

W.L.S. Spencer Foundation

2012 Grants Paid

Organization Name Project/Program Title	Grant Description	Payment Amount
America Scores Bay Area - Words in Action	<p>Using soccer, creative writing, diet guidance, and service-learning as the core, this WORDS IN ACTION program trains, develops, and supports the coaches who spend 4 to 6 days a week with underserved kids in elementary, middle and sometimes pre-school. This ongoing program will continue to strengthen the curriculum, leadership, and competency in low-income urban communities. This enhanced training has brought America SCORES special mention in the White House Task Force's report to President Obama, highlighting an increased level of student physical activity, self-confidence, self-efficacy, and enjoyment in learning - hard work on the part of the students and crucial strong leadership on the part of the coaches.</p>	\$30,000
Asia Society - Catalogue and Education Programs	<p>A single grant toward the education program and academic catalogue of the Lin Tian Miao exhibition BOUND UNBOUND. She is one of the few successful female Chinese artists now known internationally, and through her exquisite hand work using thread-winding, embroidery, and sculptural processes she explores issues of gender, family and the body. Repetitive wrapping of everyday objects evokes a sense of bondage, confinement, nullification, protection and preservation . . . a woman's work is never done . . . and a sense of different properties and intensification of our bodily association with mundane objects. The catalogue and symposia have engaged new audiences and enhanced cross-cultural understanding.</p>	\$25,000
Breakthrough Collaborative - National Support	<p>This summer program for academically talented, under-served public middle school students is two-pronged: one, it challenges Breakthrough students to finish high school and go to college, and two, it encourages college-age teachers to go into teaching/community professions after college graduation. STUDENTS TEACHING STUDENTS is a win/win program!</p>	\$30,000
California College of the Arts - New Faculty position for Contemporary Asian Visual Cultural - 3-year grant \$150,000	<p>This is the second of a three-year grant to launch a new faculty position for Contemporary Asian Visual Culture, as well as support the position once selection is completed. Viet Le, an international artist and academic, has been chosen to lead this new department and has begun developing curriculum most suited to enhance cultural connections and cross-cultural understanding among students and faculty and the college. This is a timely endeavor for this leading-edge college of art.</p>	\$62,500

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College Spring - Bay Area Expansion	This now three-year old SAT tutoring organization has a very basic premise: to help underserved kids get through high school and into college. Knowing how important SAT scores can be, as a sophomore in college, the founder and his friends offered to tutor high school kids for the SAT for free. The results were life-changing for both those students and the founder. After graduation and now three years later, free tutoring is soundly embedded in a number of public schools serving low-income kids in both Los Angeles and San Francisco, and there is an ongoing plan to expand and refine the program each year. Watching the fine tuning of this extraordinary yet simple program is both a tribute to, and an example of, a new generation of social entrepreneurs.	\$30,000
College Track - San Francisco Expansion	A single grant to support expansion of this after-school mentoring, tutoring, and caring program. It is designed to keep underserved high school students in school, and help them go to college, graduate . . . and find a job after graduation. Over the past 15 years, 100% of the seniors graduate from high school, and more than 90% are eligible for and enroll in four-year universities . . . and 65% graduate from college within six years. A new 13,000 sq ft facility in Bayview Hunters Point has opened to allow for a doubling of enrollment over the next five years.	\$30,000
Foundation Center - General operating support	Supporting the philanthropic resource library and its programs.	\$3,000
Generation Citizen - San Francisco Expansion	Founded 4 years ago by a recent college graduate, GC partners college students with classroom teachers to teach hands-on civics course in which underserved high school students attempt to solve problems they are facing in their own communities through advocacy and hard work. Students learn the rights and responsibilities of citizenship, from voting to ensuring that elected officials hear their voices - and holding them accountable - to applying academic skills to real-world problems in their everyday life. These students are learning the democratic process! Now serving more than 6,000 civically-engaged students in Boston, New York and Providence, GC hopes to open programs in San Francisco Bay Area in 2013.	\$30,000

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John G. Shedd Institute for the Arts - Vocal/Singing Department	The first of a 2-year grant toward formalizing a Vocal/Singing Department and hiring a part-time Vocal Program Director. This will be the Shedd's first ever formal department. Not only is singing a common human form of communication, but choral singing is proven to be an accessible entry point for arts exposure far easier than most other art forms. For the city of Eugene, this is yet another community outreach program which keeps performance art alive and certainly popular.	\$7,500
KIPP: Bay Area - San Francisco schools	The last of a three-year grant continuing to support for this free, open-enrollment charter public education program which prepares middle-school students in underserved communities for success in college and in life. With KIPP's "Be Nice and Work Hard" motto, the school leaders and staff are constantly seeking improvement in education strategies to achieve designated goals. KIPP's "no shortcuts and no excuses" environment will most assuredly continue to set the tone as the organization reaches its goals.	\$30,000
Mass MoCA - Oh, Canada Catalogue	What art museum would agree to hang two giant mythical Chinese Phoenix figures made of recycled construction items and weighing over a ton apiece, and have them shipped from Taiwan to Philadelphia and then carried by truck in pieces to North Adams, Mass? No other than MASS MOCA which presently is exhibiting these birds and other works by the internationally known artist Xu Bing, who is also Director of CAFA in Beijing. With this exhibition, the scholarship potential for seminars and classroom learning are endless and could highlight cross cultural understanding and build bridges between America and China.	\$50,000
Reading Partners - Expanding Program	The second of a two-year commitment to this K-5 literacy intervention program to increase the number of students served beyond the 350 students it now serves in San Francisco. Reading Partners is a volunteer-driven, one-on-one literacy tutoring program enabling and encouraging children to stay in school and succeed academically. The highly trained volunteers help close the achievement gap in measurable ways, putting struggling readers on a path of academic success.	\$30,000

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The Rubin Museum of Art - Modernist Art from India	A single grant toward the publication of a catalog associated with the MODERNIST ART FROM INDIA exhibition series which will begin to travel after two years at the Rubin. So few North American museums show 20th century Asian art, and The Rubin has sprung ahead and become one of the leaders educating the American public about what is going on in the art world in India and what it all means. To the Rubin, we thank you!	\$5,000
San Francisco Symphony - November 2012 Asia Tour	A single grant toward classroom instruction and collaboration among symphonies when the San Francisco Symphony traveled to Tokyo, Seoul, Macau, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Beijing in Fall 2012. Director Michael Tilson Thomas and Resident Conductors had section rehearsals and open rehearsals promoting cross cultural collegiality and understanding and a chance for people around the world to experience excellence in music performance.	\$25,000
Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation - Gutai: Splendid Playground Catalogue	A single grant toward the funding of a scholarly catalogue entitled GUTAI: SPLENDID PLAYGROUND, an important art movement during 20th Century post-war Japanese art. This is the first comprehensive history and interpretation of Gutai published in English, and it not only ensures the show's scholarly impact but also promotes further understanding of the importance of the movement's artists in setting precedents of study and presentation of Asian art in America. The education programming surrounding this pioneering show will provide people of all ages and backgrounds with varied and compelling opportunities for engagement, learning and cross-cultural exchange. It is "craziness" art but it broke all precedents about "what should be art". . . and opened up the art world to experiment in things beyond the norm.	\$50,000
South Eugene High School - AVID program	The second of a three-year grant toward the expansion of South Eugene High School's ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION (AVID) program, a national program which proves to be timely and challenges high school students in the "academic middle" to live up to their potential by working hard and attending college. The ingredients to fill the "achievement gap" are well trained teachers, dedicated parents, hard working students, rigorous curriculum, continuous expectations, and encouragement. It works!	\$29,400

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Summerbridge Hong Kong - Supporting 300 students and 120 student- teachers	<p>Summerbridge Hong Kong is one of the oldest sites in THE BREAKTHROUGH COLLABORATIVE, and one that continues to grow the number of middle school students who show great academic promise (now over 300 per year), as well as expand the number of American college students coming to Hong Kong to be the teachers (now over 70). This is a STUDENT TEACHING STUDENT program. Since the handover in 1997, the Hong Kong student population in city schools has changed as have the demographics at Summerbridge. Now, approximately 44% are immigrants from China, 50% are Hong Kong residents, and 32% of children live with one or no parents. While this can be daunting, the Summerbridge mission continues to put emphasis on improving the educational trajectories of low-income students through English education (ENGLISH ONLY) and life skills development such as communication, love of learning, confidence, leadership and teamwork. Kudos to Summerbridge for staying steady in light of demographic changes occurring in Hong Kong.</p>	\$10,000
Summer Search San Francisco - Expansion	<p>The last of two grants for ongoing support toward expansion of the well-proven program called Summer Search. Life-changing summer experiences, college advising, and year-round mentoring contribute to a lasting support network that keeps over 1,000 kids in seven sites across the country in school and attending college. For example, 41% of all California high school students (California being one of the seven sites) are designated as under-served, and they need opportunities, role models, and support in order to break the cycle of truancy, failing grades, and dropping out of school. Summer Search creates opportunities for students to see beyond their neighborhoods and envision a different life for themselves, and then helps them achieve the goal of higher education.</p>	\$30,000
Teach for America Bay Area - Growth Plan	<p>The fourth of a five-year grant toward TFA's expansion into the San Francisco Unified School District. This grant helps provide for recruitment, selection, training, support, and professional development of corps teachers. Across the country, corps teachers made academic gains of 1.5 grade levels or more - this is more than three times the status quo considering the majority of low-income community students are, on average, three grade levels behind by the time they reach grade 3. The expanding number of corp teachers and alum who live in the Bay Area are committed to making transformative change.</p>	\$100,000

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Teach for China - Growth Plan	The first of two grants toward expansion in both Yunnan and Guangdong provinces. Teach For China is part of the TEACH FOR ALL international consortium with 28 countries now adopting variations of the Teach for America program. Starting with Britain seven years ago, the formula for education reform - "well educated, good teachers get good results" - has spread across the globe. In China, the program is rural, where close to 70% of the population is underserved. Close to 80% of the teachers in this two-year commitment are graduates of the finest universities in China, with about 20% of the teachers coming from the United States. While most of the Teach For All programs have 100% of the teachers from a particular country's universities and not from the U.S., the Chinese program continues to use some American college grads. . . all of whom speak Chinese. This is truly building bridges with younger generations.	\$100,000
Total Mission Grants		\$707,400
Total Discretionary Grants	Discretionary grants are non-mission oriented grants that have been approved by the Board.	\$80,000
2012 Grants Total		<u>\$787,400</u>