



Grant news
Mary Chilton DAR Foundation
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DAR Foundation creates annual \$50,000 grant to benefit organizations in Sioux Falls

Grant programs will award a total of \$170,000 during 2021

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. - The Mary Chilton Daughters of the American Revolution Foundation is pleased to announce that its Grants Program for 2021 will provide a total of \$170,000 to support initiatives that promote historic preservation, education, and patriotism in Sioux Falls and across South Dakota.

Of note, a new grant has been created to help the Foundation advance the causes of DAR's Mary Chilton Chapter NSDAR in Sioux Falls and to help fulfill the wishes of organization benefactor and founding member Dorothy Day Davenport. As stated in her bequest, the late civic leader wanted "to make Sioux Falls a better and happier place in which to live" through DAR's mission of promoting historic preservation, education, and patriotism.

The new, \$50,000 Dorothy Day Davenport Grant will be presented annually to a Sioux Falls nonprofit or civic group to substantially aid or directly accomplish a mission-based, community partnership project.

"The addition of the Mary Chilton Chapter NSDAR Dorothy Day Davenport Grant is a very exciting, new development for our Chapter and for the Foundation Grants Program," said Judy Goetz, who chairs the Foundation's Grants Committee and is also Regent of the Chapter. "It recognizes how our overall collective efforts in the past, together with the new award, are truly fulfilling Dorothy's wishes."

In 1915, Dorothy Day Davenport helped establish the Mary Chilton Chapter NSDAR. NSDAR is the acronym for the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Dorothy's father, Charles Day, was the Editor and a major owner of the Sioux Falls Argus Leader, where Dorothy served as a member of the Board of Directors and as President. Her bequest to the Chapter made possible the creation of the Mary Chilton DAR Foundation and its Grant Program in 1987.

Mary Chilton, the woman the local Chapter and Foundation take their name from, arrived in the future United States of America with her parents in 1620 as a 13-year-old passenger aboard the Mayflower merchant ship. She was the first woman aboard the ship to step ashore at Plymouth Rock.

Since its establishment as a charitable, tax-exempt organization, the Mary Chilton DAR Foundation has made grant awards collectively approaching \$3 million. These awards have made a significant impact through community and statewide initiatives, helping preserve South Dakota's pioneer spirit and democratic past, honoring veterans, and expanding educational horizons.

The Mary Chilton DAR Chapter and Foundation strive to perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who gave their lives and fortunes for American independence. Nearly 500 Regular and Mini Grants in amounts of \$500 to \$15,000 have been awarded to nonprofit and civic organizations, and for educational projects in Sioux Falls and throughout South Dakota. Scores of K-12 Teacher Grants have been issued, and dozens of college scholarships given.

"We are glad to promote our Foundation's interest in community partnerships, and we are continuing plans for uniquely supporting historic preservation, education, and patriotism," said John Paulson, President of the DAR Foundation's Board of Directors. "These critical elements of our society and objectives of DAR have been well provided for by Dorothy Day Davenport and nurtured by the Mary Chilton Chapter. The Mary Chilton DAR Foundation is proud to be part of these efforts through our Grants Program."

The Grants Program for 2021 will include:

1. Mary Chilton Chapter NSDAR "Dorothy Day Davenport Grant." This single, annual grant of \$50,000 will be awarded to a tax-exempt nonprofit or civic organization in Sioux Falls for projects that provide significant opportunities for direct relationships and community collaboration in historic preservation, education or patriotism, as envisioned by Dorothy Day Davenport. The grant is to be used to substantially aid or directly accomplish a mission-based, community project.
2. Regular Grants. These are awarded to eligible South Dakota, tax-exempt organizations for singular programs or projects whose purpose is to promote historical preservation and the study of American history, heritage, institutions or tradition, as well as to promote unique educational activities, and advance the ideals of patriotism, democracy, new citizen engagement, and liberty. Awards may be for up to \$15,000. Applications are accepted and considered three times each year.
3. Mini Grants. These are awarded across the state in amounts up to \$1,000. Mini Grants underwrite local projects related to the Chapter's purpose. They are designed to promote innovative educational experiences and speakers, historical and patriotic events, displays, and projects, as well as support citizen naturalization programs and patriotism. Mini Grants may be applied for anytime during the year.
4. Sioux Falls Public Schools Education Foundation. The Mary Chilton DAR Foundation funds New Teacher Grants and Innovation in Education grants for teachers in the Sioux Falls School District through an annual award to the Sioux Falls Public Schools Education Foundation.
5. Other programs: The Mary Chilton DAR Foundation funds scholarships at Augustana University and the University of Sioux Falls for students majoring in education, history or government. The Foundation also helps sponsor an annual History Days program for local middle school and high school students and their attendance at the national History Day Convention.

For more information about the Mary Chilton DAR Foundation or grant criteria, see DAR-MaryChiltonFoundation.org. Additional information and criteria for applying for the Dorothy Day Davenport Grant also is available online.