



H.O.P.E
"Every Student, Every Day"

Peabody **EDUCATION** *Foundation*
P.O. Box 233, Peabody, Massachusetts 01960

NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2023

PeabodyEdFoundation.org

George Peabody Legacy Awards

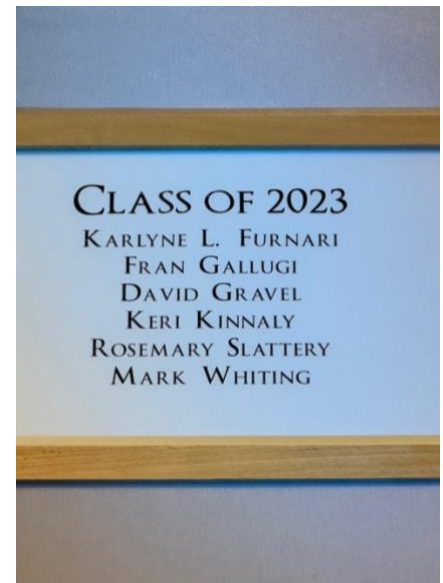


Congratulations to our 11th Annual George Peabody Legacy Award Recipients!

On Thursday, October 19, the Peabody Education Foundation honored this year's George Peabody Legacy Award winners at the Higgins Middle School. This award was created to recognize and honor the educators and philanthropists from within the community who work to provide a lifetime of contributions to our educational system. Nominations for this award were solicited from the public and selected by a nomination committee. The Award winners included:

- Karlyne Furnari (retired)
- Fran Gallugi (retired)
- David Gravel (Peabody Education Foundation)
- Keri Kinnaly (currently teaching)
- Rosemary Slattery (retired)
- Mark Whiting (retired Manager – North Shore Mall)

Congratulations to all the winners! Their names have been added to the Legacy Award wall located outside the Higgins Auditorium.



Special thanks to the following:

Kane's Flowers
Peabody Council on Aging
Wardhurst Restaurant
Jon Simmons & the Peabody High School Chorale
City of Peabody Department of Public Services
Peabody TV

And additional thanks to our sponsors!

GraVoc
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North Shore Bank
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Patrick J. Woods Insurance Agency
Northshore Mall
Captain Samuel Brown School
Gravel Family
Katrina & Dan Vassallo
Rosemary Slattery & Family



Check out the impressive histories of our recipients, and videos from the event on our website:
<https://peabodyedfoundation.org/george-peabody-legacy-awards/>

PEF Grants Program



A reminder that applications are still being accepted!

The PEF Grants Program Committee would like to remind teachers and principals that applications are still being accepted for the 2023-2024 school year. Since August 1, more than \$31,000 has been granted to teachers and schools!

- Applications will continue to be accepted on a rolling-basis until February 1, 2024, based on availability of funds.
- The application process is completely electronic and on-line! No paperwork!
 - Just log on to the PEF website and go to the updated PEF Grants Program page.
 - All receipts and invoices will also be submitted electronically.
- The PEF Grants Program continues to offer two kinds of grants:
 - Individual teacher's grants – increased from \$1500 to \$2500 cap limit!
 - School-wide grants - \$10,000 cap limit
- There are two grant categories:
 - Creative Learning – innovative, creative and academic based
 - HOPE/Sense of Belonging – mental wellness based.
- Visit our [PEF Grants Program webpage](#) for the online application, guidelines, and a list of grants that have already been approved this school year!

Guest Reader Program



Deadline to apply is approaching!

The Guest Reader Program is for students in kindergarten through grade 5. Every year, from January to May, business leaders and local community members spend 20 to 30 minutes per week in an elementary school classroom reading aloud to the children. The Program is intended to expose students to the pleasures of reading and to present a positive reading role model. Reading to children brings enjoyment to both the readers and the students, and reinforces the idea that reading is fun for everyone.

Teachers can pick out the books they want read to their classroom, or they can leave it up to the Guest Reader to choose the books. And teachers work with the Guest Reader to determine the best day and time for them to read.

To participate: If you would like to sign up as a guest reader or sign your classroom up to have a guest reader come visit, please complete the online application by visiting, <https://peabodyedfoundation.org/guest-reader-program-application/>.

If you make arrangements directly with a specific guest reader or teacher, we would appreciate it if you would still complete the online form. This will allow us to provide updates to all our Guest Readers.

Deadline to apply is November 1, 2023

Birthday Books Program



Happy Birthday, Students!

Many children from within our City come from homes where books are not readily available. The objective of the Birthday Books Program is to help children and families see books as valuable treasures and treats that can be enjoyed as presents and shared with the entire family. The Birthday Books Program hopes to foster a love of reading and books, promote family time together and help families to realize the importance of having books in the home to read again and again.

Each elementary school has a member of the teaching staff who is coordinating the ordering of books for their school. Books ordered cover all grade levels, are high interest and represent the cultures and diversity of the students. Books are distributed by each elementary school to their own students with a Happy Birthday sticker included inside each book. Over 3000 students are now able to take their own birthday book home every year and share it with their family!

In 2021, the PEF teamed up with JB Thomas-Lahey Foundation to fund the Birthday Books Program for every elementary school student in Peabody! Because of the generous funding from our sponsor, the Birthday Books Program is now a permanent part of the Peabody Education Foundation's commitment to our children! Every year, every elementary student will be able to bring home that special birthday book!

Special thanks once again to the JB Thomas-Lahey Foundation for supporting this outstanding program this year!

Mental Wellness Initiative



Working to keep minds healthy!

For the third year, the PEF is exploring new initiatives to assist the Peabody School Department and our students, teachers, and parents with Mental Wellness.

During the months of September and October, the “Kids Kindness Club” came to all elementary schools! The Club is part of Connor’s Kindness Project, a nonprofit out of Lynnfield that was started during the pandemic to remind us that there is good in the world even at times when we are faced with conflicts and challenges. The ongoing goal is to help others while also spreading positivity, one act of kindness at a time. The “Kids Kindness Club” is a way to bring kindness to schools and lead students on their way to helping others with small acts of kindness and familiarize them with community service.



Picture Credit: [Item Live, Kids Kindness Club comes to Peabody](#)

Stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks on other exciting programs!

Thanks to our sponsors: The JB Thomas-Lahey Foundation, North Shore Bank, GraVoc Charitable Foundation and Lyon-Waugh Auto Group!

Donations



We need your help!

The last few years have been a struggle for everyone, especially our younger generation. Academic normalcy remains out of reach for many students, educators, and parents. Students and educators continuously wrestle with mental health challenges, higher rates of violence and misbehavior, and concerns about lost instructional time. This has prompted the PEF to step up our efforts and work harder to provide as many additional programs and funding for our Peabody public school children as possible.

A gift from you will help us continue our work and we ask that you consider supporting the PEF in one of the following areas:

- Birthday Books Program
- Cara E. Murtagh Memorial Scholarship
- George Peabody Legacy Awards
- Mental Wellness Initiative
- PEF Grants Program

Anything you can do to help is greatly appreciated. 100% of all donations go directly to the programs that support our students. Our goal is to transform lives and build brighter futures. None of these programs would be possible without your support!

To donate or for more information, please go to www.peabodyedfoundation.org/contribute.

PEF Board News



The PEF Board of Directors is pleased to welcome two new members: **Kelly Chase**, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, and **Maria Champigny**, Social Adjustment Counselor. Both have been serving on PEF Committees and now bring their expertise to our Board!

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