



Davenport  
Schools  
Foundation

# Davenport Schools Foundation

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## Mission Statement

The Davenport Schools Foundation, a not-for-profit organization, seeks to provide otherwise unavailable resources to enhance the District's educational environment to help students pursue full potential.

## Enriching Educational Experiences

"This should be a 'WOW!' experience for students," exclaimed Truman Elementary teacher Arlene Lopez, describing her group's decision about the criteria for the proposed "Great Minds" program of the Davenport Schools Foundation.

On August 17 a group of foundation board members, school district administrators and teachers met in an all-day session to flesh out the specifics for the program that the foundation hopes will bring exciting people, places and performances to the students of the Davenport Community School District.

The meeting commenced with the outlining of ten beliefs which the committee adopted as guidelines:

1. Applications for the "Great Minds" experience should be simple to complete.

2. Funds should be equitable for all students.

3. The program should focus on District goals and student achievement.

4. The program should be balanced between large and small presentations and between those held in the classroom or school and those outside.

5. The program should coordinate with other organizations within the community and on the state and national level.

6. The plan needs to be flexible so changes can be made as the program evolves.

7. The program should encourage innovative

experiences.

8. There should be good communication across the program.

9. The "Great Minds" experience should be meaningful and en-



**Students learn more about music from community volunteers.**

*Photo courtesy of the Quad City Symphony Orchestra*

*(Continued on page 2)*

# “Great Minds” Takes Shape

(Continued from page 1)

gaging for students.

10. There should be attention given to the preparation of students, not only for content but on how to be an attentive audience.

Following definition of these beliefs and general discussion about the program meeting members broke into smaller groups. One group made specific decisions about the roles of the different participants in the program. Roles were defined for the program director, building facilitators, principals, teachers and students, as well as the school district and

foundation.

A second group determined how funds could be distributed on an equitable basis. \$25,000 will be set aside for district-level projects to be determined by a steering committee, and an additional \$30,000 was earmarked for administrative expenses. The remaining \$120,000 will be distributed to the buildings based on a set amount for each district funded, full-time educator in each building. Building councils will determine how these allotted funds will be spent.

The third segment set criteria for the “Great Minds” experience.

They determined that each program should provide a “being there” experience that supports, extends and enriches the curriculum. This should be a “WOW!” experience that inspires a student’s passion for great learning. The group also suggested a draft for the application form, with a view to simplicity.

The program will now be reviewed by the entire foundation board and discussions will be held with the school district on implementation and joint financing. It is the hope of the foundation that this program can be in place to begin the 2001-2002 school year.

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## DMA and DSF Connect Students and Art

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*The following article is reprinted with permission from the Summer Newsletter of the Davenport Museum of Art:*

*Art Connections*, the Davenport Museum of Art sponsored social studies program that incorporates the study of visual art into the curriculum will receive up to \$15,000 from the Davenport Schools Foundation for 2000-2001. The grant will be used to cover teacher training, program manuals, research and classroom materials, and field trips to the DMA. The DMA must find matching funds.

Developed by Dr. Ilona E. Holland in conjunction with the Delaware Art Museum, *Art Connections* was field-tested at J.B. Young Intermediate in 1998-1999, and remains



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**Instructor Kay Hall and J.B. Young Intermediate students at the Davenport Museum of Art for an *Art Connections* tour.** (Photo courtesy of the DMA)

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part of the school’s curriculum. Starting this fall, all 6th grade students at Walcott Intermediate, Wil-

liams Intermediate and Wood Intermediate will participate in the program.

# Keith Jurgens Makes Gift to Madison School

Keith Jurgens, winner of the Lisa B. Arbisser Award for exceptional service to the Davenport Schools Foundation and the Davenport Community School District, presented a gift of \$10,000 to Madison Elementary School to honor two good friends, Bill Bein and Burt

Gibney. The intent of the gift is to provide students opportunities that would not be possible within the normal district-allotted budget.

Mr. Bein and Mr. Gibney both attended Madison and became acquainted with Mr. Jurgens at J.B. Young Junior High,

forming friendships that continued through high school. All three men are graduates of Davenport High School, and Don Fisher, retired principal of Central High School, noted that Mr. Gibney has been a strong supporter of Central and the Hall of Honor Program.

## Lowen Scholarships Generate Great Rewards

The Davenport Schools Foundation was saddened to learn in late spring that Robert Lowen had passed away.

Mr. Lowen and his family had established the Joan Koberg Lowen Scholarship in memory of the former Davenport school girl. Following Mr. Lowen's death, his family requested information about the five scholarship winners to assess the impact of their gift.

The first winner, Emily Cousens, graduated with highest honors and plans to do graduate work in speech pathology. William Howell, the second winner, was recently honored in his field of study (see photo and adjoining article). All subsequent winners

are currently attending school and are doing well.

Donors often wonder if their gifts for scholarships really make a difference. This very limited sample certainly illustrates how much a



William H. Howell has excelled with the financial assistance of the Joan Koberg Lowen Scholarship.

scholarship can do for a student. Judges of the various scholarships for the foundation always lament the fact that there are so many deserving students and so little funding to assist them with the next level of their education.

A donation of any amount will help a good student go further toward obtaining a college degree. If you would like to help, please contact Laura Cleaveland at the address on the back of this newsletter.

## Lowen Scholarship Winner Named Udall Fellow

Lowen Scholarship winner and Mississippi State University senior William H. Howell has been honored as a 2000 Morris K. Udall Foundation Fellow. The \$5000 fellowship, created to honor a former United States representative, will support his further study of the environment.

Congress created the Udall Foundation in 1992 to honor Arizona representative "Mo" Udall, who served from 1961-1991 and led efforts to double the size of the national park system and triple the size of the national wilderness system in his position as chair of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

William Howell entered MSU in 1997 after graduating with a perfect 4.0 grade-point average from Davenport North High School. At MSU he is a consistent Dean's Scholar and is president and treasurer of the MSU Forestry Club, as well as treasurer of the campus Society of American Foresters chapter.

After graduating MSU, Mr. Howell plans to pursue master's and doctoral degrees, then work in the forestry extension service at a land-grant university. "By working in extension, I will be able to educate forest landowners on programs to benefit both them and the community," expressed Howell.



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THE DAVENPORT  
SCHOOLS FOUNDATION  
1606 NORTH BRADY ST.  
DAVENPORT, IOWA 52803



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## DAVENPORT SCHOOLS FOUNDATION CONTRIBUTIONS

The Davenport Schools Foundation continues to work toward the goal of providing otherwise unavailable resources to enhance the District's educational environment to help students reach full potential. Our success relies greatly on your ongoing support.

Please consider a annual gift to the Foundation in the amount of:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$10      \_\_\_\_\_ \$25

\_\_\_\_\_ \$50      \_\_\_\_\_ \$100

Other Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Donations are Tax Deductible*

Please mail your contribution to:

**Davenport Schools Foundation  
1606 Brady Street  
Davenport, Iowa 52803**

319-336-5004

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Business \_\_\_\_\_