Attention Class of 2018: Scholarship Applications are Now Available

Bay Area Community Foundation’s college scholarships are now available to any current high school senior, college student, or adult wishing to pursue post-secondary education in the fall of 2018. Applications are available online at www.bayfoundation.org and are due March 5, 2018.

Complete scholarship criteria is also available on the website, and students may apply for up to 15 different scholarships with just one application!

BACF scholarships are awarded from endowment funds established by families, civic organizations, and businesses in our area. Students are encouraged to visit the Great Lakes Bay College & Career Resource Center, located on the first floor of the Pere Marquette Depot at 1000 Adams. Advisors are available to help students find and apply for scholarships and navigate the financial aid process. To schedule an appointment, call (989) 893-6026.

Application deadline is March 5, 2018
BACF Welcomes Diane Fong as new President/CEO

Diane M. Fong will become President & CEO of Bay Area Community Foundation starting December 16, 2017.

The Bay Area Community Foundation (BACF) Board of Trustees has unanimously chosen Diane M. Fong as the organization’s next President & CEO. Diane started working in the office on December 4 and will assume the role of CEO after Eileen retires on December 15, 2017.

“After an extensive search process, we are delighted to have Diane join our organization,” said Rich Milster, chair of BACF’s Board of Trustees. “She has an extensive background in nonprofit management and will be an active participant in the Bay and Arenac communities.”

Diane holds a Master’s of Public Administration and a Bachelor’s of Public Affairs from Wayne State University. Prior to her ten years as director of Pulse3 Foundation, Fong was previously a project manager for The Conservation Fund in Bay City, the strategic development director of Mid-Michigan Children’s Museum, and executive vice president at Saginaw Community Foundation. She has served on a number of boards including the Saginaw Community Foundation finance committee, the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan community advisory council, and the Hidden Harvest board of directors.

“I am honored to have the opportunity to build upon the legacy of caring that the donors, community partners, volunteers and staff of the Bay Area Community Foundation have established over the last 35 years,” Diane said.

Eileen Curtis has full confidence in her successor: “I am confident that Diane’s leadership will further BACF’s vision to improve the overall quality of life throughout our community,” she said. “I am extremely proud of the Foundation’s efforts to bring about community change to break the cycle of poverty through education and look forward to following along with the Foundation’s continued success and growth for the future.”

Omer Courthouse Gets a Face Lift

Thanks to a grant of $10,000 from the Maser Historical Preservation Fund held here at Bay Area Community Foundation, Arenac County Historical Society’s Ye Olde Courthouse has been restored to look like new! The project included power washing, scraping off the old paint, priming, and painting to restore and preserve the building for many years of future use.
10 Amazing Things you made happen in 2017...

#1 The Historic Masonic Temple has a new roof which makes the building sustainable for many more years of arts and culture opportunities.

#2 Individuals with disabilities participated in endurance races for the first time in their lives thanks to a new running chair for the Great Lakes Bay chapter of myTeam Triumph.

#3 Fifth-graders from Bangor Township Schools used a 3-D printer to learn new skills by printing a working arm and hand for a woman in the community.

#4 Girls gained confidence and learned healthy habits in Bay and Arenac counties through a grant for Underground Railroad’s Girls on the Run program.

#5 More than 1,000 students received a full outfit for their first day back to school through the United Way’s Helen Wirt Lee Back to School Program.

#6 320 students received 371 scholarships totaling $459,744 to help with college tuition. The Great Lakes Bay College & Career Resource Center promotes post-secondary education and assists students in achieving their academic goals.

#7 Campers at Camp Fish Tales can now rise to new challenges with a climbing wall that is safe for children and adolescents with disabilities.

#8 A new community writing center offers free tutoring and writing workshops through Saginaw Valley State University at the Alice & Jack Wirt Public Library.

#9 More than 90 dogs were vaccinated, put into foster homes, and saved from euthanasia through the Humane Society of Bay County.

#10 A local high school student’s artwork now decorates the west side underpass of Veterans Memorial Bridge through a collaboration with Studio 23 / The Arts Center.

What will you make happen next year...and beyond?

These are just 10 examples of the many ways in which your contributions have provided opportunities for our community to thrive this year. And your gifts today create impact for many years to come. Together we can ensure that there will always be funds available to meet the future’s pressing needs and promising opportunities. With YOU we can guarantee that we are HERE For GOOD.

Make a gift today by sending a check, calling us at 989-893-4438, or donating online at www.bayfoundation.org/HereForGood.

If you wish, we can work with you and your financial advisor to help you make a gift through a bequest, life insurance policy, or other planned gift. For more information, contact Lisa Bourdon-Krause at 989-893-4438.

Donate today at www.bayfoundation.org
Or call 989-893-4438 to give in one of these other ways:
Grant Awarded to Improve Writing Skills in Bay Area

BACF’s Community Initiative and Youth Advisory Funds awarded grants to open a writing center available for free to the public in the Jack & Alice Wirt Public Library in Downtown Bay City.

Community members of all ages and backgrounds now have free access to one-on-one tutoring sessions and group workshops aimed at improving their writing. Individual sessions focus on any form of writing, and workshops focus on topics such as scholarship essays, résumés and cover letters, and creative writing.

Since it opened this September, the center has already provided 30 individual tutorial sessions and serviced 28 individuals through workshops.

“Since we know that writing is such an important skill—both professionally and personally—I am pleased that this community writing center is able to be a part of the Bay Area,” said Helen Raica-Klotz, SVSU’s Writing Center director.

Those in the community, too, see the center as a valuable asset. One said, “You are a great service—so glad to have you here in Bay City!” And another commented, “The feedback my tutor gave me was so helpful.”

According to the most recent National Center for Education Statistics report, 8% of the Bay County population lacks basic literacy skills, and 14% of adults are illiterate. The Literacy Council of Bay County does important work with increasing residents’ reading ability, but until now there hasn’t been an organization focused specifically on writing.

Bay Area Community Foundation’s Community Initiative Fund and Youth Advisory Fund granted $16,775 to fund this pilot program for two years.

This writing center is only the second community writing center in Michigan. The first opened in Saginaw in 2015 through SVSU’s Writing Center and is funded by Saginaw Community Foundation.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>One-on-one Tutoring, 4-8pm</th>
<th>Upcoming Workshops</th>
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<td>December 5</td>
<td>Scholarship Essays - February 6</td>
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<td>January 16</td>
<td>Writing the SAT Essay - March 6</td>
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<td>February 6 &amp; 20</td>
<td>Writing Short Stories - April 3</td>
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www.svsu.edu/communitywriting

Faces of Philanthropy Event Honors All Who Give Back to the Bay Area

Thank you to everyone who came to celebrate 35 years with us and honor the Alice & Jack Wirt family with the Peggy Rowley Community Enrichment Award. Be proud of all you do. Remember: you are a reflection of what makes the Bay Area thrive!

New fundholders were honored with a special recognition during the event.

The Jack & Alice Wirt family was honored with the Peggy Rowley Community Enrichment Award for their incredible dedication to this community.

The Central Marching Band made a surprise appearance to celebrate our 35 year anniversary!
Food Pantry Receives Grant
Pinconning Area Emergency Food Pantry now has a new laptop, printer, and software to streamline their process. This will help the volunteer staff to better serve the community.
“We are so grateful for the new computer and software,” said Sandy Augustyniak. “Our mission to serve the community has become more efficient and productive, and now we can reach even more community members in need.”
The Northern Bay County Fund held here at BACF awarded $914.75 to fund this laptop and help them further their mission.

New Giving Guide!
For more than 35 years, Bay Area Community Foundation has been the trusted steward for charitable gifts that impact our community. Learn how to get involved by downloading this new Giving Guide at www.bayfoundation.org. Or call 989-893-4438 to set up an appointment to discuss your options and pick up your free print copy.

Congratulations Cathy Washabaugh!
On November 8, Catherine Washabaugh received the Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser award from the Mid-Michigan chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals. Cathy has made an incredible impact on this community. We’re lucky to have her as the vice-chair of the BACF Board of Trustees and the chair of the Riverwalk/Railtrail committee. Congrats!

Find Us on Facebook!
facebook.com/BayAreaCommunityFoundation
See more photos and read more stories of impact in our community by “liking” Bay Area Community Foundation on Facebook.

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Thank you to our Business Sponsors for showing their support for the work of the Bay Area Community Foundation.

To learn more about becoming a Bay Area Community Foundation Business Sponsor, please contact Lisa Bourdon-Krause at the BACF office at 989.893.4438

www.bayfoundation.org