

Editor's Pick

Foundation to award record amount of grants

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BLOOMINGTON – Illinois Prairie Community Foundation will award its largest amount of grant money this year following a successful annual campaign and growth in the foundation's endowments.

The foundation will award \$200,000 in grants, including funds that already have been awarded.

Awarded so far have been \$40,000 in Women to Women Giving Circle grants and \$10,000 in Youth Engaged in Philanthropy grants.

The women's grants were \$15,537 to Cabrini Green Legal Aid's Second Chance and Family Connections Summit, \$5,000 for Girls in the game After School Program, \$5,000 for Girls on the Run of Central Illinois' McLean County Expansion, \$4,000 for Girl Scouts of Central Illinois' Be a Friend First, \$2,813 for Music Connections Foundation's Kindermusik at Neville House and \$7,650 for Normal Community West High School's Girls Who Code-Makerspace.

Youth grants were \$950 for 100 Black Men of Central Illinois Summer School Scholarships, \$1,850 to Child Protection Network for gas cards for Court Appointed Special Advocate volunteers, \$1,000 to Clinton Elementary School for Read Across Clinton, \$1,000 to Easterseals Central Illinois for Timber Pointe scholarships, \$1,000 to Fostering Dignity for backpacks for children entering foster care, \$200 to Jack and Jill of America, Inc. Bloomington-Normal chapter for Speaking Up for Success, and \$4,000 to West Bloomington Active garden for a garden for low-income families through Boys & Girls Club of Bloomington-Normal.

The foundation is accepting applications until Feb. 23 for grants in three categories:

- Foundation/Mirza Arts and Culture grants for performing, visual or literary arts or art education, \$71,672 available.
- General grants for education, environment, health and wellness or youth, \$58,328 available.
- Sol Shulman Jewish Education and Life grants, \$20,000 available

Applicants must represent a 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt organization, local government, school or college, a tax-exempt religious organization or place of worship. Programs must be available to residents of McLean, DeWitt, Livingston or Logan counties but don't have to be offered in all four counties.

Links to applications and additional information is at www.ilprairiecf.org.