

ST. CROIX FOUNDATION EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS & FUNDS

Recognizing that education is a critical component to ensuring success in any and all of our community development efforts, over the years the St. Croix Foundation has offered grants and scholarships to provide opportunities for students and organizations wishing to create or expand their educational programming. The Foundation's body of grants and scholarships available represent targeted approaches to fundamental disciplines—literacy, math, science, and art—and aim to reach students, teachers, and administrators seeking relevant and rigorous enrichment opportunities.

❖ DENALI GIFTED & TALENTED STUDENTS FUND

Created in 2004 by Denali Asset Management, this Donor-Advised Fund provides a wide variety of Educational Resources for students in St. Croix public elementary school Gifted and Talented Programs. Through this fund, over \$100,000 worth of books, computer equipment and supplies have been distributed to elementary schools on the island of St. Croix.

❖ DOVE MEMORIAL ARTS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Funded through generous seed donations from local attorney Diane Russell, and Don and Patricia Weeden, the DOVE Arts Scholarship Fund was introduced to the St. Croix community on February 25, 2005, in memory of the late Crucian artist, Lloyd “Dove” Braffith. This scholarship seeks to provide enrichment opportunities to young people who are serious about developing their skills in performing and visual arts as well as creative writing. To date, the Dove Memorial Arts Fund has awarded over \$17,000 in scholarships to students pursuing the arts. ***Grant cycles for the Dove Memorial Arts Scholarship Fund run from March 15 – May 31.*** Retrospectives commemorating this local artist can be purchased at the St. Croix Foundation, and all proceeds support the Dove Memorial Art Fund.

❖ FOUNDATION SCHOLARS FUND

Established at the St. Croix Foundation in 2005 by an individual donor, this Fund promotes continuing adult education among residents of St. Croix. The Foundation Scholars Fund provides scholarships to those interested in seeking to further their education through programs offering certification or degrees within the field of business. ***Grant cycles for this fund run from March 15th – May 1st and September 15th – October 31st.***

❖ LUDINGTON LITERACY FUND

Established in October 2002 by longtime St. Croix Foundation Trustee Martin Ludington upon the passing of his late wife, Lee, the Ludington Literacy Fund serves *to promote reading ability and skills in the English language among the residents of St. Croix.* Developed and administered by the Foundation, the Fund issues grants up to \$2,500 to organizations and other entities seeking to implement or expand literacy initiatives. Sadly, in November of 2002, a month after the launch of the Fund, Martin Ludington passed away leaving the Foundation as the sole administrator of his Fund. Grant applications for the Ludington Literacy Fund are reviewed and approved on a quarterly basis by the Foundation's standing Education Committee.

Past grant recipients have included: Juanita Gardine School for a Literacy at Home program; Central High School for its Reading and Current Events Club; St. Joseph High School for a Caribbean Literacy Program; and St. Mary's Catholic School for its S.T.A.R. Literacy Program. To date, the Fund has granted over \$150,000 to worthwhile literacy initiatives on St. Croix. ***Grant cycles for this fund run from September 15th – October 31st.***

❖ MATH & SCIENCE SUMMER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Administered by the Foundation, this Fund awards grants of up to \$2,000 to high school students on the island of St. Croix. Qualifying students must have a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of a (B) or better and be accepted into an accredited summer enrichment program locally or stateside, with a specific focus on math or science. All applications are reviewed and approved by the St. Croix Foundation's Education Committee. Since 2005, the Math and Science Scholarship Fund has awarded over \$50,000 to students on the island of St. Croix to attend such programs as the Congressional Student Leadership Conference on Forensics & Crime Scene Investigations; Syracuse University's Summer College for High School Students; Smith College's Summer Science & Engineering Program; the Manor School's Chess & Math Program; and the National Youth Leadership Forum on Technology. ***Grant cycles for the Math and Science Summer Scholarship run from March 15 – May 1st.***

❖ **SPRINT TO EXCELLENCE GRANT PROGRAM**

Launched in 2011, the Sprint to Excellence Grant Program was created for principals and teachers in St. Croix public and small private schools who wish to implement or expand comprehensive programs that directly impact student learning and overall student performance. Eligible schools include all *public schools* on St. Croix and *small private or parochial schools* on St. Croix with overall student academic performance rates below national standards; have no educational endowments and; offer tuition under \$500 per pupil per month.

The maximum grant award per school is \$10,000 and applicants may choose one or more categories to include in the proposal from the following individual award categories; 1) Professional Development- Maximum Award: \$7,500; 2) Reading Reinforcement and Assessments - Maximum Award: \$5000; 3) Creating Model Learning Environments - Maximum Award: \$2500 and; 4) Mentoring and Personal Development - Maximum Award: \$2500

❖ **ST. CROIX FOUNDATION MODEL SCHOOLS INITIATIVE**

Since the fall of 2005, the Foundation has spearheaded a comprehensive educational initiative seeking to fulfill our long-term goal of developing a strategic and collaborative approach to improving our public education system. Although, Elena Christian Junior High School initially served as the launch-pad for our Model Schools Initiative, the Foundation has expanded the reach and scope of this endeavor far beyond the confines of one school. In partnership with many generous Corporate and Individual donors, our Initiative has funded over 1,000,000 in resources and administrative supports to students, teachers, and District administrators throughout the Territory.

❖ **TEACHER GRANT AWARD PROGRAM**

First funded by a local EDC Company in 2000, the Foundation's Teacher Grant Award program is geared towards enhancing the educational experience of public elementary school teachers and their students. Through the Fund, grants of up to \$200 are awarded to applicants for projects which are judged on their ability to enliven students' creativity and provide students with a broad, interactive learning experience of the world around them. The Program also encourages active student participation in the development of the proposed project. Since 2005, over \$10,000 in Teacher Grant Awards has been granted to more than 45 public elementary school teachers. *Grant cycles for the Teacher Grant Award run from September 15th – October 31st.*

❖ **UVI SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATH (STEM) PROGRAM**

In 2005, in an effort to encourage greater participation in our Math and Science Scholarship Fund, the Foundation initiated a partnership with the University of the Virgin Islands that would meet the mission and objectives of the Fund. The goal of the program is to stretch students' ability to organize information, think logically, and solve problems and foster interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

With focus on robotics engineering and computer programming, the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Program was funded in the summer of 2005 through grants from the Math and Science Scholarship Fund. Since 2005, twenty 7th – 11th graders have participated in this highly competitive program each summer. Working side-by-side with the University of the Virgin Islands, over the past four, the Foundation has identified individual donors to sponsor the STEM Program. To request an application, or for more information on the Program, contact the University of the Virgin Islands, St. Croix campus.

❖ **YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL**

In 2009, the Youth Advisory Council (YAC) was established with start-up funding provided through the St. Croix Foundation's Matt Miller Fund. Comprising local middle and high school students, our YAC is teaching members about philanthropy and shaping them into burgeoning grant makers, as they award grants to youth-led community projects. Council members are also identifying ways to ensure that the voices of youth are heard, organizing youth forums for their peers and exploring a range of relevant issues like career development, mentoring and civics. To date the Council's work has been recognized by the National Youth Leadership Council and our members have a 90% college matriculation rate.

For more information about these or other Foundation programs or to request an application, please contact the St. Croix Foundation at (340)773-9898 or visit us online at www.stxfoundation.org.

Together, We Can Make A Difference!