

Corporate & Foundation Relations

Foundation Funding Opportunities

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

[HTTP://WWW.RWJF.ORG/APPLICATIONS/SOLICITED/CFPLIST.JSP](http://www.rwjf.org/applications/solicited/cfplist.jsp)

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

A variety of opportunities may be found at this link including opportunities at Junior and Mid-Career Investigator programs.

[http://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/Affiliate/Midwest-Affiliate-Community-Action-Grants UCM 322851 Article.jsp](http://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/Affiliate/Midwest-Affiliate-Community-Action-Grants_UCM_322851_Article.jsp)

The **American Heart Association** is pleased to offer mini-grants to help improve the cardiovascular health of communities. Grants, up to \$5000, are available to non-profit organizations for projects that help build healthier lives, free of cardiovascular diseases and stroke. Deadline is April 1, 2011 and funding will begin July 1, 2011. For funding criteria and to download an application, go to

www.heart.org/communityactiongrant.

<http://www.mccartheydressman.org/>

Deadline: April 15, 2011

McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation Accepting Applications for Grants and Scholarships

The [McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation](http://www.mccartheydressman.org/), which is dedicated to supporting students and teachers in developing strategies and skills that enhance learning, is accepting applications for the 2011-12 academic year in the categories of Academic Enrichment Grants, Teacher Development Grants, and Student Teaching Scholarships.

Academic Enrichment Grants provide funding for programs that nurture the intellectual, artistic, and creative abilities of children from low-income households. The foundation awards grants to individuals in amounts of up to \$10,000 a year for a maximum of three years.

Teacher Development Grants provide funding to individuals or small teams of teachers in the formation and implementation of groundbreaking, collaborative K-12 classroom instruction. The foundation awards grants to individuals in amounts of up to \$10,000 a year for a maximum of three years.

Student Teaching Scholarships provide \$6,000 as well as one-on-one mentoring by foundation staffers to student teachers in their final year of teacher education programs at New Mexico State University, the University of California, Santa Cruz, the University of Texas at Austin, and West Virginia University.

Complete program guidelines, eligibility requirements, and application procedures are available at the McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation Web site.

<http://www.ssrc.org/programs/religion-and-international-affairs-dissertation-workshop/>

Deadline: April 15, 2011

Social Science Research Council Offers Religion and International Affairs Dissertation Workshop

The [Social Science Research Council](http://www.ssrc.org/) program on religion and the public sphere will convene twelve advanced graduate students and five distinguished professors for a five-day dissertation workshop on religion and international affairs. The workshop will provide participants with a unique opportunity to share their ongoing work and receive critical feedback from their peers as well as from a small group of distinguished faculty members.

During the course of the workshop, students will lead discussions of their own projects and entertain critiques from both student and faculty participants on their fieldwork or research plans, writing strategies, and conceptual frameworks. Prior to the workshop, participants will prepare synthetic

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essays incorporating what they take to be the key methodological and thematic issues in each of the projects to be presented and discussed. These synthetic papers will themselves be presented at the workshop and will help to orient discussions.

The workshop will take place June 5-9, 2011, at the Asilomar Conference Center in Pacific Grove, California. In most cases, the SSRC will fully cover participants' travel, lodging, and meal expenses for the duration of the workshop. Limited funds are available for participants traveling from outside the United States.

The SSRC Workshop on Religion and International Affairs is open to students from all fields in the social sciences and humanities whose research engages the study of international/world affairs, transnational politics and civil society, and global socioeconomic development, with a particular emphasis on religion.

The SSRC welcomes applications from graduate students at U.S. or Canadian institutions, regardless of citizenship, who are about to embark on their research or are currently working in the field (or the archive), as well as those in the process of writing their dissertations. Applicants must have an approved dissertation prospectus at the time of application but must not have submitted a final version of the dissertation for review.

Visit the SSRC Web site for complete program guidelines and application procedures.

http://www.tcg.org/grants/aha/aha_guidelines.cfm

Deadline: May 2, 2011

MetLife Foundation and Theatre Communications Group Invite

Applications for A-ha! Program

[Theatre Communications Group](#), a national membership organization that works to strengthen, nurture, and promote the professional not-for-profit American theater, and the [MetLife Foundation](#) are accepting grant applications from TCG-member theaters for the A-ha! Program. The program is designed to enable theaters to try new approaches to solving artistic, managerial, production, and/or technological challenges.

The program provides support in two ways: Think It grants (up to \$25,000 each) provide theater professionals with the time and space for research and development; Do It grants (up to \$50,000 each) support the implementation and testing of new ideas.

The program's emphasis is on identifying strategies that will be major catalysts for change to the organization, rather than strategies that bring minimal change. Proposals from organizations seeking to test an idea that is new to them but not to the field will be accepted. Preference will be given to projects that break from the organization's previous practice and have the best chance at long-term, field-wide impact over a longer arc of time.

TCG-member theaters may apply in either the Think It or Do It categories but not both. Both categories are intended for any and all areas of a theater's operation. Cross-sector proposals (working with a non-theater organization or individual) are eligible. Competitive Think It proposals will clearly demonstrate how and why the theater selected the challenge and/or the questions to be examined, and how the theater will structure their exploration. Do It grants will be awarded to theaters which have a fully developed idea but have lacked the resources or time to carry it through. Theaters receiving Think It grants may be eligible to apply for Do It grants in a future round.

Complete program guidelines and application materials, as well as information on TCG membership, are available at the TCG Web site.

[HTTP://WWW.PREECLAMPSIA.ORG/IMAGES/PDF/VISION_GRANTS-APPLICATION_INSTRUCTIONS_2011.PDF](http://www.preeclampsia.org/images/pdf/vision_grants-application_instructions_2011.pdf)

Deadline: May 16, 2011

Preeclampsia Foundation Invites Applications for Research Grants

The [Preeclampsia Foundation](#) is accepting applications for its 2011 Vision Grant award program. This year's program will award up to two medical research grants of up to \$25,000. Vision Grants are intended to provide initial funding for innovative ideas focused on the pathophysiology, diagnosis, and treatment of preeclampsia, HELLP syndrome, and other hypertensive disorders of pregnancy that might otherwise not be pursued due to lack of funding. All novel, well-considered

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research topics are encouraged. International applicants will be accepted, but applications must be in English.

This year the foundation is also inviting applications for the new Health Services Grant, a separate award of up to \$25,000 focused on the application of health services research to the field of preeclampsia. This funding is designed to inspire investigators to focus specifically on health-delivery strategies that can improve the care of women (and their babies) with hypertensive diseases of pregnancy. Such research may include studies devoted to enhancement of healthcare distribution, patient education, patient safety, and guideline development and/or utilization. All such studies may include a focus on healthcare disparities.

Visit the Preeclampsia Foundation Web site for complete program guidelines.

[HTTP://WWW.EUROCULT.ORG/GRANTS](http://www.eurocult.org/grants)

Deadline: May 30, 2011

European Cultural Foundation Invites Applications From Young Researchers for Cultural Policy Research Award

The [European Cultural Foundation](#), the [Riksbankens Jubileumsfond](#), and [ENCATC](#) have announced a Call for Applications for the 2011 Cultural Policy Research Award.

The award, worth 10.000 Euro, is designed to support young policy researchers in completing research projects focused on contemporary European cultural issues and challenges. The program partners seek to encourage and enable cultural policy researchers to undertake comparative and cross-cultural applied research that can inform policymaking and benefit practitioners active in the field. In addition to providing financial support, the award also helps young researchers in gaining visibility and recognition.

Candidates must hold an M.A.-level degree in social science, art and humanities, or public policy research, and must be no older than 35 at the time of application. Applicants will be assessed according to their qualifications, the relevance of their proposed research project to cultural policy issues, and their ideas for the implementation of policy recommendations.

The winner of the CPR Award 2011 will be announced on October 12, 2011, at the opening of the 19th ENCATC Annual Conference ("CultureForecast") in Helsinki, Finland (October 12-14, 2011). Six finalists also will be invited to attend the Young Cultural Policy Researchers Forum. Funded by the ECF, and developed in partnership with ENCATC, the Fifth YCPR Forum (October 11-12, 2011) will take place alongside the ENCATC Annual Conference in Helsinki and will provide young cultural researchers with the chance to come together to discuss themes, ideas, and methodologies of common interest.

Complete award program information and the online application form are available at the CPR Award Web site. **Also available are opportunities for artists, go to website link above!**

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

http://www.luminafoundation.org/publications/Focus-Winter_2011.pdf

Discerning Learning

Lumina Foundation for Education

Profiles colleges' efforts to better define and assess student learning outcomes and ensure educational quality by using more integrative and competency-based measures, including "learning portfolios," instead of credit hours.

Published: February 2011

Funder(s): Lumina Foundation for Education

<http://www.rwjf.org/files/research/71835report.pdf>

[State of the States: Laying the Foundation for Health Reform](#) (73 pages, PDF), a new report from the [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#), looks at recent trends in state healthcare policy as well as the

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impact of the recession and healthcare reform on insurance reform and regulation, delivery system reform, insurance exchanges, and Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Programs.

[HTTP://WWW.PEWCLIMATE.ORG/DOCUPLOADS/CLIMATE101-FULLBOOK_0.PDF](http://www.pewclimate.org/docuploads/climate101-fullbook_0.pdf)
[*Climate Change 101: Understanding and Responding to Global Climate Change: January 2011 Update*](#)

Pew Center on Global Climate Change

Provides an overview of the issues surrounding global climate change, with updates on the scientific data and impacts; adaptation planning; technological and business solutions; and international, federal, state, and local action to mitigate the effects.

Published: January 2011

Funder(s): Pew Charitable Trusts

Vitality of Arts Sector Hit Twelve-Year Low in 2009, Report Finds

The health of the nation's arts sector reached a twelve-year low in 2009, dropping 3.6 points to 97.7, a new report from [Americans for the Arts](#) finds.

First issued in 2010, the *National Arts Index* evaluated eighty-one indicators in nine categories to arrive at a picture of trends in arts philanthropy, participation, and creativity as well as the relationship of the arts to other areas of American life, including employment and education. The measures include capacity and infrastructure, participation, contributed support, employment, nonprofit, creativity, demand for arts education, arts business, and competitiveness. Measured against a base score of 100 (in 2003), the overall index score achieved its high point of 105.5 in 1999.

The [2010 edition](#) (144 pages, PDF) of the report, covering 1998-2009, found that since the onset of the Great Recession the index has fallen 6.2 points, due in large part to lower earned income and charitable giving to arts organizations. Indeed, the number of arts organization failing to achieve a balanced budget increased to 41 percent in 2008, from 36 percent the year before. At the same time, the report found that the number of arts organizations increased by 3,000 between 2007 and 2009, and that the sector now comprises 109,000 nonprofit arts organizations, 550,000 for-profit arts businesses, and 2.2 million working artists.

The report also found that while the public's personal spending on the arts has remained in the \$150 billion to \$160 billion range, it has slipped steadily since 2002 in terms of its share of all expenditures — from 1.88 percent to 1.57 percent. Similarly, the portion of all philanthropic giving going to the arts has dropped from 4.9 percent to 4.0 percent over the past decade.

"The arts are a fundamental component of true prosperity, and the National Arts Index provides an important starting point to discuss this element of our well-being," said Arthur C. Brooks, president of the [American Enterprise Institute](#) and one of the report's advisors. "The index also highlights the growing imbalance between supply and demand. That 41 percent of arts nonprofits fail to break even suggests we need to focus not only on simply keeping them from going out of business, but also stimulating engagement among more members of the community and fostering entrepreneurship in the arts."

http://www.americansforthearts.org/pdf/information_services/art_index/NAI_report_w_cover_opt.pdf

Less Broadband Bang for Your Buck in Low-Income Areas, Report Finds

People who live in low-income and rural areas of the Washington, D.C., region get less for their broadband dollar than those who live in wealthy suburbs, a new study from the [Investigative Reporting Workshop](#) at American University finds.

Funded by the [John S. and James L. Knight Foundation](#), the [workshop](#) analyzed more than four thousand customer speed test records and found that the average cost-per-mbps (megabit per second) in the twenty-five wealthiest ZIP codes in the D.C. area was about \$10 while the average

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monthly broadband bill was about \$55. In rural and lower-income areas, in contrast, the cost per mbps was \$31 while the average monthly bill was \$51.

"This excellent investigative project details how all broadband is not created equal," said Eric Newton, the Knight Foundation's vice president for journalism. "It raises an important question as the nation struggles to regain global broadband leadership: With gaping digital divides in pricing and speed, is what we have been calling 'universal broadband' really universal?"

<http://investigativereportingworkshop.org/>

[Cost-Sharing: Effects on Spending and Outcomes](#)

The recent passage of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) requires for the first time that almost all U.S. citizens have health insurance. Implementing the largest expansion of health insurance since Medicare is a major challenge; policy-makers are also facing the challenge of how to slow the rate of growth in health care costs. Cost-sharing—how medical costs are shared between insurers and patients—is an important part of both challenges. All of these issues factor into whether and how cost-sharing could be used to reduce the rate of growth of health care spending.

A new report from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's *Synthesis Project* examines how cost-sharing affects the use of services, whether some patients are more sensitive to cost-sharing than others and whether reduced use of services as a result of cost-sharing has an effect on health outcomes.

The *Synthesis* report addresses the following key findings:

- Cost-sharing may not be an effective tool to reduce the rate of growth of health care costs. Most people are healthy and reductions in their service use likely would only modestly affect total spending.
- Patients do not accurately discriminate between essential and nonessential services when responding to changes in cost-sharing. Although patients reduced the inappropriate use of emergency department services when cost-sharing was increased, they also reduced the use of preventive care and essential drugs.

Cost-sharing increases are associated with adverse outcomes for vulnerable populations. Elderly, chronically ill, and welfare patients had increased expenditures for emergency department visits and hospitalizations when cost-sharing for prescription drugs was increased.

<http://www.rwjf.org/files/research/121710.policysynthesis.costsharing.rpt.pdf>

Press Release

[New Grants Fund 50-State Corruption Risk Index](#)

WASHINGTON, D.C., February 17, 2011 — The Center for Public Integrity, Public Radio International and Global Integrity have received \$1.5 million in grants to fund an ambitious risk analysis of corruption in all 50 state governments.

Omidyar Network will supply up to \$1 million for the 18-month effort and the Rita Allen Foundation has agreed to provide \$500,000 in matching funds. The State Accountability

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Project will hire political reporters part-time in every state capital and rank the 50 states for susceptibility to corruption.

The journalists will assess the existence and effectiveness of anti-corruption and government transparency measures at the state level, including political financing, civil service management and state budget processes. The project team will also create online data, reporting and technology tools to empower citizens to demand greater accountability and reform.

“Some of the most hidden forms of political corruption in this country increasingly occur in state governments,” said William E. Buzenberg, executive director of the Center for Public Integrity. “The State Accountability Project will rank each state for risk and specifically show where the dangers lie. Then citizens can get involved and insist on improvements from their elected officials.”

Public Radio International will work with its 880 partner radio stations to inspire people through crowdsourcing and social media to take part in the project and spread the results. “If we hope to stop corruption, people need to be invested and involved,” said Michael Skoler, vice president of interactive media for PRI. “We live in a new media world where people, not simply reporters, can and must be watchdogs for honest government.”

Global Integrity will leverage its success in promoting accountability and transparency in 100 countries to ensure that states put the analysis to practical use. “There are a number of valuable lessons from other countries that can be brought to bear in the US context when it comes to effective anti-corruption controls in the states,” said Global Integrity’s Managing Director Nathaniel Heller. “We’re optimistic that with the right information at their fingertips, both the public and lawmakers can design effective reforms.”

“The Project will bring a much needed focus on our nation’s statehouses,” said Stacy Donohue, director of investments at Omidyar Network. “In addition to investigative reporting, it will utilize technology to enable citizen engagement on issues of importance to them. Omidyar Network believes when citizens have visibility into government actions they are more likely to participate in the political process, ensure public funds are used wisely and hold government officials to account.”

Elizabeth Christopherson, president and chief executive officer of the Rita Allen Foundation, said: “The patriot Thomas Paine noted that dictatorial government only requires ignorance for its support and warned democracy is at risk when the citizenry is not engaged, informed and monitoring the conduct of leaders. As our nation’s founders rightly concluded, it is government with something to hide that we must fear the most. The State Accountability Project has the potential to transform the good-government dialogue and spur more ethical and open processes in the various states, and to serve as a model on the national level. The Rita Allen Foundation is delighted and excited to be part of this endeavor.”

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About Global Integrity

Global Integrity generates, synthesizes, and disseminates credible, comprehensive and timely information on governance and corruption trends around the world. As an independent information provider employing on-the-ground expertise, it produces original reporting and quantitative analysis in the global public interest regarding accountable and democratic governance. The information is meant to serve simultaneously as a roadmap for engaged citizens, a reform checklist for policymakers, and a guide to the business climate for investors.

Thanks to Jonathan Jarosz, Interim Director of University Outreach for sending on this link: <http://futurewecreate.com/> You can still view the video on-line!

Virtual Conference to Engage Scientific Thought Leaders on the Future of Women in Chemistry

Hosted by Dow, 60 Speakers will Provide 60 Perspectives in 60 Minutes Promoting the Sciences as an Ideal Career Path for Women

MIDLAND, Mich.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--The Dow Chemical Company (NYSE:DOW) today announced it will bring together recognized thought leaders to offer their unique perspectives on women advancing the field of chemistry – as well as other sciences – during “The Future of Women in Chemistry and Science.”

“The Future of Women in Chemistry and Science.”

Covering topics from mentoring young women and fostering executive leadership to gender differences, the hour-long virtual conference will address the issue of how stakeholders can work together to expand women’s leadership in chemistry and the sciences. As the conference host, Dow seeks to leverage its leadership in the chemical sciences to advance public understanding and appreciation of chemistry during 2011, which the United Nations designated the International Year of Chemistry (IYC).

“The International Year of Chemistry provides an exciting opportunity to share the scientific passion, energy and creativity of the women who are delivering innovative solutions for the world’s greatest challenges,” said Theresa Kotanchek, Vice President of Sustainable Technologies at Dow. “This virtual conference allows many of the key female leaders in the field of chemistry the chance to tell their stories and to share their personal insights into the ways that women are innovating everywhere.”

The virtual conference will take place on **Tuesday, March 1, at 11 a.m. ET** and is available to anyone – at no cost – at <http://futurewecreate.com/>.

Participants will hear a variety of personal vignettes – offered by women who are leaders in the fields of chemistry and other sciences, business, and women's studies – that give a historical account of science from past, to present, to future. Featured speakers include Mariette DiChristina, the executive editor of *Scientific American*; Dr. Connie Chow, executive director of the Science Club for Girls; and Linda Rosen, CEO of Change the

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Equation. Conference participants will also have the opportunity to interact with featured speakers and other participants via digital and social media channels, adding their voices to the overall dialogue on how to advance the profession. Follow *Future We Create* on Facebook and Twitter to participate.

The conference runs on the first day of Women's History Month and in the year of the 100th anniversary of the awarding of the Nobel Prize in chemistry to Madame Marie Curie. Additional information on this first virtual conference – including pictures, bios, and social media channels for all the speakers – is available online.

Subsequent virtual conferences will take place throughout 2011 as part of Dow's commitment to help encourage interest in chemistry among young people and to generate enthusiasm for the creative future of the science during IYC. Future topics will address sustainable chemistry, innovation, STEM education and other topics.

<http://www.poetryfoundation.org/>

<http://www.poetryfoundation.org/downloads/blueprints.pdf>

Blueprints: Bringing Poetry Into Communities (320 pages, PDF), a new publication from the Harriet Monroe Poetry Institute and the University of Utah Press, collects essays by poets on the need to bring poetry into local communities through readings, festivals, and other projects. Funded by the [Poetry Foundation](#) and available as a free download on the foundation's site, the report also includes program models and a poetry programming toolkit.

Who Needs Credit at Tax Time and Why: A Look at Refund Anticipation Loans and Refund Anticipation Checks

[BRETT THEODOS](#), [RACHEL BRASH](#), [JESSICA F. COMPTON](#), [NANCY M. PINDUS](#), [C. EUGENE STEUERLE](#)

Publication Date: November 01, 2010

 [PDF](#) |  [Printer-friendly summary](#)

Permanent Link:

<http://www.urban.org/url.cfm?ID=412304>

Abstract Refund Anticipation Loans (RALs) and Checks (RACs) are controversial financial products used by one in seven tax filers. This report presents findings on many of the most important individual and geographical characteristics influencing RAL/RAC use, as well as, insights about product use from tax preparers, RAL/RAC lenders, RAL/RAC tax form software developers, low-cost RAL lenders, and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program sites. The results suggest that factors such as lack of interest income, geographic location, EITC receipt, filing as a head-of-household, income, and living in a poor neighborhood, each *independently* contributes strongly to RAL/RAC use.

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