

MAGIK (Making Arts Grow in Kalamazoo) Grant Program for Educators

The MAGIK program is designed for Kalamazoo County educators to provide quality artistic experiences for their students. MAGIK activities may take place during spring or fall terms. Funds may not be used for teacher salaries or other curricular requirements. Applications in memo or letter form will be accepted on an ongoing basis beginning October 1. Up to \$500 may be requested. Worthwhile projects will be supported throughout the school year as funds are available. Teachers may work with an artist they are familiar with, or choose from the MAGIK directory. The MAGIK directory includes artists and organizations that work well with students.

Goals

- To promote a well-balanced education through integration of the arts (dance, language arts, media arts, music, theater, visual arts) with the regular curriculum
- To increase opportunities for learning through the creative process
- To present artists as role models for career opportunities
- To create the foundation for future arts audiences

Eligibility

- All public, nonpublic, charter and home schools in Kalamazoo County
- All grade levels

Guidelines

- Projects may occur inside or outside of the school environment. In-school residencies should engage students in hands-on activities. Assembly programs without significant classroom involvement will not be funded.
- Activities must demonstrate a high level of artistic quality. Only one application per building will be funded each school year.
- The final report in memo or letter form is due at completion of the project. Failure to report may jeopardize future funding.

Application

- Applications in memo or letter form should describe the proposed arts project in detail. See sample letter below.
- Address the who, what, why, where, when, how of the project. How many children will this project involve?
- If project consists of an in-school artist residency, submit artist bio or resume and proof of ability to work successfully with proposed grade level students. The MAGIK directory includes artists and organizations who work well with students, but is by no means a comprehensive list.
- Indicate the amount of funding you are asking for, and who else will be supporting the project.
- Be sure to include the project director's contact information, including name, title, school, address, day and evening phone numbers, and e-mail address.

Review and Evaluation

Applications will be evaluated on an ongoing basis, and funds distributed as available. Funding recommendations are based on strong artistic merit and feasibility, and educational appropriateness. Applicants are encouraged to contact the Arts Council office at (269) 342-5059 with any questions before submitting an application. MAGIK is supported by the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo, Education for the Arts, and the Kellogg Foundation.



Sample MAGIK application

This letter is a good example of the kind of letter you should write to apply for a MAGIK grant

October 1, 2006

Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo
359 S. Kalamazoo Mall, Suite 203
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

RE: MAGIK grant program, 2006-2007

Milwood Middle School requests \$500 from the Arts Council's MAGIK grant program for artist-in-residence Mary Harper. Ms. Harper will work with students in her medium of photography. She is a gifted teaching artist who has worked with students of all ages for many years. Also enclosed with this request is Mary Harper's resumé.

As a sixth grade teacher at Milwood, I will host photographer Mary Harper in my class. She will work with students in activities designed to inspire and hone their perceptive skills. The unit on photography will incorporate elements of science, math, social studies, humanities, and other areas. Students will mount their work for an exhibition during parent/teacher conferences, and will compile a book of their photographs to be placed in the school library.

The program entails five visits to Milwood, each consisting of one and one-half hours. Harper will provide simple cameras and introduce the history of photography, basic composition and photography concepts to students. They will have opportunities to explore their homes, school and its neighborhood in search of appropriate photo opportunities. Ms. Harper will also explain basic dark room techniques, and assist the students in printing and mounting their photos for display.

The program will occur over a five-week period during the school year, between December 4, 2006, and April 27, 2007.

Please contact me if you need further information. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Jane Smith, Teacher
Milwood Middle School
337-0670 (school)
555-1234 (home)
smithj@kalamazoo.k12.mi.us

Enclosure:
M. Harper resumé