

Grant Announcement: 2015 Emerging Issues Partner Grant Closing the Gender Gap: Empowering Girls

Did you know that just **one in five girls** believe she has what it takes to be a leader? And, in fact, **girls' leadership aspirations peak at age 8?**

These facts and other startling statistics inspired our Emerging Issues Partner Grant Committee to focus on **girls' empowerment and leadership development**. The committee partnered with Liz Vivian (Executive Director of [Women's Funding Alliance](#)) to learn more about the landscape of nonprofits serving these needs.

Committee members participated in an accelerated 12-week grant making process, researching and visiting a broad array of organizations in our region. Yesterday, the Emerging Issues Partner Grant Committee announced the winner of their **\$15,000 grant**. The organization is:

Young Women Empowered



Young Women Empowered (Y-WE) builds young women leaders through intergenerational mentorship, intercultural collaboration, and creative programs that equip girls age 12 - 18 with the confidence, resiliency, and future-planning skills they need to achieve their personal goals and improve their communities. This \$15,000 grant will allow Y-WE to increase the capacity of its Y-WE Lead program to serve even more girls.

Please scroll down to read more about lessons learned and the committee's other finalists. We hope you will consider personally supporting these nonprofits to empower girls in our community.



*Finalist: **Girls on the Run of Puget Sound** is a transformational physical activity-based, positive youth development program for girls in 3rd - 5th grade that teaches life skills through dynamic interactive lessons and running games. Their proposal would support the "Heart and Sole" program, expanding services to girls in 6th - 8th grades at three area middle schools.*

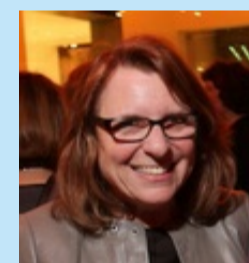
*Finalist: **Reel Grrls**' mission is to empower young women ages 9 - 21 from diverse communities to realize their power, talent and influence through hands-on workshops and classes taught by female media professionals and educators. Their proposal would expand the Mobile Program, reaching girls where they are and using more accessible technology.*



Washington Women's Foundation thanks **Laird Norton Wealth Management**, a Co-Funder of this Emerging Issues Partner Grant, for contributing funds to the granting pool.

We appreciate LNWM's generous participation in this effort!

WWF Members Share the Scoop What did you learn from participating on the Emerging Issues Partner Grant Committee?



This was so powerful. The mission of trying to empower young women is just why I am part of WWF - they are our future.

Amy Corey

In over 30 years of work, the data around the progress in women's earnings and leadership hasn't really changed very much. It is a bit discouraging, especially as you read the research about how early some of the issues of confidence and self-esteem for girls begin.

I found working on this grant encouraging as I learned more about truly creative and successful work that is being done to bring about meaningful change! I wished we could have funded all of the finalists.

Yvonne Hall



I am surprised and humbled by the number of organizations improving girl's lives in ways I never imagined.

Julie Stein

About WWF Partner Grants: The [WWF Partner Grant process](#) is modeled on the best practices of our Pooled Fund Grant Committee, operates on a shorter, accelerated time frame, and offers an opportunity to take a more intensive look at a focused area or community. From February to May 2015, members participating on the Emerging Issues Partner Grant Committee researched Washington nonprofit organizations that are engaged in work to support girls; requested and analyzed proposals; conducted site visits; and ultimately awarded a grant of \$15,000 to Young Women Empowered.

The leadership of the 2015 Emerging Issues Partner Grant Committee was Member Lead Bo Lee, Board Lead Molly Hanlon, and Staff Lead Marion DeForest. Participating committee members were: Erin Barry, Diane Carroll, Stacey Clawson, Amy Corey, Alice Cunningham, Katherine De Bruyn, Toby Donner, Cedra DuFlon-Heide, Ann Duncan, Kim Eiring, Maura Fallon, Wendy Guy, Yvonne Hall, Susan Heikkala, Fidelma McGinn, Jana Mohr Lone, Jennifer Sik, Julie Stein, and Angela Wu.

The International Partner Grant will begin meeting in Fall 2015. Details coming very soon!

Washington Women's Foundation // www.wawomensfoundation.org // 206.340.1710

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

2100 24th Avenue S #330
Seattle, WA | 98144 US

This email was sent to .

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

