

P R E S S R E L E A S E

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CONTACT:
Amy Barnett
781-407-0908

Fourteen Grants Awarded to Support Education in Westwood

Westwood, MA, December 9, 2013 -- Each fall, winter and spring the Foundation for Westwood Education reviews applications to award grants that will provide funding for unique and inspirational educational programs for Westwood residents of all ages. The grant requests received by the Foundation for its fall grant cycle this year were varied and impressive, leading to an array of exciting educational offerings that will take place in the months ahead. In all, fourteen new grants have been awarded by the Foundation. A sampling of the programs that received funding includes:

- **One World at the Public Library**, a series of three multicultural awareness programs at the library in which children will actively engage with and explore different cultures while learning about the diversity of backgrounds in our own town
- **Visit to Columbia Teachers College for Westwood Teachers**, an opportunity for elementary public school teachers to attend a day of workshops geared to raising the level of instruction and inspiring use of new ideas
- **Engineering Windmills**, an interactive program with the Museum of Science for Martha Jones 5th graders learn about design and engineering through modifying and testing their own windmill designs
- **Westwood Jazz Night Workshops**, an opportunity for middle and high school students to have clinics with professional musicians before performing with them at the annual Westwood Jazz Night

- **Building Bridges**, a chance for children in the integrated pre-school to learn cooperation and introductory engineering concepts by working together to build a bridge they can actually cross themselves
- **Chinese Lion Dance**, a full costume to allow students in the new high school Mandarin class to learn about, perform and share aspects of Chinese culture as part of their studies
- **Ipads for 8th Grade Science**, a pilot program using an ipad to capture and project live video of complex experiments – which would otherwise be difficult for students to fully see and appreciate when safety requires they be conducted by the instructor alone – as well as to record and capture student lab work

Grant applications will be considered again in February. The deadline for those interested in applying is February 1, 2014. Applicants can visit the Foundation's website at www.foundationforwestwoodeducation.org for more information.

The Foundation for Westwood Education depends on the generosity of Westwood's residents in order to fund excellent educational programs such as these. This March, volunteers are stepping up to host parties that will "Entertain for Education" to help support this cause. E4E is a great month of friends and neighbors gathering together in an enjoyable, low-pressure way to support education in town by raising money for the Foundation. If you are interested, more information is available on our website, or contact Abby Homiller or Linda Hunter at E4E@foundationforwestwoodeducation.org.

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PO Box 2507, Westwood, MA 02090
www.foundationforwestwoodeducation.org