

THE SCHENECTADY FOUNDATION PRESENTS

Thriving Neighborhoods CHALLENGE



What's Your Idea?

Schenectady's Thriving Neighborhoods Challenge is The Schenectady Foundation's new grant program, intended to help make Schenectady's neighborhoods stronger, healthier, safer, greener, and more sustainable. The Challenge empowers citizens to come forward with their best ideas for improving their community – and then to actually make them happen! Along the way, neighborhood leadership is strengthened, and more people become involved.

The Schenectady Foundation has created the **Thriving Neighborhoods Fund**, through which it will award grants to the best proposals submitted for neighborhood improvement. The projects need to be “doable” with the funds awarded, or other sources of funding, and completed within 12 months of being awarded.

Grants: As much as \$250,000 will be available in Round One of the Challenge, with awards to be announced in early January 2019. We are looking for projects of all sizes. While we expect that most grants will be smaller -- \$10,000 or less – we have the ability to fund a single large project up to \$100,000. We also look to fund at least one youth-driven project.

The Foundation intends to make the Challenge a continuing program, with funds being awarded annually.

Project Categories: Among the possible project types are Beautification; Environment; Public Safety; Health and Well-being; Walkability; Community Building and Citizen Engagement; Accessibility; and Public Art.

Project Selection: A “Challenge Council” will be formed (made up of community members, Challenge investors, and stakeholders) that will select projects to receive funding. When making funding decisions, the Council will prioritize projects that:

- Bring together a group of people who really care about the issue at hand;
- Make a powerful impact on the neighborhood;
- Lead to positive movement in the community;
- Focus on sustainability into the future; and
- Utilize other resources, in addition to the Challenge grant funding

For more information contact: Kristi Miller at (518) 393-9500 or KMiller@schenectadyfoundation.org and visit the Foundation's website at www.schenectadyfoundation.org



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Coming to a neighborhood near you!

You're invited to join us at an upcoming "town hall" meeting to learn more about the "Challenge" and how you and your community group or organization can participate.

Meetings are currently scheduled for:

Thursday, September 20, 2018 – 6:30pm

Ellis McClellan Street Health Center Auditorium, 600 McClellan Street, Schenectady

Saturday, September 22, 2018 – 10:00am

Phyllis Bornt Branch Library, 948 State Street, Schenectady

Monday, September 24, 2018 – 6:00pm

Rosa Venerini Early Childhood Center, 1840 Van Vranken Ave, Schenectady

Wednesday, September 26, 2018 – 6:00pm

Steinmetz Homes Community Room, 120 Emmons Street, Schenectady

Wednesday, October 3, 2018 – 6:30pm

Schenectady County Public Library, 99 Clinton Street, Schenectady

If you would like to have a representative from The Schenectady Foundation speak at one of your organization's meetings about the Thriving Neighborhoods Challenge, please contact Kristi Miller at (518) 393-9500 or KMiller@schenectadyfoundation.org



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Keys Dates for 2018 Challenge Participants

- September 19:** Proposal forms available at www.schenectadyfoundation.org
- October 19:** Last day to submit proposals for Round One
- October 26:** Challenge “finalists” notified by The Schenectady Foundation;
Finalists begin preparing presentations
- Late November:** Finalists make presentations to members of Challenge Council
- December:** Council recommends projects to The Schenectady Foundation;
Foundation Board approves Challenge grants
- January:** Neighborhood Challenge grants are announced
- January:** Selected projects are matched with non-profit “anchor” organizations;
Project planning continues
- Winter/Spring:** Project implementation begins

If you have any questions, please contact Kristi Miller at (518) 393-9500 or
KMiller@schenectadyfoundation.org



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Sincere thanks to Schenectady's Thriving Neighborhoods Challenge Investors

To-date major contributions have been received from



Neil & Jane
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