

Reports from Grantees

Trustees

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NEXT DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS IS February 15, 2012

For more information about the Open Meadows Foundation and its application process, please:

*Visit our website at:
<http://openmeadows.org>

*Call us at 718-885-0969

*Email us at:
openmeadows@igc.org

* Write for a brochure at:
Open Meadows Foundation
PO Box 150-607
Van Brunt Station
Brooklyn, N Y 11215-0607

There is a movement across the country to awaken consciousness of critical issues that affect girls in awareness across America and throughout the world. Open Meadows supported **September 22nd, The Day of the Girl**. The girls say: "We want equal access to opportunities to express ourselves, learn, grow, and contribute to the world. We want the freedom to be ourselves, and to be seen as equals in our own eyes and the eyes of others."



We want equal access to opportunities to **express ourselves**, learn, grow, and contribute to the world. We want the **freedom to be ourselves**, and to be seen as **equals** in our own eyes and the eyes of others.



JOIN THE MOVEMENT

www.DayOfTheGirl.org

[Facebook.com/DayOfTheGirl](https://www.facebook.com/DayOfTheGirl)

[@DayOfTheGirl](https://twitter.com/DayOfTheGirl)

Their colorful card asks: "WHAT DO GIRLS WANT?" Their answer: "We want equality in everything: Equal access to education opportunities, in the subjects we choose; Recognition for how good we are at math, science, and lots of other stuff; More opportunities to play sports; Media images that show girls and women who actually look like us; Health care that helps us live longer, stronger lives; Freedom from violence, so we can feel safe in our bodies; to make our own choices, regardless of the culture, stereotypes, hemisphere or history we were born into; equal work, equal pay, and equal power. Is this too much to ask?"

Well, we're not asking, we're telling you that we are the future of our planet and our people. We deserve lives filled with abundance, where our voices have impact. We want to be valued and respected so we can exceed expectations. We want what everyone wants: To live our lives in our own ways."

<http://DayoftheGirl.org>
[Facebook.com/DayofTheGirl](https://www.facebook.com/DayofTheGirl)
[@DayoftheGirl](https://twitter.com/DayoftheGirl)

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THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS WERE GRANTEES OF THE FALL 2011 CYCLE:

African American Women's Resource

Center Washington, DC - \$1200
To support the Each One, Coach One project in oratory leadership skills for young women
<http://www.aawrc.org>

Bamboo Bridges

Las Vegas, NV - \$1400
To support Project Resilience which recruits and trains Asian Pacific American women in becoming advocates for APA survivors of domestic violence and/or human trafficking
<http://bamboobridges.org>

Chicago Taskforce on Violence Against Girls & Young Women

Chicago, IL - \$1000
To support the Girls' Truth Media Project in opposing the Violence against Girls
<http://www.chitaskforce.org>

Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative

Kaduna, Nigeria - \$500
To support the Civic Education and Governance Participation for Women
<http://ewei.wetpaint.com>

Feminist Frequency

San Francisco, CA - \$1000
To support the development of Internet tutorial videos on Videoblogging for women and girls
<http://FeministFrequency.com>

Flushing Workers' Center

New York, NY - \$1500
To support the Nail Salon Workers Organizing Project

Generic Ensemble Company

Austin, TX - \$1000
To support the production of *The Experiment* which draws from personalized stories of queer and racialized resistance
<http://genericensemblecompany.blogspot.com/>

The Line Campaign

Brooklyn, NY - \$1000
To support The Line Campaign's Campus & Community Action Groups
<http://whereisyourline.org>

Mujeres al Borde

Bogotá, Columbia - \$1000
To support the Segunda Fase Esculae Audiovisual AL BORDE: Lanzamiento, promoción y distribución
<http://www.mujeresalborde.org>

Pastoralist Rural Environment Network (PREN)

Ngong Hills, Kenya - \$900
To support the Education and Awareness Campaign to Eradicate Female Genital Mutilation in Keekonyoikie Maasai of Kenya

Social Development of Women and Children Social Unity

Baku, Azerbaijan Republic - \$1000
To support the "Stop Violence against women and sexual assault" training

Society Without Violence

Yerevan, Armenia - \$1000
To support "My voice is heard," a public event by regional young women and girls
<http://www.swv.am/>

Umoja wa Ushinkiano na Maendeleo (UWAMA)

Mwanza, Tanzania - \$1000
To support the Community Protection of old Women and ending of the practice of killing of old Women

Women's Global Empowerment Fund

Denver, CO - \$500
To support the filing process for the creation of an Agricultural Union Project in Uganda
<http://www.wgefund.org>

The Ellen Dougherty Activist Fund for Young Women

Colorful Girls

Santa Rosa, CA - \$1000
To support the Girls' Advisory Board in Burma

The Jeanne Meurer Indigenous Women's Fund

Indian Senior Center

Ukiah, CA - \$1000
To support the Indian Senior Center Grandmothers' Circle

The Susan F. Eastman Fund for Environmental Activism

Tufukoza Wajja Yovani Association

Mbale, Uganda - \$877
To support the Community Sanitation and Women Development/Training Project

The Kologi Sports and Recreation Fund

Soccer Without Borders

Hanover, NH - \$1000

To support a woman coach for the girls' soccer team in Granada, Nicaragua

<http://soccerwithoutborders.org>

The PatsyLu Fund for Music Projects

The Fund for Women Artists, Inc.

San Francisco, CA - \$2000

To support the composer's fee for the Fannie Lou Hamer opera by Mary Watkins: The Dark River Opera Project: A Collaboration Between WomenArts and Mary Watkins

<http://womenarts.org/>

Jamaesori

San Francisco, CA - \$550

To support the costumes and instruments for Sister to Sister: Drumming for Peace

<http://jamaesori.wordpress.com/>

Shelter Music Boston

Arlington, MA - \$1200

To support the Shelter Music Boston concerts at Rosie's Place, a sanctuary for poor and homeless women

<http://www.sheltermusicboston.org/>

The Nouveau Classical Project

New York, NY - \$1000

To support In & Around C, a program to engage new audiences in classical music through participation with experimental musical sound

<http://www.nouveauclassical.org/>

The India Fund

Women Education and Empowerment Organisation

Kedar, Tamil Nadu, India - \$1600

To support the Women Legal Rights Awareness Education project

Social Organization for Urban and Rural Empowerment

Nellore, Andhra Pradesh, India - \$1475

To support the workshops on girl child rights and oppose tribal girl child marriages

Rural Women's Development Trust

Vellore, Andhra Pradesh, India - \$1500

To support the involvement of women's federation networks, and activists for achieving the women's governance at the local level

REPORTS ON PAST PROJECTS continued

The Fannie Lou Hamer Cancer Foundation

received support for the We Too Make a Difference (We2MAD) project, in which 20 Students in 4 county school districts in Mississippi were identified and trained to become Junior Youth Health Advisors about Breast and Cervical Cancer. The Student Advisors went out in their communities to find unscreened women. A total of 107 women were found who had never or rarely had a Mammogram or Pap test and were then referred for appointments. Partnerships were formed with the Mississippi Network for Cancer Control and Prevention, a program of the University of Southern Mississippi and MS state department of Health /Breast and Cervical Cancer Program(BCCP), both of which helped the women with the appointments for screening. Two of the women were found to have stage II breast cancer. "The Fannie Lou Hamer Cancer Foundation plans to continue to develop partnerships to assist in the reduction of cancer health disparities in the State."

http://www.fannielouhamer.info/cancer_foundation.html

Prison of Peace was funded to conduct 4 training programs designed to embed personal and group peace meetings and conflict resolution skills into prison culture at the Valley State Women's Prison in California. This prison, built to hold 2000 women, now has 3200 offenders in all classifications and is one of the largest women's prison in the world. The training focused on inmates who were serving life (with or without parole) or long-term sentences. "Succeeding well beyond any expectation, not only has this program resulted in enhanced communication and personal problem solving skills for these first 15 participants, but the Peace Circles they have run have become so popular within the prison community that they are unable to keep up with the demand for the process.

Because of their remarkable work, the first 15 women were awarded the 2010 Cloke/Millen Peacemaker of the Year Award by the Southern California Mediation Association. Out of these trainings, 22 women continued and received a Mediation certificate. Already the Mediators are solving disputes within the prison and de-escalating conflict, and preventing altercations.

<http://prisonofpeace.org/>

Amerat of the Desert was awarded a grant for its Right to Education project for Bedouin girls in the Negev communities, Israel. The problem of the high rate of school drop out in the Negev, especially in the unrecognized villages was having a negative effect of this Arab community. Girls drop out for reasons of poverty, distance of schools from villages, poor conditions in the schools, lack of municipal resources allocated to education, and the central authorities discriminatory policies. At a meeting, where these issues were discussed, the film "Suicide" was shown. This film examines the practice of denying the girls in the Negev district access to education and follows the lives of 3 young girls and their desperate decision whether or not to end their lives, one of whom does. Amerat of the Desert knows that the Right to Education Project was only a beginning and plans to continue their work to galvanize the communities to participate in civil society activism.
<http://amerat.org/>

Radar Productions received a grant in support of the 2011 Sister Spit tour in various California cities where their performances discussed the issues facing queer youth and contemporary queer artists featuring artistic director Michelle Tea, Mexican American novelist Myrian Grba, award winning poet Ali Liebegott, queer performance artist Kirk Read, transgender photographer and magazine editor Amos Max, novelist Blake Nelson, and Japanese American graphic novelist Marie Naomi.

Michelle Tea says: "Perhaps the most poignant moment of the California leg of this tour was meeting with the 80 plus students who make up the Pasadena Queer Alliance. The Sister Spit artists were energized and excited to meet with students who are so clearly resisting the societal messages about who and what they are."
<http://radarproductions.org/>

These reports in their variety and depth suggest the seriousness of purpose and industry of women across the world.

For more information about any of the projects, please e-mail Nancy Dean, editor of this newsletter, at enndean@mindspring.com

DEADLINES FOR APPLICATIONS ARE FEBRUARY 15 AND AUGUST 15

Open Meadows Foundation is a grant-making organization for projects that are led by and benefit women and girls, particularly those from vulnerable communities. Open Meadows Foundation funds projects that do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, national origin, gender identity and expression, sexual identity and expression, age or ability. It offers grants up to \$2000 to projects that:

- * Are designed and implemented by women and girls;
- * Reflect the diversity of the community served by the project in both its leadership and organization;
- * Promote building community power;
- * Promote gender, racial, social, economic and environmental justice; and
- * Have limited financial access or have encountered obstacles in their search for funding.

Organizational budgets should not exceed \$150,000.

!Small and start-up organizations are strongly encouraged to apply!

Proposals from organizations not previously funded by Open Meadows have priority.