



## Classroom Innovation Grant Application (*formerly Venture Grants*)

**Deadline - October 27, 2010**

### **Overview**

The information that you will include in the attached application form will provide the LPEF Grants Committee with the data needed to determine whether or not to fund your project. Applications may be from staff, students, parents or community members who partner with School District of La Crosse staff. Applications for other opportunities with the Foundation are available for download on our website at [www.lpefonline.org](http://www.lpefonline.org).

### **Guidelines**

- Grants must serve the students in the School District of La Crosse.
- Projects must be innovative, creative and new funding initiatives within the School District of La Crosse.
- The grant may be denied if another funding source might be more appropriate.
- Project funds must be spent by May of 2012.
- Interim and final reports will be required.
- Payments for services of La Crosse School District employees are prohibited.

### **Criteria**

Applications will be reviewed on a competitive basis by the Grants Committee of the La Crosse Public Education Foundation. Priority is given for Classroom Innovation Grants that:

- meet multiple educational objectives
- align with district/school/curricular goals
- impact a variety of students and/or schools
- are collaborative
- are sustainable

Please see the Classroom Innovation Grant evaluation rubric for the grant proposal evaluation criteria. Although most applications are worthy of awarding, the committee has limited funding and must set priorities that help the foundation fulfill its mission.

### **Instructions**

- € Complete the following grant application.
- € Save as a Word document. Name the document the same name as your grant proposal.
- € Print page 1 of the application. Sign and obtain other necessary signatures. Submit a paper copy of page 1 to the La Crosse Public Education Foundation at Hogan via inter-school mail or by mail to P.O. Box 1811, La Crosse, WI 54602-1811.
- € Submit the entire application electronically to [lpef@centurytel.net](mailto:lpef@centurytel.net).
- € Both the paper copy and electronic copy must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on October 22, 2010.

If you have questions, please contact Geva Thole at 608-397-0176.



**La Crosse Public Education Foundation  
Classroom Innovation Grant Application**

**Section 1: Personal Information:**

Name : Susan Beauchamp

School: Central High School

Position/Title: English Teacher

School Phone: 608-789-7900

**Section 2: Basic Project Information:**

Project Title: Visiting Author Series

Total Request \$ 2650

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Principal \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of IT Department Rep (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

The intention of the Foundation is to fund projects not covered by the regular school budget. Please document that regular avenues of funding have been exhausted. (i.e. requests to Principal and curriculum supervisors)

**Section 3: Project Description:**

- I. By 05/15/2011, an author, or a series of authors, will visit Central to conduct a variety of readings and writing workshops, resulting in students becoming excited about reading and writing.

II.

<b>Objectives of Project</b>	<b>List the corresponding district/school/curriculum goals (if applicable)</b>	<b>State how you will evaluate whether objectives are met.</b>
Increase a love of reading and writing, helping students realize they are lifelong readers and writers.	Addresses National Standard RL.8.10 which states "...read and comprehend literature...independently and proficiently."	Increases in WKCE and ACT scores as well as improvement in classroom GPA
Help students discover their talents, abilities, and passions as they relate to the creative arts.	The District Mission states that "students will discover their talents and abilities and will be prepared to pursue their dreams and aspirations while contributing effectively to their local, national, and global communities."	An increase in enrollment in elective English classes as well as increased numbers in the various clubs related to reading and writing (Red Raider Readers, Central Writing Club, Poetry Out Loud, Visionary Voices, and The Journal of Creative Arts)
Teach students how to work with people at Central as well as in the La Crosse community in order to create a successful author visit.	Central's "Standards of the Heart" states that students will strive for mutual understanding as contributing citizens in a diverse world" and "...will acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to make effective and responsible life choices."	A successful author visit will necessitate marketing and media coverage at Central and within the community, catering (by Central students as well as local businesses), and a variety of time and logistic decisions. The end product (a satisfied author and a good turnout )will determine success.

III.

<b>Activities to Accomplish Objectives</b>	<b>Who Will Be Responsible for Implementation</b>	<b>Resources Needed (not financial)</b>	<b>Timeframe to Accomplish</b>
Contact authors to find out fees and schedules.	Susan Beauchamp, Ellen Koelbl, Elizabeth Geissner, Carol Carlson, Colleen Jarchow, and Mary Newgard Larson (Central English teachers)	School computers (already available), lists of authors in the Midwest and/or authors on book tours	One month
Once author has agreed to a reading and/or writing workshop, talk with public relations at	Susan Beauchamp. Other English teachers will work with Central's art department regarding	Computers, phones (both already available)	Six weeks

<p>author's publisher to determine materials necessary for press releases and media coverage. Work with the Central Art Department to design posters and flyers to be distributed around town. Coordinate media coverage with local television and radio stations as well as local newspapers.</p>	<p>poster and flyer designs. English Department clubs will be responsible for posting flyers with various businesses around La Crosse.</p>		
<p>Coordinate an author reception with Central Foods Department, Central's Nutrition Services, and local businesses.</p>	<p>Susan Beauchamp and various English teachers will work with the heads of the other departments as well as local businesses to create a plan. Central students in the Foods Department will cater the reception including creating a menu, and cooking and serving the food as part of their Foods class.</p>	<p>Food and beverages. Central Students in the foods department will develop a budget corresponding to the menu.</p>	<p>Six weeks</p>

**IV. What is the lifespan of this project?**

This will take place over the next year and a half, but we would like to identify future sponsors of the Visiting Author Series so that this is an ongoing project.

**V. Approximately how many students will be affected by this project? Explain your number.**

Four to five hundred students would be affected by this project. Last year, Central alumnae Danielle Trussoni, on a detour from her national book tour, gave an author reading, and approximately 300 students attended the event (on a Saturday, no less!) as well as approximately 100 community members. In addition, a number of students participated in the food preparation and media coverage that were not able to actually attend the reading. If we are able to contract with an author who will conduct a reading as well as give writing workshops in the classrooms, we will be able to substantially increase the number of students affected.

**VI. Please state how you will collaborate with...**

**Other organizations in the community (if applicable)**

Last year, we worked with local TV and radio stations as well as the La Crosse Tribune in covering Danielle Trussoni’s visit. We put posters and flyers in 30-40 local businesses. We contacted JavaVino about providing beverages for the author reception. We talked with the various branches of the public library about advertising our event and making books available. We worked with local bookstores about buying large numbers of the author’s books for the author signing (we sold over 300 books at the event—NOT at a profit. For many students, this was the first book they had ever bought).

**Other schools in the district (if applicable)**

We will post flyers at Longfellow, Lincoln, and Logan. Last year, the Logan librarian promoted the book within the school book club as well as created a display of the author’s work. We would do the same this year.

**Other departments/classrooms (if applicable)**

We will work with the Foods Department, the Art Department, possibly the Business/Marketing Department, as well with the Nutrition and Food Services(cafeteria) and Custodial departments, and, of course, administration.

**VII. What will happen to the project at the conclusion of the grant? If it is to continue, how will it be sustained?**

We will create a Hall of Writers in the English Department hallways, framing autographed copies of pictures of the authors who have visited Central High School. We will contact potential future sponsors about sustaining this grant so the Visiting Author Series is able to continue.

**VIII. How could the project be shared with other teachers and schools to benefit more students?** We will discuss the project at faculty meetings, asking for suggestions from other departments about how a professional author visit might enhance their classes. Last year, teachers from other departments created assignments geared towards Danielle Trussoni’s new book, Angelology, in order to get the students more involved.

**Section 4: Budget Information:**

Item	Supplier	Budgeted Amount
Author fee for visit and workshop	Publisher/Agent	\$2250
Print materials for posters and flyers	Local business (Image World, Office Depot, etc.)	\$200
Food for Reception	Local Grocery stores	\$200

Total request: \$2650

Other sources of funding for this project (if applicable):

Total budget to accomplish project: \$2650

## **Section 5: Summary:**

### **How will this project bring visibility to LPEF in the community?**

The LPEF will be mentioned in the media coverage of the event as well as on various posters and flyers distributed throughout the community. The La Crosse Public Education Foundation's grant would cover not only the author honorarium, but also allow us to open the reading to the public, working with local businesses to get the word out, and host an author reception after the reading. Similar to other communities' "One Community, One Book" programs which encourage a town to bond over a common project, this event could bring the city of La Crosse together in the shared passion of reading. What more could a school and a community desire?

### **Please provide a one paragraph summary of your project including an explanation of why we should fund your project.**

Data supports that the decline in reading ability is consistent and alarming and that all progress appears to halt as children enter their teenage years. This decline not only affects academic performance, but also has "demonstrable social, economic, cultural, and civic implications." (National Endowment of the Arts) Getting teenagers excited again about reading is of the utmost importance; one way of doing this is to introduce students to people who have made careers of writing literature. Authors tend to take on celebrity status when they make appearances in high schools, and students' reading of the author's books—as well as other books in general—increases. Through the Visiting Author Series, English Department faculty at Central High School will contact authors about conducting readings and workshops for students. The readings will be open to the public and advertised widely throughout the community. Students and English department faculty will work extensively with staff throughout the school as well as with local businesses in arranging an author reception. Central was able to hold an author reading last year with a former Central graduate whose publisher was willing to grant her a slight detour on a nationwide book tour, allowing her to speak at Central free of charge. This will not be possible in the future. We would like to continue to offer author appearances at Central High School, but this will not be possible without financial help from sponsors who support literature and the arts in schools.