

# Department of Public Instruction Learn and Serve America



March 29, 2010

“I learned that kids actually have the power to do stuff, without adults doing it for them every step of the way.”

--Fourth grade student

**To:** Service-Learning educators, practitioners, and enthusiasts

**From:** Betsy Prueter, Grants Specialist and Teri Dary, Service-Learning Consultant

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## Welcome to the DPI LSA E-Brief!

This communication is distributed monthly to teachers, administrators, and community partners and features online resources, funding opportunities as well as service-learning project ideas. With ANY feedback or comments please contact Betsy. This is YOUR e-brief. What would benefit you? What would you like to see each month? What would help you strengthen and deepen your work? Please feel free to forward this message to others in your building or district.

DPI Service-Learning Website: <http://dpi.wi.gov/fscp/slhmpage.html>

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## Important Announcements: Grant Opportunities

### **NCTM: Scholarships for Prospective Secondary School Teachers of Math**

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics and Texas Instruments Demana-Waits Fund Prospective Secondary Teacher Course Work Scholarships support college students preparing for teaching secondary school mathematics. Maximum award: \$10,000. Eligibility: persons currently completing their sophomore year of college, scheduling for full-time study at a four- or five-year college or university in the next academic year, and pursuing a career goal of becoming a certified teacher of secondary school mathematics; applicants must be student members of NCTM. **Deadline: May 7, 2010.**

<http://www.nctm.org/resources/content.aspx?id=1338>

### **NASSP/MetLife Foundation: Breakthrough Schools**

The National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) and the MetLife Foundation are calling for entries in the search for the nation's top "Breakthrough Schools." Applicants should be high-achieving middle or high schools, or schools that are making dramatic improvements in student achievement, whose best practices and outstanding results can inform other schools as they further their own improvement efforts. Honorees will be chosen based on documented success in implementing strategies aligned with the three core areas of NASSP's Breaking Ranks II publication: collaborative leadership; personalization; and curriculum, instruction, and assessment. Maximum award: \$5,000. Eligibility: high-achieving middle and high schools with 40 percent or more students eligible for free and reduced priced meals. **Deadline: May 15, 2010.**  
<http://www.principals.org/AwardsandRecognition/BreakthroughSchools.aspx>

### **Toyota: International Teacher Program**

Toyota's International Teacher Program is offering the opportunity for teachers to travel to the Galapagos Islands. Maximum award: fully-funded, 10-day trip to the Galapagos November 20 - December 4, 2010. Eligibility: teachers grades 6-12. **Deadline: May 19, 2010.**  
<http://www.toyota4education.com/pmwiki.php?n=Main.WelcomeToTheToyotaInternationalTeacherProgramWiki?from=Main.HomePage>

### **NEA Foundation: Student Achievement Grants**

NEA Foundation Student Achievement Grants aim to improve the academic achievement of students in U.S. public schools and public higher education institutions in any subject area(s). The proposed work should engage students in critical thinking and problem solving that deepen their knowledge of standards-based subject matter. The work should also improve students' habits of inquiry, self-directed learning, and critical reflection. Maximum award: \$5,000. Eligibility: K-12 public school teachers, education support professionals, and higher education faculty and staff at public colleges and universities. **Deadline: June 1, 2010.**  
[http://www.neafoundation.org/programs/StudentAchievement\\_Guidelines.htm](http://www.neafoundation.org/programs/StudentAchievement_Guidelines.htm)

### **NEA Foundation Learning and Leadership Grants**

The NEA Foundation gives grants for high-quality professional development or implementing project-based learning and break-the-mold innovations that raise student achievement. Maximum award: \$2,000. Eligibility: public school teachers, public school support professionals, and faculty and staff in public higher education institutions. **Deadline: June 1, 2010.**  
<http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/educators/grant-programs/grant-application/learning-and-leadership/>

### **Nominate a Young Service-Learning Leader**

The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes seeks nominations for its 2010 awards. The Barron Prize honors young people ages 8 to 18 who have made a significant positive difference to people and our planet. Each year, ten national winners each receive \$2,500 to support their service work or higher education. **Nomination deadline is April 30.** For more information and to nominate, visit <http://www.barronprize.org/>

### **McCormick New Media Women Entrepreneurs Program (Deadline: April 10)**

This program gives one-time funding of \$12,000 to women with original ideas to create new websites, mobile news services, or other entrepreneurial initiatives that offer interactive opportunities to engage, inspire, and improve news and information in a geographic community or a community of interest. These can be solo ideas or team projects spearheaded by women. [www.newmediawomen.org/site/proposal\\_guidelines](http://www.newmediawomen.org/site/proposal_guidelines)

### **2010 Spirit of Service Awards (Deadline: April 12)**

The Corporation for National and Community Service is committed to recognizing and celebrating outstanding service by their volunteers and members. The Spirit of Service Awards pay tribute to the most outstanding participants in each of the Corporation's programs - including Senior Corps, AmeriCorps and Learn and Serve America. Awards will be presented to the winners during special ceremonies at the 2010 National Conference on Volunteering and Service, June 28-30, in New York City. Nominations are currently being sought through April 12, 2010. Nominees must exemplify the spirit of national service, demonstrate exceptional service or leadership, and serve as role models for others in their community. Nominations should include information about the impact of the nominee's service. [www.nationalservice.gov/about/spiritofservice/index.asp](http://www.nationalservice.gov/about/spiritofservice/index.asp)

**Do Something Battle of the Bands (Deadline: April 16)**

March is Music In Our Schools month. DoSomething.org and the VH1 Save The Music Foundation want YOU to lead the fight to keep music education in schools. School budgets are being slashed nationwide, and music and arts programs are often the first to go. Starting March 1st, upload a video showing us your musical talent and tell us why music education matters to you. 5 Winners will get \$1000 for their school music program, concert tickets, Fender guitars, and Rock Band video games. DoSomething.org and The VH1 Save the Music Foundation will present top videos to members of congress, urging them to increase support for music education. Make sure your video is registered by April 16th for a chance to win! For full contest rules and to get started visit [www.dosomething.org/bands](http://www.dosomething.org/bands)

**Film Your Issue 2010 Competition (Deadline: April 19)**

Think you have a solution to problems with the environment, economic recession, education, healthcare, human/equal rights, national security/defense, poverty, public service or technology? Film Your Issue at [www.youtube.com/filmyourissue](http://www.youtube.com/filmyourissue) or submit it through a song at [www.youtube.com/whatsyourissuemusic](http://www.youtube.com/whatsyourissuemusic). The Film Your Issue competition, in its 5th year, is looking for solution-project ideas to front-burner issues from young adults 14 to 24 in a 3-minute video format, with accompanying one-sheet description. Winning solution-projects will be presented to senior officials in the Obama administration, broadcast on screens in every Best Buy store on the planet, presented at a VIP reception in Washington, DC. Winners will be flown to Los Angeles for the Awards ceremony co-hosted by Sony Pictures Studios. Prizes include an Apple MacBook and iPod Touches, and Sundance Film Festival 2011 Film School Pass. [www.whatsyourissue.tv](http://www.whatsyourissue.tv)

**Six Flags Friends Scholarships (Deadline: April 30)**

DoSomething.org has teamed up with Six Flags Friends to award college scholarships to young leaders who are taking action to make their community a better place. Scholarships will be awarded based on past, current and planned action in the community as well as the applicant's passion, commitment and proven leadership skills. Six winners will receive a \$1,500 college scholarships. [www.dosomething.org/grants/sixflags/scholarships](http://www.dosomething.org/grants/sixflags/scholarships)

**ING Unsung Heroes (Deadline: April 30)**

The ING Unsung Heroes awards program recognizes innovative and progressive thinking in education through monetary awards. Are you an educator with a class project that is short on funding but long on potential? Do you know a teacher looking for grant dollars? ING Unsung Heroes® could help you turn great ideas into reality for students. Each year, 100 educators are selected to receive \$2,000 to help fund their innovative class projects. Three of those are chosen to receive the top awards of an additional \$5,000, \$10,000 and \$25,000. Eligibility: full-time educators, teachers, principals, paraprofessionals, or classified staff members with effective projects that improve student learning at an accredited K-12 public or private school. [www.ing.com/us/unsungheroes](http://www.ing.com/us/unsungheroes)

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**Service-Learning Stories: Preserving History through Theater**

*Each month we will feature stories of service-learning from across the state and across the country. These are meant to inspire and motivate you all to continue to do good work in your classrooms. This month's story come from the elementary school level.*

Fourth and fifth grade students decide to conduct a spring service-learning project that will benefit their local historical park. Some students customize and present a play by a local author about the history of their area, while others serve as tour guides for the park. To prepare students for the project, teachers engaged in several activities, including identifying the Virginia Standards of Learning in literacy, communications, history, and citizenship that the project would meet; forming partnerships with park staff, members of the Historical Society, and the original author of the historical play; planning lessons to teach students about the story, script writing, and public speaking; and familiarizing the children with the park. In collaboration with the service-learning coordinator, teachers also completed several logistical tasks, such as obtaining parent permission for park visits, scheduling transportation and chaperones, arranging a class visit from the author of the historical play, requesting parent assistance in making costumes, and organizing children's story boards, and writing a coherent script.

Have a story to share? Submit the attached "SL Project Proposal" to Betsy at [betsy.prueter@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:betsy.prueter@dpi.wi.gov).

**Extra Credit: Which K-12 Service-Learning Standards for High-Quality Practice are missing (or weak) in this project? Be the first to email Betsy with your answer and receive a free copy of "The Kid's Guide to Social Action!"**

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### Training Opportunities: Service-Learning Regional Trainings, REGISTRATION OPEN

This spring DPI is offering two workshops for practitioners and administrators on service-learning implementation and district institutionalization. Below is more information on dates and locations and mark your calendars! Attached you will find a flyer- please distribute widely.

**Service-Learning in Professional Development and Teacher Education:** This will focus on developing high quality professional development to advance high quality service-learning in both pre-service and inservice teachers. UW-La Crosse Professor KT Willhite and Teri Dary will co-lead this workshop, which will be most useful for teacher education faculty, teacher leaders, instructional leadership, curriculum directors, and professional development coordinators.

**April 22:** UW-La Crosse, 8am-3pm

Registration: [https://www.regonline.com/service\\_learning\\_regional\\_trainings](https://www.regonline.com/service_learning_regional_trainings)

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**Statewide Service-Learning Retreat:** Shelley Billig, Vice President of RMC Research, will lead a high-quality professional development experience for school district teams on April 29-May 1, 2010. Interested districts are asked to identify a team of teachers and administrators that will plan for advancing service-learning as a key district initiative. Bring a team to this training to learn how your district can achieve sustainable high quality practice through district leadership and support that nurtures continuous improvement. See attached brochure for more information.

**April 29-May 1:** Heidel House, Green Lake

Cost: \$100 for a team of three! (includes meals and lodging)

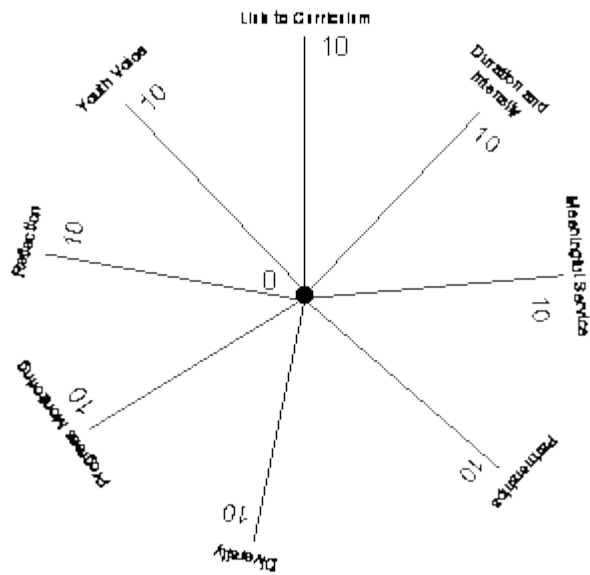
Registration: <http://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?eventid=819152>

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### Breaking Down the Standards and IPARDC: The Reflective Practitioner

We know that often the service-learning process is more important than the outcome. IPARDC offers a framework to guide that process and ensure meaningful engagement with your academic content and the identified service project. This month, we offer a self-assessment tool to help you as a practitioner reflective on your strengths and weaknesses in using the service-learning standards in your classroom.

Rate your service-learning practice on a scale of 0-10 for each of the National Service-Learning Standards of Quality Practice below. Add descriptions of the evidence of the level of quality next to each spoke on the web. What are you doing well in your service-learning practice and how do you know? What are 2-3 areas of priority for improvement in your service-learning practice?



Source: Hjordy Wagner, Eau Claire Area School District

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### Inspiration Corner: Finding the Heart of Service-Learning

*Service-learning is about passion! Each month, we hope to feature some video resources that serve to energize, inspire, and motivate you to continue to dig deeper in your journey to quality service-learning.*

#### Youth Voice

A representation of the effect of Youth Voice in Minnesota communities, through the Minnesota Youth Advisory Council

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UthklxxbQDs>

#### Education Today and Tomorrow

This video was created by Tom Woodward of Henrico County schools in Virginia. Tom used the work of Karl Fisch from Colorado who created a PPT using various quotes and statistics from "flat world" thinking.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fnh9q\\_cQcUE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fnh9q_cQcUE)

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### What's New In Service-Learning? **YouthSITE**

*A new feature of the e-brief to share the latest tools, research, and resources available from the service-learning field.*

The National Service-Learning Clearinghouse has recently debuted YouthSITE, a new section of [servicelearning.org](http://servicelearning.org) devoted to resources created by youth, for youth. YouthSITE (Youth Sharing Ideas and Tools for Engagement) will be a platform for students of all ages and grade levels to tell their service-learning stories and continue to encourage and inspire each other.

You can get a sneak preview of YouthSITE at [servicelearning.org/youthsite](http://servicelearning.org/youthsite).

Know of great youth-created material we shouldn't miss? Drop us a line at [nslc-info@servicelearning.org](mailto:nslc-info@servicelearning.org).

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The DPI LSA E-Brief is distributed once a month. It is intended to:

1. Offer relevant and timely information to support you in your efforts to build and develop programs of service-learning;
2. Update you on available research, tools, materials, services, and training opportunities from DPI and other national sources; and
3. Provide you with a vehicle to exchange ideas with, ask questions of, and share resources with other LSA grantees, service-learning practitioners, and DPI staff.

To respond to DPI about this E-Brief, click "Reply" and you will send your e-mail only to me, Betsy Prueter. To share your response with the entire e-mail list, click "Reply to All."

To subscribe to this monthly e-brief please email Betsy at [betsy.prueter@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:betsy.prueter@dpi.wi.gov)