

**WIF ARTS & CULTURE BALLOT 2017**

Project	Goodyear Arts	After School Creative Arts and Learning
<b>Organization</b>	Goodyear Arts, a project of Wall Poems: <a href="http://www.goodyeararts.com">www.goodyeararts.com</a>	ourBRIDGE for KIDS: <a href="http://www.joinourbridge.org">www.joinourbridge.org</a>
<b>Emerging Issue or Critical Community Need</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Charlotte community faces a challenge in attracting and retaining emerging and mid level artists. Many struggle with meeting their basic needs: space for creating art, time, money, and centralized access to artistic community.</li> <li>As arts education disappears from our public schools, art events that are free and open to the public remove barriers to access for our financially fragile and disenfranchised citizens. They also attract highly diverse audiences to share beautiful and challenging art expressions, making our community richer, both culturally and critically.</li> <li>Open to the public, free admission events provide opportunities for emerging and mid level artists to sell their work, reach new audiences and facilitate social/political conversation around arts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Charlotte has been identified as an “immigrant hyper-growth center.” In 2015, foreign-born people made up 14% of Mecklenburg County residents. While Hispanic and Latino populations are well documented, 50% of immigrants settling here since 2010 are from Asian countries.</li> <li>Nearly half of foreign-born residents earn incomes less than 200% of the federal poverty level. Their children attending CMS schools speak 187 different languages and are faced with studying English and how to live in a new culture at the same time.</li> <li>A critical unfulfilled need exists for out-of-school support for immigrant and refugee children. Harnessing the power of the arts is an important tool to further their learning in school, address language barriers and help them meet other challenges of their new lives.</li> <li>Due to funding cuts, time for arts during the school day has been greatly reduced, resulting in a lack of exposure and access.</li> </ul>
<b>Program Description</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goodyear Arts is a residency and multi-arts events program designed to help meet local artists’ needs and to bring local art to the community.</li> <li>In donated underused and empty urban spaces, Goodyear Arts establishes paid studio residencies for local artists across a wide range of disciplines, and hosts free, public multi-arts events to showcase their work.</li> <li>The program remains fluid and organic as evidenced by its artists’ ability to respond with public-facing installation art to help move the community’s attention toward healing after recent protests.</li> <li>Promising local artists in the visual, performing and literary arts are invited to apply for two-month residencies; nine are selected to participate each cycle. The artists receive paid stipends, and private studio space, where they learn to collaborate, and produce exceptional art.</li> <li>Founding partner Crescent Communities and other corporate citizens are now buying and commissioning art curated by Goodyear Arts and created for donations in lieu of gallery commissions, a vital contributor to sustaining this innovative program.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ourBRIDGE’s mission is to empower refugee and immigrant children and their families through education and cultural awareness, serving 150 K-5 students from over 20 countries.</li> <li>The arts promote important skills for academic and life success such as creativity, problem-solving, focus and collaboration. Low-income students engaged in the arts are 5X less likely to drop out of school.</li> <li>To maximize these benefits for their client children, ourBRIDGE will incorporate the special Arts-Infused Inquiry-Based Learning (AIIBL) process developed by LilySarahGrace (LSG) Fund into its after school and summer programs for immigrant and English Language Learner students. AIIBL uses questions, problems, and scenarios to help students learn through their own curiosity and investigation.</li> <li>Each AIIBL unit will include a partnership with a cultural arts community organization to engage students in a variety of learning experiences. LSG will work with ourBRIDGE to co-design, train and support a 3-part process over 2 years including capacity building for ourBRIDGE teachers. This training, coupled with a planned move to expanded space in the Aldersgate community will allow an increase in students served.</li> </ul>
<b>Use of Funds</b>	Fund residencies and multi-art events including artists’ stipends, event logistics, management and documentation; pay facility costs like insurance and utilities; and cover gallery staffing and outreach expenses.	Establish a new Curriculum Director position and underwrite LSG’s arts and experiential learning curriculum for ourBRIDGE students.
<b>Amount Requested</b>	\$50,000 over 1 Year	\$100,000 over 2 Years
<b>Program Budget</b>	\$78,000	\$166,320
<b>Collaborators</b>	Crescent Communities, McColl Center for Art + Innovation, Arts & Science Council, Levine Properties, Lennar Multi-Family	LilySarahGrace Fund; Oakhurst, Merry Oaks and Winterfield Elementary Schools (CMS); Aldersgate
<b>Grant Team Lead</b>	Mary Margaret Porter: <a href="mailto:marymargaretporter@yahoo.com">marymargaretporter@yahoo.com</a>	

**WIF EDUCATION BALLOT 2017**

Project	Heart Math Tutoring	WINGS for Kids, Inc.
<b>Organization</b>	Heart Math Tutoring: <a href="http://www.hearttutoring.org">http://www.hearttutoring.org</a>	WINGS for Kids, Inc.: <a href="http://www.wingsforkids.org">http://www.wingsforkids.org</a>
<b>Emerging Issue or Critical Community Need</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only 44% of economically disadvantaged students (EDS) in CMS grades 3 thru 8 are proficient in math, versus 64% of non-EDS peers. This 20% achievement gap widens in later years as course complexity increases.</li> <li>• Early math skills predict later academic achievement in both math <u>and</u> reading. Early individualized attention helps close the math gap.</li> <li>• Teachers’ ability to provide the 1:1 attention needed is limited, especially in high poverty schools, but volunteers can be a valuable resource for both targeted math support and mentorship.</li> <li>• Math skills provide a key to exiting poverty. (STEM average salary \$53,000 in U.S.; four year degree required in only half of the jobs.)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12+ million kids live in poverty in the U.S. (up 40% over past 30 years). These students tend to have very high school absentee rates, teen pregnancy rates and dropout rates. Their academic achievement levels are substantially below those of students from higher income families.</li> <li>• Last year, CMS issued 79% of its suspensions to African American students who comprise only 40% of the CMS population. School suspensions interrupt learning and students with repeat suspensions are more likely to drop out of school. Many of these students find themselves in the “school to prison pipeline”.</li> <li>• Unlike IQ, Emotional Intelligence can be taught and can become part of a lifelong journey of learning. Effective social-emotional education can strengthen school attachment and reduce bad behavior.</li> </ul>
<b>Program Description</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Officially founded in 2013, Heart is a Charlotte-based math intervention program that helps elementary students build the strong foundation in math, and enthusiasm for academics needed for long-term success.</li> <li>• Students in grades 1-5 who are 2-3 years behind in math are nominated by their teachers to receive 1:1 tutoring for 30 minutes, 2 times per week during the school day (the only such volunteer program in CMS).</li> <li>• Volunteer tutors commit one hour per week and are supported by an on-site Heart coordinator and a structured, tutor-friendly curriculum. This year 750 community members are tutoring 660 students across 12 schools in CMS. Heart volunteers are 40% male, 42% young professionals and 63% work full time.</li> <li>• Heart lesson plans target and close each student’s identified gaps. To date, 98% of students met program growth goals on research-based pre/post assessments. Over 90% of teachers cite improved confidence.</li> <li>• Heart plans expansion to 18 schools to serve 945 students in 2017-18 (strong school interest and waiting list). To support growth, Heart is transitioning to a partial fee for service model, where schools are being asked to contribute ~20% (\$10,000) of program costs in 2017 – 2018.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The WINGS for kids program supports K-5 students by providing daily after-school mentoring and instruction on the 5 core competencies of Emotional Intelligence: self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, responsible decision-making, and healthy relationships.</li> <li>• WINGS operates M-F, 15 hours/week (500 hours/student/year) in select Title 1 schools with severe academic challenges, chronic absenteeism, high suspension rates and other social, emotional and familial issues. Research-based guidelines are used to gradually build skills in an age-appropriate structure of support services.</li> <li>• WINGS serves 8500 kids in three states and currently serves 228 students in 2 CMS schools (WG Byers and Bruns Academy).</li> <li>• School attendance improves when kids participate in WINGS.</li> <li>• WINGS leaders are part-time staff recruited from local colleges and universities in Charlotte. These successful students have similar backgrounds to WINGS students. They initially receive 40 hours of training followed by 45+ hours of training throughout the year, and provide a high-energy, positive and fun after-school environment where kids feel valued and develop healthy relationships, as they follow a sequenced, active, focused, and explicit curriculum (SAFE).</li> </ul>
<b>Use of Funds</b>	Funds will be used to support the planned expansion of the program to two new school sites, serving 100-140 additional students. The cost per school is \$50,000.	Funds will be used for 25% of WINGS Leader stipends (24 college students to achieve 1:12 staff to student ratio at 2 schools).
<b>Amount Requested</b>	\$100,000 over 1 year	\$100,000 over 2 Years
<b>Program Budget</b>	\$1,022,800	\$ 1,241,270
<b>Collaborators</b>	CMS District; Social Venture Partners; Communities In Schools	CMS, Project Lift, Children Theatre, First Tee, Discovery Place
<b>Grant Team Leads</b>	Jean Brinkmann ( <a href="mailto:jbrinkmann@gmail.com">jbrinkmann@gmail.com</a> ) and Jane Glenn ( <a href="mailto:jsglenn.glenn@gmail.com">jsglenn.glenn@gmail.com</a> )	

**WIF ENVIRONMENT BALLOT 2017**

Project	WFAE Environmental News Desk Expansion	Technical Program Staff Expansion
<b>Organization</b>	WFAE: <a href="http://www.wfae.org">www.wfae.org</a>	Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation: <a href="http://www.catawbariverkeeper.org">www.catawbariverkeeper.org</a>
<b>Emerging Issue or Critical Community Need</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As Mecklenburg County's population grows, so too do the potential environmental issues associated with large urban populations. The health of our environment directly influences the health of our citizenry, as well as the socio-economic health of the region.</li> <li>Established media outlets in Charlotte have cut funding for environmental issues.</li> <li>How are those of us who live and work in the Charlotte region to make decisions on imperative environmental issues in an era of mass-information and miss-information? A need exists for environmental education at the local level to increase awareness around these issues.</li> <li>WFAE hopes to address this critical need through the expansion of its acclaimed Environmental news coverage with increased focus on the stories that directly impact the quality of life in the region -- from coal ash pits and water quality to air quality and alternative energy and more.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Catawba River has been on American Rivers' Top 10 Most Endangered Rivers list. Due to power production, it is the most stressed river east of the Mississippi.</li> <li>Coal ash contamination, sedimentation, storm water runoff, sewage sludge, and water scarcity all threaten the health of the river. The Catawba is critical for the region because it's the only source of clean, affordable drinking water for two million people.</li> <li>Because the Catawba is so important and so negatively affected by human activity, the community needs an independent watchdog. Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation (CRF) acts as that watchdog; however, with only one technical program staff person for 5,000 square miles of waterways and a population of millions of people, CRF is limited in its ability to positively measure and impact the health of the River.</li> </ul>
<b>Program Description</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The health of our shared environment impacts us all. Funding to increase coverage will allow the station's Environmental Desk to greatly expand its focus on this issue, which in turn will help everyone in the Charlotte region to understand environmental issues; and help the community make informed decisions about environmental challenges and local efforts underway to address such challenges.</li> <li>WFAE is regularly heard by 193,000 individuals each week. This broader environmental coverage will deliver the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum of 15 feature length (3+ minutes) and 30 short form (1-2 minutes) news segments broadcast on WFAE</li> <li>Live broadcast/event for WFAE's Charlotte Talks focusing on environmental issues relevant to Mecklenburg County</li> <li>WFAE podcast focused on regional environmental issues</li> <li>Distribution of stories via WFAE social media/digital platforms</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding from the Women's Impact Fund will be used to pay for an additional technical program staff person. The new staff person will devote more time to patrolling the waterways and investigating reports of pollution from the trained volunteer force.</li> <li>The new staff person will expand CRFs elementary education program to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg area.</li> <li>Additionally, the new staff person will assist the Riverkeeper in advocacy projects related to local and state policies that impact the health of River.</li> <li>With another technical programs staff person, CRF will double their impact. CRF will devote more time and attention to areas of the basin and issues that they've been forced to ignore due to the limited capacity of their current staff and resources.</li> </ul>
<b>Use of Funds</b>	Funding for salary, travel, broadcast, and production expenses to grow the station's environmental news desk and expand environmental coverage.	Funding will pay for an additional technical staff position (salary, taxes, expenses, administrative costs).
<b>Amount Requested</b>	\$100,000 over 2 Years	\$100,000 over 2 Years
<b>Program Budget</b>	\$100,000	\$120,000
<b>Collaborators</b>	As a news organization, WFAE cannot commit to working with specific organizations, but it is clear the Environmental News Desk will work with numerous local organizations.	Southern Environmental Law Center and NC Department of Environmental Quality. Through education programs, CRF partners with schools (elementary through university levels), Boys and Girls Clubs, and is a member of the Green Teacher Network in Charlotte.
<b>Grant Team Leads</b>	Anna McClelland ( <a href="mailto:mccllelland2016@gmail.com">mccllelland2016@gmail.com</a> ) and Anne Waldmiller ( <a href="mailto:annemarie0218@gmail.com">annemarie0218@gmail.com</a> )	

**WIF HEALTH BALLOT 2017**

Project	“You are not Alone” (“Tu no estas solo”) Mental Health Clinic for Latinos	Screening and Care Program
<b>Organization</b>	Camino Community Center: <a href="http://www.caminocommunitycenter.org">www.caminocommunitycenter.org</a>	Matthews Free Medical Clinic: <a href="http://www.matthewsfmc.org">www.matthewsfmc.org</a>
<b>Emerging Issue or Critical Community Need</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental health care and access to affordable healthcare</li> <li>• Charlotte is the fastest-growing Latino metropolitan area in the US.</li> <li>• Latinos suffer from mental health disorders at rates equal to or above all other racial/ethnic groups, but fewer than 1 in 5 Latinos with a mental health disorder contacts a health provider and fewer than 1 in 11 contacts a mental health specialist. Those numbers are even lower for immigrants.</li> <li>• Latina immigrant women face particular challenges that are risk factors for mental health disorders, like single parenthood, divorce/separation, discrimination and low-status, high-stress jobs.</li> <li>• Charlotte/Mecklenburg County has few culturally and linguistically competent healthcare service providers available to meet the health needs of Latin Americans, especially with respect to mental health.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to affordable health care</li> <li>• Health care is prohibitively expensive for those not qualified for Medicaid and too poor to purchase insurance in the marketplace. Loss of insurance or governmental benefits may occur swiftly and in spite of ongoing medical needs (e.g., a pregnant woman who qualifies for Medicaid may lose coverage upon giving birth).</li> <li>• Demand for clinic services is so high that prospective patients wait in line the night before the Clinic’s monthly open enrollment screening day.</li> <li>• Current intake procedures dictate that primary care providers (PCPs) conduct the initial exam and make referrals to specialists, creating a bottleneck, which prevents PCPs from treating patients who may not require specialists.</li> </ul>
<b>Program Description</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Camino Community Center’s Bethesda Health Clinic is the primary source of healthcare and health education to Mecklenburg County’s uninsured Hispanic/Latino population (serves 3,500 patients).</li> <li>• In connection with the clinic, “You are not Alone” provides focused, culturally and linguistically competent mental health services to Latinos (particularly Latina immigrant women). UNC-Charlotte mental health students provide the services to patients under the supervision of licensed clinical faculty.</li> <li>• The 14-week program includes depression screening and individual and group counseling. A successful 2016 pilot program served 41 patients.</li> <li>• Hiring a permanent, full-time Licensed Professional Counselor to see patients and coordinate UNC-Charlotte trainee providers will allow the center to serve 100 patients annually (focusing on Latina patients).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matthews Free Medical Clinic provides free, quality healthcare to uninsured, low-income Mecklenburg and Union County residents.</li> <li>• The clinic currently screens and adds 20 new patients/month, but that number will increase with the addition of a full-time Registered Nurse.</li> <li>• The new RN and a new full-time Nurse Practitioner (NP) or Physician Assistant (PA) will increase efficiency, the number of patient visits, and enable the clinic to double the number served. The RN will conduct medical screening exams on new patients, making direct referrals to specialists and appropriate care providers. PCPs, freed from this screening and referral role, will spend more time treating patients.</li> <li>• The added NP or PA will diagnose and treat patients without a physician present and will treat patients with less severe needs. By assigning less severe cases to the NP/PA, physicians and specialists may focus on more complex cases, increasing overall clinic efficiency and increasing patient numbers and available appointments.</li> </ul>
<b>Use of Funds</b>	This grant would partially fund the salary and related expenses of a Licensed Professional Counselor.	This grant would partially fund the salaries of a full-time RN and a full-time Nurse Practitioner or Physician Assistant and related medical supplies.
<b>Amount Requested</b>	\$80,000 over 2 Years	\$80,000 over 1 Year
<b>Program Budget</b>	\$142,000	\$110,000
<b>Collaborators</b>	UNC Charlotte (Department of Counseling, Program in Health Psychology and School of Social Work) provides trainee mental health providers. Referrals and services also provided by The Prevention Center, Anuvia Prevention & Recovery Center and Alianza – Coalicion de Prevencion y Control de Sustancias.	Patient referrals come from: emergency rooms, Project 658 (provides services to refugees), Compassion to Act (provides services to adults rescued from sex trafficking), churches, Bright Blessings, Matthews Help Center, Novant Health Matthews and homeless shelters.
<b>Grant Team Leads</b>	Holly Skipper ( <a href="mailto:hollyfrench@gmail.com">hollyfrench@gmail.com</a> ) and Jessica Hardin ( <a href="mailto:jhardin@robinsonbradshaw.com">jhardin@robinsonbradshaw.com</a> )	

**WIF HUMAN SERVICES BALLOT 2017**

Project	2Generation (2Gen)	Housing and Support for Homeless Families
<b>Organization</b>	Ada Jenkins Families and Careers Developments Center <a href="http://www.adajenkins.org">http://www.adajenkins.org</a>	Supportive Housing Communities, Inc. (SHC) <a href="http://www.SupportiveHousingCommunities.org">http://www.SupportiveHousingCommunities.org</a>
<b>Emerging Issue or Critical Community Need</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Needs Assessment identified the three most critical needs in the region: Education, Housing and Poverty, Health and Mental Health.</li> <li>Education needs include early childcare and education programs, K-12 education and out-of-school programs, and workforce development.</li> <li>Housing and Poverty needs include affordable housing and holistic support services to help people maintain housing.</li> <li>Health and Mental Health needs include greater emphasis on preventative services, especially primary care and dental care.</li> <li>Ada Jenkins is a community-driven, grass roots organization at the site of the former Davidson Colored School. The mission of Ada Jenkins is to empower our communities in breaking the cycle of poverty through the integration of health, education and human services.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>According to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Point-In-Time Count on 1/27/16, there were 1,818 people experiencing homelessness, a decrease of 9% from 2015 to 2016 and a 36% decrease from 2010 to 2016.</li> <li>Among the homeless, 170 were chronically homeless. Chronic homelessness is a HUD definition used when someone has been homeless for more than 1 year or has had 4 episodes of homelessness over a 3-year period of time that equal 1 year. The number of chronically homeless in Charlotte decreased 39% from 2015 to 2016 and 45% from 2010 to 2016.</li> <li>The mission of SHC is to provide affordable housing to alleviate homelessness and human suffering. SHC prioritizes those who are chronically homeless with at least one disability.</li> </ul>
<b>Program Description</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 2Gen approach is the heart of Ada Jenkins' programming. Through this program, Ada Jenkins intentionally coordinates services for multiple generations within one family and works to identify areas in which they need support: employment, food and clothing, housing, etc.</li> <li>All on site, the Center offers (1) a preschool in partnership with St. Alban's Church; (2) the LEARN Works after school program for children; (3) food and clothing in partnership with Lydia's Loft; (4) medical and dental clinics; (5) an employment assistant specialist working with adults to secure the tools needed to find employment; (6) various workshops, including financial wellness, computer technology, resume building, and interview skills.</li> <li>Ada Jenkins serves 3,980 unduplicated client-partners in north Mecklenburg and Iredell Counties annually. The majority of the Center's client-partners earn less than 150% of the poverty level.</li> <li>WIF grant would be used to connect more parents/guardians of the 125 students enrolled in the LEARN Works after school program with Human Services resources, focusing on total integration Center-wide services.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SHC provides permanent supportive housing for men, women and families, especially veterans and those with mental illness, substance abuse and medical or other disabling conditions.</li> <li>SHC uses the Housing First model, an approach that prioritizes providing permanent housing as quickly as possible followed by voluntary supportive services as needed.</li> <li>SHC started housing formerly homeless men at McCreesh Place in 2003. In 2013, SHC began serving formerly homeless men, women and children with scattered site housing. Through this program, SHC provides rental assistance &amp; support services via available apartments in the community.</li> <li>During the last fiscal year, SHC served 267 clients, including 32 families consisting of 107 family members.</li> <li>After securing housing, SHC offers supportive services. Case managers help build community, teach new skills, support those in recovery from addictions, and teach healthy lifestyles, all with the goal that residents remain in stable housing. SHC has a 98% success rate of residents remaining housed after 1 year.</li> </ul>
<b>Use of Funds</b>	This grant would fund direct and indirect costs of the key employees facilitating the 2Gen approach at Ada Jenkins Center.	This grant would be used for housing & support services for formerly homeless families.
<b>Amount Requested</b>	\$100,000 over 2 Years	\$60,000 over 1 Year
<b>Program Budget</b>	\$327,044	\$486,425
<b>Collaborators</b>	Loaves & Fishes, Goodwill, Crisis Assistance Ministry, medical, dental and mental health service providers (all available onsite), Lydia's Loft, Davidson Housing Coalition, Habitat for Humanity, Lake Norman YMCA and others.	Community Coordinated Assessment, St. Matthew Catholic Church, St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church and St. Peter Catholic Church
<b>Grant Team Leads</b>	Mary Beth Pope ( <a href="mailto:mbpope5@gmail.com">mbpope5@gmail.com</a> ) and Ellen Rankin ( <a href="mailto:ellen.rankin@ubs.com">ellen.rankin@ubs.com</a> )	