PASADENA
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2026 Grant Recipients

Altadena Music Theatre
Altadena Music Theatre exists to create exciting opportunities for the talented individuals of our community and provide a live theatre experience that is gentle, non-threatening and professional. Altadena Music Theatre enriches the Los Angeles community through live musical theatre, arts advocacy and developmental youth programs. The grant will support its upcoming summer musical theatre camps and subsidize need-based scholarships to ensure access for youth who have been impacted by the Eaton Fires can participate in the camp.

Arlington Garden in Pasadena
Arlington Garden in Pasadena is Los Angeles County's only free climate-appropriate, public habitat garden offering learning, inspiration and enjoyment for all. They are a community-supported, water-wise garden that celebrates Southern California's Mediterranean climate. The awarded grant will be used for the Arlington Garden Wildlife Nature Journal, which combines standards-based NGSS tiered STEAM approaches, self-reflection and hands-on inquiry. In six field trips, PUSD 6th grade students from Elliot, McKinley, Blair, Marshall, Octavia Butler Magnet STEAM or Sierra Madre Middle School students will creatively explore ecosystems, biodiversity, watersheds and climate science at Pasadena's only public habitat garden.

Caltech Y
Caltech Y is an independent 501c3 that has been affiliated with Caltech for more than 100 years. Our mission is to enrich student life at Caltech and encourage students to become engaged, responsible citizens through service and civic activities. The awarded program, Rise for Good, is an intensive, two-week applied math research program that builds math confidence, scientific communication skills and community engagement among under-represented minority (URM) high school students in the greater Pasadena area.

Foothill Creative Arts Group
Founded in Sierra Madre in 1960, Creative Arts Group is a non-profit art center providing a unique and nurturing environment for people of all ages, ethnicities and economic backgrounds through programs, exhibitions and workshops. The ImaginArt Program is CAG's longest-running community outreach initiative, ensuring that every student at Sierra Madre Elementary School has access to high-quality art education. CAG established ImaginArt after major Pasadena Unified budget cuts eliminated the school's art program, and it has continued ever since to provide consistent arts access for local children.

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Girls on the Run of Los Angeles
Girls on the Run is an award-winning national organization that inspires young people to be joyful, healthy and confident through research-based social-emotional learning and physical activity. Founded in 2005, GOTR has served more than 18,000 participants, prioritizing access for youth in under-resourced communities across Los Angeles County, including the greater Pasadena area. They provide transformational Positive Youth Development programming for elementary and middle school-age girls. The program centers the needs of girls in its curricula, specifically addressing topics and challenges that girls encounter during late childhood and adolescence in an optimal environment for their learning and development.

Monrovia Public Library Foundation
The Monrovia Public Library Foundation raises funds to supplement public support and ensure the library remains a vital source of information, education, culture and technology in a welcoming, state-of-the-art facility. The Foundation supports adult literacy, makerspace programs, public computers and technology access for families, promoting lifelong learning and serving the entire community. The grant will support Problem-Solving Through Play: Cubelets STEAM Program 2026 is a hands-on STEAM initiative at the Monrovia Public Library that introduces children and families to foundational concepts in robotics, computational thinking and problem-solving through play-based learning.

Monrovia Wildcat Band Boosters Club
The Monrovia Wildcat Band Boosters support and sustain the Monrovia High School Musical Arts Program by providing equitable access to music and performing arts education. They fund uniforms, instruments, transportation and essential program needs so all students can participate and grow regardless of financial barriers. The grant will support more than 100 Monrovia High School students, along with invited seventh and eighth grade students from Clifton Middle School, who participate in band, color guard, orchestra, choir and drumline. Funding will help provide uniforms, instruments, equipment, transportation and competition fees, supporting rehearsals, performances and competitions at Monrovia High School and venues throughout Southern California.

Oakwood Brass - Outreach Project
Oakwood Brass - Outreach Project, a non-profit music education organization based in Pasadena, provides musical opportunities for the community-at-large including schools and senior centers. Using a classic brass quintet sound, the group performs programs featuring a wide range of genres including classical, popular and jazz. Oakwood Brass - Outreach Project will partner with 21 schools in the Pasadena Unified School District and 1 school in San Gabriel USD. The project includes forty-four 50 min. concerts for 4-5th and 6th grade students, and 300 hours of coaching for enrolled middle and high school brass students.

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Outward Bound Adventures Inc.
Founded in 1962 in Northwest Pasadena, Outward Bound Adventures is the nation's oldest nonprofit dedicated to connecting diverse youth to nature, environmental education, leadership development and conservation careers. Serving more than 95,000 youth and families, OBA delivers outcome-driven, trauma-informed programs and paid environmental restoration training that prepares hard-to-employ adults and at-risk youth for careers in conservation. Outward Bound Adventures will restore Loma Alta Park's fire-damaged Altadena Crest Trail through its paid Youth Environmental Restoration Team. Youth will gain hands-on training in sustainable trail building and revegetation, protecting the watershed and supporting community healing.

Pasadena Area Reading is Fun-Damental Corporation
Pasadena Area Reading in Fun-Damental is dedicated to supporting literacy in the Pasadena Unified School District, including Pasadena, Altadena and Sierra Madre. Since 1976, volunteers have visited all second-grade classes in PUSD three times a year to read with students and invite each child to select free books of their own to keep. Through these visits, Pasadena Area RIF helps build home libraries, encourages a lifelong love of reading and ensures students have greater access to books and literacy resources at an early age. Their long-standing commitment has helped generations of local students strengthen reading skills, spark imagination and develop confidence both inside and outside the classroom.

Pasadena Master Chorale Association Inc. d/b/a Pasadena Chorale
At the Pasadena Education Network's Parent School Readiness programs, parents learn about the skills their children will need when they start school, how to select and enroll in the right schools for their family, and how to effectively engage with their student and school so their children will be successful in Transitional Kindergarten (TK), Kindergarten and beyond. Parent involvement in early childhood education has several lifelong benefits, such as establishing the importance of education and developing a network of helpful connections. They connect preschool parents with current parents because building personal relationships and connecting parents to each other provides students with the best chances of future educational success.

Pasadena Panthers Inc.
The Pasadena Panthers Youth Football & Cheerleading organization provides positive and enriching football and cheer experiences that empower local youth through teamwork, discipline, sportsmanship and strong life values. The program emphasizes education, character building and mental and physical preparedness to help participants succeed both on and off the field. This year, several helmets and shoulder pads were damaged or destroyed due to fire exposure, creating an urgent need for replacement safety equipment. The grant will help provide properly fitted helmets and protective gear so all participants can safely take part in practices, games and team activities while ensuring the program continues to prioritize player safety and accessibility.

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Red Hen Press
Red Hen Press is the largest non-profit literary publisher in Southern California, maintaining an output of 25-30 books annually. Its mission is to publish works of literary excellence, to foster diversity and to promote literacy in local schools. Their work in the community includes free and low-cost literary events and educational workshops serving underserved students. The awarded program, Writing in the Schools Initiative is a literary workshop series in Title I schools. Led by published authors, students read aloud, explore literary devices and share their work with peers. The goal is to serve eight Pasadena classrooms at Eliot Arts Magnet School.

Rose Bowl Water Polo Booster Club
Established in 2002, the Rose Bowl Water Polo Booster Club supports youth in Pasadena and surrounding areas by expanding access to competitive water polo, financial aid and inclusive programming. Serving more than 300 athletes, the Club promotes athletic excellence, academic achievement and college pathways. Beyond the pool, it builds leadership, resilience, discipline and teamwork skills that prepare athletes for success in school, college and life. The proposed project is the expansion and financial support of the Splashball program at the Rose Bowl Aquatics Center in Pasadena, California. Splashball serves as the entry point to Rose Bowl Water Polo's athlete development pathway, introducing children—particularly those from Pasadena and surrounding communities—to the sport in an accessible, inclusive and developmentally appropriate way.

San Gabriel Educational Foundation
The San Gabriel Educational Foundation is dedicated to enhancing and supporting public education in the San Gabriel Unified School District. Since 1986, SEF has worked closely with district leaders, community members, educators and parents to provide supplemental resources, and innovative programming that promote academic achievement, wellness and creativity across all TK–12 campuses. The SGUSD TK-12 Library Modernization & Literacy Equity Initiative will address aging collections and limited access across SGUSD schools, ensuring students have access to accurate, current and representative information reflecting the world they are entering.

SoCal Beep Baseball Association
SoCal Beep Baseball Association provides organized beep baseball for blind and visually impaired athletes throughout Southern California, with weekly programs based in Pasadena. They create inclusive sports opportunities that build confidence, independence and community. Through teamwork, competition and volunteer support, they expand access to adaptive athletics for youth, adults and veterans. The grant will benefit SoCal Beep Baseball Association's beep baseball program; an adaptive form of baseball designed for blind and visually impaired athletes. Using audible equipment such as beeping balls and buzzing bases, players are able to safely and independently compete on the field.

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Southern California Children's Museum
Southern California Children's Museum exists to support the development of young children, the strength of families and their connection to community through access to play. Their mission is to champion the power of play to cultivate a child's creativity, spark curiosity and inspire learning. SCCM's core values are play, curiosity, creativity, belonging and community. The grant funds will be used to create "Play on the Go," a project that builds portable play kits containing sensory materials, open-ended play items and family amenities. These kits will enable staff to extend SCCM's play-based learning beyond museum walls and directly into the Pasadena community.

Triumph Foundation
Triumph Foundation's mission is to help children, adults and veterans with disabilities triumph over the obstacles they face. The goal is to help individuals maximize their quality of life by providing solutions that increase mobility and independence, improve self-efficacy and support reintegration into the community. Founded in 2008, their programs include Newly Paralyzed Support, Grants & Equipment and Adaptive Recreation. The Adaptive Sports Festival is a free, all-inclusive event that introduces children, adults and veterans with disabilities to adaptive sports. Participants are supported by trained coaches, volunteers and specialized equipment, creating an inclusive environment that improves health and wellness.