

Guilderland Teachers' Association
The Heart's Desire Professional Development Program
Spring 2010

Purpose

The Heart's Desire Professional Development Program is a competitive grants program sponsored by the Guilderland Teachers' Association that enables all **GTA** members to pursue creative professional development activities.

The program is designed to support the wealth of creativity, experiences, and knowledge that teachers bring to their schools and to foster a spirit of continued growth and renewal within the GTA membership.

Guidelines for Preparing Application

General Guidelines

1. Thoroughly review application and guidelines before drafting your request.
2. Determine the workshop, conference, course to be explored.
3. Please consider how this experience can be shared with others (i.e. your students, your colleagues, the greater community).
4. Please type all information. Applications with incomplete information will be returned. Make one copy of completed application for your records.
5. Applications should be sent no later than 4:00 p.m. the afternoon of the deadline to:

Heart's Desire Committee <i>c/o</i> Amy Salamone Guilderland High School
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Completed applications due: Monday, May 3

Available Grants

The number of grants awarded will depend on the number of applications received. It will be the intent of the review committee to award as many grants as possible to worthy applicants. This might include full and/or partial funding. Additionally, if you are seeking retroactive reimbursement, your project/activity must have occurred within the last 5 months from the May 3 date.

Review Committee and Criteria

Applications are reviewed by the District Wide Review Committee-consisting of a member from each school (similar to the summer curriculum review committee.) They review applications on the following criteria:

1. The desired professional inquiry is clear.
2. The grant application addresses a specific need that can be realistically supported by a grant of this

kind.

3. A copy of the conference/workshop brochure, course description and/or some write-up of the experience is attached to the application.
4. Some consideration has been given to dissemination to colleagues, students, community, etc.
5. The inquiry supports the District's goals and priorities.

Grant recipients are asked to write a brief narrative upon completion of activity. PLEASE NOTE: It has become necessary for us to require receipts from your participation. We apologize for this inconvenience. These must be attached to your final report.

HEART'S DESIRE GRANTS PROGRAM APPLICATION

Please respond in narrative form to each question.

1. Briefly describe the professional development activity you seek to pursue via this grant. Please state amount requested.
2. Why do you want to attend this conference, seminar, workshop, etc.?
3. What are your objectives and what would you like to **learn** from attendance/participation in this conference, seminar, workshop, etc.?
4. How does this experience align with and/or enhance our district's learning goals and philosophy? (These are available in your school office.)
5. Will participation in this professional development activity further the New York State Learning Standards? If yes, how? (These should also be available from a supervisor or principal if you don't have a copy.)
6. How will your participation benefit you as a **teacher**, or your students, or parents, or your school, or the greater community?
7. Since the focus of the Heart's Desire Grants Program is to nurture professional development in our district, by what means, and with that could your experience be shared?

If applicable, please let us know of any other avenues you have pursued first, in obtaining financial support for this project.

Thank you.