
Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts Receives \$10,000 Grant from Bayer Fund

Donation to support educational programs through the Girls in STEM Initiative

HARRISBURG, PA / January 5, 2021 – Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts announced today it received a grant for \$10,000 from Bayer Fund, which will be used to support educational programming for students in Central Pennsylvania through the organization’s Girls in STEM Initiative.

“We are excited for the opportunity to enrich our Girls in STEM programs through the support of Bayer Fund. Going into the Initiative’s seventh year, this program provides young girls across the region with the life-changing opportunity to develop their identity as ‘STEM-people.’” - Theodore Black, CEO & President, Whitaker Center

This grant will not only provide support to our organization, but also the community we serve by allowing us to provide new and expanded opportunities that reach over 800 students from historically underserved and underrepresented backgrounds. With an emphasis on racial and gender equity, Whitaker’s Girls in STEM Initiative erases barriers that keep young women and girls from developing interests in STEM. Programs, such as Girls in STEM Sundays, provide accessible, hands-on activities that build participants’ skills, knowledge, and confidence in STEM topics. Activities integrate problem solving skills with mentorships and conversations on higher education and career opportunities. In 2021, Whitaker Center, in partnership with Penn State Health and Penn State College of Medicine, will offer the new Girls in STEM: Emerging Healthcare Professionals Program. This healthcare and biomedical career exploration program involves two main activities: Talks with Docs, an hour-long virtual conversation with diverse physicians, and the Summer Medical Academy for Young Women of Color, a two-week intensive camp exploring healthcare careers at Penn State Health.

“Throughout the years, the grants given through Bayer Fund have helped strengthen our communities across the United States,” said Al Mitchell, President of Bayer Fund. “We’re proud to be able to provide support to develop programs that help combat challenges such as food insecurity, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education and support services to patients and families managing an illness or disease.”

In 2019, Bayer Fund awarded more than \$14 million to over 3,200 charitable and nonprofit organizations to help address essential needs in food and nutrition, STEM education and community development. Over the last five years, nonprofit organizations across the U.S. have received more than \$79 million.

To learn more about Whitaker Center visit <https://www.whitakercenter.org/>.

To learn more about Bayer Fund visit <https://www.fund.bayer.us>.

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About Whitaker Center

Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts is a non-profit center for the arts, education, entertainment and cultural enrichment located in the heart of Harrisburg's vibrant downtown. Whitaker Center is home to Sunoco Performance Theater, Harsco Science Center and Select Medical Digital Cinema. Visit whitakercenter.org for a full list of educational programs, special events, shows, and more.

About Bayer Fund

Bayer Fund, a philanthropic arm of Bayer, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening the communities where Bayer customers and employees live and work by providing funding for food and nutrition, education and community development projects.

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