



Issue 14 | February 2020

# Tewksbury Education Foundation

[www.tewksburytef.org](http://www.tewksburytef.org)

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## News You Can Use TEF Mini Grants



The Tewksbury Education Foundation is very proud of the funding that we've been able to provide through mini grants to teachers and staff in our school district to pursue unique or special programs and/or purchase equipment that wouldn't otherwise be possible through the school's budget. The TEF mini grant budget of \$5,000 has been used to fund some incredible programs over the past few years including bringing Holocaust survivors to speak with our 5th - 8th graders, purchasing portable sound systems for both OTS and TES, increasing the number of instruments available to students by purchasing an oboe, two baritones and eighteen ukuleles, as well as purchasing sensory tools at TES including wobble stools, gel balls, bouncy bands for chairs, noise cancelling headphones and seat cushions to maximize student engagement and focus during lessons. Students at OTS have benefitted from flexible seating as well as a jigsaw puzzle table and wobble stools for the OTS library for students to decompress during classes and take a break from technology. Our most recent mini grantee will purchase the Swivl Program, which is a video review and collaboration

## Community Corner



### **Holocaust Survivor Speaks**

March 30th, 2020

1:15 pm

OTS

\*Parents and members of the local community are encouraged to attend.

### **25th Annual**

**Barn Dance**

May 2, 2020

7:00 pm

Hamilton Farms

Country Club

[Tickets](#) on sale now!

**TEF presents the  
"King of the Hill" 5K  
(formerly known as Tiger Trot)  
and 1 Mile Kids Dash**

June 6th

8:30 am

New location!

Hoffman's Crossing Road

Califon, NJ

\*[Register](#) early for cheapest

system. The teachers have presented some amazing mini grant applications and teachers and students at both OTS and TES are benefitting!

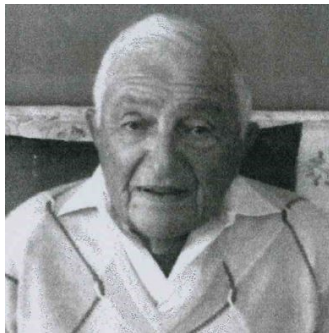
It's very easy to apply for a TEF mini grant and step by step instructions can be found on the TEF web site at <https://www.tewksburytef.org/teacher-mini-grants/>. The application process begins with an informal conversation with the principal to receive their support as well as to make sure scope and mission are consistent with guidelines. The TEF mini grant committee will review applications between the first and fifth of each month through April 1st.

Should you have any questions about TEF mini grants, please feel free to reach out to any member of the mini grant committee: Valerie Lensborn ([valerie.gude@gmail.com](mailto:valerie.gude@gmail.com)), Jodi Denbleyker, Jaime Levy, Marilynne Regan or Emily Searle. Thank you to all who have already applied for a TEF mini grant. Let's keep the awesome ideas and opportunities for our students and teachers coming.



## Program Spotlight Holocaust Survivor Speaks

March 30th 1:15 pm at OTS



The TEF will host a special program, Survivors Speak, on Monday, March 30th, from 1:15 – 2:30 p.m. at Old Turnpike Middle School. Parents and members of the local community are encouraged to attend this important and inspiring event.

Survivors Speak is a program developed by the Holocaust

rates!

[Learn More](#)



## TES Happenings

TEF Sponsored Programs:

**Wellness Residency**  
ENDURE  
March 5th  
4th Grade

**Our Changing Earth**  
4 day program  
March 9th  
2nd Grade

**History of the Earth**  
March 17th, 18th and 20th  
4th Grade

**Parade of Nations**  
8 Days - Starts March 31st  
1st Grade  
\*Students will perform at 9:45 am  
on April 9th at TEF. Open to 1st  
grade parents.

Council of Greater MetroWest as part of their outreach to schools. This program will highlight Dr. Carl Dubovy, an eyewitness to the Holocaust (survivors, liberators, POWs). Dr. Dubovy was chosen for the diversity of his experiences during the Holocaust. He will address 5-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to share his experiences with a question and answer session to follow. Join us to learn more!

This program supplements the Holocaust and Genocide Studies curriculum provided to students in grades 5-8<sup>th</sup> and is sponsored by a TEF mini grant which was awarded to Mrs. Cathy Zisk, 6th grade Social Studies teacher at OTS. We look forward to welcoming Dr. Carl Dubovy to our school and thank him advance for sharing his experiences with our community.

## Tewksburian Spotlight

### 25 Faces of TEF

This spring marks a momentous milestone for the Tewksbury Education Foundation (TEF) - 25 years of serving the community. To celebrate, the TEF has chosen to highlight 25 "Faces" of the Tewksbury Education Foundation. Current Board President, Dr. Allison Christian, stated that "as we reflected on how we should commemorate this anniversary, it seemed like the ideal opportunity to publicly thank those who have profoundly impacted the overall success of the TEF over the last 25 years." Honorees, selected by the school community and the Board of Directors, include educators, administrators, alumni, sponsors, former board members and program providers who, over the last quarter century, have been critical in advancing the mission of the TEF through volunteerism, financial support, and/or advocacy.

The first group of honorees is comprised of educators and administrators, both former and current, who have been instrumental in partnering with the TEF. **Mr. Ken Gross**, former Superintendent of Tewksbury Township Schools, was instrumental in the foundation's infancy, playing a pivotal role in establishing the partnership between the TEF and the Tewksbury school district and then passing the baton to TES principal, **Mr. Jim Miller**, who has strengthened that bond in his 40+ years in the district. **Mrs. Camille Bristow** and **Mrs. Jodi**

**Science Can Dance**  
March 3rd, 17<sup>th</sup> 31st and April  
7<sup>th</sup>  
Kindergarten

**Wellness Residency**  
CONNECT  
May 5th  
4th Grade

[Learn More](#)



## OTS Happenings

TEF Sponsored Programs:

**Liberty Science Center**  
**3 Day Dissection**  
Sheep Brain and Cow Eye  
March 3rd, 4th and 5th  
7th Grade

**Annual Broadway Trip**  
**"Mean Girls"**  
March 11th  
8th Grade

**Denbleyker** are also being lauded as two deserving educators who have graciously served as teacher representatives on the TEF Board of Directors, identifying ways for the TEF to support teachers and bolster the curriculum through programming and mini grants.

Additionally, the TEF is proud to acknowledge two providers who have demonstrated a shared commitment to the mission of the TEF, **Eric Eisenhart of Pro-Activity Associates** and **BJ Ward**. Eric Eisenhart has collaborated with the TEF to develop and administer an important wellness initiative. Since the program was launched in 2016, Eric and the team at Pro-Activity have run and stood alongside of the Tewksbury school community at the Tiger Trot and they will be at the finish line again this June for the 5<sup>th</sup> race – the new King of the Hill 5K. American poet, BJ Ward, has been a presence in Tewksbury schools for over a decade, consistently sought after by countless teachers and students who look forward to what lies ahead when BJ enters the classroom. These providers have become an integral part of the curriculum and the TEF hopes that Tewksbury students continue to benefit from their expertise for many years to come.

Please join the TEF at this year's 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Barn Dance to be held on May 2<sup>nd</sup> at the sprawling Hamilton Farm Golf Club. The evening will kick off with an intimate reception for honorees and alumni at 6:30 pm. Immediately following, at 7:00 pm, the entire community is invited to raise a glass to the TEF's success and those who have helped it thrive.

This special evening serves as the TEF's largest fundraising event of the year and its proceeds will directly impact every classroom in the Tewksbury Township School District. Opportunities to support the TEF's fundraising efforts will include a live auction, silent auction and tricky tray. A donation of \$175 per ticket can be purchased in advance at [www.tewksburytef.org](http://www.tewksburytef.org). The Tewksbury Education Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. If you have any questions about this event or would like to contribute as a donor, please reach out to Carrie Martinelli at 732-682-3534 or [carriesellsnj@gmail.com](mailto:carriesellsnj@gmail.com).

## **News from Our Neighbors**

**Register to become a  
PTA member**  
[tewksburynjpta.com](http://tewksburynjpta.com)

**VHS Evening Program**  
"Complicated Death,  
Complicated Grief - Helping a  
Community Heal"  
February 11th  
6:30 pm  
VHS

**Women's Club of Tewksbury  
Township**  
presents Taste of Tewksbury  
March 27th  
6:30 pm  
Beaver Brook Country Club  
For more info:  
[www.tewksburywomansclub.  
com/events/](http://www.tewksburywomansclub.com/events/)

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Tewksbury Education Foundation  
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Oldwick, New Jersey 08858  
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