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Potsdam Youth Philanthropy Council Awards \$10,000 in Grants

Potsdam Central School’s Youth Philanthropy Council awarded its first series of community grants following the approval of recommendations by the Northern New York Community Foundation’s Board of Directors on Tuesday. The school awarded a total of \$10,000 to eight organizations providing services across the North Country.

“We have been so pleased to see this valuable program expand into St. Lawrence county. With the continued help of sponsors and donors, we will be able to continue and grow these programs, which hold such great potential for ensuring leadership for the region’s future,” said Rande S. Richardson, Community Foundation executive director. A similar program at Ogdensburg Free Academy will be doing their work this fall.

Potsdam Youth Philanthropy Council grants approved were:

- **Potsdam Humane Society - \$2,500** to support with the organization’s construction of a dog park project for community use.
- **GardenShare - \$1,500** to support the organization’s CSA Bonus Bucks program, which is designed to assist low-income households with healthy local food options.
- **Hospice & Palliative Care of St. Lawrence Valley - \$1,500** for the organization’s social work consultations and follow-ups.
- **St. Lawrence NYSARC - \$1,250** to purchase appliances and/or furniture for the organization’s “Transitions Program.”
- **Jefferson Elementary School, Massena - \$1,000** to buy books and expand offerings for the “Books on Wheels” program for grade-school students in the Massena Central School District.
- **Literacy of Northern New York - \$970** assist with funding to purchase books that will prepare students of all ages for the new high school equivalency test.

- **Frederic Remington Art Museum - \$750** to update equipment and materials as part of the organization's interactive children's museum, "Kid's Place."
- **St. Lawrence County Arts Council - \$530** to provide support for the council's St. Lawrence County Arts Festival.

The Community Foundation's Board of Directors also approved the following St. Lawrence County grants from its unrestricted endowment:

- **North Country Children's Museum (Potsdam) - \$22,500** for two grants. A grant of \$10,000 will fund the creation and development of the Sound Experience prototype for the museum. Another grant of \$12,500 is available as part of a match challenge to the organization to build an endowment fund within the Community Foundation to help support the Museum's ongoing work and mission.
- **Gracious Friends Animal Sanctuary (Heuvelton) – up to \$5,000** in to assist with the development of an organizational strategic and development sustainability plan.
- **St. James School (Gouverneur) - \$5,000** to support community playground renovations. *This is made possible through the A. Eleanor Jackson Fund for Gouverneur.*

The Northern New York Community Foundation makes grants to support the work of non-profit organizations and provides scholarships to individuals in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence Counties. This work is made possible by donors who have established permanent, charitable funds with the Foundation during their lifetimes or through their wills and have a general, broad and enduring interest in supporting the quality of life in the North Country.

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