



# DART FOUNDATION<sup>SM</sup>

## History

The Dart Foundation is a private family foundation established in 1984 by William A. and Claire T. Dart. Founded in Mason, Michigan, the Dart Foundation continues to be headquartered there. Because of this, the mid-Michigan area has long been a focal point of Dart Foundation philanthropy. Each year grants are awarded in other areas of the United States, and a select number of national grants are made.

## Mission

Historically, it has been the Dart Foundation's preference to make grants toward education (primarily math, science and engineering) and youth programs. Other major areas of interest have included health, disaster relief and journalism programs that focus on the accuracy of news reporting on scientific and environmental issues. Additionally, major support is given to national projects such as the [Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma](#), a global resource for journalists who cover violence.

## Directors and Officers

William A. Dart, Board Chairman  
Claire T. Dart, Board Member  
Kenneth B. Dart, Board Member  
James D. Lammers, Vice President and Secretary

**DART FOUNDATION<sup>SM</sup>**  
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### Our Future...

Our children are our future. Without the next generation of engineers, scientists, mathematicians, and other professionals, the advances we enjoy today will quickly grind to a halt.

At the Dart Foundation, we are committed to developing scientifically literate students. As part of this, we sponsored the 2006 Michigan State University Department of Mechanical Engineering's Design Day for pre-collegiate learners.

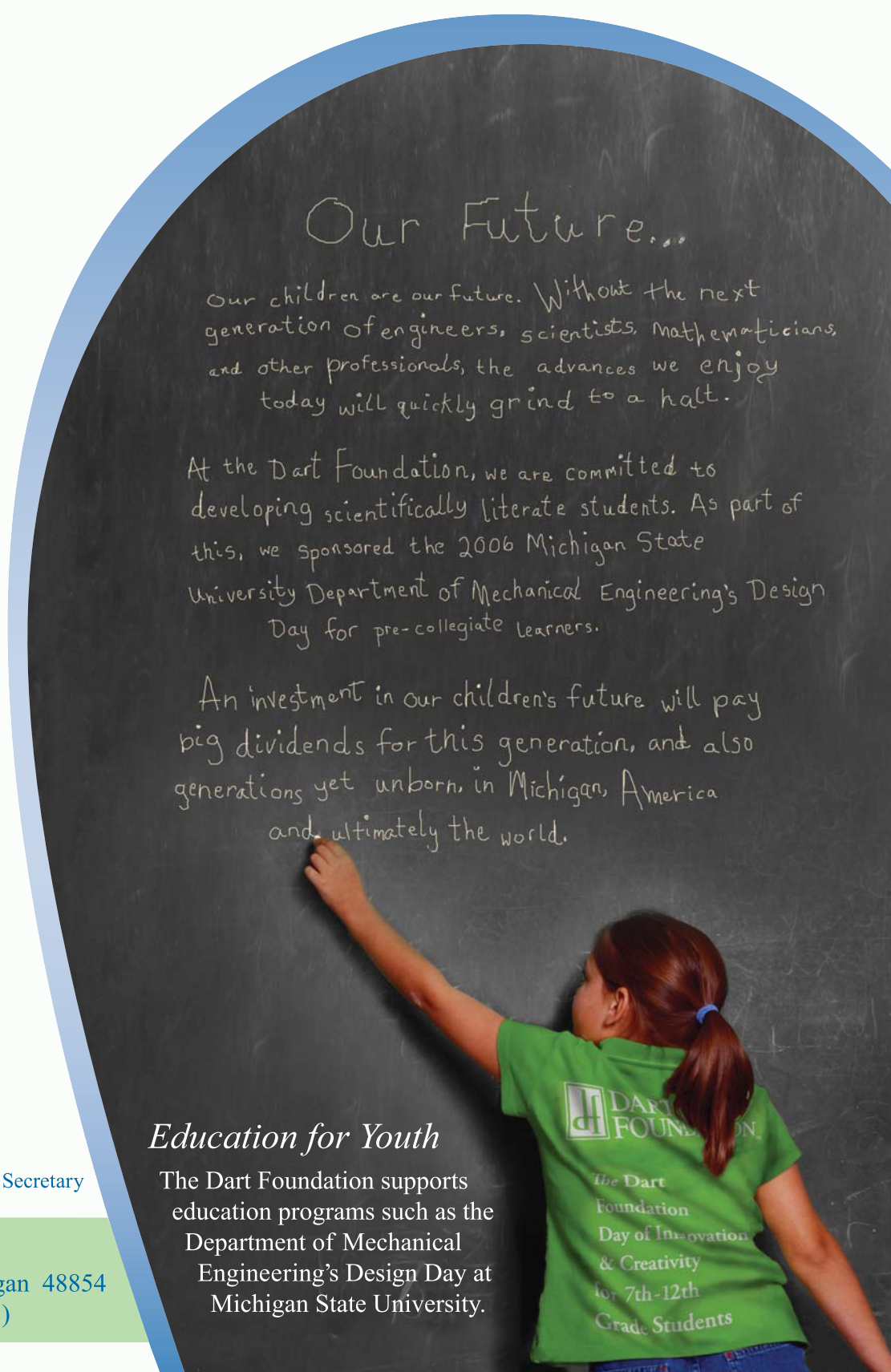
An investment in our children's future will pay big dividends for this generation, and also generations yet unborn, in Michigan, America and ultimately the world.

### Education for Youth

The Dart Foundation supports education programs such as the Department of Mechanical Engineering's Design Day at Michigan State University.



The Dart  
Foundation  
Day of Innovation  
& Creativity  
for 7th-12th  
Grade Students



# THE DART FOUNDATION

## *Sponsor of Environmental, Science, Math and Engineering Programs*

For over 20 years, the Dart Foundation has funded programs related to the environment, science, math and engineering. We strongly believe in the transformative nature of education. The more scientifically literate we are as a society and the more steeped we are in the principles of mathematics and engineering, the better we will address the pressing issues of our day. Taken singly and together, the programs detailed here will help ensure that one such issue, responsible environmental stewardship, will be thoughtfully addressed in a reasoned manner.

### **Air and Waste Management Association of West Michigan:**

The Dart Foundation has sponsored the Association's efforts to promote a better understanding and resolution of air pollution control and waste management concerns.

### **American Cave Conservation Association Inc.:**

The Dart Foundation has provided significant support to the American Cave Museum and Hidden River Cave located in Horse Cave, Kentucky. By the 1940's, pollution had cut off the drinking water provided by the subterranean river which rushes through Hidden River Cave. The cave's restoration in 1993 was one of the most remarkable environmental success stories in America.

### **The Big Nature and Zoo Lessons:**

The Dart Foundation sponsors the Big Lesson programs, piloted in greater Lansing, Michigan school districts. The Big Lesson trains teachers in integrated curriculum, lesson design, environmental engineering principles, cooperative research, scientific inquiry, visual note-taking, thematic instruction and identification of community resources. Teachers then conduct a week-long application for their classrooms.

### **Boys and Girls Club of Lansing's "Engineering Camp" and Mobile Learning Lab:**

In summer of 2007 the Dart Foundation sponsored a program serving disadvantaged children from some of the toughest neighborhoods in Lansing, Michigan. In conjunction with researchers and instructors from Michigan State University, the students studied "Urban Heat Islands"--why cities have hotter climates than the surrounding countryside. This program subsequently won a National Science Foundation grant.

### **Capital Area Science and Math Center (CASM):**

The Dart Foundation supported CASM's efforts to increase the use of specialized hands-on equipment in science and mathematics instruction for five counties in Michigan.

### **Cato Institute:**

The Dart Foundation supports the work of Cato Scholars on the topics of telecommunications, the environment, health care, monetary and financial policy, transportation, urban development and law, which culminate in Cato's quarterly magazine, *Regulation*.

### **Caverna Middle and High Schools, Horse Cave, Kentucky:**

In 2007 the Dart Foundation provided funding to Caverna Middle and High Schools for graphic calculators, bulletin boards, and science workbooks and materials.

### **The Dart Day of Engineering Innovation and Creativity:**

Each year, Michigan State University's Department of

Mechanical Engineering brings together 900 students in 7th through 12th grades to participate in engaging and stimulating engineering projects demanding the integration of theory and practice to solve complex scientific problems. Students and faculty collaborate with 20 major manufacturers.

### **Ebersole Environmental Education and Conference Center:**

The Dart Foundation's significant support has allowed for the purchase and preservation of additional land for the center. Ebersole, a program of the Lansing School District, seeks to inspire learners to embrace nature, engage their minds and acquire an awareness of responsible stewardship for our planet.

### **Education Foundation of Sarasota County, Florida:**

The Dart Foundation has sponsored the Mobile Science Lab, Academic Olympics, the Sarasota Regional Science, Engineering and Technology Fair, and the TeXcellence Home Computer Program. TeXcellence, for example, will put computers in the homes of 1,000 students in 2007.

### **Education Foundation of Waxahachie, Texas:**

The Dart Foundation's support has centered on math and science projects and scholarships, including the Waxahachie Nature Exchange, which gives junior high students the opportunity to explore nature and answer their science questions.

### **Fairchild Tropical Garden, Grand Cayman:**

The Dart Foundation sponsored the Jewels of the Caribbean Exhibit which featured the landscapes of several countries from wetlands to dry pine savannahs.

### **FIRST Robotics:**

Since 1994 the Dart Foundation has supported U. S. First's Robotics Competitions in which teams of high school students, sponsored and assisted by local companies and volunteers, design, assemble and test a robot capable of performing a specified task.

### **The Foundation for American Communications (FACS):**

For nearly a decade, the Dart Foundation supported FACS programs to improve the accuracy of news coverage involving science, technology and economics such as energy, the environment, health risks, alternative fuel sources and climate issues.

### **Friends of Fenner Nature Center:**

The Dart Foundation has sponsored an annual Walk for Nature at this center in Lansing, Michigan.

### **Impression 5 Science Center (I-5):**

Since 1986, the Dart Foundation has provided major funding

to I-5, located in downtown Lansing, Michigan. I-5 invites visitors to explore physics, biology and chemistry in an active learning environment that promotes hands-on discovery.

#### **Keep America Beautiful (KAB):**

For the past 16 years, both the Dart Foundation and Dart Container Corporation have sponsored Keep America Beautiful. KAB engages individuals to take greater responsibility for improving their community environments through litter prevention, waste reduction, beautification, education partnerships and volunteer action.

#### **Knight Center for Environmental Journalism at Michigan State University (MSU):**

For nearly a decade, the Dart Foundation provided leadership grants to the Knight Center at MSU, which offers numerous classes and professional workshops for the study and practice of environmental journalism.

#### **Lancaster-Lebanon Science and Technology Alliance "Physics Olympics":**

Students from two school districts in Pennsylvania compete in the annual Physics Olympics sponsored by the Dart Foundation.

#### **Lansing Community College Engineering Scholarship:**

In 1994 the Dart Foundation endowed a fund to provide a full scholarship for a pre-engineering student. This scholarship has been awarded each year since.

#### **Mackinac Center for Public Policy:**

The Dart Foundation has supported the Mackinac Center's Science, Environment and Technology Initiative and publication of its Michigan Science magazine. The Mackinac Center is a nonpartisan, nonprofit research and educational organization devoted to promoting sound solutions to state and local policy questions.

#### **Memorial Elementary School Outdoor Environmental Classroom:**

This school near Dart's plant in Horse Cave, Kentucky, is building an outdoor classroom with agricultural growing pods to develop living experiments. It will be named for the Dart Foundation.

#### **Michigan Environmental Council (MEC):**

For the past ten years, the Dart Foundation has supported the MEC, a coalition of 75 environmental and public health organizations with more than 200,000 individual members. MEC provides a voice for the environment at the State Capital, serves as a clearinghouse for environmental information, develops public policy, educates elected officials and the public and provides training and support to members. One project of the MEC, with Dart Foundation help, was the Murphy Model for Environmental Education in the Haslett School District. This achieved the creation of first-ever environmental education workshops for elementary school teachers in Michigan.

#### **Michigan Science Olympiad (MSO):**

The Dart Foundation is the state tournament sponsor of the MSO, held each year at Michigan State University. At least 500 middle and high school teams from throughout Michigan engage in science exploration using teamwork, leadership, communication, analysis and problem-solving skills. Fifty teams make it to the state tournament.

#### **Michigan State University Museum:**

The Dart Foundation sponsored Animal Life Hall within this natural history and culture museum, as well as other projects and community events.

#### **Middle Cities Education Association**

##### **"Science in the City" Program:**

Middle and high school students are given the chance to investigate college careers in engineering, science, technology, computers, business, environmental studies and human sciences.

#### **Mote Marine Lab, Sarasota, Florida:**

Mote Marine Lab is dedicated to the advancement of marine and environmental sciences through research, education and public outreach, leading to new discoveries, revitalization and sustainability of our oceans. The Dart Foundation sponsored its Aquarium expansion.

#### **The National Energy Education Development Project (NEED):**

For the past 16 years, the Dart Foundation has supported NEED's outreach efforts in Michigan, Pennsylvania and Kentucky. NEED teaches educators about energy, helps them reach educational goals and makes learning about energy exciting for their students.

#### **National Plastics Center and Museum:**

In 2000, the Dart Foundation sponsored construction of the environmental gallery of the National Plastics Museum. More recently, the Dart Foundation supports the internationally acclaimed PlastiVan program geared for students in grades three through 12. The PlastiVan travels through the United States, teaching students, educators and the public about the chemistry, history, process and environmental issues involved with plastics.

#### **The Nature Conservancy (TNC):**

The Dart Foundation underwrites TNC's Center for Conservation Science and Economics in Michigan. TNC's mission is to preserve the plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting lands and waters.

#### **North Museum of Natural History and Science**

##### **"Family Science Sundays":**

Located near Dart's plant in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, the North Museum offers Family Science Sundays, sponsored by the Dart Foundation. These days are set aside to fully engage families in the fascinating and fun aspects of science and technology on topics such as "Can You Handle the Pressure?" (air pressure demonstrations) and "Sensational Seeds Leaving Home" (how seeds migrate).

#### **Park City Elementary School, Kentucky:**

In 2003 the Dart Foundation supported an outdoor science center to include a weather station, flower garden, butterfly habitat, birdhouses and water testing area.

#### **Potter Park Zoological Society:**

The Dart Foundation sponsored the Exploration and Discovery Education Center for the Potter Park Zoo in Lansing, Michigan. This Center houses small animal exhibits, artifacts, interactive displays and graphics.

#### **Quitman Lower Elementary School:**

With support from the Dart Foundation, this school near Dart's Mississippi plant built a greenhouse, nature trail, observation deck, and playground to extend classroom learning outside.

#### **Reason Foundation:**

Since 1994, the Dart Foundation has supported the Reason Foundation's environmental research efforts. They use a results-based approach in policy research and legislative engagement, emphasizing local, voluntary, scientific and cooperative solutions that foster innovation and protect private property.

#### **Science Screen Report (SSR):**

For the past 14 years, the Dart Foundation has provided SSR to school districts in many communities throughout the United States. SSR is an innovative videotape/DVD series used in secondary schools nationwide on topics related to science, technology, the environment and medicine.

#### **University of Michigan Bridge Team:**

The Dart Foundation provides funding for the National Student Steel Bridge Competition in which student teams design, fabricate and erect a 1:10 scale model bridge.

