

Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society Education Research Grant

Grant Details:

What: The Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society is offering an Education Research Grant to financially support planetarians in conducting research on the use and impact of planetariums in education.

Who can apply: Any current MAPS member. Each member can only apply for one grant per grant cycle.

Application deadline: Rolling (Opens January 1st continues till funds exhausted or year end)

Award dates: Notifications will be made privately to applicants within 6 weeks of submission and will be announced publically on the MAPS website.

Grant time period: 1 year from your notification; an additional 6 month extension can be requested in writing if needed.

Budget: Grant awards up to \$2,500.00 and must follow these guidelines:

- Funds cannot be used for equipment purchases unless it is absolutely necessary for the research, and, if approved, cannot exceed 30% of the total request. This does not include consumables or soft materials.
- The grant recipient must provide a brief progress/status report to the Education Review Panel in time for it to be shared at the bi-annual meeting of the Board (fall meeting and conference meeting) (400 words or less).
- The grant recipient must provide a final report (described below) to the Education Review Panel within 60 days of the end of the grant period.
- Any funds not used for the research project must be returned to MAPS.

Solicitation

Application Form Details:

Name of Organization: _____

Name of Principal Investigator: _____

Budget Request Amount: _____

The MAPS Education Research Grant is designed in part to satisfy the planetarium field's quest for knowledge based in research studies. In accepting this grant, I agree to disseminate my research findings in the following to ways (at minimum):

- 1) Present a paper or submit poster at the next MAPS conference within 1 year of completing the research project.
- 2) Submit research findings allowing publication in *The Constellation* journal, on the MAPS website and in possible future reprints.

- 3) Acknowledge the MAPS Education Research Grant in all publications that result from findings supported by this grant.

All of the following items must be addressed in your application to be considered for the grant.

- 1) Provide a brief description of your planetarium organization (400 words or less).
- 2) Define the goals of your research project. Include how your project will advance the planetarium field (maximum 800 words).
- 3) Identify the Principal Investigator (PI) and his/her qualifications for leading this project. Also, identify any other personnel or team members that will be working on this project (600 words or less).
- 4) Describe how you plan to utilize the requested budget. Provide a proposed timeline of the research project. A justification for any equipment or travel expenses should be included. Include any funding support that might be provided by any other organization(s) supporting the proposed research (600 words or less).

Note: Grant recipients must follow their organization's rules and guidelines for conducting research with human subjects.

Questions?? Email to Stephen Dubois- Subject: MAPS Grant Proposal, Address:
perchbuoy@yahoo.com.

Submissions: Send (2) copies, hard copies only, to Stephen Dubois, MAPS Grant Committee Chair, 146 Cadman Drive, Williamsville NY 14221.

Review Process:

Grant proposals will be reviewed by a MAPS Education Research Grant panel made up of at least 3 reviewers. This panel will consist of 1 MAPS Board Member and 2 other Education Research Grant reviewers. The review panel will manage all the communication and reviews and will submit their recommendations to the Board. Final reports will also be submitted to the review panel.

The grant cycle will run annually as follows:

- Grant year opens January 1st (Rolling submissions till funds are exhausted or year end)
- Grant request reviewed within 6 weeks of submission
- Grantee notified within 6 weeks of submission
- Grants announced on the MAPS website

The maximum total dollar amount available per year will be established and announced to MAPS members at the annual MAPS conference. Grant requests will be limited by this annual available dollar amount.

Final Report:

Within 60 days of the end of the grant period, recipients must supply the Grant Education Review Board a final summary. This summary will be shared with the MAPS Board. The final report should follow these guidelines:

- 1) Summarize your project and the major research findings that have resulted from your project (800 words or less).
- 2) Summarize how the budget was utilized for this project (600 words or less). The grant recipient must provide an itemized fiscal accounting of expenses (including receipts) as part of the final report.

Grant Review Criteria:

The grant period will open annually on January 1st and applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until annual dedicated grant funds run out for the current calendar year. For the 2013 calendar year a total of \$10,000.00 will be allocated to support MAPS Educational Research Grants.

Grant review criteria include the following:

- 1) Proposal must encompass a research project that will benefit the entire planetarium field.
- 2) The PI and organization must show competence in completing the proposed research.
- 3) Timeline and budget must seem reasonable and realistic.