



For Immediate Release

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10 Cincinnati Teachers Awarded Fund for Teachers Grants for Global Learning Odysseys

Will spend summer in 7 countries/4 continents to model lifelong learning for students

HOUSTON (May 3, 2011) While America's educational system navigates budget cuts resulting from state shortfalls, 10 Cincinnati teachers will navigate the world this summer on [Fund for Teachers](#) fellowships. These preK-12 educators proposed their ideal professional development experiences to Fund for Teachers through an online application and, fueled by \$5,000 individual and \$10,000 team grants, will now embark on their self-designed odysseys to seven global destinations.

"The educational process must never become stagnant. Fund for Teachers grants encourage educators to rejuvenate their professional and personal skills to enhance the lifelong learning process," said Dan Neeley, teacher at Western Hills Engineering High School who will with his Fund for Teachers grant explore how computers facilitate global processes in Scandinavia and Greece to inform his school's transition of at-risk students into online environments as directed by Cincinnati Public Schools.

Additional Cincinnati teachers awarded Fund for Teachers grants include:

- Susan Brater and Sara Hawort (Hughes STEM High School) who will, through Earthwatch Expeditions, the Cincinnati Zoo and Miami University, conduct conservation and marine science research across Australia's diverse ecosystems to integrate science and technology with social science curriculum and guide students in making connections between the environment and the human experience;
- Jane Moeller (North Avondale Montessori School) who will tour historical sites associated with America's colonization in New England to help students grasp the courage and determination of the founding fathers and spark curiosity about the individuals who gave this country its beginnings; and
- Harvey Lewis, III (School for Creative and Performing Arts) who will explore four distinct regions of China, observing governmental influence over the economy and the people, to further students' understanding of, competitiveness against, and – ultimately – cooperation with their Chinese counterparts in the 21st century.

Fund for Teachers partnered with [Strive Partnership](#) to locally administer the selection process.

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“The announcement of Fund for Teacher grants offered to teachers in Cincinnati Public Schools this year could not have been better timed, given recent deep state and federal funding cuts to our district,” said Superintendent Mary Ronan. “As a former classroom teacher and principal, I know how much depth travel can add to teachers’ instruction, helping to bring learning alive for our students. We are extremely grateful to Fund for Teachers and Strive for making this opportunity possible.”

Julie Sellers, president of the Cincinnati Federation of Teachers added, “Fund for Teachers provides a wonderful opportunity for teachers to participate in global experiences that they will be able share with students and other teachers. Most importantly, it can make learning relevant for children by applying important content to real-world examples.”

“Cincinnati teachers received more than \$43,000 in FFT grants in this first year of our partnership with Strive,” explained Karen Kovach Webb, FFT executive director. “These fellowships catalyze a ripple effect of inspired learning for the teacher, their students and school community. Our goal and expectation is that teachers, when empowered as lead learners, will deliver better instruction to more engaged students.”

In total, 430 teachers across America received \$1.7 million in Fund for Teachers grants to travel this summer on self-designed learning odysseys. A complete list of these teachers’ project descriptions and destinations, including [every Cincinnati recipient](#), is available at fundforteachers.org.

About Fund for Teachers

A national, donor-supported organization, Fund for Teachers makes an important contribution to America’s educational conversation by expanding the definition of teacher professional development. By investing \$15.9 million in 4,500 educators over the past ten years, Fund for Teachers inspires teachers’ pursuit of meaningful, self-designed work that translates into skills and scholarship directly impacting student learning. For more information, visit fundforteachers.org, facebook.com/fundforteachers or twitter.com/fundforteachers.

About Strive Partnership

The Strive Partnership is focused on the success of our children: every child, every step, from cradle to career. The Strive Partnership unites common providers around shared issues, goals, measurements and results, and then actively supports and strengthens strategies that work. For more information, visit strivetogether.org.

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