



press release

a society more humane –
a world more livable

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24 Newark, New Jersey Teachers Awarded Fellowships by The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation

(MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY) The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation has announced the recipients of the 2009 Dodge Foundation Teacher Fellowships. In this second year focused exclusively on the Newark Public School District, the Foundation made grants to 24 Newark teachers. The teachers received over \$111,000 to explore lifelong dreams, pursue their intellectual curiosity, and tend to their own personal and professional growth.

The Dodge Foundation believes that beyond having skills and dedication, the very best teachers are interested and interesting people. The Dodge Teacher Fellowships provide opportunities to support educators and their continued service to children and their learning. President and CEO David Grant comments, “We are thrilled to be supporting such vibrant Newark public school teachers. As in past years, the teachers will embark on domestic and international travel for educational experiences and inspiration that they will bring back to their students in Newark.”

The mission of the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation is to support and encourage those educational, cultural, social and environmental values that contribute to making our society more humane and our world more livable. For more information about the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, visit www.grdodge.org or call 973-540-8442.

A complete list of fellowship recipients and project descriptions follows.

Individual Fellowships

Ms. Elizabeth Camaraza

Rafael Hernandez Elementary School

Will explore the ancient stone structures and the subterranean caverns on the island of Malta.

Ms. Kathy Chencharik

Branch Brook School

Will attend lectures at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in preparation for a visit to France to study the original work of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist artists.

Mr. Thaddeus Expose

Avon Avenue Elementary School

Will travel to Bali to study Balinese music and its influence on Balinese students and world music.

Ms. Judy Fischman

Samuel L. Berliner School

Will explore the schools in Dubai, UAE, with the intention of finding different ways to work with special needs students at the Samuel L. Berliner School in Newark.

Ms. Mara Hughes

Science Park High School

Will participate in a four-week writer's residency at the Vermont Studio Center in Johnson, Vermont.

Ms. Irene Kibuthu

Bragaw Avenue School

Will visit five small village schools in Kenya and participate in a safari to Tsavo National Park.

Ms. Tennille Kolm

Franklin Elementary School

Will visit Washington, DC to explore, in depth, the historical Library of Congress.

Ms. Mwikali Muindi

Renaissance Overage Academy

Will travel to South Africa and explore the history, culture (especially in terms of apartheid and segregation) and overall development of the country.

Mrs. Joanne Rutherford-Pastras

Dayton Street School

Will travel throughout the United States this summer to document the diversity of our nation and teach her students in Newark about tolerance, diversity, and acceptance.

Ms. Dorothy Sabio

Maple Avenue Elementary School

Will travel to Alaska with the intention of researching the native people and animals in preparation for a children's musical about life in the Arctic Circle.

Ms. DeAnna Whitley

Arts High School

Will travel to the islands of Fiji to participate in a six-week internship to learn about coral reefs, local customs and the cultural ecology linking them.

Team Fellowships

Ms. Shirley Eddings, West Side High School Academy-NAF

Ms. Paula Yaa McCoy-Franklin, Academy of Vocational Careers

Will travel to Ghana and Togo to explore how traditional African dance and drumming are utilized as educational and therapeutic tools for students with special needs.

Ms. Edith Battle, Mr. Bruce Fryer, Mrs. LaShawn Gibson-Burney

Hawthorne Avenue School

Will travel to Istanbul, Turkey to meet with representatives from the Mother Child Education Foundation and their university partners to learn about urban-family literacy programs.

Mrs. Crystal Clemente, Ms. Jessica Flores, Mr. Branden Rippey

Science Park High School

Will travel to South Africa to examine the overlapping social issues of historical and contemporary racial, class and gender-based disparities in that society.

Mrs. Paula Cappel, Ms. Deniese Cooper, Ms. Theresa Perry Lewis,

Mrs. Teresa Oliveira, Ms. Regina Sherrod

Avon Avenue Elementary School

Will travel to Belize to study its education system—which sustains a 98% literacy rate—and the societal links that propel impoverished students to academic success.