

PREVIOUS LHVA EDUCATIONAL MINI-GRANT PROJECTS (2005-2010)

PROJECTS 2009-2010					
PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	GRADES	SCHOOL DISTRICT	SCHOOL BLDG / ORGANIZATION	EDUCATORS
<i>The Folk Ballad Tradition in the Lackawanna Valley</i>	As part of a 12th grade British literature class in which students learn about the tradition of the British and Scottish folk ballads, students will either create or research a chosen local ballad to perform for the class and for a guest speaker and folk singer who will help evaluate the projects and also present on and perform local folk music.	12th	Abington Heights School District	Abington Heights High School	Brigid Philbin
<i>Composting</i>	Students will introduce composting of solid food wastes on the high school campus in order to reduce the solid waste stream, recycle natural resources, and educate the students and community about the benefits of composting. The goal of this project is to construct seven 4x4x4 composting bins to accommodate our four lunch periods.	9th - 12th	Abington Heights School District	Abington Heights High School Environmental Action Club	John Uram
<i>Visually Capturing Lackawanna Valley's Transformation</i>	Students will establish an engineering club at Dunmore High School. The inaugural project will involve an original un-manned balloon vehicle that will capture images of the Lackawanna Valley to showcase its transformation from modest beginnings to the population center of today. Historical photographs and paintings will be used to actively bridge the connection between the past and present. The fabricated vehicle's capabilities will include automatically capturing photographs, maintaining altitude, and returning safely back to Earth.	9th - 12th	Dunmore School District	Dunmore High School	Nicholas P. Truncale
<i>A Day at the Scranton Cultural Center</i>	The Greater Scranton YMCA will take 100 preschool aged children enrolled in the "Y" PAL.S. preschool program on a field trip to the Scranton Cultural Center at the Masonic Temple. The children will learn about the heritage of the Scranton Cultural Center, and they will take an educational tour of the building, have lunch, and attend two workshops in magic, theatre, dance, drawing, mixed media, music, or sculpture.	Preschool	Dunmore School District	Greater Scranton YMCA "Y" P.A.L.S. Preschool	Marsha Pigga
<i>Appreciating Our Natural Ecosystems</i>	The Science and Family & Consumer Science classes will collaborate to expose our preschool students to an understanding and appreciation of the various natural ecosystems available to them at the Lackawanna State Park through planned activities such as discovering macro invertebrates in the water and nature hikes.	9th - 12th Preschool	Lakeland School District	Lakeland Jr/Sr High School	Leslie Graham Gretchen Allan
<i>Pollination Garden</i>	Students will create an outdoor garden in the school courtyard using indigenous plants for the purpose of attracting and studying local pollinators which have played a crucial role in the development of Northeastern Pennsylvania as well as agriculture in general. This multidisciplinary project will involve students from the Science, Art, and Special Ed. Departments.	7th - 12th	Mountain View School District	Mountain View Jr/Sr High School	David H Schulte Jr.
<i>Great "Riverside" Cleanup & Enhancement Project</i>	Fourth grade class will learn the history and science of the Lackawanna River in school. They will create "informational plaques" which will later be installed along the Lackawanna River Heritage Trail along the Lackawanna River in Taylor. Students also will engage in a cleanup along the river in Taylor in April. This event will be a part of the Great Pennsylvania Clean-Up.	4th	Riverside School District	Riverside Elementary School West	Shawn P. Murphy
<i>Echoes from the Coal Mine</i>	Students will experience the Pennsylvania Coal Mine Tour and will engage in guided listening and observational exercises led by artist, Liz Kluesner, and musician, Ron Stabinsky. Students will attend classes at the Lackawanna County Children's Library and complete charcoal drawings illustrating their experience in the coal mine. They will also compose a musical piece using unconventional instruments to recreate the sounds they heard inside the coal mine. This project will culminate with an art exhibition and musical performance at the Scranton Cultural Center.	ages 9-12	Scranton School District	Lackawanna County Children's Library	Liz Kluesner
<i>Acid Mine Drainage Field Studies</i>	West Scranton High school students will make connections between the region's environmental challenges and Industrial history by touring the Lackawanna Coal Mine, visiting the Old Forge Borehole, and conducting scientific tests at clean and polluted sections of the Lackawanna River. Environmental stewardship and pollution treatment will be discussed.	9th - 12th	Scranton School District	Lackawanna County Conservation District	Alana Roberts
<i>Courtyard Amphitheatre</i>	A stage, amphitheatre seating, and overhead protection will be built from recycled materials in order to allow various classes to utilize the school's National Wildlife Federation certified schoolyard habitat. Drafting, art classes and the entire student body will be involved in initial design and building. Native trees and shrubs will be planted.	9th - 12th	Scranton School District	West Scranton High School	Diane Marinchak

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<i>Freedom's Journey</i>	Fourth grade students explored the local history of the Underground Railroad and the Civil War period through guided field trips to historic sites and cemeteries in Waverly and Dunmore, along with various expert guest speakers. Thematic instruction was woven into the curriculum across all disciplines.	4th	Abington Heights School District	Newton Ransom Elementary School	Rebecca Kamoski, Barbara Frutchey & Brian Saslo
<i>Jermyn's Historic Mining Culture & the Birth of First Aid in America</i>	Lakeland School has a rich heritage involving immigration, coal, and environment that was destroyed by coal operators in the Valley. The history was narrated by residents. An original play depicting the Birth of First Aid in America was presented to the students and public. An EMS demonstration was held involving student participation. Students created individual workable first aid kits. Students also visited the Lackawanna Coal Mine Tour.	3rd	Lakeland School District	Lakeland Elementary School	Kathleen Hryhorcoff
<i>From PA's Northeast to the Middle East: Abandoned Mine Drainage, Environmental Art, and Global Water Resources</i>	Elementary students created orange classroom chalk using recycled iron oxide powder, collected by EPCAMR staff from tested mine drainage discharges on the Lackawanna and Susquehanna Rivers. Chalk was distributed along with letters to schools in Afghanistan to teach students about our water quality problems, Anthracite Geology, and how we innovatively treat pollution in the anthracite region. Afghani students were provided with ideas on how to recycle water through the construction of rain barrels and rain gardens to improve their local water quality.	4th-6th	Multiple	Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation	Robert E. Hughes
<i>West Scranton Geocaching and Ourdoor Club</i>	Students established an outdoor club at West Scranton High School. The club used GPS units to explore the many parks, waterways and environmental areas in Lackawanna County to help the students to better understand their role as caretakers of the environment. The GPS units will be used for directions as well as part of geocaching.	9th-12th	Scranton School District	West Scranton High School	Scott Dustman
<i>Students' View of the Valley</i>	High school students will create a pictorial history and culture of the valley. The history will include interviews of local residents. Interviews will depict their view of historical events and the impact those events had on ethnic groups. The pictorial history will be presented to social studies teachers for use at the elementary and intermediate levels.	9th-12th	Valley View School District	Valley View High School	Lorraine M. Stevens
<i>Touring Lackawanna County's Architectural Structures</i>	Classes took a two-hour tour of the Scranton Cultural Center and visited the Everhart Museum.	9th	Valley View School District	Valley View High School	Kathleen Myers
<i>"Witness to Suffering" - A Local Play</i>	The original play, "Witness to Suffering: The Birth of First Aid in America," written by local history Columnist Cheryl A. Kashuba and Matthew Kashuba, was performed for the students. Students learned how the practice of first aid was born in Jermyn in 1899 when Dr. Matthew Shields trained a group of miners to administer first aid to their wounded fellows in the mine.	9th-12th	Valley View School District	Valley View High School	Kathleen Myers & Cheryl Aniska
<i>Visiting the D&H Gravity Depot Museum</i>	Fourth grade students will walk with teachers and local police from the school to the D&H Gravity Depot Museum, a distance of about ½ mile. The students will be presented with a program of local history and each child will be given a piece of coal, a healthy snack and an activity booklet titled "The D&H Canal Co. & Its History." The children will be encourage to view each exhibit in the museum including the D&H Passenger Car 43 located on the property.	4th	Western Wayne School District	Robert D. Wilson Elementary School	Dawn Vinton

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PROJECTS 2007-2008					
PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	GRADES	SCHOOL DISTRICT	SCHOOL BLDG / ORGANIZATION	EDUCATORS
<i>River Study</i>	Program in conjunction with the Lackawanna River Corridor Association to raise awareness of local natural resources, history and conservation.	4th	Abington Heights School District	Clarks Summit Elementary School	Kathy Judge
<i>Celebrating Our Native Heritage</i>	Through the use of literature, primary sources, field experiences, and the arts students will study Native American history and culture across the regions of the U.S. specifically tribes native to the local area. Artists in residence explored project themes during for spring semester. 4th grade students worked on research projects and participated in an original dramatic production.	4th	Abington Heights School District	Newton Ransom Elementary School	Rebecca Kameronki, Barbara Frutchey, Brian Saslo, Hilary Frear
<i>Blue Ridge School District Nature Trail</i>	Phase 2 aspect of an educational nature trail on a PA State Game Lands that directly border the school property for implementing an environmental education curriculum for all grade levels and the community.	K-12th	Blue Ridge School District	Elementary-Middle-High School	Dede Tersteeg, Rhonda Levine, Nancy Burkett, Ed Price, Laurie Klenchik, Matt Button
<i>Caring for Our Earth's Resources</i>	Elementary students examined and investigated the impacts of pollutants on watershed by constructing mini-ecosystems with the help of Dr. Rene' Bishop from Penn State and her students.	1st	Lackawanna Trail School District	Lackawanna Trail Elementary Center	Mary DeNault
<i>Family Histories: Sharing Our Stories With the Community</i>	Students shared stories of growing up in NE PA. These stories will focus on their parents, grandparents, and other family members, and will highlight family customs and traditions that were brought to NE PA from around the world.	7th & 8th	Lackawanna Trail School District	Lackawanna Trail Jr/Sr High School	Anthony Dalasio
<i>A Trolley Trip Introducing Children to their Heritage</i>	Early intervention students had the opportunity to experience the Electric City Trolley Station. Project promoted an understanding and appreciation of our region's rich heritage at the introductory level.	Early Intervention	NEIU #19	Goodwill Building	Maura Healy
<i>The Richardsonian Experience: Scranton Architecture through Photography</i>	A four session project comprising of the history and methods of photography, history and prominent Scranton architecture. The students were instructed on the use of 35 mm film cameras and the history of Scranton architecture culminating in a walking tour of the downtown area to use their newly learned photography skills. The students' best work was displayed during a First Friday art walk at the Scranton Cultural Center.	4th-9th	Scranton School District	Lackawanna County Children's Library	Elizabeth Davis, Liz Kluesner, Lauren Maloney
<i>Four Seasons on the Lackawanna River</i>	Through music art and reading, 60 students at Robert Morris School studied the Lackawanna River's effects on the history of our region.	PreK-5	Scranton School District	Robert Morris Elementary School	Ann Kennedy
<i>I Am of Scranton</i>	Students studied Scranton's history and explored their connection to the city by using writing activities conducted by PCA artist Jack McGuigan and multi media activities by PCA visual artist Elizabeth Parry-Faist. Using a specific curricular subject, students created a "flag" that integrated all the learned material.	10th - 12th	Scranton School District	Scranton Senior High School	Nancy Yamin
<i>PA Coal Mining Through the Eyes of a Preschool Child</i>	Learning Center students learned the coal industry's economic and resource value through a simulated, hands-on program taught by high school students.	Pre-school; High School	Valley View School District	Valley View High School Learning Center	Mary Gene Eagen, Lorraine Stevens

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PROJECTS 2006-2007					
PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	GRADES	SCHOOL DISTRICT	SCHOOL BLDG / ORGANIZATION	EDUCATORS
<i>Rhythm of Life: Patterns of History and Nature</i>	Lead by Bernie McGurl of LRCA, students examined the water quality and structures of life in the Lackawanna River to determine the impact of the anthracite coal mining history in the area.	4th	Abington Heights School District	Newton Ransom Elementary School	Rebecca Kameronski
<i>Blue Ridge School District Nature Trail</i>	Phase I: Students re-established an educational nature trail on PA State Game Lands to implement environmental education for all grade levels.	K-12	Blue Ridge School District	Blue Ridge School District	Dee Dee Tersteeg
<i>Cultural Heritage Project</i>	Students collected family oral histories. They wrote them in their own words, illustrated them, and produced a book or live presentation.	7th & 8th	Lackawanna Trail School District	Lackawanna Trail Jr-Sr High School	Anthony Dalasio
<i>Historical Lackawanna Valley</i>	Students learned about local history, went on field trips to SNHS & Anthracite Museum, and drew studies of locomotives, coal breakers, ets. The teacher compiled research notes and choice projects into a book.	Pre-K-2nd, 5th-8th	Old Forge School District	Triboro Christian Academy	Kimberly Cashmere
<i>Cultural Diversity & Ethnic Celebrations in Preschool</i>	Students learned their own culture and others through exposure to diffent customs, dramatic plays, readings, art project, and guests.	Pre-K	Scranton School District	Greater Scranton YMCA	Janet Mikulski
<i>Beautification of Administration Building</i>	Students learned about the local eco-system, native plants, and plant lifecycles. They chose appropriate annual plants and planted them around school buildings. They planned and executed the entire project.	9th - 12th	Scranton School District	Scranton High School	Geralyn Meehan
<i>Fellows Park PA Historical Marker</i>	Classes researched the history of the Fellow family and submitted an application to PHMC for a historical marker at Fellows Park.	10th	Scranton School District	West Scranton High School	Thomas Murray
<i>High School Students Learning Our Local Heritage Through Teaching Preschool-Age Children</i>	HS Child Development students created age-appropriate lessons on local heritage for 5-year-olds. Project then used ten different lessons on local heritage and included stories, crafts, music, and foods.	Pre-K; 10th-12th	Valley View School District	Valley View High School	Mary Gene Eagen
<i>The Last Thoughts of Gino Merli</i>	Students viewed a play based on the life of Medal of Honor recipient Geno Merli, studied his life and the WWII era.	9th-12th	Valley View School District	Valley View High School	Kathleen Myers
<i>Grey Towers: Conservation, Stewardship, and Our Forestry Heritage</i>	Students heard from a Conservation Education Specialist, and took a field trip to Grey Towers. They participated in a hands-on learning experience of the forest. They also planted a tree at Elementary School.	5th	Wayne Highlands School District	Lakeside Elementary School	Jill Dulay

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PROJECTS 2005-2006					
PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	GRADES	SCHOOL DISTRICT	SCHOOL BLDG / ORGANIZATION	EDUCATORS
<i>Family Histories and Recipes from Northeastern Pennsylvania</i>	Students collected family oral histories around food traditions, collected recipies, and compiled them into a cook book.	8th	Lackawanna Trail School District	Lackawanna Jr-Sr High School	Anthony Dalasio
<i>Health and Safety Conditions of the Coal Miners</i>	Students learned about the health, safety conditions, and medical care of miners, and developed that into a documentary film.	8th	Mid-Valley School District	Secondary Center	Michele Dembesky
<i>Taylor Memorial Cemetery Heritage and Enhancement Project</i>	Students learned about original settlers buried in Taylor Cemetery. They put on a play written and directed by themselves about early settlers. They also beautified the cemetery.	5th	Riverside School District	Riverside Elementary East	Shawn Murphy
<i>The Railroad: From Great-Grandpa to Me</i>	Students learned about the area's railroading heritage, went on a field trip to Steamtown, and performed in a musical production.	1st	Scranton School District	Neil Armstrong Elementary School	Marissa Byron, Kim Gnall
<i>Traditions of a Heritage</i>	Students learned about different ethnic traditions. They studied 14 ethnicities and had guest speakers, made special foods, learned about clothing and costumes, and learned to say hello/goodbye in each language.	3rd - 4th	Scranton School District	Howard Gardner School for Discovery	Mary Lou Kelly
<i>Rededication of Fellows Park in West Scranton</i>	Students learned about the Fellows family, a founding family in area. They beautified Fellows Park and had a re-dedication ceremony.	9th - 12th	Scranton School District	West Scranton High School	Diane Marinchak
<i>Recycling Station</i>	Children learned about recycling and created recycling containers for facility	Pre-K	Scranton School District	Greater Scranton YMCA	Janet Mikulski
<i>Save that Tree</i>	Students learned about flood control project in Peckville, as well as the history of the town for the last 150 years. They walked from school to go see a 150 year old tree that citizens saved from demolition during the flood control project construction.	2nd	Valley View School District	Valley View Elementary Center	Robin Powell
<i>Promised Land Environmental Learning Day</i>	Students learned about local ecology and participated in a day-long series of environmental educational events at Promised Land State Park.	5th	Wayne Highlands School District	Lakeside Elementary School	Jill Dulay