

Together, We Are Bainbridge

[Bainbridge Gives: Supporting Our Nonprofits](#)

As the shelter-in-place extends and social distancing becomes the norm, many nonprofits have found **creative ways to continue their positive impact on the community** through online programming and events. Nonetheless, it gets increasingly difficult for local organizations to stay afloat. Many nonprofits rely on in-person programs and fundraising events to raise money, and the longer we cannot connect one-on-one or gather in large groups, the harder it becomes for them to continue their critical work.



Bainbridge Community Foundation (BCF) is supporting the applications of 59 local nonprofits through its Community Grants Cycle (CGC). Applications run the gamut from tuition assistance for childcare, free cultural performances, first-year teacher retention, arts education and outreach, nutritious meals for children and their families, and many more. Some nonprofits requested critical support at a time when many have been deeply affected by the extended shelter-in-place order. As Ellin Spenser, former BCF Board member and long-time CGC volunteer, described ***“Every aspect of life on Bainbridge Island is touched by the work of nonprofits... if we lost any [of their programs], a lot of people would realize how much they depend on their services.”***

A 46-person Grants Evaluation Team conducted virtual site visits of each nonprofit, completed evaluations, and met as a larger group to discuss the applications by sector. In response to the rapidly changing environment, BCF made COVID-19 preparedness and support a top priority of the 2020 Grants Cycle. **The grant requests totaled \$453,398.** Every year, BCF receives more requests than they can fund on their own, so BCF then invites the support of others in the community to help fulfill these requests. Vetted and recommended applications can be viewed on BCF’s online giving platform, Bainbridge Gives (www.BainbridgeGives.org) through June 15 at 5pm. Once on the site, visitors can choose the nonprofit(s) they want to support and make a tax-deductible gift of \$10 to \$10,000 or more. Credit card transaction fees not covered by the donor are covered by BCF, and 100% of the donation goes directly to the grant request.

“This year... it was so inspiring to see how hard these nonprofits are working,” said Wendy O’Connor, former Board member and CGC volunteer for eight years. *“I feel so fortunate to live in a community with so many nonprofits. They improve the quality of life for all of us.”*

Together, we are Bainbridge.



To participate in Bainbridge Gives, please visit BainbridgeGives.org. For additional information, see www.bainbridgecf.org or contact Debbie Kuffel at debbie@bainbridgecf.org.

[What do you love most about Bainbridge Island ?](#)

It might be tough to describe your love of the island without mentioning the work of a nonprofit. Many of



our trails, museums, daycare programs, cultural performances, and the critical health and human services we receive are all run by nonprofits. Even our public school students and teachers receive crucial support from nonprofits around the island. Check out [this short one-minute video](#) capturing some of their work.



Our Financial Education Programming is Going Online in June! Register Now!

If you invest your money in the stock market, are you guaranteed to make more money in the future? Curious what kind of stocks do best after bear markets? BCF is hosting former Financial Advisor and Board member and Paul Merriman for a series of online events on how to invest wisely in uncertain times. To learn more and register, visit the BCF website [here](#).



Bainbridge Community Foundation would like to thank the **Fred H. and Mary S. Dore Foundation** for their recent contribution of \$10,000 to the Community Response Fund (our rapid emergency response fund currently supporting COVID-19 requests) and \$2,000 to our annual Community Grants Cycle.



The Fred H. and Mary S. Dore Foundation

We really appreciate the generous contributions to these important programs!

***Note:** To encourage more charitable giving in 2020, recently enacted government COVID-19 relief bill (the CARES ACT) provides some tax relief for individual donors. **If you take the standard deduction on your taxes, you may be able to claim a new "above-the-line" deduction of up to \$300 for cash donations to charitable nonprofits in 2020.** There are also benefits to donors who itemize their taxes. Please consult your tax advisor for more information.*

If you have any questions about this newsletter, please contact media@bainbridgecf.org. If you don't already, please follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn at the links below!



Excellence. Accountability. Impact.™

