



Science Equity and Empowerment Community Grants

On Earth Day 2017, the March for Science Sacramento brought together more than 15,000 people to celebrate science, to support and safeguard the scientific community, and to call attention to years of hostility towards science in key areas of policy-making. We collectively advocated for open, inclusive, and accessible science, affirming conducting and applying scientific research as an essential part of a working democracy.

We also acknowledged that science is an imperfect, evolving human activity that has sometimes been used in harmful ways. Individuals and groups inside and outside the scientific community have sometimes been complicit in applying science to reinforce unethical or immoral policies and practices. For that reason, we are intentionally striving to connect with and uplift underrepresented researchers in laboratories, the great outdoors, or elsewhere out in the field as well as underserved communities across the Sacramento metropolitan area.

The March for Science Sacramento is excited to announce that we are seeking small funding proposals from community-based organizations working on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)-related, community-led initiatives, which include directly strategizing with and serving communities of color, undocumented/DACAmented/documented immigrant communities, women and gender non-binary individuals from underserved communities, LGBTQIA, people who are disabled/differently able, people who are cash-poor, people facing housing insecurity, and/or people who are formerly incarcerated.

Purposes of Grant: In alignment with its mission and values, the March for Science Sacramento created the **Science Equity and Empowerment Community Grant** to:

- ❑ Invest in local projects and events addressing STEM literacy and readiness, health equity, environmental (including climate, energy, and food) justice, or other projects that seek to boost curiosity, exploration, or innovation in communities often left out of major scientific and technological discussions, programs, and investments.

- ❑ Cultivate and sustain a sense of access, belonging and participation in STEM-based fields among people of color – including but not limited to First Nations/Native American, Southeast Asian/Pacific Islander, Latinx, Black, Arab/Middle Eastern, immigrants who are undocumented/DACAmented/documented, and people who are low-income.
- ❑ Encourage efforts that use the arts, music and culture as tools to teach, train, and apply scientific principles and practices to ultimately build voice, power, and self-determination and self-governance in underserved communities.
- ❑ Affirm the vital positive relationships between scientists and the general public and create opportunities to repair those relationships where they may have broken down in recent decades.

Application Deadline: September 22, 2017.

Award Announcement: October 6, 2017.

Funding Disbursed: Around October 13, 2017.

Award Amount: \$12,000 total split between four to eight awardees.

Eligibility for Applicant: To be eligible for this grant, the applicant must:

- ❑ Be a community-based organization within [Greater Sacramento](#) that is exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- ❑ Other entities can also submit applications through a sponsoring organization, if the sponsor has 501(c)(3) status, is based within [Greater Sacramento](#), and provides written authorization confirming its willingness to act as the fiscal sponsor.

Eligible Activities for Grants: Funding may be used for events or projects that have a strong STEM component or applicability and occur within the Sacramento metropolitan area. Awardees must detail how considerations for race, gender, and/or socioeconomic status will be integrated in all aspects of the project, e.g. design of project, execution of project, use of funds, evaluation of project research and/or programming, etc. The project or event must be completed within one year of the grant award date, and it can not occur before October 1, 2017. Funding may not be used to cover employee salaries or administrative costs. Examples of eligible activities include, but are not limited to:

- ❑ Activities providing professional development to community leaders and groups. Example: grantwriting workshops; speed-meeting for orgs/volunteers; nonprofit management workshops.
- ❑ Activities that would enhance existing community programs. Example: coaching sessions for scientists being recruited as student mentors; translating a STEM careers website for non-English audiences.

- ❑ Activities providing technical training. Example: A boot-camp to teach middle school students about engineering and physics through bicycle repair; a volunteer neighborhood CPR/medic program to address street violence and other immediate medical crises; a gardening/farming apprentice program for people facing food insecurity that incorporates general botany.
- ❑ Activities using art, music, and culture to teach or showcase scientific principles. Example: A hip hop or spoken-word competition where participants educate the community on a selected STEM topic; STEM-inspired murals and other local beautification projects, an oral history project about the contributions of local people of color to STEM.
- ❑ Activities supporting community building for underrepresented communities within STEM-based fields. Example: A local conference that brings together youth of color interested in pursuing STEM fields.

How to Apply: Applications should be emailed to info@marchforsciencesacramento.com on or before September 22, 2017. For written submissions, please include all requested materials in English in one PDF attachment. For video submissions, please upload videos in English to YouTube as an [unlisted video](#) and include links to each video response in one PDF attachment. We encourage you to try to anticipate questions we may have about your project and address them in your responses. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

- ❑ A brief statement (500 words max) or video (5-7 minutes max) explaining who you or your organization(s) are, your mission, relevant previous or parallel work, and how you meet the eligibility requirements given above.
- ❑ A brief statement (500 words max) or video (5-7 minutes max) explaining the details of your project and why it should be funded. (See **Purposes of Grant** above.)
- ❑ A brief statement (500 words max) or video (5-7 minutes max) explaining the impacts your project could have, including people who will gain new skills or knowledge, and potential next steps/future directions.
- ❑ An itemized budget. Please list partners or other sources of funding/support, if applicable.
- ❑ Contact information for the project lead(s), including, but not limited to, phone number, email, and the organization's website and social media (if applicable).

Applications will be selected based on the ability of the project to advance the purposes of the grant (*see above*), the feasibility of the proposed project, and evidence that the proposed project is part of a long-term effort to serve the people of the Greater Sacramento area. Questions or suggestions? Please email info@marchforsciencesacramento.com.