



2017-2018 Collaborative Opportunity Grants Application

Mission Statement of Junior League of Lafayette

Junior League of Lafayette is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

Applications that will directly impact Junior League of Lafayette's focus areas of child health and the development and the general well-being of women will be given priority.

Any organization applying for funding through a Junior League of Lafayette grant must meet ALL of the following stipulations:

1. Organizations must have a 501(c)(3) status with the Internal Revenue Service and/or a qualified nonprofit group.
2. Agency must have a local Board of Directors.
3. Funds must be utilized in Lafayette Parish.
4. All attachments required in the grant application process must be in the name of the agency submitting the application.
5. Completed application must be received by Junior League of Lafayette by said deadline

Request for funding the following WILL NOT be considered:

- Fundraising events
- Research efforts
- Deficit financing
- Conference or seminar fees
- Travel expenses
- Endowments
- Scholarships
- Individuals
- Media events
- Sectarian religious projects
- General operating expenses including salaries
- Office furniture
- Production and development of television or radio programs
- Lobbying

The Collaborative Opportunity Grant enables Junior League of Lafayette to offer local nonprofit organizations funding for short-term projects. If selected, the project must be completed between



October 1, 2017, and April 30, 2018. In addition to monetary funding, between five (5) and ten (10) trained Junior League of Lafayette volunteers will be provided to assist in the planning, execution and completion of the selected project.

Please note the following important stipulations regarding Collaborative Opportunity Grants:

A Junior League committee member will be assigned to chair the project. The Junior League Committee Chair will purchase the supplies for your project. You may shop with the Junior League member; however, Junior League of Lafayette is not allowed to reimburse you nor your organization for supplies.

In the event the budget is not exhausted; the funds are not available to be contributed as a donation.

The Collaborative Opportunity Grants Committee cannot participate in, contribute to, or assist with the fundraising of other agencies and organizations.

The Collaborative Opportunity Grant monies will be awarded in amounts up to \$1,500.00. These monies will be allocated in mid-September of 2017. Grants are awarded for a one-year period of time. All agencies receiving a Collaborative Opportunity Grant must submit a final report to Junior League of Lafayette after completion of the project. A grant reporting form will be provided.

Grant Application Deadline

All applications must be received by or before 12 p.m. on June 2, 2017. One (1) printed copy must arrive via postal carrier or be hand-delivered to Junior League of Lafayette Headquarters. One (1) electronic copy must also be submitted to grants@juniorleagueoflafayette.com. Any application that is received after the deadline will not be considered.

The 2017-2018 Collaborative Grants Committee looks forward to working with you and your agency. Please direct all questions to Emily Hamner, Collaborative Opportunity Grants Chair by email at grants@juniorleagueoflafayette.com or by phone at (337) 235-6436.

Sincerely,

Emily Hamner
Junior League of Lafayette
Collaborative Opportunity Grants Chair 2017-2018

Part I. General Information

Organization Name: Shining Light Foundation

Address: P.O. Box 60602, Lafayette, Louisiana 70596



Phone Number: (337) 945-3745 Email Address: theshininglightfoundation@gmail.com

Name of Chief Executive Officer: Joseph Cilano, Executive Director

Chief Executive Officer's Contact Number: (337) 945-3745 Email Address: theshininglightfoundation@gmail.com

Name of Project Director: John Broussard

Project Director's Contact Number: (337) 298-1588 Email Address: JBZydeco@cox.net

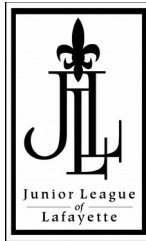
1. Organization's Mission Statement: To provide assistance to individual children for academic, cultural and personal enrichment so that every child's light will shine.
2. Brief History of the Organization and its Programs and Activities: The Shining Light Foundation was founded as a non-profit organization in 1997 to help students in Lafayette Parish public schools participate in school activities. Our primary focus has been funding participation in class field trips and their school bands.

Between 2001 and 2017, we funded 1,505 applications totaling \$66,289.00. Applications included 356 assisted with musical instrument totaling \$39,921.50 and 1,141 students assisted with other needs (primarily cultural / educational field trips) that totaled \$27,367.50. This current academic year, we have assisted a total 271 students (a dramatic increase from previous years), 43 applicants were provided assistance for musical instruments, 228 students were provided cultural / educational field trip scholarships, and 3 students assisted with special projects (summer school) totaling \$5,552.72.

3. Brief Summary of the Project you would like Junior League to help you with:

The goal of the program is to provide musical instruments, equipment, supplies, field trips and tutoring services to Lafayette Parish public school students in **pre-kindergarten** and through **eighth** grade whose families cannot afford to provide this support. Last year, we expanded our program to include pre-kindergarten, seventh grade and eight grade in response to requests from teachers and counselors.

4. Target population of the Program/Project: Underserved children in Lafayette Parish public schools grades pre-K through 8th grade.
5. How many people do you estimate will be impacted by the Project: Because of the increased need over last fiscal year, we anticipate serving 200 students plus family



members who appreciate assistance for their children and recognize that this community cares about them. Teachers, counselors and principals are also affected.

6. Demonstrate Community Need for Project: Many school bands do not have enough instruments for the students who need them and many students are left behind while their classmates go on cultural / educational field trips. Applicants are asked to pay a portion of the cost and, in the application, whether or not the student receives free lunch, which helps us determine eligibility. We anticipate approximately 200 applications for assistance at the next academic year and the number is increasing, particularly with the current downturn in employment.
7. How will this Project's success be evaluated and measured? We will provide evaluation forms to the school personnel who apply for the grants and request feedback on their progress.
8. How do you feel this Project is congruent to the Mission of Junior League of Lafayette? Children who participate in music, field trips and tutoring have greater success in school, socialization and community participation. It also enables the student to experience life outside their neighborhood, often for the first time. Applicants will not have musical instruments, cultural / educational field trips or tutoring without our help. Applications have increased with expansion of our program to include pre-kindergarten and eighth grade and increased student population. We are an agency of last resort.

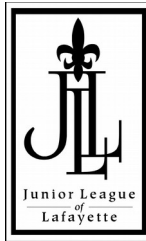
We are also receiving feedback from parents, grandparents and guardians about the very positive impact our program has on families when their children receive assistance to participate in school programs.

Our organization was built on grassroots efforts by community leaders who truly care about all children having an opportunity to be successful in life. There is no doubt that our programs and services help children build character; learn discipline, respect, and integrity while persevering through challenges that help propel them academically.

Enabling children to participate in cultural enrichment opportunities builds self-esteem and can have a positive effect on learning, positive changes in self-confidence, teacher perception and school completion. These experiences spark enthusiasm and prepare them with a rewarding life of continuous learning.

9. Amount of Funds Requested: \$1,500.00 (this amount will greatly aid in our ability to fund this project for the approaching academic year).

(a maximum of \$1,500.00 may be awarded per project grant)



10. Timeline for the Project:

Month: October 1, 2017 through April 30, 2018 Day or Night/Weekend: During school weekdays

11. Number of Volunteers Requested: We could use volunteers with expertise to help us with public awareness of our programs and services through community-wide social media outreach.

Part II. Checklist of Attachments.

Attachments should include the following information and be supplied in the order listed below. If your agency's name has changed, all attachments required within must be in the name of the agency submitting the application.

- X 1. Copy of Internal Revenue Service letter stating that the organization is tax exempt or a copy of the organization's fiscal agent's 501(c)3 designated letter. If the organization is using a fiscal agent, a letter from the fiscal agent's organization stating its willingness to serve is also requested.
- X 2. A list of the agency's current Board of Directors.
- X 3. Statement from a representative of the organization's Board of Directors authorizing the request and agreeing to implement the project if funded.
- X 4. Detailed project budget, including income sources and expenditures. Applicants are strongly encouraged to itemize and provide supporting documentation of all proposed expenditures, including any pertinent estimates or bids for goods or services to be obtained from outside sources. Also include a list of other sources of funding (pending or approved) for this project.
- X 5. A list of the organizations' top three (3) funding sources, the last three (3) years of the total revenues and total expenses of the organization, a current operating budget, and a statement of the percentage of the most current year's budget spent on programs.
- X 6. An audit or IRS Form 990 from the organization's most current year.

Applicants should submit one (1) copy of their completed application stapled, but not bound to:



Junior League of Lafayette
Attn: Collaborative Opportunity Grants Chair
504 Richland Ave.
Lafayette, LA 70508

Applicants should submit one (1) electronic copy of their completed application via email. Agencies can email grants@juniorleagueoflafayette.com to confirm receipt of their grant application submission, but should do so with sufficient time to re-submit the application before the deadline if it has not been received. ***Applications must be received by or before 12:00 p.m. on Friday June 2, 2017. Applications received after this deadline will not be considered.***