

For Immediate Release

CHALLENGE TO NCLB GUIDELINES & STANDARDIZED TESTING
REPORTED BY SALT LAKE CITY-BASED
EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Trend to the Creative, Interdisciplinary, and Collaborative Reflected in New
Projects Funded by the McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation

Salt Lake City, Utah. September 14, 2009. Professor Sarah J. McCarthy, President of the McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation headquartered in Salt Lake City (www.mccarthydressman.org), recently reported on a new trend among applicants for Foundation grants and scholarships.

According to McCarthy, "Teachers are increasingly trying to challenge a system that has focused on testing and standards by introducing real world, technologically sophisticated, problem-based curriculum."

"We were thrilled by the willingness of teachers to develop groundbreaking projects that relate to students' lives and increase teachers' abilities to reflect on their own practices. In particular, teachers are increasingly engaging in collaborative projects that break down subject matter barriers and bring teachers together to develop cross-disciplinary projects," continued McCarthy.

The Foundation awarded five [Academic Enrichment Grants](#), three [Teaching Development Grants](#), and four [Scholarships](#) for the 2009/2010 academic year (www.mccarthydressman.org/winners.html).

"The applications we received for the 2009-2010 academic year reflected a remarkable sophistication of ideas, degree of innovation and relevance to everyday problems. Many were so promising that choosing which projects to support was very difficult," added McCarthy.

The Foundation received 307 applications from public, private, and charter schools in both urban and rural areas." The awards, including funding for continuing projects, total \$159,000 for the 2009-2010 academic year.

- Student Teaching/Mentoring Scholarships are funded in the amount of \$6,000 each
- Teacher Development Grants and Academic Enrichment Grants, in an amount up to \$10,000 each.

- Both Teacher Development Grants and Academic Enrichment Grants may receive up to three years of funding depending on the design of the project.

Since its founding in 2001, the Foundation has committed more than \$1,000,000 in grants and scholarships.

Teacher Development Grant recipients include Rebecca Cresell, Seattle, Washington; Jeni White, Salt Lake City, Utah; and Raymond Veon, Decatur, Georgia.

Academic Enrichment Grantees are Ginger Brakke, West Jordan, Utah; John Brandhorst, Atlanta, Georgia; Carlos DeJesus, Chicago, Illinois; Brook Webb, Bakersfield, California; and Linda Weber, Natick, Massachusetts.

Scholarships recipients are Jenna De La Rosa, Helotes, Texas; Jocelyn Kadas, Coronado, California; Ashley King, Morgantown, West Virginia and Chad Rountree, Las Cruces, New Mexico.

THE McCARTHEY DRESSMAN EDUCATION FOUNDATION is dedicated to serving students and teachers in developing interests, strategies and skills needed to enhance society. The Foundation recognizes the struggle educators too often face in bringing exceptional teaching to their students. Ever-tightening budgets and skyrocketing technology and supply costs now make it more difficult than ever for educators in all areas – k-12, after school, and advanced study – to introduce new programs and projects to children who need them most.

To that end, the Foundation awards grants and scholarships to those projects and/or initiatives with significant potential to enrich the educational experiences for all children. Application deadline for grants and scholarships is May 1st of each year: www.mccartheydressman.org.

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