

Last year, we were delighted to support the 4th Grade Opera, a multi-disciplinary project designed by Blake Siskavich, Colleen Pearce, Caroline Dwyer, Alice Sajdera and the rest of the 4th grade teaching team on the Lincoln campus.

After a field trip to the Paramount theater, in Boston, to find out everything that goes into staging an opera, students chose their roles for the production and got to work writing the script, composing the music, and designing the costumes, sets and programs. Each of the 4th grade classes wrote a unique script, but they shared a common thread, telling the story of immigrants coming to America.

**The opera represented the very best of innovation: it was an ambitious, collaborative and creative project that gave learners a clear sense of agency and purpose. And it was fun!**

Like everything else last spring, it was abruptly halted. And yet the show went on! Sort of: teachers and students were nimble, they pivoted, and they found ways to make it work, even though the result was not, admittedly, what they had envisioned.

In the months since, teachers all across the Lincoln Schools have been amazingly innovative as they adapt to this unfamiliar, challenging environment. **Their work has been just as ambitious, collaborative, and creative as the opera project, as they navigate distance learning, cohorts and video feeds.**



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A broad shift is underway, and when school returns to normal, it won't look the same. After all, there is a new school building taking shape on campus.

With that in mind, we are especially interested in initiatives that explore collaboration and creativity in new learning environments, which aim to take the lessons of the last several months and push them into the future. Can we broaden outdoor learning? Can we create more avenues for teachers to innovate together, districtwide? Can we leverage technology to find new ways for students to collaborate, communicate, and create together?

Teachers also, of course, have short-term, immediate needs for their classrooms, much more so than they have in past years. We are ready to help.

**To give** in somebody's honor, make a recurring monthly donation, or find out about corporate matching, visit

**[lincolnschoolfoundation.org](http://lincolnschoolfoundation.org)**

**Please support their work, and give at a level that feels right for you — every donation, in any amount, is greatly appreciated. Thank you!**

Donations by check can be sent to:

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