



# UPPER ARLINGTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The Upper Arlington Community Foundation leads efforts to connect our community around big ideas and projects, enhances our local nonprofits, and builds community leaders.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

### **Celebrating Leadership UA Graduates**

The Upper Arlington Community Foundation was proud to celebrate the June graduation of our 2025 Leadership UA class at the beautiful Bob Crane Community Center. This special evening recognized the dedication of our participants and their commitment to making a difference in our community.

We were honored to have UA City Council President, Ukeme Awakessien Jeter as the keynote speaker for the Leadership UA 2025 graduation. Her inspiring message encouraged our graduates to continue making a positive impact in our community.

As part of the celebration, the class awarded grants to four impactful local organizations noted below.

We are inspired by the Leadership UA class's generosity and vision, and grateful to these organizations for the vital work they do in our community!



*Pictured: 2025 Leadership UA graduates.*



*Pictured: City Council President Ukeme Awakessien Jeter addresses the LUA 2025 Cohort in a Keynote Address.*

[View Graduation Photos](#)

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**Community Connections Through Art and Nature**

June was busy and inspiring at the Foundation. We joined the Upper Arlington Farmers Market on June 11, where neighbors of all ages helped bring a floral mural to life. Later in the week at Arts on Arlington, our booth invited attendees to create natural sun catchers, blending creativity with the beauty of the outdoors.

We are grateful to our community partners: Common Greens (Upper Arlington Farmers Market) and Upper Arlington Parks & Recreation for making these opportunities possible. Thank you to everyone who stopped by to engage, create, and celebrate community with us!



*Pictured: Children gather around a large floral mural at the Upper Arlington Community Foundation table, adding their artistic touches during the Common Greens Upper Arlington Farmers Market on June 11, 2025.*



*Pictured: Community volunteer Jennifer Ludowise proudly displays a handmade natural sun catcher at the Upper Arlington Community Foundation craft booth during Arts on Arlington.*

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## IMPACT NEWS

### **Foundation Grants Awarded**

The Foundation is a grantmaker, connector, and home for giving in Upper Arlington. We connect community member interests to community needs through grantmaking.

This month, the Foundation proudly supported the following grants, making a difference in Upper Arlington.

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### **Impact Grant: Upper Arlington Public Library**

Amount: \$20,000

Project: Lane Road Branch Youth Section

*New and movable book stacks will make the renovated youth space more accessible for learning, group activities, and fostering creativity.*

Support made possible by the Upper Arlington Community Foundation and family funds:

Virginia Barney Fund  
Don and Sharon Cook Fund  
Simon Perotti Fund  
Jeff and Karen Trotier Family Fund



Pictured: UA Public Library Lane Road Branch, Early Learning Play Area. The renovated space opens July 2025.

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### **Leadership UA Makes an Impact**

This program year, Leadership UA was introduced to our UA nonprofits about their work, priorities, and reach. As informed and educated grantmakers, the class reviewed numerous community grant requests for funding. The following grants were awarded at the 2025 Leadership UA graduation:

#### **Impact Grant: Common Greens Farmers Market**

Amount: \$1,210

Project: Magic at the Markets-- Young Artists' Expression through Polaroids of our Community Farmers Market

*Each week, kids at the Market will take instant Polaroid photos highlighting local food and market magic, culminating in a public photo exhibit celebrating their unique perspectives.*

#### **Impact Grant: UA Historical Society**

Amount: \$1,640

Project: 100 Years of the UA July 4 Parade

*In celebration of America's 250th Anniversary and the 100th year of UA's iconic July 4 parade, the UA Historical Society will catalog and preserve parade archives to be treasured for generations.*

#### **Impact Grant: Rainbow UA**

Amount: \$3,150

Project: Cultivating Belonging for LGBTQ+ Youth Fall 2025 training series  
*In collaboration with Kaleidoscope Youth Center, this training will provide community members with an opportunity to connect and network with one another, learn how to promote belonging for LGBTQ+ youth, and engage in service.*

**Impact Grant: Tri-Village Packers**

Amount: \$4,000

Project: 2025 winter break meal distribution

*This grant expands Tri-Village Packers' reach to provide meals and snacks to students of UA Schools and Grandview Heights who are experiencing food insecurity over the winter holiday break. Until now, the Packers support students over Spring and Thanksgiving Breaks.*



*Pictured: Right to left top to bottom, UACF Executive Director Jessica Grisez and UACF Board Member Laurie Aquilina with Common Greens (UA Farmers Market), UA Historical Society, Rainbow UA and Tri-Village Packers grant recipients.*

## SUPPORT OUR MISSION



***Pictured: Terry Kennedy Mancini, Friend of the Foundation, greets guests at Edwards Green Ribbon Cutting***

### Friends of the Foundation

Our Friends of the Foundation program is designed to engage community members in our mission. By signing up, you will receive email updates about upcoming volunteer opportunities and ways to advocate for the Foundation.

Your involvement helps us make a lasting impact on our community. We look forward to working together to strengthen Upper Arlington! Sign up today and help us create a better tomorrow.

JOIN HERE

## Support the Foundation with a gift today.

At the UA Community Foundation, community is our middle name! Your gift to the organization is a gift to the Upper Arlington community through grants and programming that make an impact today, tomorrow, and always.

Please consider support for the Foundation.

MAKE A GIFT TODAY!

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