



P.O. Box 351, Granby, CT 06035  
www.granbyeducationfoundation.org  
www.facebook.com/GranbyEducationFoundation  
www.instagram.com/granbyeducation/

## 2024 ANNUAL APPEAL

YOUR CONTRIBUTION SUPPORTS LIFELONG LEARNING

NONPROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
HARTFORD, CT  
PERMIT NO. 158



## GRANBY CHILDREN'S BOOK FESTIVAL

A \$3,300 grant helped fund the inaugural children's book festival at Wells Road Intermediate School, a free event for the entire community. It brought together families, schools, libraries and local organizations to promote reading and literacy, inspire creativity, and foster a love for books. The event had interactive workshops featuring renowned authors and illustrators, book signings, costume characters, games, giveaways, information about local literacy-related programs, food trucks, and more. *(Submitted by Casey LaPlante, library media specialist, Granby Memorial High School)*

# \$43,746

GEF gave over \$43,000 in 2023-2024 to support education and the arts in Granby.

## 2024 ANNUAL APPEAL

WWW.GRANBYEDUCATIONFOUNDATION.ORG



The Granby Education Foundation (GEF) supports educational and arts programs in our community through our grants program. **Your financial support makes these programs possible.**

WWW.GRANBYEDUCATIONFOUNDATION.ORG







# GRAN-BEE!

On April 19, 21 teams gathered at Granby Memorial High School to participate in the 19th annual Gran-Bee Trivia Competition and Auction. Many thanks to all our sponsors, teams, and everyone who attended. This year we raised \$7,693 to support our Community Grants program which boost our schools, assist Granby nonprofit organizations, and create opportunities for intergenerational outreach and learning.

**Clockwise from top:** The Bee (Anthony Sanzo); 2024 Yellow Jacket Crown Award for best costume went to the “Sesabee Street” team: Patrick Gilton, Patrick Liss, and Chase Alexander; 2024 Grand Bee winners: George Peterson, Jack Lareau, and Sue Canavan with Kim Becker, GEF president. Photos by Ed Judge and Jay Harder. More Gran-Bee photos can be found on our website.

## GIVING HIGHLIGHTS:

We funded 12 grants during our 2023-2024 fiscal year including the grants highlighted in this annual appeal. For more information about our other recent grants, visit our website: [www.granbyeducationfoundation.org](http://www.granbyeducationfoundation.org).

- \$17,300:** Community Grants
- \$26,010:** Arts Endowment Special Projects
- \$436:** Nannie Brown Fund



## DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IMPROVEMENT

Valley Pre-School received a \$436 mini grant to update and improve their play-based learning materials to include multicultural dolls, male dolls, puzzles, books and other manipulatives that reflect cultural diversity and representations of individuals with varying abilities and disabilities. *(Submitted by Heather Tokarz, managing director, Valley Pre-School)*

## SEWING SPACE AT COSSITT LIBRARY

The GEF was happy to help support Granby Public Library’s new Cossitt Creation Station at Cossitt Library. A grant of \$1,889 funded the purchase of sewing machines and materials. The sewing space has become a social hub for community sewers and crafters, sharing skills and knowledge. Every sewing class offered was free to the public and filled to capacity. *(Submitted by Amber Wyzik, director of Library Services, Granby Public Libraries)*

## COMMUNITY GRANTS



## NATIVE PEOPLES OF QUINNETUKUT

A grant of \$1,154 funded a program for second grade students introducing them to the pre-Colonial lives and cultures of the Native Peoples of Connecticut. Students examined reproduction artifacts, learned about natural resources of the time, and technologies used to make clothing, food, and tools. *(Submitted by Ingrid Budlong, second grade teacher, Kelly Lane Primary School)*



## GRANBY RACIAL UNITY FESTIVAL

A \$9,950 Arts Endowment Special Project grant funded the educational and arts portion of the newly established Racial Unity Festival. The festival included a 3-on-3 basketball tournament and live music and dance performances. Performers included: the Native American Yootay Singers drum group, the Bharatanatyam classical Indian dance group, high school musicians Attik Band, and the incomparable Sazzy Brass—a mix of jazz and R&B and part of Hartford’s vibrant music scene. *(Submitted by Ken Mouning, Granby Racial Reconciliation)*

## ARTS ENDOWMENT SPECIAL PROJECTS



## DRAMATIC ARTS SOUND SYSTEM

An Arts Endowment Special Project grant of \$16,000 was awarded to update the aging sound system in the GMHS auditorium with the purchase of 16 new wireless microphones and related equipment. This new sound system was already used for the GMHS spring musical, *Footloose*, and will support the dramatic arts program for many years to come. *(Submitted by Nikki Currie-Huggard, artistic director, Granby Memorial High School)*