



Seward Community Foundation

An Affiliate of The Alaska Community Foundation



Local Artists in the Schools

By Marc Swanson, SCF Advisor



Seward Community Foundation is proud to partner with the Seward Arts Council and the Seward PTA to provide an Artist in the Schools program for local schools.

The idea began in 2018 when local artist Marissa Beck and Seward teacher Tara Swanson were lamenting on the lack of a defined arts program within the schools. They wanted to develop a funding opportunity that would pay local artists to work within

the schools with students. As Swanson pointed out, the benefit would be twofold—a spectrum of art specialists would enhance the school's curriculum, and the program would financially support local artists.

[Learn more >](#)

Inspired by this story? Please consider a [donation](#) to the *Ralph and Anne Hatch Family Arts, Music, and Education Fund*.



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2nd Annual Community Picnic

A Fun and Rainy Day

By Marc Swanson, SCF Advisor



It took more than rain, wind, and fog to keep the folks away from SCF's 2nd Annual Community Picnic to celebrate area nonprofits. Despite the less-than-perfect weather, an estimated 125 folk gathered under the Branson Pavilion to celebrate another year showcasing the good works of local nonprofits. Several local nonprofits were represented.

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Port City Players Murder Mystery Dinners!

By Ryan Fisher, SCF Advisor

The Seward Community Foundation awarded a mini-grant of \$600 to the Port City Players to help put on a Halloween Murder Mystery Dinner later this month. There has been a hiatus of live performance shows and activities since the pandemic, and this small venue production is a great way to get back into supporting Seward's talented actors.

The Port City Players will put on four murder mystery dinners at Primrose Provisions on October 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th. The theme of the dinners will be Little Shop of Rocky Horror, with participants interacting as characters in the show.

Tickets will go on sale soon via [Primrose Provisions'](#) website.

This grant is funded by the Seward Community Foundation Fund.

2023 Grant Calendar

Major Grant Cycle



SCF's Major Grant Cycle opens on January 9th and closes at 5 PM on February 3rd. [Read More>](#)

January 4th - Nonprofit Luncheon

Mark your calendars for a nonprofit lunch with SCF! We'll announce the 2023 grant dollars, and there will be a chance to win a \$1,000 grant in our popular Guess-the-Amount contest! Time and Place to be determined

Mini-Grants

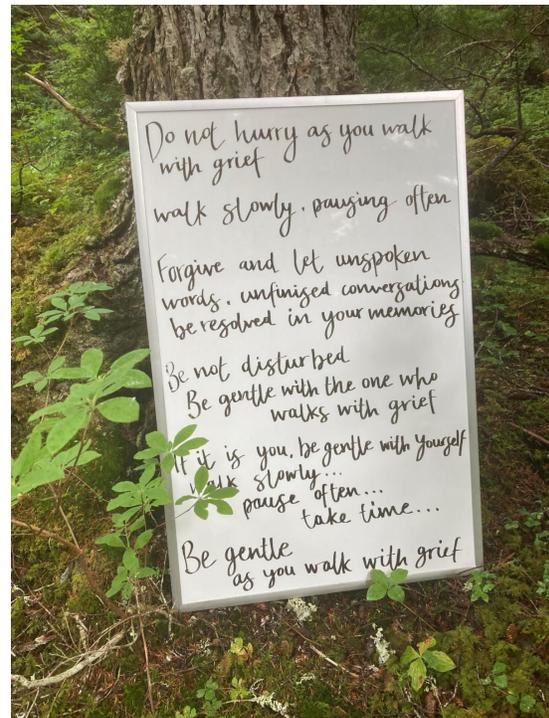
Mini-grants of up to \$1,000 are a flexible funding opportunity that may support a broad range of community needs throughout the year. Applications are due by the 5th of each month. [Apply Today!](#)

Grant questions? We are here to help! Email seward@alaskacf.org with your questions, or we can arrange a time to speak with you.

Hike for Hospice

by Mark Swanson, SPC Advisor

On July 23rd, Seward Area Hospice hosted its second annual Hike for Hospice at the Grayling Lake Trail. The event was awarded a \$1,000 mini-grant from Seward Community Foundation to purchase sustainable equipment that the organization could use for future events. The items purchased were a canopy, table, banner, and water cooler.





"(The Event) provides the opportunity for people to hike in memory of a loved one who has died or to honor someone who is seriously ill. Though this is a fundraising event, we want the heart of hospice to shine through and so focus our efforts on making it a meaningful event for all who take part. There are places to pause and reflect on dying and grief, whatever stage you are at on your journey. Sharing people's stories and hearing about their loved ones is always a privilege."

-Lauren Coleman, SAH Bereavement Coordinator

Seward Area Hospice provides invaluable service for residents who are experiencing terminal illnesses. SAH's mission is to enable comfort, dignity, and choice to families and individuals during their end of life. Seward Area Hospice supports clients with trained staff and volunteers to assist with non-medical needs.

SCF is proud to support Seward Area Hospice. We look forward to next year's event.

This grant was funded by the Seward Community Foundation Fund.



Nonprofit Highlight:

He Will Provide Food Pantry

The food pantry is open from 3 to 6 pm on Thursdays. And usually the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, and not Thanksgiving Day.

Can you donate? This time of year clean socks and hats are always popular, and fresh produce is welcome year-round.

Grant Awards!

SCF is proud to support these amazing organizations and their programs!

Month Awarded	Nonprofit	Program/Project	Award
June	Boy Scouts	Camping Supplies	\$1,000
June	Seward Quilt Group by the Seward Senior Center	Veteran Quilts	\$1,000
June	BCVFD	Rural Hitch Water Supply	\$1,000
August	Seward Arts Council	Rocky Horror Event	\$600
August	Seward Community Health Center	Travel Expenses	\$1,000
August	Alaska SeaLife Center	In Memory of Sawyer Nichols by SCF	\$1,000
September	Seward Mural Society	Sept Mural Painting	\$1,000
September	Seward Area Hospice, Inc	General Support by Marilyn Sutherland	\$500
September	Seward Senior Center	General Support by Marilyn Sutherland	\$500
September	Seward PTA	Artist in the School Funding by Lettie Swanson	\$1,000
September	Alaska SeaLife Center	Octopus Enrichment by Laura Swihart	\$500

2022 Match Goal



Double Your Impact through December 31st

As 2022 comes to a close, so does our goal of reaching \$25,000 as part of the 2022 Match Program. With your help, we can reach our goal! Through December 31st, your donation to SCF's Unrestricted Endowment Fund or Operating Endowment Fund will be generously matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$25,000 by the Rasmuson Foundation and The Alaska Community Foundation. To donate, visit www.sewardcf.org/donate.

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Friends of the Library Restores Hand-sewn Benny Benson Flag

by Marc Swanson, SCF Advisor

Friends of the Seward Library was awarded a major SCF grant of \$4,000 to restore one of the original hand-sewn Benny Benson flags. This flag was first presented to Mrs. Viola Swetmann, one of the founders of the Seward Community Library, who loaned it to the library for display.

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Advisory Board Highlight: Melanie Smith



Seward Community Foundation is thrilled to welcome its newest Board Member, Melanie Smith, who joined the board in February of 2022. Originally from Fairbanks and Bethel, Melanie moved to Seward in 2006 when her husband, Smitty, attended AVTEC. After finishing her Master of Social Work degree from Walla Walla University, Melanie moved back to Seward in 2012 with her husband and two children in tow. "I love the warmth and friendliness of the people in Seward and Moose Pass," said Melanie when asked what she loves most about our communities. "We always join together to serve those in need, to solve problems, and to have fun while making our community a better place."

[Read More](#)



Thank you for caring!

We are grateful!

The Seward Community Foundation would like to thank the many donors who supported SCF through **Pick.Click.Give.** this year. Because of your donations, we can better support our local nonprofit organizations that do so much to enhance the lives of our community members. Your donations will make a big difference for years to come. *Forever.*

Collaboration Brings New Mural to TelAlaska Building

by Teal Hall, SCF Advisor

In September, the Seward Arts Council received a \$1,000 mini-grant for supplies for its "Seward's



COLLABORATION
MURAL
 "SEWARD
 NATIVE ROOTS"

Native Roots" 2022 mural project. The mural is a collaboration with the Qutekcak Native Tribe and Seward Mural Society and has been in the works for almost ten years.

"Some of the murals in Seward tell of its founding, the importance of location as a railroad port, or commercial fishing as an industry. But up to now, the Alaska Native story has not been illustrated or noted fully," said Jennifer Headtke, founding member of the Seward Mural Society. "This mural starts to do that."

[Read More](#)

SCF Hosts Free Nonprofit Training

By Teal Hall, SCF Advisor



Seward Community Foundation was pleased to bring The Foraker Group to Seward on September 23rd for a half day of free classes for our nonprofit community. Nonprofit leaders, staff, and volunteers gathered at the Alaska SeaLife Center for two, 1 ½ hr long sessions on topics designed to help their organizations learn new strategies for budgeting, recruitment, advertising, and how to create a more diverse and welcoming organization.

Laurie Wolf from The Foraker group taught two in-person classes. Board Recruitment & Retention during session one, and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion during session two. Foraker Group's Kimberly Waller and Chellie Skoog joined everyone virtually to teach classes on DIY Social Media and Budgeting for Nonprofits. A lunch break broke up the two sessions with sandwiches provided by Subway of Seward.

SCF held a drawing for participants who attended a class in both sessions, with the winner awarding \$500 to the local nonprofit of their choice. Congratulations to Laura Swihart, who gave the \$500 grant to the Octopus/Aquarium Enrichment program at the Alaska SeaLife Center.

"I actually had a mild phobia of octopuses when I started working here at ASLC in May of 2021, but over the duration of my time here I've completely



fallen in love with the species (Thanks to the MANY aquarists who have stood beside me peeling suckers off my arms as I face my fears)! Octopuses are incredibly intelligent and curious--this mini-grant will go a long way towards ensuring that all of the octopuses that call ASLC home will have access to quality enrichment for years to come." said Laura.

Seward Community Foundation would like to thank the Alaska SeaLife Center for conference support and the use of their meeting rooms, Laurie Wolf, Kimberly Waller, and Chellie Skoog from The Foraker Group for providing a wonderful afternoon of classes. We'd also like to thank Seward Subway for the delicious sandwich trays. And last but not least, a huge "thank you" to everyone who attended the Nonprofit Conference. We received such positive feedback that

we plan to host more training events in the future.

We want to hear from you! What topics would you like us to cover for future Nonprofit Conferences? Email seward@alaskacf.org with your ideas!

We hope you enjoyed reading and learning about the excellent work that area nonprofits are doing, and you feel inspired to give today.

[Please help us meet the match! Click to give!](#)

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