

# \$4.3 Million in Grants Awarded for Fourth Quarter of 2013

The Iowa West Foundation has announced nearly \$4.3 million in grants for the fourth quarter of 2013. The grants will be used to assist 32 non-profit organizations and governmental entities with funding for area projects.

“Economic development and education are two of the Iowa West Foundation’s top strategic focus areas, and our grants in those areas came to the forefront this round,” said Pete Tulipana, President and CEO of the Iowa West Foundation. “The largest grant award is for the creation and operation of Advance Southwest Iowa, a collaboration with the Greater Omaha Economic Development Partnership. We also continue two of our key education initiatives, Iowa West Opportunity Scholarships and the College Access Program.”

Tulipana highlighted the Foundation’s role as both a “convener” and a “funder” of Advance Southwest Iowa, a unique public-private partnership including the City of Council Bluffs, the Council Bluffs Area Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Omaha Economic Development Partnership, the Iowa West Foundation, Pottawattamie County, and the Western Iowa Development Association. Iowa West’s grant is for \$2.2 million over the next five years.

“This is an important step for the success of economic development in the region,” added Tulipana. “In these changing times, success in economic development is enhanced through regional cooperation.”

In the focus area of education, the Iowa West Foundation will continue to fund two of its own initiatives, which were announced in 2009 – the Iowa West Opportunity Scholarship Program and the College Access Program (CAP). The 2014 scholarships will be funded with \$495,000, and CAP with \$345,000. Both programs are designed to assist local high school students, who might not otherwise go to college.

“Programs such as these are making a difference here and across the nation,” said Tulipana, “and the Iowa West Foundation Board wants to continue to help youth who aspire to achieve higher education.”

There are 25 scholarships available for high school seniors attending school in Pottawattamie County. They are for \$16,000 over four years. The program is administered by the Iowa College Foundation. For more information on the criteria and how to apply for Iowa West Opportunity Scholarships visit [www.iowawestfoundation.org](http://www.iowawestfoundation.org).

For more information regarding grant applications and deadlines, visit [www.iowawestfoundation.org](http://www.iowawestfoundation.org), where funding guidelines and procedures can be accessed, or call 712-309-3000.

## CAP HELPS STUDENTS CHART A PATH TO HIGHER EDUCATION

The College Access Program (CAP) was established in 2009 with an initial \$4.4 million commitment from the Iowa West Foundation. In 2013, the first group of students to complete the program graduated, with 100 percent of students moving on to further their education.

Each year 25 students are identified in eighth grade to participate in CAP throughout their high school years. This timing helps ensure that CAP students make a successful transition into high school and on to college. The program includes components such as assistance with financial aid, college placement test preparation, campus visits, and academic planning.

The program is for four years, and is available for students attending Council Bluffs Abraham Lincoln High School and Council Bluffs Thomas Jefferson High School. It is administered by the AIM Institute. For more information, contact a counselor at those two schools.



IOWA WEST FOUNDATION

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# 2013 Fourth Quarter Grant Recipients

## African Culture Connection

Summer residency program at three Council Bluffs schools

## Ballet Nebraska

Performance at Iowa Western Community College in Council Bluffs

## Bluffs Arts Council

General operating support for 2014

## Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska - Omaha

Arts education for southwest Iowa teachers

## Buena Vista University

"Telepresence" for Council Bluffs site

## Center for the Advancement of Self-Sufficiency Incorporated

Technology upgrades for Atlantic facility serving the disabled

## City of Corning

Computers for patrons and staff at the library

## City of Red Oak

Implementation of downtown revitalization plan

## CommonBond Communities

"Wabash Place" - affordable housing complex in south Council Bluffs

## Downtown Omaha, Inc. Foundation

Holiday Lights Festival

## Food Bank for the Heartland

"Weekend Food for Kids" in Omaha metro area

## Girl Scouts of Greater Iowa Inc.

Outreach and operating support for Council Bluffs office

## Girls Incorporated of Omaha

Renovation of "North Center" facility

## Greater Omaha Chamber Foundation

The "Advance Southwest Iowa" collaboration

## Green Hills Area Education Agency

Planning for a career technical institute in southwest Iowa

Summer leadership academies in southwest Iowa

## Heartland Family Service

HEAT 2014 emergency assistance for families in Pottawattamie County

## Indian Creek Historical Society and Museum

Restoration of barn for museum near Emerson

## Iowa West Foundation Initiative

College Access Program (CAP) administered by AIM Institute

Iowa West Opportunity Scholarships administered by the Iowa College Foundation

## Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska, Inc.

Pottawattamie County treatment program for families affected by child abuse

## Mills County Conservation

Construction of a new nature and education center

## Mills County Public Health

"Family Matters" drug abuse recovery project

## Omaha Botanical Center, Inc.

Railroad Days 2014 - a collaborative regional celebration

## Omaha Children's Museum

Renovation of the museum's "Grocery Store" area

## Omaha Symphony Association

"Adventures in Music" for southwest Iowa students

## Opera Omaha

Opportunities for local students to attend "Cinderella"

## Outlook Nebraska, Inc.

Expansion of education center for blind/visually impaired in Omaha metro

## Southwest Iowa Nature Trails, Inc.

Maintenance equipment for the Wabash Trace

## Ted E. Bear Hollow, Inc.

Outreach of grieving services into Council Bluffs schools

## The Danish Immigrant Museum

Curatorial Center addition with "green roof" at museum in Elk Horn

## The Durham Museum

"The 1968 Exhibit" - traveling exhibition in Omaha metro area

## The Nature Conservancy

Fire management education for the Loess Hills of western Iowa

## Vocational Development Center, Inc.

Expansion of building and services for the disabled in Council Bluffs

## Youth Emergency Services, Inc.

Homeless services for Omaha-Council Bluffs youth

The Iowa West Foundation, which is headquartered in Council Bluffs, receives its funding for grants from investment income and also from the Iowa West Racing Association. The Association receives sponsorship license fees from casino operators - Ameristar and Harrah's.

The Foundation has provided more than \$300 million in grants to non-profits and governmental entities since the inception of its grants program in 1996.



The Iowa West Foundation is a 501(c)(3) private foundation that is funded from its investment income and from the Iowa West Racing Association, which receives fee income from local casino operators.



*OUR VISION is a community where families choose to live, and businesses choose to locate, because of its quality of life and standard of living.*