



Note to editors and reporters: Please check the lists of Teacher Creativity Fellowship recipients who may reside and/or teach in your area. This release and list of recipients are also available on the Endowment's website, www.lillyendowment.org.

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120 Indiana educators receive Lilly Endowment Teacher Creativity Fellowships

Creative teachers tend to be curious people, but curiosity takes time – a commodity rarely available to them. This summer, however, 120 Indiana teachers, principals, guidance counselors and school librarians in K-12 education will take off for exotic climates like Myanmar and the Galapagos and some not so exotic like Ohio and Pennsylvania. They are the recipients of the Lilly Endowment Teacher Creativity Fellowships.

From Antarctica to Zambia, they will satisfy their curiosities about everything from the Roman Empire to yodeling. They will study Brazilian textiles, the missions of California, the science of Ben Franklin, the biological impacts of changing temperatures, the connections between the Delphi in Indiana and the Delphi in Greece, the Black Plague, sea turtles, Guatemalan marimba music, Liberian folktales, the physics of flat-track motorcycle racing, movie makeup, the Olympic Games, horsemanship, extreme weather, the geology of Iceland, Byzantine iconography, and Vincent Van Gogh.

They will get some exercise. On their agendas: climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania and Machu Picchu in Peru, running three marathons in three cities, taking a 250-mile bicycle tour from the mountains to the rainforest in Ecuador, competing in master's-level track and field competitions, experiencing six Great Urban Races, kayaking and camping on the Antarctic Peninsula, biking from Nova Scotia to New York City, and competing in the Lake Placid Ironman event.

(more)

Teacher Creativity
Add 1

They are going to build things: a writing cottage, acoustic and electric guitars, Craftsmen-style furniture, a riding railroad and a single-passenger canoe. They are going to write: journals, books (including a children's haiku book), diaries, mysteries, romance novels and documentaries.

They are going to volunteer: at a South African center for homeless teenage girls, at a school that teaches English to Mexican children, at Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Utah, at a center in South Africa that helps homeless teenage girls, at the Elephant Nature Foundation in Thailand, at an equine therapy facility in Ohio, and at the Angels Above Foundation in Colorado.

Their curiosity at least partially satisfied, they will return to their classrooms and offices in the fall with energy and a reinvigorated love of teaching. The Teacher Creativity Fellowship Program is not a "professional development" program, but many teachers have returned testifying that they were "very close" to leaving the profession until this renewal experience convinced them otherwise.

"Good teachers are highly motivated, energetic and committed," said Sara B. Cobb, vice president for education at the Endowment. "For many of them, teaching is not just what they do but who they are. They devote a tremendous amount of personal time and effort to give individual attention to students 'after hours,' to direct extracurricular activities, buy supplies with their own money and keep up with the most effective teaching technologies.

"This program allows them the time to explore their own curiosities and dreams, spend time in other parts of the world, enjoy different cultures and just 'get away.' We regularly hear that these renewal experiences have helped many Indiana educators regain their enthusiasm for their profession – and that's a plus for them and their students," she said.

Including the 2012 class, 2,442 Indiana educators have received grants since the Teacher Creativity Fellowship Program began in 1987. The recipients of these fellowships are selected from a competitive pool of applicants; about 450 applied for the \$8,000 awards.

Attached: List of 2012 recipients of Teacher Creativity Fellowship grants

LILLY ENDOWMENT INC.
TEACHER CREATIVITY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM 2012
\$8,000 fellowship recipients

Note: Year in parentheses denotes year of previous Teacher Creativity grant.

ANDERSON

Anderson Community Schools

Anderson High School

Aaron O. Riley

“Following the Rainbow”—follow the path of Cpl. Elmer W. Sherwood, a Hoosier soldier in the Rainbow Division (World War 1); create a first-person presentation of Cpl. Sherwood

ANGOLA

MSD Steuben County

Angola Middle School

Robert F. Budak (2004)

“I Believe I Can Fly”—obtain light sport craft aviation license; purchase a powered parachute; photograph Steuben county’s lakes from the parachute; start an aviation club at school

AVON

Avon Community School Corp.

Gwynn E. Wills

“My Father’s Daughter: A Journey of the Heart through Creative Writing”—combine father’s and daughter’s writings to create a book about separation and connectedness; attend two writers’ conferences

BLOOMINGTON

Monroe County Community School Corp.

Bloomington High School North

Scott W. Stephenson

“River, Take Me Along, in Your Sunshine, Sing Me a Song”—attend WoodenBoat School in Maine; construct a single-passenger canoe; explore the water and watershed of the surrounding community

Bloomington High School South

Karla S. Pemberton

“Seeing Brazil through the Eye of a Needle”—study the Brazilian heritage of textiles and costumes; purchase Brazilian fabric and design a garment

Summit Elementary School

Mara-Lea Rosenbarger (1991)

“¡Yo no habla Espanol!” (I don’t speak Spanish!)—attend intensive Spanish-immersion school in Spain

BLUFFTON

Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District

Bluffton-Harrison Middle School

Daniel E. York

“An Apple a Day Makes Everything OK”—explore Apple computing systems; enhance skills in digital production

BROOKVILLE

Franklin County Community School Corp.

Franklin County High School

Pamela L. Deaton

“Faces that are yet below the surface”—explore Eastern Band Cherokee reservation in North Carolina; learn pit-firing process; create pit-fired ceramic work

CARMEL

Carmel Clay Schools

Carmel High School

Sherri M. Pankratz

“Hawthorne’s Fathers”—explore paternal themes in Nathaniel Hawthorne’s writings; write and publish a literary analysis about the topic

Carmel Middle School

Mark G. Matthews

“California Missions: Research, Reflection, Renewal”—study the history and lore of the California missions from San Diego Alcalá to Mission Solano; engage in a weeklong silent retreat

CENTERVILLE

Centerville-Abington School Corp.

Centerville Junior High School

Michael R. Day

“Zambia, Africa: Connections to Diversity”—explore geography, history, culture, government and economics in the Nyawa Chiefdom in southern Zambia

CHESTERTON

Duneland School Corp.

Chesterton High School

Robert T. Woolever

“Ben Franklin: Scientific Genius”—visit locations related to Benjamin Franklin’s scientific accomplishments, including Philadelphia and Great Britain

Liberty Elementary School

Colin C. May

“The Decisive Moment: Following the Footsteps of Henri Cartier-Bresson”—study works and techniques of photojournalist Cartier-Bresson; practice street photography in France, England and the Netherlands

COLUMBUS

Bartholomew Consolidated School Corp.

Clifty Creek Elementary School

Emily B. Nolting

“A Night at the Opera”—study, observe and compare opera performances in Indiana, New York City, Italy and Austria

Columbus Signature Academy

Rachel S. Cooper

“Some Like it Hot, but Unfortunately Some Don’t”—study the biological impacts of changing temperatures; observe thermal adaptations in Arizona and the Galapagos Islands

DELPHI

Delphi Community School Corp.

Delphi Community Elementary School

Ana M. Ave (principal)

“Experience Life”—examine the connection between Delphi, Indiana and Delphi, Greece; enhance photography skills

EAST CHICAGO

Lighthouse Academies (charter)

East Chicago Lighthouse Charter School

Allison C. Segarra Hansen

“Mi Vida, Mis Metas, Mi Lenguaje”—enroll in Spanish language program in Quito, Ecuador; spend a week each in Quito, four indigenous communities and the Galapagos Islands

EDINBURGH

Edinburgh Community School Corp.

Edinburgh Community High School

Stephanie A. Hendricks Taylor

“The Barn Quilt Trails: Following the ‘Clothesline’”—follow barn quilt trails in Indiana and Ohio; create quilt as a souvenir

ELKHART

Elkhart Community Schools

Elkhart Area Career Center

Kenneth S. Leach

”Working on the Blooming Railroad”—build a riding railroad through the family’s gardens

Elkhart Memorial High School

Kyle J. Davis

“All Roads Lead to Rome”—investigate ancestral roots in Italy; study history and culture; create an interactive website about the Roman Empire

Osolo Elementary School

Trista L. Delgado

“Murder is the Muse: Uncovering the Mysteries of English Writers”—investigate English mystery writers; experience the culture that inspired their work; write stories and mysteries

ELLETTSVILLE

Richland-Bean Blossom Community Schools

Edgewood High School

Nancy J. VanAllen

“Roughing it with Mark Twain”—retrace Mark Twain’s trip across the American West, spending time in Hannibal, Missouri, Carson City, Nevada, and San Francisco; prepare video record of journey

EVANSVILLE

Catholic Diocese of Evansville

Mater Dei High School

Lee Ann West

“Bridging the Gap: A Re-Creation of Frank McCourt’s Journeys in *Angela’s Ashes*”—travel by ship from New York to Southampton, England; study Irish culture, customs, traditions and historical events that are described in McCourt’s book

Evansville Day School (private)

Soi C. Powell

“A Sojourner on the Silk Road”—travel the Silk Road in China; visit to birthplace (Hong Kong) and Toishan (ancestral home)

FISHERS

Hamilton Southeastern Schools

Sand Creek Intermediate School

Mark A. Hamm

“Bringing Lewis and Clark’s Authentic Fitness into the Classroom”—traverse the Oregon Trail with an eye to the physical challenges the explorers faced

FLOYDS KNOBS

New Albany-Floyd County Consolidated School Corp.

Floyd Central High School

Heather L. Bryan

“IRE – Involuntary Reef Education”—complete Advanced Open Water Diver, Rescue Diver and Underwater Photographer certifications in Cozumel, Mexico

FORT WAYNE

Blackhawk Christian School (private)

Tami D. Ruble

“A Magic Tree House Journey through America and the British Isles”—visit sites in America and the British Isles that serve as settings for the “Magic Tree House” historical fiction series; start an after-school book club

Laurence J. Wilhite

“Pura Vida: Pure Life through Photography”—improve Spanish-speaking skills; enroll in digital photography courses in Costa Rica

Fort Wayne Community Schools

Arlington Elementary School

Donna L. Beebe (2003)

“Taking the Trail Less Traveled”—document walking trails in Indiana’s 25 state parks; create a picture book and learning materials for young children

Towles Intermediate Montessori School

Therese M. Wallace

“Touching Seven Continents: Writing a Children’s Travel Book Beginning with a Visit to Antarctica”—enroll in Appleseed Writing Project; learn photography skills; visit the South Shetland Islands and the Antarctic Peninsula

Wayne High School

Thomas A. Bever

“In My Father’s Footsteps: Iron Man of Metz”—interview father about World War II experiences; visit European battlefields; create a photo journal and video

Northwest Allen County Schools

Carroll High School

James M. Drake (2003)

“The Songs in My Life”—record a collection of original songs

Southwest Allen County Schools

Homestead High School

Constance J. Christophersen and Deborah L. Reitdorf

“A 21st Century Tale of the Black Plague”—trace the journey of the 14th century Black Plague by visiting cities that were heavily impacted; record research and prepare presentations and an e-book that intertwine creative nonfiction and modern science

FRANKFORT

Community Schools of Frankfort

Frankfort Middle School

Martha J. Gipson

“Building Cultural Bridges with Spanish and Guatemalan Marimba Music”—increase Spanish-speaking skills; learn to play Guatemalan marimba music; start a Latin-American marimba band at school

FRANKLIN

Franklin Community Schools

Northwood Elementary School

Kathaleen B. Crites (principal)

“From Land to Air – Taking My Breath Away”—prepare for and run three mini-marathons in three cities; photograph each city from a hot-air balloon

GOSHEN

Middlebury Community Schools

Jefferson Elementary School

Kathie A. Kenworthy

“Lions and Tigers and Bears...”—increase skills in photography; photograph animals in natural and zoological settings; prepare five nonfiction easy reader books for struggling readers

GRANGER

Penn-Harris-Madison School Corp.

Horizon Elementary School

Jon D. West

“Change the Age – Recharge the Teaching”—produce a summer musical for high school students and adults

GREENCASTLE

Greencastle School Corp.

Tzouanakis Intermediate School

Jon K. Strube (principal)

“El Ombligo del Mundo”—explore Amazon rainforest and Machu Picchu; expand Spanish-speaking skills; create photo book of flora, fauna, archaeology and culture; establish a culture club at school

GREENFIELD

Center Grove School Corp.

Center Grove Middle School Central

Deborah L. Burton and Casey M. Voelz

“Rehydrate the Spirit”—study the impact of new water wells on children in Rwanda, Kenya and Uganda

HANOVER

Southwestern-Jefferson County Consolidated School Corp.

Southwestern Middle and High Schools

Kori L. Jones

“Molding My Clay Marble: Immersion in Cambodian Village Life”—research Southeast Asian culture, history and educational system; teach English in a Cambodian village

INDIANAPOLIS

Park Tudor School (private)

Park Tudor Middle School

Melanie C. Hammock

“Pursuing Patriots in Paris”—follow the footsteps of John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin and other patriots in Paris

St. Richard’s Episcopal School (private)

Jessica M. Rhoades

“Inspired by the Charity of Others”—visit an organization in South Africa dedicated to rescuing abandoned babies; volunteer with a local organization that helps homeless, pregnant teenagers

Franklin Township Community School Corp.

Arlington Elementary School

Denise M. Charboneau-Eickhoff

“Yodeling in Yellowstone and Yakking in Yosemite”—explore the backcountry of both parks; forage for edible plants

Franklin Central High School

Julie M. Pittman

“My Mexican Sojourn - Volunteering to Rejuvenate Myself”—volunteer at LaGloria English School in Isla Mujeres, Mexico

Franklin Township Middle School

Jennifer P. Soboleski

“Medieval Mischief: The Adventure Continues”—visit medieval sights in London, Paris and Rome; complete middle-grade novel, *Medieval Mischief: An Historical European Adventure* as a sequel to first novel, *Mischief: An Historical Indiana Adventure*

Indianapolis Public Schools

Arsenal Technical High School

Michael E. Armbruster (2004)

“Finding My Voice in Song: Vocal Training for Cabaret Performance”—train with a local voice coach; participate in a singing workshop in New York City; prepare for a public cabaret-style performance

Carl Wilde Elementary School No. 79

Jennifer L. Mansell

“Light in the Darkness: Beauty and Trauma in Cambodia”—learn about Cambodia’s history and culture; document journey through photography

Center for Inquiry at School No. 2

Dawn M. Merrill

“Creating Silence and Reflection”—follow the path of Santiago from Paula Coehlo’s allegorical novel, *The Alchemist*, through Spain and Morocco; enhance Spanish-speaking skills; walk part of the Camino de Santiago

Center for Inquiry at School No. 27

Ann M. Mennonno

“¡Yo Hablo Espanol! Living the Language”—upgrade Spanish-speaking skills in Honduras; volunteer as a teaching assistant; study Honduran geography, history and culture

Daniel Webster Family Academy School No. 346

Katherine L. Buis

“Moving Toward Eternity: Mosaic Art in Italy”—study Roman and Byzantine mosaics; make natural stone, filament and small glass tesserae (mosaic pieces)

Key Learning Community

Kristine E. Stohler

“Hike, Bike, Speak: Ecuador”—master conversational Spanish through adventure (hike a volcano, 250-mile bicycle tour from the mountains to the rainforest) in Ecuador; volunteer at a service-learning center; visit the Galapagos Islands

Northwest Community School

Sarah E. Craycroft

“Talkative Teacher in a Quirky Town”—visit still-thriving small towns to gain a sense of what keeps them vibrant; interview residents and look for clues about relationships that keep towns thriving; look for ways to apply small-town lessons to relationships that encourage student learning

Rousseau McClellan School No. 91

Benjamin T. Perrin

“Making Environmental Connections with Scuba”—enhance Spanish-speaking skills in Mexico; become certified as a scuba instructor

MSD Decatur Township

Decatur Discovery Academy

Kevin L. Leineweber

“Flatout Fast Physics”—study the physics of flat-track motorcycle racing

Matthew W. Weimer

“The Big Easy Guitar Building Experience”—visit Memphis and New Orleans; build both an acoustic and an electric guitar; introduce a guitar-building course at school

Stephen Decatur Elementary School

Pamela K. Hume-Engle

“Summertime with Best Friends and Breathtaking Views”—volunteer at Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Kanab, Utah; implement the “I Read to Animals” program at school

West Newton Elementary School

Tracey E. Suchy

“Black, White and Rainbow”—explore Alaska, searching for black bears, (white) Beluga whales and rainbow trout; create art activities based on Alaskan culture and environment

MSD Lawrence Township

Belzer Middle School

Julia F. Majercak

“My Quinceañera – Celebrating My First 15 Years”—travel to Mexico and Honduras to trace the roots of transition to adulthood rituals for young women at age 15; celebrate and reflect on 15 years of teaching English as a Second Language

Harrison Hill School of Inquiry and the Arts

Patricia M. Morita-Mullaney (assistant principal)

“Suitcases, Sansei and Shikata ga nai”—local and international journey to explore father’s World War II internment history

Lawrence Central High School

Anne Marie Milligan

“Who Says a Craftsman Has To Be a Man?”—learn to make Craftsman-style furniture at the Center for Furniture Craftmanship in Rockport, Maine; create a piece of furniture using hand tools

McKenzie Center for Innovation and Technology

Cassandra K. Taylor

“Lights, Camera, Action!”—explore the world of character and photographic makeup for movies and television; attend classes at Cinema Makeup School in Los Angeles

MSD Perry Township

Burkhart Elementary School

Kathryn C. Carlson

“Eat, Speak, Dance: An Exploration of Passions”—live with a host family in Spain; take Spanish language, flamenco and cooking classes; participate in the International Music and Dance Festival

Perry Meridian High School

Eileen P. Weber

“Walking in a Refugee’s Shoes”—follow refugees’ journey from Myanmar to Thailand to India to the United States; interview Chin refugees from Myanmar at various points along the journey

Perry Meridian Middle School

Nina J. Phagan

“Get My Motor Runnin’ – Experiencing the American West on Steel Horses”—experience the western United States on a motorcycle; visit national parks and historical sites; capture landscapes via photography and 3D images

Leslie B. Preddy (2000)

“History of Me: A Priddy Good Adventure”—collect and archive narratives of the Priddy/Preddy family; visit ancestral sites in Wales; create place-based digital storytelling website

MSD Pike Township

Pike High School

Victor D. Stewart

“Getting Back on Track”—train for and compete in master’s level track and field competitions at local, state and national events (sprints, hurdles and pole vault)

MSD Warren Township

Raymond Park Middle School

David R. Brooks III

“The FACE of a Rejuvenated Middle School Band Director”—learn to Fly remote control planes; Arrange/compose music for band and percussion; Connect passion of flight to compositions; Exercise mind and body by learning new musical notation software and hiking through parks and wilderness areas

Warren Central High School

Richard G. Shepler (principal)

“Where in the USA is Principal Rich Shepler”—train for and participate in three marathons: Seattle, Orlando and Kona, Hawaii; interact with students via social media; work with students to develop an interactive website based on his experiences

MSD Washington Township
Greenbriar Elementary School

Shanna L. Hinman

“Surin Hears a Who”—volunteer with the Elephant Nature Foundation in Thailand

North Central High School

Timothy J. Blom

“Keeping the Torch Lit”—explore sites of two Olympic Games (Atlanta and Sydney); celebrate cultural unity as demonstrated in the Olympic Games; prepare mathematics and problem-solving lessons based on Olympic sports

Leslie Decker (2004)

“Calling Mazu, Goddess of the Sea: Navigating China and Life”—study ancient Chinese mythological heroine, Mazu; visit the “mother temple” in Putian; explore the Yangtze River; climb the Great Wall

Sally S. Rascon

“The Genesis of Mexican-American Culture”—study history, geography, art and literature in New Mexico; enhance Spanish-speaking skills

Nita L. Stout

“Reviving Folk Art Handicrafts by Reclaiming-Repurposing-Reusing”—enhance sewing and woodworking skills; make prototypes of items (bags, accessories, home decorations, garments) using repurposed materials; organize an after-school Folk Art Club

Kate Young

“Random Pieces/Common Themes: Art in a Postmodern Age”—visit major museum in New York and Boston; create a photographic cyber-gallery juxtaposing classical and contemporary pieces

MSD Wayne Township
Ben Davis Ninth Grade Center

Laura Glassmeyer (1993)

“United Voices: A Project in Brazil”—create a cross-cultural exchange program through a digital penpal project; visit schools in Brazil; share connections with Indianapolis Sister City committee

Chapel Glen Elementary School

Jara R. Coonce

“City by Segway”—learn basic French, German and Italian with an emphasis on everyday vocabulary and travel situations; tour six major European cities (Berlin, Munich, Paris, Barcelona, Florence and Rome) on guided Segway tours to learn about languages and cultures

Rhodes Elementary School

Katie A. Drake

“The Amazing Drakes: Six Races in Six Weeks”—experience six Great Urban Races (GURs) in which skill and agility are matched with problem solving and mental challenges; create an interactive, urban race in White River State Park for students

JEFFERSONVILLE

Greater Clark County Schools
Jeffersonville High School

Ginger L. Whitis (assistant principal)

“Everything I Know about Leadership I Learned from My Horse”—attend weeklong horsemanship clinic in Mount Gilead, Ohio; ride 100 miles on horseback; volunteer at equine therapy facility

LAFAYETTE

Lafayette School Corp.

Lafayette Jefferson High School

Laura C. Branstetter

“Is France Still France?”—explore French culture to see how it has changed in the new global economy; improve French-language fluency; develop culture capsules to use in classroom

Lafayette Sunnyside Middle School

Silas A. Brown

“A Summer in Salamanca”—improve Spanish-speaking skills at an immersion school in Salamanca, Spain; tour the country

LAGRANGE

Lakeland School Corp.

LaGrange High School

Susan F. Dieli

“A Room with a View: A Renaissance Visit for the Soul”—master the Italian language; enroll in a Renaissance dance class at the Art Institute in Florence

LAPORTE

LaPorte Community School Corp.

Kesling Middle School

Charity L. Shouse

“Paperback Writer”—visit European sites to study regional cuisine, local customs and history; complete and submit for publication a romance novel based on travel and research

LAUREL

Franklin County School Corp.

Laurel School/Brookville Elementary School

Mary A. Sorrells

“Mexico: Acrylic Painting and Floorcloth Techniques”—study Mexico’s art, history and culture; investigate the creative process of soul painting; enhance skills in creating acrylic paintings and painted canvas rugs; complete a handmade journal

MICHIGAN CITY

Michigan City Area Schools

Edgewood Elementary School

Teresa M. Bowers

“Fire from the Earth, Fire in the Sky: Embracing My Inner Science Geek”—explore extreme weather, volcanoes and astronomy; develop student presentations about severe weather

MISHAWAKA

School City of Mishawaka

Penn High School

Joseph Karanja and Kevin T. McNulty

“Unsung Kenyan Hero: Njaaga Karanja”—produce a documentary film and written biography of Joseph’s father, Njaaga Karanja, detailing his role in the Mau Mau revolt in Kenya

MONTICELLO

Twin Lakes School Corp.

Twin Lakes High School

Desiree R. Swaim

“Alien Invasion”—study the impact of alien species in Hawaii; work with local conservation organizations and launch conservation clubs at school

MT. VERNON

Mount Vernon Community School Corp.

Mount Vernon High School

Jeremy G. Spencer

“The Transformation of a Guitar and Its Guitarist”—build custom acoustic and electrical guitars; enhance skills as a guitar player; use both guitars in Introduction to Engineering Design course

MUNCIE

Burris Laboratory School

Kimberly A. Beal

“Unbridled Adventure”—take horseback-riding lessons; volunteer in an equine-assisted therapy program; create a community service project for students

Muncie Community Schools

Wilson Middle School

Anna K. Spencer

“Geometry in Art and Architecture”—explore and photograph geometric concepts in Indiana, Illinois, Ireland, Scotland and England

NASHVILLE

Brown County Schools

Brown County High School

Steven R. Makurat (2004)

“The Land of Fire and Ice”—investigate the geologic features and culture of Iceland

Brown County Junior High School

Wendy E. Weddle

“Limestone, Leaves and Lakes”—investigate Indiana state parks; study erosional features, history and recreational facilities in each park; test, measure and collect data while serving as “field researcher for the day” in several parks

NEW CASTLE

New Castle Community School Corp.

New Castle Area Alternative School/Parker Elementary School

Michelle L. Wood

“Inspiration by the World’s Great Artists”—study basic Italian language; study Renaissance artists, culture and history

Parker Elementary School

Kathryn A. Hunt

“My Personal Exodus: A Journey to Jerusalem”—travel to Israel to visit the site of stories told to her by her father; attend a storytelling workshop; learn digital storytelling; launch an after-school storytelling club

NEW PALESTINE

Community School Corp. of Southern Hancock County

Doe Creek Middle School

Christopher T. Young

“Alien Invasion”—study the impact of alien species in Hawaii; work with local conservation organizations and launch conservation clubs at school

NEW PARIS

Fairfield Community Schools

New Paris Elementary School

Brian M. Whirledge

“Icons and Echoes”—study Byzantine iconography and chant in the Eastern Orthodox Church

NOBLESVILLE

Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana

Guerin Catholic High School

John A. Wallace

“Antarctica: Continent of Ice, Snow and *Cool* Science”—hike, kayak and camp on the Antarctic Peninsula; learn about geography, wildlife and climate change from naturalists

Noblesville School Corp.

Noblesville Intermediate School

Lisa M. McFadden

“Clean Water for Kids!”—explore the accessibility of clean water in Indiana and rural South Africa; create a documentary about the importance of clean water worldwide

PERU

Peru Community Schools

Blair Pointe Elementary School

Katy C. Gray

“Unearthing My Creative Identity: Preserving Indiana’s Natural Splendor in Stained Glass”—create four stained glass panels inspired by exploring and photographing 28 nature preserves within the Acres Land Trust in Indiana

PLAINFIELD

Plainfield Community School Corp.

Plainfield Community Middle School

Rebekah J. Deal

“Just+Hope Bike Tour”—bicycle from Nova Scotia to New York City to raise awareness and support for people in Asia suffering from the cycle of poverty and injustice

RENSSELAER

Rensselaer Central School Corp.

Rensselaer Central High School

Heather Lyons

“Cultural Influence on Language, Geographical Influence on Culture”—interact with native Spanish speakers in Spain; identify cultural differences in specific geographic regions; investigate Celtic influences in Spain, Ireland and Scotland

SCOTTSBURG

Scott County District 2

Scottsburg Elementary School

Mary E. Jones

“Reaching for the Stars and Angels Above”—volunteer with the Angels Above Foundation in Estes Park, Colo.; learn to operate the astronomical observatory dome and telescope at the Estes Park Memorial Observatory; visit observatories in Indiana, Kentucky and Hawaii

SELMA

Liberty-Perry School Corp.

Selma Middle School

Robert C. Ross

“Going Van Gogh!”—explore the life and works of Vincent Van Gogh in France; immerse in “en plein air” painting in Southern Indiana

SHOALS

Shoals Community School Corp.

Shoals Jr./Sr. High School

Patricia K. Keefe

“Follow the Muse”—attend writers’ workshops in Indiana, Kentucky and North Carolina; submit completed manuscript for publication

SPENCER

Spencer-Owen Community Schools

Owen Valley Middle School

Stephanie A. Scales

“California Dreamin’: I’m Waxin’ Down My Surfboard”—fulfill a lifelong dream by enrolling in the Malibu Surf School; volunteer at weekly farmers’ markets and at Malibu High School’s organic garden; chronicle the adventure in photographs and video

TELL CITY

Tell City – Troy Township School Corp.

Tell City Jr./Sr. High School

Christopher J. Hollinden (assistant principal)

“The Toughest One-Day Event in America”—train for and participate in the Lake Placid Ironman event (2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike ride, 26.2-mile run); promote student wellness through a website documenting the experience; start a cycling club at school

TERRE HAUTE

Vigo County School Corp.

Benjamin Franklin Elementary School

Cindy L. Andrews

“You Can Take Me Away from the Sea; You Cannot Take the Sea out of Me”—explore and photograph North Carolina’s seashore, volunteer with the Topsail Sea Turtle project; author a children’s haiku book

Davis Park Elementary School

Amy S. Funkhouser

“Walking the Thin Blue Line: Helping a Community Grieve and Remember”—volunteer at the National Law Enforcement Officers’ Memorial in Washington, D.C.; prepare a children’s book for children of officers killed in the line of duty

TIPTON

Tipton Community School Corp.

Tipton Elementary School

Marsha L. Martin

“Harry Potteries”—explore settings for Harry Potter books; take pottery course; throw and build pottery based on research

Tipton High School

Gregory L. Wilson

“My Supreme Dream Machine”—design and build a gaming computer; apply basic and advanced math and physics concepts used during design and construction in classroom

VALPARAISO

East Porter County Community Schools

Morgan Township School

Shirley P. Howe

“Overcoming ‘Great Barriers’”—learn to scuba dive; explore local and Australian waters

WARSAW

Warsaw Community School Corp.

Warsaw Community High School

Christine M. Foster (2003)

“Concentricity”—volunteer at the Namibia Wildlife Sanctuary

WESTFIELD

Westfield Washington Schools

Monon Trail Elementary School

Linda C. Benson

“Following the Bremen Road”—travel and photograph the journey of the Brothers Grimm; learn storytelling traditions; produce a fairy-tale picture book

Shamrock Springs Elementary School

Darcy M. Kelly

“Turtles and Ticos: A Costa Rican Adventure and Beyond”—participate in sea turtle conservation and research; experience Costa Rican (Tico) culture, rainforests, volcanoes and cloud forests

WHEATFIELD

Kankakee Valley School Corp.

Kankakee Valley High School

Susan C. Kwiatkowski

“A Place of My Own”—take classes in basic carpentry; build a writing cottage

Wheatfield Elementary School

Kelly L. Jurkowski

“Digital Storytelling: A West African Adventure”—travel to Liberia to collect folk tales; compare stories from Africa with American folklore

WINAMAC

Eastern Pulaski Community School Corp.

Eastern Pulaski Elementary School

Mandy J. Bennett

“Capturing Expressions of a Lifetime”—acquire photography skills to take vivid and emotional photographs; capture first-time reactions to new landscapes and locations; enhance skills in digital photograph

Winamac Community High School

Jeremy M. Wegner

“Physics Phantasy Camp: The Pursuit of New Discovery in the Old World”—travel to physics institutions and science museums in Europe