



gifts & grants

Schenectady's Thriving Neighborhoods Challenge

Schenectady's Thriving Neighborhoods Challenge is in full swing. One project — Rainbow Pride Art — is complete, and ten others are in progress. We thank all the project leaders and volunteers, the non-profits serving as our anchor organizations that are supporting the projects, and our Challenge Investors. Here's the latest:



Our Challenge Investors



The Little Family Foundation

**Neil & Jane Golub
Donor Advised Fund**



Rainbow Pride Art, Gateway Park

\$22,000 grant • Anchor Organization: Proctors

This is the first Challenge project to be completed — an art installation in Gateway Park that builds awareness about the LGBTQ rights movement. The sculpture is designed to be reused in other locations and in different configurations. Proctors served as the “anchor” for this project that is a place for community-building and gathering, and educating the public about social justice and human rights.

Spray Pad Cooling Area, Woodlawn

\$55,000 grant • Anchor Org.: Friends of the Woodlawn Preserve

A spray pad cooling and recreation area is being installed in Woodlawn Park, providing residents a fun, safe way to cool off and enjoy the summer months. Neighborhood leaders expect the spray pad to be ready to go by July 4th weekend.

Show Love Where You Live, Hamilton Hill & Vale

\$44,000 grant • Anchor Organization: Electric City Barn

Community members are developing an anti-litter campaign by engaging the neighborhood, decorating and installing new trash receptacles, and working with the City's Waste Collection & Recycling Department to increase trash pick-ups. Neighborhood block captains are charged with keeping their streets clean. The new trash cans will be installed this summer.

Northside Pride, Goose Hill

\$24,200 grant • Anchor Organization: Schenectady Municipal Housing Authority

Resident-driven campaign in the Northside neighborhood to reduce litter, including an educational component to change the mindset of the community. Outreach programs have been conducted at Zoller and Yates Elementary Schools, and children in the neighborhood are involved in designing artwork that will be featured on the new trash cans.

Phoenix Walks, Hamilton Hill

\$38,500 grant • Anchor Organization: Electric City Barn

The project is creating an art walk through the Hamilton Hill community, including street murals, a sculpture garden, flower gardens, and historical neighborhood information.

Schenectady and Me, Various locations in City

\$26,400 grant • Anchor Org.: CREATE Community Studios

Hundreds of community members have already participated in this public art project by creating collage tiles expressing what they love most about Schenectady. The tiles will be incorporated in the design of six sculptural benches that will be displayed in various locations in the City. The project beautifies the City while increasing resident contributors' pride in their community. The first bench will be on display at City Hall in September.



Howe Outdoor Natural Play Space, Howe Elementary School

\$11,500 grant • Anchor Organization: Howe PTO

Neighborhood residents are creating outdoor play spaces to support nature-inspired learning and recreation. A variety of learning stations are being installed that include garden beds, trees, a labyrinth and other engaging activities for kids and families.



Reawakening East Front Street, East Front Street

\$8,900 grant • Anchor Organization: Schenectady Land Bank

This project "reawakens" the small neighborhood adjoining the Stockade, adding welcome banners, trash cans, historical signage, and murals throughout its six streets. The group has designed a new neighborhood logo that will adorn banners and trash cans.

Boulevards Alley Trash Containment, Boulevards Neighborhood

\$3,300 grant • Anchor Org.: Boulevards Area Neighborhood Association

An assessment was conducted of neighborhood needs, and a plan is going forward to provide trash receptacles for residents in the East, Center, and West Alleys to make the streets safer, more welcoming and enjoyable.

Our Community Library, Various locations in City

\$1,400 grant • Anchor Org.: Schenectady County Public Library

Free book library boxes are being built and installed around the City, filled with donated books for neighborhood youth to read and own.



Canvas Murals for Vacant Homes, Hamilton Hill

\$800 grant • Anchor Org.: The Schenectady Foundation

This project seeks to beautify areas of Hamilton Hill, recruiting students to create artwork on canvases that will be hung over the windows of vacant homes. Children may create art every Saturday in July at the Hamilton Hill Arts Center.

Thriving Neighborhoods CHALLENGE



Coming to a neighborhood near you

Schenectady's Thriving Neighborhoods Challenge

What's your idea for improving your community?

If you had the resources and a team to make it happen, what kind of project would you take on to make life better where you live? How might you come together with others to help make transformational change in your corner of Schenectady? How might we make Schenectady's neighborhoods stronger, healthier, safer and more livable?

Be creative, think big, or focus on one small, simple but important thing. Be empowered to share your idea and submit your proposal to the Thriving Neighborhoods Challenge — Round 2!!



ROUND 2!

Details coming in July!

Stay tuned at www.schenectadyfoundation.org