

SCF UPDATE

The Skagit Community Foundation Monthly Newsletter

MAY 2017

CEO's Corner: Bright Spots in Our Valley



Recently, Lori Pfingst from the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services contacted us and said, "We want to reduce poverty by 50% in Washington State by 2027, and we are visiting the community foundations to learn about the bright spots in your geographic area."

We do have bright spots to highlight. This summer over 200 children will attend summer school for five weeks hosted at the Skagit Valley College, while their younger siblings attend preschool. College bound interns will gain paid teacher experience, and parents will have a chance to step onto a college campus for the first time in their lives. This innovative, home-grown, grass-roots program emerged from a committed group of local people who named their nonprofit the Foundation for Academic

Endeavors. We are proud to support their entrepreneurial idea.

To learn more about this organization, visit facebook.com/skagitfae.

Museum of Northwest Arts Stands in the Gap

The Museum of Northwest Art (MONA) connects people with the arts, diverse cultures, and environments of the Northwest through exhibitions and educational activities meant to foster essential conversations and creativity.

Recently, we were able to provide them with a \$5,000 grant for educational programs for the youth of our community. As a part of this grant, students will be able to participate in Family Art Days, Early Enrichment, and other art activities hosted by MONA. We view this as an essential skill in preparing them for career and college readiness in line with the Common Core

State Standards. With comprehensive sequential arts education as a requirement for students in Washington State, most school districts are unable to meet this requirement with the exception of music. MONA is able to stand in the gap and partner with these schools to meet the great need.



With close to 8,000 students being served through their programs, MONA is giving our youth a head start as they prepare for their futures. Please visit their website at monamuseum.org to learn more about their programs and consider getting involved today.