



FUND FOR  
TEACHERS

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### PEF Celebrates 2019 Fund for Teachers Fellowships

*16 Hamilton County educators to share travel & learning experiences with community*

CHATTANOOGA, September 24, 2019 – For the seventh consecutive year, Hamilton County public school educators earned grants for self-designed summer fellowships to enrich student learning. These grants are made possible by the national non-profit Fund for Teachers and are administered locally through a partnership with the Public Education Foundation (PEF). Throughout the summer, sixteen Hamilton County teachers from thirteen schools visited four continents and five countries to build upon their skills as a teacher, as well as bring back new and exciting experiences to their schools, students, and communities.

To celebrate, Fund for Teachers and PEF will host their annual Learning Showcase Celebration this month on **September 26, 5:30PM at PEF's Ruth S. Holmberg Leadership Center, 3rd Floor, 100 E. 10th Street**. During the event, Fellows will showcase their travel and learning experiences, which they will incorporate into their classroom curriculum for their students. This is a unique opportunity to hear firsthand from Fellows, to network, and to develop ideas for future Fund for Teachers grant writing.

This event is open to the public, and heavy hors d'oeuvres will be provided. Registration is encouraged and is free to attend. To register, please visit our Eventbrite page at [bit.ly/2Lg5lRr](https://bit.ly/2Lg5lRr) or email Cliff Brittingham at [cbrittingham@pefchattanooga.org](mailto:cbrittingham@pefchattanooga.org).

#### **2019 Fund for Teachers Hamilton County Cohort:**

- ◆ **Lauren Pritchett of Middle Valley Elementary School** explored bridges in the United Kingdom to compare a number of factors, including local populations, building materials, architectural history and community impact, in order to engage in parallel studies of the Chattanooga bridges and communities.
- ◆ **Cheryl Laitner of Soddy Daisy Middle School and Ryan Rainey of Eastside Elementary School** observed Inclusion Speech and Language Services in various schools in the Eastside of London with Speech and Language Therapists from the U.K. National Health Services. Additionally, they observed Speech and Language Therapists in different clinical settings in Birmingham and Worcestershire.
- ◆ **Jaime Kerns of Red Bank High School and Carol Bird of Hixson High School** explored the intersection of culture, history, cuisine and agricultural science through Peru's unique products and practices. They also focused on how the unique cultural and environmental diversity of Peru has influenced and continues to shape the global landscape.
- ◆ **Susan Everly of the Howard School** visited Bali to attend a creativity and mindfulness retreat to learn practices for stress reduction, deep focus, and cooperative resolution. Also, she studied its unique biomes, agriculture, and tourism industries.
- ◆ **Larry Daniels of Soddy Daisy High School** traveled to nine national parks, one national monument, and one state park. He documented many of the projects developed within the structure of the New Deal, and brings this knowledge back to his classroom in order to deepen his student's understanding of the impact the New Deal had on the U.S. both then and now.

- ◆ **Jana Clemons of Lofitis Middle School and Shannon Roddy of Signal Mountain Middle/High School** explored successful, established library programs in England to gain inspiration and information on how these evolving institutions have thrived throughout history. They also built relationships with sister libraries, allowing them to broaden students' cultural awareness through exposure to the historical and popular culture of England as it compares to America.
- ◆ **Jeremy Henderson of Chattanooga High School Center for Creative Arts** explored historically significant sites relating to the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 mission and other sites related to the spirit of American ingenuity that came before this momentous event changed American and world history.
- ◆ **Shannon Stidham of Woodmore Elementary School** traveled to London, England and toured the different settings and inspirations of the Harry Potter series. She also visited Copenhagen, Denmark and toured the different WWII settings from the book *Number the Stars*.
- ◆ **Arthur Williams of Lakside Academy** visited the schools of the STEM Canadian professional learning network to see how they have implemented STEM and MakerSpaces in their schools. He also attended the International Society for Technology Education conference to connect with experts in these areas.
- ◆ **Shannon Seigle and David Vanzant of STEM School Chattanooga** visited self-sufficient, environmentally focused, community engrained FabLabs in Peru to continue shifting the educational paradigm towards digital fabrication and 21st-century skill development, while championing the heart of the Chattanooga Renaissance.
- ◆ **Madison Lowry of STEM School Chattanooga and Emily Hurst of Soddy Daisy Middle School** traveled to San Francisco to attend a three day national STEM expo. They attended workshops that ranged from the latest technology available to integration techniques for learning.

Fund for Teachers allotted over \$75,000 in grant awards for Hamilton County public school teachers this year. All preK-12 teachers were invited to apply for up to \$5,000 as individuals or \$10,000 as a team. In partnership with PEF, Fund for Teachers has provided more than \$706,000 in grants to 178 Hamilton County public school teachers over the last seven years.

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#### **ABOUT PEF**

PEF is transforming public education. For over 25 years, we have worked in partnership with Hamilton County Schools and provide training, research, and resources to teachers, principals, and schools. Our mission is to increase student achievement, so all our students succeed in learning and in life. For more information, please visit [pefchattanooga.org](http://pefchattanooga.org).

#### **ABOUT FUND FOR TEACHERS**

Fund for Teachers supports preK-12 teachers' pursuit of learning experiences that impact their practice, students, and school communities. By awarding grants for self-designed fellowships, Fund for Teachers empowers educators as professionals, role models, explorers, and scholars. For more information, please visit [fundforteachers.org](http://fundforteachers.org).