

# LEF PROGRAMS

**Grants** are a primary tool in LEF's effort to promote excellence in education. Individual teachers initiate classroom grants of up to \$1000. School impact grants of up to \$5000 are awarded for large-scale projects involving an entire school, grade level or curriculum. By awarding grants directly to teachers, LEF encourages and rewards teachers for creating innovative and exceptional classroom strategies for learning.

Any elementary, middle, or high school teacher in a Lafayette Parish public school may apply for a grant. Awards are made on the basis of a competitive review by panels of community representatives from both business and education.

In addition to the original grants program, LEF continues to pilot innovative projects with the intention of replicating successful model grants, designed to help educators and students reach their goals.

**Teacher Awards** recognizes and honors Lafayette Parish educators who have made a difference in the life of a child. Each year, sixteen finalists are honored during an "Academy Awards" style gala that is designed to recognize all of the nominated teachers for their contributions to excellence in education.

**Lifelong Learning** is a collaboration between LEF and other community partners designed to help create a community of lifelong learners and prepare our youth for success.

## Lafayette Education Foundation Mini-Grants Program

**Mission:** To promote and support excellence in education.

### **Who is eligible to submit applications?**

Lafayette Parish public school teacher, librarian, reading facilitator

### **Grant Awards:**

**Classroom:** \$1000 each, maximum of two per teacher, per year

**School Impact:** \$5000 for an entire school, subject area, or grade level with a minimum of four teachers participating

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>Time Frame:</b> | (Subject to change)                     |
| Early Fall         | Applications Distributed                |
| March              | Application Deadline                    |
| May                | Notification of Funding/Grant Reception |
| November           | Receipts Deadline                       |
| May                | Final Grant Evaluation                  |

### **Grant Format:**

Limited to three, typed pages plus a budget page. Grants should be written by the teacher for projects which improve the academic performance of students.

LEF is a private, non-profit organization governed by a 25-member board of directors. LEF also coordinates grants for other organizations through the same application process and timeframe. For additional information, contact Kimberly Wooten, LEF Programs Director.

### **Lafayette Education Foundation**

P.O. Box 53649

Lafayette, LA 70505

Website: [www.leffoundation.org](http://www.leffoundation.org)

Phone: 337.234.3229

Fax: 337.234.9146

**Acadiana High School**  
Lt Col Doug Williams  
“Model Rocketry”

**Number of students: 140**      **Amount Funded: \$1000.00**

This grant will bring hands on approach to science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) academic principles. Students will engage in problem solving, scientific investigation, experimentation, design, construction and planning. Students will build, launch, recover, analyze and record their model rocket investigation computations. The goal of this grant is to provide an opportunity for students to demonstrate in the field the lessons learned in the classroom.

**Measurement:** Summative, embedded and formative assessments will be conducted which involves completing a Design Consideration worksheet before construction, successfully constructing and launching a model rocket, recording launch data on a Launch Data Sheet. Teams must plan, conduct, analyze and record their model rocket investigation to include rocket engine duration, trajectory, wind speed and altitude calculations. Students will participate in classroom and field discussion formative assessments and will be required to pass a hard copy test at the completion of the block for a summative evaluation.

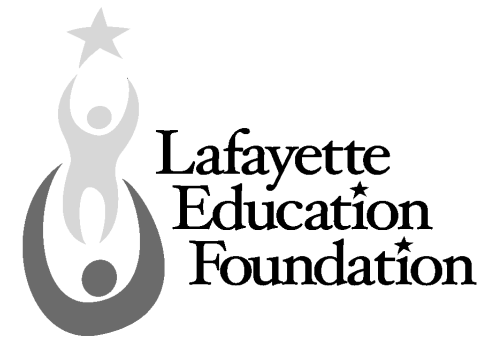
**Alice Boucher World Language Academy**  
Jennifer Cedillo

**“Bringing Stories to Life in Our Classroom”**  
**Funded by: Wilkinson Family Foundation**

**Number of students: 260**      **Amount Funded: \$993.56**

Reading to students, increases their vocabulary, teaches them comprehension and early literacy skills, and gives them the confidence to believe that they can read, even before we begin teaching them letter sounds. With this grant, Alice Boucher will purchase additional story kits and hands on story props that our students can use to make stories come to life, and help our youngest students become confident readers! The goal of this grant is to give younger students a chance to feel like readers and increase their vocabulary, their confidence as emergent readers and strengthen their comprehension skills.

**Measurement:** A checklist will be administered twice a year to determine if the students have become proficient in several different skills.



Lafayette Education Foundation  
thanks its Funding Partners for  
the 2011-2012 grant cycle:

**Acadian Ambulance**

**Beaver Club**

**Wilkinson Family Foundation**

**2011-2012 Grants Update:**

Amount Awarded- \$36,459.98

Number of Grants- 16

Number of Schools- 12

**Youngsville Middle School**  
Susan Deshotels  
“Genre Jamboree”

**Number of students: 830      Amount Funded: \$4,910.90**

Students will read a variety of novels that represent different genres in literature circles and whole class activities in order to gain a better appreciation and understanding of literacy genres. Students will participate in various after-school activities that will bring real world experiences from the community into the school. The goal is to deepen students’ understanding and appreciation of different literary genres by exposing them to a variety of novels and reading experiences in accordance with the Comprehension Curriculum of the state of Louisiana.

**Measurement:** Teachers will use a variety of testing evaluations. Formative, embedded and summative assessments will be used. The Accelerated Reader program will also provide further more feedback.

**Broussard Middle School**  
Amy Moss

**“Wild about Books: Students and Parents Reading”**  
**Funded by: Acadian Companies**

**Number of students: 658      Amount Funded: \$5000.00**

Promoting literacy and building parent involvement will be accomplished by inviting students and parents to participate in Family Reading Safaris and Wild about Books Breakfasts. Throughout the school year, participants will be encouraged to read books together and then talk about them in student-led discussion groups. The goal is to build parent involvement in the pupils’ reading program in use at our school in an attempt to foster a culture of literacy in the school community by combining efforts of teachers, students, and parents.

**Measurement:** Summative assessments will be used to determine if parent involvement increased the number of books read during the academic school year and if shared reading led to greater reading comprehension. AR test records will provide us with this information. Standardized tests too will engage us to gauge reading comprehension. Surveys will be administered to pupils and parents at the beginning and end of the school year.

**Carencro High School**  
Joel Hilbun

**“Industry-Based Certification”**

**Number of students: 125      Amount Funded: \$5000.00**

This grant will provide students with credentials that enable them to immediately enter the workforce, the project prepares students to successfully complete standardized tests created by the private sector that certify the students’ knowledge of and the technical proficiency with hardware and software commonly used by information technology professionals. The goal of this project is to provide students with the knowledge and credentials to enter the workforce immediately upon graduation from Carencro High School.

**Measurement:** The effectiveness of the instruction will be determined by the results of the students’ certification exam results. The results will determine how successful this project is and will also be used as feedback instructional modifications.

Special Thanks to our  
2010-2011 Model Grant Funders:

**Chase**

**Junior League of Lafayette**

**Rotary Club**

**Stuller Family Foundation**

Total Amount Funded- \$21,500

**Charles M. Burke Elementary**

Judy Morgan

**“American History: A Movement of People and Ideas”**

**Funded by: Beaver Club**

**Number of students: 45**

**Amount Funded: \$958.00**

This grant will allow students to examine people and events throughout US history. Those events include migrations that occurred as well as individuals who helped to shape the future of this country. Working with partners, students will read and research these historical events and people and then, using the writing process, create a format for the retelling of the information to others. Computers and a video camera will assist the students in the creation of their projects. The goal is to have 4<sup>th</sup> grade students transport themselves into American’s past in order to gain a greater understanding of where we are as a country today through the study of people and events.

**Measurement:** The evaluation process for this project will be LEAP testing, project rubrics, ongoing participation rubrics-research, Edusoft Unit Testing—Language Arts, and teacher questioning throughout the research and projects

**Comeaux High School**

Layne Bordelon

**“Hey Hey-Look @ Me! Flip Videos in the Classroom”**

**Number of Students: 720-1,986**

**Amount Funded: \$3539.95**

This grant will be putting students front and center in their own learning experiences by creating videos in multiple discipline areas including Geography, Biology, American History, and English Language. The use of flip video camera will enable students to record, edit, and present their creations of the curriculum through fun and innovative practices. The main goal of this grant is to enable students to make a deeper connection by enabling them to have hands on experiences and personal involvement with their learning of complex concepts.

**Measurement:** Rubrics will be used to assess all students. Pre and post assessments will also be administered to ascertain understanding of subject.

**Woodvale Elementary**

Susan Yerino

**“Sports Math and Game Family Night”**

**Funded by: Wilkinson Family Foundation**

**Number of students: 570**

**Amount Funded: \$1000.00**

Woodvale Elementary will hold a math night for students and parents using sports activities tied to math. Students will throw balls through hoops and determine free throws percent, do coin toss to determine probability of the Saints starting the game, figure geometry of soccer and area of the playing field, determine math and geography of Sun Belt teams, do some math mysteries, and play Math Jeopardy. The goal of this grant is to make students understand common concepts of math they use every day. By using sports, our goal is to build interest and develop inquiry/problem solving skills.

**Measurement:** Students will be observed and redirected as they work. If students are stuck, teachers will teach the concept before moving on. Certified teachers will be at every booth. Mathematical reasoning scores will be compared on the LEAP and iLEAP over the last two years.

**Woodvale Elementary**

Susan Yerino

**“Up for Adaptation”**

**Number of students: 570**

**Amount Funded: \$1000.00**

Students will explore the different features of animals that make them adapted to living in a certain environment. Students will explore color, amount of fat, beaks, feet, body covering, and teeth to determine how these features help animals survive in their habitats. The goal of this grant is to make students understand the relationship between characteristics of animals and their environment. Objectives are tied to LA State curriculum guides and are taken from the LA Science grade level expectations (GLEs).

**Measurement:** In addition to observations and redirection, LEAP and iLEAP scores will be compared from the prior teaching year.

**Ossun Elementary**  
Debbie Soileau  
“Kinder Cooks for Books”

**Number of students: 140**                      **Amount Funded: \$986.00**

“Literacy through Exploration” is a center-based project which recognizes that students learn through various styles of learning. This project will support students as they participate in hands-on activities that will stimulate learning through multi-sensory approach. The objectives of this project are to build independent learners, teach cooperative learning, strengthen reading skills and teach task management. This project provides a unique opportunity for students to foster their own ability to become independent learners through a cooperative learning approach while keeping the focus on essential reading skills necessary for future success.

**Measurement:** Formative assessments and a six question questionnaire will be used.

**Woodvale Elementary**  
Renee Spencer

“Creatures Lurk in the Swamp: A Cajun Who Dunnit?”

**Number of Students: 184**                      **Amount Funded: \$257.05**

A literature based unit, integrating science, problem solving, and reading, takes students on a quest to solve a mystery through a series of investigations. Children have a natural curiosity of the unknown and the mystery genre helps pique that interest. The goals of this project are to have students demonstrate understanding of the genre mystery and justify solutions to problems through scientific investigations.

**Measurement:** Evaluations will include completion of all organizers, presentation of poems, data recording and teacher observations.

**Judice Middle School**  
Michelle Lakhotia  
“Breaking Down Barriers.”  
Funded by: Wilkinson Family Foundation

**Number of students: 150-300**                      **Amount Funded: \$984.00**

Success in reading affects success in math, and vice versa. The project will use reading of fictional and non-fictional books, as well as student authored books, to improve students understanding of mathematics terminology. This will improve their reading comprehension, an important requirement for solving math problems in higher grades. The goal of this project is to provide the Math classroom with a variety of appropriate books that emphasize Math to meet the needs of children at many different reading and learning levels.

**Measurement:** Teacher observations of student work will be used to assess their engagement in the learning process. Diagnostic assessments called Edusoft test will be posted so that students and other teachers can review the positive results. Rubrics will be used for student book talks. Formative, informal, and embedded assessments are also other methods that will be used.

**Judice Middle School**  
Michelle Lakhotia  
“Learning the Rhythm of Math”

**Number of students: 350**                      **Amount Funded: \$4,974.00**

The project lead has developed a multi-sensory method to teach algebra by integrating technology with performing and creative arts. The use of music and movement breaks the monotony of a classroom and also encourages students to take ownership of their learning. The project will support the introduction of the method to other classrooms. The goal of the project is to utilize the students’ creativity to encourage them to take ownership of their learning process and feel a connection to the school.

**Measurement:** Rubrics and tic-tac-toe boards will be used to develop and modify instruction to develop student choice in the project. Embedded assessments will be used to re-teach and modify instruction to develop better methods to use technology in the future. Teacher observations of student work and ability for all students will be used to assess students’ engagement in the learning process. Edusoft and standardized tests will also be administered as well as formative assessments.

**Live Oak Elementary**

Janet Simmons

**“Take Me to Your Liter”**

**Funded by: Wilkinson Family Foundation**

**Number of students: 120      Amount Funded: \$899.36**

The FOSS (Full Option Science System) Measurement Module consists of four activities, each designed to emphasize a particular type of measurement. Measurement has an importance in everyday life and contributes significantly to the understanding of important scientific and mathematical concepts; therefore, the Measurement Module will greatly enhance student achievement. Based on the iLEAP/LEAP 2012 data, students will increase the percentage correct in the Measurement Content Standard in Mathematics and Science as an Inquiry Content Standard in Science.

**Measurement:** A plethora of assessments along with standardized tests will be used. The assessments include summative, embedded, formative, hands-on, pictorial and reflective questions.

**Live Oak Elementary**

Stephanie Robin

**“Sound Off on Phonemic and Alphabetic Awareness”**

**Number of students: 125      Amount Funded: \$4163.83**

This grant will provide more tactile and kinesthetic opportunities for practice of phonemic and basic phonics skills for all kindergarten students. Teachers will target kindergarten students having difficulty with early literacy skills, which are prerequisite to being strong readers, to cut down on the number of below level readers in grade one. The goal is to reduce the number of students leaving kindergarten who do not have the necessary foundational reading skills to be successful in grade 1 which will ultimately lead to a school performance school increase in the 2014-2015 academic year.

**Measurement:** DIBELS, diagnostic, and embedded assessments will be used.

**Milton Elementary/Middle School**

Dixie Latiolais

**“An Electronic Reading Pen, You Say? Wow! That Would Make My Day!”**

**Funded by: Wilkinson Family Foundation**

**Number of students: 12      Amount Funded: \$793.33**

The key of this grant is to help students with disabilities become independent readers. Using the assistive technology of Reading Pens, students with disabilities will be able to successfully read and comprehend text in inclusion and special education settings. The pen will build reading and comprehension independence by scanning, defining, pronouncing unfamiliar text.

**Measurement:** The students will be assessed based on summative and formative assessments that are completed independently in the inclusive and special education settings. This will determine how effective the electronic pens are in the learning process of the students.

**LEF’S Endowment Contributors**

**\$100,000 Named Endowments**

Acadian Ambulance      Anonymous Donor  
Bank One      Lod Cook (in honor of his mother, Ettrice H. Cook)  
Cox Communication      Lafayette General Medical Center  
Ocean Energy      Safety Management Systems

**\$10,000 – 55,000**

Acadiana Bottling      ARCO      Chastant Investments  
Chevron Corporation      CONOCO, Inc.      Darnall, Sikes, Gardes & Frederick  
The Delta Foundation      Robert Eddy, Jr./Prudential Insurance  
Fenstermaker & Associates      Mr. & Mrs. Frank Harrison  
Heymann Foundation      Hibernia National Bank      IBERIABANK  
Kerr-McGee Corporation      Marathon Oil Company  
MidSouth Bank      Edmund Nagem, M.D.  
Our Lady of Lourdes Regional Medical Center      Pennzoil  
Petroleum Helicopters      Realtor Association of Acadiana  
Southwest Medical Center      Stone Energy      UNOCAL  
Van Eaton & Romero      Whitney National Bank      Woodson Construction