



Winter 2010

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[www.jeffersonfoundation.org](http://www.jeffersonfoundation.org)

# en Newsletter



*Supporting  
Jeffco Public Schools  
in preparing  
all students  
for a  
successful future!*

The Jefferson Foundation  
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[www.jeffersonfoundation.org](http://www.jeffersonfoundation.org)

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## Two Foundation grant opportunities coming soon!

**Despite budget cuts** and a still-limping national economy, The Jefferson Foundation has raised and given about \$400,000 to Jeffco Schools and organizations serving Jeffco students so far this school year. The Foundation is on track to give more than \$600,000 by the close of the 2009-2010 school year.

The Jefferson Foundation's grantmaking priorities and guidelines have changed this year to better serve Jeffco students. The Foundation is focused on programs and projects that eliminate achievement gaps and increase graduation rates.

Grant guidelines, application forms and information about upcoming deadlines and workshops are always available on The Jefferson Foundation's website at

[www.jeffersonfoundation.org](http://www.jeffersonfoundation.org). Look for information on these upcoming grant programs:

### **Salazar Literacy Initiative**

Funded by the Salazar Family Foundation and managed by The Jefferson Foundation, this initiative will provide \$100,000 over two years to programs that reduce literacy achievement gaps in Jeffco Public Schools. Grants will range from \$2,000 to \$9,000. *The deadline for Salazar Literacy Initiative funding applications is March 26, 2010.*

### **Spring 2010 General Grants**

Programs or projects that seek to reduce achievement gaps or increase graduation rates for Jeffco students are invited to apply for grants ranging from \$2,000 to \$7,000. The Jefferson Foundation encourages seed, challenge, program or

project support and technical assistance or capacity building grants. *The deadline for Spring 2010 General grant applications is April 30, 2010.*

The Jefferson Foundation hosts grant workshops before all grant deadlines. Attendees learn about how to write a good proposal and how to find and secure additional program or project funds. All workshops are held at the Foundation's offices at 809 Quail St., Bldg #1. Space is limited; call 303.982.2210 to reserve your seat soon.

### **Salazar Literacy Initiative Workshop**

Tues., March 2, 8:30 a.m.  
Weds., March 3, 4:30 p.m.

### **Spring 2010 General Grants Workshop**

Tues., April 6, 8:30 a.m.  
Weds., April 7, 4:30 p.m.

## Jefferson Foundation named the West Chamber Serving Jefferson County's 2009 Nonprofit of the Year

**The Jefferson Foundation** was named 2009 Nonprofit of the Year by the West Chamber Serving Jefferson County at the Chamber's Chairman's Inaugural Luncheon on January 29.

The award honors several years of partnership among The Jefferson Foundation and the West Chamber and its constituent businesses. The Jefferson Foundation is the largest funder of Links for Learning and Youth Leadership Jefferson County, two programs of the West Chamber Foundation that develop community engagement among teachers and students.

The West Chamber began in 1947 and boasts more than 900 members across Jeffco.



From left: Sarah Baker, TJF Financial Assistant; Cyndee Manaugh, TJF Executive Assistant; Anton Delgado, TJF Marketing Director; Katie Tieman, TJF Executive Director; Amy Sherman, West Chamber President

THE JEFFERSON FOUNDATION  
**Love our schools**  
 JEFFCO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

To say local families are still struggling in the current recession may be the understatement of the year. But did you know that regardless of the economy, the [GivingUSA Foundation](#) reports that individuals give more money to charities than businesses, corporate giving programs or foundations?

"When our schools need outside funding the most, individual donors fill the gaps," said Greg Drake, President-Elect of The Jefferson Foundation. "People don't stop caring about their schools just because money is tight."

The Jefferson Foundation's programs are funded entirely by fundraised

income. The Foundation will launch a "Love Our Schools" campaign this spring to raise money from individual donors to ensure that its programs and projects will not be cut during a sustained economic downturn.

The campaign will include small event fundraisers, direct mail appeals, a luncheon and more. The goal of the campaign is to raise at least \$30,000 through new donors to support the Foundation's work.

To get involved in the campaign or to make a donation, please visit us at [www.jeffersonfoundation.org](http://www.jeffersonfoundation.org) or contact Katie Tiernan at 303.982.2210.

## Local heating company warms the heart

In January, Applewood Plumbing, Heating and Electric gave \$1,000 to The Jefferson Foundation for its Serving Kids clothing program. The company gives \$1,000 to a different charity each month. Learn more at

[www.applewoodfixit.com](http://www.applewoodfixit.com). From left: Jane Dvorak (JKD! & Co.), Nancy Hoffmaster (Serving Kids), Josh Ward (Applewood), Katie Tiernan (Jefferson Foundation), Paula Washenberger (Applewood) and Mike Long (Jefferson County Administrators Association).



## Looking for additional resources for your program or students? Check out these upcoming grants, scholarships and fundraisers!

The Jefferson Foundation researches opportunities to help schools and community organizations do more. The following resources are separate of The Jefferson Foundation and are not endorsed by The Jefferson Foundation. Contact the funders or companies directly to learn more. Have an opportunity you want to publicize to our schools and community partners? Email the Foundation eNewsletter at [newsletter@jeffersonfoundation.org](mailto:newsletter@jeffersonfoundation.org)

### Learning Points Rewards (LPR)

A program of for-profit CreditBack, Inc., Learning points rewards offers merchant cards that earn cash back for schools when used online and at retailers nationwide.

Learn more at [www.learningpointsrewards.com](http://www.learningpointsrewards.com).

### CollegeInColorado Scholarship Database

Search for scholarships posted on a massive database and use online tools to plan for college.

Learn more at [www.collegeincolorado.org](http://www.collegeincolorado.org).

### DonorsChoose.org

A 501c3 nonprofit that publicizes teachers' classroom projects and collects donations to fund them. DonorsChoose takes a percentage of donations to costs.

Learn more at [www.donorschoose.org](http://www.donorschoose.org).

### Enjoy the City Coupon Book

Distributed by for-profit Community Soul Fundraising, schools sell the books and keep \$8 to \$10 per book.

Learn more at [www.community-soul.com](http://www.community-soul.com)

### Muzak Heart & Soul Foundation

Music Matters Grants of up to \$12,000 for Title I school music programs. Deadline: February 5.

Learn more at: [heart.muzak.com](http://heart.muzak.com)

### Sprint Character Education Grants

Grants ranging from \$500 to \$5,000 for individual public schools to develop character-education initiatives.

Deadline: February 5.

Learn more at [www.sprint.com/responsibility](http://www.sprint.com/responsibility)

### Lowe's Toolbox for Education Grants

Grants of \$5,000 to help schools and parent groups provide basic needs and high-quality education to students. Deadline: February 12.

Learn more at [www.toolboxforeducation.com](http://www.toolboxforeducation.com)

### Scholarships managed by The Jefferson Foundation

Review and apply for a dozen post-secondary scholarships for Jeffco graduates. Deadlines vary; talk with your school counseling department.

Learn more at: [www.jeffersonfoundation.org](http://www.jeffersonfoundation.org)

### Jeffco YouthWorks Young Adult Job Fair

Sponsored by Jeffco YouthWorks, the Jeffco Workforce Center and Jeffco Human Services, the fair will help young adults, ages 14 to 21, find full- or part-time jobs, summer positions or career help. Fair will be held Tuesday, March 2 at the Jeffco Fairgrounds.

Learn more at: [www.jeffcoyouthworks.org](http://www.jeffcoyouthworks.org)

**Did you know?**  
 The West Chamber Serving Jefferson County estimates that 70 to 80% of Jeffco graduates stay or return to the Denver metro area to work as adults. Jeffco Public Schools, with nearly 85,000 students, is truly educating tomorrow's workforce today.

## Jeffco effort to tackle thorny issue of dropout prevention showing results

*Note: The Jefferson Foundation, with a grantmaking focus on improving the District's graduation rate, has worked closely with the Jeffco schools Office of Dropout Prevention and Recovery and their Finish Line project to put more resources in the hands of educators and families to keep students on the path to graduation. The following article was submitted by David Kollar, Director of the Office of Dropout Prevention and Recovery. Visit the Finish Line project at [www.jeffcopublicschools.org/finish](http://www.jeffcopublicschools.org/finish)*

**The dropout rate** in Colorado has long been recognized as unacceptable. In Jeffco, we believe that one student dropping out of school is too many, so Jeffco Schools created the Office of Dropout Prevention and Recovery prior to the 2008-2009 school year with the goal of cutting the district's dropout rate. The Office's mission is to reengage students who are at-risk or who have already dropped out of school. This is often accomplished by identifying pathways and supports to bridge a student's current reality to their desired future.

The good news is that Jeffco School's dropout rate decreased 28% (from 3.2% to 2.3%) in the first year of the Office's existence. More importantly, this

equates to almost four hundred more students staying on the road to a successful future.

This impressive improvement reflects the hard work happening across Jeffco schools, departments and disciplines. Although decreasing the dropout rate is cause for celebration, this is just the beginning. More work must and will be done to ensure that all students graduate with choices.

To learn more or to find out how you can help, contact the Office of Dropout Prevention and Recovery by phone at 303.982.6559, email at [jeffcograduates@jeffco.k12.co.us](mailto:jeffcograduates@jeffco.k12.co.us), or visit the website at [www.jeffcopublicschools.org/finish](http://www.jeffcopublicschools.org/finish).

### Students from the class of 2006-2007 who dropped out are...

- **Twice** as likely to be unemployed
- **Three** times more likely to live in poverty
- **Eight** times more likely to be imprisoned
- Going cost the nation an estimated **\$329 billion** in lost wages, lost taxes and lost productivity over their life times

**Goal: 250 Jeffco School Employees**

**Reality: 215 Jeffco School Employees**

**We hoped 250 Jeffco school employees would donate in 2010 to The Jefferson Foundation through payroll giving.**

**We're 35 employees short of the goal.**

***Help fill our cup!***

*If you are one of the 12,500 employees in Jeffco Schools, it's not too latté to sign up for online payroll giving to The Jefferson Foundation. If every employee gave just \$10 a month, we'd have \$1.5 million to put back into our schools each year.*

*It's quick! It's easy! It contains no artificial sweeteners! For the cost of a latté a month, you could give so much to so many kids in Jeffco public Schools!*



**IT'S NOT TOO LATTE**

**Sign up now at: <http://jeffco.cshares.org/>**



## Upcoming Jefferson Foundation Events: Hope to see you there!

The Jefferson Foundation presents  
**Equity & Excellence Art Show**  
 Opening Reception  
 Education Center Lobby  
 1829 Denver West Drive,  
**Friday, February 5, 5 p.m.**

*Be a kid in a candy store!*  
**Lola's Sugar Rush Fundraiser**  
 10% of sales benefit TJF  
 2490 West Main Street  
 Old Town Littleton  
**Wednesday, February 10, all day**

*Hit the Lakewood Lunchroom!*  
**Eat for Education at 240 Union**  
 25% of food sales to TJF  
**Thursday, February 11, all day**

**Arvada Wheat Ridge**  
**Service Ambassadors**  
**for Youth (AWRSAY) Awards**  
 Ralston Valley High School  
**Wednesday, March 3, 6 p.m.**

The Jefferson Foundation presents  
**Elementary School Art Show**  
 Artist Celebration  
 Red Rocks Community College  
**Friday, March 5, 5 p.m.**

The Jefferson Foundation,  
 Columbine Courier  
 and Southwest Plaza's  
 7th Annual  
**My Student, My Hero**  
 Southwest Plaza  
**Saturday, March 6, 11 a.m.**

The Jefferson Foundation presents  
**A Jeffco Community Night with**  
**the Colorado Avalanche**  
 Discounted tickets online at  
[www.jeffersonfoundation.org](http://www.jeffersonfoundation.org)  
 Colorado Avalanche  
 vs. St. Louis Blues  
 Pepsi Center  
**Saturday, March 6, 7 p.m.**

The Jefferson Foundation presents  
**A Jeffco Community Night with**  
**the Denver Nuggets**  
 Discounted tickets online at  
[www.jeffersonfoundation.org](http://www.jeffersonfoundation.org)  
 Denver Nuggets  
 vs. Memphis Grizzlies  
 Pepsi Center  
**Monday, April 12, 7 p.m.**

The Jefferson Foundation presents  
**Middle School Arts Show Artists**  
**Celebration**  
 Lakewood Cultural Center  
**Thursday, April 22, 5 p.m.**

The Jefferson Foundation presents  
**Jeffco Public Schools Employee**  
**Values Awards**  
 Arvada Center for the Arts &  
 Humanities  
**Wednesday, April 28, 3 p.m.**

The Jefferson Foundation presents  
**"Love Our Schools!" Luncheon**  
 Fundraiser highlighting programs  
 supported by the Foundation  
 To RSVP, call 303.982.2210  
 Sheraton Denver West Hotel  
**Thursday, April 29, 11:30 a.m.**

The Jefferson Foundation presents  
**High School Art Show Awards**  
**Ceremony**  
 Arvada Center for the Arts  
 & Humanities  
**Monday, May 10, 6 p.m.**

### Coming soon!

The Jefferson Foundation presents  
**Jeffco Community Day with the**  
**Colorado Rockies**  
 Discounted tickets online at  
[www.jeffersonfoundation.org](http://www.jeffersonfoundation.org)  
 Coming soon!

The Jefferson Foundation presents  
**25th Annual Crystal Ball**  
 Arvada Center  
 for the Arts & Humanities  
**Saturday, November 6, 5:30 p.m.**

*Stay tuned for more events  
 happening in the coming year!*

**Would you like to sponsor an  
 event? Volunteer to help us  
 with our programs?**

**Give us a call at 303-982-2210**

The Jefferson Foundation  
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Email:  
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 and partner  
 organizations.***

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 name and email address in  
 your message!

## About The Jefferson Foundation . . .

Incorporated in 1983, The Jefferson Foundation is the oldest continuous 501c3 nonprofit K-12 education foundation in Colorado. As an independent nonprofit organization, it raises funds, develops strategic partnerships and supports important programs and projects that enhance public education in Jefferson County. With nearly 85,000 students and 12,500 employees, Jeffco Public Schools is the largest school district in the state.

The Jefferson Foundation strives to be the gold standard in educational foundations in Colorado. Its mission, to support Jeffco Public Schools in preparing all students for a successful future, is affirmed in 2009-2010 with a focus on closing achievement gaps and further increasing graduation rates.

For more information on supporting The Jefferson Foundation or working with us on grant-funded projects, please visit [www.jeffersonfoundation.org](http://www.jeffersonfoundation.org).