In the Spotlight: Reflections on Sandy: Grants and Gifts Support Recovery at Kingsborough Community College

This past fall, Superstorm Sandy had a devastating impact on New York City, and Kingsborough Community College was certainly no exception. Surrounded by water on three sides, Kingsborough’s 70-acre campus was particularly vulnerable to the wrath of this record-setting storm—over 50 trees uprooted, numerous classrooms flooded, rocks strewn on the streets from the damaged sea wall, debris scattered everywhere including docks, boats and furniture from the Rockaways and Breezy Point across the bay.

Despite all of these adversities, Kingsborough Community College opened its doors just a week later. Students started attending classes, faculty started teaching, staff members resumed their work, but it was hardly back to “business as usual.” It became clear very quickly that the loss to the Kingsborough community was significant, as no constituency was untouched by the storm. The college responded to the immediate needs of students, faculty, staff, and the surrounding community by creating a Sandy Response Center in U219/220 and setting up a Sandy hotline. Anyone impacted by the storm could come get food, clothing, and supplies.

Yet while the Center could address these more immediate concerns, additional support was needed to help those most impacted by Sandy to re-build their lives. To address those concerns, the Kingsborough Community College Foundation set up a Kingsborough Sandy Relief Fund, with the purpose of collecting monetary donations and distributing grants to students, faculty, and staff to meet immediate needs. This included replacing textbooks, buying cleaning and re-building supplies, paying for inspections, and security deposits for new and temporary housing. Donations from Kingsborough’s annual Walk-a-Thon were used for this purpose, as were the funds given by donors in response to a Sandy-focused appeal.

The Foundation also created a number of donor-designated funds, where the donor describes how the donation is to be used, to support student needs arising out of Sandy. These funds were created mostly by grants to the Foundation. In addition, in-kind gifts of food, blankets, textbooks, and other items were donated to the college to replace what students, staff, and faculty lost.

“All told, the KCC Foundation received over $200,000 in donations to support Sandy relief efforts,” said Dr. Elizabeth Basile, Assistant Vice President for College Advancement and Executive Director of the Kingsborough Community College Foundation. “The outpouring of support by the Kingsborough community and our other philanthropic supporters was truly awe-inspiring.”
CURRENT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The following are brief synopses of upcoming funding deadlines. Please be sure to refer to the funder’s website for details regarding submission requirements and program goals.

BRADY EDUCATION FOUNDATION
http://www.bradyeducationfoundation.org/applicati
onguidelines.html

From the Brady Education Foundation website:
“The Brady Education Foundation seeks to close the achievement gap for children at risk for poor school outcomes due to environmental factors associated with living in poverty. The Foundation pursues its mission by promoting collaboration between researchers and educators via the funding of research and program evaluations in education.”

The Brady Education Foundation’s next Stage 1 proposal application deadline is August 15, 2013.

WILLIAM T. GRANT FOUNDATION
Social Settings Grants
http://www.wtgrantfoundation.org/funding_opportu
nities/research_grants/social-settings

Focusing on youth aged 8 to 25, through the Social Settings Grant program, the William T. Grant Foundation supports “work that increases our understanding of:

• How settings work, how they affect youth development, and how they can be improved; and

• When, how, and under what conditions research evidence is used in policy and practice that affect youth and how its use can be improved.”

The William T. Grant Foundation is accepting Letters of Inquiry for this program until August 1, 2013.

MAZDA FOUNDATION
http://www.mazdafoundation.org/Grant_Guidelines. html

From the Mazda Foundation website:
“As a responsible corporate citizen, Mazda strongly believes in improving the quality of life where we do business. The grants provided by the Foundation are an investment in the communities in which we live, work and raise our families.

“Through the institutions that the Foundation supports, we are helping to maintain a clean environment, preserve historic landmarks, foster youth literacy and enhance cross-cultural understanding.”

Mazda Foundation accepts applications until July 1, 2013.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR FINANCIAL EDUCATION (NEFE)
http://www.nefe.org/what-we-provide/research-
unding/grant-guidelines.aspx

From the NEFE website:

“The grants program seeks innovative research that can make a profound contribution to the field of financial literacy. Inquiries are encouraged from disciplines in fields as diverse as: behavior, economics, neuroscience, sociology, psychology, marketing, finance, education, change theory, decision sciences, and others. Project outcomes should be actionable in the field of financial literacy, directly relevant to the financial well-being of the public, and able to be applied broadly.”

Proposals to NEFE must be postmarked the first Tuesday in June or the first Tuesday in December of each year.

ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION:
Healthy Eating Research: Building Evidence to Prevent Childhood Obesity
http://www.rwjf.org/en/grants/calls-for-
proposals/2013/healthy-eating-research--building-
evidence-to-prevent-childhood-.html

From the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation website:

“Healthy Eating Research: Building Evidence to Prevent Childhood Obesity is a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF). The program supports research on environmental and policy strategies with strong potential to promote healthy eating among children to prevent childhood obesity, especially among lower-income and racial and ethnic populations at highest risk for obesity. Findings are expected to advance RWJF’s efforts to reverse the childhood obesity epidemic by 2015.

“This call for proposals (CFP) is for two types of awards aimed at providing advocates, decision-makers, and policy-makers with evidence to reverse the childhood obesity epidemic. The award types are: Round 8 grants and RWJF New Connections grants awarded through the Healthy Eating Research program. The two funding opportunities are described in more detail in the CFP.

“Round 8 grants represent the majority of RWJF's investment in research through the Healthy Eating Research program.”

RWJF will accept concept papers for this round of funding through July 10, 2013.
The Sociological Initiatives Foundation has posted the following announcement on its website:

“Call for Concept Proposals: action research projects

“Deadline: August 15, 2013

“Amount: $10,000-$20,000

“The Sociological Initiatives Foundation is dedicated to the belief that research and action are intrinsically inseparable. We invite concept proposals for projects that link an explicit research design to a concrete social action strategy. Projects should also have clear social change goals.

“SIF has funded projects in the areas of civic participation, community organizing, crime and law, education, health, housing, immigration, labor organizing, and language/literacy.

A limited number of concept applicants will be invited to submit full proposals in the fall of 2012. Applicants chosen for funding will receive 60% of the funds immediately in January of 2013. They will receive the remaining 40% after 11 months contingent upon submitting evidence that the project’s 11 month milestones have been met. Our analysis of past grant recipients has shown that projects typically take two years, so applicants should think in terms of such a timeline. The Foundation will also track projects and may choose to invite select grant recipients to apply for a second round of funding to enhance a project showing significant accomplishments in the previous two years.

“Complete guidelines, information on past funded projects, and the on-line concept application are available.”

If you are interested in applying for a grant, please contact Kirstin Swanson, Director of Development or Antonio Thompson, Associate Director of Development, to discuss your proposed project.

Not finding what you’re looking for? COS Pivot may be able to help! Find funding sources and collaborators using this powerful online tool.

http://pivot.cos.com/
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RECENT AWARDS

Professor Babette Audant
Center for Economic and Workforce Development
PSC-CUNY 44 – TRADA
$3,471.58
Bringing it to the Table: How Students at a Community College Talk About Food, Food Policy, and Food...

Professor Chadwick Augustine
Department of Art
PSC-CUNY 44 – TRADA
$2,905
Mythologies and Objects Becoming: The New Body of Work

Assistant Vice President Elizabeth Basile
Office of the Assistant Vice President for College Advancement
Richmond County Savings Foundation
$20,000
Scholarships for Staten Island Students

Anna Becker
On Stage at Kingsborough
Queens College/CUNY
$2,000
Development of Dance Rehearsal Spaces

Heather Brown
Child Development Center
New York Community Bank Foundation
$3,000
Child Development Center – Educational and Interactive Enhancements

Professor Robert Cowan
Department of English
PSC-CUNY 44 – TRADB
$5,979
Artist Enlightenment: The Ethical Necessity of Negation

Professor Aparajita De
Department of English
PSC-CUNY 44 – TRADA
$3,499
Making Meanings, Suturing Contradictions: An Analysis of Fault Lines

Professor Alfred Dolich
Department of Mathematics and Computer Sciences
PSC-CUNY 44 TRADA
$1,452
Convex Orderability in Densely Ordered Theories
Beyond the Real: The Rise of the New Romanian Cinema

Mara Gittleman
Kingsborough Urban Farm
PSC-CUNY 44 TRADA
$3,397
Pedal-Powered Urban Farm Tools

Professor Brian Hack
Department of Art
PSC-CUNY 44 TRADA
$3,500
A Symbolist Manifesto in Stone: George Grey Barnard’s Urn of Life

Professor Rachel Ihara
Department of English
PSC-CUNY 44 TRADA
$3,499.63
Learning Not to Read: Student Perspectives on Assigned Reading

Vice President William Keller
Office of the Vice President for Finance and Administration
F.Y. Eye
$13,130
Upgrade of PSA Screens On Campus

Heidi Lopez
Single Stop
BJ’s Charitable Foundation
$5,000
Food for Thought Food Pantry

Marie Mandara
COPE
New York City Human Resources Administration
$191,630
FY2014 COPE Allocation

Professor Ryan McKinney
Department of Art
PSC-CUNY 44 TRADA
$3,485
The Choreographic Work of George Balanchine on Broadway and in Hollywood

Assistant Dean Brian Mitra
Office of the Dean of Student Services
PSC-CUNY 44 TRADA
$3,292.04
RISE: Real Individualized Student Education

Chief Librarian Josephine Murphy
Library
New York State Education Department
$14,012
Library Collection Aid

Professor Caterina Pierre
Department of Art
PSC-CUNY 44 TRADA
$3,500
The Exhibition and Critical History of Marcello (1836-1879)

Professor Varattur Reddy
Department of Physical Sciences
PSC-CUNY 44 TRADA
$3,500
Total Synthesis of Withanolide-glycals as Anti-Cancer Agents

Professor Jacob Segal
Department of History, Philosophy and Political Science
PSC-CUNY 44 TRADA
$3,499.63
Liberals Against Neoliberalism: On Individuality and the Liberal Order

Professor Barbara Walters
Department of Behavioral Sciences
PSC-CUNY 44 TRADA
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High Impact Practices: Engagement and Retention

Professor Amy Washburn
Department of English
PSC-CUNY 44 TRADA
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