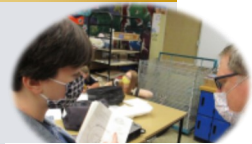


What a year ...
that being said ...
What a Year!



Kate Myers discussing her project ideas with muralist, Bernie Wilke.

Even though the Foundation's activities were dormant this past year due to COVID, some very exciting things made the year memorable.

- Donations continued to come in
 - A \$25K grant was received
 - Exciting projects were funded
- Enclosed in this newsletter are details about Kate Myers' Independent Project that resulted in another IUP ArtsPath Artist Residency; Angel Stahl's innovative approach to teaching computer science; a start-up t-shirt printing business for A-R, Inc.; and Ashley Jones' Innovative Project grant that combined STEM with Language Arts.

The generosity and commitment of our donors and trustees enable the Foundation to reach its goal of funding extraordinary learning experiences in STEM +A-Rts for Apollo-Ridge students--Thank you!

Cris Kostiuk, President

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Membership in the Apollo-Ridge Education Foundation is available in the following categories:

- ___LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP: \$500—ask about our payment plan!
- ___ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: \$25 per year July 1—June 30 — MUST BE RENEWED EACH YEAR!
- ___SUSTAINING: set up monthly donations at www.apollo-ridgeeducationfoundation.org/shop
- ___ONE-TIME GIFT: ___\$25 ___\$50 ___\$100 ___\$150 ___\$____Other
- ___IN MEMORY OR HONOR OF:_____

Checks may be made payable and mailed to:
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Print Name_____

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Learn how your generous support impacts the Foundation's Mission of funding extraordinary learning experiences in STEM +A-Rts for Apollo-Ridge students at

Apollo-RidgeEducationFoundation.Org

Donor Impact Statement

2020-2021

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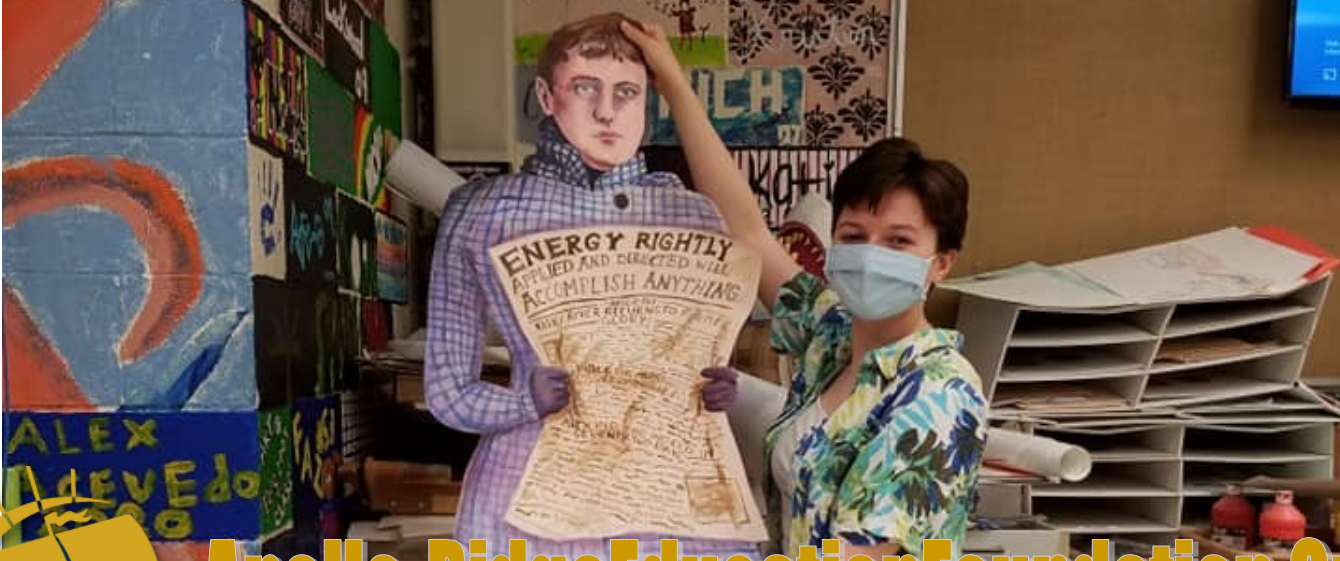


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Your donations through Amazon's SMILE program have increased from \$16.76 per quarter in 2014 to 159.29 in 2021!

thank you!



Apollo-RidgeEducationFoundation.Org
Funding Extraordinary Learning Experiences in STEM +A-Rts for Apollo-Ridge Students

ONLY RAIN DOWN THE DRAIN

Kate Myers' Independent Project Attracts Several Collaborators

What started off as a simple idea to paint murals on storm drains to educate passersby on the impact the drains have on the river that flows through Apollo quickly exploded into a collaboration that will gain regional, if not statewide, recognition for Junior **Kate Myers**.

In the fall of 2020 Kate's Gifted Support Teacher, **Danielle White**, reached out to the **Education Foundation** for assistance, since the Foundation had completed the large-scale mural in Apollo.

After contacting **ArtsPath**, a regional arts-in-education program in partnership with the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts and administered through **IUP**, it was determined that the project fit the criteria for an Artist-In-Residence program.

The project quickly gained support from the **Armstrong Conservation District** and **Apollo Borough**.

The Conservation District had contacted **Allegheny Ridge Corporation**, a not-for-profit organization charged with the restoration and development of the historic, cultural, and natural resources of the Allegheny Ridge Heritage Area, to see if there were any municipalities that were considering storm drain mu-

ral to satisfy MS4 requirements for their storm water separation projects.

Because of their involvement with the Apollo mural project, Allegheny Ridge contacted the Foundation and was delighted to find that a storm drain mural project was already in the planning stages.

Apollo Borough eagerly gave Kate access to the drains for her project. She also received permission from **Roaring Run Watershed Association** to place an educational sign at the trailhead in Kiski Township and asked the **Apollo Area Historical Society** to include the murals on their Walking Tour of Apollo interactive map. Several of the murals were on display at Apollo's May Daze event.

Kate solicited the help of the **students in her homeroom** and **Dan Barrett's high school art classes** to design and paint the murals.

The Armstrong Conservation District plans to use the project as a template to share with other municipalities who must meet the MCM1 requirement for their MS4 projects.



Taylor Kuntz's frog leaps off the parachute cloth! The students' designs were cut out and glued to the sidewalks near storm drains in Apollo. The Historical Society's interactive map notes the locations of the mini murals.

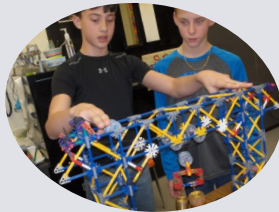
4th Annual Scholarship Recipient



JEFFREY KRUG
Grove City College
Jeffrey plans to major in Computer Science with a concentration in Artificial Intelligence or cybersecurity

Jeffrey's application stood out because he referenced specific extraordinary learning experiences like building a replica of the world's largest crane with K'nex kits.

The Foundation's \$1000 scholarship is funded by donations through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit program.



Donor Impact Statement

2020-2021

CSIM: Computer Science for Innovators & Makers*

Angel Stahl's involvement with ABC Create provides resources for her students to immerse themselves in designing, developing, programming, and testing innovative products for a digital future. During project-based learning students use creative, analytical, and critical thinking skills to solve problems for real-life biomedical science, robotic, physical computing, and health care needs.

Students responded to: *"How have the resources in the classroom impacted your education?"*

Jonathan Flickinger: "They allow me to complete certain projects differently. For example, in a writing, instead of just reading over it once, I started to read over it three to four times while putting myself in different perspectives."

Olivia Massari: "When we are coding something on our computers, it is cool to see what you were working on come to life through using the Microbits."

Aerianna Getty: "It has impacted my education by making me realize I don't have to do my work alone all the time and helping others can be fun."

Breydon Orvosh: "My education was impacted by making the course hands on instead of a bunch of notes on a board. I wouldn't have been able to complete the assignments without the vex parts, my computer, or PLTW."

Abigail Shearer: "I have learned how to pay attention to small things."

Isaiah Houser: "I wanna know how to code with the world that is coming up. Pretty soon the whole world is gonna be using technology and I wanna be ahead of the game and know how to do most of the stuff like coding."

*From a February 21, 2021, Tribune Review article by Mary Ann Thomas
ABC Create, a regional collaboration of educators devoted to student technological fluency, donated Hummingbird Robotics kits, developed by a Pittsburgh company, BirdBrain Technologies, to the district for about 10 students to work on their robots during mostly virtual instruction last semester. The Apollo-Ridge Education Foundation sponsors the district in ABC Create and provided money for other robotics equipment for the current semester used in a graphic arts class.



STEM MEETS LANGUAGE ARTS IN READ 180 CLASSROOM

The Foundation loved Ashley Jones' "Good Clean Learning" Innovative Projects grant, not only for its relevancy during a pandemic, but for its very innovative way to insert STEM into a reading lesson.

The first unit in Jones' Read 180 Curriculum is titled *Contagion* and features articles from past pandemics with a career focus on epidemiologists. Jones' grant allowed her to purchase a MIST Deluxe Glo Germ Kit that contained everything needed to present infection control demonstrations.

The students practiced hand washing, demonstrated how one infected object can spread germs to an entire class, learned how masks function as source control, and practiced washing surfaces. The students were amazed at how many germs they left behind after they washed their hands and how far a sneeze or a

cough can go.

Celina St. Antoine: "The things that I liked about the germs experiment was that we got to see and experience how gross the germs are when we sneeze and not wash our hands. I love the germ experiment because it was great for the kids to learn how disgusting germs are."

Jack Delo: "It was hard to get 100% of the powder off and it spread super easily around the room like real germs. It even got in areas nobody was at!"

Aliyah Crowell: "My favorite part about the project was when you passed the papers back and the germs (were) spread (student-to-student) by the paper. And using the black light on our hands. I thought that was really cool!"

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Dedicated to the Memory of Robert Shoemaker, Generous Donor

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Dr. John Kautz, Pat Held, & Joyce Kerchensky
Mark Fetterman imo Robert Shoemaker
Sharon & Harry Jaworskyj imo
Clare Kordello

Donors Make Wishes Come True!



BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU WISH FOR!

Dan Consuegra wished for programmable babies for the Child & Family Studies unit in the FCS curriculum. His wish came true and now he gets to babysit when students are taking tests so the "baby" doesn't disturb the other students.



Beck Andree won the 13th Annual Holiday Card Design Contest with his drawing of a reindeer-riding, candy cane-wielding Viking!



Aaron Worst installed the audio box and interpretive signs that accompany the mural in Apollo.



BOLO! The Senior Center received new signs thanks to Rae-Lyn Enterprises (metal donation) and the expertise of Tracy Weng using the poster printer for the vinyl wraps.

A-R, INC. STARTS T-SHIRT PRINTING BUSINESS THANKS TO \$25K ARCONIC GRANT

Travis Barta's wish for a garment printer for the Tech Ed program came true when the Arconic Foundation approved his \$25,000 grant request.

"We will utilize the grant funds to purchase multiple clothing printers for our Secondary STEM "shop". Our technology education teacher will embed it's use into multiple different classes, including our A-R Inc. course. The A-R Inc. classes will create and develop a business, design, marketing,

and sales model to help not only sustain the program, but to help grow it," wrote Barta in the grant application.

The plan is for A-R, Inc., students to create a successful business model that allows students to gain valuable experience and education in collaboration, graphics, marketing, sales, design, and communication.

"The fact that we will be able to integrate this grant into our current planned course

with minimal adaptations or changes speaks volumes about the fluidity of our curriculum and the creativity of our instructors," Barta concluded.

Since 2018, Alcoa/Arconic has donated \$100,000 to fund projects like the elementary greenhouses, the STEAM Center, and Project Lead the Way Launch.



The first large order was 100 t-shirts to honor Officer Stephen Mayhle who lost his life in the line of duty on April 4, 2009. Brooklyn & Jennifer Mayhle transferred to Apollo-Ridge High School last school year.



IMPACT STATEMENT

INCOME		EXPENSES	
EITC	\$29K	Programs	\$29K
Grants	\$25K	Admin	\$25K
Dues	\$3.6K		
Gifts	\$3K		

INNOVATIVE PROJECTS

Good Clean Learning
A-R Band Performance Library
Independent Interest Activity Boxes

WISH LISTS

Middle School SMART Panels for ALL
Open Broadcast System Studio
Child & Family Studies "Babies"
Tech Ed Drum Sander
HS TV Studio Tri-Caster

ARCONIC FOUNDATION GRANT
Print Shop

WHY WE GIVE ...

My dad was a very active individual in all aspects of the community. Any time volunteers were needed he was there. The A-R School District was very important to him, so on that note please accept this donation in memory of Harold K. Geiger.

—Cindy L. (Geiger) Vranka*

As a founding board member of the AREF (1996), there is great satisfaction in offering continued support for A-R innovative projects and educational activities across all grade levels. As a family we extend much gratitude to the Foundation leaders and to District educators who continue making a positive difference in the lives of children and youth through innovative educational programs, services, and activities.

—Debra & Bill Kerr
William H. Kerr Consulting, LLC**

I'm sharing my stimulus check with important organizations back in my hometown. Thanks for all you do to keep the A-R school system strong. I feel grateful for the foundational education I received at A-R high school (75-78), especially science & writing. And am grateful that AREF works to provide educational opportunities for future generations in the Apollo area. Keep up the great work please.

—Vicki Contie

*6th grade to Heinz History Center (2019) & 7th Grade to The Mummies Exhibit (2020)

**8th Grade to Gettysburg (2022)