In 2012, the PGE Foundation focused its attention on education initiatives leading to on-time high school graduation as well as college and career preparation programs. Complementing the education-focused awards were grants for out-of-school supports needed for all students to achieve success, including monitoring and programs combating hunger, homelessness, domestic violence and lack of medical care. Our focus in the arts was targeted at arts education and outreach, a vital component of a child’s education, leading to an innovative critical thinker prepared for any profession or trade. We will continue with this strategy in education, safe and healthy families and the arts in 2013.

The PGE Foundation’s commitment to improving the success of every child leads us to a focus on granting to communities of color. With almost $875,000 distributed in 2012, nearly one-half of the dollars reached communities of color.

The PGE Foundation believes integrating the arts into the teaching of math, science, history and other subjects helps youth grasp difficult concepts while exposure to dance, music, theatre and the visual arts expands a child’s view of the world and its different cultures. By incorporating arts education into science, technology, engineering and math curriculum (STEM to STEAM), the Right Brain Initiative enhances every aspect of education from reading to critical thinking, social skills and motivation.

For the last five years, the PGE Foundation has supported a Free Admission Day at the Japanese Garden to expand access to this urban treasure of Japanese culture.

Portland Mayor Sam Adams (left) presented PGE Foundation Chair Gwyneth Gamble Booth the Mayor’s Spirit of Portland Award on Oct. 29, 2012, lauding her many years of service to the community.

Supporting the success of Oregon families through education, safety and health, arts and culture.
EDUCATION
The PGE Foundation helped low income students enter community college and four-year universities with scholarships that cut down their financial burdens. Students at Portland Community College, Oregon State University and the 10 colleges of the Oregon Alliance of Independent Colleges and Universities received PGE Foundation scholarships. Intensive specialized programs resulted in increased high school graduation rates and enrollment in post-secondary programs.

ACE Academy for Architecture, Construction and Engineering combines rigorous, hands-on academic and technical education for juniors and seniors interested in career paths in the design-build industry.

SAFE AND HEALTHY FAMILIES
The underpinnings of a child's success in school is a life free of hunger, homelessness, disease and domestic violence, which is why the PGE Foundation awards grants to programs that support families in poverty and in distress.

The Dental Foundation’s Tooth Taxi has visited more than 200 schools/sites all across the state of Oregon, delivering $3.4 million in donated dental services to more than 12,600 children.

Mano a Mano’s Promotores program in Salem brings youth together in activities where they share values and ideas that promote self-sufficiency and empowerment.

The Café at Sisters of the Road offers a safe, hospitable space for all people experiencing homelessness and poverty to receive a hot, nutritious meal.

For a complete grant list, visit us at: PGEFoundation.org/2012Grants

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The Foundation’s largest grant was awarded to Community 101, the student leadership program created by PGE Foundation in 1997 and now administered by the Oregon Community Foundation. $70,000 from the PGE Foundation was supplemented by $30,000 in donations from PGE’s generous employees.

Visit the Community 101 website at: oregoncf.org/connect

PGE Foundation President Carolie Morse (right) received the Imagination Award from Oregon Children’s Theatre on May 1, 2012 for her many years of arts education advocacy, and was honored with a poem by iconic Oregon author Kim Stafford (left).

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