



Friends,

At ITEF, we are constantly in search of ways to increase educator involvement, to encourage innovation in schools, and to amplify student voices. In addition to making grants to two private, one charter, and three public schools this year, we also accepted 34 applications for individual, school, or district professional development grants. In addition, ITEF's new Educator-in-Residence program, a 45-day professional development experience at our office in the CET, gives educators time and space to plan, reflect, and learn.

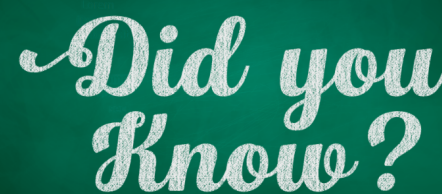
ITEF is using a very targeted approach to impact learning and teaching in this region. If we have not yet heard from you, we hope the stories in this newsletter inspire an idea for which you can seek funding during one of our upcoming grant cycles.

Please join our community of innovative educators who are constantly working to excite, motivate, and inform the curiosity of young learners. Have a great summer, and keep innovating!

Charmaine Smith
Chief Executive Officer
Innovative Technology Education Fund

MEET THE 2018 INNOVATORS: 6 Schools Awarded \$235,000 In Grants

Six schools were selected as ITEF's 2018 Innovators, receiving grants averaging nearly \$40,000 each. These new Innovators were introduced at the 4th annual 'Art of the Possible' event on



*Did you
Know?*

Since 2008, ITEF has provided

\$3,332,482

in grants to help St. Louis-area
schools
create cutting edge, innovative
learning opportunities for their
students.

Will you be next?



April 19th.

The Biome School (Public Charter School): Beyond the Text: Engaging Children in Literacy Through Project-Based Video Game Design

Using Bloxels, an innovative video game creation tool, students will build their own games to tell unique and imaginative stories.

Awarded:
\$51,000.00



City Montessori Adolescent Program (MAP St. Louis): Fuse Studio



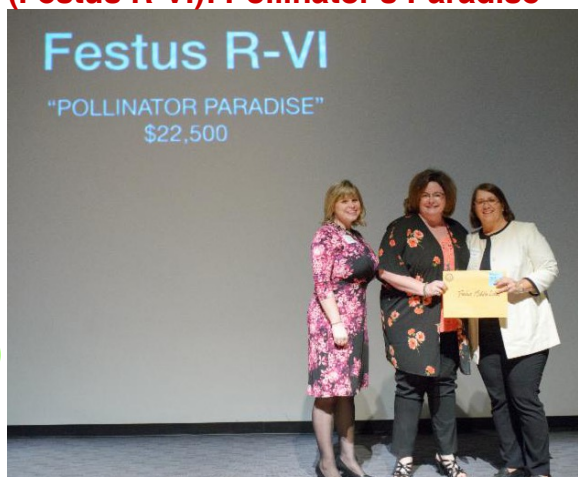
Fuse Studio is an engaging and activity-based STEAM program, which provides challenging activities for students in a self-directed learning environment.

Awarded:
\$23,000.00

Fetus Middle School (Festus R-VI): Pollinator's Paradise

Utilizing the engineering design process, students will design their own projects to create habitats for pollinators in order to remediate the annual mosquito invasion.

Awarded: \$22,500.00



Hodgen Tech Elementary (SLPS): Renovated Learning:

OPEN JUNE 1:

Apply For 'Lean Into Learning' Grant

It's time to get your application ready for the next round of ITEF professional development grant program: Lean Into Learning.

ITEF values continuous learning and we believe in investing in educators!

Past grantees have used their funding to attend informative conferences and visit innovative schools across the country. Our grants were used to bring expert speakers to area schools and districts, which provides a wonderful opportunity for networking and shared learning.

Are you ready to shape your innovative thinking, create space for professional reflection, learn new things, and expand your network?

We will accept applications for grant requests of up to \$4,000 from local educators starting June 1, and award funds on a rolling basis until they are depleted. Applications should be for activities that will occur prior to December 31, 2018.

[Learn more here!](#)

ITEF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Robert Cole,
Board Chair

Julia Sharpe,
Vice Chair



This school will be incorporating a new approach to teaching and learning in a state-of-the-art makerspace and robotics lab.

Awarded:
\$49,000.00

Joseph Komos,
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Secretary

Raven Akram

Paul Freiling

Kimberly McKinney

Cheryl Watkins-Moore

Carol Nelson

Kevin Stokes

Tanya Yatzeck

STAFF

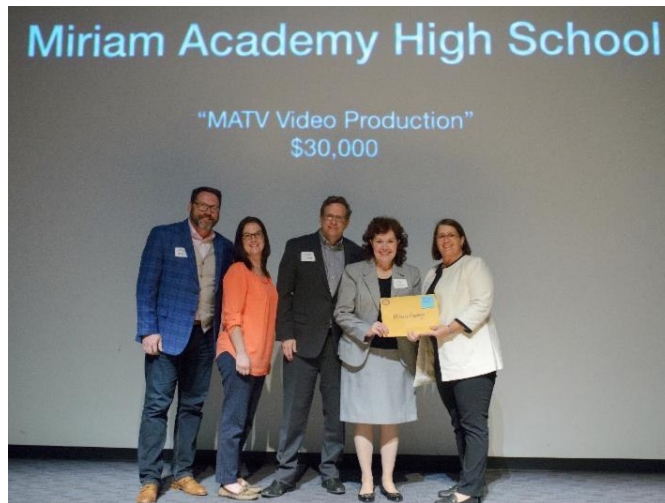
Charmaine Smith,
Chief Executive Officer



Miriam Academy (Private School): Miriam Academy Television Studio

MATV is a multi-media video recording and editing studio that will offer students hands-on opportunities to explore and learn video production.

Awarded:
\$30,000.00



Sumner High School (SLPS): Sumner Streaming Startup



Sumner Streaming is a student-led online network, which will showcase student-created content in six different learning areas.

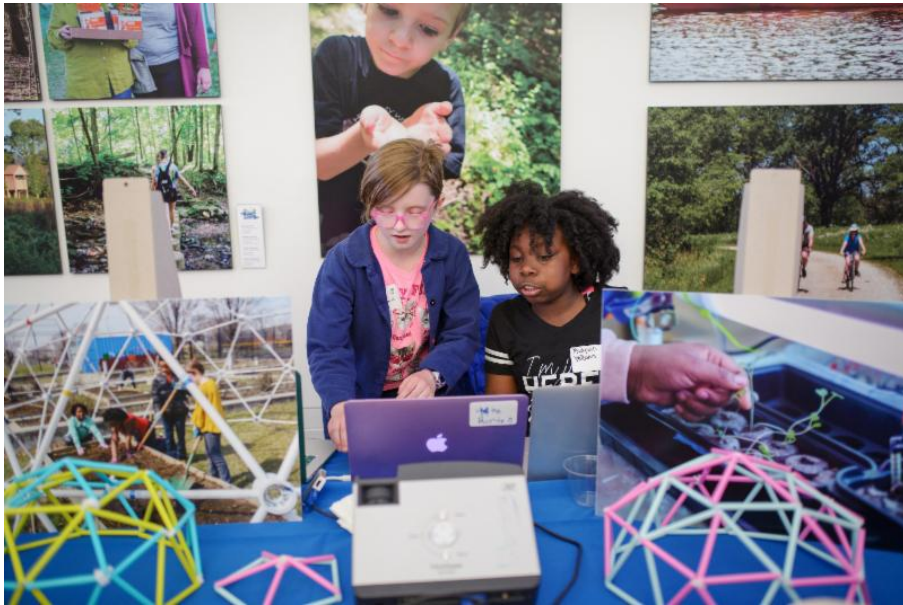
Awarded:
\$60,000.00

We are so excited to see the learning experiences these grants make possible for the students at each of these schools. Stay tuned!

SWiiFT
Student Written Innovative Ideas for Technology
BOTH EYES (ii's) ON THE FUTURE

SWiiFT Grantees Lead Their Learning

Student Written innovative idea for Technology, or SWiiFT, grants exist primarily to give students opportunity to lead their own



'ART OF THE POSSIBLE' EVENT SHOWCASES INNOVATORS

On April 19, ITEF held the 4th annual Art of the Possible event at the Missouri Botanical Gardens. This event not only honors past and future grantees, but also provides a space for grantees and other innovative thinkers from across the St. Louis area to show off their incredible work.

The fun, informative evening began with the 2017 Innovator showcase, where the past year's grantees had the opportunity to present their projects



for the evening's guests, who also enjoyed food, drink, and networking with other educators.

After the showcase, attendees gathered in the theater for an awards ceremony, kicked off by rousing presentations from Innovative Artist, David Alexander; educator and Chief Connecting Officer at Connected Learning, Chris McGee; and DeSmet student, Marquis Govan. ITEF also provided an update on SWiIFT and Lean Into Learning, and announced the 2018 Innovator Grants.

learning. These grants honor students' voices and choices, and always result in creative, fun, and unexpected projects!

For the 2017-18 school year, three different schools were selected to receive grants for their student projects: Cold Water Elementary in the Hazelwood School District led by 3rd grade teacher Stephanie Knight; Nipher Middle School in the Kirkwood School District, led by Gifted Instructor Adam Scimone; and Hudson Elementary in the Webster Groves School District, led by teacher Sam Pitlyk. We have been so thrilled to watch as these teachers and students made these interesting projects their own.

Keep your eyes open for students with unique ideas, and be sure to look for the reopening of this grant for the upcoming school year.

Best Wishes to Brenda



Brenda Watt has announced that she is moving on from her position as Chief Innovation Officer at ITEF. Brenda has been an asset to the organization, working with ITEF since 2011 in various roles. She took the lead on starting the SWiIFT student-grant program and has been instrumental in helping students and teachers across the region incorporate innovation in



All six of the 2018 Innovators were awarded grants by Board Chair Dr. Robert Cole and outgoing Board Chair Dr. Beth Bender, who was presented with something special to commemorate her service. We are extremely grateful for her dedication



to enhancing innovation in education during her time on the ITEF board.

classrooms.

Brenda shared that working in the nonprofit world, and celebrating innovative educators, has been joy. We wish her the best of luck in all that she does!



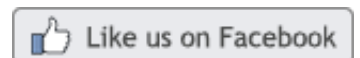
Innovative Technology
Education Fund

We believe introducing children's technology can open their world to possibility. ITEF empowers educators to embrace innovative learning projects that enable transformation.

With a keen eye on underserved schools and communities, the innovative technology education fund seeks to accelerate learning in K-12 spaces through the innovative uses of technology.

ITEF provides grants that advance innovation in the classroom by funding the types of projects that inspire educators to prepare students for a technology-filled future.

**Stay Connected With
ITEF!**





The 2018 Art of the Possible event was an inspirational evening for educators, students, parents, and ITEF staff alike. We offer another round of congratulations for all 2018 Innovators, and cannot wait to see what they will bring to next year's showcase!

Innovative Technology Education Fund | innovted.com

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