



# Wendt Character Initiative Grant Request Instructions

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## ***Grant Qualifications***

The Wendt Character Initiative funds a limited number of projects or events proposed by faculty and staff each year. **The purpose of this funding is to enable faculty and staff to actively engage students in activities which challenge or encourage students in the area of character and ethics and help them name, engage with, and reflect on good character virtues.**

*Centered in the University's Mission and Values and consonant with its Reformed Christian identity, the Initiative engages the university community in a cooperative and spirited effort to foster intellectual understanding of and personal commitment to leading lives of purpose and excellent moral character.*

In sum, we want to be the excellent people God made us to be:

- We seek to be people of *integrity*, whose lives are characterized by truthfulness, honesty and stewardship;
- We seek to be people of *justice*, who treat all people fairly, respect diversity, and practice Christian love;
- We seek to be people of *compassion* who live by the Golden Rule in service of others.

To receive funding through the Wendt Character Initiative the proposed project or event must **clearly relate** to the Wendt Center's mission of promoting reflection on and the development of ethical character in individuals and within the University of Dubuque's culture.

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## ***Grant Request Evaluation Process***

Each Wendt Grant will be evaluated based on the following:

- a. Application engages the ethos of the Wendt Character Initiative and is consistent with the Wendt Mission.
  - b. Application discusses how the project or event will impact and/or engage students.
  - c. Application identifies an outcome explicitly tied to character knowledge and/or formation.
  - d. Activities include an explicit reflection and/or discussion of how character is shaped by this experience or character knowledge is expanded.
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## **Grant Funding Guidelines**

Funding decisions for projects and events are made by the Wendt Advisory Board and will be tiered in this manner:

- a. Invited speaker (local) . . . . . Maximum \$175
  - b. Faculty/Staff individual project . . . . . Maximum \$500
  - c. Project that actively engages students . . . Maximum \$1,000
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## **Instructions**

1. Please **submit the grant request form via email** to [Wendt@dbq.edu](mailto:Wendt@dbq.edu).
  2. Funding applications should be received in the Wendt Center and approved **30 days prior** to the event for which funding is sought.
  3. **Title** your request with appropriate connections to the Wendt Character Initiative.
  4. **Design a reflection activity** for students that overtly relates to character (see reflection activity template document). Starting points for reflection:
    - How has this experience shaped your understanding of character? What will you take away from this?
    - Given the theme of this [project], how does this help you grow in character?
    - Select a quote [or image, aspect, etc.] from [project]. Relate it to good moral character. Alternatively: If character wasn't directly addressed, in what ways can you connect character to this [project]?
    - How can the character virtues touched on in [project] be intentionally put into daily practice to create a culture of character?
  5. **Itemize** the specific expenses for which funding is sought. Funds will be released as per University policy. Please avoid paying for expenses with personal funds, but when necessary, as during travel, original, itemized receipts are required to ensure reimbursement.
  6. **Include the following language** for public announcements or event introductions:

*This project is supported by the Wendt Character Initiative, which is devoted to promoting a campus culture of excellent moral character and purposeful lives characterized by integrity, justice, and compassion.*
  7. Within 30 days of the completion of the project or event, a **follow-up report assessing the effectiveness of the venture should be submitted electronically** to the Wendt Center. This report includes:
    - b. input from students as appropriate.
    - c. at least one digital photograph suitable for inclusion in a report, and
    - d. a write-up (one page minimum) assessing intended outcomes, particularly in regard to students' character development and/or understanding of character. Please include an approximation of how many were involved or impacted.
  8. Be prepared to have students (or yourself) **present on your project** at a possible future Wendt Tea celebrating Wendt Grants.
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## **Questions?**

Please email [wendt@dbq.edu](mailto:wendt@dbq.edu) or contact Wendt staff at 589-3440.

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