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THE GLOBAL CRISIS OF VANISHING GROUNDWATER



(Photo: PROVIDED PHOTO)

The Ithaca Public Education Initiative has awarded 10 new Teacher Grants, totaling \$19,000, for projects that will engage more than 1,500 students in educational enrichment programs in the Ithaca City School District this academic year, according to a news release.

"The grants show the amazing creativity of our teachers, from using drones to monitor vegetation changes to exploring a piece of art in its cultural setting, to using rhyming and music to develop early literacy skills," said Sandy True, chair of the IPEI Teacher Grant Committee, in a statement.

One grant will bring a geographic information specialist to science classrooms at DeWitt Middle School and Ithaca High School to learn about energy decision-making, according to a news release.

"Creating science curriculum around real-world problems and providing opportunities for students to learn and practice the skills that will enable them to address one of our biggest challenges is what motivated me to create the IPEI project," said Laura VanVleet, science teacher at DeWitt, in a statement.

At Beverly J. Martin Elementary School, a grant will help be used to improve literacy skills of fourth-graders through an interdisciplinary approach to studying poetry and other writing techniques, map-making and social studies practices, and photography and short films, the release stated.

Other projects include a Wassa Pan Afrikan Dance Ensemble performance at Lehman Alternative Community School in February for Black History Month; prekindergarten through fifth-grade workshops with a graphic novelist at Fall Creek Elementary School; and a study of medieval and renaissance periods in European history by 10th-grade global students at the Johnson Art Museum at Cornell University.

A complete list of the grants is at ipei.org (<http://ipei.org>).

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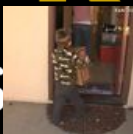
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