

Local Mary Chilton DAR Foundation Will Award \$220,000 in 2022 to Benefit Organizations in Sioux Falls and Throughout South Dakota

Their Dorothy Day Davenport Grant Provides \$50,000 for Sioux Falls Community Project

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. - The Mary Chilton Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Foundation is pleased to announce its Grants Program for 2022 will provide a total of \$220,000 to support initiatives which promote historic preservation, education, and patriotism in Sioux Falls and across South Dakota. "These critical elements of our society and objectives of DAR have been well provided for by our benefactor, Dorothy Day Davenport, and nurtured by the Mary Chilton NSDAR Chapter. The Mary Chilton DAR Foundation is proud to be part of these efforts through our Grants Program." said John Paulson, President of the Foundation's Board of Directors.

Since its initiation as a charitable, tax exempt organization in 1987, the Mary Chilton DAR Foundation has made grant and scholarship 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 - \$15,000 have been awarded to non-profit 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 commitment to community partnerships in uniquely supporting historic preservation, education, and patriotism," said Tammy Noordermeer, Chair of the Foundation's Grant Committee.

In 2021, a new grant was created by the Foundation to advance the causes of the Mary Chilton Chapter NSDAR in Sioux Falls and 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 the mission of the DAR of promoting historic preservation, education, and patriotism.

The \$50,000 Dorothy Day Davenport Grant will be presented annually to a Sioux Falls non-profit or civic group to substantially aid or directly accomplish a mission-based, community partnership project. The inaugural Dorothy Day Davenport Grant, awarded in 2021, was for the Tuthill Home Historic Restoration Project.

"The addition of the Mary Chilton Chapter NSDAR Dorothy Day Davenport Grant had been a very exciting development for our Chapter and for the Foundation Grants Program," said Judy Goetz, Regent of the Mary Chilton NSDAR Chapter. "It demonstrates how our past overall collective efforts and the new award, are truly fulfilling Dorothy's wishes."

In 1915, Dorothy Day Davenport helped establish the Mary Chilton Chapter NSDAR (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. In 1987, her bequest to the Chapter made possible the formation of the Mary Chilton DAR Foundation and its Grant Program.

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.

The Mary Chilton DAR Foundation Grants Program for 2022 includes:

1. Mary Chilton Chapter NSDAR "Dorothy Day Davenport Grant." This single annual grant of \$50,000 is 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. Applications are due March 31, 2022.
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 traditions, 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 in January, May, and September.
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 DAR Foundation and its Grant Program please contact our website at www.dar-marychiltonfoundation.org.