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## **Teacher Creativity Fellowship Program Asks Educators to Dream Big, Design Renewal Projects**

INDIANAPOLIS – With summer break approaching quickly for Indiana K-12 schools, Lilly Endowment Inc. is inviting educators to make time this summer to design personal renewal projects. Indiana teachers, principals, assistant principals, guidance counselors and library/media specialists can apply now through Sept. 1 for the 2018 Teacher Creativity Fellowships.

The program, launched in 1987, offers 100 grants at \$12,000 each. Renewal fellowship grants give educators the freedom to nurture personal interests and re-charge so they can strengthen their commitment to teaching, said Sara B. Cobb, the Endowment’s vice president for education.

“Educators do so much in their schools to inspire and engage students. But with the demands on their time during the school year they have few opportunities to re-energize,” Cobb said. “During 30 years of the Teacher Creativity Fellowship Program we have learned that when teachers get the chance to have meaningful experiences away from the classroom, they return restored and newly inspired in their education careers.”

The competitive program is open to licensed K-12 educators working in public and private schools across Indiana. Applicants must have at least three years of professional experience in education. Previous fellowship winners have pursued personal interests in scientific exploration, the arts and the natural world. Some have traveled around the world to understand the cultures reflected in their increasingly diverse student populations. And others have traced their own ethnic identities and family trees.

The Teacher Creativity Fellowship Program is part of the Endowment’s commitment to renewal programs for people who work in the nonprofit sector. The Endowment supports similar renewal programs for artists and arts administrators, pastors, youth workers and human service workers. Learn more about the Teacher Creativity application process and 2017 fellowship winners at [www.teachercreativity.org](http://www.teachercreativity.org).

**About Lilly Endowment Inc.** Lilly Endowment Inc. is an Indianapolis-based, private philanthropic foundation created in 1937 by three members of the Lilly family -- J.K. Lilly Sr. and sons J.K. Jr. and Eli -- through gifts of stock in their pharmaceutical business, Eli Lilly and Company. However, the Endowment is a separate entity from the company, with a distinct governing board, staff and location. In keeping with the founders’ wishes, the Endowment supports the causes of community development, education and religion and maintains a special commitment to its hometown, Indianapolis, and home state, Indiana.