



# GEORGE AND FRANCES BALL FOUNDATION

## DECEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER



George A. Ball 1920  
Photo from Minnetrista Collection

### *GEORGE BALL: A CHAMPION FOR EDUCATION*

Throughout his lifetime, George A. Ball made significant impact on education in Central Indiana and that legacy is reflected in the work of his family foundation. To date, over forty-seven percent of grant dollars from GFBF have been directed to educational institutions. One major way that George influenced education was through board membership. Many know of his service to the Ball State Teachers College, but he also served as a director for the Indiana State Teachers College in Terre Haute. He was a member of the Board of Trustees of Indiana University for nineteen years, also

serving on the Indiana University Foundation board since its establishment. It is at Indiana University where George grew fascinated by medical education and he was one of the individuals responsible for the organization and establishment of Riley Hospital for Children, eventually negotiating IU's use of it as a center for medical students. For his 90th birthday, the Riley Memorial Association honored his work in medical education by endowing the George A. Ball Visiting Professorship in Surgery at the University Medical Center. Additional education institutions that received benefit from George's interest include Hillsdale College, Hanover College, Keuka College, and several other schools represented by the Associated Colleges of Indiana and Howe Military Academy.

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Photo from Muncie Civic Facebook

## REFRESHER: WHAT IS CONFLICT OF INTEREST?

Conflicts of interest often happen when a foundation board or staff members' role at the foundation intersects with outside roles. This can create the potential for benefit from the foundation in a personal, direct, or economic way. This puts the reputation of both the individual and the foundation at risk within the community. Following the organization's written Conflicts of Interest policy is fundamental to the ethical integrity of private foundations. For this reason, GFBF has its own Conflicts of Interest policy. The first part of this policy requires disclosure of potential conflicts. It is important to note that conflicted persons are allowed to share information that might be helpful to the board with regards to the organization requesting funding. However, conflicted persons should not be a part of the final discussion and they should not vote. For accountability and transparency purposes, the recusal should be documented in the board minutes.

## GRANTS SPOT-LIGHT: ARTS & CULTURE

Thanks to a generous grant from the George and Frances Ball Foundation, Muncie Civic Theatre purchased a digital marquee. GFBF also supported Muncie Civic Theatre by underwriting scripts and royalties for shows such as *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Of Mice and Men*, and Disney's *Tarzan*. GFBF supported *Music on the Move!*, a free program available through a partnership between the Muncie Symphony Orchestra and the Ball State University School of Music. This program allows elementary-

aged students to experience a small chamber ensemble (string quartet, woodwind quintet, brass quintet). Kids across the county experienced *Music on the Move!* in an upbeat, casual, interactive conversation format during the school day. Over the past year, GFBF supported many other arts and culture endeavors including seven free public concerts by America's Hometown Band, Masterworks Chorale's fall concert, capital projects at Minnetrista, and *Music for All's* summer symposium. A grant from GFBF went towards art studios for Cornerstone Center for the Arts. The following season, all eighteen art classes sold out. *Arts and culture is one of eight target areas at GFBF. See the next issue for a spotlight on another target area.*

## MUNCIE BY5 HONORED AS "CHAMPION" WITH STATE AWARD

This fall, Muncie BY5 was named Eli Lilly's 2018 Community Early Learning Champion at the Early Learning Summit. GFBF and BBF were founding funders of Muncie BY5. When asked what this award means to Muncie BY5, Marissa Rose revealed, "Being presented (this award) was an honor for

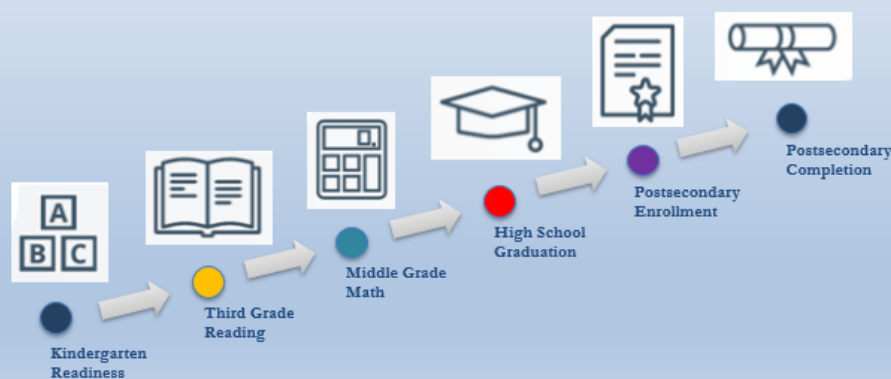
BY5. As an organization, we have always said that lasting change in the realm of early childhood education happens through community buy-in and grassroots participation. To be presented with this award means that BY5 is making progress on those aims."



Tom Kinghorn and Marissa Rose accept award  
Photo Credit: Transform Consulting Group



## The Six Markers from Cradle to Career



## UPDATE: CRADLE TO CAREER INITIATIVE

In the September, the Board adopted the Cradle to Career framework and 60% goal of postsecondary attainment for the Muncie and Delaware County communities. In pursuing this targeted objective, GFBF is joining a larger national effort alongside numerous foundations including Lumina, Kresge, Ford, Annie E. Casey, and Ballmer Group. One major reason for setting this goal is to prepare our youth for the workforce of tomorrow. Since the September meeting, GFBF staff have created a data dashboard that provides baseline data specific to the Delaware County and Muncie Community Schools for each of the six markers on the Cradle to Career framework. Working with experts in the field such as Ball State University Educational Psychology Department Chair Jerrell Cassady, GFBF is ensuring that these data points are the most widely trusted and predictors for gauging progress over time. The Cradle to Career framework relies on a Collaborative Action Network consisting of a variety of community stakeholders such

as members in the business, nonprofit, health, education, and religious spheres. Over the past two months, meetings have been held with more than fifteen organizations to share about GFBF's new education attainment goal and to obtain input and reactions. Lumina Foundation and StriveTogether are two national networks that collectively represent 150+ communities who are reaching for similar goals. GFBF staff are using these communities as case studies when researching best practices. As mentioned in the September Board Meeting, one proactive concept within this education attainment goal is to encourage proposals that fit strategically with the target and goals. This December, GFBF identified that nearly one-third of all quarterly grant requests aligned with the general Cradle to Career concept. The next step in proactive grant making is to analyze requests and make grants with the target and goals in mind. GFBF is hopeful that, with time, more and more community organizations will energize their programming around the Cradle to Career framework in order to advance the education attainment goals. GFBF is excited to be a convening body for the community and bring forth financial capital to this effort.

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE BOARD

### BOARD MEETINGS:

**March 8, 2019**

Grant Deadline: February 8

**June 13, 2019**

Grant Deadline: May 13

**October 17, 2019**

Grant Deadline: September 17

**December 13, 2019**

Grant Deadline: November 13

### RECOMMENDED CONFERENCES:

**Commonfund Forum**

Orlando, FL March 24-26

**K-12 Philanthropy National Forum**

Denver, CO April 3-4

**Council on Foundations-Leading Together Conference**

Miami, FL April 29-May 1

**2019 Center for Effective Philanthropy Conference**

Minneapolis, MN May 7-9

**Indiana Philanthropy Alliance: Regional Meetings**

Various Locations, Early June

**Rocky Mountain Tax Seminar for Private Foundations**

Colorado Springs, CO  
September 18-20

**Exponent Philanthropy National Conference-Connect 2019**

St. Louis, MO October 2-4

**Council of Michigan Foundations**

Traverse City, MI October 6-8

*George A. Ball*