



**Hartford Foundation**  
FOR PUBLIC GIVING

*Greater  
Hartford's  
community  
foundation  
since 1925*



*Hartford's Proud, Drill, Drum, and Dance Corp*

## Hartford Foundation Awards More Than \$780,000 to Summer Programs

Hartford's Proud, Drill, Drum, and Dance Corp is one of many nonprofits hosting a summer program for youth in Greater Hartford. This summer, they'll help young people develop academic and social skills through sound, movement and artistry. A Summer Program grant from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving will provide financial relief to participants, while also helping to fund supplies, studio rental fees, travel expenses and more.

This is one of 32 summer programs that we're helping to fund in 2025, through a series of grants totaling \$782,283. These grants will support free or reduced-cost opportunities for more than 6,300 people,

including both Hartford youth and Greater Hartford youth and adults with disabilities.

Although summer vacation is an exciting time for school-aged kids, it can be challenging for working parents. While these youth are having the time of their lives — learning, playing, and being away from screens — their parents and caregivers will no longer have to worry about finding reliable and affordable childcare that provides well-rounded enrichment.

This year's grants also support 131 counselor-in-training opportunities, providing Black and Latine youth with summer employment and career training. Our Summer Program grants are part of our efforts to increase the number of [Employment Opportunities](#) for Black and Latine residents of Greater Hartford.

[Read more about our Summer Program grants and see a list of organizations receiving an award.](#)

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An Evening with President Barack Obama

As we continue to celebrate our centennial year, we are excited to partner with CT Forum to bring the 44th President of the United States Barack Obama to Hartford. This special event will take place on Tuesday, June 17 at The Bushnell.

[Visit the CT Forum website to learn more.](#)

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### Hartford Promise Celebrates First Class of Greater Futures Scholarship Recipients

Hartford Promise's Induction Ceremony for the Class of 2025, held on May 14, was a powerful celebration of the hard work and dedication shown by our scholars and their families throughout their high school journey. We proudly welcomed our first class of [Greater Futures Scholars](#) with a first-of-its-kind commitment — up to \$100,000 — designed to unlock their full potential.

[Watch our video](#) to feel the electricity in the room!

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### Four Nonprofits Join Our Social Enterprise Accelerator Program

Since it launched in 2019, our **Social Enterprise Accelerator** program has helped 24 nonprofits create new entrepreneurial ventures. To date, these organizations have generated more than



\$16 million through this program. That revenue will support the organizations' long-term sustainability and their impact in our region.

Now, four additional organizations have been chosen to participate in the Social Enterprise Accelerator. Over the next two years, these nonprofits will create business plans, raise start-up capital, launch their ventures and bring in money to support their missions. [Learn more about the program and the participating nonprofits.](#)



## 18 Nonprofits Receive Grants to Assist Individuals With Visual Impairments

Almost 20 million Americans, or 8% of the U.S. population, have visual impairments, according to Georgetown University's Health Policy Institute. Visual impairment is one of the leading causes of loss of independence for people aged 65 and older.

We recently awarded 18 grants **totaling nearly \$240,000** to local nonprofits through the **John E. Blair Fund**, to enhance accessibility and empower individuals with visual impairments. [Learn more about the organizations receiving grants and the work being supported.](#)

## Grant Opportunities for Nonprofits

Our [Grant Opportunities web page](#) features available and upcoming

Requests for Proposals. Right now, we have opportunities for **Community Organizing** and **Resident Engagement** grants. Nonprofits serving Greater Hartford are encouraged to learn more and apply.

[Sign up to receive notification emails](#) every time a new grant opportunity is announced.

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## 100 Influencers of Greater Hartford: Michelle Henry

Michelle Henry is a high school English teacher who brought the first-ever Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) history program to her classroom at Simsbury High School. In collaboration with UConn's Asian and Asian American Studies Institute, Michelle curated a course that explores Asian studies while enabling students to earn college credit.

A state-funded mandate will require K-12 Connecticut public school districts to teach AAPI history starting in the 2025-26 school year. Michelle believes the course is an important tool for mitigating racism and xenophobia.

"When I see my students making those meaningful connections and recognizing that they can dispel stereotypes in their own way such as

using their voices and contributing to solutions, I feel accomplished,” says Henry.

To celebrate the Hartford Foundation's 100th Anniversary, we are sharing 100 Influencers of Greater Hartford on our social media channels throughout the rest of 2025. Follow us on social for more!

The Hartford Foundation is proud to celebrate AAPI Heritage Month.



Visit our website: [hfpg.org](https://hfpg.org)  
Questions? Email [hartfordfoundation@hfpg.org](mailto:hartfordfoundation@hfpg.org).



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