



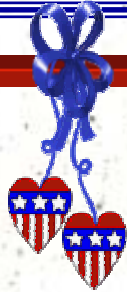
United States Representative
Rubén Hinojosa

The 15th District of Texas



Grants Alert

February 2008



Presidents Day - Feb. 18

Remember our Presidents

Inside this Issue:

Agriculture	5
Arts & Humanities	6
Community Dev.	10
Education	10
Engineering Sci/Tech.	15
Health	16
Housing	18
Law Enforcement	19
Parks & Environment	20
Sports	21

HINOJOSA ANNOUNCES \$13 MILLION FOR HEAD START

Washington, DC – Congressman Rubén Hinojosa (TX-15) announced that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has awarded Hidalgo County \$13.7 million for its Head Start programs.

Branches directly to local public agencies, private organizations, Indian Tribes and school systems for the purpose of operating Head Start programs at the community level.

“Every month, I meet students who have benefited from Head Start programs – those who would not have graduated from high school, or thought that college was an option. And time and time again, I see how much Head Start programs help them and their families succeed. Clearly, Head Start has a proven track record that needs to be supported, and this substantial grant for Hidalgo will do just that,” said Hinojosa.

The Head Start program delivers comprehensive and high quality services designed to foster healthy development in low-income children. Head Start grantee and delegate agencies provide a range of individualized services in the areas of education and early childhood development; medical, dental, and mental health; nutrition; and parent involvement. In addition, the entire range of Head Start services is responsive and appropriate to each child's and family's developmental, ethnic, cultural, and linguistic heritage and experience.

The Head Start program is administered by the Head Start Bureau, the Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACYF), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Grants are awarded by the ACF Regional Offices and the Head Start Bureau's American Indian - Alaska Native and Migrant and Seasonal Program

The program is locally administered by community-based non-profit organizations and school systems.

Ground Hog Day - Feb. 2



IRS RELEASES FINAL 2008 FORM 990 FOR TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS, ADJUSTS FILING THRESHOLD TO PROVIDE TRANSITION RELIEF

WASHINGTON — The IRS issued an updated version of Form 990, the return that charities and other tax-exempt organizations are required to file annually, and provided transition relief so that small exempt organizations will have time to adjust to the new form.

"When we released the redesigned draft form this past June, we said we needed a Form 990 that reflects the way this growing sector operates in the 21st century," said Steven T. Miller, Commissioner of the IRS' Tax Exempt and Government Entities division. "The public comments we received in response to our draft form helped us develop a final form consistent with our guiding principles of transparency, compliance and burden minimization."

The final form released today retains the redesigned draft's format of a core form and a series of schedules. In response to public comments, the new core form allows an organization to describe its exempt accomplishments and mission up-front and provides more opportunities throughout the form for the organization to explain its activities. Other major changes were made to the form's summary page, governance section, and various schedules, including those relating to executive compensation, related organizations, foreign activities, hospitals, non-cash contributions and tax exempt bonds. A checklist of schedules was also added.

"We could not have done this without the tremendous input of the tax-exempt sector, the practitioner groups and the states," said Lois G. Lerner, Director of Exempt Organizations. "The almost 700 public comment letters, the advice and counsel of numerous nonprofit experts and state regulators, and the input from the nonprofit sector's leaders, were invaluable as we moved from the June discussion draft to the final form we released today."

The new form will be used for the 2008 tax year (returns filed in 2009). The IRS plans to release the related instructions in early 2008. "We are continuing to work with the nonprofit sector to complete the new form's instructions," said Lerner.

The IRS also announced a graduated transition period for smaller organizations. These organizations will be allowed to file the Form 990-EZ instead of the Form 990. For the

2008 tax year (returns filed in 2009), organizations with gross receipts over \$1.0 million or total assets over \$2.5 million will be required to file the Form 990. For the 2009 tax year (returns filed in 2010), organizations with gross receipts over \$500,000 or total assets over \$1.25 million will be required to file the Form 990. The filing thresholds will be set permanently at \$200,000 gross receipts and \$500,000 total assets beginning with the 2010 tax year. Also, starting with the 2010 tax year, the IRS will increase the filing threshold for organizations required to file Form 990-N (the e-postcard) from \$25,000 to \$50,000.

"This phase-in process will allow organizations to become familiar with the new Form 990," Lerner said.



The IRS also announced a phase-in of the form's new hospital and tax exempt bond schedules. Certain identifying information will be required for the 2008 tax year, with completion of the entire schedules required for the 2009 tax year. In response to the nonprofit sector's safety and security concerns regarding disclosure of certain foreign workers and volunteers, the IRS revised the form to permit reporting of foreign activities by region, rather than by country, until other safeguards may be implemented to protect the privacy interests of such persons.

"We believe the transition relief we are providing is appropriate and meaningful, and will ease the concerns raised by commenters," said Lerner.

The final Form 990 and background material explaining the changes from the current form and the June draft are available on the Exempt Organizations portion of the IRS Web site, [IRS.gov/eo](http://www.irs.gov/eo).

Website Source:
<http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=176722,00.html>

Non-Profit Corner

SWITCHING FROM FOR-PROFIT TO NONPROFIT

Imagine quitting your job to move to an organization that has fewer resources, affords you less control over the product, and offers a lower salary. Sound enticing? How about throwing into the mix more personal satisfaction, a charitable mission, and a greater sense of community? Indeed, it all adds up to a winning proposition for the many workers in the for-profit sector who are making the transition to the nonprofit world.

Thomas Tierney, chairman and co-founder of the Bridgespan Group, a management solutions firm for nonprofits, says nonprofits are likely to look beyond their own ranks and to use external recruiting methods because of an anticipated leadership deficit. "They need more leadership because of growth but they lack the internal supply that corporations have," says Tierney.

"You're not going to close that gap by recruiting from within -- not exclusively. A substantial portion has to come from outside." While the boundaries between the for-profit and nonprofit worlds are blurring, thanks to the rise of corporate social responsibility programs in the former and a growing appreciation for business knowledge in the latter, making the switch between one world and the other can still be difficult. The often lengthy process can be more arduous than a traditional job search, requiring patience, the willingness to cast aside ego, and the ability to adjust to doing more with less, say those who have made the transition or helped others to do so.

Moving to a World of Consensus

Clay Parcels, marketing vice-president for the career transitions firm Right Management, advises for-profit workers who are interested in nonprofit work to check out the environment before landing a job.

"Understanding the culture -- how decisions are made, how people address each other, whether it's a hierarchical or-

ganization in terms of titles, then correlating that knowledge with the culture they're coming from-- is very important," says Parcels. "In some businesses people are encouraged to make decisions on the fly: whatever's best for the customer, get it done. In the nonprofit world things often have to be approved by a boss or a board, and that's a very different process.



"You have to be especially sensitive [to the new environment] when you integrate," says Debra Oppenheim, co-founder of <http://www.phillipsoppenheim.com/>, an executive search firm for nonprofits. "You can't come in and decide that anything you bring from the corporate sector is better than anything that was already there." Oppenheim estimates that 25 percent of people who make the transition from the for-profit to nonprofit sectors end up leaving their new jobs soon after.

Do Volunteer Work First

Joyce Roche, who worked in the corporate world for more than 20 years before becoming president and chief executive officer of the national education and advocacy program Girls Inc. in 2000, says her pro bono marketing work for the Savannah Music Festival, doing volunteer advertising work at her church, and having a board membership at the American Diabetes Assn. made her transition between the two worlds easier, although she still faced some obstacles.

"The real pleasant surprise is running a nonprofit organization is that it is a complex entity," says Roche. "I would say to almost anybody, 'Don't think [a nonprofit] job is easy.' It's probably one of the most difficult jobs I've ever had."

Roche, who was the vice-president of global marketing for the Avon Products (AVP) and then president and chief



SWITCHING FROM FOR-PROFIT TO NONPROFIT CONT'D

operating officer of the personal care products maker Carson Products before switching to nonprofit work, says the most interesting aspect of her transition was adjusting to the challenges of bringing financial contributors on board and accepting that when funding requests were denied, it didn't mean she had failed at marketing the institution.

Like Roche, Jarrett Barrios, who focused on health-care issues as a state senator in Massachusetts before becoming president of the state's Blue Cross/Blue Shield Foundation in July, was challenged by the nonprofit world's more limited financial resources. In the nonprofit sector, Barrios says, he is now more accountable for his spending than he while serving in state government. "You live and die by your ability to budget well," says Barrios, whose position has also reduced his authority but afforded him more time with his teenage children.

Looming Leadership Shortage

While switching to the nonprofit sector may be challenging, the Bridgespan Group, which recently started a multimedia portal offering tools that facilitate the transition, says it will become increasingly necessary over the next decade. Bridgespan predicts that 640,000 new leaders will be needed in the nonprofit sector by 2016, due to the retirement of the baby boomer generation, the growth of the sector and its consequent need for greater financial expertise, and a lack of internal training programs to groom future leaders.

"Making the switch to the nonprofit world is more than changing your job; it's changing your entire life," says Josh Ruxin, a Yale University Truman Scholar: "You're more likely to bring your work home when it's lives on the line rather than money on the line."

Ruxin founded the nonprofit Access Project in Rwanda in 2002. "Most of my focus is on providing private-sector management solutions in counseling, coordination, and strategy

to improve health care for some of the poorest people on the planet," says Ruxin. The former management consultant says the skills he learned at the Monitor Group, a management consulting firm in Cambridge, Mass., have been invaluable in helping him to think creatively about how to reduce poverty and increase prosperity.



Kathleen Yazbak, managing director of national relationships for Bridgestar, a division of Bridgespan, says those likely to excel in the nonprofit sector have experience in an entrepreneurial or innovative environment, have played a broad role at their prior organization, have a flexible rather than a linear career path, and are able to take a multidisciplinary approach to team projects.

Oppenheim acknowledges that cross-pollination is happening. "Nonprofits are nonprofits and corporations are corporations [but] there is a greater degree of synergy between the two than I've ever seen before," she says. Ruxin, for one, welcomes the trend. "There definitely is a transition under way," he says about the nonprofit sector's gradual adoption of some corporate practices and for-profit recruits, which he calls a new and promising development. "It's the best thing that could happen to nonprofits."

By EMILY KELLER

BusinessWeek online

Website Source: http://jobs.aol.com/article/_a/switching-from-for-profit-to-nonprofit/20080117103609990001

Funding Opportunities

AGRICULTURE

Conservation Innovation Grants

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS)

Deadline: 02/20/2008

NRCS requests applications for Conservation Innovation Grants to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies. Applications are accepted from all 50 States, the Caribbean Area (Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands), and the Pacific Basin Area (Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands). NRCS anticipates that the amount available for support of this program in FY 2008 will be approximately \$20 million. Funds will be awarded through a nationwide competitive grants process. There are three CIG categories available in FY 2008: Natural Resource Concerns Category, Technology Category, and the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Category. Applications are requested from eligible government or non-government organizations or individuals for competitive consideration of grant awards for projects between one and three years in duration. The purpose of CIG is to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies while leveraging the Federal investment in environmental enhancement and protection, in conjunction with agricultural production. CIG projects are expected to lead to the transfer of conservation technologies, management systems, and innovative approaches (such as market-based systems) into NRCS technical manuals, guides, and references, or to the private sector. CIG does not fund research projects. Instead, it is a vehicle to stimulate the development and adoption of conservation approaches or technologies that have been studied sufficiently to indicate a likelihood of success and to be candidates for eventual technology transfer or institutionalization. CIG funds projects targeting innovative on-the-ground conservation, including pilot projects and field demonstrations.

Maximum Grant Size: \$1,000,000

Eligible Applicants: must be a federally-recognized Indian Tribe; State or local unit of government; non-governmental organization; private business; or individual.

Contact: Tessa Chadwick, Phone: 202-720-2335, Email: tessa.chadwick@wdc.usda.gov.

Website: www.usda.gov

Community Outreach and Assistance Partnership Program

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC)

Deadline: 03/24/2008

In accordance with section 522(d) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (Act), the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC), operating through the Risk Management Agency (RMA), announces the availability of approximately \$5 million in fiscal year 2008 (subject to availability of funds) for collaborative outreach and assistance programs for limited resource, socially disadvantaged and other traditionally under-served farmers and ranchers, who produce Priority Commodities as defined in Part I.C. Awards under this program will be made on a competitive basis for projects of up to one year. Recipients of awards must demonstrate non-financial benefits from a partnership agreement and must agree to the substantial involvement of RMA in the project.

Eligible Applicants: Educational institutions, community based organizations, associations of farmers and ranchers, state departments of agriculture, and other non-profit organizations with demonstrated capabilities in developing and implementing risk management and other marketing options for priority commodities are eligible to apply.

Contact: David Wiggins, Phone: 202-690-2686, Email: david.wiggins@rma.usda.gov

Website: www.rma.usda.gov

Commodity Partnerships for Risk Management Education

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC)

Deadline: 03/24/2008

The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC), operating through the Risk Management Agency (RMA), announces the availability of approximately

Funding Opportunities

\$3.75 million (subject to availability of funds) for Commodity Partnerships for Risk Management Education (the Commodity Partnerships Program). The purpose of this cooperative partnership agreement program is to deliver training and information in the management of production, marketing, and financial risk to U.S. agricultural producers. The program gives priority to educating producers of crops currently not insured under Federal crop insurance, specialty crops, and underserved commodities, including livestock and forage. A maximum of 50 cooperative partnership agreements will be funded, with no more than five in each of the ten designated RMA Regions. The maximum award for any of the 50 cooperative partnership agreements will be \$75,000. Applicants must demonstrate non-financial benefits from a cooperative partnership agreement and must agree to the substantial involvement of RMA in the project.

Maximum Grant Size: \$75,000

Number of Awards: 50

Eligible Applicants: Eligible applicants include State departments of agriculture, universities, non-profit agricultural organizations, and other public or private organizations with the capacity to lead a local program of risk management education for farmers and ranchers in an RMA Region.

Contact: Lon Burke, Phone: 202-720-5265, Email: RMA.Risk-Ed@rma.usda.gov

Website: www.rma.usda.gov

ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Doris Duke Charitable Foundation's Arts Program Announces National Projects Fund

Deadline: Open/Rolling

As part of a new initiative to help strengthen the national performing arts sector, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation's Arts Program will support select national projects that strengthen the health of the dance, jazz, presenting, and/or theater fields. During a two-year pilot phase, the National Projects Fund will award a total of up to \$1 million in grants to support key national projects in the dance, jazz, presenting, and/or theater fields. Grants will range from \$60,000 to \$200,000 each, and cannot exceed 40 percent of a project's total cost. National projects engage a broad national constituency, occur once (or periodically) rather than annually, and have the potential to significantly impact a field. Types of projects eligible for support include national research, national public awareness activities, cross-discipline collaborations (including national meetings or conventions), and other national activities. Single nonprofit organizations and consortia are eligible to apply. Organizations receiving core support from DDCF are not eligible to request additional support from the National Projects Fund for single-discipline activities. Pilot programs that aspire to be a national model are not eligible to apply, nor are national dance, jazz, or theater commissions, productions, or tours. Arts Program staff will review Letters of Inquiry on a rolling basis. Visit the DDCF Web site for complete program guidelines.

Website: <http://www.ddcf.org/page.asp?pageld=700>

The Coming Up Taller Awards

Deadline: 01/31/2008

The Coming Up Taller Awards recognize and reward outstanding after-school and out-of-school arts and humanities programs for underserved children and youth.

Maximum Grant Size: \$10,000

Eligible Applicants: Programs initiated by museums, libraries, performing arts organizations, universities, colleges, arts centers, community service organizations, schools, businesses and eligible government entities.

Website: <http://www.cominguptaller.org/>

Public Telecommunications Facilities Program

U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC), National Telecommunications Information Administration (NTIA)

Deadline: 02/22/2008

Funding Opportunities

The Public Telecommunications Facilities Program assists, through matching grants, in the planning and construction of public telecommunications facilities in order to: 1) extend delivery of services to as many citizens as possible by the most cost-effective means, including use of broadcast and non-broadcast technologies; 2) increase public telecommunications services and facilities available to, operated by, and controlled by minorities and women; 3) strengthen the capability of existing public television and radio stations to provide public telecommunications services to the public.

Eligible Applicants: To apply for and receive a PTFP Construction or Planning Grant, an applicant must be: a public or noncommercial educational broadcast station; a noncommercial telecommunications entity; a system of public telecommunications entities; a non-profit foundation, corporation, institution, or association organized primarily for educational or cultural purposes; or a state, local, or Indian tribal government (or agency thereof), or a political or special purpose subdivision of a state.

Website: <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/>

New Voices Community News Grants

Deadline: 02/20/2008

The Institute for Interactive Journalism and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation New Voices Community News Grants help fund the start-up of 40 micro-local, news projects and support them with two educational web sites.

Maximum Award: \$17,000.

Eligibility: 501(c) 3 organizations and education institutions, including civic groups, community organizations, public broadcasters, schools, colleges and universities.

Website: <http://www.j-newvoices.org/index.php/site/story/2008rfp/>

Folk & Traditional Arts: Access to Artistic Excellence - Priority #1: Presentation of Living Cultural Heritage

National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)

Deadline: 03/10/2008

Access to Artistic Excellence encourages and supports artistic creativity, preserves our diverse cultural heritage, and makes the arts more widely available in communities throughout the country. While projects in this category may focus on just one of these areas, the Arts Endowment recognizes that many of the most effective projects encompass both artistic excellence and enhanced access. Support is available to organizations for projects that do one or more of the following: 1) Provide opportunities for artists to create, refine, perform, and exhibit their work, 2) Present artistic works of all cultures and periods, 3) Preserve significant works of art and cultural traditions, 4) Enable arts organizations and artists to expand and diversify their audiences, 5) Provide opportunities for individuals to experience and participate in a wide range of art forms and activities, 6) Enhance the effectiveness of arts organizations and artists, 7) Employ the arts in strengthening communities.

Maximum Grant Size: \$150,000

Eligible Applicants: Nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3), U.S. organizations; units of state or local government; or federally recognized tribal communities or tribes may apply. Applicants may be arts organizations, local arts agencies, arts service organizations, local education agencies (school districts), and other organizations that can help advance the goals of the Arts Endowment.

Contact: Folk & Traditional Arts Specialist, Phone: 202-682-5678, Email: mansfieldw@arts.gov.

Website: www.nea.gov

21st Century Museum Professionals Grants

Institute of Museum and Library Science (IMLS)

Deadline: 03/18/2008

The purpose of the 21st Century Museum Professionals (21MP) program is to increase the capacity of museums to connect people to information and ideas by improving the knowledge and skills of museum staff in the full range of museum operations. 21st Century Museum Professionals grants are intended to reach broad groups of museum professionals throughout a city, county, state, region, or the nation and increase their capacity to serve their audiences. These projects should reach multiple institutions and diverse audiences. "Museum professionals" include both paid and unpaid museum staff and both practicing and future professionals. Applications from individual museums should demonstrate how the proposed project will benefit multiple institutions and diverse audiences. Funding will support projects involving core management skills such as planning, leadership, finance, program design, partnership, and evaluation. Project focus areas may also include, but not be limited to, collections care and management, interpretation, marketing and audience development, visitor services, governance, and other areas of museum operations. Proposals may also focus on projects that help museums attract and retain staff, and improve the capacity of museums to address the rapidly changing demographics in many communities. Maximum Grant Size:

\$500,000

Funding Opportunities

Eligible Applicants: Must be either a unit of state or local government or a private nonprofit organization that has tax-exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code; be located in one of the 50 states of the United States of America, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and qualify as one of the following three types of organizations: a museum that, using a professional staff (1) is organized on a permanent basis for essentially educational or aesthetic purposes; (2) owns or uses tangible objects, either animate or inanimate; (3) cares for these objects; and (4) exhibits these objects to the general public on a regular basis through facilities that it owns or operates.

Contact: Christopher Reich, Phone: 202-653-4685, Email: creich@imls.gov

Capezio Ballet Makers Dance Foundation Offers Grants for Dance Programs

Deadline: 04/01/2008

The Capezio Ballet Makers Dance Foundation offers grants to fund dance and certain other national, state, and local organizations that provide essential services to the field. The foundation offers support for not-for-profit, tax-exempt, national, regional, state, and local dance service and other organizations (e.g., festivals, councils, alliances, associations, guilds, art centers) whose programs and activities have a broad and significant impact on the field; unusual and imaginative efforts that clearly demonstrate and promote the value of the art form in all of its manifestations (e.g., ballet, modern, avant-garde, ethnic, show-dance, jazz, tap); programs or projects that bring together different interest groups to share information, strengthen management practices, solve common problems, and improve communications; and special pilot projects that meet clearly identified and unmet needs, and that have the potential to provide a model for the field. Most grants range from \$500 to \$1,000 each, and the foundation will consider requests for program, project, and general operating support only.

Website: http://www.capeziodance.net/about/foundation/grant/history_objectives.html

Museums, Libraries, and Archives Invited to Apply for Free Connecting to Collections Bookshelf

Deadline: 04/15/2008

The Institute of Museum and Library Services in cooperation with the American Association of State and Local History, is offering two thousand free copies of the Connecting to Collections Bookshelf, a core set of books, DVDs, online resources, and an annotated bibliography that are essential for the care of collections. The IMLS Bookshelf focuses on collections typically found in art or history museums and in libraries' special collections, with an added selection of texts for zoos, aquaria, public gardens, and nature centers. It will address such topics as the philosophy and ethics of collecting, collections management and planning, emergency preparedness, and culturally specific conservation issues. Priority will be given to smaller institutions, but large museums and libraries with special collections are also eligible to apply. Federally operated institutions, for-profit institutions, and libraries that do not hold special collections are not eligible to receive the bookshelf. The bookshelf will be awarded free in two application periods: September 1 to November 15, 2007; and March 1 to April 15, 2008.

Website: <http://www.aaslh.org/Bookshelf>

Challenge America: Reaching Every Community Fast-Track Review Grants

National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)

Deadline: 06/02/2008

The Challenge America: Reaching Every Community Fast-Track Review Grants category offers support primarily to small and mid-sized organizations for projects that extend the reach of the arts to underserved populations -- those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, or disability. Age alone (e.g., youth, seniors) does not qualify a group as underserved; at least one of the underserved characteristics noted here also must be present. This category, as an essential component of the Arts Endowment's goal of providing wide access to artistic excellence, supports local projects that can have significant effects within communities. Grants are available for professional arts programming and for projects that emphasize the potential of the arts in community development.

Maximum Grant Size: \$10,000

Eligible Applicants: Nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3), U.S. organizations; units of state or local government; or federally recognized tribal communities or tribes may apply. Applicants may be arts organizations, local arts agencies, arts service organizations, local education agencies (school districts), and other organizations that can help advance the goals of the Arts Endowment.

Contact: Specialist, Phone: 202-682-5700, Email: fasttrack@arts.gov

Website: www.nea.gov

Funding Opportunities

History Channel Announces Guidelines for Save Our History Grant Program

Deadline: 06/06/2008

An initiative of the History Channel, the Save Our History Program invites history organizations to partner with a local school or youth group and apply for funding to help preserve the history of their communities. Each year, the History Channel awards grants to organizations across the country that partner with schools or youth groups on community-preservation projects that engage students in learning about, documenting, and preserving local history.

Maximum Grant Award: \$10,000

Eligible applicants: nonprofit 501(c)(3) history organizations such as museums, historical societies, preservation organizations, historic sites, libraries, archives, or other history organizations that are located in one of the fifty states or the District of Columbia. Other eligible applicants include local government agencies such as parks and recreation commissions, historic commissions, departments of local history, or other local government agencies that own and/or operate a historic site or property. Eligible applicants must partner with a local elementary, middle, or high school, or an organization that provides educational programming for children of similar ages. Applicants may partner with multiple schools or educational organizations.

Website: http://www.history.com/minisite.do?content_type=Minisite_Generic&content_type_id=51650&display_order=3&mini_id=51103

Learning in the Arts for Children and Youth

National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)

Deadline: 06/09/2008

The National Endowment for the Arts is committed to providing leadership in arts education by inspiring all young Americans through rich arts experiences. A high quality education in the arts opens a critical gateway to a lifetime of appreciation and engagement. For two reasons, learning in the arts is an indispensable part of American education: 1) children celebrate and participate in their cultural inheritance, and 2) academic and social maturity follow directly from arts education experiences. The Learning in the Arts for Children and Youth category offers funding for projects that help children and youth acquire knowledge and understanding of and skills in the arts. Projects must provide participatory learning and engage students with skilled artists, teachers, and excellent art. Funded projects apply national or state arts education standards. All projects submitted to the Learning in the Arts category must include: 1) Experience: Students and their teachers will have the chance to experience exemplary works of art -- in live form where possible, 2) Study: Through the guidance of teachers, teaching artists, and cultural organizations, students will study works of art in order to understand the cultural and social context from which they come, and to appreciate the technical and/or aesthetic qualities of each work. Where appropriate, study will include the acquisition of skills relevant to practicing the art form 3) Performance: Informed by their experience and study, students will create artwork. In the case of literature, the primary creative activities will be writing and/or recitation 4) Assessment: Students will be assessed according to national or state arts education standards. Where appropriate, projects will employ multiple forms of assessment including pre- and post-testing.

Maximum Grant Size: \$150,000

Eligible Applicants: Nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3), U.S. organizations; units of state or local government; or federally recognized tribal communities or tribes may apply. Applicants may be arts organizations, local arts agencies, arts service organizations, local education agencies (school districts), and other organizations that can help advance the goals of the Arts Endowment.

Website: www.nea.gov

Folk & Traditional Arts: Access to Artistic Excellence - Priority #2: Heritage, Preservation, and Services to the Field

National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)

Deadline: 08/11/2008

Access to Artistic Excellence encourages and supports artistic creativity, preserves our diverse cultural heritage, and makes the arts more widely available in communities throughout the country. While projects in this category may focus on just one of these areas, the Arts Endowment recognizes that many of the most effective projects encompass both artistic excellence and enhanced access. Support is available to organizations for projects that do one or more of the following: 1) Provide opportunities for artists to create, refine, perform, and exhibit their work, 2) Present artistic works of all cultures and periods, 3) Preserve significant works of art and cultural traditions, 4) Enable arts organizations and artists to expand and diversify their audiences, 5) Provide opportunities for individuals to experience and participate in a wide range of art forms and activities, 6) Enhance the effectiveness of arts organizations and artists, 7) Employ the arts in strengthening communities.

Maximum Grant Size: \$150,000

Eligible Applicants: Nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3), U.S. organizations; units of state or local government; or federally recognized tribal communities or tribes may apply. Applicants may be arts organizations, local arts agencies, arts service organizations, local education agencies (school districts), and other organizations that can help advance the goals of the Arts Endowment.

Contact: Folk & Traditional Arts Specialist, Phone: 202-682-5678, Email: mansfieldw@arts.gov.

Website: www.nea.gov

Funding Opportunities

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS

Community Services Block Grant Training and Technical Assistance Program: Earned Income Tax Credit and Other Asset Formation Opportunities

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF)

Deadline: 02/15/2008

The Office of Community Services (OCS) within the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) announces that competing applications will be accepted for a grant pursuant to the Secretary's authority under Section 678A of the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Act. The CSBG Training and Technical Assistance (T/TA) Program: Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Other Asset Formation Opportunities will fund up to 16 capacity-building collaborations that create or expand asset formation and financial literacy services offered by eligible entities funded under the CSBG program in support of National Community Action Goal "1" (Low Income People Become More Self-sufficient). Funds will be awarded to provide capacity-building assistance that enables local, State or regional CSBG networks to plan, establish, improve or expand asset formation and financial service opportunities for eligible individuals and families. The projects carried out by these networks should be designed to help low-wage earners, at or near the poverty level, become more knowledgeable about money management and other financial services. Additionally, the projects carried out by these networks must offer a range of services that help eligible clients take advantage of asset formation opportunities, increase disposable income, build financial resources and make wiser financial decisions that ultimately help the community thrive and become more economically stable.

Maximum Grant Size: \$50,000

Number of Grants: 16

Eligible Applicants: Non-profits with 501(c)(3) IRS status (other than institutions of higher education), Non-profits without 501(c)(3) IRS status (other than institutions of higher education), Eligible applicants for these grants are eligible entities, or statewide or local organizations, or associations with demonstrated expertise in providing training to individuals and organizations on methods of effectively addressing the needs of low-income families and communities, Faith-based and community organizations that meet the statutory eligibility requirements are eligible to apply under this announcement.

Contact: Yolanda J. Butler, Phone: 800-281-9519, Email: OCS@lcn.net

Website: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov>

American Academy of Dermatology Announces 2008 Shade Structure Grant Program

Deadline: 03/05/2008

To assist organizations in creating sun-safe outdoor areas, the American Academy of Dermatology has announced the availability of grant applications for its Shade Structure Program. The program is open to United States nonprofit organizations or educational institutions for permanent shade structures over outdoor locations which are not protected from the sun, such as playgrounds, pools, eating areas, and other locations. The 2008 program will have a longer grant cycle in order to allow AAD members to work with local schools and organizations to develop sun-safety programs and initiatives, one of the criteria for application.

Eligible Applicants: the 2008 program is only open to schools and organizations that serve children and teenagers, ages 18 and younger.

Website: <http://www.aad.org/public/News/2008+Shade+Structure+Program.htm>

EDUCATION AND CHILDRENS PROGRAMS

Scholastic Lexus Environmental Challenge

Deadline: Open/Rolling

The Scholastic Lexus Environmental Challenge program is designed to educate and empower students to take action to improve the environment. The program encourages middle and high school students to develop and implement environmental programs that positively impact their communities. Middle and high school teams comprised of 5 to 10 students and one teacher advisor are invited to participate in four initial challenges, each addressing a different environmental element -- land, water, air, and climate.

Maximum Award: \$75,000.

Eligibility: students in grades 6-12 and their teachers.

Website: <http://www.scholastic.com/lexus/>

Funding Opportunities

Dollar General Accepting Applications for Youth Literacy Grant Program

Deadline: Open/Rolling

The Dollar General Youth Literacy Grants program provides funding to schools, public libraries, and nonprofit organizations to help with the implementation or expansion of literacy programs for new readers, below grade-level readers, and readers with learning disabilities. Organizations requesting funds must provide direct services to one of the groups of readers defined above, and instruction must be designed to meet the varying learning preferences and needs of the defined target population. Applicants must be located in Dollar General's 35-state operating territory and must be within 20 miles of the nearest Dollar General Store. (A store locator is available at the Dollar General Web site.)

Website: <http://www.dollargeneral.com/community/communityinvestments.aspx?Category=Community&SubCategory=Grant%20Programs#YouthLiteracy>

Lego Systems Establishes Lego Children's Fund to Support Youth Creativity Programs

Deadline: Quarterly

Lego Systems Inc., the Americas (North America and Latin America) division of the Lego Group, a privately-held, family-owned firm based in Billund, Denmark, has announced the formation of the Lego Children's Fund, a nonprofit foundation established to support organizations and programs dedicated to inspiring and encouraging youth creativity, thereby improving their quality of life and preparing them for the future. The Lego Children's Fund was incorporated with an initial corporate contribution of \$1.2 million dollars. The fund will make cash grants to nonprofit organizations in the United States with programs dedicated to a child's exploration of creativity that cater to children ages birth to 14, with priority consideration for disadvantaged or at-risk youth. The fund's cash grants will generally range between \$500 and \$5,000 each. Additionally, the fund aims to make one \$100,000 grant per year to a single organization identified and selected by the fund's board of directors. The fund will provide grants quarterly. Applicants are invited to submit proposals any-time throughout the year; however, to ensure that a request is considered for a particular trustee meeting, proposals must be received by the following dates: February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1.

Eligible Applicants: The fund will award grants to qualified 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations including educational organizations with specific, identifiable needs primarily in these areas of support: early childhood education and development; technology and communication projects that advance learning opportunities; and sport or athletic programs that concentrate on underserved youth.

Website: <http://www.legochildrensfund.org/>

National Geographic Society Offers Young Explorer Grants

Deadline: Open/Rolling

The National Geographic Society's Young Explorers Grants offer opportunities to individuals between the ages of 18 and 25 to pursue research, exploration, and conservation-related projects consistent with National Geographic's existing grant programs, including the Committee for Research and Exploration, the Expeditions Council, and the Conservation Trust. The Young Explorers Grants Program supports a variety of projects and an age-range of applicants generally not covered by other sources of funding. Applicants are not required to have advanced degrees. However, a record of prior experience in the fields of research, conservation, or exploration should be submitted as it pertains to the proposed project. Funding is not restricted to citizens of the United States, and foreign nationals are invited to apply. Researchers planning work in countries abroad should make great effort to include at least one local collaborator as part of their team. Young Explorers Grants vary in amount depending on the significance of the project, though most will range between \$2,000 and \$5,000 each. Because National Geographic Society funds often serve as complementary support, the program encourages applicants to seek additional funding from other sources.

Website: <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/yeg/apply-for-grant.html>

Grants to Increase Awareness & Understanding of Japan

Deadline: Open/Rolling

The Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership is providing funding opportunities for small-scale education initiatives that will increase awareness

Funding Opportunities

and understanding of Japan through support of teacher training and related programs addressing the needs of the student and teacher community. Grants will be awarded for projects conducted from May 1-December 31, 2007. Maximum Award: \$5,000. Eligibility: K-12 classrooms in Southern and Midwestern states.

Website: <http://www.cgp.org/index.php?option=article&task=default&articleid=326>

AEP Funding for Education & Human Services

Deadlines: Open/Rolling

The American Electric Power (AEP) Corporate Giving Program supports nonprofit organizations in communities in AEP's service territory. Funding is provided in such areas as education (preference is given to grades Pre-K-12 in the fields of math, science, and technology); and human services (hunger, housing, health and safety).

Eligible applicants: Nonprofit organizations in Texas, this includes Corpus Christi, Laredo, Victoria, McAllen, Abilene, San Angelo and Longview.

Website: <http://www.aep.com/go/corpgiving> <<http://www.aep.com/go/corpgiving>>

Barnes & Noble Corporate Contributions

Deadline: Open/Rolling

Barnes & Noble Corporate Contributions Program is committed to literary-based sponsorships and partners with organizations that focus their core businesses on higher learning, literacy and the arts.

Maximum Award: varies.

Eligibility: non-profit organizations that focus on literacy, the arts or education (K - 12).

Website: http://www.barnesandnobleinc.com/our_company/sponsorship/sponsorships_national/donations_national.html

Free Books for Read Across American Day

Deadline: 02/10/2008

The Literacy Empowerment Foundation invites schools or other literacy projects to apply for free books for Read Across America Day, March 3, 2008. Resources are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

Maximum Award: varies.

Eligibility: schools and literacy projects.

Website: http://www.lefbooks.org/reading_resource_project/

Early Reading First Program

U.S. Department of Education (ED), Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE)

Deadline: 2/1/2008 Pre-applications, 4/18/2008 Final applications

This program supports local efforts to enhance the oral language, cognitive, and early reading skills of preschool- aged children, especially those from low-income families, through strategies, materials, and professional development that are grounded in scientifically based reading research. The Secretary is especially interested in preschool programs that operate full-time, full-year early childhood educational programs, at a minimum of 6.5 hours per day, 5 days per week, 46 weeks per year, and that serve children for the two consecutive years prior to their entry into kindergarten. The purpose of this invitational priority is to encourage preschool programs supported with Early Reading First funds to provide services that are of a sufficient duration and intensity to maximize language and early literacy gains for children enrolled in those programs. For applicants serving children with limited English proficiency, the Secretary is especially interested in applications that include a specific plan for the development of English language proficiency for these children from the start of their preschool experience. The Early Reading First program is designed to prepare children to enter kindergarten with the necessary cognitive, early language, and literacy skills for success in school. School success often is dependent on each child entering kindergarten as proficient as possible in English so that the child is ready to benefit from formal reading instruction in English when he or she starts school.

Maximum Grant Size: \$4,500,000

Number of Awards: 25-77

Eligible Applicants: one or more local educational agencies (LEAs), including charter schools that are considered LEAs under State law, that are eligible to receive a subgrant under the Reading First program (Title I, Part B, Subpart 1 of the ESEA; one or more public or private organizations or agencies (including faith-based organizations) located in a community served by an eligible LEA; or one or more eligible LEAs, applying in collaboration with one or more eligible organizations or agencies.

Funding Opportunities

Contact: Pilla Parker, Phone: 202-260-3710, Email: Pilla.Parker@ed.gov

Website: www.ed.gov

Environmental Literacy Grants for Formal K-12 Education

U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Deadline: 02/28/2008 preliminary proposals, 04/30/2008 final applications

The NOAA Office of Education (OED) is issuing a request for applications for environmental literacy projects in support of K-12 education. Funded projects will be between one and five years in duration and will promote changes in K-12 education to expand the amount of Earth System Science taught in the classroom and improve student learning of that subject. Successful projects will catalyze change in K-12 education through development of new programs and materials and/or revision of existing programs and materials by supporting transformative methods: Those practices (which are not necessarily new) that are likely to increase the environmental literacy of K-12 teachers and their students by increasing the amount of Earth System Science taught in grades K-12. This federal funding opportunity meets NOAA's Mission Goal to understand climate variability and change to enhance society's ability to plan and respond.

Maximum Grant Size: \$200,000

Number of Grants: 5-7

Eligible Applicants: Eligible applicants are institutions of higher education, for-profit and nonprofit organizations, and state, local and Indian tribal governments in the United States. Among those eligible applicants are K through 12 public and independent schools and school systems, and science centers and museums.

Contact: Stacey Rudolph, Phone: 202-482-3739, Email: Stacey.Rudolph@noaa.gov

Website: www.noaa.gov

Landmarks of American History and Culture: Workshops for School Teachers

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

Deadline: 03/17/2008

As part of NEH's We the People program, the Landmarks of American History and Culture program supports series of one-week residence-based workshops for K-12 educators that use historic sites to address central themes and issues in American history, government, literature, art history, or other related subjects in the humanities. The goals of the workshops are to: 1) provide teachers with training and experience in the use and interpretation of historical sites and the material resources and archival evidence of American history and culture, 2) increase knowledge and appreciation of places significant to American history and culture, and 3) encourage historical sites to develop greater capacity and scale for professional development programs. Workshops should be held at or near sites important to American history and culture (e.g., presidential residences or libraries, Colonial-era settlements, major battlefields, historic districts, and sites associated with major writers or artists). Applicants should make a compelling case for the historical significance of the site, the material resources available for use, and the ways the site will enhance the workshop. Workshops should be academically rigorous and focus on key primary sources, documents, and works relevant to major themes of American history and culture.

Maximum Grant Size: \$225,000

Number of Awards: 20

Eligible Applicants: Any U.S. nonprofit organization with 501(c)(3) tax exempt status is eligible, as are state and local governmental agencies and tribal governments.

Contact: Division of Education Programs, Phone: 202-606-8463, Email: sem-inst@neh.gov

Website: www.neh.gov

Landmarks of American History and Culture: Workshops for Community College Faculty *National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)*

Deadline: 03/17/2008

As part of NEH's We the People program, the Landmarks of American History and Culture program supports series of one-week residence-based workshops for community college educators that use historic sites to address central themes and issues in American history, government, literature, art history, or other related subjects in the humanities. The goals of the workshops are to: 1) provide experience for community college faculty in the use and interpretation of historical sites and the material resources and archival documents of American history and culture, 2) increase knowledge and appreciation of places significant to American history and culture, and 3) encourage historical sites to develop greater capacity and scale for professional development programs. Workshops should take place at or near sites important to American history and culture (e.g., presidential residences or libraries, Colonial-era settlements, major battlefields, historic districts, and sites associated with major writers or artists). Applicants should make a compelling case for the historical significance of the site, the material resources available for use, and the ways the site will enhance the workshop.

Funding Opportunities

Maximum Grant Size: \$210,000

Number of Awards: 10

Eligible Applicants: Any U.S. nonprofit organization with 501(c)(3) tax exempt status is eligible, as are state and local governmental agencies and tribal governments.

Contact: Division of Education Programs, Phone: 202-606-8463, Email: sem-inst@neh.gov

Website: www.neh.gov

School-Based Student Drug-Testing Programs

U.S. Department of Education (ED), Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools (OSDFS)

Deadline: 3/21/2008

Through the Grants for School-Based Student Drug-Testing Programs, the Department awards grants to local educational agencies (LEAs) and other public and private entities to develop and implement, or expand, school-based drug-testing programs for students. Mandatory Random and Voluntary Student Drug-Testing Programs: Under this priority, we will provide Federal financial assistance to eligible applicants to develop and implement, or expand, school-based mandatory random or voluntary drug-testing programs for students in one or more grades 6 through 12. Any drug-testing program conducted with funds awarded under this priority must be limited to one or more of the following: 1) Students who participate in the school's athletic program; 2) Students who are engaged in competitive, extracurricular, school-sponsored activities; and 3) A voluntary drug-testing program for students who, along with their parent or guardian, have provided written consent to participate in a random drug-testing program. Applicants that propose voluntary drug testing for students who, along with their parent or guardian, provide written consent must not prohibit students who do not consent from participating in school or extracurricular activities.

Maximum Grant Size: \$200,000

Number of Awards: 85

Eligible Applicants: LEAs, including charter schools that are considered LEAs under state law, and public and private entities that do not currently have an active grant under the Department of Education's School-Based Student Drug-Testing Programs.

Contact: Sigrid Melus, Phone: 202-260-7836, Email: OSDFSdrugtesting@ed.gov

Website: www.ed.gov

Oracle Education Foundation Invites Students and Teachers to Take Part in ThinkQuest International 2008

Deadline: 04/02/2008

The Oracle Education Foundation has announced the opening of ThinkQuest International 2008 and is inviting students and teachers from around the globe to take part in the international project learning competition. ThinkQuest is open to students between the ages of 9 and 19 and their teacher-coaches worldwide. Students are encouraged to team with peers in other regions to develop Web sites on educational topics. The program is designed to help participants develop important skills such as teamwork, critical thinking, self-direction, problem solving, and technology skills. In addition, students become published Web-authors in the popular ThinkQuest Library, sharing their work with thirty million Web learners each year. Professional educators will judge all submitted Web sites for ThinkQuest International 2008. Qualifying entries will be published in the ThinkQuest Library. Winners will receive prizes from the Oracle Education Foundation, including laptops and \$1,000 school grants for the top five teams in each age division, travel to the annual ThinkQuest Live event for the top three teams in each division, and digital cameras for the team that receives the Global Perspectives Award.

Website: <http://www.thinkquest.org/>

U.S. Potato Board Announces Grant Program to Promote Healthy School Nutrition Environments

Deadline: 04/15/2008

The U.S. Potato Board is teaming up with the School Nutrition Foundation of the School Nutrition Association to launch its first-ever School Wellness Grant Program. Ten grants of \$2,500 each will be awarded to public elementary schools in the United States for equipment and/or educational programs that help move children toward healthier diets and improve their overall wellness. The grant program allows schools to allocate funds toward the improvement of either the nutrition or physical activity of students — or both — depending on what their students need the most. Grant award recipients can apply the grant toward food service equipment for the healthful preparation of fresh or processed potatoes; physical activity equipment, such as for use on the campus playground or during physical education programs; or development or execution of nutrition or physical activity educational programs. School administrators, food service staff, teachers, and parents are invited to submit an application for the grant program on behalf of their elementary school. Visit the U.S. Potato Board Web site for further information and a grant application form.

Website: <http://www.healthypotato.com/health.asp>

Funding Opportunities

ENGINEERING, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Interdisciplinary Training for Undergraduates in Biological and Mathematical Sciences

National Science Foundation (NSF)

Deadline: 2/21/2008

The goal of the Undergraduate Biology and Mathematics activity is to enhance undergraduate education and training at the intersection of the biological and mathematical sciences and to better prepare undergraduate biology or mathematics students to pursue graduate study and careers in fields that integrate the mathematical and biological sciences. The core of the activity is jointly-conducted long-term research experiences for interdisciplinary balanced teams of at least two undergraduates from departments in the biological and mathematical sciences. Projects should focus on research at the intersection of the mathematical and biological sciences. Projects should provide students exposure to contemporary mathematics and biology, addressed with modern research tools and methods. That is, projects must be genuine research experiences rather than rehearsals of research methods. Projects must involve students from both areas in collaborative research experiences and include joint mentorship by faculty in both fields. In addition, it is expected that projects will strengthen the research and education capacity, infrastructure, and culture of the participating institutions. To this end, projects should create models for education in the mathematical and biological sciences and influence the direction of academic programs for a broad range of students. It is expected that project leadership will come from faculty in both the mathematical and biological sciences. UBM is a joint effort of the Education and Human Resources, Biological Sciences, and Mathematical and Physical Sciences Directorates at the National Science Foundation.

Total Funding Available: \$3,300,000

Number of Awards: 6-9

Eligible Applicants: Universities and colleges, Non-profit, non-academic organizations, For-profit organizations, State and local governments, Unaffiliated individuals

Contact: Mary Ann Horn, Phone: 703-292-4879, Email: mhorn@nsf.gov

Website: www.nsf.gov

Emerging Models and Technologies for Computation

National Science Foundation (NSF)

Deadline: 3/13/2008

The goal of the EMT program is to enable radical innovations in the software, hardware and architecture of computing and communication systems through the support of projects that capitalize upon research opportunities at the intersection of computing and biological systems, nanoscale science and engineering, quantum information science, and other promising areas of science and technology. Interdisciplinary collaborations involving computer scientists, engineers in various fields, physicists, chemists, mathematicians, and biologists are highly encouraged. Competitive proposals will move beyond incremental and evolutionary technological advances, stimulating seminal discoveries and innovations that will allow computing and communication systems to both work in radically different ways and make much greater contributions to society. In addition to advancing the research frontiers of computing and communications, the EMT program supports the development of innovative curricula and courseware that will help train future generations of engineers and scientists in emerging models and technologies for computation and communication.

Maximum Grant Size: \$1,000,000

Number of Awards: 16

Eligible Applicants: Universities and colleges, Non-profit, non-academic organizations, For-profit organizations, State and local governments, and unaffiliated individuals.

Website: www.nsf.gov

Networking Technology and Systems

National Science Foundation (NSF)

Deadline: 3/25/2008

Funding Opportunities

The Networking Technology and Systems (NeTS) program supports pioneering visions and transformative research agendas that explore the frontiers of networking, provide a better understanding of the dynamics of large-scale networks, expand networking capabilities and use, and help pave the way for the next generation Internet. Since its inception, the NeTS program has continuously sought to ensure that its mission and scope is at the forefront of research. In previous years, the program identified core networking technologies worthy of further investigation, emphasized the importance of future Internet design, and encouraged groundbreaking research in broadly defined areas of networking. In FY 2008, the NeTS program is organized by research challenges, rather than core technologies, and emphasizes multi-disciplinary, holistic approaches that augment our knowledge about the design and deployment of robust, large-scale, heterogeneous networks.

Maximum Grant Size: \$2,000,000

Number of Awards: 60-80

Eligible Applicants: Universities and colleges, Non-profit, non-academic organizations, For-profit organizations, State and local governments, Unaffiliated individuals.

Website: www.nsf.gov

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Nurse Fellows

Deadline: 02/01/2008

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Executive Nurse Fellows program is an advanced leadership program for nurses in senior executive roles in health services, public health, and nursing education who aspire to help lead and shape the U.S. healthcare system. The three-year fellowships allow participating nurses to remain in their current positions while they gain the experiences, insights, competencies, and skills necessary to advance in executive leadership positions in a healthcare system that is undergoing unprecedented change. The program is designed to give nursing and nurses a more influential role across many sectors of the economy. The fellowships are open to senior-level nurses who hold executive positions in health services organizations, public health organizations and systems, and nursing education. Applicants must be citizens of the U.S. or its territories or have permanent residency status at the time of application. Up to twenty fellowships will be awarded in this grant cycle. Fellowship resources include \$35,000 over three years.

Website: <http://www.rwjf.org/applications/solicited/cfp.jsp?ID=19847>

Food Stamp Program Outreach Grants

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Nutrition Service(FNS)

Deadline: 02/19/2008

The purpose of the FY 2008 grant is to implement and learn more about effective strategies to inform and educate potentially eligible low income seniors and Hispanic persons, who are not currently participating in the Food Stamp Program, about the nutrition benefits of the program, eligibility rules, and how to apply.

Maximum Grant Size: \$75,000

Eligible Applicants: Public organizations; and Private, non-profit organizations.

Contact: Leslie Byrd, Phone: 703-305-2867, Email: leslie.byrd@fns.usda.gov

Website: www.fns.usda.gov

Basic Center Program

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF)

Deadline: 02/19/2008

The Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) is accepting applications for the Basic Center Program (BCP), which is authorized by the Runaway and Homeless Act to address runaway and homeless youth (RHY) problems. BCPs provide an alternative for runaway and homeless youth who might otherwise end up with law enforcement or in the child welfare, mental health, or juvenile justice systems. Each BCP must provide runaway and homeless youth with a safe and appropriate shelter, individual, family, and group counseling as appropriate, and aftercare. The purpose of this grant is to establish proposed or strengthen existing community-based BCPs that provide temporary emergency shelter and care to RHY. BCPs provide shelter and support services that assist youth in crisis, reunite youth with their families (as appropriate), strengthen family relationships, and help youth transition to safe and appropriate alternative living arrangements where they can become independent, self-sufficient, contributing members of society.

Maximum Grant Size: \$200,000

Number of Awards: 68-91

Funding Opportunities

Eligible Applicants: State governments, County governments, Local Governments, City or township governments, Regional Organizations, Public and State-controlled institutions of higher education, Indian/Native American Tribal governments (Federally recognized), Indian/Native American Tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized), Indian/Native American Tribally Designated Organizations, Public/Indian Housing Authorities, Non-profits with 501(c)(3) IRS status (other than institutions of higher education), Non-profits without 501(c)(3) IRS status (other than institutions of higher education), and special district governments.

Contact: Kelli Matson-Geist, Phone: 866-796-1591, Email: FYSB@dixongroup.com

Website: www.acf.hhs.gov

Health Careers Opportunity Program

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

Deadline: 2/22/2008

The goal of the Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP) is to assist individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds to undertake education to enter a health profession. The HCOP program works to build diversity in the health fields by providing students from disadvantaged backgrounds an opportunity to develop the skills needed to successfully compete, enter and graduate from health professions schools. The legislative purposes, from which HCOP funds may be awarded are: 1) identifying, recruiting and selecting individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds for education and training in a health profession; 2) facilitating the entry of such individuals into such a school; 3) providing counseling, mentoring, or other services designed to assist such individuals to complete successfully their education at such a school; 4) providing, for a period prior to the entry of such individuals into the regular course of education at such a school, preliminary education and health research training designed to assist them to complete successfully such regular course education at such a school, or referring such individuals to institutions providing such preliminary education; 5) publicizing existing sources of financial aid available to students in the education program of such a school or who are undertaking training necessary to qualify them to enroll in such a program; 6) paying scholarships, such as the Secretary may determine, for such individuals for any period of health professions education at a health professions school; 7) paying stipends for such individuals for any period of education in student-enhancement programs (other than regular courses), except that such a stipend may not be provided to an individual for more than 12 months; 8) carrying out programs under which such individuals gain experience regarding a career in a field of primary health care through working at facilities of public or private nonprofit community-based providers of primary health services; 9) conducting activities to develop a larger and more competitive applicant pool through partnerships with institutions of higher education, school districts and other community-based entities.

Maximum Grant Size: \$932,016

Eligible Applicants: Eligible applicants include schools of medicine, osteopathic medicine, public health, dentistry, veterinary medicine, optometry, pharmacy, allied health, chiropractic, podiatric medicine, public or non-profit private schools that offer graduate programs in behavioral and mental health, programs for the training of physician assistants, and other public or private nonprofit health or educational entities, including faith-based organizations and community-based organizations.

Contact: Stuart Weiss, Phone: 301-443-5644, Email: www.hrsa.gov

Capacity Building to Develop Standard Electronic Client Information Data System

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

Deadline: 03/10/2008

This funding initiative will support organizations funded under Part A-D of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment and Modernization Act of 2006 that will promote the development of standard electronic client information data systems to improve the ability of grantees to report client level data to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Applicant organizations must include plans for the development of a client level data system to collect and report client level data elements at the service provider level on a recurring basis starting in FY 2009. This support is limited to organizations in need of an adequate information technology (IT) infrastructure and will be limited to the acquisition and implementation of hardware and software components, including stand alone, network, and other management health information systems that will facilitate the reporting of client level data. Plans must include hardware and software configurations that are responsive and compatible to the data reporting requirements specified by DHHS and must demonstrate the capacity and procedures to electronically and physically protect the privacy and information of unduplicated standard data elements across all service providers. Applicants must also include plans for disseminating complete and accurate documentation of their system development, implementation and database contents to DHHS and nationally to Ryan White program grantees for the purpose of replication and integration.

Total Funding Available: \$4,500,000

Number of Awards: 25

Eligible Applicants: State governments, County governments, City or township governments, Nonprofits having a 501 (C)(3) status with IRS, other than institutions of higher education Ryan White Programs under Part A-D Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment and Modernization Act of 2006 with experience in delivering HIV primary care services to HIV-positive, underserved individuals.

Funding Opportunities

Contact: Adan Cajina, Phone: 202-443-3180, Email: acajina@hrsa.gov

Website: www.hrsa.gov

HOUSING

MacArthur Foundation Announces Awards Program for Public Sector Housing Preservation Leaders

Deadline: letters of interest 01/29/2008

Through its awards for State and Local Housing Preservation Leaders, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation intends to provide \$35 million in total new funding for innovative public-sector initiatives designed to preserve and improve the existing stock of privately owned affordable rental homes across the United States. These new awards are part of the foundation's expanded commitment to Window of Opportunity, a national initiative dedicated to the preservation and improvement of affordable rental homes. The foundation expects to select up to ten states and localities to receive awards in 2008. These awards are likely to include grants and/or program-related investments ranging from \$250,000 to a maximum of \$5 million. All funds must be used to design, demonstrate, or scale up a significant preservation initiative. Only the following entities can apply for funding through these awards: city, county, or state governmental body, or a formal collaboration among several governmental units operating in a common geographic region. The applicant should oversee key sources of funding and subsidy for developers and owners of affordable rental housing, including but not limited to Community Development Block Grants, local affordable housing trust funds, and proceeds from tax increment financing districts. State agencies applying for these awards should be responsible for allocating Low Income Housing Tax Credits and private activity bonds, in addition to major state-funded resources for affordable housing. In general, public housing authorities will not be eligible.

Website: http://www.macfound.org/site/c.lkLXJ8MQKrH/b.1068225/apps/nl/content2.asp?content_id={5423AC2B-6A6B-45DB-931B-D3DD9E46EC65}¬oc=1

Section 202 Demonstration Pre-Development Grant Program

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Office of Housing

Deadline: 02/27/2008

The purpose of this Demonstration Pre- Development Grant program is to assist Sponsors of projects that receive Fund Reservation Awards pursuant to the FY2007 SuperNOFA for the Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly program, by providing pre-development grant funding for architectural and engineering work, site control, and other planning-related expenses that are eligible for funding under the Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly program. Subsequent to providing pre-development grant funding to the selected applicants, HUD will assess the impact of the availability of such funding on the ability of project Sponsors to expedite the development processing of projects from Section 202 Fund Reservation to Initial Closing within 18 months.

Maximum Grant Size: \$400,000

Eligible Applicants: All private nonprofit organizations and nonprofit consumer cooperatives that submitted an application for funding consideration under the FY2007 SuperNOFA for the Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly program are eligible to apply for funding under this Demonstration Pre-Development Grant program. However, funding awards under this Section 202 Demonstration Pre-Development Grant program will be restricted to those applicants that are selected for Fund Reservation Awards under the FY2007 SuperNOFA for the Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly program.

Contact: Brenda M. Butler, Phone: 202-708-3000, Email: Brenda.M.Butler@hud.gov

Website: www.hud.gov

Home Depot Foundation Offers Support for Affordable Housing Programs

Deadline: 03/01/2008

The Home Depot Foundation is dedicated to creating healthy, livable communities through the integration of affordable housing built responsibly, as well as the preservation and restoration of community trees. The foundation makes grants to 501(c)(3) tax-exempt public charities in the United States and to charitable organizations in Canada. The foundation awards most of its grants by directly soliciting proposals from high-performing nonprofit organizations with the demonstrated ability to create strong partnerships, impact multiple communities, and leverage grant resources. In order to identify potential future nonprofit partners and/or respond to unique community revitalization opportunities, a limited amount of funding is set aside to be awarded through a competitive process. Preference is given to proposals that include community engagement resulting in the production, preservation, or financing of housing units for low- to moderate-income families that address as many of the following considerations as possible: resource efficiency in design, construction, and operations; minimization of the depletion of natural resources, including timber and water; landscape features such as trees and shrubs that minimize demand for water and synthetic chemicals and reduce the "heat island" effect; reduction of maintenance costs through the use of innovative and durable materials; the use of environmentally friendly building materials; site planning with minimal environmental impact; use of energy-efficient and renewable technologies; improvement of indoor air quality, including moisture control and proper ventilation; and smart site planning and land use.

Website: http://www.homedepotfoundation.org/support_housing_apply.html

Funding Opportunities

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Technical Assistance Grants

U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)

Deadline: 02/01/2008

TA Grants are intended to provide State or local courts, or regional court associations, with sufficient support to obtain expert assistance to diagnose a problem, develop a response to that problem, and implement any needed changes. TA Grants may not exceed \$30,000, and shall only cover the cost of obtaining the services of expert consultants. Examples of expenses not covered by TA Grants include the salaries, benefits, travel, or training costs of full- or part-time court employees. Grant periods for TA Grants ordinarily may not exceed 24 months. In calculating project duration, applicants are cautioned to fully consider the time required to issue a request for proposals, negotiate a contract with the selected provider, and execute the project.

Eligible Applicants: State and local courts and their agencies, National nonprofit organizations controlled by, operating in conjunction with, and serving the judicial branches of State governments, National nonprofit organizations for the education and training of judges and support personnel of the judicial branch of State governments.

Contact: Janice Munsterman, Phone: 703-684-6100 x 202, Email: jmunsterman@statejustice.org.

Website: www.statejustice.org

Project Grants

U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)

Deadline: 02/01/2008

Project Grants are intended to support innovative education and training, research and evaluation, demonstration, and technical assistance projects that can improve the administration of justice in State courts locally or nationwide. The Institute is interested in funding both innovative programs and programs of proven merit that can be replicated in other jurisdictions. The Institute is especially interested in funding projects that: formulate new procedures and techniques, or creatively enhance existing procedures and techniques; address aspects of the State judicial systems that are in special need of serious attention; have national significance by developing products, services, and techniques that may be used in other States; and create and disseminate products that effectively transfer the information and ideas developed to relevant audiences in State and local judicial systems, or provide technical assistance to facilitate the adaptation of effective programs and procedures in other State and local jurisdictions. A project will be identified as a Special Interest project if it meets the four criteria set forth above and it falls within the scope of the Board-designated Special Interest program categories listed: immigration issues, courts and the media, elder issues, performance standards and outcome measures, and relationship between state and federal courts.

Maximum Grant Size: \$300,000

Eligible Applicants: State and local courts and their agencies, National nonprofit organizations controlled by, operating in conjunction with, and serving the judicial branches of State governments, National nonprofit organizations for the education and training of judges and support personnel of the judicial branch of State governments.

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Curriculum Adaptation and Training Grants

U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)

Deadline: 02/01/2008

CAT Grants are intended to: 1) Enable courts and regional or national court associations to modify and adapt model curricula, course modules, or conference programs to meet States' or local jurisdictions' educational needs; train instructors to present portions or all of the curricula; and pilot-test them to determine their appropriateness, quality, and effectiveness, or 2) conduct judicial branch education and training programs, led by either expert or in-house personnel, designed to prepare judges and court personnel for innovations, reforms, and/or new technologies recently adopted by grantee courts.

Maximum Grant Size: \$20,000

Eligible Applicants: State and local courts and their agencies, National nonprofit organizations controlled by, operating in conjunction with, and serving the judicial branches of State governments, National nonprofit organizations for the education and training of judges and support personnel of the judicial branch of State governments.

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Funding Opportunities

Scholarships for Judges and Court Managers

U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)

Deadline: 02/01/2008

Scholarships are intended to enhance the skills, knowledge, and abilities of State court judges and court managers by enabling them to attend out-of-State, or to enroll in online, educational and training programs sponsored by national and State providers that they could not otherwise attend or take online because of limited State, local, and personal budgets. Scholarships may not exceed \$1,500. The Institute's Board of Directors intends to reserve up to \$175,000 for scholarships in FY 2008.

Maximum Grant Size: \$1,500

Eligible Applicants: State and local courts and their agencies, National nonprofit organizations controlled by, operating in conjunction with, and serving the judicial branches of State governments, National nonprofit organizations for the education and training of judges and support personnel of the judicial branch of State governments.

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PARKS AND ENVIRONMENT

Texas Commission On Environmental Quality Gives Rebates for Cleaner-Running School Buses

Deadline: 02/29/2008

The TCEQ begins accepting applications on Nov. 10 from Texas school districts to reimburse costs associated with reducing emissions from school buses. More than 36,000 buses carrying an estimated 1.3 million students hit the roads of Texas each school day. A little more than one-third of these buses are more than 10 years old. Older vehicles emit more pollution than do newer models. Exposure to diesel exhaust from school buses can aggravate respiratory problems, asthma and allergies. All public school districts and charter schools in Texas that operate one or more diesel-powered school buses, or a transportation system provided by a countywide district, are eligible to be reimbursed for costs of approved retrofits.

Eligible Applicants: Funding is open to school bus retrofit projects in ALL public school districts and charter schools in Texas that operate one or more diesel-fueled school buses; private schools are not eligible for funding. A diesel school bus proposed for retrofit must be used on a regular, daily route to and from a school and have at least five years of useful life remaining, unless the applicant agrees to remove the retrofit device at the end of the life of the bus and reinstall it on another bus.

Website: <http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assistance/clean-vehicles/school-buses.html>

Fiskars' Project Orange Thumb Offers Grants to Support Community Gardening

Deadline: 02/15/2008

Fiskars Brands, Inc. seeks to inspire and encourage creative expression through gardening with Project Orange Thumb. To promote sustainable agriculture, horticultural education, community involvement as well as neighborhood beautification, the program will offer ten grants in 2008. Community organizations, schools, gardening clubs, senior centers, or other groups interested in fostering gardening within their community are invited to apply. Awardees will each receive up to \$1,500 in Fiskars garden tools and \$800 for plant materials to cultivate their garden vision.

Website: http://www.fiskars.com/content/garden_en_us/Garden/Community/project+orange+thumb

SPORTS

Bikes Belong Offers Funding for Bicycle Advocacy and Facilities

Deadline: end of every quarter

Bikes Belong is a national coalition of bicycle suppliers and retailers working together to put more people on bicycles more often. Bikes Belong welcomes grant applications from organizations and agencies within the United States that are committed to "putting more people on bicycles more often." The Bikes Belong Grants Program funds projects in two categories: 1) facilities; and 2) advocacy.

Maximum Grant Size: \$10,000

Number of Awards: 15

Funding Opportunities

Eligible Applicants: Bikes Belong will accept applications from nonprofit organizations, public agencies, and departments at the national, state, regional, and local levels. For the advocacy category, Bikes Belong will only fund organizations whose mission is expressly related to bicycle advocacy. New organizations that are not yet legally nonprofit organizations may submit an application with the assistance of another nonprofit that has agreed to serve as fiscal agent. Bikes Belong will not fund individuals. Because of the program's limited funds, it rarely awards grants to organizations and communities that have received Bikes Belong funding within the last three years.

Website: <http://bikesbelong.org/page.cfm?PageID=21>

Baseball Tomorrow Fund Offers Support for Youth Baseball and Softball Programs

Deadline: Open/Rolling

The Baseball Tomorrow Fund is a joint initiative between Major League Baseball and the Major League Baseball Players Association designed to promote and enhance the growth of youth participation in baseball and softball around the world by funding programs, fields, coaches' training, uniforms, and equipment. Grants are intended to finance a new program, expand or improve an existing program, undertake a new collaborative effort, or obtain facilities or equipment necessary for youth baseball or softball programs. The Baseball Tomorrow Fund supports projects that meet the following evaluation criteria: increase the number of youth participating in baseball and softball programs; improve the quality of youth baseball and softball programs; create new or innovative ways of expanding and improving baseball or softball programs; are able to match funds for programs; provide programs for children aged 10-16; support existing programs that have demonstrated success in providing a quality youth baseball/softball experience; and address opportunities for minorities and women. Applicants are invited to submit a Letter of Inquiry. Letters of inquiry are accepted throughout the year. Selected applicants are invited to submit a full application. Grants are awarded on a quarterly basis.

Eligible Applicants: Nonprofit and tax-exempt organizations involved in youth baseball programs are encouraged to apply.

Website: http://mlb.mlb.com/NASApp/mlb/mlb/official_info/community/btf.jsp

Nike Accepting Applications for Bowerman Track Renovation Program

Deadline: Open/Rolling

A philanthropic initiative of Nike Inc., the Bowerman Track Renovation Program provides matching cash grants to community-based, youth-oriented organizations that seek to refurbish or construct running tracks. Administered by Nike's Community's Affair department, this ten-year, \$2 million program provides matching funds of up to \$50,000 to youth-oriented nonprofit organizations anywhere in the world. The program distributes approximately \$200,000 in matching grants each year. Organizations applying for the grant must demonstrate a need for running track refurbishment or construction. Grant recipients will provide track access to neighboring communities. Bowerman Track Renovation Program funds must be matched in some amount by other contributors by an agreed-upon deadline. Recipients of a Bowerman Track Renovation grant are encouraged, but not required, to use Nike Grind technology to resurface their track. Nike Grind material is made of recycled athletic shoes sliced and ground into rubber granules, providing a superior, environmentally conscious all-weather track surface.

Eligible Applicants: .S. applicants should be exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) or 509(a) of the Internal Revenue Code and be defined as a public charity or a unit of government. Athletic booster clubs, schools, and school districts are considered public charities and are eligible to apply. Applicants outside the United States should be charitable in purpose and nongovernmental organizations. To be eligible, applicants must employ at least one full-time staff person and maintain a viable track program serving boys and girls, ages 14-18.

Website: <http://www.nike.com/nikebiz/nikebiz.jhtml?page=26&item=bowerman>



For information on these and other funding opportunities, please contact:

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