COMMUNITY LITERACY ACTION GRANTS

School is in session and the OLC is gearing up for another round of Action Grants. Have you been thinking about a new literacy project with your students or community in Oakland? The OLC can help you make your project come to life with an action grant.

We have a large quantity of new, free, high interest books to give to select community and faith based organizations. Grantees will be able to come pick out books from our office for your students and we will award up to $500 in action grants for accompanying activities.

The following are a few examples of projects from this summer and we welcome your fun and creative ideas!

- Ms Marvel book club, where students and program staff met weekly to read and discuss the new Pakistani American superhero Ms Marvel book and show
- An author visit and interactive read-aloud connected to the theme of potty training followed by an activity that built on the book. Each student received a copy of the book to keep.
- Family literacy celebrations at public housing sites where caregivers and children engaged in hands-on literacy activities like a sight word relay.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Oakland-based community organizations and faith-based organizations that work with preschool through middle school age children are encouraged to apply for events in community based (not school based) spaces. We also welcome applications from informal neighborhood and/or cultural groups and childcare providers. Schools and school-based programs are not eligible to apply for action grants. However, we will have separate opportunities to provide you with books for your students.

Your organization does NOT need to have a literacy or education component in order to apply. We believe that literacy happens everywhere and we LOVE working with all kinds of organizations to reach kids where they are and inspire a love of reading.

Organizations may apply on behalf of one or more sites/locations but are required to submit separate applications for each.

www.OaklandLiteracyCoalition.org
IMPORTANT DETAILS

• All participating students must receive at least one new book to keep. The OLC has access to a large quantity of new, free, high interest books that grantees will be able to pick up from our office starting September 26.

• We welcome projects and book giveaways that focus on promoting literacy in languages other than English.

• Projects should either directly engage students’ families or share information with families on how to support reading at home. The OLC will provide you with a toolkit of resources.

• Applications will be prioritized that present a clear and compelling idea for how they’ll respond to students’ interests and needs and create engaging opportunities to improve literacy outcomes and develop a love of reading.

• Grant amounts will be awarded based on the estimated number of students served and the scope of the project, and can be used for project activities, including food and supplies.

• **Schools and nonprofits that run school-based programs are not eligible for action grants.** However, we will have a distribution you can apply for fiction and nonfiction books that inspire children of all ages to see math in the world around them, along with a special book cubby to store them in. More information on this process will be available in late August.

HOW TO APPLY

Interested organizations are asked to submit a brief online request form, which can be found on our website.

*We are happy to work with you to come up with an idea for your project or submit your request. Please reach out to us!*

KEY DATES

Applications will be released on August 16, 2022, and can be submitted anytime until September 9, 2022 by 11:59pm.

The OLC will review applications and announce final funding decisions by Monday, September 19.

Grantees will need to come to the OLC office (2744 E 11th Street) to pick up books starting September 26. We will work with you to coordinate a time for pickup.

Projects must be completed by May 12, 2023.

Grantees will be asked to submit a short report by May 31, 2023.

GET IN TOUCH

We can be reached by phone at (510) 280-3547 or by email at julia@oaklandliteracycoalition.org. We hope to hear from you!