



Reaching Out Grants 2024-2025 \$147,803

Theater Arts, New Lebanon School (NLS) - \$33790 (Year 4): This comprehensive theater arts program, experienced by all K-5 students, grows larger each year. There are more students and teachers participating in every aspect of the assorted offerings. Students can attend the after school Theater Arts Clubs, memorize dialogue for the Declamation Contest, and sing and dance in a musical performance. Theatreworks USA performs for all grades. A trip per grade to the Ridgefield Playhouse gives everyone the chance to experience the excitement of a live theater performance. After every performance, Play Group Theater does in-school, interactive drama workshops related to the show each grade saw. “Bard in the Yard” Reader’s Workshop, a new addition in June 2024, brought New Lebanon costumed actors outside to read and act out a bit of Shakespeare. In 2022, New Lebanon School was named a Connecticut State School of Distinction in the area of high growth with high needs populations in English Language Arts. The faculty links some of the recognition to the theater program as it helps students grow with background knowledge, speaking and listening skills and confidence building.

Theater Arts, Julian Curtiss School (JC) - \$29800 (Year 2): After a successful program launch in 2023-2024, students and faculty are excited to participate and expand the full range of theater offerings in the coming year. A musical will be featured for 4-5 grader who will partake in an after school enrichment opportunity where they will learn, perform and design sets and costumes. This production will be performed for their school community, family and friends. Other grades will take part in theater clubs and all students will take a field trip to see a professional theater performance.

Theater Arts, International School at Dundee (ISD) - \$18800: Modeled after the New Lebanon School Theater Program, ISD has designed a theater experience to expand arts enrichment for all students in collaboration with the PTA. Fifth graders will be showcased in a

musical production in the fall. There will be a Declamation Contest for 3-4th grade students and all students will attend a live theater performance.

K-5 Afters, Hamilton Avenue School (HAS) - \$10000 (Year 2): All HAS students will have the opportunity to enroll in an assortment of free afters enrichment programs to spark curiosity and have some fun. Programming will be offered throughout the school year.

After School Enrichment for K students (HAS) - \$30475 (Year 2): Year 1 of this grant was a planning year for teachers and staff to design an after school extended day program for K students. There are limited options for students only 5 years of age. This year, eligible K students will have a three-hour, full school year, after school academic and enrichment program which aligns with the school's STEAM magnet theme. HAS will be able to meet the needs of working families by offering a safe space for their children with extended hours after school.

Middle School Science Bowl Teams (GPS - EMS, CMS, WMS) - \$11400: Each middle school will bring together students who are interested in participating in an academic competition that covers STEM topics. The teams will practice after school with a teacher/coach and compete in four scrimmages in the district and the Regional Science Bowl at UCONN Storrs. Maria Buono, GHS Science Bowl Coach will act as the Head Coach for this new and exciting grant.

BookBreak (GPS - K-8 Media) - \$13538: BookBreak is a subscription service that broadens the access for all classrooms to converse live or watch a recorded audio with authors from all over the world. Participating authors have written both fiction and nonfiction titles and are carefully vetted by the company. GPS Media Specialists are very excited to be able to share acclaimed authors with all GPS K-8 students.