



**SchoolGrants Bimonthly Newsletter**  
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*celebrating 7 years of  
service!*

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## **NEWS AND RESOURCES FOR GRANT WRITERS**

### **NEWS**

An updated sample copy of the *SchoolGrants Biweekly Newsletter* is now available. If you'd like to take a look at the comprehensive newsletter that is published twice a month, go to <http://www.k12grants.org/sbn.pdf>. You may need to have the latest version of Adobe Acrobat Reader installed on your computer to access the newsletter.

### **2006 Education Vital Signs – Facts & Figures about U.S. Schools**

The American School Board Journal, a publication of the National School Boards Association, has released its annual special report on the state of education in the U.S. The supplement compiles important data such as state-by-state student enrollment, teacher salaries, per-pupil expenditures, assessments and more. International comparisons of student performance, preschool education, high school graduation, student health, education law and finance, and the No Child Left Behind Act are also discussed.

### **Report: From the Capital to the Classroom: Year 4 of the No Child Left Behind Act**

The Center on Education Policy (CEP) has released a new report that tracks federal, state, and local implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act. *From the Capital to the Classroom: Year 4 of the No Child Left Behind Act* is based on the most comprehensive national study of the impact of NCLB as well as an extensive body of original research and analysis, including a survey of education officials in 50 states, a

nationally representative survey of 299 school districts, and in-depth case studies in 38 geographically diverse districts and 42 individual schools.

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## **Pew Report Estimates Size/Characteristics of Illegal Immigrants in U.S.**

The Pew Hispanic Center has released a new report that estimates the size and characteristics of the nation's unauthorized migrants. The estimates, based on an analysis of the March 2005 Current Population Survey, indicate that the U.S. currently has a population of 11.5 to 12 million illegal

immigrants. Approximately 56% of the unauthorized population was from Mexico in March 2005 while 22% came from the rest of Latin America.

### **EASY FUNDRAISING IDEA!**

Educational and nonprofit organizations within the contiguous United States can earn technology, classroom and recreation equipment, and even cash through the [FundingFactory Recycling Program](#). Empty cartridges and used cell phones can be collected within a school, district or entire community to help raise needed funds or earn equipment. FundingFactory provides free collection boxes, promotional materials, and business support supplies.

Participants also are able to compete for great prizes through a host of contests. This year's contest schedule includes digital cameras, die-cut equipment, Palm handheld devices, iPods, movie vouchers, pizza parties and more. [Sign up now!](http://tinyurl.com/mizf) (<http://tinyurl.com/mizf>) Please mention that you learned about FundingFactory through SchoolGrants when you register.

Females accounted for 42% of the unauthorized adults in the U.S. in March 2005. It is not uncommon for a family to include both children that are unauthorized and those that are U.S. citizens by birth; an estimated 3.1 million are U.S. citizens by birth.

The majority of illegal immigrants have come to the U.S. in the last ten years. It is estimated that there are about 850,000 new arrivals per year. The huge influx of illegal immigrants has significantly impacted our public schools because many of the children do not speak English or have limited command of the language, are new to the country and our culture, and unauthorized migrants, the majority of whom work in low-income jobs, tend to move frequently.

## **GRANT WRITING RESOURCES**

### **Future of Children: Childhood Obesity**

The Spring 2006 issue of *The Future of Children* focuses on childhood obesity. There are many theories on why there are alarming numbers of children who are overweight or obese. This issue of *The Future of Children* examines the evidence supporting a variety of causes attributed to weight gain,

consequences related to children being overweight or obese, and methods for dealing with childhood obesity.

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### Online Toolkit for Revitalizing High School Libraries

Public Education Network provides tools and resources for revitalizing high school libraries that were created and/or used during a pilot program sponsored by New York Life to create true centers of teaching and learning in school libraries in three cities. Tools include planning and assessment documents as well as links to information about using technology to create online learning centers, designing the library media center to enhance learning, encouraging collaboration between teachers and library media specialists to maximize student learning, and engaging parents and the community. There are also links to a number of resources provided.

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### Using the Internet Effectively for Fundraising and More

Groundspring.org, a nonprofit organization founded by the Tides Foundation in 1999 that is committed to improving the effectiveness of the nonprofit sector, offers a free collection of learning topics related to using the Internet for fundraising, communications, advocacy and mission fulfillment. Among the twelve available topics are:

- Sample Online Fundraising Plan,
- Acquiring and Cultivating Donors Online,
- Put Email to Work (Without Becoming a Spam Artist), and
- Catching Donors in Your Web (Site)

#### **SCHOOLGRANTS SERVICES**

SchoolGrants provides the following services at reasonable costs:

- \* Expert grant writing
- \* Proposal review
- \* Hands-on site-based workshops
- \* *Let's Write a Grant* interactive CD

Contact us for more information!

[donna@k12grants.org](mailto:donna@k12grants.org)

Groundspring.org also makes available its 94-page Online Fundraising Handbook that offers information on a variety of topics related to the effective use of the Internet in fundraising. Case studies, links to more resources, and "idea hot sheets" are provided in the Handbook.

You must register to access the free materials.

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# GRANT & AWARD OPPORTUNITIES

## FOUNDATION/CORPORATE OPPORTUNITIES

### **Horace Mann Educator Scholarship Program**

The Horace Mann Companies is offering \$30,000 in scholarships for public and private school educators to take college courses.

To apply, you must be an educator currently employed by a U.S. public or private school district or U.S. public or private college/university and planning to enter a two or four-year accredited college or university. The college must be a public or private, not-for-profit institute. The Horace Mann Educator Scholarship Program is not available to residents of Hawaii, New Jersey and New York.

One recipient will receive \$5,000 in scholarship funds payable over four years, and fifteen other recipients will receive \$1,000 each in scholarship funds payable over two years. Twenty additional recipients will each receive one-time \$500 awards.

All applications must be received by **May 16, 2006**, to be considered.

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### **Innovation Grants and Learning & Leadership Grants**

Grants support public school teachers, public education support professionals, and/or faculty and staff in public institutions of higher education for one of the following two purposes:

- (i) Learning & Leadership: grants to individuals for participation in high-quality professional development activities or grants to groups for collegial study (including study groups, action research, lesson study, or mentoring experiences for faculty or staff new to an assignment)
- (ii) Innovation: grants support collaborative efforts by two or more colleagues to develop and implement creative project-based learning that results in high student achievement.

Eligible applicants are practicing U.S. public school teachers in grades K-12; public school education support professionals; or faculty and staff at public higher education institutions. Preference for grants will be given to members of the National Education Association.

Learning & Leadership Grants will be made for \$2,000 for individuals and \$5,000 for groups. Innovation grants are \$5,000.

Applications may be submitted at any time. Applications received by **June 1** will be reviewed with notification provided by November 15.

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### **Tool Factory/Olympus Classroom Grants**

Olympus America, Inc., in partnership with Tool Factory, Inc., is sponsoring a classroom grants program designed to strengthen education through digital imaging and the power of visual learning. Teachers should propose a creative program that involves students and uses Olympus digital cameras and Tool Factory's project-building software as part of the curriculum.

K12 and special education schools in the US, its territories, and Canada are eligible to apply.

Five awards (cash + products) valued at \$3,550 will be made.

The deadline to submit an online application is **June 2, 2006** at 5:00 PM, ET.

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## **FEDERAL OPPORTUNITIES**

### **YouthBuild**

The purpose of the Youthbuild program is to assist disadvantaged young adults between the ages of 16 and 24 years of age in distressed communities to: (1) complete their high school education; (2) complete their high school education; (2) provide on-site construction training experiences which result in the rehabilitation or construction of housing for homeless persons and low- and very low-income families; (3) foster leadership skills; (4) further opportunities for placement in apprenticeship programs (5) promote economic self-sufficiency for program participants.

Eligible applicants are public or private nonprofit organizations that include grassroots community-based organizations inclusive of faith-based organizations, state or local housing agencies or authorities, state or units of local government or entity eligible to provide education and employment training under the federal employment training programs.

HUD will award up to \$46,035,000 on a competitive basis. Funds will be divided among three categories of grants:

1. *Category 1 Grants. New Applicants.* HUD will award up to \$4,800,000 for new applicants that have not previously received implementation grants since the inception of the Youthbuild Program and that have elected not to apply under Category 2 or 3;

2. *Category 2 Grants. Grants up to \$700,000.* HUD will award up to \$37,275,000. Any eligible applicant can apply in Category 2;
3. *Category 3 Grants. Underserved and Rural Areas.* HUD will award approximately \$3,960,000 for grants to organizations serving clients in underserved and rural areas (as defined in the Notice of Funding Availability.)

Applications must be submitted on Grants.gov by **June 9, 2006**.

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## FINAL DETAILS

*Thank you for subscribing to the SchoolGrants Bimonthly Newsletter!* If grant seeking is your business or your passion, the SchoolGrants Biweekly Newsletter will be an invaluable addition to your library of resources.

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