Area students serving on the Minnesota Power Foundation Youth In Philanthropy Board approve $9,169 in grants to 12 youth-led projects

Youth In Philanthropy is an initiative of the Northland Foundation’s KIDS PLUS Program

Thanks to generous program support provided by the Minnesota Power Foundation, a dozen grants were recently approved by the 15 young people and 4 adult mentors serving on the 2017-2018 KIDS PLUS Youth In Philanthropy Board. This year’s 7th through 12th grade youth board members come from Chisholm, Cloquet, Duluth, Ely, Hibbing, and McGregor, MN, and the border community of Superior, WI.

The young people on the Board make grantmaking decisions three times during the school year—October, January, and April—working with an annual grants budget of $25,000. Projects that receive Youth In Philanthropy grants must have applications written by young people, for school or community projects developed and implemented by young people with guidance from adult advisors.

Since Youth In Philanthropy was established in 2000, more than 400 grants of up to $1,000 each, totaling over $367,000 have been awarded for school and community projects in northeastern Minnesota and Superior, WI. Applications for the next round of grants are due to the Northland Foundation by January 1, 2018. Visit http://www.northlandfdn.org/kids-plus/youth-in-philanthropy.shtml for more details.

The October 2017 Youth In Philanthropy Board meeting resulted in the approval of the following 12 grants totaling $9,169.

**Cherry Schools - ISD #2142, Iron: $500**
To help students identify, record, and preserve their school forest through photography.

**Girl Scouts of MN/WI Lakes & Pines, Duluth: $1,000**
To support the purchase of a vision screener that will help many Duluth children and youth get free vision screenings.

**Story Portage, Ely: $1,000**
To create and implement a student-led theatrical production engaging the whole Ely community.
Duluth Area Family YMCA, Duluth: $1,000
To support young leaders to be active citizens through the process of learning about local politics and government with their peers.

Northern Lights Community School, Warba: $428
To create an herb garden made up of culinary and healing herbs that will be shared with the students and the school chef for use in school lunches.

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, Duluth: $430
To provide computer access for homeless youth to seek and fill out job applications as well as search for permanent housing.

Good Knight Jam, Mountain Iron: $1,000
To support the Babbitt skating arena by offering a day of fun for all children and their families.

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Northland, Duluth: $832
To support the Photography Club, in which youth learn about photography, go on field trips to take photos, and share their art in a portfolio.

North St. Louis County 4-H Federation, Virginia: $400
To support the student-led creation of birthday bags for families that are unable to afford all the ingredients for a cake, candles, and card.

Recreational Experiences Achieving Community Harmony (REACH), Cloquet: $1,000
To expand the SOS Team to Esko students and provide opportunities to raise suicide awareness, support peers, share coping skills, and more.

Ordean East Middle School - ISD #709, Duluth: $829
To design and create shelving, storage, and potting features for their student-run school greenhouse.

Superior High School, Superior: $750
In support of high school CSI Biology and Chemistry students developing and implementing an outdoor science activity at the Superior School Forest for area 5th graders.

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