

# LITERACY LEGACY FUND of Michigan



## 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

*Supporting a literate Michigan citizenry of all ages*

*Dear Donors and Friends,*

The Literacy Legacy Fund of Michigan (LLF Michigan) completed its 10th year as a registered non-profit thanks to loyal donors, sponsors, and participants at our fundraisers. During this decade LLF Michigan has allocated approximately \$47,800 in support of literacy-related initiatives state-wide.

In 2019 LLF Michigan allocated \$9,800 in grants and special projects (deferring distribution of \$3,000 until 2020 as some projects evolve), reached hundreds of children, adults and families, and contributed for a fourth year to a university scholarship for educators.

LLF Michigan hosted a second-annual spring fundraising event and a fall friend-raising event in the Marquette area where we are based. We co-sponsored a fundraiser with the Lowell Area Historical Museum to provide additional funding beyond the grant awarded to them. And at a co-hosted ice cream social we announced our major sponsorship for a project at a local animal shelter. Local volunteers and event attendees are key in the success of each event and we appreciate each person's participation.

We will need your loyal assistance going forward if we are to continue to respond meaningfully to the array of literacy needs in Michigan. LLF Michigan's dedicated and generous donors, supportive partners, and an increasing number of volunteers and grant applicants contribute to our overall success. Your gifts have an impact, well beyond what is witnessed immediately – creating an important legacy.

Please visit our newly-redesigned website, [literacylegacyfund.org](http://literacylegacyfund.org), our Facebook page, and LinkedIn. You will find our revamped website contains our goals, explains our grant activities, highlights recent recipients, celebrates funding partners, and has an online donation tab for your convenience.

Contributions in honor of a relative, friend or colleague are gifts that keep on giving. While we appreciate any increase in a donor's financial gift, we recognize that any contribution is positive for our Michigan communities. We truly value your past and future support of a literate Michigan citizenry of all ages.

With appreciation,

*LLF Michigan Board of Directors*

*Our Mission: To support the improvement of a literate Michigan citizenry of all ages through the distribution of charitable funds to enhance literacy-related efforts. Visit us at [www.literacylegacyfund.org](http://www.literacylegacyfund.org).*

# LITERACY LEGACY FUND of Michigan

## THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING 2019 FINANCIAL DONORS

Mimi Andary (S)  
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*(Legend: Silver up to \$100; Gold up to \$250; Diamond up to \$500;  
Platinum up to \$1,000; Legacy Circle above \$1,000)*

Please see next page for more donor information

## DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS (CONTINUED)

### IN HONOR OF

Dr. Jacqueline Tilles..... Presented by: Mary Mathews

### IN MEMORY OF

Rose Evarts..... Presented by: Gwendolyn Graham

Gail Davenport Gray..... Presented by: Phyllis Aurich

Gary Rathbun..... Presented by: Bob & Marilyn Struzik

### **Wayne State University College of Education Literacy Legacy Fund of Michigan Annual Scholarship in Honor of Dr. Jacqueline Tilles**



*Pictured at the reception in June are:  
Dr. Jacqueline Tilles, Andrew Pearce, Leticia  
Kelly, Dean of the College of Education  
R. Douglas Whitman*

Dr. Jacqueline Tilles served as an educator for 56 years, retiring in 2015 from Wayne State University where she was an Associate Professor of Reading, Language and Literature. Prior to WSU, she was on the faculty of Hunter College and previously served as a teacher in the Detroit Public Schools. She is described as a “teacher’s teacher, helping her students

to understand literature and how to engage students to appreciate a wide range of works, especially literature representing various ethnic groups”.

## 2019 RECIPIENTS

Andrew Pearce | Leticia Kelly

*\*Spotlight Award: given periodically in recognition for having a significant impact and deemed to be worthy of high praise and emulation by others; Dr. Tilles was the first recipient in 2016.*

## ANNUAL BUSINESS SPONSORS

Globe Printing  
La Dolce Video and Design

# LITERACY LEGACY FUND of Michigan

## 2019 FINANCIAL AWARDS

***Professional Development for K-12 Educators - Project Aquatic WILD***  
– \$840 JumpStart Incentive Grant. Educators were trained to use Project Aquatic WILD interdisciplinary lessons that encourage youth connections and engagement with water resources, which will serve 594 students each year. Project partners included the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Michigan State University – Extension, and Michigan DNR.



***Dr. Wil Rankinen (GVSU)*** - \$1,500 JumpStart Incentive Grant. Summer Linguistic Lecture Series: *Words as a Source of Identity in the U.P. English* presented in four locations across the Upper Peninsula.

***Bedford Elementary*** - \$1,000 JumpStart Incentive Grant. K. Moccio/ Bedford Elementary School, Dearborn Heights School District #7 - *Bookapalooza-Getting Kids on Board for Summer Reading!* Approximately 250 third through fifth grade students selected books for their home libraries.

***Marquette Regional History Center*** - \$2,000 2019-2020 JumpStart Incentive Grant. This grant helps preserve priceless local history photos and documents in the John M. Longyear Research Library for future generations. Volunteers are digitizing thousands of historical images.

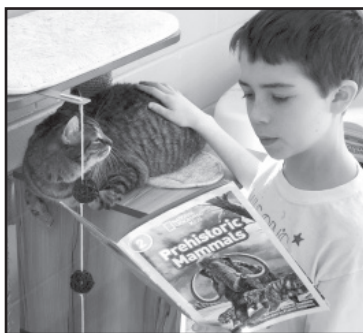


***The Children's Literacy Network*** - \$1,500 JumpStart Incentive Grant. BookPALS program assists second grade students from three school districts to share their recorded stories with each other using electronic tablets.

***Lowell Area Historical Museum*** – \$1,000 JumpStart Incentive Grant. The “Museum Immersion” program for the 2018-2019 school-year. Students learned historical content through reading exhibit labels, hands on activities utilizing primary sources and working with historians during museum visits.



***UPAWS Read to Your Shelter Project Pet & Ice Cream Social*** - \$2,500 Special Project - Funds are available to implement the Read to Your Shelter Pet project in 2020. A successful pilot was held in spring 2019 with third grade students. The sponsorship was announced in late summer at a co-hosted ice cream social held at the Upper Peninsula Animal Welfare Shelter.



## **AMOUNTS ALLOCATED IN 2019: \$9,800**

**JumpStart Incentive Grant:** to launch a new or support an existing worthy project; has evidence-based component

**Legacy Award:** to fund a project demonstrating potential for long-term impact; provides financial support over an 18-24 month period

**\*Spotlight Award:** to recognize a person or organization for having a significant impact and deemed to be worthy of high praise and emulation by others; selected only periodically

**Special Project:** to support a unique activity or event; has future grant or legacy potential.



# **SPECIAL EVENTS**

## **SPRING 2019 LITERACY LIVES FUNDRAISER**



At the second annual Literacy Lives event in April at the Barrel and Beam in Marquette over 100 attendees learned about our various grants, enjoyed plentiful hors d'oeuvres from Outlanders and farmhouse ale sampling, listened to music provided by Vinyl Reception, and bid on 22 baskets. Eight sponsors and 36 businesses contributed to the success of this event. Bonnie Kilburn, author, shared her book, Just Imagine, and Dr. Adam Berger explained the importance of the grant allowing NMU students to do research free of charge at the Marquette Regional History Center Longyear Library.



## **ICE CREAM SOCIAL ANNOUNCING READ TO YOUR SHELTER PET SPONSORSHIP**

In August we co-hosted an ice cream social with the Upper Peninsula Animal Welfare Shelter to announce our lead sponsorship of the Read to Your Shelter Pet Program with a \$2,500 donation. Approximately 40 family members and volunteers enjoyed ice cream, a coloring activity and movie, visited the animals, and took home a free new book. The implementation of this program is delayed until spring of 2020 due to staff changes at the shelter.



## **FUNDRAISER WITH LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

Museum staff sold caramel corn and candy during River Fest and in the fall to supplement funding for their "Museum Immersion" grant for 2020.

## **FALL 2019 READ BETWEEN THE WINES EVENT**

In October 34 guests enjoyed an evening at the Vierling Restaurant sampling selected wines, each paired with an outstanding tasty hors d'oeuvres at this limited seating event. Brian Sheridan (for Dr. Wil Rankinen), Leslie Hurst, and Dr. Adam Berger offered brief remarks on the impact of our grant funding for three initiatives. Attendees requested a similar event to occur annually.



## **THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS FOR SUPPORT**

Grow & Lead: Community and Youth Development (GLCYD)

Michigan Reading Association (MRA)

Upper Michigan Special Education Directors

Upper Peninsula Animal Welfare Shelter (UPAWS)

## **THANK YOU FOR ASSISTANCE, TIME AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE IN SUPPORT OF LLF MICHIGAN ACTIVITIES**

Bonnie Kilburn, author | *Just Imagine*

Tony Beres, Stone Prechodko | LaDolce Video & Design

Brian Maki | Computer Technician

Sarah Zinski, Stephanie Lake | Globe Printing

Rita Rossway | Interiors by Design

## **2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Carolyn Jane Blough (*Development: Donor Solicitation*)

Nancy (Wiseman) Seminoff (*Chair and Treasurer*)

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Gloria LaPointe, Certified Public Accountant

Teresa VanZalen, Assistant to the Board & Social Media Consultant

Margaret Schwalm, Clerical Assistant

Phyllis James, Clerical Assistance

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Gloria LaPointe, Margaret Schwalm,

Nancy (Wiseman) Seminoff, Teresa VanZalen

## **VOLUNTEER FUNDRAISING SUPPORT**

Cathy Bammert, Dave Bammert, Tony Beres, Dr. Adam Berger, Lucy Dewitt,

Jennifer Dodge, Andi Goriesky, Angela Hentkowski, Leslie Hurst, Jan Julian,

Karen Kimar Johnson, Margi Licht-Mallo, Pat Olson, Barbara Salmela, Margaret

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