



FOUNDATION

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 1, 2018

**CONTACT:**

Rachel DeRosia, PGE Foundation, 503-830-1924  
Rachel.DeRosia@pgn.com

**PGE Foundation awards more than \$560,000 to support education programs in Oregon**

*Funding scholarships for Portland State University students developing a Smart Communities project*

PORTLAND, Ore. — In support of dozens of nonprofit organizations doing life-changing work across Oregon, the PGE Foundation — Portland General Electric’s corporate foundation — is honored to commit \$568,857 to fund 43 education grants for programs working to close the achievement gap and improve educational opportunities for all students regardless of economic, racial or social backgrounds.

The PGE Foundation is dedicated to positively influencing equity, diversity and inclusion in our communities and contributing to a healthy Oregon economy where residents are ready and prepared for the future.

“Together, with our community partners we’re committed to giving all students access to programs and tools that will help them create clear pathways for their future,” said Kregg Arntson, executive director of the PGE Foundation.

Our education grants focus on career technical (CTE) and science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) programs, along with workforce programs and higher education scholarships, that will help Oregon Children realize their full potential.

“In an ever-changing world, it’s important to give the next generation of inventors, teachers, scientists and entrepreneurs the skills to thrive, because when our people thrive our community does, too,” Arntson said.

As part of the Foundation’s mission to ensure equitable outcomes, more than \$120,000 of the education grants awarded will fund scholarship programs at local colleges and universities in our region, including a program designed to transform Portland into a Smart City.

In collaboration with Portland State University, the Foundation awarded \$25,000 in scholarships to financially limited honor college students as they develop a smart city project to position Portland as a leader in urban sustainability.

“I’m a political science major, and it’s important to me to help develop and transform urban areas with sustainability in mind,” said second-year PSU student, Fatima Preciado. “This scholarship is going to help me invest in my education and future, while helping people with diverse backgrounds have access to sustainable resources.”



*These Portland State University students received a PGE Foundation scholarship inspiring them to develop and implement a Smart Cities project in 2019.*

Students will gain meaningful academic and research experiences by using Portland as a living laboratory to creatively explore and find Smart City solutions to real world urban-focused challenges.

Visit [pgefoundation.org](http://pgefoundation.org) to see the complete list of education grants awarded in the first quarter of 2018.

### **A look back at 2017**

The PGE Foundation released its 2017 Annual Report this month. With \$1,166,824 awarded in grants in 2017, the Foundation supported the collaborative work of community organizations dedicated to strengthening families, improving student achievement, inspiring young people through creative expression and creating clear pathways to college and careers.

### ***About the PGE Foundation***

The PGE Foundation, the corporate foundation of Portland General Electric, was established in 1997 as a 501(C)(3) nonprofit organization with a permanent endowment. The Foundation's giving is separate from the corporate giving of PGE. Grants are awarded to local nonprofits located in areas where PGE has customers or power generating plants. Since its inception, the Foundation has distributed more than \$20 million to help improve the quality of life for Oregonians by supporting programs and services that encourage safe and healthy families, provide educational opportunities, and encourage arts and cultural diversity. Gwyneth Gamble Booth is chair, Dave Robertson is president and Gregg Arntson is executive director. To learn more about the PGE Foundation, visit [pgefoundation.org](http://pgefoundation.org).

###