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WINDOWS ON THE WORLD (WOW) TRAVEL GRANT

Teachers Travel the World for Students!

What are WOW GRANTS?

The Windows on the World (WOW) travel grant provides a teacher (or teachers) with up to \$3,500 to complete an educational travel experience to a domestic or international destination. The experience is expected to enhance the teacher's classroom skills, expand curriculum options and benefit students. When possible, the teacher's gained skills and knowledge should also be shared with their school/district peers.

The Windows on the World (WOW) travel grant is sponsored by The Hiatt Family Fund of the Community Foundation of Northern Colorado. Jeff and Mary Hiatt committed to the grant program as a way to extend their gratitude to the teachers who were so influential in the lives of their children as well as to recognize and honor the exceptional work of all teachers in TSD.

When do I apply for a WOW GRANT?

The WOW GRANT application window is open from Friday, January 8, 2018, until Friday, February 16, 2018, at 4:30 p.m. All grant applications received on or before **February 16, 2018**, will be considered for the 2018 grant period. Finalists will be required to participate in a personal interview. Grant winners will be notified in March 2018, in time to schedule travel plans for Summer 2018. Award funds are made available within two weeks of notification.

WOW GRANT Guidelines:

- Travel must be completed after the spring semester ends and before the teacher's contract begins in the fall semester.
- PreK-12 licensed teachers at a public school located within the boundaries of Thompson School District will be eligible. Awardee must be willing to participate on the selection committee for new candidates for up to three years following their award.
- Teacher applicants must be licensed employees, in good standing, of Thompson School District at the time of application. If employment status changes after a grant is awarded, the grant would be forfeited. Applicants must have completed a minimum of a one-year employment contract with TSD to be eligible to apply
- The \$3,500 award can be used for transportation, lodging, food, classes, and other associated travel expenses relevant to the grant. Additional travel undertaken by the teacher outside of the grant purpose will not be funded by the WOW GRANT.
- The WOW GRANT is not intended as a salary.

What are the selection requirements and criteria for WOW GRANT applications?

- Unique and dynamic educational experiences that will support student achievement, opportunities or well-being
- Clarity of objectives
- A clear and measurable project proposal
- A detailed, itemized budget for the travel experience
- WOW GRANT finalists will be asked to participate in a personal interview with members of the selection committee. Interviews will be conducted in late February or early March each year.

How can I apply for a WOW GRANT?

Applications for WOW GRANTS are located online at www.ThompsonTEF.org. Once you begin to fill in the form, you must finish and then press the submit button. If you leave the form before completing it, your information will be lost. Please consider writing your narrative in another program before cutting and pasting the information into the grant form. Once you submit the grant, you will receive an email confirmation that includes all the information you provided. TEF will only accept WOW GRANT applications through this online format. (See requirements and instructions below.)

WOW GRANT Application Instructions:

- Applications for WOW GRANTS are located online at www.ThompsonTEF.org. Once you begin to fill in the form, you must finish and then press the submit button. If you leave the form before completing it, your information will be lost. Please consider writing your narrative in another program before cutting and pasting the information into the grant form.
- Application questions should be answered in a direct and concise manner; provide only the information being requested.
- Two letters of recommendation must be submitted with the application. One must be from the applicant's principal or supervisor. Please email the letters to info@thompsonfef.org after submitting your application and no later than the application due date of February 17, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.
- All grant requests must be received by the deadline: **Friday, February 16, 2018, at 4:30 p.m.**
- Grant recipients will be required to submit a final written and verbal report of their project to TEF's board of directors in the Fall of 2017. Report guidelines and format will be sent to each recipient. Failure to provide the required report by the deadline will disqualify the applicant from future TEF grant consideration.

Questions? Contact Thompson Education Foundation at 970-613-5074.