

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Sip at Serendipity 2025**

**December 17, 2025 - Chelsea, MI** - The Chelsea Education Foundation is closing the year on a high note, celebrating both the remarkable success of its 4th Annual Sip at Serendipity Book Drive and the far-reaching impact of the many educational programs it funded throughout the district in 2025.

Held on November 12 at Serendipity Books, this year's Sip at Serendipity once again drew together parents, educators, neighbors, and book lovers for an evening of wine, conversation, and shared commitment to literacy. The energy in the room was unmistakable, and by the end of the night, community donations had surpassed CEF's fundraising goal—ensuring full support for several key literacy initiatives that will touch students from kindergarten through twelfth grade.

Because of this generosity, North Creek Elementary's first-grade classrooms will each receive a new Big Book Stand, giving young readers sturdy, accessible displays for oversized ELA materials and supporting early reading development. Chelsea High School's English Department will soon introduce a new contemporary memoir collection, forming the heart of a fresh reading unit designed to spark thoughtful discussion and strengthen students' critical thinking. The school's Read Unplugged – No Phone. Just Stories initiative will also move forward, transforming a no-phone policy into an opportunity for students to reconnect with the simple pleasure of reading without screens. And, as in years past, Sip at Serendipity will help sustain Authors in Chelsea, the long-standing partnership with the Chelsea District Library that brings award-winning writers into classrooms to inspire both seasoned and emerging young readers.

While Sip at Serendipity shined a spotlight on literacy, it represents only part of CEF's impact this year. Across the district, the Fall grant cycle has supported hands-on learning, field experiences, and creative enrichment for students at every grade level. These programs have included opportunities such as the South Meadows Drama Club, the Chelsea High School Theatre Guild, STEAM-focused Maker Space activities, the Monster Project, and resource-room access to UMS programming. Students enjoyed field trips ranging from Hidden Lake Gardens in Tipton to Greenfield Village and the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, each experience expanding their understanding of the world beyond the classroom. Younger learners benefited as well, with funding directed toward fine-motor development tools for Kindergarten and Young 5s.

CEF extends heartfelt thanks to this year's Literacy Leader Sponsors: Chelsea Area Players, DC Side Street Garage, Hardwood Solutions, Silver Maples of Chelsea, Thompson's Pizza, and Zarminali Pediatrics—whose partnership helped make Sip at Serendipity both possible and successful. The Foundation is also deeply grateful to the many families, donors, and volunteers whose support fuels these opportunities year after year.

Together, these diverse programs and donors in the community reflect what makes Chelsea unique: a community that continually invests in curiosity, creativity, and the joyful, hands-on work of learning. There are still more grants to fund, like community outings for our resource room members, art supplies for our STEAM projects, and cameras for photography. Chelsea Education Foundation welcomes community members who were unable to attend the literacy event but wish to contribute to CEF's support of education grants to do so at [www.chelseaeducationfoundation.org](http://www.chelseaeducationfoundation.org) or by mail at Chelsea Education Foundation, PO Box 281, Chelsea, MI 48118.

As the Foundation reflects on a year of expanded programming and extraordinary generosity, one truth stands out clearly: **when Chelsea comes together, students thrive.**

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Chelsea Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides funding for a broad spectrum of educational activities benefiting the students of the Chelsea School District. Since 1990, \$1.4 million in donations have been collected to support grants and scholarships throughout the District. Chelsea Education Foundation's mission is to enhance the District's educational experiences by financing projects beyond the District's resources and by providing scholarships to District graduates.

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