



**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**J. MARION SIMS AWARDS SECOND CYCLE OF HORIZON EDUCATION GRANTS**

**LANCASTER, SOUTH CAROLINA, September 27, 2017** – Yesterday, the J. Marion Sims Foundation held a reception and awarded seven grants with a grand total of \$7,299.98 to schools across Chester and Lancaster School Districts.

The Horizon Education Grant provides another tool to help shape transformational learning experiences for our students and ultimately a healthier community for all. This exciting new grantline offers opportunities for student learning within the framework of a healthy community, and encourages thinking beyond the traditional classroom.

This new grantline was reviewed by J. Marion Sims Foundation’s Youth Review Committee, a conglomerate of high school students from almost every high school from within our footprint. These students are supported by Staff and most significantly by Program Officer Holly Furr, Trustees Lisa Bridges and Vivian Gray in addition to Community Advisor, Abby Brunson from Chester County Schools.



*Representatives of the Youth Review Committee with  
Community Adviser Abby Brunson and Co-Chairs  
Lisa Bridges and Vivian Gray*

**Recipients of the Horizon Education Grant for the August Cycle:**

- “A Chemistry Partnership to Enhance Student Learning”  
USCL and Buford High School Collaborative Grant  
Jill Castiglia and Bettie Obi Johnson (USCL)  
Brandy Richardson and Juline Wieland (Buford High School)  
Awarded: \$1,800.00



*Pictured Left to Right: Jill Castiglia, Brandy Richardson,  
Bettie Obi Johnson, Juline Wieland*

- “Advertising through the Arts“  
Andrew Jackson High School  
Lizzi Elliott  
Cierra Stinson  
Jeremy Nunnery  
Awarded: \$1,500.00  
*Grantees were unable to attend reception due to a scheduling conflict.*
- “Purposeful Play Produces Productive People”  
Indian Land Elementary  
Erin Cundiff  
Heather McManus  
Kaylen Fickes  
Jessica Meszaros  
Awarded: \$2,000.00



*Pictured Left to Right: Heather McManus and Kaylen Fickes*

- “Strengthening a Winning Team Using Literacy and Community Involvement”  
A.R. Rucker Middle School  
Allie Teschke  
Lisa Daly  
Anita Watts  
Awarded: \$600.00



*Pictured Left to Right: Anita Watts and Allie Teschke*

- “The Lemonade Stand: When Life Gives You Lemons, Make Lemonade”  
McDonald Green Elementary School  
Deborah Knight  
Awarded: \$400.00



*Pictured: Deborah Knight*

- “Exploring Art Careers through Sketch Notes”  
Lewisville High School  
Merideth Hill  
Awarded: \$500.00



*Pictured: Meredith Hill*

- “Digital Sound Board and Recorder”  
Great Falls Middle/High School  
Joseph Miller  
Awarded: \$499.98



*Jessica Dutton, Youth Review Committee Member, presents Joseph Miller his prize.*

The Horizon Education Grantline has a deep focus and emphasis on collaboration between students and faculty, faculty and parents, between schools and across districts with a tie to the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate; where the state has made a commitment to join together to make students “college, career, and citizenship ready.”

The Foundation sees this grantline as a commitment to support teachers at all levels who help us build and strive for a healthy community.

Applications for the third cycle of the Horizon Education Grant are due November 15, 2017 and will be awarded in January 2018. To access an application, visit [www.jmsims.org](http://www.jmsims.org).

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*The J. Marion Sims Foundation is entering its third decade of service to the community, with a focus on transforming the health and wellness of Lancaster, Fort Lawn, and Great Falls, SC. For information about the HORIZON initiative and other programs, please see [www.jmsims.org](http://www.jmsims.org) or contact the Foundation at (803) 286-8772.*