'21 Summer News

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$58,700 Granted Out

Sixteen grants have been given out by the Apostle Islands and Chequamegon Bay Area Community Funds totaling $58,700. The grants have gone to local nonprofits and the City of Ashland for community-based programs.

“We are honored to distribute these grants which help sustain our vibrant, healthy communities,” said Ruth Oppedahl, director of the Community Funds. “These grants are possible because of the generous contributions of donors who have supported our endowments over the last twenty-one years and counting. Their endowment funds continue to grow as time goes on.”

If you are interested in creating a lasting legacy through an endowment or planned gift in your will. Please contact Ruth Oppedahl at 715-779-7021.

Growing and Sharing Local Food

With grants from the Apostle Islands Area Community Fund, Michael Madeline Island Fund, Grutzner Madeline Island Fund and the Chequama-Care Fund for COVID Response.

The CORE Community Resources through its new “Community Harvest” program will supply the Bayfield Food Pantry with fresh produce, grown by community members in their home gardens or in community gardens.

Akiing 8th Fire will collaborate with the Madeline Island Community Garden and St. John's UCC Food Shelf, to expand its production capacity by growing, harvesting, and distributing its farm products on Madeline Island using traditional indigenous and regenerative agricultural practices.

The Madeline Island Gardening Project’s “Growing Forward: Building Island Food Sovereignty” will build on last year’s success by continuing to expand member education and school outreach programs, and further improve growing space accomplished by manager Janet Moore and countless volunteers.

The La Pointe Center will again be sponsoring “Garden Masters Friday Farmers Market” bringing mainland farmers and their fresh produce to Madeline Island.
The Club has been viewed as Washburn's community center for over a century. However, it has not been open to the public for about a decade. Citizens lack a central gathering space. We hope the recent rejuvenation of this project will bring the community back together.”

An Adult Hobby Club will be established at the Washburn Club (the old Dupont Club). This program will help gather and engage senior citizens in arts, crafts, games and exercise, as well as providing time and space for socializing and community building.

Summer Youth Camps for Region’s Youth

Northwest CEP is planning two summer youth camps; one focusing on adolescent girls and one focusing on "at risk" youth. Funds will be used for materials including Covid protection masks, face and shields as well as gear: boots hats/helmets and small tools.
Brownstone Trail Planning

*With a grant from the Apostle Islands Area Community Fund*

The Brownstone Trail is a popular and beloved trail on the Bayfield Peninsula. Private landowners along the trail have granted public access through trail easements held by Landmark Conservancy, and parcels are also owned by local government entities and Landmark. A section of the trail has been actively slumping since 2017. In one location, the trail is completely gone, and erosion is now occurring into the upper slope too. In another location, the trail is quickly narrowing as erosion accelerates.

Landmark accepted a donation of the slumping section of trail in 2019 to more effectively facilitate a long-term solution, and have worked with the coastal engineering firm SmithGroup to understand the underlying causes of the slumping and identify options for restoration and stabilization. Last year, Landmark formed a Brownstone Trail Ad-hoc Advisory Committee of local residents and stakeholders to help them engage the community in the process.

Anishinaabe Dibaajimowin: An Ojibwe Story

*With grants from the Chequamegon Bay Area Community Fund and the Red Cliff / Miskwaabikaang Fund and many other sponsors.*

This grant support transportation and tickets for members of the Bad River and Red Cliff Tribes to the July 30-31 performance.

"Anishinaabe Dibaajimowin" is written and produced by Michael Laughing Fox Charette with Big Top Musical Director Severin Behnen and features performances by artists from the Red Cliff, Bad River, Lac Courte Oreilles and the Fond du Lac Bands of Lake Superior Chippewa and members of the Blue Canvas Orchestra.

The production blends traditional music and storytelling, modern music, hip hop and spoken word, accompanied by original artwork, photography and historical images.

"We hope to engender curiosity and provide an opportunity for open discussion and increased understanding of the sacred traditions of our region’s Indigenous people on the part of non-Native audience members."

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Other grants in 2021 include:

Chequamegon Bay Area Community Fund
- The BRICK Ministries, Software Support

Apostle Islands Area Community Fund
- Bayfield Maritime Museum, Software Support
- Bethesda Lutheran Church, Lake Superior Bridge Builders Asylum Project
- City of Bayfield, Implementing Green Infrastructure
- Friends of the North Pikes Creek Wetlands, Expand Educational Mission
- MacPhail Center, Music Madeline Island Chamber Music 2021 Season

About Apostle Islands and Chequamegon Bay Area Community Funds...

The Apostle Islands and Chequamegon Bay Area Community Funds support area nonprofits through annual grantmaking and provides individuals who love their community a way to give back.

Through a local advisory board, the Fund:
- attracts and administers a growing endowment for our area’s future
- provides quality service and resources for donors with varied philanthropic interests
- identifies and responds to changing community needs via strategic grant-making

Please consider making a gift for a cause you care about using the enclosed envelope or online at https://www.dsacommunityfoundation.org/give-today. Thank you!