

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

# ANNUAL REPORT

## FY 2022



# Impact of the JCS Arts, Health and Education Fund

As the COVID-19 pandemic started to wane this past year, residents of DuPage County were eager to get out and enjoy their communities with friends and family. Children were back in school and there was a new focus on health standards for organizations, institutions and the public. The *JCS Arts, Health and Education Fund* awarded grants to support interactive programs for children and adults to grow, learn and play, and fused excitement into the art of socialization – something everyone had been missing.



## Music and Visual Arts Grants

The *JCS Fund* awarded the following grants to support music and visual arts programs that are centric to the robust arts landscape in DuPage County.

### Chicago Sinfonietta

To continue a successful educational program for a second year at Jefferson Middle School in Woodridge; the six elementary schools in Woodridge School District 68; a third year at Blackhawk Middle School in Bensenville; and the first year at Eisenhower Middle School in Darien.

### Chicago Symphony Orchestra

To support a classical concert series at Wheaton College.

### College of DuPage Foundation

To provide a matching grant to support the New Philharmonic Orchestra.

### Community School of the Arts, Wheaton College

To support the CODA Early Childhood Music.

### Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra

To provide a matching grant to support the orchestra's 2021-2022 season.

### Village of Glen Ellyn

To support an interactive public art project and install a mural on the sides of the Taylor Street pedestrian railroad underpass.



“With the pandemic still lingering and causing uncertainty, and the ups and downs of the market affecting our endowment, the funding from the JCS Fund gave us the critical financial footing we needed to bring live performances back to our community.”

-Gregory Hughes, executive director  
Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra



## Mini Grants

The *JCS Fund* awarded visual arts and music mini-grants to not-for-profit arts organizations and governmental agencies to develop programs that enrich the creative landscape in DuPage County.

The following organizations received a mini-grant:

- Addison Center for the Arts
- b.unity
- Burning Bush Gallery
- Butterfield Park District
- Doodlebug Workshop Vocational Training Center, Inc.
- Easterseals DuPage & Fox Valley
- grit2
- Immigrant Solidarity DuPage
- Lewis University
- Lisle Library District
- National Indo-American Museum
- Pete Ellman Big Band NFP
- Senior Home Sharing, Inc.
- Senior Suburban Orchestra
- Wayne Township Pantry & Senior Services, NFP
- Young Naperville Singers



The funds we have received from the *JCS Fund* are making a big impact on our program. We teach people 16 years and older with disabilities how to use tools to create beautiful products from wood and other materials. We have been developing different ways to combine colored resins with wood, but the materials are expensive. The *JCS Fund* dollars arrived just in time to help with this initiative.

- Sarah Starke, executive director  
DoodleBug Workshop



“With the help of your generous grant, NIAM organized a special artist-facilitated children’s program for Diwali - the Festival of Lights. The kids and their parents enjoyed the storytelling sessions preceded by the art exercises.”

- Jitesh Jaggi, program and office manager  
National Indo American Museum



# Youth Mental Health Grants

**A**fter experiencing isolation and loneliness during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, an alarming number of middle and high school teens struggled with depression and anxiety. Local not-for-profits reported that there were not enough qualified mental health providers to meet the growing demand for youth mental health services. Recognizing this need, grants were awarded to six DuPage County not-for-profit organizations that provide mental health services and programs to children and teenagers.

## ALIVE Center

To expand the teen drop-in hours and peer mentoring program in Naperville and to support the launch of a new center in Hanover Park.



“From my very first time in Alive, I always felt welcomed, accepted, and encouraged to be my authentic self. As a member of the Teen Advisory Board, I am able to use my position to create the change I want to see in the community.”  
-Alive Center participant

## The Community House

To expand group and individual therapy for 30 teens in Willowbrook Corner.

## KidsMatter

To support an in-person and live-streamed parent forum and a resource fair.



## Northeast DuPage Family and Youth Services

To expand the reach of mental health counseling for youth who have been referred based on the results of their Signs of Suicide survey.



“NEDFYS provided critical mental health counseling services to youth and their families who would otherwise not have been able to access our services due to cost. Providing on-site support, in school buildings also minimized transportation and other logistical barriers which often prohibit access to mental health care.”  
-Shannon Hartnett, executive director  
NEDFYS

## Teen Parent Connection

To expand group-based parenting and therapeutic counseling services for young families with the addition of monthly in-person self care social groups.

## World Relief Chicagoland

To launch an after-school club for immigrant and refugee middle school teens in DuPage County.



## Healthy Lifestyles Grant

**P**hysical play for children is vital to their overall health and studies have shown its positive impact on mental health. To encourage physical activity for local children, the *JCS Fund* made a grant to the **Play for All Playground & Garden Foundation** for the addition of a wave climber to its playground. Nestled in the Danada Forest Preserve, the **Sensory Garden Playground** is a universally accessible playground that was built to meet the diverse needs of all community members through sensory-based learning and equipment.



## 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. The *JCS Fund* provided funding for the following *Community Needs* grants.

### ALIVE Center

To support the free After School Drop-in program that supports mental health and provides a place for teens to come together, learn, create and be empowered in a safe and supervised environment.

### The Community House

To provide social services and educational, recreational and arts opportunities to children and families residing in the low-income/high need Willowbrook Corner neighborhood.

### DuPage Children's Museum

To support Arts & STEM that provides in-person science, math, and art-based learning experiences for low-income, DuPage County students ages 6 – 12.

### DuPage Symphony Orchestra

To provide symphonic orchestra, chamber concerts and outreach programs that are educational and accessible to young people, families and seniors.

### Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center

To provide after school and summer enrichment programming that supports the academic and social-emotional growth of underprivileged K – 12 students as they return to school during pandemic recovery.

### Immigrant Solidarity DuPage

To provide art seminars to Latino youth in DuPage County featuring Pilsen-area artists.



## Young People's Music Initiative

After a year of virtual and hybrid learning formats, **Young People's Music Initiative (YPMI)** grants helped teachers and students adjust back to the classroom and overcome several challenges induced by the pandemic. Through these grants, schools have offered unique learning experiences for students through master classes and composing lessons, and have seen increased family involvement and excitement about music.



The following schools and districts received YPMI grants during the 2021-2022 school year:

- Addison School District 4
- Addison Trail High School
- Blackhawk Middle School
- Burr Ridge Community Consolidated School District 180
- F.E. Peacock Middle School
- Fenton High School
- Glenbard East High School
- Indian Trail Junior High School
- Itasca School District 10
- Jackson Middle School
- Keeneyville School District 20
- Lake Park High School
- Lombard School District 44
- Queen Bee Schools District 16
- Salt Creek School District 48
- Spring Wood Middle School
- Thomas Jefferson Junior High School
- Villa Park District 45
- West Chicago Community High School
- West Chicago School District 33
- Willowbrook High School
- Wood Dale Junior High School
- Wood Dale School District 7
- Woodridge School District 68



"Having the funds and the ability to go above and beyond what would normally be possible in a pandemic really meant the world to our students and their families. Because of the experiences that have been provided to our students, they have excelled in their instrumental studies. This grant came at the perfect time to help us rebuild our band program. We really cannot say thank you enough!"

-Keith Carlson, teacher  
Thomas Jefferson Jr. High



**16,284 DuPage area students were impacted by a YPMI grant during the 2021-2022 school year.**

# Arts DuPage ChARTer Membership Program

**T**hanks to a generous grant from the *JCS Fund*, Arts DuPage continued its work of supporting, promoting and advocating for the arts in DuPage County. Last fall, Arts DuPage launched its ChARTer membership program to further engage artists and arts lovers in the region and generate revenue for the initiative. Word spread quickly, and 52 individuals and arts organizations paid their dues within the first 30 days. While membership provides several benefits – including heightened visibility and discounted admission to events at participating venues – supporters favored the exclusive member tours offered at no cost.

Arts  
DuPage

A DuPage Foundation Initiative

**Tour #1:** The inaugural Arts DuPage ChARTer membership meeting was held at the McAninch Arts Center at the College of DuPage to introduce the program and its perks. Attendees were treated to a private backstage tour of the *Frida Kahlo: Timeless* exhibit.

**Tour #3:** Sunshine and moderate temperatures welcomed Arts DuPage members when they met with six resident artists from Mexico City who were the creative team behind the *Alebríjes: Creatures of a Dream World* exhibit at Cantigny Park. Sara Phalen, board chair of the Mexican Cultural Center DuPage, led the way and shared insights and anecdotes on the artists and their sculptures.



“The new Arts DuPage membership program expands our reach to art aficionados and allows them to connect on a deeper level to the cultural offerings in DuPage County. Members are invited to exclusive behind-the-scenes tours and talks with artists in the community, building engagement and a small source of revenue to promote the arts in DuPage.”

-Diana Martinez, director, McAninch Arts Center Chair, Arts DuPage Advisory Committee



**Tour #2:** Arts DuPage members explored the fascinating world of gemstones and rocks as they toured the **Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art** in Oak Brook. Museum Director Dorothy Asher led the way and presented the backstory of the Green Jade Pagoda, Castle Lizzadro and the Artful Soul of Faust exhibit.



Membership options are available at [dupagefoundation.org/ArtsMembership](https://dupagefoundation.org/ArtsMembership).





## 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.



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 Yusra Javed Chaudhry, Samantha Keck and Mindy Saban for producing this annual report of our activities.

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

Visit [dupagefoundation.org/jcsfund](http://dupagefoundation.org/jcsfund)