$2500**
RKFRR

Andrea Egitto, Michelle Smiarowski, Lisa Lebeau, Bill Owen
Teachers will create outdoor STEM activities for kindergarten students focusing on water flow. The project will be of particular value to students who need a break from routine.

Florence Heights Community Engagement Project, Year 2 **\$2250**
RKFRR

Rachel Ellis
Once a month teachers will engage children and their families in an activity such as partner reading of a book the child can take home, playing math games and journaling.

Leeds School Community Outreach Program, Year 2 **\$2500**

Heide Eriksen, MaryJo Nagle, Leslie Macutkiewicz, Lisette Rodriguez
Twice a month for 6 months, a team of educators will work with students and their families at the Meadowbrook complex in the areas of Lego Robotics and keyboarding, literacy, math and art.

JFK Technology Conference 2016, Year 2 **\$1925**
JFK

Dinah Mack, Molly McLoughlin, John Crescitelli
JFK will hold a two-day conference and training for faculty and staff on Google, teaching them how to access free resources available to develop curriculum. Participants will design a project for the 2016-2017 academic year.

Theater Outreach, Year 1 **\$3000**
NHS

Stephen Eldredge
Students will develop and perform touring productions for other schools in the district, at community organizations, and in statewide MA Educational Theater Guild (METG) competitions. The grant will also include membership in the METG.

3D Modeling/CNC STEAM Bootcamp, Year 1 **\$2999**
NHS

Jerome Whalen
Students from the UMass College of Engineering and Computer Aided Design (CAD) Club will offer a 4-week workshop introducing 3D modeling through the use of Autodesk Fusion360 CAD software, culminating with the printing of 3D and CNC models.

Math Recovery Book Group, Year 2 **\$3500**
Elem

Mary Cowhey, Beth Brady, Tasha Rimany, Kate Natale
This project is year two of a Math Recovery group, using the book Teaching Number in the Classroom, and will support teachers getting trained in Math Recovery in September 2016.

Arts Integrated Curriculum Enhancement Language Learning Disabilities Students, Year 1 **\$2850**
Elem

Michelle Carr-Mal, Deb Willis
Teachers and students in grades 1-5 in the Language Learning Disabilities program will work with Enchanted Circle Theater to implement two projects introducing dramatic word play, reading aloud, and other theatrical skills.

Life in a Changing Climate, Year 1 **\$4500**
NHS+JFK

Kate Parrot, Dan Moylan
Science teachers will partner with Mass Audubon's Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary to do hands-on activities on climate change and its impacts on the local and global environment, empowering students to take action in their homes and community.

Development Techniques for Students with Severe Sensory Challenges, Year 1 **\$3250**
NHS+JFK+JSS

Linda Mondschein, Gina Roman
ESPs and special education staff will be trained on sensory integration techniques for the growing number of students at NHS and JSS who have severe sensory challenges.

Garden Club, Year 1 **\$1500**
NHS+Smith Voc

Madge Evers
This grants supports the after-school Garden Club at Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School. Participants will use the school's resources to learn about soil structure and health, seed propagation, plant cultivation and care, and the importance of irrigation.

