



THE HONOR SOCIETY OF
PHI KAPPA PHI

**Application for the Phi Kappa Phi
Literacy Grant Program for 2009–2010**

Submission to Society Headquarters Deadline: February 4, 2009

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Project Director: _____ Member # _____
first middle last call 800-804-9880 if unknown

College/University Name (if applicable): McKendree University

Applicant's Mailing Address: _____
number and street
Lebanon IL _____
city state zip code

Telephone No.: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Chapter Where Initiated: _____

Current Chapter Affiliation (if any): McKendree University

Project Title: Engaging Universities, Elementary Schools, and Parents to Promote Family Literacy and Global Understanding

Project Partner(s): McKendree University, Phi Kappa Phi Chapter 292; Official: _____

(i.e., Phi Kappa Phi chapter, home academic institution, honors program, public school system, library, church, bookstore, etc. Official for the partner group(s) must approve the proposal by signing the application form below.)

Has this project been previously funded by Phi Kappa Phi?

Yes
If yes, what year(s)? _____
If yes, was a report filed? _____

No

Mailing Address: _____
number and street
Lebanon IL _____
city state zip code

Telephone No.: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Target Group: Pre-Service Teachers (Education Majors), Phi Kappa Phi Members, Elementary School Teachers, Parents, Students

Timeline: Begin August 2009 and conclude December 2009

Proposed Budget Requested: \$600.00

Project Director: _____ Project Partner Official: _____

Print Name: _____

E-mail Address
literacygrant@phikappaphi.org

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In 500 words or less, describe the purpose, intent, and scope of the project with an itemized budget. Applicants should describe how it will fit into Phi Kappa Phi's statement of purpose. Lastly, describe the role of each constituency/group participating in the project.

Phi Kappa Phi Chapter 292 will promote family literacy and global understanding through a "literacy bag" program. Research shows many parents are unsure how to support their child's literacy development and are unaware of the availability of high-quality books. Providing literacy bags to children and their parents is an effective way to assist in reading valuable books and guiding discussion to relate the content to their own lives (Thompkins, 2009). This project also provides an opportunity for collaboration and documented outcomes for professors, teacher candidates, and classroom teachers.

McKendree University School of Education professors and students will create literacy bags containing the book, *A School Like Mine: A Unique Celebration of School Around the World*, which is published in conjunction with The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). This large, hardback book features brightly colored photographs of individual children at their schools throughout the Americas, Africa, Europe, Asia, and Australasia. This book enables readers to visualize what school is like for children who are very different from and quite similar to themselves. The Phi Kappa Phi nameplate with statement of purpose, which directly relates to this project, will be attached to each book. The literacy bags will also contain activities related to the book, such as puzzles, a journal, and questions suitable for children to discuss with their teachers and parents. The bags will also contain letters of purpose, recognizing Phi Kappa Phi as the program sponsor, written for the classroom teachers, students, and parents. Each weekend, a student will take the bag home to share with his or her parents. The parents will be asked to read the book with their child, complete a chosen activity, and provide a personal reflection (journals) on the experience.

McKendree University maintains collaborative relationships with schools from diverse communities--rural, suburban, and urban. McKendree teacher candidates (education majors) enrolled in EDU 446/546, *Methods of Teaching Social Studies (Elementary)*, will present literacy bags to the teachers to whom they have been assigned for semester field observations (grades 2 and 3). The teacher candidates will provide initial support to the teachers, oversee the weekend distribution of the bags, as well as initiate, support, and evaluate the literacy bag program. McKendree University professors will be available for consultation when needed. At the end of the semester, teacher candidates will collect the parents' personal reflections and create an overall evaluation of the program, which will be submitted to the professors. These evaluations will be used to create the written report due at the end of the project. The participating teachers will keep the literacy bags for continued use. McKendree University will pursue a local press release of the program, which will indicate Phi Kappa Phi sponsorship. Funds procured from Phi Kappa Phi will be applied to purchasing the books, bags, activities, and reflection journals. Each bag will cost approximately \$30.00. The book's retail cost is \$19.95 plus tax. Canvas bags are \$5.00 each and supplies are an additional \$5.00 per bag. The anticipated number of participating teachers is 20. Therefore, the requested funding for the project is \$600.00.