



Madison

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

July 14, 2021

madisongives.org

Youth Arts Alumni Pay It Forward



Helping people support the causes they care about. That's how we often describe what we do at Madison Community Foundation. And clearly, alumni – young and old – of the Children's Theater of Madison and Madison Youth Choirs care about Madison's youth arts programs. We've seen dozens of donations from alumni come to the Madison Youth Arts Center (MyArts).

These donations often are accompanied by messages of support for youth arts in Madison – including one from a young teen who donated all her savings “to help other children interested in theater.”

MCF also values the benefits a dedicated space for youth arts will provide the community – we teamed up with the Evjue Foundation in 2019 to make a \$1 million grant to support MyArts. The new center's dedicated space for youth arts offers organizations an affordable, accessible space to provide educational programs for all children.

While the MyArts grand opening isn't until October 9 and 10, the center already is serving as a hub for creativity. The new building is hosting classes with Music Con Brio and Madison Ballet this summer. The Children's Theater of Madison and Madison Youth Choirs will also call MyArts home, and many other organizations are exploring the possibilities now.

**Want to support women and girls
in your estate plan?**

LEARN MORE



Meet Caitlin Ryan, MCF's Donor Relations Manager

Caitlin Ryan joined MCF as Donor Relations Manager at the end of March, just in time to jump into planning the first-ever virtual Madison Gives event.

“As Donor Relations Manager, I work with people to help them have meaningful giving experiences at MCF,” Caitlin explained. “I guide people in discovering what type of charitable giving works best for them and provide support as they make their own impact through philanthropy. I also get to organize MCF events to bring people together and celebrate the impact of philanthropy in our community.”

While plunging directly into planning a major event while working remotely might have caused some people to wonder what they had gotten into, Caitlin never missed a stride. And as we emerge from the virtual world brought on by the pandemic, Caitlin is looking forward to getting to meet and work with more of MCF’s fundholders.

“I’m really inspired by seeing the wonderful side of people that drives them to give, and to witness them making an impact that’s meaningful to them,” Caitlin shared. “People come to MCF to do beautiful things with their philanthropy – whether that’s building a new dream together as a couple, creating a family culture of giving back, or carrying on the passionate work of loved ones. Every day I’m amazed by people and their generosity.”

Outside of work, Caitlin and her husband live in an old house in Stoughton with their three children and dog, Cheddar. Caitlin enjoys hiking and hunting for Monarch caterpillars to raise and release. She and her husband also appreciate being able to take advantage of all that the Madison area has to offer.

“My husband and I try to visit every new restaurant that opens in Madison. The arts and lakes are a close second, but I’m here to eat.”



Grant Helps Keep Seniors in the Garden

Thanks to a grant from the Charles D. Bert Fund to Rooted, older gardeners in the Madison area will find gardening easier and more accessible.

The Charles D. Bert Fund was created as a field of interest fund at Madison Community Foundation in 1993. The fund makes grants to support projects that render assistance, aid and comfort to the elderly.

Funds used to build and install raised beds at community gardens and other gardening communities in Madison and Dane County to increase access for elderly gardeners. Many community gardens have elderly populations that without this infrastructure cannot participate in gardening, which also ends isolation and builds social lives for an often-marginalized community.

Rooted has teamed up with the Latino Academy for Workforce Development (LAWD) for this project, which will provide valuable construction experience while increasing accessibility for a greater range of gardeners. LAWD is building the raised beds as part of a bilingual construction class.

These beds will be distributed among a number of community gardening projects, expanding access to gardening for older adults throughout Madison.



Nonprofits: Know Your Grant Application Deadlines

Several deadlines are looming for nonprofit organizations interested in applying for a grant this year:

- [Dane County COVID Recovery Grants](#) (July 19)
- [Community Impact Grant Letters of Inquiry](#) (August 2)
- [AFFW Grant Letters of Inquiry](#) (August 16).

*Join us in making an impact
in our community.*

MAKE A GIFT TODAY

Upcoming Dates to Remember

SEPT

23

Legacy Society Luncheon

MCF Legacy Society members, save the date. We are looking forward to celebrating with you in person again this year. You can learn more about MCF's Legacy Society [here](#).

MAY

24

Madison Gives 2022

Be sure to save the date. We're planning to be back together in person at Monona Terrace to celebrate philanthropy and its impact in Madison. We hope to see you there.

Last Word

As the community's foundation, MCF works to help community members achieve their philanthropic goals, allowing them to tap into MCF's expertise in charitable giving, deep knowledge of the community, and commitment to permanent, sustainable philanthropy.

Have an idea for a story? Have exciting news you'd like to share?
Join the conversation.



[View Our Website](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Email Preferences](#)

Madison Community Foundation

111 N. Fairchild Street, Suite 260, Madison, WI 53703
Phone: 608-232-1763 | Email: frontdesk@madisongives.org