NEW ULM AREA FOUNDATION

FALL GRANTS 2018

The New Ulm Area Foundation recently held a reception for the 2018 Fall Grant recipients. $20,575 were given in grants for this fall cycle. The total grants and scholarships for 2018 were nearly $50,000.

For over 30 years the New Ulm Area Foundation has been raising endowment funds that will continue to enhance the New Ulm community into perpetuity. Grants are given in the areas of the arts, education, economic development and historic preservation.

FROM NUVERA AND SOMSEN ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Concord Singers $2,375
To fund the preservation and retention of the extensive musical collection of regional significance

FROM THE NEW ULM AREA FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT FUND

Brown County Non-profit Consortium. $1,500
To improve the quality of leadership serving non-profit organizations in Brown County

Bavarian Blast 2019 $3,000
Provide for the continuance of the largest ethnic music festival in New Ulm

Junior Achievement $3,000
Attendance of 6th graders to the 2018-2019 JA BizTown

The Grand Center for the Arts $700
For the expansion of Youth Art Projects

Brown County Historical Society $10,000
Funding for "Early Brown County Exhibit

Grants recipients are as follows: B*ack row:* Seth Visser (Bavarian Blast), Sara Wilfahrt, (Junior Achievement), Kathleen Backer (Brown County Historical Society), Lori Pickell-Stangel (Brown County United Way for the Non-Profit Consortium), Rod Kamitz (Concord Singers), Kristi Paulsen (Bavarian Blast), Andy Miller (Concord Singers). *Front Row:* Linda Beck (The Grand Center for Arts and Culture), Lisa Besemer (Brown County Historical Society), Anne Makepeace (The Grand Center for Arts and Culture)

The ten people in this picture are just a few of the many volunteers and staff that make all of these projects come to fruition. Our community is so fortunate to have leaders willing to serve. If you think you see the same faces number of times, it is because many of these people serve more than one organization, often as many as three.

If you have an opportunity to thank any of those who work with non-profits in our community please do so. Maybe there are opportunities for you to serve.

NETWORK NEW ULM YOUTH

NNUY was established in 2002 as a leadership program for students to increase awareness and participation of young people in the community of New Ulm. This year NNUY has 34 participants!

Here are some quotes from participants from previous years:

"It is great to see all the programs and options that New Ulm gives to its' youth. They show us the real effects on New Ulm's careers and how they work." Shalynn Ubl

"I think it is a good opportunity for the youth of New Ulm to learn about their community and become better citizens." Hannah Blumhoefer

"I love it. I find it very informative and I didn't realize all that New Ulm has." Kayla Rose Adema

"I am so glad I did Network New Ulm. I stepped out of my comfort zone and got to learn more about my community and the people in it." Mary Herzog

"I love being involved in Network New Ulm. It is a great experience that helps you learn about the community and gets all schools involved." Joey Batt

"It allows you to get out of your niche and see the community with a new lens." Noresa Ness

The New Ulm Area Foundation has been a proud supporter of Network New Ulm Youth. Visioning 2020 identified this program as important for the retention of youth in our community.

These young people participate monthly in sessions coordinated by an amazing group of volunteers who make this happen every year.

WELL SERVED

Since 1983 when NUAF was founded, 42 individuals have served on the Advisory Board. This year two more will be added to this impressive list. Julie Baumgartner and Bill Otis are leaving our Board this year. We are grateful for their time, talents and ideas over their years of service. Julie has served on the Board and was President for 3 years. Bill joined the Board in 2017 and provided many ideas for our strategic planning. If you have an opportunity to thank them for this work please do.

Julie Baumgartner

Bill Otis

HANSKA LIBRARY

Tricia Connor, Executive Director and retiring Director Darlene Nelson

This little gem of a library is one of the community hubs of activity. The New Ulm Area Foundation has made two grants for computer equipment at the library. This equipment provides internet use for community members of all ages.

As part of a 9 county group of libraries, they have access to full library of books and services. The Traverse de Souix provides them with internet purchase, set up and website development. Through this affiliation, they also have internet security and parental controls. The library has been successful in fundraising by selling used books. These funds are used to buy some of the newest books by favorite authors and materials for kids group activities. A local book club makes its home here and the growing video and audio book collection appeal to another audience. Hanska is part of the NUAF geographic area of District #88. These grants fall under the education pillar of the Foundation's work within District 88.

WANDA'S GARDEN

In 2016 the Wanda Gag sculpture committee unveiled their sculpture by local artist Jason Jasperson. The statue, honoring New Ulm native Wanda Gag was placed in front of the New Ulm library.

In June of 2018 the landscaping surrounding the sculpture was completed.

River Creek Nursery extended the retaining wall, added mulch, added perennials, a lilac tree and the planters filled with different varieties of hostas.

Two benches were moved to the space; one that was donated by Hobart and Charlotte Anderson and one that was donated by the Putting Green and was created in memory of Bobbi McCrea and her daughters, Abby and Savannah. The New Ulm Area Foundation partially funded the landscaping around the sculpture. Thank you to the many who donated time, talent, plants and the ongoing watering for this beautiful space.

WANT POINTS?

With all of the changes in tax laws recently, your tax deductible donation may not provide tax benefits the same way they have in the past. However, as much as we love receiving your checks in the mail, you can go on to the GiveMN site and make a donation to NUAF using your credit card. If you have a card that gives you points for dollars spent, you can get points for your donation. If you are interested in donating and receiving points on your card for doing so, go to GIVEMN.COM and type in New Ulm Area Foundation to donate.

NEW ULM AREA CAREER EXPO

The Career Expo introduces students to all of the career opportunities in our community. Over 50 businesses & secondary schools participate and provide introductory activities for students. With funding from the New Ulm Area Foundation, the Career Fair was rebranded and updated after 11 years. More 8th graders were added to the program and efforts were made to coordinate the language used in the schools with materials, signage and event layout. There has always been a focus on manufacturing and trade industries but the conversation was expanded to other job opportunities within those industries. Great job!

NON-PROFIT SUPER HEROES

With a grant from NUAF, the Brown County Non-Profit Leadership Group recently offered a presentation for all Brown County Non-Profits. Ben S. Winchester of the University of Minnesota made his presentation "New Patterns in Rural Non-Profits & Volunteerism" at two meetings held in Springfield and New Ulm. Mr. Winchester provided research information about the impact of non-profits in rural communities. The need for volunteers and leadership is ongoing and ever-changing. To see the presentation materials you may go to bridgingbrowncounty.org and go to the non-profit leadership section. Participants completed a survey to help identify their organizations needs. The results of the survey show that these non-profits would like help with fundraising, board development and recruiting volunteers. This information will be used to create focus presentations in the future that will benefit these organizations as well as our community.

Sleepy Eye session with Ben Winchester

Ben Winchester at the Grand Center for Arts & Culture for the New Ulm session

Thanks to Bridging Brown County, the Sleepy Eye Area Chamber of Commerce, the United Way of Brown County, Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce, New Ulm Area Chamber of Commerce, Brown County Public Health and ISD #88 Foundation.