2012 Community Access Capital Grant Award Recipients

Grant High School: Closing the Science Enrollment Gap:
Technology Integration at Grant High School project

Total Grant Funds: $198,499
Total Matching Resources: $199,000
Contact Person: Ethan Medley

Citing enrollment statistics that show under-represented minority, female, and low-income students at Grant High School are more likely to lag behind White and affluent students when it comes to graduation rates, college attendance and degree completion, this project aims to address these disparities by developing an engaging, technology-focused science curriculum that increases interest and enrollment by these under-served groups. Focusing specifically on advanced level science class enrollment by minority, female and low-income students as a significant contributing factor to student success, the project intends to demonstrate that student engagement in science goes up, and remains up, when technology is used to support interdisciplinary, project-based curriculum. To increase science interest, engagement, and advanced course enrollment by these underrepresented students, the MHCRC grant will fully integrate mobile computing devices (laptops and iPads) into each student’s experience in addition to providing intensive teacher professional development throughout all science classes at Grant.

Center for Advanced Learning: Center for Advanced Learning Digital Video Production project

Total Grant Funds: $218,333
Total Matching Resources: $382,048
Contact Person: Barbara Myers

The Center for Advanced Learning (CAL) students, high school juniors and seniors from Centennial, Gresham-Barlow, and Reynolds school districts, come to CAL to take advanced courses in four technology-based fields: digital media & design, engineering/manufacturing, medical/dental sciences, and IT/networking & programming. CAL students earn Career and Technical Education (CTE) credits, seen as high-level, project-based “real world” learning experiences, which apply toward graduation from their home high schools. In order to bring its digital media & design course offerings in line with current technology, grant funds will be used to build computer labs, purchase video and still cameras, and provide teacher training in an effort to offer students applied learning skills in digital video production and associated digital communications fields including, graphic design, video, web design, and marketing/communications. The project targets 104 students annually who are enrolled in the digital media & design program.

Centennial School District: Centennial School District Server Replacement project

Total Grant Funds: $38,941.08
Total Matching Resources: $71,854.47
Contact Person: Cheryl Williamson

The Centennial School District Server Replacement project uses grant funds to replace and upgrade aging infrastructure crucial to communication between students, staff and the general community and the 1200 computers located throughout its 9 schools. Existing infrastructure consisting of servers and network equipment is rapidly reaching its end of life and needs replacing, yet district funds available for such a replacement is severely limited in light of significant budget cuts and a focus on keeping teachers in the classroom. Successful completion of this project will allow the district to maintain current services and provide a path to develop
future services with a scalable infrastructure that can meet the increasing technology needs for staff, students and the community.

**Chapman School: Chapman iPad Literacy Continuation Program project**

Total Grant Funds: $47,592  
Total Matching Resources: $121,604  
Contact Person: Carrie Kuhlman

Building on a 2011 grant at Chapman Elementary School that established a mobile iPad lab used to infuse technology into the reading process in order to build necessary literacy skills for all 3rd grade students struggling with reading, the iPad Literacy Continuation Program will expand device use and share curriculum to 4th and 5th grade students. The project will benefit students and educators by capitalizing on students’ fascination with technology to enhance and enliven instruction.

**Film Action Oregon/Hollywood Theatre: Project Youth Doc and Animate It! Expansion project**

Total Grant Funds: $118,000  
Total Matching Resources: $158,290  
Contact Person: Justen Harn

This project seeks funding to upgrade video production equipment for two existing and successful educational programs: Project Youth Doc (PYD) and Animate It! Expanding upon its proven summer sessions of both programs, Hollywood Theater will offer four, eight-week sessions of PYD for Grant High School juniors and seniors in conjunction with the school’s Film and Literature classes and four, nine-week sessions of Animate It! for juniors and seniors at Open Meadow alternative school in North Portland. Since both programs have grown beyond the pilot stage to become successful arts education programs, the Hollywood Theatre will use grant funds to support much needed expansion and upgrades to existing video and computer equipment to create 70 documentaries and 200 animated shorts for sharing with the broader community through the public access channels.

**MetroEast Community Media: MetroEast Youth Media “Get Reel” project**

Total Grant Funds: $93,943  
Total Matching Resources: $  
Contact Person: Rob Brading

When the highly successful collaborative youth media education program, OLLIE Program, with Portland Community Media ended in 2009, MetroEast had gained experience and success in teaching media literacy and digital storytelling to middle school and high school students but was left with a small stock of outdated equipment. With little capital funding available to focus on its expanding youth media program, called “Get Reel”, MetroEast turned to the MHCRC for help to fund upgrades to its video projection equipment. Grant funds will be used to purchase video production and editing equipment to bring existing youth programs up to date while expanding the program to provide greater access to new class options by east county students.

**Wisdom of the Elders: Discovering Our Story Project 2012**

Total Grant Funds: $57,414  
Total Matching Resources: $279,321  
Contact Person: Rose High Bear
Wisdom of the Elders (WOTE) first received grant funds for the Discovering Our Story Project in 2009. WOTE used the funds to record and preserve oral tradition and cultural arts of exemplary indigenous elders, historians, storytellers and song carriers in order to regenerate the greatness of culture among native peoples. Since then the project has seen many successes and gained national recognition for its videos featuring exemplary role models from the regional Native American community that have supplemented mental health and addiction prevention efforts for Native Americans. 2012 grant funding will help WOTE expand and upgrade its equipment and create a recording studio and an edit suite at one of its facilities. The equipment purchased will supplement WOTE’s ongoing use of PCM’s editing equipment and studio.

David Douglas School District: Networking Enterprise Wireless project

Total Grant Funds: $520,000
Total Matching Resources: $534,000
Contact Person: Keith Seher

David Douglas School District (District) is a 10,000 student district in mid-Multnomah County. District schools were early adopters to using I-Net infrastructure to provide for the school’s wide area network connectivity. Today, wireless connectivity on the network has remained at low capacity and serves only district staff. With grant funds, the District plans to provide updated wireless infrastructure throughout the district in order to deliver applications wirelessly throughout each school and expand use to teachers, students, and visitors (non-profit groups, community groups, etc).