



**MULTNOMAH BAR FOUNDATION  
AWARDS OVER \$47,000 IN CIVIC EDUCATION GRANTS**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Portland, OR – Multnomah Bar Foundation (MBF)

**The Multnomah Bar Foundation has awarded \$47,320 in grants to 10 area nonprofits for programs that educate people of all ages about the justice system and encourage civic engagement.**

[Bus Project Foundation](#) was awarded \$3,500 for the PolitiCorps Leadership Fellowship program to teach young adults community organizing, campaign and nonprofit management, and leadership skills through a full-time 10-week summer program.

[City Club of Portland](#) was granted \$5,000 for its Civic Scholars Program to engage youth from disadvantaged backgrounds, providing hands-on learning of advocacy skills and civic education and educational achievement opportunities to disrupt cycles of poverty and maximize students' potential.

[Elders in Action](#) was granted \$4,000 for a Civics 101 Leadership Academy, to engage and educate elders in the fundamentals of government and advocacy and create informed, involved volunteers and leaders.

[League of Women Voters of Oregon](#) was awarded \$4,000 to help support their Civics Education, Civil Discourse and Voter Services programs in Multnomah County, including the creation of educational materials on elections and civic education, and voters' guides in English and Spanish.

[League of Women Voters of Portland](#) was granted \$5,000 to improve communications and increase civic engagement and voter education through educational programs and materials, extended outreach and enhanced publicity.

[MetroEast Community Media](#) was awarded \$3,800 to produce "Participation: A Practical Guide" (working title), a public service announcement that encourages democratic involvement by providing resources and a roadmap to help people get started or increase their participation.

[Northwest Family Services \(NWFS\)](#) was granted \$8,000 for NWFS Peer Court, where high school student volunteers serve as attorneys, and student volunteers and program graduates serve as jury members to hold youth with first-time misdemeanor offenses accountable in a courtroom setting. Student attorneys receive coaching from licensed attorneys while putting into practice legal concepts and gaining public speaking skills.

[Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc.](#) received \$5,000 for the civic education component of T.O.O.L.S. (Tradeswomen Organized for Outreach, Leadership & Support), providing voter registration, voter education, civic engagement, and advocacy and legislative work, so that tradeswomen are included in the civic and legislative process on issues that affect them.

[Saturday Academy](#) received \$1,520 for Kid Lawyer Camp, a summer program for 6-8<sup>th</sup> grade students that provides a fun, hands-on, in-depth learning experience about the judicial system.

[Sponsors Organized to Assist Refugees](#) was granted \$7,500 for its Voter Education Project, offering group classes and individual sessions that help newly naturalized citizens understand the voting system, how to register to vote and the value of civic participation. The program is part of the New Americans Initiative and promotes full immigrant integration, civic participation and voter engagement.

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Founded in 2005, the Multnomah Bar Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable and educational nonprofit. The mission of the MBF is to increase the public's understanding of the legal system, to promote civic education, public participation and respect for the law, to improve the quality and administration of the legal system, and to support programs and projects related to the MBF's purpose.

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