

**VERMONT PUBLIC LIBRARY  
FOUNDATION**

---

**CLASSICAL CONNECTIONS  
Grant Program  
2015**

**GRANT GUIDELINES  
&  
APPLICATION**

*Application Deadline:  
May 15, 2015*



109 State Street  
Montpelier, Vermont 05609  
802-828-3261

# Classical Connections: Taking Middle School Reading Out of the Box

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Classical Connections program was created in 2011 by a team of public and school librarians in Charlotte, Vermont: Margaret Woodruff and Cheryl Sloan (Charlotte Library), and Heidi Huestis, (Charlotte Central School.) The program was developed in response to a challenge from local community member Alex Kroll to encourage and challenge middle school age children to read and enjoy classics of literature. Mr. Kroll graciously provided the funding, and the three librarians designed a content-rich program of books, activities, art and writing to enrich the reading experience. Each year the Charlotte program has featured a pairing of a single classical work (or body of work) with a contemporary book of interest to middle school readers.

The first year's project paired *The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan with Greek mythology. In the second year, (2012) the librarians chose the work of William Shakespeare and paired some of his plays with *The Wednesday Wars* by Gary D. Schmidt. In 2013 they paired Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist* with Katherine Paterson's *Jip*. And in 2014, they chose to pair *The Time Machine* by H.G. Wells with Scott Westerfeld's *Leviathan*. This year the Charlotte librarians will pair *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson with *The Great Wide Sea*, by M.H. Herlong.

The Classical Connections program was a success from the beginning and Mr. Kroll began looking for a way to expand the program to other libraries and young readers in Vermont. In 2013 he partnered with the Vermont Public Library Foundation and the Vermont Department of Libraries to create the Classical Connections grant program, which continued in 2014 -- and is offered again in 2015.

**This year the VPLF is offering up to five grants of \$500 each to public libraries, via a competitive grant process.**

100% of these grant funds are made possible by a generous gift from Mr. Alex Kroll.

**The 2015 Grant program period begins on July 1, 2015 and ends December 31, 2015.**

Grant awards will be announced no later than June 5, 2015.

This Grant Application packet of information includes:

- Grant Program Description and Grant Guidelines
- Grant Application Checklist
- Grant Application, including Budget Form and Certification Form

**For more information about the 2015 Classical Connections grant program, please contact Sharon Colvin, Youth Services Consultant, Vermont Department of Libraries:**  
[sharon.colvin@state.vt.us](mailto:sharon.colvin@state.vt.us) / 802-828-6954

## GRANT GUIDELINES

All applicants for the Classical Connections Grant must follow these Guidelines:

**Grant applications are due to the Department of Libraries no later than:  
May 15, 2015** (postmark date.)

- 1) Grant applications must be complete. Incomplete grant applications will not be considered.
- 2) The grant period begins July 1, 2015 and ends on December 31, 2015. All activities and events connected with the library's grant must be scheduled and completed during this time.
- 3) Awardees will receive a \$500 grant in a single check before July 1, 2015. Checks will be payable to the public library.
- 4) All grant-related programs will be designed for readers in grades 5-8.
- 5) Public libraries are strongly encouraged to partner with their local school library or other community organization(s) and applications that include partnerships will be given priority.
- 6) All activities, events, supplies, books, materials and equipment purchased with grant funds are the property of the public library awardee and must be used for the 2015 Classical Connections program. The library may choose to use some of the grant funds for project books which young reader participants may keep.
- 7) Awardee libraries may use one of the programs developed by the Charlotte team of librarians (see: Program Description, above) – or may design their own project with other titles and related activities. Note: The Application form has a separate section (#5) that must be completed by libraries which choose to design their own program.
- 8) Grant funds may be used for books, program and activity supplies, A-V resources, speakers, field trips, PR, prizes, etc. No more than 10% of the grant may be used for food. The final report must include a complete accounting of expenditures, including copies of receipts.
- 9) Books chosen for your programs may be former DCF (Dorothy Canfield Fisher) Book Award winners. Check with the Department of Libraries to see if there are sets of books available to borrow for use in your program. (This is a good way to save grant funds for other expenses!)

The Department of Libraries owns multiple copies of:

*The Lightning Thief, The Wednesday Wars, Jip and the Great Wide Sea.*

- 10) All awardees are required to submit a report at the end of the project. Final reports will be due to the Department of Libraries no later than March 1, 2016. Awardees will receive a Report form.

# APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Use the following checklist to ensure that your library's Application is complete.

- Complete Application
  - Cover Sheet
  - Project Name and Project Description
  - Project Budget (with Budget Notes)
  
- Certification Form (with signatures)
  
- Required Attachments
  - Price quotes/estimates and source of estimated pricing for items/services, if included in the budget (see: Budget sheet)
  
- Optional* Attachment(s)
  - Partner statement(s)
  - Letter(s) of Support
  - Project description - #5 (required if you are designing your own program with books other than those used by the Charlotte Library team.)

## ORGANIZATION OF APPLICATION:

- Handwritten applications will not be accepted
- Include extra pages of project descriptions for #4 and #5, as needed.

## SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION:

Submit **NO LATER THAN MAY 15, 2015** (postmark date)

Mail Application to:

Vermont Public Library Foundation  
Vermont Department of Libraries  
c/o Sharon Colvin  
109 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05609-0601

These Guidelines and Application are available electronically at:

[http://libraries.vermont.gov/about\\_us/vplf/grant](http://libraries.vermont.gov/about_us/vplf/grant)

For additional assistance or information, contact Sharon Colvin, Youth Services Consultant, at 802-828-6954, or by email: [sharon.colvin@state.vt.us](mailto:sharon.colvin@state.vt.us).



Vermont Public Library Foundation  
**2015 Classical Connections Grant Application**

**Application Deadline: May 15, 2015 (postmark)**  
**Submit 1 copy of this application with original signatures.**

**COVER SHEET**

Library Name:		
Project Contact Name:		
Title:		
Address:		
City, State, Zip:		Library Federal Employer ID#:
Phone: 802-	Fax: 802-	E-Mail:

Library Director Name:	
Phone: 802-	E-mail:

Partner Names / Organization (Optional)	
Name	Organization
Name	Organization

**1. Type of Public Library (check one):**

**Municipal**       **Incorporated**       **Combined Public/School (i.e. Community Library)**  
 **Bookmobile**

**501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Status (check one):**

**NO**       **YES**

**2. Amount of Grant Request (if less than \$500):** \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Project (Choose One):

- Shakespeare / *The Wednesday Wars*  
Which Shakespeare book(s) will you use?
- The Lightning Thief* / Mythology  
What mythology title(s) will you use?
- Oliver Twist* / *Jip*
- Leviathan* / *The Time Machine*
- Great Wide Sea* / *Treasure Island*
- Other – Please list book titles:  
(See # 5 below)

### 4. Project Description

Note: You have a choice: (1) you may use the materials created by the Charlotte librarians (with local adaptations, as you wish) or (2) you can design your own program with books that you choose.

If you choose option (2), skip to #5 below.

*Use no more than two typed, single-spaced, one-sided pages (add page, if needed). Briefly tell us: What are the goals of your project (outcomes)? How will you recruit program participants? Who are your project partners? What do you plan to do (activities, etc.) – and how will you carry out the program? How will you evaluate program success? Please include an outline of your project, with brief descriptions of activities planned for each program session.*

#### **4. Project Description (Continued)**

### **5. NEW Project Design (Optional)**

If you intend to design a new project of your own with book titles not previously used by the Charlotte Library team, please describe the project here.

What books (titles/authors) will you use for: (1) the classical work of literature, and (2) contemporary title?

Why did you choose these books? What is the main theme that links these two books?

Please include a short sample of one or more activities and some sample discussion questions.

Also:

*Use no more than two typed, single-spaced, one-sided pages (add page, if needed.) Briefly tell us: What are the goals of your project (outcomes)? How will you recruit program participants? Who are your project partners? What do you plan to do (activities, etc.) – and how will you carry out the program? How will you evaluate program success? Please include an outline of your project, with brief descriptions of activities planned for each program session.*

## 5. NEW Project Description (Continued)

## 6. PROJECT BUDGET

(Round all amounts to nearest dollar. Please type.)

(Please attach quote or photocopy of source of pricing for individual items/services totaling more than \$300.)

BUDGET CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	MATCHING FUNDS – IN HAND (if applicable)	BUDGET NOTES (Required, do not leave blank. You may attach a separate sheet, if necessary.)
Library Materials	Books, audiobooks, DVDs, software.	\$	\$	
Contractual Services	Hiring an individual or business to provide a service or program	\$	\$	
Personnel	Salaries and benefits for additional library staff hours. Include FICA costs.	\$	\$	
Supplies		\$	\$	
Other: (Itemize by category. Note: food costs must not exceed 10% of total grant)		\$	\$	
		\$	\$	
		\$	\$	
		\$	\$	
		\$	\$	
		\$	\$	
<b>TOTAL</b>		\$	\$	

**In making this application, we certify that:**

- This library is a public library as defined by 22 VSA §101(B) - "established and maintained by a municipality or by a private association, corporation or group to provide basic library services free of charge to all residents of a municipality or a community and which receives its annual financial support in whole or in part from public funds."
- The information provided in this application is complete and accurate to the best of our knowledge.
- The grant funds received from the Vermont Public Library Foundation will be an incremental increase to other current and anticipated library funding and will not replace previously budgeted items.
- We understand that a final report is required and agree to submit the report in a timely fashion.

**SIGNATURES:**

**Project Primary Contact**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (*please print*): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Library Director (If different from program contact)**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (*please print*): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Partners (optional)**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (*please print*): \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (*please print*): \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_