

The Education Foundation Newsletter

Fall 2013

Don't miss a beat as Cleveland Pops plays for the Foundation

With the overwhelming success of the Jim Tressel appearance last year fresh in mind, The Education Foundation sought a fundraising event for 2013 with a different look and appeal.

That led to the Cleveland Pops Orchestra, which performs at Severance Hall and Blossom Music Center but takes its 100 musicians on the road to venues throughout northeast Ohio.

Funds raised by the Holiday Concert on Nov. 30 will supplement those raised by the Foundation's annual Auction and will help provide enrichment activities for students in the Berea Schools.

The Foundation booked the Cleveland Pops into the Kulas Musical Arts Building thanks to Baldwin Wallace University, which also consulted with the Foundation on the programming.





"The venue makes the concert easily accessible to patrons," said Carol Templeman, chair of the Foundation's marketing committee. "You don't have to drive downtown or to the East Side to hear a top-notch orchestra. They will be right here." And parking is free.

Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield is the presenting sponsor. Corporate sponsorships at various levels are available. Contact Kim Dettmer, (216) 898-8270 or kdettmer@berea.k12.oh.us for details.



The first Imagine! Explore the Arts Grant awarded

The Education Foundation has awarded the first *Imagine! Explore the Arts Grant*. This grant was established in memory of Joanna Pusti, a former art teacher and wife of Education Foundation Trustee Dave Pusti.

The grant was awarded to Jennifer Forsyther of Big Creek Elementary School for the PAINTS (Providing Artistic Inspiration Navigating Theraputic Solutions) program. PAINTS is an art therapy program designed for special needs students. The \$500 grant money will be used for supplies to enhance the program.



One of the key responsibilities for the Foundation Trustees is to grow the wealth of the Foundation so that there are more resources for "investing in the students of the Berea School District." In this newsletter there are many examples of how the Foundation is investing in our students. Scholarships have

been awarded, enrichment grants have been given, new enrichment grants have been established and the funds of the Foundation continue to grow because of the generous donations of so many people. The Foundation will sponsor a second major fundraiser this November when it hosts the Cleveland Pops on November 30th. Please see the information and consider purchasing tickets. It will be a great evening and a good opportunity to continue the investment in our students.

Since 1987 when I came to the Berea School District as an administrator, I knew that this was a place I wanted to be. Now, eight years after retiring from the district, I know that Berea School District continues to believe in our students. The Foundation provides a good avenue for continued involvement. Please contact me (jconnell5@roadrunner.com) or Kim Dettmer (kdettmer@berea.k12.oh.us), Executive/Development Director, with any ideas or thoughts you might have about investing in our students. The Foundation not only seeks additional resources, but it continues to need volunteers who can help with the work of the Foundation.

Thank You!

Jim Connell

Chair, The Education Foundation Board of Trustees

Save the Date...

SPOTLIGHT ON... Gentlemen's Club helps

at-risk boys

Five years ago, Johnny Bollin, then a teacher at Roehm Middle

School, was asked to help with six African-American male students who were "on the fence."

That one meeting morphed into another with the boys requesting that the sessions become more regular and permanent. Then more kids asked if they could attend, too. The result was The Gentlemen's Club, which has been funded by Enrichment Grants from The Education Foundation.



Johnny Bollin

With the closing of Roehm and the realignment of schools and grades throughout the Berea School District, Bollin is now at Middleburg Heights Junior High School with a new role - administrative intern. He took The Gentlemen's Club with him.

"We've had to refocus the program," Bollin said. In the beginning, the club focused on at-risk African-American males in the 7th, 8th and 9th grades. This year, Bollin is concentrating on a core of 30 7th-grade boys of all races, cultures and backgrounds with a variety of issues. The students were recommended by teachers and counselors.

Boys in the 8th and 9th grades will be helped by the Realizing Your Potential program coordinated by Susan Malone, who also worked with Bollin at Roehm and will continue to do so at Middleburg Heights Junior High. RYP is based at Berea-Midpark High School but will help junior high youth with career planning.

The boys in the Gentlemen's Club have academic and/or behavior issues, Bollin said. The key is to get to know the students, to make a connection, he said.

"The problem isn't school or the teacher," Bollin said. "They act out here but the root of the problem is usually at home or with a relationship with an adult or another student."

"We sit down and talk. You have to build trust. Without trust, this doesn't work."

Academic issues are dealt with in study hall. "Some of the students need structure," he said. Some get tutoring help. "They often help each other," Bollin said. If one student has a problem with math, for example, another will step up and volunteer to help.

They often discuss current events, such as the Trayvon Martin case, where a neighborhood watch captain shot and killed Trayvon, a 17-year-old African-American youth, in Florida. "We looked at what was going on there from a student perspective," he said. It helped the kids to talk it out.

Over the years, Bollin said more than 100 youths have gone through the Gentlemen's Club. He still keeps in touch with club alumni. Field trips to the Football Hall of Fame and to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame plus college visits help focus the students, he said and point them toward a positive path. Not everyone can be an NFL player and not everyone can be a rock star, but there are behind-the-scenes jobs that are more lasting and just as important. Long term, the Gentlemen's Club provides role models and direction to young men who may otherwise be rebellious, lost, confused and in need of a helping hand. Bollin said the Enrichment Grants from The Education Foundation make the Gentlemen's Club possible. "I am extremely grateful," he said.

Education Foundation awards Enrichment Grants

The Education Foundation has awarded a record \$17,250 in Enrichment Grants for the 2013-14 school year. This the highest amount ever granted in an academic year. The funds were distributed to seven projects submitted by Berea City School District staff members. Some of the grant recipients are new to the program and some are repeat winners.

Titans Day

Project: Titans Day

Berea-Midpark High School

Staff Members: Theresa Hahn, Mary Draves, Sherri Fox, Toni

Knotek, Carrie Albrecht Amount of Grant: \$10.000

Titans Day was the culmination of a community-wide Titans Week involving Berea, Brook Park and Middleburg Heights. Titans Day, Aug, 23, 2013, provided a chance for students and staff to get to know each other through a variety of activities.



Berea-Midpark High School students celebrating at Titans Day.

"Cross the Line," based on an MTV event, attempts to break down barriers through small- and large-group activities. There also was a DJ, inflatables, sidewalk chalk art, tie-dying and kick ball games. Titans Day concluded with a community pep rally at Finnie Stadium with the marching band, the fall sports teams and a contest for the loudest Class Cheer. The grant paid for Titans paraphernalia and supplies for the various activities.

Music Composition

Project: To create a new school song **Ford Intermediate School**

Staff Member: Tracy Gabrielson

Amount of Grant: \$650

Sixth-grade choir students will work with a professional composer to create a song that reflects the spirit and goals of the new intermediate school. The students will use poetry to compose the lyrics and collaborate with a composer to write the melody and instrumental accompaniments, using composition software.

AVID

Project: Achievement Via Individual Determination

Berea-Midpark High School **Staff Member: Ryan Peoples** Amount of Grant: \$1,500

AVID offers tutoring and enrichment activities to students who underachieve for a variety of reasons, including low socio-economic status and family issues. These students have college potential. The grant pays for teacher training, field trips to colleges and local businesses and school supplies. The goal is to motivate the students and to enhance their study skills.

Chinese Culture

Project: To explore various aspects of Chinese culture

Berea-Midpark High School Staff Member: SuHsien Hsu Amount of Grant: \$1,000

This project will expand on lessons learned in the Mandarin Chinese language course. Students will experience Chinese food, art and dance. They will learn calligraphy, Chinese painting and poetry. There will be field trips to Chinese stores and to a local university. Guest speakers will give students a global view of business and culture.

Bucket-Filling Program

Project: To teach children responsibility

Big Creek Elementary School

Staff Members: Gena Catino, Tami Klammer, Jennifer Forsythe Amount of Grant: \$3.000

The Bucket-Filling program develops responsibility, citizenship, caring, respect, fairness and trustworthiness. Students will "fill the buckets" of fellow students and members of the community with kind words and deeds. Big Creek students will partner with another school in the district that also takes part in the Bucket-Filling program to find creative ways to fill those children's buckets as well. The program is in place at Grindstone and Brookview Elementary Schools. One of the results is a decrease in discipline referrals coupled with an increase in the sense of community. The grant pays for books, school assemblies and classroom supplies.

Celebrating Our Differences

Project: To help students understand differences that make

people special

Big Creek Elemenary School - Extended Care

Staff Member: Jean Spittal Amount of Grant: \$800

Books, games, art, music, food-tasting and role-playing will be used to let students experience the diversity of the world around them. Children in kindergarten through 4th grade will participate together with the older students working with the younger students to promote communication and teamwork. They will learn the importance of tolerance and acceptance of different races, cultures and families. The grant pays for board games, books and arts and crafts supplies.

Pinewood Derby

Project: Pinewood Derby race for ED students Big Creek Elementary School Staff Member: Dennis Kavran

Amount of Grant: \$300

This project will allow ED students, who are not able to participate in Cub Scout activities, to conduct a Pinewood Derby, which is a traditional part of Scouting. The students will design and build their own race cars. This activity teaches social skills as well as science concepts of aerodynamics and gravity. The activity also builds self-esteem. Last year, the students used the Pinewood Derby track at St.Mary School in Berea. This year, the Big Creek ED students will host their own Pinewood Derby, inviting the Cub Scout pack from St. Mary's. The grant pays for the track and kits to build the cars. Fall 2013

The Education Foundation Newsletter

Congratulations to the 2013 Education Foundation Scholarship Award Winners

BEREA HIGH SCHOOL

Nikita Martin

Brian Adkins Scholarship

Erin Teutsch

BHS Class of 1976 Merit Scholarship

Jacqueline Thomason

BHS Class of 1976 Merit Scholarship

Samantha Carson

BHS Class of 1962 Scholarship

Rachel Williams

Carolyn Kreighbaum Memorial Scholarship

Emily Lohr

Dr. Paul C. Gallaher Scholarship

Brendan Smith

Berea City Club Scholarship

Emily Volz

Berea City Club Scholarship

Candice Hammond

Jeffrey D. King Scholarship

Briana Sealey

Dr. J. R. Andrisek Scholarship

Brianna Zahir

Giant Eagle Scholarship

Peyton Kranz

Berea Board of Education Scholarship

Jeremy Runyon

Paul Swaddling Memorial Scholarship

Samantha D'Agostino

Joe Stitt Memorial Scholarship



Terri Stitt awards Samantha D'Agostino her scholarship

The Education Foundation Newsletter

MIDPARK HIGH SCHOOL

Samantha Thompson

Dr. Paul C. Gallaher Scholarship

Taylor Charvat

Paul Swaddling Memorial Scholarship

Marisa Fodor

John Lamb Music Scholarship

Tyler Higgins

Bob Studier Jr. Scholarship

Anna Prinkey

Brian Floria Memorial Scholarship



Donna Floria presents Anna Prinkey with her scholarship

Ammal Nasser

Midpark Scholarship

Michelle Gable

Midpark Scholarship

Ben Farris

Midpark Activities Scholarship

Trinh Vo

Giant Eagle Scholarship

Samantha Smith

Berea Board of Education Scholarship

Abigail Richard

Dr. James Connell Scholarship

Charles Styles

Brian Floria Memorial Scholarship

Veronica Skok

Frederick C. Graff Scholarship

Megan Fenton

OAPSE Local 213 Scholarship

Fall 2013



Cleveland Pops Holiday Concert

Benefiting the Education Foundation November 30, 2013 at 7pm

TICKET ORDER FORM

Ticket Prices

\$50 for Regular Ticket

\$25 is tax deductible

\$75 for Patron Ticket

Patrons will be listed in the program and \$50 is tax deductible

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OFFICE USE: date: _____ CHECK CASH CHARGE Ticket number(s): _____



390 Fair Street • Berea, OH 44017

CALENDAR

Oct. 18

No School. Professional Development Day

Oct. 25

Berea-Midpark High School Homecoming Game Vs. Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School 7 p.m. Finnie Stadium

Nov. 27-Dec. 1 Thanksgiving Break

Nov. 30

Cleveland Pops Concert
7 p.m. Kulas Hall
Baldwin Wallace University
To benefit The Education Foundation

Dec. 23-Jan. 3 Winter Break

THE EDUCATION FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

The Education Foundation Newsletter is published two times a year by The Education Foundation for the Berea City School District. The Newsletter is also available online at www.berea.k12.oh.us/foundation.

The Education Foundation 390 Fair St. Berea, OH 44017

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Look Inside...

2013 Foundation Scholarship Award Winners Announced



Student Trustee Emma Skerl awarded Education Foundation Scholarships to Midpark High School 2013 recipients.



Student Trustee Alafia Hairston awarded Education Foundation Scholarships to Berea High School 2013 recipients.