

Sample of Grant Recipients: Fiscal Years 2013-2014

<u>Organization Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Project Description</u>
<i>Freelance Players dba Urban Improv</i>	<i>Jamaica Plain, MA</i>	<i>We request general operating funds to support our programs including Workshops for children, teens and their parents. Workshops for elementary school children comprise 45 interactive improvisational sessions addressing age appropriate issues for inner city Boston school children as they progress from grades 4 through 8. Youth Unscripted for Boston high school students continues our curriculum of positive youth development and violence prevention and Parents as Partners engages the parents of our students in a series of workshops relating to parent/child communication. The Mentoring Program, an all volunteer program, matches over 50 screened and trained mentors with 50 inner city children for weekly activities and support.</i>
<i>Amherst Cinema Arts Center</i>	<i>Amherst, MA</i>	<i>See-Hear-Feel-Film is a groundbreaking visual literacy program for third graders. Based on a five unit curriculum, two units are taught at Amherst Cinema the rest are taught in the students' classroom. Students watch, discuss and analyze short films from around the world and then work collaboratively in small groups, creating, writing and presenting their own stories. The interdisciplinary activities are grounded in the underlying belief that students learn most effectively through engaging in as many senses as possible. Students learn that: films are moving stories, books and films have much in common, stories live inside each of us, and they, too, can become powerful storytellers and writers by developing and using tools to help get ideas out of their imaginations and into the world.</i>
<i>Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras (BYSO)</i>	<i>Boston, MA</i>	<i>BYSO's Intensive Community Program (ICP) was founded in 1998 in response to accessibility barriers preventing students from inner city Boston from auditioning into BYSO orchestras. The program offers intensive string instrument training to students from underserved communities, with the goal of preparing students for a successful audition into a BYSO orchestra and then supports them as they progress through the orchestras until they graduate high school. Serving 70-80 students per year, ICP offers students, who may not otherwise have the opportunity, an exceptional music education as well as mentorship, leadership and summer employment opportunities. BYSO is extremely proud that 100% of ICP graduates have gone to college.</i>
<i>Boys & Girls Clubs of MetroWest, Inc.</i>	<i>Marlborough , MA</i>	<i>The Boys & Girls Clubs of MetroWest is requesting support for our Intel Computer Club Program at our Framingham Clubhouse. There are four main focus areas of our Intel Computer Club Program: Game Tech, Robotics, Money Matters and Digital Arts. We are seeking funding specifically to support the Digital Arts segment of our Computer Club Program. The goal of Digital Arts is to allow Club members to engage in digital media, art, and technology tools to express, invent, and collaborate, all while using a variety of software applications. People learn best when they are actively engaged in designing, creating, and inventing, not just passively receiving information. In places where everyone's ideas and opinions are respected, people are more likely to take risks and experiment.</i>

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<i>Breakthrough Greater Boston</i>	<i>Cambridge, MA</i>	<i>BTGB seeks funding for Full STEAM Ahead, our new comprehensive and challenging Summer and After-School Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math program. Our work is informed by recognition that the arts serve as a gateway to learning math and science and inspire the creative thinking required by our nation's workforce. Full STEAM Ahead offers Cambridge and Boston middle school students ten innovative after school workshops that include Web Design, Lego DNA, Chemistry of Cooking, Observational Science Drawing, Geometry of Art, and Digital Photography. Our 200 7th - 9th grade students will also study Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Math in BTGB's rigorous six-week summer academic program, receiving the powerful impact of year-round out of school time science and math education.</i>
<i>Center for Women & Enterprise</i>	<i>Boston, MA</i>	<i>Studies show that women business owners need specialized training, technical assistance, and networking to reach their full business growth potential. However, the competing demands of both work and family make it difficult for women to access these resources. To increase access to resources for women entrepreneurs, CWE is launching a comprehensive online learning initiative that will include online class instruction, 24/7 access to CWE's expert resources, and an online learning community to connect women entrepreneurs to each other. Additionally, online learning programs will expand CWE's sources of program revenue, creating a social enterprise to help sustain the organization financially. The impact to end users by 2016 is anticipated to total 3,800 participants and 600 new jobs.</i>
<i>Lesley University Creativity Commons</i>	<i>Cambridge, MA</i>	<i>The \$25,000 grant will enable the CCC to expand its impact through the development of Teaching Partnerships: Visiting Artists and Scientists in the Schools, creating more arts-integrated learning opportunities to reach a broader audience of Cambridge students and teachers. The grant will provide funding to identify, train and hire a cohort of teaching artists and scientists to work in partnership with Cambridge Public School teachers and technology specialists to create arts-based interdisciplinary projects for in and out-of-school time; to contribute to the purchase of technology and art materials for 600+ students; and to fund a consultant to analyze the findings of our evaluation tool, the Instrument for Observing Creativity, Communication, Critical Thinking and Collaboration (IOC4).</i>
<i>Partners for Youth with Disabilities, Inc.</i>	<i>Boston, MA</i>	<i>The Young Entrepreneurs Project is a career-readiness program for low-income youth with and without disabilities that addresses barriers to employment. YEP's target population have well-documented struggles while transitioning into adult life, including: high employment, poor graduation rates, and low academic achievement. YEP acts as an intervention for these students, helping them to develop career and life skills via a three-tiered curriculum of academic learning, real-world experience, and mentoring. Last year, over 85% of participants noted that YEP increased their likelihood to attend school and seek employment. YEP will help these at-risk youth transition to life after high school, while fostering the inclusion of workers with disabilities into the Boston business community.</i>

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<i>Boston Higher Education Resource Center (HERC)</i>	<i>Boston, MA</i>	<i>In addition to tutoring, financial aid assistance, parent workshops and college tours, the core of the Boston HERC's 18-month Passport Curriculum is devoted to providing repeated exposure to the Habits of the Mind which are especially scarce among 1st-generation students. Over 90% of our Passport students are the first in their families to go to college; 86% of Passport students who enroll in college are graduating from college within 5 years of enrollment. This request will contribute to an on-going scale-up of the Passport Program, bringing Passport to 1,074 1st-generation young people in eight BPS high schools by the Fall of 2015, and following them beyond high school through college -- substantially increasing their opportunity to enroll in, and complete, their college education.</i>
<i>Press Pass Mentors</i>	<i>Takoma Park , MD</i>	<i>The program has four key components: 1)One-on-One Mentoring – Students are paired in a one-on-one relationship with a professional journalist. These mentors commit to working with students on a weekly basis to prepare them for the writing assignments on the road to college. 2)Unique Events – Mentors lead our students on field trips to places that are usually only accessible to journalists, like the halls of Congress and an NBA locker room. 3)Writing Focus – Following each event, the students are assigned to write pieces about these experiences that mirror the major writing tasks on the road to college: the persuasive essay portion of the SAT, college personal statements and scholarship essays. 4)Scholarships – We award each of our graduates \$2,000 to cover some college costs.</i>