

# Lilly Endowment Inc.

## Teacher Creativity Fellowship Program 2025



Fellowship recipients and project descriptions funded by grants of up to \$15,000

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

---

### ARCOLA

#### Northwest Allen County Schools

Arcola Elementary School

Hannah Winchester

“Water is Synonymous with Letting Go” - explore how “blue spaces” such as seas, coastlines, rivers, lakes, canals, waterfalls and fountains impact mental and physical health

### BATESVILLE

#### Batesville Community School Corporation

Batesville High School

Judd Klingerman

“Becoming Madrileño: A Cultural Immersion and Volunteer Experience” - study linguistics and religion while volunteering in Madrid

### BEECH GROVE

#### Beech Grove City Schools

Central Intermediate School

Matthew Laker (2015)

“Adventures in History: My Eastern European UNESCO Bike Odyssey” - nurture two passions, history and biking, while exploring Eastern European culture at UNESCO world heritage sites and taking part in a falconry class

### BLOOMINGTON

#### Monroe County Community School Corporation

Binford Elementary School

Michelle Hatfield

“Exploring the Secrets to Longevity in the Land of Immortals” - discover the principles of a healthy, fulfilled life and vibrant community by exploring the culture and practices that enhance the lives of centenarians in Japan’s Blue Zone and nearby areas

Bloomington Graduation School

Amy Davis

“Counselor’s Renaissance: Seeking Renewal and Inspiration by Exploring Italy’s Artistic and Architectural Wonders” - explore and study in Italian cities with rich architectural or artistic histories

Bloomington High School North

Swantje Domizlaff

“Hail the House!” - celebrate and study the religious and political spirit of the Covenanters by exploring the cottages of Scotland and Northern Ireland

Bloomington High School South

Lisa Parker

“Italy: Where Art Abounds” - take courses in photography, digital editing and ceramics; explore the arts and practice photography in Amalfi, Italy

Templeton Elementary School

Katie Zukof

“Craicing the Steps: Discovering the Exuberance of Irish Set Dancing and its Percussive Footwork” - travel to Ireland to explore percussive and social dancing, dance to world-class céilí bands and broaden understanding of Irish traditional culture

Tri-North Middle School

Martha Bowman

“Turn, Turn, Turn: Practicing Mindfulness and Achieving Flow Through Woodturning” - pursue self-care and a passion for creative crafting through woodturning workshops, exhibitions and individual practice

### **Richland-Bean Blossom Community School Corporation**

Edgewood Primary School

Matthew Wooden (2017)

“Connecting the Dots: Using Lego to Restore Order from Disorder” - collaborate with a Scottish Lego master and French pop artist to design a calm, organized, creative space for students experiencing personal struggles

### **BROWNSBURG**

#### **Brownsburg Community School Corporation**

Brown Elementary School

Lisa Gillihan (2015)

“What Was I Made For?” - experience German, Irish and Polynesian cultures through the lens of the Mattel’s Dolls of the World, connect with and learn from worldwide collectors and experts in toy preservation and establish a student collectors club

Brownsburg High School

Jason Gill

“Baby Lifting Back to Vietnam” - connect with others who were orphaned during the Vietnam War and return to Vietnam to explore the culture and find family’s origin

Brownsburg West Middle School

Teresa Fowler

“An Irish Blessing” - explore the intersection of Ireland’s music with its history and spirituality, experience the beauty of the land, visit ancient churches and castles, and enjoy local music and stories while researching Irish heritage and composing a choral piece in the Irish Choral style

Ruby Sopke

“Exploring the Origins of Braille: A Journey to Louis Braille’s Birthplace” - foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of Braille’s history and impact by visiting Louis Braille’s birthplace and the world’s first school for the blind in France; create video blogs to promote awareness of blind and low-vision communities

Reagan Elementary School

Laura Gardner

“Pushing Boundaries Physically and Artistically in Oahu” - seek nature, peace and tranquility while hiking the many terrains of Oahu and develop a body of artwork inspired by those experiences

## **CAMBRIDGE CITY**

### **Western Wayne Schools**

Lincoln Middle/High School

Randy Lear

“Leathering A Legacy” - learn the art of leatherworking from skilled artisans in Florence, Italy and create custom leather pieces to embody personal growth and legacy

## **CARMEL**

### **Carmel Clay Schools**

Carmel Middle School

James Dowell

“Discovering Australia’s Marine Wonders: A Scuba Diving Expedition to The Great Barrier Reef” - explore Australia’s iconic sights, snorkel and scuba dive along the coral reefs, view diverse marine life and volunteer through a program that helps to rebuild the reef

Jillian Moser

“Volcanic Ventures: Exploring the Geological Wonders of Hawaii” - study the geology of Hawaii through first-hand exploration and consultation with local scientists and researchers

### **University High School**

Mercedes Muñiz-Peredo (2014)

“Walking Around in The Land of Poets” - explore sites and areas where great Chilean writers lived, experiencing the world about which they wrote, tasting the local cuisine and creating a travel journal with local recipes

Adetola Akande

“OM Canada! A spiritual self-study through the Rocky Mountains” - engage in spiritual practices harmonizing body, mind and spirit while exploring the Canadian Rocky Mountains

## **CLINTON**

### **South Vermillion Community School Corporation**

South Vermillion Middle School

Elizabeth Shew

“The Homes That Built Me: Visiting Ancestral Authors’ Abodes” - explore personal heritage and rejuvenate writing skills while visiting the homes of “adopted ancestral authors” (Alcott, Emerson, Thoreau and Longfellow) in Massachusetts during the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution

## **COLUMBUS**

### **Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation**

Columbus North High School

Chad Russell

“Through the Pen and Lens” - explore history, art, architecture and cultures by traveling through some of Europe’s most historic ‘old towns’ and documenting the journey through photography and writing

Amelia Shaw

“Wandern mit Wasserfarben: Hiking with Watercolors” - travel to Austria to take a watercolor painting course led by a local artist and use new painting skills to capture beauty while hiking in the Alps

Columbus Signature Academy - Lincoln Campus

Brett Findley

“You’re Doing What?!? Finding Challenge, Renewal and Inspiration at 19,340 ft.” - prepare for a 16-day trek climbing Mount Kilimanjaro and take time for reflection while on the beaches of Zanzibar

Northside Middle School

Krista Riordan

“Wandering and Wondering, Connecting and Creating” - renew interest in crafting and creating by taking a mosaic making course and collecting unique items for new creations while visiting thrift shops along Route 66

Irishe Spurgeon

“#SheWrites: A Travel Writer’s Journey Through Women’s Words and Worlds” - attend a writer’s workshop and visit significant sites associated with renowned female authors in the United Kingdom; craft travel essays that reflect on insights gained from this experience

Southside Elementary School

Amanda Keele

“Reconnecting to My Roots: Recapturing, Rekindling and Remembering” - return to childhood home country of Belgium to reconnect with the people, places and culture

## CONVERSE

### **Oak Hill United School Corporation**

Converse Elementary School

Elizabeth Runyan

“A Renewed Way of Life: Around the Garden, Table and Outdoors” - travel to Ikaria, Greece, a Blue Zone, for an immersive experience into communal life; visit Boulder, Colorado for farm tours, hiking and rock climbing to experience a renewed way of life centered around garden, table and the outdoors

Oak Hill Junior High School

Elizabeth Boswell

“Take a Look, It’s in a Book (Rather, a Library): Renewing My Passion for Community Connection and Discovering the Integral Aspect of Small/Rural Libraries” - travel to award-winning libraries and explore how their local history and rich culture have made the library the heartbeat of their community; facilitate collaboration between local and school libraries

## CROWN POINT

### **Crown Point Community School Corporation**

Crown Point High School

Christopher Gloff

“Why Do I Feel Like a ‘Fake News’ Journalism Instructor...?” - investigate current broadcast journalism practices while working on news staffs in the top three television markets (New York, Los Angeles and Chicago); surf in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans and windsurf Lake Michigan

## DANVILLE

### Danville Community School Corporation

Danville Community High School

Abigail White

“Exploring American Wildscapes: Bringing U.S. Biomes to Life in High School Science” - engage in immersive national park experiences to inspire understanding of biodiversity, ecology and environmental stewardship

## EAST CHICAGO

### School City of East Chicago

East Chicago Central High School

Aaron Duncil

“Reading Across England: A Journey to Explore British Literary Landmarks and Theatrical Heritage” - travel to iconic sites in England, join museum tours and seek out theater experiences, providing immersive cultural enrichment

## ELKHART

### Concord Community Schools

Concord High School

Jeffrey Stutzman

“My Anabaptist Roots: Exploring Family History” - explore ancestry in the United States and Europe by visiting historical sites relevant to the Anabaptist movement and persecution in Switzerland and Germany

### Elkhart Community Schools

Elkhart High School

Eric Gates Jantzen

“The Glaciers are Calling, and I Must Go” - view climate change’s effect on Alaska’s dynamic glaciers and experience the beauty and diversity of the Alaskan wilderness

J.C. Rice Educational Services Center

Billie Jo Etchason (2007)

“Tick Tock Across Time: A Journey Through Europe’s Iconic Clocks and Cultures” - travel through Europe to visit iconic clocks, from Big Ben in London to cuckoo clocks in Germany’s Black Forest

## ELLETTSVILLE

### Richland-Bean Blossom Community School Corporation

Edgewood Junior High School

Meighan Scott-Jackson

“Green Giants: Living Lessons in the Art, Science and Mindset of Sustainable Living” - learn from Scandinavian communities leading the way in creative approaches to reducing personal and communal carbon footprints and use those lessons to inspire creative problem-solving at home

## **EVANSVILLE**

### **Catholic Diocese of Evansville**

Annunciation Catholic School at Christ the King

Matthew Moore

“Ironman - California: Anything is Possible!” - inspired by personal recovery from alcoholism, train for and complete a full Ironman

Reitz Memorial High School

Elizabeth Browning

“Alaskan Dreams: My Cross-Continental Odyssey from the Hoosier State to the Land of the Midnight Sun” - explore and photograph wild spaces and offbeat places on a 5000-mile journey from Indiana to Alaska

William Lismore

“Renewal by Definition” - return to homeland of England to experience the literary and lexicographical landmarks of Oxford and London and reunite with family

Resurrection Catholic School

Rebecca Humm

“Saints and Sports: Inspiration from the Source” - travel through southern Europe, from the birthplace of St. Thomas Aquinas to the birthplace of sports, reigniting a passion for athletics and seeking inspiration and renewal of body and spirit

### **Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation**

New Tech Institute High School

Christopher Gibson

“Retracing My Father’s Journey in the South Pacific aboard the U.S.S. San Diego” - commemorate the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II and remember a father’s naval service by retracing his path from California to Tokyo Bay

Signature School

Jacob Sunderlin

“Saudade: Living Through Poetry” - explore historical and cultural sites of Portuguese literary history and revitalize poetry practice by participating in a writing retreat to study the lyric concept of “saudade,” or a longing for something absent

## **FAIRMOUNT**

### **Madison-Grant United School Corporation**

Madison-Grant Jr./Sr. High School

Cherie Solms

“Nantucket Basketry Weaving: An Adventure of the Heart, History and Heirlooms” - study Nantucket basketry under master weavers in Massachusetts and North Carolina while creating a Nantucket Opera Basket inspired by the rich history of the island

## **FISHERS**

### **Hamilton Southeastern Schools**

Cumberland Road Elementary School

Jennifer Filka

“From Classroom to Author: Empowering My Writing Journey” - engage in a year-long writing program and a writer’s retreat with goal of publishing a book

Kimberly Shockley

“Walking in Their Footsteps” - through a series of cultural tours and immersion experiences, embrace African and Caribbean culture and traditions

Fishers High School

Lizette Baumann

“Finding My Creative Spark Again: Fashion, Literature and Watercolors in England and Paris” - study and practice watercolor painting techniques while visiting the sites of novels in the English countryside and exploring the iconic fashion atmosphere in Paris

Daniel Reddan

“Hawaii Sharks, Volcano, and Stars” - honor parents’ memories by traveling to Hawaii to study oceanic life, fulfill dream of swimming with sharks, visit an observatory and witness an active volcano

Thorpe Creek Elementary

Leslie Hopper

“Awe, Awwwww, and YEEHAW!: A Horse-Crazy Girl Rides Again!” - rediscover riding skills and engage in hands-on experiences with horses while visiting dude ranches in Colorado

Laura Ndabari (2014)

“The Least Visited Countries” - explore some of the hardest to reach and least visited countries on the planet by venturing through islands in the Pacific Ocean



## FLOYDS KNOBS

### New Albany-Floyd County Schools

Floyd Central High School

Karen Mayer-Sebastian

“Creative Escape with the Greats” - engage in a reading and writing journey through Europe that includes creativity workshops, visits to famous writers’ spots and celebrations of famous authors; create and prepare to submit personal writing for publication

## FORT BRANCH

### South Gibson School Corporation

Fort Branch Community School

Tricia Snow

“A Hundred Hours of Hiking: A Grand, Bad, Stonier Me” - practice journaling, devotion and photography while soaking in the beauty and peace of nature during 100 hours of hiking through Grand Teton, Badlands, Yellowstone and Glacier national parks

## FORT WAYNE

### Northwest Allen County Schools

Hickory Center Elementary School

Tonya Chastain

“Wabi Sabi Wanderlust: A Sister’s Quest to Embrace Imperfection in Japan” - learn how the Japanese philosophy of wabi sabi (embracing imperfection) can impact personal life and experience a grief healing journey through the tranquil places and practices of Japan

### Southwest Allen County Schools

Homestead High School

Jason Beer

“From Page to Path: A Father and Son’s British Adventure” - explore the cities and countryside of beloved literature while traveling by foot and rail as a father-son pair through England and Scotland and absorb the healing powers of nature

Tanya Dely

“Mastering Nutrition in Paris” - spend 90 days in the culinary capital of the world while attending the famed Le Cordon Bleu Paris Institute

## FRANKFORT

### Community Schools of Frankfort

Wildcat Creek Career Cooperative

Georgia Everett (2015)

“Exchanging with Exchange Students” - reconnect with and experience the daily lives, school systems and cultures of family’s six exchange students by visiting their home countries

## **FRANKLIN**

### **Franklin Community Schools**

Franklin Community High School

Jonathan Kowalczyk

“I Want to See Mountains Again, Gandalf” - trek mountains and seek adventure in the unique national parks of the western United States

## **GOSHEN**

### **Goshen Community Schools**

Goshen Junior High School

Marilyn Torres

“Levantamiento Nuestras Voces: Lifting Our Voices” - study Spanish language and Mexican culture by staying with a host-family in Cuernavaca, Mexico

## **GRANGER**

### **Catholic Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend**

St. Pius X Catholic School

Kelly Lohr (2016)

“Manawa e Alohilohi ai (My Time to Shine)” - overcome fears of failure by participating in activities beyond comfort zone in Hawaii

## **GREENFIELD**

### **Greenfield-Central Schools**

Greenfield-Central High School

Kevin Adams (2007)

“From Minnesang to A Song of Mine” - rekindle passion for writing and improve musical skills while tracing the steps of world-famous composers and poets in Italy, Austria and Germany

## **GREENWOOD**

### **Central Nine Career Center**

Christina Todd

“Spiritual Spaces and Family Places: Reconnecting with Faith and Family in Ireland” - explore the history, spirituality and culture of Ireland and its interconnectedness to personal faith and family history

## **Greenwood Community School Corporation**

Greenwood Community High School

Madeleine Waters

“Exploring Business Innovation and Employee Well-Being” - study employee well-being practices of Finland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Germany and the United Kingdom and integrate findings into high school curriculum

## **HAMMOND**

### **Catholic Diocese of Gary**

Bishop Noll Institute

Jennifer Gwiazda

“Getting Fired Up!: Exploring Ceramics and Art in Italy” - improve ceramics creativity through enhancements to an at-home ceramics studio and travels to Italy for a ceramics retreat and exploration of Rome’s artwork, architecture and culture

## **HIGHLAND**

### **School Town of Highland**

Highland Middle School

Donna Scheidt

“Flat Stanley Gets a Facelift...and Becomes ‘Take Ty Too’” - process personal grief by visiting beautiful and inspirational sites around the country with family to memorialize son

## **INDIANAPOLIS**

### **Cathedral High School**

Mark Matthews (2012)

“Echoes of Valor: The 80th Anniversary of Victory in Europe and our 40th Anniversary of Marriage” - commemorate the anniversary of allied forces victory in Europe by visiting American military cemeteries to lay wreaths honoring those who lost their lives; renew marriage vows

### **Catholic Archdiocese of Indianapolis**

Roncalli High School

Kevin Banich

“Teeing It Up to Make the Cut: A Principal’s Journey to Compare Scores Against the World’s Best” - travel the California coast to play some of the most iconic golf courses in PGA Tour history and compare scores against the professionals

Jennifer Garro

“Brushstrokes and Bliss: Masterpieces Amidst the Canadian Rockies” - pursue renewal and creativity through painting courses and plein air sessions in the Canadian Rockies to capture the parks’ serenity and breathtaking landscapes

St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic School

Melissa Sechrist

“Art is a Gift of Nature” - gain appreciation of Native American cultures by visiting Navajo Tribal Parks, Blackfeet Nation and national parks to better understand Indigenous art techniques, traditions and symbolism

### **Covenant Christian High School**

Seth Wooten

“‘Solvitur Ambulando’ (It is Solved by Walking)” - seek self-reflection while walking the historic Camino de Santiago in Spain

### **Herron Classical Schools**

Herron High School

Eric Burgeson

“Healing With Jazz” - isolate for nine days in Northern Minnesota to focus, improvise and compose; distill lessons learned from studying scores and live concerts to produce an original musical composition

### **Indianapolis Public Schools**

Arsenal Technical High School

Josh Goodman

“Ngumu Safari (Rugged Adventure)” - bikepack, hike and participate in a safari tour through East Africa

Broad Ripple Middle School

Jeremy Baugh

“From Leadership to Harmony: Rediscovering Passion through the Steel Pan” - explore musical roots by attending the steel pan festivals in Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados; purchase a steel pan and study with a pan professional

Brandon Denning

“The Benefits of Duality: Isolation and Community” - explore the revitalizing effects of two opposing ideologies - isolation and community - by hiking the Camino Primitivo and exploring major cities in Spain and Portugal

Brookside School 54

Shauna Lipscomb

“Renewing My Faith: A Journey Through the History of Christianity” - gain a deeper understanding of the historical roots of Christianity through visiting ancient sites in Turkey and Greece

Eliza Blaker School 55 - A Butler Lab School

Robin Houdek

“Reigniting the Artist Within: A Journey of Creative Renewal in Italy” - seek inspiration for making art by learning from artists, exploring diverse places and reflecting on adventures through a visual journal

Ralph Waldo Emerson School 58

Emily Slavens

“No Damsel in Distress” - enhance skills at an internationally renowned woodworking school and return to teach young women and mothers basic home repair skills

Shortridge High School

Elizabeth Hoyt

“Love Languages: Learning Spanish to Effectively and Empathetically Communicate with Others” - learn Spanish at a two-week intensive language school in Antigua, Guatemala, and utilize new language skills on an immersive trip throughout Mexico

Simon Youth Graduation Academy

Lon Amstutz (1998)

“Pilgrimage on California El Camino Real” - visit the 21 missions on the California El Camino Real, reflecting and praying at each site

Washington Irving Elementary School 14

Hunter Sesemann

“Exploring the History and Resilience of Indigenous Latin American Civilizations” - seek inspiration through exploring the history and endurance of Indigenous cultures in Latin America

**International School of Indiana**

Jenny Howell

“Filling the Vacuum of Missed Opportunities in Japan: Immersion into Mindfulness” - hike the Kumano Kodo trail and engage in language classes and immersive cultural opportunities

## **Invent Learning Hub**

Carrie Bennett

“Meditation from Sea to Calming Sea - A Journey to Some of the Nation’s Most Remote National Parks” – practice grounding exercises in eight national parks located on islands in and near shores of the Pacific and Atlantic oceans

## **MSD of Lawrence Township**

Lawrence Central High School

Deena Fogle

“An Artist This Whole Time” - nurture passion for glassblowing by participating in a summer intensive at Pilchuck Glass School, taking local glass class and visiting Venice and Murano in Italy

Megan Stroble

“The Teacher Becomes the Student” – engage in intensive French-language classes with the goal of better serving Haitian students and their families; explore the rich history of art and architecture in Spain

## **MSD of Washington Township**

Eastwood Middle School

Kaitlin Fields

“A Journey Through the Patagonia Wilderness” - explore Patagonia’s wilderness to reaffirm belief that immersion in nature is an essential and necessary part of life

North Central High School

Joe Weller

“Aloha Healing: Renewal and Health by Exploring Therapeutic Landscapes and Practice” - explore eco-therapy and traditional healing practices to address adolescent mental health

## **MSD of Wayne Township**

Ben Davis High School

Katrina Dawson

“Those who CAN, Teach: A Teacher’s Seoul Search Via Creative Writing” - travel to birth country, South Korea, to visit important familial landmarks and document experiences for a personal creative writing project

Zachary Smith

“Trailing the ‘Thunder from Heaven’” - retrace a great-grandfather’s path with the U.S. Army’s 17th Airborne Division during World War II

## **The Oaks Academy**

The Oaks Academy, Fall Creek

Adriana Passarelli

“Imprints of the Past, Designs on the Future: Learning the Ancient Art of Japanese Shibori” - learn Shibori, the technique of manipulating fabrics to achieve a wide variety of patterns, from experienced artisans in Japan

The Oaks Academy, Martindale-Brightwood

James Johnson

“Art in the Crossfire: Preserving Culture from World War II to Today” - travel to Paris and London to research the courageous efforts of the French and British to protect cultural heritage from Nazi looting and bombardment

Kena Updike

“Knitting in Scandinavia” - learn new knitting patterns by traveling to Denmark and Norway; share knowledge with school knitting club

## **Perry Township Schools**

Douglas MacArthur Kindergarten Academy

Nicole Jewell (1998)

“Sweet Aspirations: A Journey from Baking Beginnings to Culinary Dreams” - study at Le Cordon Bleu and engage in immersive culinary experiences to challenge and hone baking skills

Southport High School

Erin Ancelet

“Coast to Coast Quest: Hiking the El Camino in Costa Rica” - hike the 174-mile-long El Camino in Costa Rica to experience the nation’s culture, history and geography

## **Sycamore School**

Brandon Fitzsimmons

“Where to Begin: Remote Intercultural Relationships and Their Enduring Impact” - connect and learn from those who live and thrive in Southern Africa, Central Asia and the South Seas

## **JEFFERSONVILLE**

### **Greater Clark County Schools**

Jeffersonville High School

Ginger Sper-Whitis (2012)

“Transportation by Planes, Trains, Trucks and Trailers to Ride the Pony Express into the Future” - learn leadership skills by participating in a commemorative reenactment ride of the Pony Express; memorialize the experience and reflections in a personal photo diary

## **KNIGHTSTOWN**

### **Charles A. Beard Memorial School Corporation**

Knightstown Elementary School

Carolyn Shryock

“Africa is NOT a Country!” - experience the rich and diverse environments and cultures of several southern African countries

## **LEBANON**

### **Lebanon Community School Corporation**

Lebanon Middle School

Michele Shultz

“An Antarctic Adventure: Following the Footsteps of Dad” - renew a familial tradition of nature excursions through a journey to the seventh continent

## **MARTINSVILLE**

### **MSD of Martinsville**

John R. Wooden Middle School

Christine Long (2017)

“From Times Square to the Thames: A Tale of Two Broadways” - renew love for musical theater through exploring musical theater in New York and London

## **MICHIGAN CITY**

### **Michigan City Area Schools**

Knapp Elementary School

Sarah Hernandez

“Wandering Through the Pages” - explore the real-world locations of beloved novels to deepen personal connection with the stories

## **MIDDLEBURY**

### **Middlebury Community Schools**

Heritage Intermediate School

Carla Kasten

“Pasta, Pedal, Replenish: Cooking and Cycling through Italy to Feed the Body and Mind” - pursue physical and spiritual renewal through professional-led cooking classes and bike tours through the scenic Italian countryside

## **MONTICELLO**

### **Twin Lakes School Corporation**

Twin Lakes Senior High School

Samantha McAtee



"Family Tapestry: A Journey of Legacy and Renewal" - interview parents for a family history book to be compiled on a restorative retreat to Michigan's Upper Peninsula

## **MUNCIE**

### **The Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities**

Jessica Edrington

"Recognizing and Celebrating Women in Mathematics" - cultivate an appreciation for women's history through visits to Alexandria, Milan, Göttingen, Bletchley Park and other sites where women made significant contributions to mathematics

Joel Olufowote

"Poetry, Performance and the Politics of Pedagogy for the Gifted" - explore how hip-hop and sport, two sociocultural motivators in Black communities, provide pedagogical insight to better identify and improve the achievements of gifted Black youth

### **Muncie Community Schools**

Muncie Central High School

Christopher Smith

"In The Footsteps of Lewis and Clark" - participate in a cultural exploration of the two remaining pristine portions of the Lewis and Clark Trail

## **NASHVILLE**

### **Brown County Schools**

Brown County Middle School

Rose Cannon

"Dynamic Landscapes: Investigating South Korea's Geological Heritage" - travel to South Korea to rekindle love of geology and history and bring samples, photos and stories back to classroom to deepen interest and understanding in earth science

## **NEW CARLISLE**

### **New Prairie United School Corporation**

New Prairie High School

Jessica Sinka

"A Thrill for the Senses: A Writing Journey through the Historic Towns of the Oregon Coast" - explore the Pacific Northwest while pursuing a dream of becoming a published author

## **NEW PEKIN**

### **East Washington School Corporation**

Eastern High School

Joshua Medlock

“Rails, Trails and Sails: A Whistle Stop Tour of the American West” - travel solo across the American West via train to hike and photograph the diverse landscapes at national parks along the way

## **NOBLESVILLE**

### **Hamilton Southeastern Schools**

FOCUS

Brandy McDowell

“Belonging, Community, and Connection in a Global World: Reflection in West Africa” - explore questions of belonging and connectedness through cultural immersion in Ghana and Senegal

### **Noblesville Schools**

North Elementary School

Courtney Chamberlin

“Following My Grandparents’ Footsteps Throughout the World” - honor grandparents’ legacy by learning the art of landscape painting in California and Europe

## **NORTH MANCHESTER**

### **Manchester Community Schools**

Manchester Jr-Sr High School

Sarah Newton

“Echoes of the Maya: Transforming Classrooms with Guatemalan Wisdom” - travel to Antigua to study the culture and language, develop connections with local educators and volunteer with nonprofits

## **OLDENBURG**

### **Oldenburg Academy**

Helen Yane

“Seeking Sustainability: A Tour of Slovenia’s Green Initiatives, Commitment to Biodiversity, and Slow Farm Economy” - travel to a country at the forefront of the world’s sustainability efforts to learn about sustainable development and environmental protection

## **OOLITIC**

### **North Lawrence Community Schools**

Dollens Elementary School

Barbara Julian

“With Every Stitch” - learn and become skilled in the traditional art of hand quilting; complete a quilt inspired by an educational, quilt-related road trip

## **PLAINFIELD**

### **Plainfield Community School Corporation**

Plainfield High School  
Brent Schwanekamp

“Focus, Flow and Frame: An Educator’s Path to Resilience” - reduce stress and foster resilience by nurturing exploration of meditation, yoga and photography while participating in state park retreats

## **ROACHDALE**

### **North Putnam Community Schools**

North Putnam High School  
Alisa Isaacs-Bailey (2005)

“Searching for My Spirit Bear” - connect with the living story of the Tlingit people while being rejuvenated by the beauty of the wildlife, trees, mountains and waters of Alaska

## **ROCHESTER**

### **Rochester Community School Corporation**

Riddle Elementary School  
Joanna Johnson

“Studying Ancient Greece and Italy, and Learning to ‘Empty Nest’ Gracefully” - explore the relationship between myth and history through travel to archaeologically significant sites in Greece and Italy

## **SELLERSBURG**

### **Silver Creek School Corporation**

Silver Creek High School  
Dee Kramer

“A PLOWerful Experience: A Teacher’s Apprenticeship with the Amish” - practice a simpler life by working with the Amish community to learn how to plow, plant and gather hay using horses and horse drawn equipment

## **SEYMOUR**

### **Seymour Community Schools**

Seymour High School  
Shelly Burnside

“Stepping Beyond the Pavement to the Trails of Tranquility” - advance from walking the paved local roads to training on the rugged trails of Indiana state parks, culminating in a 103-mile alpine trek across Tour du Mont Blanc through Switzerland, Italy and France

## SHERIDAN

### Sheridan Community Schools

Sheridan Middle School

Johnny McGinnis

“Riding the Rails: A Journey to Honor the Past, Accept the Present, and Bring in the Future” - seek healing through a series of rail-themed expeditions that honor family traditions

## SOUTH BEND

### Good Shepherd Montessori School

Joshua Kaiser

“Unfinished Business: Recovering My Story of Life Abroad and Discovering New Paths of Growth” - walk the Cotswold Way in England and the Fife Coastal Path in Scotland, recovering the story of time spent living in the United Kingdom and recording reflections through writing

### South Bend Community School Corporation

Adams High School

Edoarda Pérez Sanchez

“Knitting Amongst the Puffins: Preserving the Art of Fair Isle” - explore the Shetland archipelago, learn about the islands’ rich history and colorful wildlife, and become part of the preservation of knitting, a heritage craft

Muessel Elementary School

Joyce Bilbrey

“Hope Renewed After Adversity” - return to Croatia after 34 years to learn how the country recovered and healed

## VERSAILLES

### South Ripley Community School Corporation

South Ripley Elementary School

David Brawner (1999)

“The Pursuit of Pompeii” - join an archaeological team to help excavate part of the ancient Roman city of Pompeii

## WASHINGTON

### Washington Community Schools

Washington High School

Valerie Clarke

“One National Park: Many Perspectives” - hike, journal and photograph in Rocky Mountain National Park

## WESTFIELD

### Westfield-Washington Schools

Westfield High School

James Quirke

“Hiking and Biking with the Boys” - experience the silence of national parks, forests and the Pacific Coast Highway through rigorous hiking and biking in areas that are not accessible to electronic communications

Jennifer Yoder

“Collecting and Connecting with Myself on Kilimanjaro” - climb Mt. Kilimanjaro to reconnect with the world and its beautiful environment

## WHITELAND

### Clark-Pleasant Community School Corporation

Pleasant Crossing Elementary

Nicole Edens

“Illuminating the Path of Education” - revitalize teaching practice through a series of historic lighthouse visits from coast to coast

## WHITING

### School City of Whiting

Nathan Hale Elementary School

Julie Pearson

“Serenity Through the Seasons” - pursue a love of learning surrounded by nature, habitats and wildlife in a variety of restorative settings through all four seasons

## WINCHESTER

### Randolph Central School District

Lee L. Driver Middle School

Joel Weigand

“Tales and Trails with Louis L’Amour” - visit old western towns, ranches and landscapes featured in Louis L’Amour books

## YORKTOWN

### Yorktown Community Schools

Linda Smith (multiple schools)

"In Darwin's Wake: A Journey of Science and Storytelling in the Galapagos" - combine children's book-writing, vlogging and a journey inspired by Darwin's scientific investigation to foster a love for storytelling and science

## ZIONSVILLE

### Zionsville Community Schools

Eagle Elementary School

Andrew Foreman

"Catching the Wave of Perspective and Bridging Generational Gaps" - connect with nature and family heritage through surf lessons and cultural experiences in Hawaii

Trailside Elementary School

Marissa Argus

"Discovering Ikigai: A Study of Purpose and Wellbeing in Japanese Culture" - gain knowledge, inspiration and a sense of purpose by studying the Japanese concept of ikigai