

SCHOOLGRANTS BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER

November 2004

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NEWS AND RESOURCES FOR GRANT WRITERS

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SchoolGrants Update

<http://www.schoolgrants.org>

It is hard to believe that another year is quickly drawing to a close! This is the last free newsletter that will be published during 2004. I hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving and winter holiday!

If you have been considering subscribing to the SchoolGrants Biweekly Newsletter, now is the time to do it! Beginning in January, the subscription price for 24 lengthy and informative issues will increase from \$35/year to \$45/year. It remains one of the best grant-related values around – even with the price increase! If you have more than a passing interest in grants, you should strongly consider subscribing to the biweekly newsletter.

FundingFactory

Have you been looking for a way to raise cash for your school that doesn't come with a lot of strings attached like grants frequently do?

FundingFactory helps schools and nonprofit organizations achieve fundraising success through a program that requires minimal effort. The largest free recycling fundraising program in the United States and Canada, FundingFactory offers FREE technology, sports & recreation equipment, playground systems and even [cash](#) in exchange for empty inkjet & laser cartridges and used cell phones.

FundingFactory offers you an easy way to raise funds while helping keep the environment a cleaner, nicer place. In this day and age, almost all of us use printers – some of which seem to go through toner cartridges very quickly. And, cell phones are practically considered a necessity by many. The problem many of us face, however, is what to do with the empty cartridges and obsolete cell phones.

Parents, staff members, and area businesses can help raise money for your school or nonprofit while getting rid of something that is either cluttering their space or hurting the environment if they simply throw the items away. One thing that makes this program so enticing is that the process is so easy.

FundingFactory helps every step of the way. They provide free promotional ideas including goal pages, personalized color fliers, postcards, and more. The recycling program costs you nothing but a bit of

time – all shipping costs are borne by FundingFactory. They even provide free pre-labeled collection boxes! What could be easier?

You can redeem your FundingFactory points online through a huge 9,000 item catalog that includes the latest technology and recreational products. Here, you'll find top brands like Apple, HP, Sony, Compaq and many more... Browse playground equipment available through their partner Gametime or sample unique recreational products provided through Flaghouse.

There's more!! If you sign up between now and December 15, 2004, SchoolGrants and the FundingFactory are offering a FREE one-year subscription to the SchoolGrants Biweekly Newsletter to one lucky registrant! Follow the instructions below to begin earning cash and rewards for your school!

WIN a subscription to the SchoolGrants Biweekly Newsletter!

SchoolGrants and The FundingFactory are offering a **free** one-year subscription to one lucky school that registers with The FundingFactory Recycling Program before December 15, 2004.

Click on the picture below to register now:



Make sure to register with FundingFactory and choose SchoolGrants as the referring organization before December 15, 2004 for your chance to win the one year newsletter subscription!

Contest is only open to new FundingFactory registrants.

Overweight Students and School Finances

<http://www.actionforhealthykids.org/>

[Action for Healthy Kids](#), founded by former U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher, is a nationwide initiative dedicated to improving the health and educational performance of children through better nutrition and physical activity in schools. The nonprofit recently released *The Learning Connection: The Value of Improving Nutrition and Physical Activity in Our Schools*, a report that summarizes a growing body of evidence demonstrating that poor nutrition, inactivity and weight problems can have a negative affect on student achievement. In addition, the report shows a connection between school funding and problems associated with poor nutrition and physical inactivity.

Resource for After School Programs

<http://tinyurl.com/67zh4>

[*Promoting Quality Through Professional Development: A Framework for Evaluation*](#) offers a preliminary framework for understanding and implementing evaluations of out-of-school-time (OST) professional development initiatives. In so doing, it draws on research from early childhood and elementary education and highlights the evaluation methods and results of recent OST professional development initiatives at both local and national levels. (<http://tinyurl.com/67zh4>)

[Free Online Workshops](#)

<http://www.paec.org/teacher2teacher/>

The U.S. Department of Education offers 11 different professional development workshops online at <http://www.paec.org/teacher2teacher/>. These are video sessions from Teacher-to-Teacher workshops that took place during the summer 2004. DISH Network customers can watch all of the Teacher-to-Teacher programs on the Florida Education Channel (FEC), which broadcasts across the nation on DISH Network channel 9418.

The Teacher-to-Teacher workshops are primarily geared towards K-8 teachers and their principals. However, teachers of all grades, subjects, and student populations will benefit from the Teacher-to-Teacher workshops.

[How Leadership Influences Student Learning](#)

<http://tinyurl.com/4l4ad>

This 17-page report finds that the quality of leadership a school has is second only to teaching in its impact on student learning. Researchers from the Universities of Minnesota and Toronto found that quality leadership has the greatest impact in schools where the learning needs are most acute.

[Resource Guide for Charter School Developers](#)

http://www.uscharterschools.org/cs/r/view/uscs_rs/200

The Resource Guide for Charter School Developers was published by the Leadership for Quality Education and was developed specifically for Illinois charter founders. However, the practical advice for the essential phases of planning, designing and operating charter schools is applicable to other states as well. Information is included on drafting a charter school proposal, garnering community support, designing a good educational program, developing accountability standards, recruiting staff, making personnel policies, and how to conduct fundraising and budgeting, secure facilities, and comply with charter school laws.

[Did You Know?](#)

<http://www.schoolgrants.org/newsletter2.htm>

Did you know that the content in the free newsletter appeared several months ago as a small portion of an issue of [*SchoolGrants Biweekly Newsletter*](#)? If you are a serious grant writer, you should consider subscribing to the *Biweekly Newsletter* so that you will receive timely information twice each month. The price increases from \$35/year to \$45/year beginning on January 1, 2005.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

[Cable's Leaders in Learning Awards](http://www.ciconline.com/LeadersInLearningAwards/default.htm)

<http://www.ciconline.com/LeadersInLearningAwards/default.htm>

Cable's Leaders in Learning Awards honor policymakers, educators, community leaders and administrators who demonstrate vision, innovation, action and transformation in K-12 education, in schools and in other informal learning settings such as after-school programs.

The competition is open to any individual working in U.S. communities or schools who can demonstrate that his or her innovative practices or policies have had a positive impact on K-12 education in one of the following categories: General excellence, 'Pushing the envelope,' Media literacy, and Policymaker.

In addition to a three day all-expense paid trip to Washington, DC, 12 winners across four categories will receive a \$3000 prize (policymakers may select a charity to receive the money) and the chance to be part of a community of innovators.

The application period runs through **January 31, 2005**. Winners will be notified on March 15, 2005.

[AlphaGrants Program](http://www3.alphasmart.com/k12/solutions/alphagrants.html)

<http://www3.alphasmart.com/k12/solutions/alphagrants.html>

The AlphaGrants Program is designed to help K-12 schools implement classroom technology solutions that improve the teaching and learning environment in math, science, and language arts. The company's goal is to assist educators as they strive to improve instruction, student performance, and achievement through the effective use of AlphaSmart products and services.

Each year, AlphaSmart plans to select four U.S. K-12 schools to receive a complete classroom solution for one-to-one computing based on the company's Neo or Dana computer companions. The solution includes 30 devices in a compact cart for storage and management, along with course software and professional training tailored to support the work outlined in the selected grant proposals.

AlphaSmart is accepting applications for the current AlphaGrant award cycle through **November 15, 2004**.

[2005 Youth Garden Grants](http://kids.garden.org/grantInquiry.php?grant=YG)

<http://kids.garden.org/grantInquiry.php?grant=YG>

National Garden Association will award Youth Garden Grants to schools and community organizations with child-centered outdoor garden programs. Priority will be given to proposals emphasizing 1) an educational focus and/or curricular ties (if applicant is a formal education program), 2) nutrition or plant-to-food connections, 3) environmental awareness/education, 4) entrepreneurship, or 5) social aspects of gardening such as leadership development, teambuilding, community support, or service-learning.

Award packages include seeds, tools, garden products, and educational resources generously donated by companies in the lawn and garden industry.

The application deadline has been extended to **December 1, 2004**.

GeoScience Education (NSF)

<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2004/nsf04598/nsf04598.htm>

The Geoscience Education Program considers proposals to initiate or pilot innovative geoscience education activities. Projects that are informed by the results of current education-related research or that will conduct new educational research within a geoscience education venue are particularly appropriate for consideration under this solicitation. Awards are intended to provide start-up or proof-of-concept funding to enable projects to reach a level of maturity that will allow them to compete for longer-term funding from other sources or become self-sustaining. All proposed projects should have strong dissemination and evaluation plans.

The goals of the Geoscience Education (GeoEd) Program are to:

- * improve the quality of geoscience education at all educational levels;
- * increase the number and competency of Earth and Space Science teachers at K-12 levels;
- * increase the number of students enrolling in geoscience courses and degree programs at all educational levels; and
- * increase the understanding of geoscience-related issues among the general public.

Proposals may target any educational level: postdoctoral, graduate, undergraduate, secondary, middle, or elementary. Up to 15 awards will be made. The maximum amount that can be requested under this solicitation is \$200,000 per year for up to two years. The average award size is expected to be less than \$100,000 annually for up to two years.

Applications are due by **November 15, 2004**.

SERVICES AVAILABLE THROUGH SCHOOLGRANTS

BIWEEKLY NEWSLETTER

If you do much grant writing for PK-12 schools or children, you will not find a better value for your money. Those who make the switch from the free Bimonthly Newsletter to the value-priced Biweekly Newsletter frequently write to tell me how glad they are to be getting so much quality information on a continuing basis.

LET'S WRITE A GRANT INTERACTIVE CD

Whether you are new to grant writing or an experienced veteran, the *Let's Write a Grant* CD is a valuable addition to your library. Dr. Sigrid Trombley, Grants Specialist at Wichita Public Schools said (in part), "If you're serious about learning to write grants, you won't find a better resource than the "Let's Write a Grant" CD that was created by and is marketed and sold by Donna Fernandez." Check out her comments and those of the NASSP at <http://www.schoolgrants.org/WriteGrant.htm#review>.

GRANT WRITING CONSULTING SERVICES

SchoolGrants has the expertise you need to access state and federal grant funds. Services available range from helping you plan your program and writing a proposal that reflects your program plan to providing an independent review and critique of a proposal you've written.

HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS

Consider providing your teachers and administrators with a hands-on one or two day workshop to teach them how to find funding opportunities and write competitive proposals. Past clients have included Performance Institute, BellSouth, Sandersville Technical College and, one of the regional education centers in Georgia.

FINAL DETAILS

SchoolGrants Bimonthly Newsletter is copyrighted. You are welcome to forward the newsletter in its entirety but you may not cut and paste information out of it to forward without credit to SchoolGrants. You should also not cut and paste the information from the newsletter onto your own Web page without express permission. Write to me if you wish to publish the content in the *SchoolGrants Bimonthly Newsletter*.

Did you know you can reach thousands who are vitally interested in K12 education by advertising in SchoolGrants Newsletter? Contact me for more information if you are interested.

To subscribe or unsubscribe from the *SchoolGrants* newsletter, go to <http://k12grants.org/cgi-bin/mojo/mojo.cgi?f=list&l=freeSN> Click on the "Subscribe or Unsubscribe" radio buttons and follow the steps given by the listserv software.

Thank you for subscribing to the free *SchoolGrants Bimonthly Newsletter!* Suggestions and comments are always welcome. Thanks to each of you who has helped spread the word among your friends and colleagues about the SchoolGrants site and this newsletter.