



H.O.P.E

"Every Student, Every Day"

Peabody EDUCATION Foundation

P.O. Box 233, Peabody, Massachusetts 01960

NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2022

PeabodyEdFoundation.org

## The Cara E. Murtagh Memorial Scholarship



### Do You Know a Student Interested in Pursuing a Career in Education?

Do you know of a student interested in pursuing a career in the field of education, possesses a strong work ethic, demonstrates excellent organizational and preparation skills, is engaged in the community, has achieved good academic standing, and is self-motivated?

The Cara E. Murtagh Memorial Scholarship is provided by the Peabody Education Foundation as a way to honor our dear friend Cara's memory. On a yearly basis, we award a PVMHS senior with a \$2,500 scholarship to help with their college education. Cara was an active member of our Foundation where she spearheaded many of our programs and events. After Cara's passing, the Murtagh family had generously asked that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Peabody Education Foundation. Donations and messages came in from across the country attesting to the love and admiration so many shared for her. Through this Scholarship, we hope to preserve Cara's dedication and commitment to the education of the school children of Peabody for years to come.

Please encourage them to apply for the Scholarship at:

<https://peabodyedfoundation.org/scholarship/>



2020 Recipient Cassidy Butt



2021 Recipient Paulina Straticos



## Norm Bossio speaks to PVMHS students

As part of the new Mental Wellness Initiative, the Peabody Education Foundation recently sponsored Norm Bossio, motivational speaker. Norm spoke to the high school students at Peabody Veterans Memorial High School this month about how to take control of your life, getting your priorities straight and using the gifts you have been given while taking a long hard look at yourself in the mirror, all delivered with humor!



For over 30 years, Norm Bossio has spoken in front of nearly 3 million audience members in venues ranging from an American Indian Village Tribunal to the Hoosier Dome. Norm once spoke to 400 high school students, 50 lingerie salespeople, and 45 nuclear physicists...all in the same day. Having keynoted national conferences in virtually every major industry, Norm's audiences have included clients ranging from Bill Clinton to Stephen King. Prior to starting his own business, he served as a teacher, principal, and superintendent of schools. For 8 years, Norm was an adjunct faculty member and consultant to the management certificate program at Stonehill College. He received his B.S. from Springfield College and M. Ed. from Boston State College. In 2006, Norm hosted the national public television special, "Staying Motivated on the Deck of the Titanic with Norm Bossio." His first book was recently published by DogEar Publishing in Indianapolis, IN. In 1994, Norm was named Speaker of the Year by the Yankee Chapter of Meeting Planners Internal.

Norm Bossio is sponsored by the Peabody Education Foundation, North Shore Bank, the JB Thomas-Lahey Foundation, the GraVoc Charitable Foundation and North Shore Community Action Programs. The PEF recently launched the Initiative to benefit students, teachers and parents, providing reading materials, motivational speakers, and other resources to help the Peabody schools deal with the mental health issues that have escalated during the past two years due to COVID, as well as those issues that continue to challenge our schools every day.

**Anyone interested in contributing to this Initiative can do so by visiting:**  
<https://www.peabodyedfoundation.org/contribute/>.

**More information regarding the Mental Wellness Initiative can be found on the Peabody Education Foundation website:** <https://peabodyedfoundation.org/programs/mental-wellness-initiative/>



# PEF Grants Program



Just a reminder to all teachers and principals who received PEF Grant funding: Please send your receipts and pictures of your programs to [PEFGrantsProgram@gmail.com](mailto:PEFGrantsProgram@gmail.com)



# George Peabody Legacy Awards



## Would You Like to Nominate a Fellow Educator Who Has Gone Above & Beyond?

Do you know an educator who has had a lasting impact on education, effects change for the good of the people over a significant period of time, is an active member in the Peabody Community, is a tireless advocate for the betterment of Peabody students, and lives or works in Peabody?

The George Peabody Legacy Award is presented by the Peabody Education Foundation to recognize and honor the educators and philanthropists from within the community who work to provide a lifetime of contributions to our educational system. It is an honor to recognize educators who have gone above and beyond to make a lasting difference in the lives of their students. In the classroom they are both learners and facilitators of learning. They attend to the social and emotional needs of their students making a lasting, positive impact by providing a progressive learning atmosphere meeting the needs of every, individual child.

To nominate a worthy candidate, please visit our scholarship webpage below and tell us all about them! <https://www.peabodyeducationfoundation.org/george-peabody-legacy-awards/>

**The Deadline is Friday, August 1, 2022.**

# Donations



Members of the GraVoc Charitable Foundation recently presented the PEF with a check for \$10,000 to assist in funding the new Mental Wellness Initiative. Pictured above: Debbie MacGregor, PEF; Karen McGovern, PEF; Kristine Bruno, PEF; Mary Bellavance, PEF; Dr. Josh Vadala, Superintendent of Schools, PEF; Catherine Gravel, President of GraVoc Charitable Foundation; Dan Vassallo, PEF; Katrina Vassallo, PEF; David Gravel, President and Chairman of PEF.



North Shore Bank recently presented the PEF with a check for \$10,000 to assist in funding the new Mental Wellness Initiative. Pictured above: Kristine Bruno, PEF; Kevin M. Tierney, Sr., North Shore Bank CEO; Dave Gravel, President and Chairman of PEF; Michael R. Wheeler, North Shore Bank President and COO; Dan Vassallo and Karen McGovern of PEF.



## New Board Members Announced!

The PEF is delighted to announce that **Lauren Cyr** from Salem Five and **Maria Ferri**, CTE/Vocational Director at PVMHS, will be joining the PEF Board of Directors!

Deanne Healey, who served for many years on the PEF Board of Directors, recently resigned. The PEF would like to thank Deanne for her efforts throughout the years!

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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