

## The W.A.L.L. (We All Live and Learn)

The W.A.L.L. will be published once a month to bring you the most up-to-date IMSA FUSION grant opportunities. It will be broken down into 7 sections. The first section, ALL LEVELS, will encompass grants that could apply to all grade levels K-12. The second, ELEMENTARY LEVEL, will list those grants specific to the elementary (4-5) levels only. The MIDDLE LEVEL will be grants specific to 6th-8th grades. Chicago Public Schools section will be those grants that only apply to CPS. The fifth section, AWARDS & COMPETITIONS, will be awards and contests that you and/or your students might want to enter. The sixth section, FREEBIES, will contain any freebies that you might want to order for your classroom. And finally, the last section, FUNDRAISERS, will contain any fundraising opportunities that you might want to participate in. This version contains a BONUS section on TRIPS that came my way!



2011 Summer Programs at IMSA  
<https://www3.imsa.edu/programs/SummeratIMSA>



Surveys

<https://www3.imsa.edu/programs/fusion/surveys>

Problem of the Month

<https://www3.imsa.edu/programs/fusion/forstudents>

Teacher/Coordinator

Feedback

<https://www3.imsa.edu/programs/fusion/forteachers>



Cameroon Project

<https://www3.imsa.edu/programs/fusion/projects>

# April Deadlines

## **ASG Midwest School Garden Grant**

Elementary, middle, and high schools located in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin are eligible to apply for the ASG Midwest School Garden Grant. Sponsored by the grandchildren of Helene and Mark Eisner, 11 schools in Midwestern states will be awarded \$1000 through the National Gardening Association's Adopt a School Garden program in 2011.

Link: <http://www.kidsgardening.org/grants/MidwestASG.asp>

## **GOOGLE SCIENCE FAIR--Deadline: April 4, 2011**

Google has launched the inaugural Google Science Fair. Google has partnered with CERN, National Geographic, Scientific American and the LEGO Group to create this new STEM competition. This global competition is open to any student aged 13-18. Students may enter as individuals or as teams of up to three. The Science Fair will culminate in an event at Google headquarters in California in July 2011, where finalists will compete for internships, scholarships and prizes.

Link: <http://www.google.com/events/sciencefair/>

## **Calculation Nation Contest--Deadline: April 8, 2011**

Help! Okta, the Calculation Nation®superhero, is missing! He got so caught up exploring Illuminations resources and activities that he seems to have gotten a little lost. Help us find him! Images of Okta have been hidden throughout the Illuminations website. Simply scour the 602 lessons and 106 activities on Illuminations and see if you can find him. Do you need a little help? Follow [NCTM Illuminations](#) on Facebook or join the group [Learning Math](#) at the Thinkfinity Community for two different daily clues. These clues can help you claim one of the three prizes! From all entries three winners will be randomly selected. Two winners will receive a \$50 credit towards the NCTM Bookstore and one grand prize winner will receive a Flip Camera and \$50 credit towards the NCTM Bookstore.

Link: <http://illuminations.nctm.org/WheresOkta.aspx>

Link: [http://www.nctm.org/resources/image\\_contest.aspx](http://www.nctm.org/resources/image_contest.aspx)

## **Deadline Extended! Craft Your Innovation Awards Entries by April 14, 2011**

The deadline for the PBS Teachers Innovation Awards has been extended to April 14. Submit a video showcasing your use of PBS resources to engage students and innovate in the classroom. Twelve first place winners will participate in a week long "Innovation Immersion Experience" at The Henry Ford in Dearborn, Michigan and receive a FREE PBS TeacherLine professional development course and a SMART Slate™wireless slate. The twelve first-place winners plus 36 second-place winners will be invited to partner with PBS and local public television stations as leaders in classroom innovation. Winning entries will be announced in May. For complete guidelines, visit

<http://www.pbs.org/teachers/innovators/>

## **3M Young Scientist Challenge--Deadline: April 15, 2011**

There are two weeks left to enter the Discovery Education 3M [Young Scientist Challenge](#)! Inspire your students in grades 5-8 to investigate the everyday world around them for the chance to win \$25,000 and the title, "America's Top Young Scientist."

Link: <http://www.youngscientistchallenge.com/>

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

### **iRISE Science Teachers' Workshop From Computers to Biofuels: Sparking the Imagination of Middle School Students--Deadline: April 15, 2011**

This workshop is a one-day professional development opportunity for Illinois middle school science teachers. The workshop will disseminate lessons, in-class demonstrations, and in-depth science background for four lessons highlighting hot topics in science, technology and engineering.

A \$100 stipend, lunch and CPDUs will be provided for all participants. Travel and accommodations will also be reimbursed for out of town registrants.

Link: <http://online.physics.uiuc.edu/courses/phys598se/spring11/teachers/teachers.html>

## **Capture this! How ICTs are empowering people across Africa -The eLearning Africa Photo Competition 2011 --Deadline: April 21, 2011**

The 2nd [eLearning Africa Photo Competition](#) aims to capture how Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) can nurture talent, skills and innovation across Africa. We invite you to send us your photos that depict outstanding achievements in Africa - empowered by ICTs, or that show innovative ways in which ICTs can foster the growth of people, communities and society.

Link: [http://www.elearning-africa.com/photo\\_competition\\_home.php](http://www.elearning-africa.com/photo_competition_home.php)

**ThinkQuest International Competition~Deadline: April 27, 2011**

"The ThinkQuest International Competition challenges students to solve a real-world problem by applying their critical thinking, communication, and technology skills. Prizes include laptop computers, a trip to [ThinkQuest Live](#) and monetary grants for the coach's school, or organization. In addition, teams that submit a completed entry will be eligible to receive a Certificate of Participation."

Link: <http://www.thinkquest.org/competition/>

**Target Arts & Culture Grants~Deadline: April 30, 2011**

Music, art, dance, drama and visual arts are all part of the well-rounded education our kids deserve. Through grants, Target helps schools bring more arts and culture into the classroom, enabling them to expand their creativity... and their horizons.

Link: <http://sites.target.com/site/en/company/page.jsp?contentId=WCMP04-031819>

**Target Reading Grants~Deadline: April 30, 2011**

Reading is essential to a child's learning process. That's why Target awards grants to schools, libraries and nonprofit organizations to support programs such as after-school reading events and weekend book clubs. Together, we're fostering a love of reading and encouraging children to read with their families.

Link: <http://sites.target.com/site/en/company/page.jsp?contentId=WCMP04-031821#>

**Tech Challenge~Deadline: April 30, 2011**

The Tech Challenge is an annual engineering design event for teams of 2-6 students in grades 5 through 12. A signature program of [The Tech Museum](#), this project-based learning program teaches the engineering design process by letting students design and build their own solution to a real-world problem. The Tech Challenge 2011 marks our 24th annual event. Open to everyone in grades 5 through 12, The Tech Challenge inspires the innovator in everyone. **This Year's Challenge is Trash Island: The Great Pacific Gyre**

Link: <http://techchallenge.thetech.org/>

**Elmer's Teachers Tool Kit Grant~Deadline: April 30, 2011**

The Kids In Need Foundation introduces a new teacher grants program sponsored by Elmer's Products Inc., an industry leader in adhesives, arts and crafts, office and educational products. You can apply for an Elmer's Teacher Tool Kit grant that can range from \$100 to \$500. The grants will be given to teachers who wish to conduct classroom projects selected from a catalog of more than 500 projects.

Link: [www.elmers.com](http://www.elmers.com)

# HOW DO YOU SHINE LIKE AN ENERGY STAR®? CONTEST



Learn how your school can benefit from the Lights for Learning™ Program at [lights4learning.org](http://lights4learning.org)



Open to all students grades K-12 throughout Illinois!

**Who can compete:** You, your friends, your classroom or school.

**How do I submit:** Upload your video to Youtube and "Send Video" to user name "lights4learning" with your name, participants, and contact information.

**Submit Video by:** 11:59 p.m. April 15, 2011

**What kind of video:** Create a 30 to 60 second live music video, commercial or skit showing how you save energy and shine like an ENERGY STAR! Get creative, get goofy, get your energy saving message across to the world!

**Prizes:**



**Grand Prize:** iPad 32GB

**2nd Prize:** iPod Touch 32GB

**3rd Prize:** iPod Nano 16GB

Complete list of contest rules and prize equivalents are on:  
[www.lights4learning.org](http://www.lights4learning.org)



LIGHTS FOR LEARNING

Screen clipping taken: 3/29/2011, 10:29 AM

## ALL LEVELS (4-8)

### **JUNIOR ENERGY Program~Deadline:Rolling**

"Junior Energy's mission is to work in classrooms and schools to help children discover how they can positively impact the planet by engaging their parents, family, friends and neighbors in small, simple actions."

Link: <http://www.juniorenergy.org/>

### **Leave No Trace Grants~Deadline: Rolling**

Leave No Trace is an educational, nonprofit organization dedicated to the responsible enjoyment and active stewardship of the outdoors. Leave No Trace offers a variety of grant and scholarship opportunities for individuals and organizations seeking educational materials and or training. There are multiple grants offered with deadlines throughout the year.

Link: <http://www.classroomearth.org/node/1229>

### **Captain Planet Foundation~ Deadlines: March 31, June 30, Sept. 30, and Dec. 31**

"The Captain Planet Foundation reserves the right to earmark funding for specific budgetary items, and decline funding for budgetary items which are not consistent with Grant Guidelines. Generally, the range of grants awarded by the Foundation is \$250 - \$2,500\*."

Link: <http://www.captainplanetfoundation.org/default.aspx?pid=3&tab=apply>

### **Michael Davis Music Is Revolution Foundation~Deadlines:Jan 15, April 15 & Oct. 15**

"The Music Is Revolution Foundation administers a mini-grant program for Music Is Revolution activities designed by teachers to implement, support, and/or improve their ability to provide quality music education for their students. Mini-grants up to \$500 are available to teachers for music education activities of all types."

Link: [http://www.svingirly.com/mir2/pdf/Mini\\_Grant\\_Application.pdf](http://www.svingirly.com/mir2/pdf/Mini_Grant_Application.pdf)

### **DonorsChoose.org~Deadline: Rolling**

"Here's how it works: public school teachers from every corner of America post classroom project requests on DonorsChoose.org. Requests range from pencils for a poetry writing unit, to violins for a school recital, to microscope slides for a biology class."

Link: <https://secure.donorschoose.org/common/signin.html>

### **NEA Foundation Challenge to Innovate**

"C2i is a web-based, open invitation to all public school educators that will be housed on the Department of Education's Open Innovation Portal. The best ideas will receive awards from the NEA Foundation and may be selected for further development. Accept our challenge. Post your problem. Help us solve and share it and become eligible for additional funding and support."

**Challenge 1-Post your most pressing classroom problem beginning on September 7, 2010**

Link: <http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/c2i-the-nea-foundations-challenge-to-innovate>

### **ExploraVision~Applications available online starting August 30, 2010**

"The Toshiba/NSTA ExploraVision Awards program is back for its 19th year. The ExploraVision program is open to K - 12 students who could win up to \$10,000 in savings bonds and other valuable prizes. To start the year off right, NSTA will host the first in a series of free web seminars designed to answer questions and assist teachers in using the ExploraVision program in their classrooms. "What is ExploraVision and How Can I Use It?" is scheduled for Wednesday, September 15, 2010, at 6:30 pm ET. Coaches of prior winning teams will share their experiences, give tips, and answer questions."

Link: [www.exploravision.org](http://www.exploravision.org)



### **The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation**

As featured on *The Today Show*, "Fruit Tree 101" is a program that brings fruit tree orchards to schoolyards so students can improve the quality of the air and water while creating a source of tasty snacks for decades to come. Not only do our schoolyard fruit orchards help the environment, but they give your teacher an excuse to hold class outside when it's time for science lessons!

Link: <http://www.ftpf.org/fruittree101.htm>

### **Shade Structure Program~Applications Available October 18, 2010**

The American Academy of Dermatology's Shade Structure Program awards grants in the amount of \$8,000 each for the purchase of permanent shade structures designed to provide shade and ultraviolet (UV) ray protection for outdoor areas.

Link: <http://www.aad.org/public/sun/grants.html>

### **National Weather Association Grants~Deadline: June 1, 2011**

Sol Hirsch Education Fund Grants are awarded annually to teachers/educators of grades K-12 to help improve the education of their students, school and/or community in the science of meteorology. The Grant is intended to allow teachers to:

- Purchase scientific materials and / or equipment for the classroom, school or community.
- Begin new school and / or community science outreach and education programs.
- Enhance and / or expand existing meteorology / science education programs.
- Attend accredited courses, workshops and /or conferences related to meteorology that will significantly enhance their teaching activities.

Link: <http://www.nwas.org/grants/solhirsch.php>

### **Davidson Fellow Scholarship~Deadline: Rolling**

"The Davidson Fellows Scholarship awards \$50,000, \$25,000 and \$10,000 scholarships to extraordinary young people under the age of 18 who have completed a significant piece of work. Application categories are **Mathematics, Science, Literature, Music, Technology, Philosophy** and **Outside the Box**. Davidson Fellows are honored every year in Washington, D.C. with Congressional meetings and a special reception."

Link: <http://www.davidsongifted.org/fellows/>

### **The Fender Music Foundation — Grant Overview~Deadline: Rolling**

The Fender Music Foundation makes the gift of music available to people across the country by providing funding and resources for music programs. Our grants are awarded to music academies, schools, local music programs and national music programs across America. As of January 2008, we awarded grants to 38 music academies and local music programs, 6 national music programs and 21 school music programs. We have reached state specific programs in 24 states. And have directly given at least 17,000 people the opportunity to make music within one year of receiving a grant. The following 5 programs represent the spectrum of programs selected by The Fender Music Foundation, which were awarded instruments and equipment:

Link: <http://www.fendermusicfoundation.org/grants/index.cfm?sec=overview>

### **Hungry for Music~begins January 15, 2011**

Hungry for Music provides musical instruments to individuals, schools, and community music programs that cannot afford them. Since the program began, the organization has donated over 1,000 instruments throughout the United States, Mexico, and India.

Link: <http://hungryformusic.com/need-an-instrument/>

### **Grant Application Now Being Accepted for Spring 2011.**

Apply for a \$3,500 grant to bring a professional development conference to your district, sponsored by eInstruction.

Link: <http://www.einstruction.com/edtech/host.html>

**Fermilab Friends for Science Education Scholarships for Teacher Workshops, Science Adventures and Transportation ~Deadline: Rolling**

Funding for professional development for teachers and enrichment for students such as doing science in the field is becoming increasingly difficult for schools. We also know that not all families have the opportunity to enroll students in science and math enrichment classes. Fermilab Friends for Science Education offers scholarships for teachers to attend summer workshops, assist with field trip transportation expenses and provide scholarships to families for student classes held at Fermilab.

Link: [http://ed.fnal.gov/ffse/ed\\_ffse\\_scholarships.html](http://ed.fnal.gov/ffse/ed_ffse_scholarships.html)

**Jack Kent Cooke Foundation~Deadline: Rolling**

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation partners with educational organizations and institutions that share our commitment to enabling exceptionally promising lower-income students to reach their full potential. Through strategically targeted grants, the Foundation works to expand educational opportunities for thousands of remarkable students whose families, schools, and communities need additional resources to help these students fulfill their promise.

Link: <http://www.jkcf.org/grants>

**Bank of America~Deadline: Rolling**

We are building strong, healthy neighborhoods where all of us can live, work and dream by investing in innovative programs designed to serve local community needs. Working in partnership with community leaders, Bank of America's local market leadership directs the majority of our giving through local grants that address pressing social, economic, and cultural needs of communities across our global footprint. In addition, we partner with national organizations such as the United Way of America and Habitat for Humanity International to direct resources to local communities. Through our signature philanthropic program, the Neighborhood Excellence Initiative, we enhance nonprofits' ability to serve more individuals and families in need and develop nonprofit visionaries, local heroes, and students as our community leaders of today and tomorrow.

Link: <http://www.bankofamerica.com/foundation/>

**American Honda Foundaton ~ Deadlines: November 1, February 1, May 1, August 1**

The American Honda Foundation supports youth education programs with a specific focus on the STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) subjects in addition to the environment. Grants range from \$20,000 to \$60,000.

Link: <http://corporate.honda.com/america/philanthropy.aspx?id=ahf>

**iLoveSchools Donations~Deadline: Rolling**

iLoveSchools.com is a nonprofit online donation center that connects new, used and in-kind resources with our nation's schools all year long.

Link: <http://www.iloveschools.com/>

**Funagain Games Grants~Deadline: Rolling**

Funagain will pick one recipient for each of the grants on the first business day of the month and grant recipients will be listed on the Funagain website. Grants are good for up to \$100 worth of items offered by Funagain Games. Shipping to the 50 US states is not deducted from the grant amount, and will be provided for free.

Link: <http://www.funagain.com/control/rc?p=grants>

**Heinemann Microgrant~Deadline: Rolling**

Applications for this microgrant should present project ideas to use technology in the classroom to engage students in learning activities or increase collaboration between educators.

Link: <http://www.heinemann.com/grants/>

**Environmental Protection Agency Grants~Deadline: May 2, 2011**

The purpose of the Environmental Education Regional Grant Program is to increase public awareness and knowledge about environmental issues and provide the skills that participants in its funded projects need to make informed environmental decisions and take responsible actions toward the environment.

Link: <http://epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html>

### **Good Sports Grant~Deadline: Rolling**

Good Sports is a non-profit whose mission is to increase youth participation in sports, recreation and fitness activities. Good Sports provides sports equipment, apparel, and footwear to youth organizations offering sports, fitness and recreational programs to youth in need. Please read the following carefully prior to applying for equipment grant to better understand our criteria and our process.

Link: <http://www.goodsports.org/equipmentgrants.shtml>

### **C2i Challenge~Deadline: May 13, 2011**

Through its newest C2i challenge, the NEA Foundation in partnership with the [Consortium for School Networking \(CoSN\)](#) wants to know **how mobile phone technology can be used to transform teaching and learning**. The Foundation will award up to five individuals \$1,000 for the best ideas posted on the [C2i page on the U.S. Department of Education's Open Innovation Portal](#). The NEA Foundation's C2i is open to public school educators, students, and other creative thinkers with an interest in improving public education. **Submissions will be accepted from April 4 – May 13, 2011**. A proposed solution must effectively incorporate smart phones or cell phones. Portal registrants can also review, comment and vote on the posted solutions.

Link: [https://innovation.ed.gov/challenges/C2i\\_Mobile\\_Project/show/](https://innovation.ed.gov/challenges/C2i_Mobile_Project/show/)

### **Home Depot Foundation Launches \$1 Million Online Contest~Deadline: Rolling**

Through the [Aprons in Action](#) program, Facebook users can vote to determine where the foundation's charitable dollars and volunteer hours will be donated over the next year. Each month, the Aprons in Action page will feature four community improvement projects completed by [Team Depot](#) — the company's employee-led volunteer force that donates hours, tools, and supplies to community service projects — and a local nonprofit.

Link: <http://www.homedepotfoundation.org/index.html>



## ELEMENTARY LEVEL (4-5)

### **Annie's Grants for Gardens~Deadline: Rolling**

"We offer a limited number of small grants to community gardens, school gardens and other educational programs that connect children directly to gardening. These funds can be used to buy gardening tools, seeds or other needed supplies."

Link: [http://www.annies.com/grants\\_for\\_gardens](http://www.annies.com/grants_for_gardens)

### **Toshiba America Foundation~Deadline: October 1, 2011**

K-5 grade teachers are invited to use Toshiba America Foundation's short application form to describe a set of lessons or a hands-on project they would like to introduce in their own classrooms.

Link: <http://www.toshiba.com/taf/k5.jsp>

## MIDDLE LEVEL (6-8)

### Future City Competition--Deadline: Rolling

The mission of the National Engineers Week Future City Competition is to provide a fun and exciting educational engineering program for sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students that combines a stimulating engineering challenge with a "hands-on" application to present their vision of a city of the future.

#### What Your Students Will Do

Students work in teams with a teacher/coach and a mentor who contributes real-world STEM knowledge.

Students will:

1. **Design** a city 150 years in the future using SimCity 4 Deluxe™ software.
2. **Research** an engineering problem.
3. **Write** an essay on their solution.
4. **Build** a tabletop scale model using recycled materials.
5. **Present** their model and ideas to engineers at the regional competition in January. The regional winners receive a trip to the National Finals in Washington, D.C., in February.

Registration is now open      Screen clipping taken:  
8/27/2010, 11:49 AM  
PDF Brochure: [http://www.futurecity.org/docs/2011\\_Brochure\\_Final.pdf](http://www.futurecity.org/docs/2011_Brochure_Final.pdf)  
Link: <http://www.futurecity.org/>

### Teach@15 Award Program--Deadline: Rolling

The Teach@15 Award Program helps schools that serve grades 7-12 meet their technology needs. Teens (ages 13-18) who are registered members on at15.com can nominate their schools to win an award. Teen members can vote once a day for 15 days for one nomination. Every 15 days, Best Buy will award 3 schools with Best Buy gift cards based on the number of member votes. The first place school will receive \$1,500, second place \$1,000, and third place \$500.

Link: [http://www.bestbuy-communityrelations.com/our\\_focus.htm](http://www.bestbuy-communityrelations.com/our_focus.htm)

### Purdue zipTrips--FREE Electronic Field Trip

Do you want to take your middle-school science students on a field trip without breaking the budget? Wish you had an alternative? Purdue zipTrips™ is the answer!! These free electronic field trips will bring a new experience in science education directly to your school.

Link: <http://www.agriculture.purdue.edu/zipTrips/>

### Toshiba America Foundation--Deadline: (See bold below)

Wanted: Classroom Innovators! Toshiba America Foundation is currently accepting applications from teachers who are passionate about making science and mathematics more engaging for their students. Do you teach 6-12 science or math? Do you have a wish list of instructional equipment that will make learning more exciting for your students? If the answer is yes to these questions, Toshiba America Foundation would like to hear from you. "

**Grade 6-12 applications for \$5,000 or less are accepted on a rolling basis, throughout the calendar year.**

**Grant requests of more than \$5,000 are reviewed twice a year. Applications for grants of more than \$5,000 are due February 1st and August 1st each year.**

Link: <http://www.toshiba.com/taf/612.jsp>

## Team American Rocketry Challenge~Deadline: **May 2011**

Approximately 7,000 students from across the nation compete in TARC each year. Teams design, build and fly a model rocket that reaches a specific altitude and duration determined by a set of rules developed each year. The contest is designed to encourage students to study math and science and pursue careers in aerospace. The top 100 teams, based on local qualification flights, are invited to Washington, DC in May for the national finals. Prizes include \$60,000 in cash and scholarships split between the top 10 finishers. NASA invites top teams to participate in their Student Launch Initiative, an advanced rocketry program. AIA member companies, such as Lockheed Martin and Raytheon have sponsored additional prizes such as scholarship money and a trip to an international air show.

Link: <http://www.rocketcontest.org/index.cfm>

## West Point Virtual Bridge Design Contest

Welcome to the 2011 West Point Bridge Design Contest

**HOW TO ENTER**

- 1 [Download](#) and install the West Point Bridge Designer 2011 software.
- 2 Use the software to design and test a virtual bridge.
- 3 [Register](#) your team.
- 4 [Log in](#) and submit as many designs as you like.

*It's absolutely FREE!*



**Who:** U.S. students age 13 through grade 12 are eligible for prizes. Anyone else may enter our Open Competition. More about [eligibility...](#)

**When:** The 2011 contest will begin on January 10, 2011, and the Qualifying Round will end on February 25. More about the [contest schedule...](#)

**Prizes:** Each member of the first-place team earns a **\$10,000 scholarship**. Each finalist wins a notebook computer. More about [prizes...](#)

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Link: <http://bridgecontest.usma.edu/>

# Chicago Public Schools (CPS-ONLY)

## **Fund for Teachers**

"Fund for Teachers is the national donor supported organization that awards fellowships for self-designed professional growth to teachers who recognize the value of inquiry, the power of knowledge and their ability to make a difference. FFT provides fellowship grants directly to teachers, with more than three years of experience, to support their professional learning during the summer. Their experiences come in many forms, but share the purpose of better teaching. Ultimately, FFT believes that by experiencing the potential of their personal and professional learning, teachers in turn inspire potential in their students."

**Application information available: October 2010**

Link: <http://www.fundforteachers.org/apply/il.html>

## **Chicago Foundation for Education Small Grant Program**

"Chicago Foundation for Education awards **\$500 Small Grants** to CPS elementary school teachers with innovative, creative classroom ideas that will enhance student learning. Grants provide teachers the resources needed to develop an effective curricular project that engages students, improves learning and aligns with the standards. Individuals or teams of teachers may apply for a Small Grant to develop and implement new project ideas in their classrooms. All Chicago public elementary school educators (PreK through 8th Grade) are eligible to apply."

Link: [http://www.cfelessonplans.org/pages/teacher\\_login/195.php](http://www.cfelessonplans.org/pages/teacher_login/195.php)

## **Money Smart Week Programs at MSI**

MSI hosts a "Go Green" environmental and financial education field trip program as part of Money Smart Week in April. Students in grades 4 through 8 experiment with green technologies and consider which ones are most cost effective and have the greatest return on investment. This program is provided at no cost to Chicago Public Schools classes, thanks to a grant from Harris Bank. "Go Green" programs are offered at 10 am, 11:30 am, and 12:45 pm on April 4, 5 and 7. Space is limited; contact *MSI's Call Center at 773-684-1414* to reserve your program. Money Smart Week is presented by MSI, Economic Awareness Council, City Treasurer of Chicago, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, and Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum.

# AWARDS & COMPETITIONS

## Teacher of the Month-WGNTV

"If you are currently a student age 13 or older in the Chicagoland viewing area or NW Indiana, nominate a teacher whom you feel makes a difference at your school or in your community.

One Teacher will be selected each month from **September 2010 through June 2011** with a total of ten (10) Teachers of the Month chosen. b. The school's principal will be contacted to verify the eligibility and the qualifications of the teacher. The principal must agree to let WGN-TV tape in the school during the teacher's ceremony. c. Each Teacher of the Month will receive a Certificate of Recognition, and the school, which employs the teacher, will receive \$1,000 worth of school supplies donated by National-Louis University. The donation to the winner's school will be delivered to the winner's school at a mutual time to be determined between the winner's school and Sponsors. Sponsors are not responsible for the safe arrival of a certificate or donation. d. Each Teacher of the Month will be notified via telephone or email. The Teacher of the Month also will be featured on WGN-TV News.

Link: <http://www.wgntv.com/news/teacherofthemonth/wgntv-teacherofthemonth-official-rules-story.0.1897584.story>

## Golden Apple Foundation

"Nominees must be full-time classroom teachers at a public or non-public school in Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake or Will counties in Illinois. Nominees must be committed to continue teaching in Illinois for at least two years after completing the sabbatical. *NOTE: Golden Apple Awards rotate through grade levels on an annual basis:*

2010 - 2012 -  
High pre-  
School K-3rd  
Grade

2011 - 2013 -  
4th-8th High  
School  
Grade

The Golden Apple Award offers its recipients (known as *Fellows*), the platform to create or contribute to programmatic responses to the needs of schoolchildren throughout Illinois.

In addition to the honor and public recognition, Golden Apple Award winners enjoy these additional rewards:

- A paid semester sabbatical at Northwestern University in Evanston, IL. Winners may take as many courses as they wish in any subjects they choose. As part of the sabbatical, the winners, as a group, design a seminar series to which they invite individuals who are making significant contributions in the field of education.
- A cash award of \$3,000
- Induction into the Golden Apple Academy of Educators"

Link: [http://www.goldenapple.org/pages/awards\\_and\\_recognition/2.php](http://www.goldenapple.org/pages/awards_and_recognition/2.php)

## PBS Teachers Innovation Awards~begins January 11, 2011

Do you use the resources of the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) to create innovative learning experiences for your students? If so, get ready for the [PBS Teachers Innovation Awards](#). The competition begins on January 11, but you can prepare by visiting the awards website to watch video clips of innovators and download an "Innovation 101" classroom curriculum. Then make a video showing how you innovate. Demonstrate what you do with students (inside or outside of a classroom), or share about an innovative project resulting from an instructional activity you conducted. Your video should show how you used a PBS resource to enhance the lesson or project. Entries will be due by March 31, 2011. The top 12 winners, one from each of 12 subject/grade groupings, will participate in a weeklong "Innovation Immersion Experience" at The Henry Ford in Dearborn, Michigan, and receive a free PBS TeacherLine professional development course. Discover more opportunities to display and develop your talent at the [NSTA Calendar](#).

Link: <http://www.pbs.org/teachers/innovators/>

### Classic Toys Video Contest (Slinky vs. Etch A Sketch)~Deadline: ?

Everyone from individuals to families to fund-raising groups to school clubs or teams can enter videos in the Slinky vs. Etch A Sketch Film Festival. Each video should use creativity to celebrate either the Slinky spring toy (marking its 65th anniversary this year) or the Etch A Sketch drawing toy (marking its 50th anniversary) and explain why the filmmaker loves this toy best. The top video for each classic toy will win \$5000. Judging criteria include creativity and originality, consumer appeal, and how well the video matches the assignment to pay homage to these iconic toys.

Link: <http://www.emipowered.net/slinkyvsetch/homepage/>

### Schoolyard Bird Challenge

"The Schoolyard Birding Challenge (SBC) is a monthly bird watching contest open to students in all public, private, and home schools in North America. Student participants in the SBC will work together to observe, identify, and record various bird species found on their school grounds."Link: <http://www.fledgingbirders.org/challenge.html>

### The Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching~Deadline: **May 2, 2011**

The Awards recognize outstanding K-12 teachers for their contributions in the classroom and to their profession. The 2011 Awards will honor math and science teachers working in **grades 7-12**.

Link: <http://www.paemst.org/controllers/home.cfc?method=view>

### Poster, Poetry and Prose Contest

"Dear Fifth/Sixth Grade Educators,

We invite your students to participate in the annual Environmental Pathways statewide poster and poetry/prose exhibit. The theme of the 2010 event will be "Conserving and Protecting the Land of Lincoln!" focusing on the importance of conserving and protecting our land resources."

Link: <http://www.epa.state.il.us/kids/teachers/contest/index.html>

### We Are Teachers

Do you have a winning idea to build success in the classroom? Thousands of teachers have submitted creative initiatives for teaching projects, and hundreds have won cash and prizes for projects covering everything from the environment to the arts to digital learning and more. Get started now and share your ideas, find inspiration and make connections!

Link: <http://www.weareteachers.com/ideas>

### Golden Carrot Awards

PCRM is currently seeking nominations for its Golden Carrot Awards for outstanding school food service professionals. The grand prize winner will receive \$1,000 and a \$2,000 check made out to her or his school or school district. Up to four additional awards will be given, with \$500 going to the food service professional and \$500 to benefit the school food service program.

Link: <http://www.healthyschoollunches.org/carrot/index.cfm>

### Math Contest (Grades 2,3, 4 and 5)

The goal of the competition is to encourage students' interest in math, to inspire students to excel in math, and to convey the message to young students: *It is COOL to be good at math!*

We are beginning our 3rd year! More than 3,500 students representing 304 teams participated in our April 2010 contest. **Two math contests are scheduled in the coming school year: October 14, 2010 and April 14, 2011.** The contest is for students in grades 2, 3, 4 and 5. Any teacher from a public school or a private school is welcome to register their students.

Link: <http://www.noetic-learning.com/mathcontest/>

### President Obama's National STEM Video Game Challenge~Opens: October 12, 2010

*The Youth Prize* engages middle school students (grades 5 through 8) in STEM learning by challenging them to design original video games. The Youth Prize design challenge will be open to middle school students from any U.S. school with a special emphasis on reaching students in underserved urban and rural communities.

Link: <http://www.stemchallenge.org/youthprize/>



**Vernier Technology Award--Deadline: November 30, 2011**

The Vernier/NSTA Technology Awards promote the innovative use of data-collection technology using a computer, graphing calculator, or other handheld in the science classroom. We encourage you to apply for one of seven \$3,000 awards.

Link: <http://www.vernier.com//grants/nsta.html>

**Adobe Design Achievement Awards--Deadline: June 2011**

The Adobe Design Achievement Awards recognize innovative students and faculty members who AMAZE the world. Finalists will receive Adobe software and a trip to Taipei, Taiwan, where they will be honored in an awards ceremony during the 2011 IDA Congress set for October, 24-26, 2011. Category winners also will receive a cash award of US\$3,000.

Link: <http://www.adobeawards.com/us/?trackingid=IETQC>

**PBS Design Squad--Build BIG Contest--Deadline: August 1, 2011**

Design Squad Nation wants you to BUILD BIG. Choose an activity from the DSN Web site, form a team, and build your own super-big version. Then take a video of your working design and upload it to YouTube.

Link: <http://pbskids.org/designsquad/contest/index.html>

**ISTA ANNOUNCES THE EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE AWARD FOR K-12 SCHOOLS: Seven schools to be honored for reaching for their Critical Mass in science teaching and learning--Deadline: June 1, 2011**

The ISTA Excellence in Science award program, designed for school-building level teams throughout Illinois, is built on the concept of **Critical Mass**. Critical Mass describes the contributions of each member of the school's team, all working toward achieving a common goal associated with success in the sciences for their students. Critical Mass depends on the special talents and skills of each member, realizing that the success of science teaching and learning is a shared, common responsibility of the teachers, administrators and the school's community. The Excellence in Science Award will celebrate holistically envisioned science programs that are designed and implemented by each of the team members. Such a program is driven by the anticipated success of all students and guided by the professional learning community for science teaching.

Link: [www.ista-il.org](http://www.ista-il.org)

# FUNDRAISERS

Tuesday, April 05, 2011  
3:39 PM

## **JAMBA JUICE**

Together with the National Gardening Association, we've created "Sip to Support a Garden", an easy, feel good fundraiser for schools and communities that encourages nutrition, education and sustainability. Just register your school or public community garden\* group to join our swipe card program. Every time a supporter of your group uses the card at a participating Jamba Juice, your program gets 10% of the sales. Registered groups also become eligible to apply for one of twenty-five "It's All About the Fruit" \$500 fruit tree planting grants. And because we love to see fundraising (and gardens) grow, we'll give an additional 2% of every purchase made with a swipe card to fund additional grants.

Link: <http://www.jambajuice.com/gardens>

Link: <http://www.jambajuice.com/sign-up?m=NGA>

## **Flower Power**

NGA is proud to endorse Flower Power Fundraising. This program gives schools and nonprofits a "healthy" option for fundraising — selling bulbs that will bloom into stunning floral displays. Flower Power has carefully selected easy-to-plant, easy-to-grow bulbs from among its most popular and best-selling varieties, ensuring a successful, appealing fundraising campaign.

Link: <http://www.kidsgardening.com/fundraising.asp>

## **Lights for Learning**

An education-based outreach and fundraising program that promotes the sale and use of low-cost, energy efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs). The Program helps children and schools raise needed funds while encouraging participants and their communities to become more energy conscious.

Link: <http://www.lights4learning.org/>

## **Heifer International Service Learning and Fundraising Service-Learning and Fundraising Programs**

Teachers can do for their students what Heifer does for project partners around the world: inspire others to become part of ever-widening efforts to create a better world. We see it again and again at Heifer International as inspired students act to improve the lives of communities helped by Heifer. We encourage you and your students to join these efforts and offer these ideas for all grade levels to get you started.

Link: <http://www.heifer.org/site/c.edJRKQNiFiG/b.6135227/>

## **Read to Feed®**

Read to Feed is a reading incentive service-learning program that offers global education opportunities and will foster in your children a love for reading, a passion to help others and a way to help create a better world. [Heifer's Read to Feed resources](#) makes the program fun for the students and easy for the leader.

Link: <http://www.heifer.org/site/c.edJRKQNiFiG/b.6135231/>

## **Box Tops for Education**

Sponsored by General Mills, Box Tops for Education enables K-8 schools to earn up to \$60,000 every year by clipping 10¢ Box Tops coupons from hundreds of products such as Cheerios, Betty Crocker, Juicy Juice, Ziploc, Kleenex, Hefty, and more. At the Box Tops Marketplace, individuals can shop at over 70 online stores like Oriental Trading Co., JCPenney, and Lands' End, and a percentage of these purchases will go back to their schools. Teachers can begin their shopping at the Box Tops Reading Room to earn up to 6% on purchases at Barnes & Noble. In addition, they can check out the Bonus Box Tops section for sweepstakes, contests, and other bonus opportunities each month.

Link: <http://www.boxtops4education.com/Default.aspx>

## **Healthy School Healthy You**

Established in 2002, St. Hill Pharmaceutical Corporation is a certified woman-owned business whose mission is to provide families with innovative wellness products that benefit the health of adults and children alike. St. Hill started Healthy School Healthy You Fundraisers to help families do something healthy every day while providing a way for the school community to profit at the same time.

Link: <http://www.healthy-school-healthy-you-fundraiser.org/instructions.html>

# FREEBIES

## Operation Green Plant

Free vegetable seeds, flower seeds and/or herb seeds!

Link: [http://www.america-the-beautiful.org/free\\_seeds/index.php](http://www.america-the-beautiful.org/free_seeds/index.php)

## PTO Today Free Family Night Planning Kits

"What's the best way to get more parents involved in your school? Host a School Family Night! Our School Family Nights program is a great way to bring more parents into your school and connect with your school's families. Once parents see what a great time they can have with their kids at your school events... they'll be ready to sign up for more."

Link: [http://www.ptotoday.com/sfn/SFN\\_homepage\\_leader.php](http://www.ptotoday.com/sfn/SFN_homepage_leader.php)

## STEM Research Opportunity ~Study begins October 27, 2010

If you are a grade 5 through 8 science, technology, or mathematics teacher, you are eligible to participate in a new STEM research study as a Control Teacher. Take an approved PBS Teacher Line course for FREE and complete two surveys, and then receive a \$50 stipend!

Link: [www.pbs.org/pd/crepstudy](http://www.pbs.org/pd/crepstudy)

## Classroom Resource Guide

*Edutopia* is thrilled to share with you our latest classroom resource guide highlighting new solutions for connecting home and school in order to improve student learning and success.

Link: <http://www.edutopia.org/home-to-school-connections-guide>

## Fermilab Science Presentations

Is your school within 90 minutes driving time of Fermilab? Why not invite a Fermilab scientist to your classroom! We put on exciting presentations on the following topics. To schedule a visit contact us no less than three weeks prior to your requested date. Send the name of presentation, a few dates, grade level and your contact information to [Nancy Lanning](mailto:Nancy.Lanning@fnal.gov) or call 630-840-5588.

Link: [http://ed.fnal.gov/trc\\_new/demos/index.html](http://ed.fnal.gov/trc_new/demos/index.html)

## IMAGIVERSE--U.S. ONLY POSTCARD EXCHANGE -

Deb Kruse, from Arizona, has graciously volunteered to coordinate this activity for Imagiverse. If you are interested in participating in a U.S. only postcard exchange, please contact the Activity Coordinator and select "Postcards Around the U.S.A. (Spring 2011)" as the subject. We will contact you with further details about the new format for the exchange. We highly recommend [Postcrossing.COM](http://Postcrossing.COM) for exchanging postcards with people around the world! Please contact the [Activity Coordinator](mailto:ActivityCoordinator@imagiverse.org) in response to anything in this email. We look forward to seeing you participate in future Imagiverse exchanges and activities. We hope you enjoy what we have to offer!

## IMSA on Wheels ASSEMBLY SHOW

IMSA on Wheels is a mobile science theater offered to elementary schools throughout the Chicagoland area. IMSA on Wheels is an assembly-style show for elementary students in grades three through five; it is designed to spark student interest in science and encourage learning. The current program is called "Science is Shocking" and features demonstrations on electricity and magnetism. The program is sponsored by a grant from 3M and BP. Similar to other Kids Institute programs, IMSA on Wheels is developed and taught by IMSA students with supervision from IMSA faculty and staff.

Link: <http://www.imsa.edu/programs/kidsinstitute/wheels/>

## Museum of Science and Industry

Illinois school groups get free general admission for field trips.

Link: <http://www.msichicago.org/education/field-trips/reservations/field-trip-reservation/>

### Free Award Winning Science Publications, Videos and Materials

Link: <http://www.hhmi.org/catalog/main?action=home>

### Lab Out Loud Episode 54: The Encyclopedia of Life

Originally imagined by Harvard biologist E.O. Wilson as "an electronic page for each species of organism on Earth," The Encyclopedia of Life (EOL) is a free, online collaborative encyclopedia intended to document every living species known to science. It is compiled from existing databases and from contributions by experts and non-experts throughout the world. [Join hosts Brian Bartel and Dale Basler](#) as they talk to Dr. Marie Studer (EOL Learning and Education Director) and Mr. Bob Corrigan (EOL Product Manager and Acting Deputy Director) to learn about the EOL, how to participate in the project, and how it can be used in the classroom.

### PopSci Online Magazine

We've partnered with Google to offer our entire 137-year archive for free browsing. Each issue appears just as it did at its original time of publication, complete with period advertisements. And today we're excited to announce you can browse the full archive right here on PopSci.com.

Link: <http://www.popsci.com/announcements/article/2010-03/new-browse-137-years-pops-ci-archive-free>

### A Reel Adventure

It's very tempting for children to spend a lot of time indoors with more and more digital tools available at their fingertips. That is why the Take Me Fishing™ campaign and Discovery Education are partnering to promote curiosity in the great outdoors. Explore the Blue is a comprehensive program providing free resources to help you engage your students in a dialogue about boating, fishing and other outdoor recreational activities, as well as teach them the value of clean and healthy waterways.

Link: [www.takemefishing.org](http://www.takemefishing.org)

### Studies in Air Quality for Science Educators

The Science center for Teaching, Outreach, and Research on Meteorology (the STORM Project) at the University of Northern Iowa (Cedar Falls) will sponsor a short course entitled "Studies in Air Quality for Science Educators" on July 10-15, 2011. This intensive, one-week course is designed specifically for middle school and high school science teachers. Participants will receive a *stipend*. Expenses, including travel, will be paid by the STORM Project. Out-of-state teachers are encouraged to apply.

Link: <http://www.uni.edu/storm/saqse/>

### On-line Stopwatch

Link: <http://www.online-stopwatch.com/full-screen-stopwatch/>

### IMSA's-It's FunShop Time!

This spring we will be holding two FunShops at IMSA in Aurora on March 19 and **April 9, 2011**. It is open to all third through sixth graders. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to email [bsumbry@imsa.edu](mailto:bsumbry@imsa.edu)

Link: <https://www3.imsa.edu/programs/kidsinstitute/students>

## BONUS SECTION—TRIPS

### **Family Outdoor Activity Fair (Grades K-6) June 12, 2011 – 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

<http://ed.fnal.gov> – Link on this event through the Calendar.

Bring your family to the Lederman Science Center to explore a variety of outdoor activities together. Activities include walking the emerging tallgrass prairie, netting for land and water critters and visiting the bison herd. The fair is free. Contact [edreg@fnal.gov](mailto:edreg@fnal.gov) (preferred) or 630-840-5588 with questions.

### **Green Outreach Event-Washington D.C. for 4th-7th graders June 23, 2011**

In connection with the joint 15th Annual Green Chemistry & Engineering Conference/5th International Conference on Green and Sustainability, the ACS Green Institute and Beyond Benign will hold an outreach event for metro Washington, DC 4th-7th graders. This event will be held on Thursday afternoon, June 23, 2011 at the Capital Hilton Hotel in downtown Washington, DC. Just 2 blocks from the White House and accessible by public transportation, this event will cap off three days of premier conference programming. Students will learn about basic green chemistry and engineering concepts through a series of live experiments. If you know of an organization (summer camp, summer school, etc.) that would like to participate, please contact the ACS Green Chemistry Institute at [gci@acs.org](mailto:gci@acs.org) or (202) 872-6102. Please note that all attendees must register in advance by phone; *no walk-ins allowed*. Photos will be taken; therefore, all attendees will be asked to sign a standard photo release.

### **Purdue zipTrips™ for middle schoolers**

"Do you want to take your middle-school science students on a field trip without breaking the budget? Wish you had an alternative? Purdue zipTrips™ is the answer!! These free electronic field trips will bring a new experience in science education directly to your school."

Link: <http://www.agriculture.purdue.edu/zipTrips/>

### **Boeing Educators Space Camp for 4-8th grade teachers July 18-22, 2011**

The Boeing Company in collaboration with School of Education and the Center for STEM Research, Education and Outreach at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville is seeking to provide scholarships to fund up to ten 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade public school teachers to participate in the 2011 Summer Space Camp. The all expense paid camp includes:

- Tuition for 5-day Space Academy for Educators program at U.S. Space Camp in Alabama;
- Roundtrip airfare;
- Meals and double occupancy accommodations;
- Workbooks, program materials, t-shirts and flight suits for participating teachers;
- For more detailed information visit the U.S. Space Camp website at:

Link: [www.spacecamp.com/educators/boeing](http://www.spacecamp.com/educators/boeing)

**Experience a field trip to the Notebaert Nature Museum in your own classroom!** Program topics focus on nature and ecology and are taught by Museum educators with hands-on, inquiry based science. We bring a piece of the Museum to your classroom and educate students on relevant, local and standards-based subject matter. Programs are 60 minutes long (flexible to your class period) and have a capacity for a maximum of 32 students per program. Topics are recommended to serve as enrichment to current subject areas being taught.

Link: <http://www.naturemuseum.org/index.php?id=237>

### **Urban Habitat Chicago Earth Day 2011 Workshops (Saturday, April 23, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.)**

Join UHC at the nature Museum for hands-on workshops and activities to celebrate Earth Day! A team of experienced urban farmers, educators and architects will be on hand giving demonstrations and sharing their knowledge. Learn about home storm water management, get a how-to on seed starting and organic gardening, experience the taste of local vegetables, and participate in a do-it-yourself vermicompositing workshop!

Link: <http://www.urbanhabitatchicago.org/events/workshops/488/>

**METRO EAST AREA---St. Louis Dairy Council: DAIRY FULLY FUELED TOUR**

A fun, interactive program designed to give students a unique experience of the power of healthy eating. The Tour aims to reward Illinois schools for their efforts in building healthier student bodies with a day of physical activity, games, and nutrition know-how. Open to schools in the 81 Illinois counties served by St. Louis District Dairy Council. Applications due June 30, 2011.

Link: [www.dairyfullyfueled.com](http://www.dairyfullyfueled.com)

