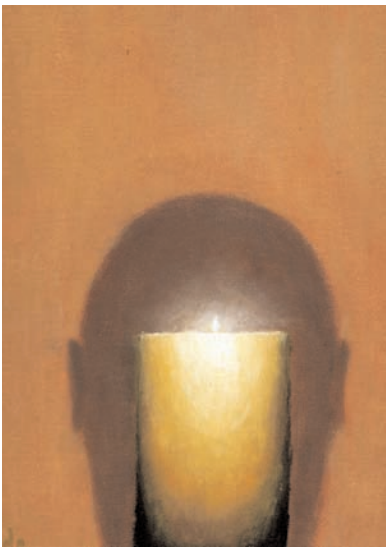


Daniel DiTondo Foundation

Bringing educational and artistic opportunities to DC students



Camp to Blend Art and Ecology

Our mission at the Daniel DiTondo Foundation during the past 11 years has been to honor the life of Daniel by furthering the work he did during his short life. Dan was a teacher and an artist, and we have strived to broaden the educational and artistic opportunities of children of the District of Columbia, where he taught 5th grade.

Dan also had a love of nature, and a deep concern for the protection of our environment. With this in mind, the foundation is working this year to incorporate this third important element of Dan's life into our work.

Building on the successful art camp we held in summer 2011 at the Town Hall Education Arts Recreation Campus (THEARC) in Southeast DC, we are working this year to take that camp one step further. We are collaborating once again with the Corcoran College of Art + Design, along with the watershed stewards at the Anacostia Watershed Society, to design a summer camp that will combine art education and environmental awareness.

This camp, free to DC students, will be a combination of classes on the Anacostia and the science of restoration and wildlife of the river, and will be integrated with art projects related to the waterway. The students will walk along a stream near THEARC, where classes are held, get

to know the water and the wildlife, and pick up trash to repurpose into art. They will take two field trips, one in a boat on the river, and one to the Corcoran permanent collection, where they will learn about artwork related to water. Both of these fieldtrips will also be open to the students' parents. After the final fieldtrip, we will hold a student artwork exhibit and reception at the art gallery within THEARC,

an event that will be open to the public and celebrate the work of the student artists. After the camp, we will work with the Corcoran teachers and the watershed society to develop an integrated arts-environment curriculum that can be used by schools in the river's watershed.

This next step in the work that we do promises to offer a fuller understanding of the arts and our environment to the students. Programs like ours, which broaden the perspective of young minds, really work to change lives. One of our Corcoran teachers is living proof of this fact—she grew up in the DC public schools and chose a

career in art because of a program like ours that took her on a field trip to the Smithsonian. The experience changed her life, just as the programs of the Daniel DiTondo Foundation are changing the lives of this generation of students. And we couldn't do it without your support. Our sincere thanks to all of you!



The new summer camp will teach students about the Anacostia River and wildlife like this great blue heron.

Bang for Your Donation Buck

We thought we'd take this opportunity to thank all of our generous donors. So, thank you! And remember, because we have no paid staff, all of your donations go directly to our programs. Here's some of the things that your money buys. A donation of:

- \$10 - Pays for paint for one day's class
- \$20 - Pays for sets of brushes or pencils
- \$50 - Pays for sketch pads for the class
- \$75 - Covers a field trip to the museum
- \$100 - Pays for hard-bound sketch pads
- \$350 - Sends 1 kid to summer art camp
- \$500 - Helps a graduate pay for books or college classes
- \$1500 (Whooooo!) - Pays for the entire art program for a semester

Thanks for all you do to make a difference in the life of a child!



Yes, I want to contribute to the student arts and college scholarship programs of the Daniel DiTondo Foundation. Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution of:

- \$10
- \$25
- \$50
- \$75
- \$100
- Other \$ _____

Please Send Donations To:

Daniel DiTondo Foundation
P.O. Box 21036
Washington, DC 20009

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Zip Code: _____ Date: _____
E-mail: _____

Special thanks to our partners and in kind donors:

Corcoran College of Art + Design

Gorav Seth

Our sincere thanks

Scholarship Updates

The foundation provided 6 college scholarships in 2011 totaling \$10,000. Here's a few updates from past recipients:

“I am writing to let you know that I am staying on track with my academic success at Penn State University. I sincerely thank you for your financial help.”

—Victoria G

“I am unbelievably grateful; I cannot tell you how much this contribution means to me and my family. I will remain grateful, and will do my best to make great use of your time and money.”

—Lauren W.

“Wow! Thank you [for the scholarship]! I am very excited [about college], grateful and delighted.”

—Cordell M.

About the Daniel DiTondo Foundation

The Daniel DiTondo Foundation was established to honor Daniel DiTondo, a teacher and an artist. Daniel died in March 2000 of testicular cancer at the age of 28, leaving a community of friends, family, coworkers and students who wished to continue the spirit of his life and work.

The foundation raises money to establish art programs and college scholarships for Washington, DC, public school students.

Board of Directors

Barbara DiTondo
David Blersch
Krista Schlyer
Bill Updike

Roman Bejger
Casey Corcoran
Kristen Stiefel

Reflections on the Foundation's Success

As the year 2011 draws to a close, I think of all the work that has been done by our terrific board members and very kind donors. After Daniel's death in 2000, his family and friends had an overwhelming need and desire to do something meaningful in his memory. We spoke to his school's principal who suggested an idea that would effect students for a lifetime...college scholarships. We expanded that idea to also include bringing art classes to John F. Cook Elementary School in DC where Daniel had taught 5th grade. At the time, Cook and other schools in DC hadn't had formal art education for more than 20 years.

Since 2000, I have written to each student from Cook Elementary every year until they graduated from high school to remind them



about the scholarship aid available to them upon graduation. This sometimes included tracking down many new addresses given the transient nature of the population we are serving. I have remained in contact with all of the high school guidance counselors in order to best serve our students and spend our foundation dollars.



Since giving out our first scholarships in 2007, when Daniel's last elementary school class graduated high school, we have helped 26 students attend college. You can see some of the students' responses in the column on the left. Many of them have remarkable stories to tell about their ability to overcome adversity and to strive for a better life.

In addition to the scholarship fund, we remain committed to our other mission of bringing art education and opportunities to stu-

dents in our nation's capital. During our initial years, we had many wonderful art teachers from the greater Washington, DC, art community. And in 2005, we created a lasting partnership with the prestigious Corcoran Gallery Graduate School of Art Education. Through their program, our students have continued to learn to enjoy and create art. Field trips to museums, art galleries, and summer art camps have opened their world and created a safe place for them to learn and grow.

In addition to our efforts to support the visual arts, we have continued to support scholarships for a performing arts camp at Joe's Movement Emporium, a dance center on the border of Washington, DC.

Our goal is to continue to make a difference in the lives of children. And please know that your generosity has and will continue to help us achieve our goals.

I sincerely thank each board member, friend and family member, and each donor who have given generous moral support and financial gifts to fulfill one of Daniel's last wishes: "do something for my kids."

—Barbara DiTondo



Daniel DiTondo Foundation
P.O. Box 21036
Washington, DC 20009