

### Rockland Education Foundation

# Committed to making a difference in the lives of Rockland students.

From kindergarten to high school, from dinosaurs to iPads— Rockland Public School students are studying the past with tools from the future.



### Thousands of students benefit

Each year, students in the Rockland Public Schools from preschool through grade twelve benefit from the exciting projects that their teachers envision and that the REF is able to fund. These experiences enhance the basic curriculum that the school budget cannot typically afford and help make learning come alive! Musical instruments, robotics, book clubs, Family Math Nights, and a Shakespeare Festival are just a few of the more than 625 unique experiences that the REF has sponsored.



## Community support

Since its inception, the REF has enjoyed the financial support of the citizens of Rockland, the graduates of Rockland High School from 1940 to the present day, and local businesses and banks. Members of our Century Club generously pledge \$100 annually to enable the student's educational experiences to be enriched. The Foundation is often named as the recipient of memorial contributions to honor friends and family; and our annual golf tournament continues to not only be a successful fundraiser, but an opportunity to showcase many of the grants that have been awarded.

**The Rockland Education Foundation** (REF) is a non-profit volunteer organization which was founded in 1996 by A. Scott MacKinlay, Dick Phelps, and Ralph "Gus" Lordi. Their vision was to create an opportunity for educators to access funding that would allow them to enrich the educational experiences for Rockland students. This competitive grant writing process begins each September. The grant proposals are reviewed by a committee and only those that are linked directly to the curriculum and are deemed innovative and exciting are funded. For more than twenty years, thousands of students have benefited from these unique experiences.

#### Grant-funded programs:

Engineering is Elementary Google Expedition Robotics Quadcopter Camera Drone Shakespeare Festival Talking about Jazz Math Mania Visits from the Aquarium History Fair Credit for Life Fair

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### More than \$700,000 awarded

Annually, the REF awards more than \$30,000 to educators within all grade levels and across all curriculum areas. An additional \$10,000 A. Scott MacKinlay Impact Grant is awarded to educators for projects that will make a significant difference for a large number of students. Technology is most often requested and grants have recently been funded to provide students with digital cameras, iPads, drones, 3-D printers, computerized woodworking tools and entire computer labs! Each year, the REF invests some of the money it has raised into an endowment fund to ensure that these grants will continue to be awarded for years to come.

#### To learn how you can donate and make a difference visit us at: rocklandeducationfoundation.org

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