



Fall 2024

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Mikhail Mingazov  
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Crayons to  
Classrooms  
Newsletter

# Crayons to Classrooms Honored with Statewide Award for Supporting Art Education

By Crayons to Classrooms PR  
with additions by Chat GPT

On November 8th, Crayons to Classrooms (C2C) received the Distinguished Business for Art Education award from the Ohio Art Education Association (OAEA). After being nominated by a local art teacher, Mr. Matt Reynolds, C2C won this award for Ohio's West Region and went on to win at the state level as well for the organization's dedication to supporting art education.

The Teacher Resource Center's shelves are always stocked with a variety of art products such as crayons, paint, glue, markers, art kits, fabric, and more. Art education is a luxury for many local students, and C2C's vision is to ensure that every student has the school supplies needed to succeed.

Students who enter a classroom empty handed on the first day of school have a significant disadvantage to students who come wearing a backpack full of supplies. Students who don't have crayons, pencils, notepads, or paintbrushes feel that they don't yet have permission to be creative or to be an active participant in the learning process.

During the 2023-24 school year, C2C distributed \$322,571.00 worth of arts and crafts supplies. In addition to these art distributions, the organization also gave teachers \$89,354.15 in crayons, colored pencils, and markers. C2C has also hosted marker and oil paint set giveaways for art teachers.

"I have been able to get oil paint, markers, colored pencils, pencils, erasers, scissors, notebooks, rulers, fun prizes, backpacks, brushes, and so much more [from Crayons to Classrooms]," shares Mr. Matt Reynolds, Art Department Chair and

studio art teacher at West Carrollton High School. "In my decade of teaching art at West Carrollton High School, no organization has had a bigger impact on my practice than Crayons to Classrooms."

Whether a teacher is an art teacher, science teacher, or elementary teacher, they cannot effectively teach if their students aren't prepared to learn. Because of this, Dayton teachers are constantly reaching into their own pockets to provide for their students in need. C2C seeks to remove this barrier from local teachers – when they shop at the Teacher Resource Center, teachers take an average of \$769 in school supplies to their classrooms for free.

Crayons to Classrooms' impact extends beyond just providing supplies; it plays a crucial role in fostering creativity and innovation in the classroom. By ensuring that teachers have access to the necessary tools for art education, C2C helps cultivate an environment where students feel empowered to express themselves and explore their creativity. As they continue to expand their reach, Crayons to Classrooms remains a vital resource in ensuring that art education remains a cornerstone of the learning experience for all students in the region.



Photo by  
Prashant Sharma





Photo by Ben Kerchx

# CenterPoint Energy Foundation Fuels STEM in Dayton Schools

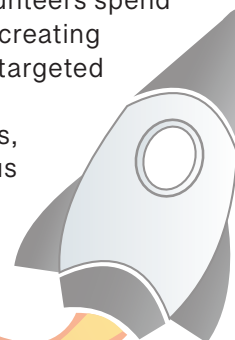
By Crayons for Classrooms PR

In Dayton, the field of STEM has been important since the Wright Brothers invented the first airplane, and it will undoubtedly continue to be so for generations to come. This national STEM Day, on November 8, Crayons to Classrooms would like to recognize the invaluable support Crayons to Classrooms (C2C) receives from the CenterPoint Energy Foundation for more equitable access to STEM learning in under-resourced schools in the Miami Valley. Through a generous grant of \$25,000, C2C is able to sustain its vital STEM program throughout the 2024-2025 school year.

STEM is important for the students of today to grasp the opportunities of tomorrow, which is why teachers' requests for STEM supplies

have increased every year since C2C started offering these items in 2014.

To provide better STEM learning opportunities to students at Miami Valley PreK-12 schools, C2C secures and distributes safety goggles, compasses, protractors, calculators, index cards, and rulers, just to name a few popular items. In addition to basic STEM supplies, C2C volunteers spend thousands of hours each year creating Classroom Solutions supplies targeted to STEM needs. These include butterfly and frog life cycle kits, number line sliders, and various paper shapes, like astronauts, lab equipment, and more.



# Crayons to Classrooms Delivers Supply Kits for Preble County Teachers

By Crayons to Classrooms PR

On Friday, September 27th, Crayons to Classrooms (C2C) passed out \$44,262 in classroom kits to over 60 National Trail 1st-12th grade teachers during a new pilot delivery program in effort to provide free supplies to teachers at under-resourced schools in local counties. This “Pick-up Party” was designed to ensure that Preble County teachers don’t miss out on the opportunity to receive free school supplies due to distance.

A fall 2023 survey showed that only 31% of teachers in the National Trail School District traveled to shop at C2C’s store during the 2022-2023 school year, compared to much higher percentages from other districts. The time and distance it takes for these teachers to travel to C2C prevents them from receiving free core supplies, STEM items, office products, books, and more that the Teacher Resource Center offers.

“It is difficult for National Trail’s teachers to get to a shopping appointment after a long day teaching,” shares C2C’s Director of Programs, Carlye Rausch. “Through the delivery program, we were able to fulfill the need of getting school supplies in the hands of teachers who normally would have a difficult time participating in shopping



Photo by Pixabay

due to distance. The event was a great success, and teachers continue to let us know how appreciative they are to receive supplies at their school.”

The classroom kits were filled with core school supplies needed for daily activities such as several notebooks, folders, pens, colored pencils, crayons, hundreds of pencils and more for each teacher to stock their classroom for their students in need. There were two different kinds of kits, an elementary kit and a middle/high school kit, to meet the needs for each level of learning.

CareSource and Henny Penny supported this Preble County pilot program by funding the distribution of classroom kits. Both organizations sent volunteers to the event to help run the event and take the classroom kits to each classroom for the teachers.



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