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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



Thank You NEF Annual Fund Donors!

The following donors gave to the NEF Annual Fund from January 2015 through August 2015. Annual Fund dollars underwrite the Small Grants to Teachers program as well as our yearly administrative costs. Thanks for your generous support of NEF and our schools!

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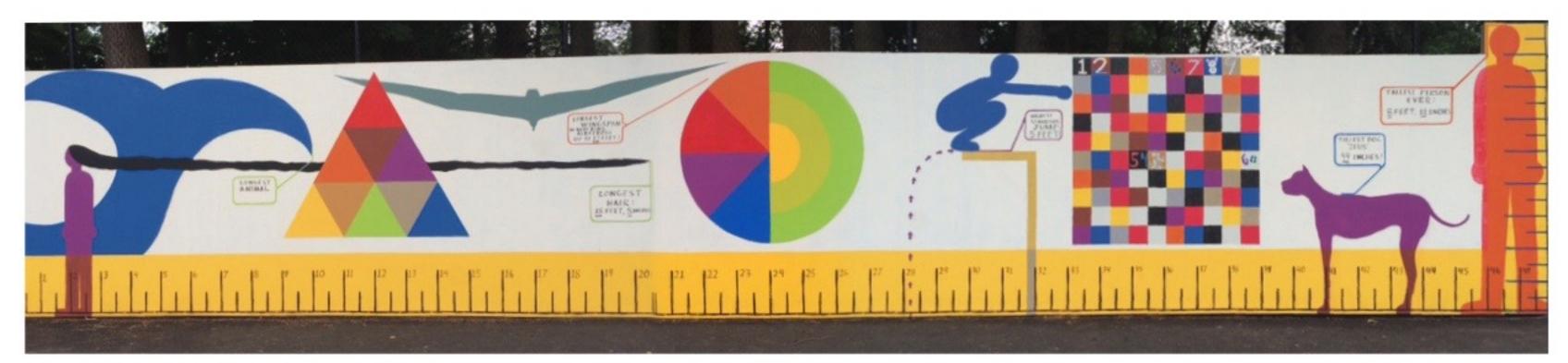
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Jonah Zuckerman and Rebecca Busansky Page 3 minimum minimum Fall News 2016



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 JSS

\$2000

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 allschool 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

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

feedback.

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 JFK

\$2000

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 destigmatize depression, anxiety and other mental health conditions.

Technology Media Collaborative, Year 1 NHS \$2200

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 All Elementary Schools \$3000

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 PVTA bus and develop some independence in the community.

Kindergarten Outdoor Classroom, Year 1 RKFRR \$2500

Andrea Egitto, Michelle Smiarowski, Lisa Lebeau, Bill Owen

Teachers will creates 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 JFK \$1925

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 NHS \$2999

Jeromie 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 Elem \$2850

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 NHS+Smith Voc

\$1500

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.

TENTH ANNUAL NEF ENDOWMENT FUND AWARDS GRANTS FOR THE 2016 - 2017 ACADEMIC YEAR

Tops \$423,000 in grants awarded to Northampton Public Schools since 2007!

The Northampton Education Foundation is very pleased to announce the awarding of \$48,683 in new grants from the NEF Endowment Fund. Including current multi-year grants, this Fund will provide \$78,683 for the 2016-2017 school year. Awarded grants are:

Integrated Math: Supporting Northampton High School, SPED and ELL teachers to create a library of Modified IM1 curriculum to parallel regular education curriculum, allowing SPED and ELL students to integrate with regular education students. Funded at \$5,420 for one year.

Bridge Street After School Enrichment: Supporting five sixweek sessions with classes offered four days a week. Funded at \$10,000 for one year to initiate the program, and to support grants writing to find transportation solutions for after school programs in the elementary schools. This program will be self-sustaining.

3D Printers to Elementary Schools: Introducing 3D printing technology to enhance STEM and cross discipline curricula, providing access to on-line CAD programming software, and training teachers to use this technology. Funded at \$15,192 for two years.

JFK 6th Grade Social Studies: Supporting the purchase of online subscriptions and Chromebooks to use online research, EPal and WeVideo to contact countries in Latin America and Africa. This program will be funded at \$7,205 for one year.

Responsive Classroom: Supporting the training of Jackson Street School teachers and staff in the Responsive Classroom curriculum, which is used in other district schools with positive results for school and community. This program will be funded at \$6,000.

Safe Passage: Supporting a pilot program in cooperation with the Safe Passage Organization to introduce the "Say Something" curriculum to the high school. This one-year grant was initiated by Northampton High School students and is funded at \$4,866.

The Outdoor Garden – A Sense of Place: This is the last of three years of funding supporting outdoor learning and environmental education programs at the elementary schools. Funded at \$25,000 for this year.

Caught Off Guard: This is the last of two years of funding supporting a troupe of high school students who conduct interviews with students in all schools about their experiences and views regarding topical issues, and then create skits based on the interviews and their own experiences. Funded at \$5000.

The NEF Endowment provides funding to Northampton Public Schools for programs that are multi-year, serve greater numbers of students, and require more than \$3,000, which is the maximum award for the Small Grants to Teachers program. These awards include funding from the Endowment's two named funds, The Florence Savings Bank's Fund for Public Education and Northampton Area Pediatrics' Education Fund.



Liz Horn with Maya and Philip Zink from Jackson Street School enjoy the plant sale

SOS PLANT SALE

A huge thanks goes out once again to Judy Leeds and her brave band of gardeners with their dirty fingernails! This year we raised \$10,958 to support the NEF SOS Book Fund, distributing money to each of our schools to purchase books and periodicals, including:

NHS: textbooks for English, Wellness, math, social studies, and technology

Smith Vocational: books for summer reading program

JFK: library books

Ryan Rd: wide variety of library books

Leeds: various teaching modules on bullying prevention

Jackson Street: subscription to National Geographic Explorer for all

classrooms

Bridge Street: books for classroom libraries

We are always looking for volunteers to help with the plant sale. Please check the website for more details!

Important dates to remember!

October 19

Fall Small Grant deadline

October 26

NEF/PTO gathering, 7 pm, A2Z

November 12

Re-Prom!

November 22

Daniel S. Goldstein concert

March 1

Endowment Grant deadline

March 29

Adult Spelling Bee

April 15

Spring Small Grant deadline

May 13 Plant Sale

Thank You to All of Our 2015-16 SOS Book Fund Donors

Julie Abramson Pamela Acheson

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Nancy Alexander

Anna Alter and Bruno Trindade

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The NEF Adult Spelling Bee

THANK YOU!

To all the businesses, organizations and individuals that helped make the 16th Annual Northampton Adult Spelling Bee a resounding success. Their support will help enrich the educational experiences of students and teachers in all of Northampton's public schools.

EVENT UNDERWRITERS:



Peoples Bank

LEADERSHIP CONTRIBUTORS:

Florence Savings Bank, "Fund for Public Education" Kelly, Charlie, Peter, and Florence DeRose and the Daily Hampshire Gazette Northampton Area Pediatrics, "Education Fund" Smith College The Wellspring Donor-Advised Fund of the Peace Development Fund Easthampton Savings Bank Northampton Cooperative Bank And two anonymous donors

THE WORKER BEES:

WORD PRONOUNCERS:

Phil O'Donoghue Stephen Eldredge Cate Damon



JUDGES:

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PROJECTIONISTS:

Peter Bigwood Mark Watts

TIMEKEEPERS:

Vicki Baum-Hommes Lizzie Bee

APICULTURIST

(overseeing the swarms): Sue BEE Larson Josh Bedell

BAKE SALE

Jennifer Dieringer with assist from Nat Reade and Michaela O-Brien

READERS ALOUD

Kathy Malynoski Susan Rees

SAVE THE DATE

for the 17th Annual NEF

Adult Spelling Bee

March 29, 2017 • JFK Middle School

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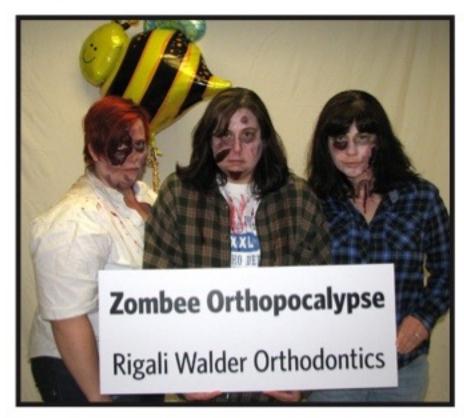
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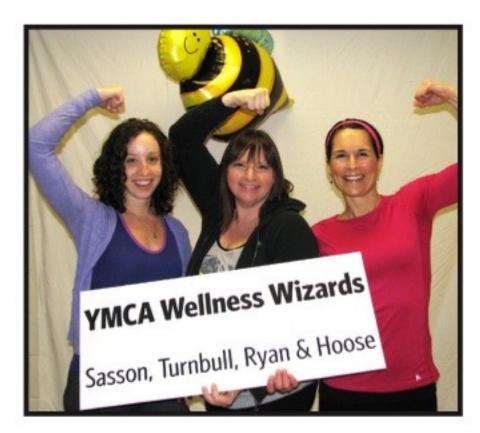
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NEF Mission Statement

Northampton Education Foundation funds and supports excellence, innovation, and intellectual creativity in Northampton Public Schools.



Leeds School Fifth graders have
a lot of questions (or are they
answers?) for Wendy Sinton
during their Sojourner Truth
Historic Walking Tour.



The Scholastic Writing Group hosts a luncheon with Dr. Provost, Principal Wilson & Dr. Cheevers, where students read their writing to senior leadership in the district.

Visit the NEF Website www.northamptoneducation.org

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