



YPSILANTI COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
FOUNDATION



YCSF NEWSLETTER

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The Ypsilanti Community Schools Foundation (YCSF) was officially established as a non-profit in January 2007. The mission of the foundation is to advance the promise of success for all students through the generation and distribution of resources to be used to enrich teaching, inspire learning, promote excellence in education, and reward dedication to these tenets through grants and scholarships.

To achieve our mission, the foundation is committed to four objectives:

- The recognition of students who work to their highest potential.
- The recognition of faculty for exemplary, innovative teaching.
- The engagement of Ypsilanti Community Schools' administrators and staff as partners in this mission.
- The engagement of community partners for help in achieving this mission.

Donations to YCSF

Thank you for your interest in supporting the students and teachers of Ypsilanti Community Schools through your donation.

Donations via check can be sent to the YCSF at:

Ypsilanti Community Schools Foundation

PO Box 980453

Ypsilanti, MI 48198





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YCSF **SCHOLARSHIPS**

COMMUNITY FOR ALL-MALE AWARD

COMMUNITY FOR ALL-FEMALE AWARD

COMMUNITY FOR ALL-HBCU AWARD

COMMUNITY FOR ALL-MIDDLE AWARD

DR. JAMES AND VIVIAN HAWKINS SCHOLARSHIP

MCDONALD FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

HUMES FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

PASTOR VICTORIA SWANSON-JAMES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

RESILIENCE AWARD

TRUDY ADAM'S INSPIRATIONAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

WILLIAM R. SHADFORD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

YPSILANTI COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD

YPSILANTI COMMUNITY SCHOOLS FOUNDATION AWARD

Due
APRIL 6

[Link to YCSF Scholarship Form](#)





YPSILANTI COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
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YCSF SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDEES

- **COMMUNITY FOR ALL-MALE AWARD - \$1500 - MALIK WEBSTER**
- **COMMUNITY FOR ALL-FEMALE AWARD - \$1500 - SANARIA COLLINS**
- **COMMUNITY FOR ALL-HBCU AWARD - \$1000 - GARCIA MAZAMA**
- **COMMUNITY FOR ALL-MIDDLE AWARD - \$1000 - JORDYN DIAZ**
- **DR. JAMES AND VIVIAN HAWKINS SCHOLARSHIP - \$1000 - JAYLEN BILLINGSLEA**
- **MCDONALD FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP - \$2500 - CHISOM NDUKWE**
- **HUMES FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP - \$1500 - KIMORA RUCKER**
- **PASTOR VICTORIA SWANSON-JAMES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP - \$1000 - NYLESE HOOD**
- **RESILIENCE AWARD - \$1000 - NUWARA USMAN**
- **TRUDY ADAM'S INSPIRATIONAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP - \$1000 - RICKY KENNEDY, JR.**
- **TRUDY ADAM'S INSPIRATIONAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP - \$1000 - SANARIA COLLINS**
- **WILLIAM R. SHADFORD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP - \$1000 - LAMINE CAMARA**
- **WILLIAM R. SHADFORD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP - \$1000 - JAMES TANG**
- **WILLIAM R. SHADFORD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP - \$1000 - SIERA CALZADO**
- **WILLIAM R. SHADFORD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP - \$1000 - PAMELA LARREINAGA MARTINEZ**
- **WILLIAM R. SHADFORD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP - \$1000 - TREMAINE PINDER**
- **YPSILANTI COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD - \$1000 - FATUMA ALI**
- **YPSILANTI COMMUNITY SCHOOLS FOUNDATION AWARD - \$1000 - ISHIMWE ESTHER**
- **YPSILANTI COMMUNITY SCHOOLS FOUNDATION AWARD - \$1000 - ROBERTO SARAVIA**





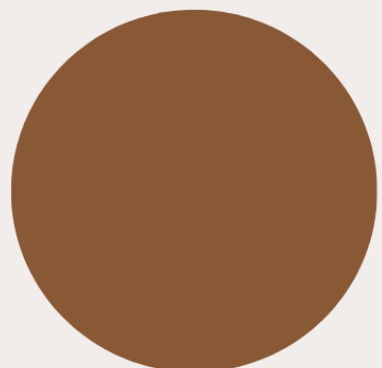
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YCSF MINI-GRANTS

School	Project Director	Project
ACCE	Hannah Kelham	Ukuleles for SEL
Ford	Marcia Peterson	Enhancing Social/Emotional Learning in Early Intervention
Perry	Brian Dickerson	Creating a Welcoming Entrance and Reading Corner for Perry Early Learning Center
CTE	Chef Aaron Gaertner	NASA HUNCH Culinary Challenge
District	Mary Dunn	YCS Learners Closet
High School	Katie Schafer	Romeo and Juliet Performance
Middle School	Charles Davis	Empowering African American Boys through Social Emotional Learning and Mentorship
Estabrook	Jennifer Gray	3rd grade study of the State of Michigan
YIES	Valaine Holmes	Math in E-Motion

Due
APRIL 6





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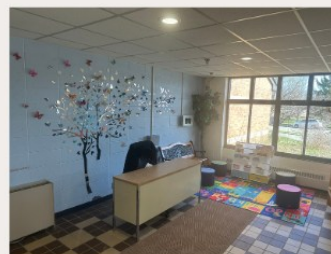
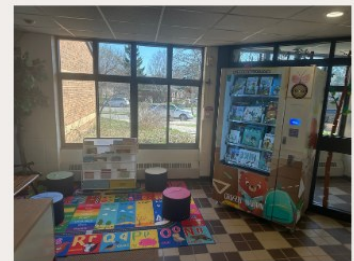
YCSF

MINI-GRANTS

Perry Early Learning Center seeks a mini-grant to revitalize our lobby into a welcoming and inspiring entrance with a cozy reading corner. This transformation will create a positive first impression for families, instill pride in students and staff, and promote literacy by providing a comfortable space for students to read while waiting. We aim to enhance the lobby's aesthetics with decor reflecting our values of community, growth, and educational excellence. Funding will support comfortable seating, bookshelves with engaging books, educational wall art, and decorative elements. This project will significantly improve the experience of everyone entering Perry, fostering a positive atmosphere focused on learning and community.

Creating a
Welcoming
Entrance
and Reading
Corner for
Perry Early
Learning
Center

Brian Dickerson





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MINI-GRANTS



Hannah Kelham	Ukuleles for SEL	Seeking a class set of ukuleles to offer a therapeutic music class during the school day. Research indicates that music education can provide healthy coping skills for students with trauma/PTSD. While piano may not appeal to all, the ukulele offers an accessible and engaging alternative.
Marcie Peterson	Enhancing Social/ Emotional Learning in Early Intervention	This project aims to boost social-emotional learning for 3-5 year olds with developmental delays in Ypsilanti Community Schools' Early Intervention Program. Many students are non-verbal or have autism, creating challenges for traditional SEL. We lack appropriate hands-on tools for this population. As the program's first full-time social worker, I've identified a need for more SEL materials, especially for our thrice-weekly playgroups, where engaging social-emotional centers have been difficult to implement due to limited resources. The requested items will significantly enhance these centers.
Chef Aaron Gaertner	NASA HUNCH Culinary Challenge	The NASA Hunch Culinary Challenge, a partnership between the American Culinary Federation and NASA, tasks high school culinary and bakery students with creating a pasta and protein dish for International Space Station astronauts. Annually, a new theme challenges students to develop recipes suitable for NASA's food processing (like retort and freeze-drying) and strict nutritional guidelines. This initiative highlights the vital role of culinary arts and bakery science in STEM, and especially STEAM education, by building culinary skills, encouraging food science research, and emphasizing professional presentation.
Mary Dunn, RN	YCS Learners Closet	The YCS Learners Closet supplies clothing items to students across the district. Starting with the early learning centers through the middle school, students who need a clothing item for almost any reason can be provided with what is needed and then return to class. Reasons for a student using the Learners Closet include clothing insecurity (especially as the seasons change), an accident (food, art, bodily function), and worn/damaged clothing. Basic items provided by the Learners Closet include socks, undergarments, tops, bottoms, sweaters/hoodies, coats/jackets, mittens/gloves, shoes and boots



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MINI-GRANTS



Katie Shafer

**Romeo and Juliet
Performance**

English 9 students read Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet in the spring. We have found a traveling performance troupe that will perform scenes as well as educate on Shakespeare's time and practices. Last year, the students enjoyed the experience and shared many thoughtful responses and questions with the troupe.

Charles Davis, Jr.

**Boys to Men:
Empowering African
American Boys
through SEL &
Mentorship**

This 8-week program will support the mental health and social-emotional growth of African American middle school boys through mentorship, restorative circles, and hands-on activities. Focusing on stress management, self-esteem, and leadership, the program will connect students with positive male role models via professional speakers. Activities include speaker sessions, skill-building circles, a tie-tying activity promoting pride, vision board workshops for goal setting, and weekly group meetings. This program covers speakers and ties, aiming to foster resilience, confidence, and belonging.

Jennifer Gray

**3rd grade study
of the State of
Michigan**

The 3rd graders are required to study the State of Michigan and we thought it would be best if we decided to do it using the STEAM approach. The third grade teachers and our Art teacher are collaborating together, using a hands-on approach, along with visiting different places around Michigan to learn the history and see how art was depicted in the early stages of the our auto industry, how homes were built and engineering and science came together to create electricity. I believe these approaches will enhance the learning we are required to teach and give the students a more fun learning experience.

Valaina Holmes

**Math in E-Motion:
K-5 Numeracy &
Number Sense**

This program will boost K-5 students' numeracy through engaging, hands-on activities. Utilizing manipulatives, supportive characters, games, videos, and movement, it will build practical strategies for counting, operations, fractions, and decimals. The goal is to strengthen number sense through collaboration, speaking opportunities, physical activity, interactive elements, creativity, and choice – vital skills for STEAM fields.



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Ypsilanti Community Schools Foundation sign-up for foundation happenings!
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Never miss an update.

[Link to newsletter sign-up form](https://tinyurl.com/yycsfnewsletter)

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