JCS Fund FY2017 Grants

Addison Center for the Arts
Chicago Sinfonietta
Chicago Symphony Orchestra
ClaySpace
College of DuPage Foundation

Elmhurst Art Museum
Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra
People Made Visible, Inc.
Wheaton College Artist Series and
Community School of the Arts

Young People's Music Initiative (YPMI) Grants

Community Consolidated School District 89
Community Consolidated School District 93
Edison Middle School
Glenbard East High School
Glenbard South High School
Glenbard West High School
Hadley Junior High School
Hubble Middle School
Jay Stream Middle School
Lombard Elementary Schools

Glenn Westlake Middle School
Marquardt Elementary School District 15
Marquardt Middle School
Monroe Middle School
Queen Bee School District
Stratford Middle School
West Chicago Community High School
West Chicago Elementary Schools
Leman Middle School
Wheaton North High School

DuPage Foundation

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Downers Grove, IL 60515-5408
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The JCS Fund is a fund of the DuPage Foundation.

Annual Report
2016-2017
JCS Fund Mission

The mission of the JCS Fund of the DuPage Foundation is to support instrumental music, cultural, health, educational, artistic and other charitable organizations serving the needs of residents of DuPage County, Illinois. The Fund is particularly interested in programs that provide long-term benefits. The Fund has discretion to support charitable organizations serving other communities if it determines that the goals of those organizations are consistent with its charitable interests.

CODA Program

A JCS Fund grant was awarded to the Community School of the Arts at Wheaton College to sustain its Community Outreach for Developing Artists (CODA) program. Through the program, more than 1,700 low-income students receive music and visual arts instruction at 14 locations in DuPage County.

CODA classes in Early Childhood Music, Suzuki Violin, Suzuki Recorder and Early Childhood Visual Arts provide a window of opportunity for students to experience the arts and become more culturally aware.

“We are so grateful for the continued generosity of the JCS Fund of the DuPage Foundation. The CODA initiative: to seek out and give artistic access to young, underexposed talents in our community who might not otherwise have the opportunity to develop their creative abilities; is fueled by such generosity. We remain thankful for all the support given to this program.”
- Paula Cisar, Director, Community School of the Arts - Wheaton College

“Arts DuPage has been a wonderful catalyst in bringing the arts community out and together – we discovered more than 200 artists and institutions are in DuPage. It is clear to see the vast potential and opportunity we have to continue to collaborate, promote and cultivate DuPage as a cultural resource and destination.”
- Diana Martinez, Director of the McAninch Arts Center, College of DuPage

“For an arts organization in a smaller community, Arts DuPage is a wonderful organization that will help to promote and support the contemporary art work we are doing in West Chicago. Meeting other arts organizers from around the County at convenings is a great way for us to share and network.”
- Sara Phalen, Director, West Chicago City Museum
Arts DuPage, a county-wide arts council, was launched in 2016 with funding from the JCS Fund. Arts DuPage, an initiative of the DuPage Foundation, is managed by a full-time director and an advisory committee comprised of community members.

One of the first and most visible projects of Arts DuPage is the establishment of an online community resource featuring a calendar of arts and cultural events in the DuPage area, classified ads and listings of local artists and arts venues. On February 7, 2017, more than 160 community members attended a party on the stage at College of DuPage’s McAninch Arts Center to celebrate the public launch of this online resource, ArtsDuPage.org.

Building the capacity of local arts organizations is another area of focus for the initiative. Two convenings were held in early 2017 to explore the needs and challenges experienced by those working in the visual and performing arts arenas. More than 60 community members attended the convenings to provide their perspective, learn about Arts DuPage and network with other artists.

On June 6, 2017, a Marketing 101 program was held at the Foundation office for 32 artists and presenters. Assistant Director of Communications for University of Chicago Arts, Ronia Holmes, presented a three-hour workshop on the basics of developing a marketing plan for arts organizations.

Chicago Symphony Orchestra

This past year, funding from the JCS Fund supported three full Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO) concerts at Wheaton College as well as multiple hands-on music education activities and instrumental coaching with CSO and Civic Orchestra of Chicago musicians.

In conjunction with the CSO concerts at Wheaton College, a CSO Mead Composer-in-Residence visited the College to present to the composition seminar class and work one-on-one with composition students.

CSO musicians also visited three high schools throughout the year to perform for and talk with music students about their personal journeys that led them to their becoming professional musicians with the orchestra.

People Made Visible

People Made Visible received a JCS Fund grant to support their Artist-in-Residency program. Through an artist share with the National Museum of Mexican Art and a partnership with the Mexican Cultural Center DuPage, artist Juan Chawuk was commissioned to work with local residents to paint a mural on the letters spelling West Chicago. The letters have become part of a permanent and colorful exhibit displayed throughout the town. Similar displays of town names are a popular trend in Chawuk’s native country of Mexico.
Young People's Music Initiative

The Young People's Music Initiative (YPMI) was launched in 2013 with the vision of providing support to local schools to help foster love and appreciation for music in young students.

To date, 84 DuPage County schools have been awarded grants to support masterclasses, guest clinicians, instrument purchases and repairs, facility improvements, music score, and technology. Since its inception, thousands of DuPage children have been touched by a Young People's Music Initiative grant!

A grant from the JCS Fund was instrumental in launching the String Orchestra program in Community Consolidated School District 93. When the program was first offered in January 2016, 80 4th grade students participated. During the 2016/17 school year, 120 4th and 5th grade students were part of the orchestra program.

Ryan McPherrin, Director of Community Relations for Community Consolidated School District 93, expressed his appreciation for the new program: "Without the assistance of the JCS Fund, none of our students would have this amazing opportunity to enrich their lives by learning to play orchestral music on stringed instruments. We are extremely excited to continue to grow this program!" The ultimate goal is to continue building the program in grades 4th-8th in order to launch a full orchestra program at Glenbard North when the first group enters as freshmen.

"The greatest aspect of the YPMI is the student growth. Having students work with music professionals at the middle school level shows them the opportunities that are available to them if they choose to pursue this in the future.”
- Dr. Robert Langman, Glen Ellyn Consolidated School District 89

"The new instruments enabled us to teach more challenging techniques and additional genres of music which demands more fluency in style while playing.”
- Lisa Willuweit, West Chicago Community High School
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CSO musicians also visited three high schools throughout the year to perform for and talk with music students about their personal journeys that led them to their becoming professional musicians with the orchestra.

Through the Civic Orchestra of Chicago Fellowship program, Civic Fellows provided masterclasses at local schools offering a unique mentorship opportunity for middle and high school musicians.

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