



**ARTS, HEALTH  
& EDUCATION**



*JCS Arts, Health & Education Fund*  
A Fund of DuPage Foundation

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **FY 2021**

Though last year ended with hope on the horizon, the debilitating effects of COVID-19 could still be seen and felt this year across many organizations attempting to stay afloat and offer virtual or hybrid programming. The *JCS Arts, Health and Education Fund* (JCS Fund) answered the call for assistance with grants to support virtual music and educational programs, home health care, essential community services and funding to help arts organizations. Building upon the grants disseminated in FY 2020, the JCS Fund was proud to sustain the programs that humbly serve the essential needs of our community.

## Community Needs Grants

Through its *Community Needs Grant Program* (CNGP), DuPage Foundation distributes grants to local not-for-profit organizations in five areas: health & human services, education, arts & culture, the environment and animal welfare. A long-time supporter of the program, the JCS Fund provided funding through the CNGP for the following arts and education programs.

### Chicago Sinfonietta

To present a three-concert season at Wentz Concert Hall and other community engagement concerts in DuPage County.

### Elmhurst Art Museum

To support community engagement and programming around the 'In Focus' exhibit on historical and contemporary responses to fair housing in the Chicagoland area.

“We are grateful for the sponsorship we received from the JCS Fund to showcase the exhibit educating our community and generating conversations about the rich history of the civil rights movement that started in Chicago.”  
-John McKinnon, executive director  
Elmhurst Art Museum

### ESSE Adult Day Services

To provide a weekly music therapy program for older adults living with cognitive and physical limitations.

### Glen Ellyn Children’s Resource Center

To catalyze the academic and social growth of low-income K-12 students in the Glen Ellyn area through a new model of virtual after school and summer enrichment programming.

“I would like to thank the JCS Fund for its generous support of our after school and summer literacy and enrichment programs this year. As we emerge from pandemic limitations and continue our progress toward improving educational outcomes for our students, we know that we couldn’t do it without the support of the JCS Fund and DuPage Foundation.”  
-Leah Harding, executive director  
Glen Ellyn Children’s Resource Center



JCS Fund gave \$58,825 in Community Needs grants in FY2021



## Health

**M**aintaining a healthy lifestyle can reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease, diabetes, obesity and other ailments preventable with the right tools and guidance from health professionals. With a specific interest in supporting programs that increase access to healthy food, promote physical activity and provide quality healthcare, the JCS Fund supported the following programs.

### Glen Ellyn Food Pantry

Through a match incentive, the JCS Fund gave a significant grant to help the Glen Ellyn Food Pantry (GEFP) complete their recent capital campaign to renovate the parsonage of Faith Lutheran Church. While the previous location at Grace Lutheran Church effectively served the mission of GEFP for 40 years, the new location has permanent space to store the increased volume of food needed to serve the growing number of residents who utilize the pantry.

“.....”

“On behalf of the entire capital campaign committee and everyone at the Glen Ellyn Food Pantry, thanks so much for championing the amazing matching grant from the JCS Arts, Health and Education Fund of DuPage Foundation. We could not have made our final goal without this support!”

-Laura Glaza, executive director  
Glen Ellyn Food Pantry



### Northwestern Memorial Foundation

A third-year grant from the JCS Fund continues to support Northwestern Medicine’s HomeCare Physicians (HCP) program. Under the leadership of Dr. Paul Chiang, a team of doctors and nurse practitioners provide home-based care enabling patients to remain in their homes instead of receiving treatment in hospitals or nursing homes. The team also provides home-based care training and practical experience for residents in the Family Medicine Program. Even with the challenges of COVID-19 this past year, HCP continued to increase its reach in the community. In May, Dr. Chiang made his 35,000<sup>th</sup> home visit!



### COVID-19 Response Fund

DuPage Foundation launched the *COVID-19 Response Fund* in March 2020 to support local organizations working on the front line to provide critical support during the pandemic. To help ensure struggling individuals and families had their basic needs met including access to healthy food during a very stressful time, JCS Fund supported grants through the *Response Fund*:

**Salvation Army** – To provide case-managed financial assistance and nutritious meals to residents in need.

**D41 Kids Foundation** – To provide food, housing and health assistance to families in need within the school district.

**Wood Dale Community United Methodist Church** – To support the purchase of food for an additional weekly distribution for local residents.

# Visual Arts and Music Mini-Grants

The JCS Fund awarded mini-grants to support visual arts and music programs that reflect the strength of DuPage County’s diverse community.

## The Community House

To support bimonthly public art exhibitions in an outdoor gallery setting to feature the work of four DuPage County artists.

## Northeast DuPage Special Recreation Association

To provide creative visual, graphic, musical and performing arts programming for individuals with disabilities.



## Lombard Historical Society

To create a documentary about the York Center Co-op community, created in 1945, which became home to a racially, ethnically and religiously diverse enclave in the heart of the rapidly expanding white DuPage suburbia.

“.....”

“Producing the documentary on the Co-op gave us the opportunity to highlight this part of our history that shows how Lombard has always been very progressive despite racial disparities. We were grateful to receive the support from the Foundation through the JCS Fund to move forward with this inspiring project.”

-Alison Costanzo, executive director Lombard Historical Society

## Snow City Arts

To support a virtual and live exhibit at Wheaton Public Library showcasing the artwork of hospitalized kids who participate in the Arts in Hospital program at Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital.



## Tri-Town YMCA

To support the creation of a Mindfulness Mural at Schafer School in Lombard for the benefit of the community and children who have limited exposure to the arts.



“It was like watching a butterfly come out of its cocoon.”  
- Sal, 5th grade student at Schafer

## Youth Jazz Ensemble of DuPage

To provide high school students with the opportunity to participate in master classes with experts in the jazz music field.



# Music and Art

**W**ith the onset of COVID-19 and subsequent state-mandated social distancing requirements, arts organizations struggled to offer high quality programming, if any. The JCS Fund provided grants to help organizations deliver some programs where possible, and help others maintain basic operations to ensure viability past the pandemic.

## Chicago Symphony Orchestra

A general operating grant was distributed to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra to support the 2020-2021 season.

## College of DuPage Foundation

A dollar-for-dollar matching grant was given to College of DuPage Foundation to support a live stream of New Philharmonic Orchestra's concert featuring the music of John Williams. The concert was filmed at the McAninch Arts Center's outdoor Lakeside Pavilion and the costume designer created masks for the horns and mouthpieces of each instrument.

“The support of the JCS Fund was vital to the planning of our first concert of the 2020-2021 season. We added a new platform to stream concerts allowing audiences to experience live music while remaining safe at home.”

-Kirk Muspratt, New Philharmonic Orchestra artistic director and conductor

“This was a challenging year for professional and young musicians. With help from our great teachers, we were able to be creative and still provide engaging virtual content.”

-Jeff Handley, principal percussionist Chicago Sinfonietta

## Community School of the Arts

A third year grant was given to the Community School of the Arts to support the Community Outreach for Developing Artists (CODA) program. Through CODA, underserved children attending Educare of West DuPage or other West Chicago schools have the opportunity to experience the arts through early childhood music and Suzuki classes.

## Elmhurst Art Museum

A dollar-for-dollar matching grant was given to Elmhurst Art Museum to support general programming at the Museum. When the Museum's annual spring soiree was postponed to the fall, they utilized the grant opportunity as a spring fundraiser and raised the match amount, plus more, in 14 days!

## Chicago Sinfonietta

A grant was given to Chicago Sinfonietta to offer educational programs for students at the following schools: Woodridge School District 68's Jefferson Middle School; Queen Bee District 16's Glenside Middle School; three elementary schools and one preschool; and a continuation of the program for the third year at Bensenville's Blackhawk Middle School. The Sinfonietta has experience providing music education that celebrates varied student cultures at each school.



# Young People's Music Initiative (YPMI)

Studies show music education is extremely important for children because it improves brain development, assists in the development of social skills, fosters creativity and relieves stress. Over the past eight years, thousands of school-aged children in DuPage County have benefitted from JCS Fund Young People's Music Initiative (YPMI) grants.



The following schools and districts received YPMI grants during the 2020-2021 school year:

- Addison School District 4
- Addison Trail High School
- Bensenville School District 2
- Blackhawk Middle School
- Community Consolidated School District 180
- Edison Middle School
- Fenton High School
- Glenbard East High School
- Glenbard North High School
- Hubble Middle School
- Indian Trail Junior High School
- Jackson Middle School
- Jefferson Middle School
- Keeneyville School District 20
- Lake Park High School
- Lombard School District 44
- Monroe Middle School
- Queen Bee School District 16
- Salt Creek District 48
- Spring Wood Middle School
- Thomas Jefferson Junior High School
- Villa Park District 45
- West Chicago Community High School
- Wheaton North High School
- Willowbrook High School
- Wood Dale Junior High School
- Wood Dale School District 7
- Woodridge School District 68

▶ **During the 2020-2021 school year, 16,350 DuPage area students were impacted by a YPMI grant.**

Examples of grants awarded include: music software and instrument purchases (ukuleles, pianos, xylophones, recorders, drums, Orff Instruments, string basses, clarinets, tubas, baritone saxes, oboes, euphoniums, cymbals), professional development for teachers, master classes and clinician experiences.





**W**ith significant grant support from the JCS Fund, Arts DuPage has become DuPage County’s foremost arts advocate. Knowing the arts faced the devastating economic impact of a COVID-19 shutdown, Arts DuPage provided valuable resources to artists and arts leaders to help them remain in operation as much as possible.

**Advocate**

Arts DuPage secured \$300,000 from DuPage County in funding through the CARES Act for the struggling arts organizations in the community.

**Communicator**

Arts DuPage sent eblasts on relief funding, emergency resources and critical updates, almost daily, to artists and arts leaders across the County.

**Promoter**

Arts DuPage adapted the artsdupage.org resource to become the go-to guide for virtual arts and entertainment when activities transitioned to online experiences.

**Social Media Expert**

Arts DuPage maintained an active community during the pandemic shutdown over the past fiscal year and attracted nearly 60,000 unique users and engaged nearly 22,000 unique users.



**Educator**

Arts DuPage hosted Zoom happy hours and workshops for members of the arts community to provide opportunities for arts leaders to share information and learn from experienced professionals.

**Connector**

Arts DuPage facilitated relationships between artists and venues, performers and events, and organizations with opportunities which included key connections made for the highly visible ‘In Focus’ and ‘Frida Kahlo: Timeless’ exhibit.



**Event Coordinator**

Arts DuPage retooled October’s annual Arts DuPage Month and highlighted artists and happenings through a daily social media campaign.

**Fundraiser**

Arts DuPage participated in the second annual Giving DuPage Days campaign and raised \$5,420.

**Leader**

Arts DuPage was selected by Arts Alliance Illinois to be among 24 arts leaders recruited for its statewide Arts and Vaccination Campaign, an effort created to channel the creative talent of local artists to reach vaccine-hesitant residents.



“From its inception, Arts DuPage has been an important part of the arts community in DuPage County from promoting local artists to providing workshops for artists and arts organizations in all disciplines. During these uncertain times, Arts DuPage was a vital resource in helping arts organizations survive.”

-David M. Rice, executive director  
First Folio Theatre



## JCS Arts, Health & Education Fund Mission

To support instrumental music, cultural, health, educational, artistic and other charitable organizations serving the needs of residents of DuPage County, Illinois.

The JCS 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.



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Special thanks to DuPage Foundation staff members Laura Ernst, Barb Szczepaniak and Debbie Venezia for their support of our grantmaking and community engagement efforts throughout the year, and to Mindy Saban and Yusra Javed Chaudhry for producing this annual report of our activities.

**JCS Fund is a fund of DuPage Foundation.**