



**More Than \$75,000 Granted to Local Nonprofits by Emerging Philanthropists**  
*The Community Foundation's Weaver Philanthropic Initiative lifts up 18 organizations*

JACKSONVILLE, Florida – October 1, 2015 — The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida ([www.jaxcf.org](http://www.jaxcf.org)) is proud to announce the Grantmaking decisions of the Weaver Philanthropic Initiatives Class of 2015. The fifteen emerging philanthropists participated in a comprehensive, 6-month program to enhance their knowledge of strategic philanthropy, which culminated in a series of personal grants which were matched by The Community Foundation.

The Weaver Philanthropic Initiative Class of 2015 included: Benham Bishop, Annie Bryan, Josh Bryan, Imani Hope, Alexis Kane, Ronnie King, Patrick Kilbane, Michael Miller, Lauren Rueger, Ted Rueger, Melanie Setzer, Martin (Ted) Stein, James (Buck) Williams, Susannah Williams and Darryl Willie.

All class members participated in learning about the critical issues that exist in our community and researching nonprofit organizations. Participants were encouraged to explore their own philanthropic leadership style as they began to formulate their personal grantmaking strategy.

Class member Annie Bryan reflected on her new-found knowledge of how to think strategically when considering her philanthropic options. "I learned how to say 'no' quickly," she recalled, "so I can say 'YES' loudly and enthusiastically!"

The class culminated in June with the following grants being made:

- A joint grant for MOCA (Museum of Modern Art) and PACE Center for Girls to create an opportunity for PACE girls to visit MOCA monthly, including arts education and museum knowledge as well as exposure to successful women who work in the arts.
- Jacksonville Humane Society for general operating support
- Jacksonville Children's Commission to support the Jax Kids Book Club program
- Jacksonville Arts and Music School for general operating support
- The Guardian Catholic Schools for general operating support
- Daniel Memorial for general operating support
- Mali Vai Washington Youth Foundation for general operating support
- Wolfson Children's Hospital for its Child Life program
- BEAM for general operating support
- Tiger Academy for the Principal Fund for student's academic & behavioral achievements
- Jacksonville Public Education Fund (JPEF)
- Scoutreach Cub Pack 705 Tiger Academy
- BSA North Florida Council Troop 26 for tents
- Scoutreach BSA North Florida Council
- Wolfson Children's Hospital for MRI cinema vision goggles
- UNF LGBT Resource Center for its pilot project, Club CanDo



Confirmed in compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations

One interesting result that developed from the class' grantmaking was the establishment of the MyVillage Community Fund by three participants. The MyVillage Community Fund is designed to 'foster the philanthropic spirit of African Americans in Northeast Florida while providing financial resources to African American-led nonprofits focused on strengthening lives with the Black community.' The three initial funders are working with The Community Foundation to create the grantmaking parameters for the fund.

#### **About The Weaver Philanthropic Initiative**

The Community Foundation has been identifying and guiding the next generation of philanthropists through this program since 1999. In 2013, in recognition of the philanthropic leadership provided to the community by J. Wayne and Delores Barr Weaver, the initiative was renamed the Weaver Philanthropic Initiative.

#### **About The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida**

The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida ([www.jaxcf.org](http://www.jaxcf.org)), Florida's oldest community foundation, works to stimulate philanthropy to build a better community. The Foundation helps donors invest their philanthropic gifts wisely, helps nonprofits serve the region effectively, and helps people come together to make the community a better place. Now in its 51st year, the Foundation has assets of more than \$313 million and has made grants in excess of \$332 million since 1964.

###

#### **Contact:**

The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida  
Susan Datz Edelman  
VP, Strategic Communications  
904-356-4483  
[sedelman@jaxcf.org](mailto:sedelman@jaxcf.org)



Confirmed in compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations