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Technology Funding Alert!

A publication of the Alameda County Office of Education, Grants Resource Center expressly prepared in Partnership with California Technology Assistance Project (CTAP) Region IV, Bonnie Marks, Director • 510-670-4168

U.S. Department of Education to Develop a National Education Technology Plan

As tax revenues decreased in California, funding for education technology programs such as Digital High School and Grades 4-8 education technology professional development came to an end. Increasingly California's schools and districts look toward federal funds to help provide new technology and related professional development. During the 02-03 school year in California, close to \$35 million in federal funding was distributed through the School Renovation Technology Grants, and \$80 million in Enhancing Education Through Technology (EETT) federal funding is being distributed.

The establishment of a National Education Technology Plan will do much to support federal funding for technology in education. In addition, it will provide a framework for state efforts to focus on the use of technology to support No Child Left Behind goals. The Plan will establish a national strategy supporting the effective use of technology to improve student academic achievement.

To develop the plan, the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) is working with three key partners, the American Institutes for Research, the International Society for Technology in Education, and the State Educational Technology Directors Association. As the first step to the development of this plan, the USDOE has published a website with important information and resources. At the website, educators and policy makers can subscribe to e-mail updates about the development of the plan. Opportunities will be provided for broad public input.

To sign up for updates and view the resources currently available, visit the website at <<http://www.nationaledtechplan.org>>.

Learning in the Arts for Children and Youth

Sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts, this grant program supports projects that provide hands-on learning and engagement of learners with skilled artists, teachers, and excellent art in early childhood, school-based, and community-based settings. The Endowment also supports projects that recognize and cultivate best practices and exemplary research that explores the effect of arts learning on the cognitive and social development of children and youth. Projects involving creative uses of technology in arts learning will be considered.

Contact—For Early Childhood and School-Based projects, call 202-682-5536; for Community-Based projects, call 202-682-5026.

Web Site—www.arts.gov/guide/GAP04/GAPindex.html

Deadline—June 16, 2003

Eligibility—School districts, arts organizations, local arts agencies, arts service organizations, and other organizations that can help advance the goals of the Arts Endowment.

Awards—Grants range from \$5,000-\$150,000 for a two-year period. In the past few years, well over half of the agency's grants have been for amounts less than \$25,000. A one-to-one match is required.

Mockingbird Foundation

Children's Music Education Programs

The Mockingbird Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization that generates charitable proceeds from fans of the band Phish, offers competitive grants to schools and nonprofit organizations with a programmatic focus on music education for children. Projects involving creative uses of technology in music education will be considered. Initial contact should be in the form of a letter of inquiry. Full proposals are by invitation only, and will not be considered if unsolicited.

Contact—Questions regarding the grants process, should be emailed to Kristen Godard at grants@mockingbirdfoundation.org.

Web Site—www.mockingbirdfoundation.org/funding

Deadline—August 1, 2003 (Letter of Inquiry)

Eligibility—K-12 schools and nonprofit organizations

Awards—Grants range in size from \$50 to \$5,000 and are made on a one-time basis.

Reach-A-Star Foundation Grants

The foundation awards grants in three categories: 1) K-8 Educational Project Grants are designed to provide diverse and cross-disciplinary learning opportunities in the

GRANTS

Career-Technical Education Improvement and Industry-Based Certification

Sponsored by the California Department of Education, this grant is to be used for improvement in career technical education and industry-based certification courses. Priority will be given in the areas of bio-technology, construction, homeland security, and manufacturing.

Contact—Clay Mitchell, Education Programs Consultant, in the CDE Regional Occupational Centers and Programs Office and may be reached by e-mail at cmitchel@cde.ca.gov or by phone at 916-445-5568

Web Site—<http://www.cde.ca.gov/funding/profile.asp?id=305>

Deadline—May 16, 2003

Eligibility—Districts of high schools, county offices of education, and regional occupational centers and programs serving high school students (LEA)

Awards—\$2,500 per instructor or \$10,000 per LEA

Charter School Start-Up and Dissemination Grants

Sponsored by the California Department of Education, the Public Charter Schools Grant Program awards grants to charter schools, in partnership with local educational agencies (school districts or county offices of education), to finish planning and open charter schools, and to share best practices. Funds may be used for the purchase of technology equipment.

Contact—Janet Wadley, Program Officer, School District Organization and Charter Schools, 916-323-6028, jwadley@cde.ca.gov

Web Site—<http://www.cde.ca.gov/funding/profile.asp?id=310>

Deadline—May 27, 2003 (Statement of Intent Due), June 27, 2003 (Application Due)

Eligibility—Individuals, local education agencies, nonprofit organizations. Applications are jointly submitted by charter developers or charter schools, and their local educational agency partners.

Awards—Total funding available is \$8,250,000, with grants up to \$450,000 each for 2 years.

areas of general development, environmental awareness, arts and culture, business and economics and civic functions; 2) Teachers' Professional Development Grants that offer professional development programs targeting teachers and educators of K-8th grade children; and 3) Educational Mini-Grants to teachers and educators for a specific event or small project. Projects involving creative uses of technology will be considered.

Contact—Questions may be directed to 1-866-373-STAR (7827), info@reachastar.org, or P.O. Box 5753, Berkeley, CA 94705.

Web Site—www.reachastar.org

Deadline—September 1, 2003 (Project and Professional Development Grants) Ongoing (Mini-Grants)

Eligibility—K-8 public or private teachers/schools and educational nonprofit agencies located in the counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, and San Mateo.

Awards—Project Grants up to \$5,000 each, Professional Development Grants up to \$2,000 each, and Mini-Grants up to \$500 each

2003 Kids In Need Teacher Grants

Sponsored by The SHOPA Foundation for Educational Excellence, Kids In Need Teacher Grants provide K-12 educators with funding to help them realize their dreams of providing innovative learning opportunities for their students. Application form will be available in the summer of 2003.

Contact—Questions? Email (preferred) pennyh@shopa.org or call 800-854-7467

Web Site—www.shopa.org/shopa_foundation/teacher_programs.php

Deadline—September 30, 2003

Eligibility—K-12 certified teachers

Awards—Grants range from \$100-\$500.

Toshiba America Foundation

K-6th Grade Program

7th-12th Grade Program

Sponsored by the Toshiba America Foundation, these two grant programs support projects designed by classroom teachers to improve science and mathematics education. *Before submitting a proposal, teachers are encouraged to contact the Foundation.*

Contact—To receive a paper copy of the application or for assistance with any questions, please call 212-596-0616 or 212-596-0667. Questions regarding the K-6th Grade Program and the 7th-12th Grade Program, please contact 212-596-0620 or foundation@tai.Toshiba.com.

Free Projectors

Projector Central School Donation Center allows schools to post projection needs and matches donations to those needs. Register your school online for this free service at www.projectorcentral.com/donation.cfm. If you have questions, send an e-mail to Donations@ProjectorCentral.com.

Web Site—www.toshiba.com/taf/

Deadline—October 1, 2003 (K-6th Grade Program); Ongoing (7th-12th Grade Program) grants less than \$5,000, August 1, 2003 (7th-12th Grade Program grants over \$5,000)

Eligibility—Public or private K-12th grade teachers may apply as individuals or in groups

Awards—Up to 75 grants of up to \$1,000 each will be awarded for the K-6th Grade Program. For the 7th-12th Grade Program, an unspecified number of grants will be awarded in the two categories: grants less than \$5,000 and grants over \$5,000.

Washington Mutual

Washington Mutual places a strong emphasis on making grants to education programs that benefit K-12 public schools in low- to moderate-income communities. Grants are made for professional development of teachers, leadership training for principals, organizational development for schools or districts, and information about school performance for parents. In addition to the cash grants for education program, Washington Mutual also provides a number of other employee-initiated volunteer programs for schools, including financial literacy (see the web site for details).

Contact—If you have questions about submitting a proposal, call 800-258-0543 or 213-217-4193, or write to Washington Mutual, Community Relations, 350 S. Grand Ave., Ste. 3400, Los Angeles, CA 90071.

Web Site—www.wamu.com (Click on WaMu in the Community)

Deadline—None

Eligibility—Public schools, school districts and nonprofit organizations that serve low- to moderate-income communities.

Awards—\$70M in pre-tax earnings. Grant range unavailable.

PRODUCT DONATIONS

"Enhancing Teaching and Learning with the Web" Grants

Docutek Information Systems is an e-learning collaboration and communications company dedicated to helping librarians, college instructors, K-12 teachers, students, and parents share and exchange information over the Internet. This grant program is designed to provide a school communication system for advancing the use of technology in education.

Contact—Dr. Philip Kesten, 650-989-6358 or pkestn@docutek.com

Web Site—www.docutek.com/products/atschool/grant.html

Deadline—July 17, 2003 (Proposals submitted before the deadline will be reviewed and funding decisions made on a rolling basis.)

Eligibility—Public school districts and local and regional boards of education

Awards—Customized version of Docutek's Web-based school communication system

(Docutek atSchool) for a two-year period. Remote web hosting of this system is included, as is training and access to a users group consisting of current and past grant recipients as well as teachers and technology specialists at all schools using the system.

"Breaking Down Barriers to Assistive Technology" Grant Program

Premier Assistive Technology, Inc. sponsors this software grant program aimed at helping primary and secondary school students with learning and/or visual disabilities in reading, writing or math. This grant is intended to help students by providing assistive technology to schools and organizations that currently cannot afford it. Online applications are preferred and strongly encouraged.

Contact—Please direct questions to Ken Grisham, 815-722-5961, or Steve Timmer, 517-668-8188, or send an email to: info@readingmadeeasy.com.

Web Site—www.readingmadeeasy.com

Deadline—Rolling

Eligibility—K-16 schools

Awards—Software site license

LeapFrog SchoolHouse Matching Grant Program

7th Grant Cycle

The LeapFrog SchoolHouse™ Matching Grant program is designed to recognize outstanding teaching and instructional creativity in preschools, elementary schools, and libraries through creative uses of LeapFrog SchoolHouses's technology-based programs. **Applications can be downloaded from the web site on July 1, 2003.** Interested educators can also register for the Grant Mailing List to receive an emailed application once the cycle opens.

Contact—Please direct questions to Grants Department, 1-888-432-5374, ext. 5112 or by email to:

Grants@LeapFrogSchoolHouse.com.

Web Site—www.leapfrogschoolhouse.com/funding/Matching_grant_program.asp

Deadline—July 31, 2003

Eligibility—PreK-8th grade teachers and librarians

Awards—Matching grant of \$500. Applicants must match the grant by at least \$500, which will be applied towards a minimum purchase of \$1,000 of LeapFrog Schoolhouse products.

Adopt-A-Classroom

(www.adoptaclassroom.com/)

Adopt-A-Classroom is a program in which the community is invited to adopt a classroom from the registered list of schools and provide financial support. The result is a meaningful contribution to education in which donors directly experience the impact of their efforts and celebrate in a classroom's success. For more information, visit their Web Site.