



Portland Parks Foundation



**PORTLAND PARKS FOUNDATION
2022 SMALL GRANT RECIPIENTS**

The Portland Parks Foundation's Small Grants Program awards financial support to community-based organizations within the city of Portland who foster equitable access to our urban parks, natural areas, community gardens and community recreation centers. The program is founded on a generous bequest from Nancy Hebb Freeman, an artist, hiker and lover of Portland parks.

Our motto is “**We help people help parks**” because we know that our parks support so many of our personal and community needs. Parks can improve mental and physical health, serve critical green infrastructure functions, contribute to economic development, act as links in transportation networks, host cultural and social activities, and help give communities a sense of place.

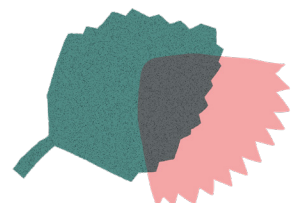
Yet many Portland residents still lack equal access to parks that feel welcoming and safe. They struggle to find well-maintained parks that are designed and programmed to meet their particular needs, based on input from their community.

With our small grants, PPF focuses on the people and organizations working to fill these gaps. We intentionally prioritize organizations supporting low-income populations, communities of color, and other historically marginalized groups.

Grants are reviewed and selected by a community-led review committee.

This spring, 13 grants were awarded for a total of \$25,000.

Thank you to Portland Parks & Recreation for helping to support PPF's 2022 Small Grants Program.



Black Parent Initiative



Black Parent Initiative (BPI) focuses on educating and mobilizing the guardians of African American, African, Black and African American Multiracial children to ensure they achieve success. Through their relationship-based and culturally specific approaches, BPI has become a trusted provider for health, cultural identity development, parent education, and resource building for African American, African, Black, and American Multiracial families in Oregon.

This summer, BPI is bringing together community, culture and family as they host a Family Fun Day and Concert in the Park at Dawson Park on August 12, 2022. The event will be filled with music by Tyrone Hendrix's, a variety of STEAM activities, face painting, arts and crafts, delicious food and more.

The small \$2,000 grant will provide event support by funding family activities, giveaways, and outreach efforts.

Support this work and learn more:
<https://www.thebpi.org/>



Friends of Gateway Green

Friends of Gateway Green (FoGG), an entirely volunteer-run organization, formed to reinvision the underutilized property now known as Gateway Green Park. Now, the beautiful 25 acre park has become a world-class recreation destination. With the park up and running, FoGG has shifted focus to preserving and enhancing activation, programming and building partnerships at Gateway Green. For FoGG, the first step in activating the park is to understand how neighborhood residents engage with the park and their barriers to access.

FoGG partnered with Portland State University's Nohad A. Toulon School of Urban Studies & Planning course to develop a park user pilot study. PPF's small grant of \$2,000 will support funding for public engagement incentives to ensure equitable access and compensation for participants. Funding will allow FoGG to meaningfully support PSU's research activities, and importantly, provide participants with tangible rewards for their time in focus groups, surveys, art-based activities, story mapping, or any other engagement over the course of the study.

Support this work and learn more:
<http://www.gatewaygreenpdx.org/>



Impact Northwest & Schools Uniting Neighborhoods

Impact Northwest and the SUN (Schools Uniting Neighborhoods) program at Jackson Middle school are partnering to connect BIPOC youth and Black led outdoor organizations. Recognizing the need for more culturally specific programming, SUN staff created the Black Girl Magic and BIPOC BoyZ Clubs. The clubs support over 70 BIPOC students in a predominantly white school.



The small \$1,000 grant will support field trips for the Black Girl Magic and BIPOC BoyZ Clubs to Black led organizations such as Outdoor Afro and Mud-bown Grown. Broadening student experiences in nature and learning directly from BIPOC led organizations will help foster a sense of belonging in outdoor spaces.



Support this work and learn more:
<https://www.multco.us/sun/about-sun-service-system>

Independent Publishing Resource Center

This summer, **Independent Publishing Resource Center (IPRC)** is partnering with Free Lunch + Play to bring four art activations throughout July and August. Youth and their families will see parks across the city filled with IPRC's hands-on arts activities. Activities facilitated by local artists may include paper marbling, linoleum block printing, and screen print monotypes. Creating community through hands-on art-making is the heart of IPRC mission.



Independent Publishing Resource Center

The small \$2,000 grant will support their mission by supporting the artists fees for facilitating community building arts programming. The grant will also support purchasing art supplies to ensure all youth and families who want to participate have supplies readily available.

Support this work and learn more:
<https://www.iprc.org/>



Pacific Northwest Council of Water Protectors



Pacific Northwest Council of Water Protectors is a coalition of indigenous and non-indigenous supporters who protect sacred water and maintain the sovereignty of tribal nations. To carry out this mission, PNWCWP is hosting their 5th annual Medicine Gathering on August 26-28.

Participants will hear speakers, poets, indigenous and local musicians, and have the opportunity to participate in workshops surrounding issues threatening water, land, and people. The gathering will also include a traditional powwow and opportunities to learn about indigenous medicine plants.



The \$2,000 grant will help support the honorariums for speakers, workshop leaders, musicians and volunteers.

Support this work and learn more:
<https://www.pnwcwp.com/>



POIC + RAHS Green Team



Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center + Rosemary Anderson High School (POIC + RAHS) is a nonprofit committed to the success of at-risk youth and adults. As a part of the employment and training programs at POIC + RAHS, the Natural Resource Pathway (NRP) focuses on connecting youth and young adults with hands-on outdoor work opportunities. NRP's internship opportunity, the **Green Team**, is a science-focused leadership group and paid work program that engages youth in direct, hands-on action with environmental issues in the local community.



This \$2,000 grant will fund a water quality testing research project, introducing youth to the process of scientific field research in Portland parks and natural areas along the Columbia Slough. Through this project, students will understand the importance of maintaining Portland's parks and natural areas for the health of the Slough and the people of Portland. This is the first year the Green Team will conduct this project.



Support this work and learn more:
<https://www.portlandoic.org/>

Prose before Bros

Prose before Bros, established in 2018, is a social book club for women of color. The book club focuses on literature that centers and prioritizes the stories and voices of Black and Brown women. Now, with over 400 members, Prose before Bros is bringing books to the parks.

On Juneteenth weekend, Prose before Bros brought the first ever Black book festival in the greater Portland area to Peninsula Park, called “The FREADOM fest.” The goal of the book festival is to acknowledge how literacy became a powerful weapon in the fight to end the enslavement of Black people in the United States.

This \$2,000 grant helped cover costs to support the event, including permits, insurance, event rentals, costs of acquiring food vendors, and more.

Support this work and learn more:
<https://msha.ke/prosebeforebrospdx/>



Rose City Rollers

The **Rose City Rollers** mission is to serve women, girls, and gender-expansive individuals who want to play the team sport of roller derby, connect with an inclusive community, and realize their power both on skates and off. Roller derby as a sport has led the way in celebrating body-diversity, LGBTQIA+ athletes, and creating welcoming spaces for skaters of all ages and identities to be their most authentic selves. This summer, Rose City Rollers is partnering with Free Lunch + Play to bring free roller skating activities and meals to low-income youth.

This \$2,000 grant will ensure that Rose City Rollers can take their mobile skate truck, the “Skatemobile,” to at least five Lunch + Play events at parks across Portland. This grant will help cover costs from loss of income streams due to Covid 19.

Support this work and learn more:
<https://www.rosecityrollers.com/>



Bookmobile Babe

The **Bookmobile Babe** provides book exchanges, after school programs, school literature and learning activities, and community programs across Portland. The goal of The Bookmobile Babe is to provide both physical books (free for children and their families), and literature activities. Providing these services allows children in low-income areas and marginalized communities to positively engage with literature and learn to love reading.

This summer, The Bookmobile Babe is partnering with the Free Lunch + Play program to offer a free 10-week summer program at Lents Park. The summer program will offer book reading and discussions, art exercises for children ages 1-18, as well as a copy of at least one book for children and families to take home. Many of the books are centered around characters of color and/or characters in marginalized communities, written by diverse authors.

PPF's small \$2,000 grant will provide funding for books that youth can take home, and art activities throughout the summer.

Support this work and learn more:
<https://bookmobilebabe.com/>



TLC International

The mission of **Transformative Living Community, International** (TLC, Int'l) is to facilitate the development of people, their strengths, and their relationships with each other and the natural world. TLC Int'l offers opportunities for people to enhance their wellness through transformative education, creative expression, and nature appreciation. Through nature and the arts, TLC Int'l creates culturally relevant curriculum for holistic healing and growth.



When TLC Int'l became a nonprofit in 2019, their goal was to provide nature appreciation retreats for caretakers serving on the front-lines in vulnerable communities. Covid-19 paused these efforts, until now. With the support of the small \$2,000 grant, TLC will develop a research-based, culturally relevant curriculum incorporating nature appreciation and creative arts activities to support healing and growth. The grant funding will directly support a new field guide & journal specific to Portland Parks.



Support this work and learn more:
<https://healgrow.org/>

Urban Nature Partners PDX

Urban Nature Partners PDX (UNP PDX) empowers youth from historically marginalized Portland neighborhoods by providing one-on-one mentoring relationships and access to meaningful outdoor experiences. The core of their programming centers around weekly paired outings that give youth a chance to explore parks and green spaces with the guidance of a mentor. Exposing youth to new outdoor activities increases their knowledge of the natural world. After one year in the mentorship program, youth are offered scholarships to participate in nature-based summer camps, furthering their connection and knowledge to the outdoors.

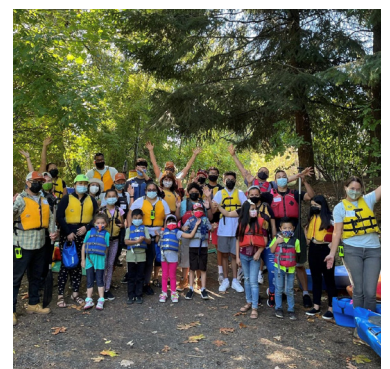
This year, UNP PDX will bring on their 10th mentoring cohort with at least 10 new youth-mentor pairs. Funds from the small \$2,000 grant will provide staff with a stable salary to adequately support the mentors and youth throughout their experiences.

Support this work and learn more:
<https://urban-nature-partners.org/>



Verde

Verde's Club Aves is a multilingual field trip-based environmental education program that creates access to green spaces, and inspires low-income youth and youth of color to learn about and explore the outdoors. It was established to create access to natural spaces for youth living in the Cully neighborhood. Over the years, the program has grown to expand outside of Cully including more BIPOC youth across Portland. The program provides transportation, translation, culturally relevant educational materials, and outdoor gear to increase access to green spaces for BIPOC and low-income youth beyond school playgrounds.



The \$2,000 grant from PPF will support continued after school environmental education activities, add summer camp field trips for youth, and incorporate more family day field trips for youth and their families.

Support this work and learn more:
<https://www.verdenw.org/>

Atabey BIPOC Medicine

The Atabey BIPOC Medicine Apprenticeship program is a space for people of color to learn the foundations of herbalism through a decolonized lens. The Apprenticeship program's goal is to create a brave space for people to reconnect and reclaim their own ancestral healing practices. Participants are able to deepen their individual and collective healing journey through plant meditations, botany classes, and an immersive summer campout in Portland parks and natural spaces. Atabey BIPOC Medicine emphasizes the importance of reclaiming individuals' connection to the land as a way to reclaim health and wellness, and ancestral healing practices from cultures that are grounded in earth-based wisdom.

The small \$2,000 grant will support classes, campouts, and other curriculum for the Atabey BIPOC Medicine Apprenticeship program.

Support this work and learn more:

<http://seedandthistle.com/apprenticeship>
