# inspirE



Diana Reyes-Retana, a kindergarten teacher at Guy Lee Elementary School, is one of 32 educators to receive a SEF Innovative Educator Grant.

## **GRANTS SUPPORT STUDENT SUCCESS**

By Kaydie Tanquary

The Springfield Education Foundation recently awarded 32 Innovative Educator Grants, totaling nearly \$52,000, to 14 schools in Springfield. These grants are creating 8,897 learning opportunities for students.

Funded by generous contributions and community support, SEF grants aim to inspire innovative teaching, engage students in the classroom, and increase attendance and participation. SEF is helping to advance students' skill sets, preparing them for career opportunities and future success.

In addition to our Innovative Educator Grants, SEF also awarded three Frank Sherman grants—named in honor of the late Frank Sherman who was an administrator of health, physical education and athletics for Springfield Public Schools—and two Social Emotional Learning Fund Grants (SELF), established through a generous gift from Stan and Cathy Paine, both long-time administrators in Springfield. Learn more about these grants at SpringfieldEducationFoundation.org/Grants.

# 2017-18 INNOVATIVE EDUCATOR GRANTS

School | Grant Title | Amount | Lead Educator

A3 | Recording Studio Renovation | \$500 | Torrey Newhart

A3 | Guest Educator Workshops Series | \$2,000 | Ed Mendelssohn

A3 | Blacksmithing, Sculpting and Metallurgy | \$3,000 | Jared Mills

A3 | Advanced Robotics | \$3,000 | Gwen Belden

A3 | Furthering Academic Music Education | \$3,000 | Ashley Banks

Agnes Stewart Middle | Claymation Animation Movies | \$1,629 | McCall Habermehl

Briggs Middle | DrumFIT | \$3,000 | Alicia Chamness

Briggs Middle | Project Based Learning & the Next Generation of Science Standards | \$2,868 | Zach Adler

Briggs Middle | STEAM2STEM | \$2,848 | Joe Hass

District-wide | Make Learning Pay | \$550 | Michael Smith

District-wide | Preparation Advancing Student Success | \$2,992 | Linda Mooney

District-wide | Elevating Student VOICE (Voicing Opinions to Initiate Change

Everywhere) | \$450 | Alyssa Dodds

Douglas Gardens Elem. | Bridges Number Corner Calendar Kits | \$1,673 | Teresa Page

Douglas Gardens Elem. | Touch Type Read and Spell | \$444 | Diana Morgan

Douglas Gardens Elem. | Electric Keyboard for Music Classes | \$559 | Dorian Buttacavoli

Guy Lee Elem. | Literacy in Dual Immersion Classrooms | \$2,685 | Diana Reyes-Retana

Guy Lee Elem. | Oregon Assoc. for Bilingual Education | \$3,000 | Amanda Rosenfelt

Guy Lee Elem. | Elementary Music Spaces | \$752 | Wayne Strong

Hamlin Middle | Teaching with the Brain in Mind | \$3,000 | Veronica Voeks, Angela Brewer, Jeffrey Thompson

Hamlin Middle | Ft. Stevens/Clatsop Community Service | \$3,000 | Wakerobin Gendel Sattler

Maple Elem. | Cultural Education and Engagement | \$1,650 | Julia Britton

Mt. Vernon Elem. | Lego Robotics Inspiring Future Engineers | \$2,111 | Leah Taylor

Mt. Vernon Elem. | K-5 STEM Robotics Program | \$695 | Joshua Metzger

Page Elem. | Get Your Teach On | \$1,350 | Jennifer Guiley

Ridgeview Elem. | Hatching Chicks with Kinders | \$296 | Treva Thompson

Ridgeview Elem. | Community Music Rug and Contrabass Bar | \$845 | Andria Martin

Riverbend Elem. | Mapping the Destination: Oregon Trail | \$626 | Eva La Mar

Springfield High | 21st Century Career Skills | \$3,000 | Amanda Greene-Chacon

Two Rivers - Dos Ríos Elem. | Building STEM Skills | \$310 | Kate Siegfried

Walterville Elem. | Learning Specialist | \$539 | Catherine Wiebe

Walterville Elem. | Equity/Diversity Reading Group | \$314 | Audrey Davids

Walterville Elem. | Future Ready Library | \$2,107 | Amy Page

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Micah Adams
Wells Fargo Bank

Michelle Bassi Thorp, Purdy, Jewett, Urness & Wilkinson P.C.

Jacob Berns SELCO Community Credit Union

**Terry Beyer** *Retired* 

Mary Farrington University of Oregon EMU

**Melaney Grenz** SPS Speech-Language Pathologist

**Brenda Hansen** *Horace Mann Insurance* 

**Jake Hoffman** *Grocery Outlet River Road* 

Kari Isham SPS teacher

Travis Joseph

American Forest Resource Council

Kelsey Keough Royal Caribbean

Judy Leahy
Retired

Jamie Louie-Smith Columbia Bank

Sue Rieke-Smith SPS Superintendent

Hadee Sabzalian
FOOD for Lane County

**Terry Scherer** *Retired SPS Counselor* 

Scott Smith Retired

**Erik Vos** *Timber Products* 

Kelli Warner Turell Group

Bruce Webber
Banner Bank

**Cindy Whittington** *McDonald's Gateway, Thurston and Cottage Grove* 

Adam Zonotto Keller Williams Realty

**Sally J. Storm, Ph.D.** *Executive Director* 

#### SEF RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

By Jacob Berns

Each spring, at Springfield Education Foundation's Honor Roll Reception, we recognize Springfield's commitment to education through our Alumni Awards. In March, we honored five individuals and one family for their exemplary efforts to make a difference in our community.

#### **Distinguished Educator Award: Scott Olds**

As a science teacher at Agnes Stewart Middle School for nearly 19 years, Scott Olds is known for always going the extra mile to ensure his students succeed. An alum of Page Elementary, Hamlin Middle and Springfield High Schools (Class of 1992), Scott was inspired by the educators in his life, including his dad, Charlie. "I knew all along I wanted to be in the Springfield School District," Scott says. "I grew up here. I met my wife, Laura, here. And, this is where I wanted to raise my family."

## **Legacy Family Award: The Bova Family**

Tony and Diane Bova's combined 63 years of service in Springfield schools inspired countless students, including their own children, two of whom became teachers themselves. When she was a student, Diane (THS Class of 1964) says, "Springfield School District prepared me for every level of my education. I knew that's where I wanted my career to be."



Alisen Hinton, SHS Class of 2012, receives the SEF Rising Alumni Award.



SHS alums Mindy and Derek Weber, along with Charlie Hester, accept the SEF Outstanding Alumni Award.



ASMS teacher Scott Olds accepts the SEF Distinguished Educator Award.



Tony and Diane Bova have dedicated their careers to enhancing learning in Springfield.

#### Rising Alumni Award: Alisen Hinton

Alisen Hinton is a Springfield High School grad (Class of 2012) and Gates Millennium Scholarship recipient who works for Inflexion, a nonprofit that provides support to educators to better prepare students for college, career and life. She is currently completing a master's degree in school counseling from Northwest Christian University. "I'm going to school to be a school counselor because of the people I met at Springfield High," Alisen says.

# Outstanding Alumni Award: Charlie Hester, Derek and Mindy Weber

Springfield High alum Charlie Hester (Class of 2000) joined forces with Derek and Mindy Weber (Class of 2001) to purchase the Washburne Cafe in downtown Springfield in 2016. "Our main goal," Mindy says, "was to have a place in Springfield where anyone and everyone can feel welcome." Charlie's love of coffee and Derek and Mindy's appreciation for cuisine was a winning combination; the cafe received the 2017 Favorite Taste Award at Willamalane's Tap & Taste event.

# **MEET SALLY STORM: ADVOCATING FOR STUDENTS**

By Sally J. Storm, SEF Executive Director

As SEF's new Executive Director, I'm reminded every day of the amazing people and programs that support our students and teachers. I'm excited to be part of the foundation's mission to support student success in Springfield.

A little background about me: I grew up on a Montana ranch and came to Oregon with my family 11 years ago. I've wanted to be in education since I was little and I would pretend my dogs were my students! I began my career as a teacher. Before joining SEF, I was the superintendent of the McKenzie and Fern Ridge School Districts. Unfortunately, that role often involved cutting programs to meet budgets. It was disheartening, so being able to add to students' experiences through my position with SEF is beyond rewarding.

SEF shares the Springfield School District's goal of raising graduation rates, and progress is being made! Thanks to our incredible donors, SEF funded over 17,000 creative and engaging learning opportunities for students in 2017.



Executive Director Sally Storm welcomes the crowd at SEF's Honor Roll Reception.

As an education advocate, you help make what I do a pleasure, and for that—and your continuing support of Springfield students—I couldn't be more grateful.

# **USING SOCIAL MEDIA TO SUPPORT STUDENTS**

By Kelli Warner

Linda Finley decided to celebrate her birthday differently last year. She used her Facebook page to ask friends and family to donate to the Springfield Education Foundation.

"People who might have sent a birthday card or just said 'Hi' on my Facebook page wound up donating, because it's a good cause," Linda says.

Linda, senior minister for the Spiritual Living Center in Eugene, is a Springfield



resident who has a heart for students. Both her mother and her grandmother were long-time, public school teachers.

In honor of her mother and grandmother, Linda set out to raise \$350 with her social media fundraiser, and was overjoyed when donations surpassed \$500. She encourages others to give it a try.

"Kids are a beautiful cause, and education is close to so many people's heart. With just this simple ask, somebody in Washington, someone in the Midwest, put money into Springfield schools through SEF and raised awareness in their own area at the same time about the importance of supporting education."

"I know the importance of education. People just don't survive without basic skills—and schools are at the heart of that."

-Linda Finley

# 4 SIMPLE WAYS TO SUPPORT SEF

#### Become a monthly donor

Giving monthly is an impactful way to support students and provides a steady source of revenue for the foundation while keeping fundraising costs low. Give from your bank account, through United Way or through payroll. Many employers offer matching gift programs. Call us at 541-726-3243 to get started, or use the enclosed envelope.

#### Volunteer

Volunteers are at the core of what we do! Spend time directly helping students by becoming a mentor, or join a SEF committee. Help plan and support several events each year, including the Night of 11,000 Stars gala on Oct. 18, 2018—a key fundraiser that supports our Innovative Educator Grants. Email sally@springfieldeducationfoundation. org or call 541-726-3243 to connect with us.

Use AmazonSmile when shopping

When you shop on AmazonSmile, 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products is donated to SEF, and it doesn't cost you a thing!

Get started here: smile.amazon.com

**Link your Fred Meyer Rewards Card** 

Support SEF by shopping at Fred Meyer using your Rewards Card. Fred Meyer will donate to SEF each time you shop, and you still get your rewards points, fuels points and rebates!

- Go to SpringfieldEducationFoundation. org/FredMeyer
- Click "Re-enroll or link your Rewards Card now"
- Enter 90641 for the organization's name
- Click "Springfield Education Foundation"
- Hit "Enroll"





InspirED is published twice a year for donors, parents, Springfield Public Schools employees, educators, alumni, volunteers and other supporters of Springfield Public Schools. SpringfieldEducationFoundation.org.

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- · SEF surprises schools with grants
- · Outstanding alumni honored
- · Donor supports students through social media fundraiser
- · 4 simple ways to support SEF
- Claymation grant in action

# **LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION:** A CLASSROOM LESSON IN CLAYMATION

Bv Deb Jolda

Art teacher McCall Habermehl wanted her students at Agnes Stewart Middle School to learn about storytelling and the art of cinematography, so she applied for and was rewarded with a Springfield Education Foundation Innovative Educator Grant. The grant made it possible for her to purchase a set of classroom cameras that students are using to develop stopmotion claymation movies.



Students at Agnes Steward Middle School prepare to film a stop-motion claymation movie.

After watching a short documentary on the making of Tim Burton's "Nightmare Before Christmas," 150 students worked in groups to brainstorm a storyline and plot for their own film - each with a beginning, a problem, a solution and an ending. They created storyboards for each scene, then used clay and other materials to design their characters, props and sets, before taking a series of photos that would then be turned into a film.

"Time management was a huge part of the project," said Habermehl, noting that it takes 300 frames, or 300 still shots, to make a 30-second film.

"Students got to experience the filmmaking process, beginning to end," said Habermehl. "They also learned how to work together to develop ideas and problem-solve." Watch one of their films at SpringfieldEducationFoundation.org.

# **Upcoming events**

Mark your calendar and join us!

## **Gift of Literacy**

Thursday, May 3, 2018 Lane Community College For info: GiftOfLiteracy.org

# **Springfield Roundup:** SEF's 4th Annual Celebration Party

Saturday, June 23, 2018 Time: 6:00 pm

\$60/per person. Enjoy delicious food and fun entertainment. For info and tickets: 541-726-3243

# Night of 11,000 Stars Gala

Thursday, Oct. 18, 2018 **Bob Keefer Center for Sports** and Recreation Details coming soon









