

The Jarrett Meeker Foundation Grant Criteria

Grant Application Overview

Mission Statement

The mission of the Jarrett Meeker Foundation is to provide support for educational programs related to wildlife, conservation, and the environment for children and young adults throughout San Diego County.

Working collaboratively with organizations, the Jarrett Meeker Foundation invites grant applications from individuals or organizations for projects which, in keeping with the mission statement of the Jarrett Meeker Foundation, will benefit children and/or young adults who desire to understand, appreciate, and improve our natural world. The Jarrett Meeker Foundation is committed to the fair treatment of all grant applicants and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, national origin or ancestry in awarding its grants.

Grant Programs

Our Annual Grant Program accepts grant applications not exceeding \$15,000, for programs or projects that reflect the vision of our organization's mission statement. Applications for the next fiscal year are due no later than the first week in November and recipients are notified of the Board's funding decisions by the end of January.

Grant Review Process

All applications received by the end of the first week in November deadline are reviewed by the Programs Committee of the Jarrett Meeker Foundation. The Programs Committee will present funding recommendations to the entire JMF Board at its January meeting. If questions of a factual nature arise once an application is submitted, the applicant may be contacted by a representative of the Jarrett Meeker Foundation for additional information. It is the sole responsibility of the Executive Board of Directors to make final decisions with regard to funding any grants. In their deliberations, the Program Committee and Board of Directors consider all criteria listed in this document. In addition, in making selections for projects to be funded, the Board considers the following elements:

- Diversity and equity in awarding grants to various schools and community organizations
- Diversity in age levels of participants
- Priority may be given to grant applications not previously funded by the Jarrett Meeker Foundation

Grant Amounts Previously Awarded

The amount of money available to the Jarrett Meeker Foundation for grant awards varies from year to year. The value of the individual grants awarded, in most cases has been between \$180 and \$5,800. One grant greater than \$10,000 has been awarded. Since its

beginning in 1987, the Jarrett Meeker Foundation has spent nearly \$500,000 on programs that have benefited thousands of school children, and helped to increase their understanding and appreciation of nature and all living things.

AUTHORIZATIONS AND SIGNATURES

Each grant application **MUST** provide authorized signatures. Below are listed the guidelines detailing which authorized signatures will be needed on any grant application submitted to the Jarrett Meeker Foundation.

A. Grants that benefit any public schools

- Programs offered at a single school require the authorizing signature of that school's principal.
- Programs available at more than one school require the authorizing signature of each school's principal.
- Programs that involve all schools in the district require an authorizing signature from Central Administration personnel, such as the Director of Curriculum or the Superintendent of Schools.

B. Grants that benefit the greater San Diego Community

- Community based grants require the authorizing signature of an appropriate representative from each organization involved in the project.

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Important Consideration for all JMF Grants:

- Annual grants are awarded in January for a period of one year only. All projects must be completed within that year, unless approved for extension due to special circumstances.
- Any unused monies, if applicable, must be returned to the Jarrett Meeker Foundation upon completion of the funded project, but no later than January 31st of the following fiscal year.
- Transportation is typically not funded, but MAY be reviewed and considered depending on the degree of necessity to the implementation of the grant.
- The Board may consider partial funding of a grant request.
- As an all volunteer Board, the Jarrett Meeker Foundation favors grants which include a significant component of volunteer services on the part of grant applicants.

Specific Criteria

- Displays innovative/creative educational ideas and programs
- Enriches or enhances existing educational programs
- Consistent with curriculum goals of the school system, where applicable
- Includes clearly defined goals, activities, outcomes
- Fosters school/community relationships
- Impacts a significant number of students/young adults
- Falls outside the regular school/district budgeting process

Eligibility

- We strongly recommend that individual applicants affiliate themselves with a community organization or school for the purposes of the grant application and implementation.
- Applicants under 21 years of age must have a so-sponsor who is over the age of 21 and is affiliated with a community organization or school.

WILL consider funding: (not limited to just these examples)

- Study trips to local environmental organizations (e.g., San Diego Zoo, Wild Animal Park, Stephen Birch Aquarium, etc.)
- In-house programs or outside speakers
- Project related supplies
- Workshop fees
- Resource materials

WILL NOT fund:

- Salaries
- Stipends
- Substitute teachers
- Routine supplies, equipment, or operating costs