

The Orange Foundation

Providing Support for the Community

for 40 Years: 1976-2016

Written by Janice M. Lettick, Distribution Committee Member

In 1976, the late Honorable Charles Flynn established The Orange Foundation with \$300 in seed money. Forty-years later, The Orange Foundation continues to be a source of financial support for many Orange organizations and college students. The Foundation has grown and today includes 4 grant funds and 12 scholarship funds, with a fund distribution of **\$627,021**. The \$300 in seed money remains in the fund balance as only the monies earned in interest are distributed each year; the principle remains intact. In February of this year, Judge Flynn passed away at the age of 94. He served as the first Judge of Probate for the District of Orange and was an outstanding public servant.

In announcing the 2016 grant and scholarship recipients, The Orange Foundation Distribution Committee noted that the selection process was particularly difficult again this year on the scholarship side because of the decrease in funds available for distribution and the increase in qualified applicants. Five Orange students were awarded scholarships totaling \$5,800. In addition, one student of Ukrainian heritage from Ansonia is the recipient of the \$9,000 *Frank P. and Louise Horbal Tripp* scholarship and one student from Orange is the recipient of the 2,394 American Legion Post Scholarship. The Foundation awarded 12 grants, totaling \$11,560, to support the work of organizations benefiting Orange residents. Over the

past 39 years the Foundation has distributed **\$185,326** in grants and **\$441,695** in scholarships; a total of \$627,021.

Distribution Committee Members

Robert Archambault has served as President of The Orange Foundation for the past 30 years; *other Distribution Committee members are:*

Katalin Baltimore
Carla Birmingham
Paul Davis
Jacqueline Koral

Janice Lettick
Pat Miller
Maggie Sullivan
John Wesolowski

2016 Orange Foundation Grant Recipients

The ***Olga Fund***, established by a family in Orange who wishes to remain anonymous, provided the funding to the following organizations:

American Legion Post 127 Orange -- for the repair of the hall floor and to restripe the parking lot and mark new handicapped spaces.

Amity Teen Center – ongoing support for a part-time internship for an Orange student

Camp Cedarcrest – for the construction of a pathway for handicapped pedestrians to access the Camp's activity areas.

Orange Arts and Culture Council – in support of the "Hop the Bus" project which provides free bus transportation for Orange residents to New Haven Symphony concerts.

Orange Community Services “Afghan Ladies” project to make afghans for veterans and children in the RKids program.

Orange Historical Society – funding to support the continued restoration of the Bryan-Andrew House.

Orange Players Association – support for five performances of the original play “Threads” – a family-oriented production based on “The Emperor’s New Clothes”.

Orange Youth Services – in support of the Youth Services’ Super Raffle and Pizza Party orientation event for incoming 7th graders.

Orange Independence Day Concert and Fireworks Display – the Olga Fund is a major sponsor of this annual town-wide event. This is a separate award made by Olga Fund donors.

The **Robert F. Stankye Fund** is providing support to the Orange Elementary Schools PTO/PTA for a pilot project for second-grade field trips to the Bryan-Andrew House to tour the house and learn about the history of Orange.

Officer Stankye was a member of the Orange Police Department who died in the line of duty.

The **Dusty and Frank Downey Fund** is providing support to Boy Scouts of America Troop 925, Orange, through the Orange Conservation Commission for an Eagle Scout project to build 4 single bat houses and install them at the Race Brook Tract.

The ***Dusty and Frank Downey Fund*** and the **Olga Fund** are providing support to the Orange Board of Education for year 2 of the Elementary Unified Sports Program – the elementary-age division of the Special Olympics.

Dusty and Frank Downey were long-time Orange residents and very active in community activities.

The ***O’Sullivan Family Fund*** is providing support to the Orange Senior Center to off-set the costs of the annual Seniors’ Holiday Party.

The O’Sullivan Family Fund was established in memory of Judge Thomas O’Sullivan.

Grant Selection Committee

Janice Lettick, Chair

Robert Archambault
Paul Davis

Jacqueline Koral
John Wesolowski

Scholarships

Nicholas Bencivengo is the recipient of a \$500 scholarship from the *Charles L. Flynn Scholarship Fund to study business at Bentley University.*

Christopher Casella is the recipient of a \$2,000 scholarship from the Charles L. Flynn Scholarship and Vaughn Family Scholarship Fund. Chris has not yet decided where he will pursue his college education.

Jordan D’Onofrio is the recipient of a \$1,100 scholarship from the Elizabeth C. and John W. Povilaitis Community Fund; William Knight Scholarship Fund, and Benedict Giangarra Scholarship Fund to pursue a course of study in nursing at Western Connecticut State University.

Collin Kuchachik is the recipient of a \$1,100 scholarship from the Charles L. Flynn Scholarship Fund and William Knight Scholarship Fund to undertake a course of study in criminology at Stonehill College where he also will also participate in ROTC.

Stephanie Satonick is the recipient of a \$1,100 scholarship from the Thomas Birmingham, Jr. Scholarship Fund; Mary L. Tracy Memorial Scholarship Fund; William Knight Scholarship Fund; and the Antonette Giangarra Scholarship Fund to further her studies in elementary education at the University of Connecticut at Storrs.

Joseph Szewczyk, a resident of Ansonia, is the recipient of the \$8,872 Frank P. and Louise Horbal Tripp scholarship. Joseph will attend the University of Connecticut at Storrs and major in mathematics and actuarial science.

Christina Tonucci is the recipient of a \$2,394 scholarship from Orange Post 127 for the American Legion to continue her studies in public health at Southern Connecticut State University.

Scholarship Selection Committee

John Wesolowski, Chair

Robert Archambault
Paul Davis

Jacqueline Koral
Janice Lettick

HOW TO HELP US GROW THE ORANGE FOUNDATION

The Orange Foundation supports a wide-variety of community groups, programs and students and is dependent upon donations from Orange residents to sustain the financial growth of the Foundation which in turn allows for the continued support of programs and services benefiting Orange residents.

The Foundation is asking those who are able, to make a donation. For those who may be reluctant to donate due to concerns about future financial needs, an option that addresses those concerns is to consider updating your will, allocating 10% of your estate to charitable organizations such as The Orange Foundation. In this way, financial concerns are allayed and the 10% reduction in the inheritance will not negatively impact the beneficiaries.

For more information about The Orange Foundation, including establishing a fund and applying for funding, visit The Orange Foundation website at www.orangefoundation.org.