

# The Helena Education Foundation awards Spring 2013 Great Ideas Grants!



## 1. ABC, 123: English, Math and Carpentry

**Teacher Recipient:** Clay Burkett

**School:** Helena High School

**Sponsor:** Valley Bank

Industrial arts students will design and build a geometric themed cutting board or serving tray. This project-based approach to learning includes literacy as well as math lessons in symmetry, tessellations, polygons and angles. Upon completion, students will write “How to” articles with the help of a technical writing peer mentor.

## 2. An iPad=iSee, iHear, iLearn

**Teacher Recipient:** Stacy Svaleson

**School:** Warren Elementary

**Sponsor:** Brian Morris and Cherche Prezeau

This project will focus on implementing iPads for customized instruction in subjects such as reading, math, written language, science, social studies as well as speech and language. Special needs students will have various opportunities to use and learn from this technology in a fun and educational way.

## 3. Biography Bistro

**Teacher Recipient:** Jodi Delaney

**School:** Broadwater Elementary

**Sponsor:** Sue Clarke Memorial

“Biography Bistro” is a student-run fully functioning restaurant: real food for real money. Students will transform into a full spectrum of trained service staff while also dressing and acting as historical figures they have researched and about whom they have written biographies. Students will apply skills from various subject areas in this hands-on event.

## 4. Frozen Treat

**Teacher Recipient:** Mary Seitz

**School:** Jefferson Elementary

**Sponsor:** St. Peter’s Hospital

This “Frozen Treat” will give students the opportunity to learn how to ice skate at a new skating rink in Jefferson’s front yard. Ice skates will be purchased for students to use during P.E. and recess, and the rink will be open to the neighborhood community during the winter season.

# Congratulations!

Helena Education Foundation  
Spring 2013 Grant Recipients

## 5. GeoBots...Roll Out!

**Teacher Recipient:** Jim Schulz

**School:** Helena High School

**Sponsor:** Helena High Class of ‘62

Earth science and physics teachers will use robotics to instruct and enhance core concepts in each discipline. In earth science, students will design and create GeoBots that can be programmed to navigate Martian-like terrain to acquire geologic samples for identification and analysis just like the NASA Mars Rovers. Physics students will design and program the robots to demonstrate the laws and principles of physics.

## 6. How I Made My First Million

**Teacher Recipient:** Pat Murphy

**School:** Capital High School

**Sponsor:** Allegra Print & Imaging

The computer science landscape is rapidly changing from desktop programs to mobile device applications. This grant will allow students to test the mobile apps they have designed on an android based cell phone. By having an android mobile device, students can learn how to expand their apps to include the GPS, photo, sound and accelerometer functions of a mobile device.

## 7. iMemories

**Teacher Recipient:** Abby Kuhl

**School:** Bryant Elementary School

**Sponsor:** Mark and Sherri Johnston

“iMemories” allows kindergarteners to create a self-directed digital portfolio. Students will evaluate which projects they would like to preserve using an iPad mini as well as the applications iPhoto and iMovie to create a DVD of their kindergarten year. The iPad minis will be used to enhance learning in other subject areas as well, such as reading and math.

## 8. Infinite “App”ortunities

**Teacher Recipient:**

Jennifer Mooney

**School:** Helena Middle School

**Sponsor:** Jenny, John, Caswell and  
Audrey Bloomquist

Math will come alive through the use of iPads in each of the middle school math classrooms. Students will be more engaged due to the hands-on nature of this technology. From games to research, videos and more, students will use math in ways they didn’t know possible.

## 9. Kindle Our Fire for Reading

**Teacher Recipient:** Justine Alberts

**School:** Kessler Elementary

**Sponsor:** Independent Record

Teachers utilizing the Kindle Fire will create technology-enriched Language Arts opportunities for students and will provide new reading methods for many groups of students. Using new technology not only appeals to their interests, it fosters higher level inquiry, encourages new book choices and most importantly, increases students’ desire to read!

## 10. Powermax 85

**Teacher Recipient:** Cindy Galbavy

**School:** Helena High School

**Sponsor:** Mountain West Bank

There is going to be a new plasma cutter in the Helena High welding department, the Hypotherm Powermax85. This new equipment will ignite students’ interest, enhance their understanding of new technology in the industry and expand their skills, which will give them more marketable job experience and training.

## Showcasing Grant sponsors:

“Investing in HEF sends a message about the importance of each student and teacher—the belief and support our community has for them and the future. Nelson Mandela says it best: *Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.*”

—Toni Broadbent, Allegra Print & Imaging

More exciting  
events coming from  
HEF this year:

- ★ Leadership Institute
- ★ A Celebration of Excellence
- ★ Vigilante Academy
- ★ Trading Places
- ★ Great Conversations

Find out more at [hefmt.org](http://hefmt.org)





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To date, HEF has awarded 219 grants, totalling more than **\$416,500** and involving over **85%** of Helena teachers, including:



- 91** High school grants
- 47** Middle school grants
- 7** PAL grants
- 74** Elementary school grants

**Great Ideas Grants enhance the education and experiences of virtually all of Helena's 8,000 students!**



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## What is the Great Ideas Grant Program?

Great Ideas Grants put money directly into the hands of classroom teachers, empowering educators to turn their ideas for innovative teaching strategies into action.

- Grants are named after major donors to the Helena Education Foundation. The amounts of the grants do not reflect the contribution of the donor.

## Highlighting Grant sponsors:

"Supporting public education is a tradition that has been passed down for many generations in our family. We want to share these values with our children, fostering their love of learning and appreciation for educators who have dedicated their lives to the profession. It is gratitude and hope for the future that motivates us to support the Helena Education Foundation."

—Jenny and John Bloomquist



*Great Schools are Everyone's Business.*





# Would you or your business like to sponsor a Great Ideas Grant or give a gift to the Helena Education Foundation?

Make an investment in the future of your community today! Thanks to so many generous supporters, Great Ideas Grants have helped make 209 great ideas a reality. Here are some grant highlights:

- ▶ **Hand in Hand: One School, One Book:** A miraculous journey is about to begin...imagine the learning opportunities when staff and students along with their families are all reading *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* at the same time! This is a project designed to create a shared reading experience throughout the Central Elementary School community.
- ▶ **Gone Fishing:** Montana is “The Last Best Place” and Capital High is ready to infuse students with enthusiasm for the great outdoors. Our geography lends itself to many different fishing styles and experiences, where people can fish in lakes, ponds, streams and rivers. This grant provides students with the equipment they will need to experience fishing and get hooked on this lifetime sport.
- ▶ **Movies in Our Hands** will turn C.R. Anderson Middle School music students into movie producers! Using the powerful media recording and editing capabilities of the iPod Touch and drawing on disciplines outside the music classroom, students will turn an idea for a movie into a reality. Students will explore a different avenue of their musical and artistic selves, bringing energy to their work on performance skills and providing a new way to share their music.
- ▶ **Bones & Eyes: Oh, the Stories They Tell about You!** The Biomedical Sciences Pathway classes allow students to experience a variety of current job skills and opportunities available to them in the medical sciences. By providing hands-on experiences using models of the human eye and bone identification kits, students at Helena High are gaining valuable laboratory and critical thinking skills while learning about career options in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).
- ▶ **An Apple a Day** will put iPod Touch devices in the hands of first graders at Four Georgians Elementary to help them increase reading and math fluency. This 21st Century technology meets students at their learning curve, and provides an innovative student engagement technique to supplement traditional teaching methods.
- ▶ **Building Future Engineers through Lego Robotics** will allow Kessler Elementary students to draw on their imagination and the engineering process to construct Lego Mindstorms NTX Robots. With the help of their robot, students will use cross disciplinary skills to complete a series of challenges and solve problems connected to their community and the real world.

## For more information about Helena Education Foundation upcoming events and programs, please visit HEF online at [hefmt.org](http://hefmt.org)

The **MISSION** of the Helena Education Foundation is to enrich education in the Helena Public Schools through consistent community investment of time, talent, funding and other resources, providing students, staff and the community with unparalleled educational opportunities and experiences. The Foundation will achieve its mission by directing resources toward the following **GOALS**:

- Promote the understanding that everyone in the community is responsible for creating quality public education
- Inspire parents, businesses and the community to participate with the school district in enriching education
- Celebrate student academic success
- Increase the visibility and value of Helena public schools
- Recognize staff for creative and innovative teaching



**YES!** I believe great schools are everyone’s business. I want to support this important public education partnership

**Method of Payment:**

- ☐ Check enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (make checks payable to Helena Education Foundation)
- ☐ I’d like to pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (please bill me)
- ☐ Please contact me regarding a planned gift or gift of securities or other assets

The Foundation is a legally incorporated, not-for-profit 501(c)(3) charitable and educational corporation, allowed to receive and distribute funds, property and gifts of any kind for the benefit of public schools located in Helena. It also maintains a qualified endowment. Planned gifts are eligible for the Montana State Tax Credit. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

**Send to:** Helena Education Foundation  
PO Box 792  
Helena, MT 59624

Credit card payments are accepted online at [www.hefmt.org](http://www.hefmt.org)



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How would you like to be listed? \_\_\_\_\_

I am a graduate/former student of the Helena Public Schools:

School: \_\_\_\_\_ When/Graduation year: \_\_\_\_\_