

“VIE” Grants Program Wraps Up Its Second Year and Invites Applicants for 2019

The Vian Community Foundation’s “VIE – for Vian” grants program is entering its third year. The VIE program recognizes and congratulates its 2018 recipients, and seeks applicants for 2019.

“V.I.E.” – Vian’s Innovators and Educators – is a “mini-grants” program that funds projects benefitting Vian schools or the Vian community. Program materials describe VIE as a sort of “Booster Club” for academic, cultural, and civic projects. VIE will have \$10,000 available for grants in 2019 to fund about 8 grants to local volunteers, teachers, or community leaders. Applications are requested by June 1, 2019.

The VIE Committee and the Community Foundation also thank and congratulate the 2018 VIE grant winners:

- * Rachelle Batesol: Aquaponics/hydroponics project for the high school botany program.
- * Cindy Rogers: Electronics kits for middle school science.
- * Marilyn Oliver: ProScope electronic microscopes for the Middle School.
- * Lisa Rhodes: 30 ukuleles for the grade school music program.
- * Charlotte Trotter: “iFly” science and aerodynamics program for the Gifted and Talented program.
- * Cory Escojido: Language and performing arts project, including a field trip for a play.
- * Jacqueline Cook: Special projects for Vian Community Learning Center.
- * Melissa Winans: Theatre trip for 6th Grade English students.

Most 2017 and 2018 grants have been for school-related projects, but VIE Committee member Michelle Traw – one of the program’s sponsors and a former teacher herself -- emphasized that VIE is eager to find other types of community projects as well, for both youth and adults. VIE application materials explain that VIE’s goal is to “make things happen for Vian that would not otherwise happen without VIE,” especially by encouraging and funding applicants who are willing to volunteer substantial amounts of their own time to the projects.

The 2019 application form and further information are available at www.vie4vian.org, or by emailing viegrants@vie4vian.org.

The VIE program is administered by the Vian Community Foundation. VIE Committee members are Traw, Foundation Chairman Heath Eubanks, and VIE Committee Chair Jeff Cotner.

VIE is funded by donations from Vian alumni, merchants and residents. VIE sponsors include Richard Armstrong and Dr. Dlynn Armstrong, Dr. William and

Brandie Anderson, August and Jacquelyn Khilling, Dr. Bill and Jana Parker (Vian Eye Clinic), Dr. Pat and Suzanne Sullivan (Triton Health), John & Michelle Traw, Sally Armstrong, Jeff Cotner, and Hometown Oklahoma Development.

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