

## General Information

Grant Number	103
Project Title	Cultivating a Community of Culturally Diverse Minds.
Please select the <b>MAIN</b> curriculum area your grant addresses.	Social Studies
Does your grant have a technology component? (Will you have technology equipment, software, etc. in your budget?)	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Primary Contact Information</b>	
First Name	Helen
Email	helen_cherian@allenisd.org
Last Name	Cherian
Phone Number	214-495-6784
Campus	Marion Elementary
Main Subject	Social Studies
Grade(s)	6
I have co-applicants.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Grant Co-Applicants

Additional Grant Applicants			
First Name	Last Name	Campus	Grade
Karen	Abney	Marion Elementary	6
Solomon	Boatfield	Marion Elementary	6
Hayley	Fraser	Marion Elementary	6

## Describe details of the project

Grant Number	103
<b>Campus/Student Information</b>	
Your campus:	Marion Elementary
Will other campus' be involved/impacted by this grant?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Your grade(s):	6
Will other grades be involved/impacted?	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes
Please select all grades that will be involved/impacted by the grant.	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5
<b>Project Purpose</b>	
What is the problem, need, or opportunity that this grant will address? Explain <b>what students will know and be able to do</b> as a result of this project and/or how a problem will be addresses and/or how a situation improved because of the grant. (500 words or less.)	

We need every human gift and cannot afford to neglect any gift because of artificial barriers of sex or race or class or national origin. -Margaret Mead

Marion Elementary is a very diverse campus with a unique and vibrant student population. We take pride in celebrating our various cultural backgrounds. Our goal is to make each individual student feel equally valuable and understood as we stand as a unified school.

As we strive to consistently achieve this goal, it may present challenges. The student population of Marion consists of thirty-seven different and intriguing languages. People coming from Asia, the Middle East, Latin America, Eastern Europe and Africa differ a lot from earlier generations of immigrants who came mainly from western and northern Europe. Those who do not understand the new cultural groups may be intolerant or indifferent toward them.

In sixth grade social studies, we learn about world cultures. We investigate the geography, history, government, economy and culture of the continents around the world. Throughout the school year, the students create presentations on countries around the world, and they share these with their peers and other grade levels. For most students, sixth grade social studies is their first experience in learning about our world and how our country interacts on a global level. It is so rewarding for me to see the students' interest and enthusiasm when they research other cultures. They are curious to learn more about the geography, language, religion and other cultural features of countries they have never heard of before. Marion Elementary hosts an annual Heritage Night in which parents and students have the opportunity to showcase their ethnic background. This event is very successful and rewarding to our community. I believe that when our students have these opportunities to have a multicultural education, the barriers and inhibitions towards people of different ethnic backgrounds are weakened or even removed. In fact, multicultural education raises academic success and will prepare students to be productive citizens.

We would love for our sixth grade students to have more exposure to various cultural groups. The more positive interactions they have, the more they will learn to be respectful and cooperative with others. We would like to work with the DFW International Organization and have cultural groups come to our school and present to our sixth grade students. The presentations would range from dancing to storytelling to artifacts. The possibilities are endless! This would undoubtedly be an unforgettable experience for the students. Occasions like these can alter stereotypes and provide a fresh perspective on cultural identity and heritage.

#### Project Description

How will the project or program be implemented? Describe activities and tasks.  
Who is the target population and in what ways will they benefit? (500 words or less.)

##### Target Population:

The target group is all the sixth grade students because these cultural presentations will provide new and engaging experiences for every child to appreciate.

##### Implementation:

1. Our units of study in Social Studies are: Latin America, Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia. We will have presentations for Latin America, Europe, Asia and Africa during each corresponding unit.
2. During and after each presentation, the students will be given hands-on and written assignments to express their new learning.
3. These assignments will require students to utilize social studies, reading, writing, math and science skills.
4. Our monthly grade level newsletter will include student responses to presentations as they occur throughout the school year. This will allow parents to get a glimpse of these fun and interesting events.

#### Allen ISD Goals/ TEKS

Which Allen ISD goals/TEKS does this project support? Provide only two or three examples.

- 6.15B Students will identify and describe common traits that define cultures.
- 6.15C Students will define a multicultural society and consider both the positive and negative qualities of multiculturalism.
- 6.15D Students will analyze the experiences and evaluate the contributions of diverse groups to multicultural societies.

#### Measurement

What specific measurements will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the project? (500 words or less)

1. Student Reflection- Students will write a reflection after each presentation and share the new things they learned. They will

reveal if this experience changed their perspective on multiculturalism.

2. Interviews-Students choose a family member to interview. The focus will be on their cultural background and ancestors. Students will identify common traits that define their heritage.

3. Class Discussions- We will discuss what a multicultural society is. We will brainstorm the positive and negative aspects of multiculturalism. The students will have the freedom to express their opinions in a non-offensive manner.

### Teaching Methods

What teaching methods will be used to implement this project? (500 words or less.)

Direct teach through presentation and demonstration by an instructor(s).

Discussion groups that will facilitate sharing of ideas and interactions with peers.

Class discussion conducted by teacher.

Use of community and local resources.

### Timeline

What is the project timeline and the date of implementation?

Sept. 2015 -

We commence our study on Latin America in Social Studies. We learn about the Aztecs, Mayans and Incas in this unit.

Oct. 2015-

We will have an Aztec presentation that will consist of drumming, dance & ancient wisdom. Students will complete activities on Aztecs during and after the presentations. Student reflections on this presentation will be included in our October newsletter.

Dec. 2015 -

We will study the continent of Europe. We will have five presentations on various countries in Europe. The students will rotate between the sixth grade classrooms, so they can be involved in all the presentations. The students will be working on hands-on activities during these presentations that will utilize math, social studies, reading, writing and science skills. We will tweet pictures of these presentations to our parents, as well as include pictures in our December newsletter.

April 2015-

We will study the vast and interesting continent of Africa. During the last week of April, the African group will present to the sixth graders. One special area they will focus on is storytelling. This will lead perfectly to an integrated social studies and writing assignment. Students will share their writing with their parents as well as some younger grade classes.

May 2015-

Students create a year- end project in Social Studies called, Create Your Own Culture. They will have the opportunity to incorporate the ideas gathered throughout the school year from the presentations.

### Curriculum/System Support

Explain how this idea or project enhances/supports Allen ISD curriculum or existing systems.

This idea will facilitate a vast array of educational experiences for each child. Our goal is to integrate all subject areas into these presentations. All student learning styles will be addressed as the students analyze similarities and differences within and among cultures in various world societies.

### Budget details

Budget Details \*\* All awarded funds will be available by September of the next school year.

Budget Item	Item Type	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost
Aztec Presenters and Materials	Instructional Supplies or Resources	250.0	1	250.0
European Presenters and Materials	Instructional Supplies or Resources	250.0	1	250.0
African Presenters and Materials	Instructional Supplies or Resources	250.0	1	250.0

BUDGET TOTAL 750

Are there any additional funds available for this grant? Campus or District Funds? PTA funds? Let us know if you have or will be seeking funds from other sources to help with this project.

Additional funds?  No  
 Yes

### Signature page and principal contact

#### Principal Approval Required

Please provide the Name and Email of your Principal

First Name	Last Name	Email Address(Completed)
Johnna	Walker	johnna_walker@allenisd.org

#### Applicant Signature

By entering my name below I signify that I understand that if I move within the District and have written the grant myself, I may take the grant with me to my school (as long as it is appropriate for my classes). If I have written the grant as part of a team, I will leave the grant behind with the team. If I leave AISD, I will leave the grant with the school for which I wrote the grant. As a condition of this grant, I will complete an evaluation form provided by the Foundation.

Signature Helen Cherian

Date 03/24/2015

### Principal's approval form

I certify that this would be a good use of funds for our school and this grant supports the district goals and/or our campus improvement plans. \*\*Do NOT include any identifiers, such as: campus name, your name, teachers name or mascot \*\*

No actions possible.

#### Comments

Approved

### History and final disposition of application

#### State Change History

State Change \*\*\*\*\*  
03/24/2015 16:01:15  
Submitted

State Change \*\*\*\*\*  
03/26/2015 13:54:55  
Accepted

#### Grant Status

Grant Awarded  Yes  
 No

Award Amount 750