



# The Hayes Foundation

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **The Hayes Foundation announces sustaining grants to two area organizations.**

The Walter H. Hayes, Sr., Beulah Buffum Hayes, and Walter H. Hayes, Jr. Foundation (The Hayes Foundation), a local philanthropic organization that has provided enrichment grants to school age youth in Rutland County and local organizations that serve young people since 1982, will cease operations at the end of 2023, its final round of grant awards to individuals having taken place this spring. As part of its dissolution and to help foster academic and artistic enrichment in the county going forward, the Foundation is pleased to announce that it has selected Rutland Area Robotics (Rutland) and Theater in the Woods (Middletown Springs) as the recipients of its endowment.

“We have supported both of these organizations for several years,” comments Lorraine Bargmann Metz, Chair of the Hayes Foundation’s board of directors, “and after reviewing their proposals for the use of funds going forward, we are confident that both Rutland Area Robotics and Theater in the Woods will make the best possible choices to enrich hundreds of young people in the years ahead.” Notes Theater in the Woods Camp Director Melissa Chesnut-Tangerman, “We are honored and humbled to be a recipient of a Hayes Foundation sustaining grant. The Hayes Foundation has made a difference in the lives of hundreds of Rutland county youth for decades, and I’ve always appreciated the nurturing of creative thinking that the Hayes Foundation affords. Theater in the Woods takes very seriously the honor of continuing that legacy, and is deeply grateful.” Rutland Area Robotics Board Chair Dan Roswell adds, “The support of the Hayes Foundation has played a pivotal role in the health, growth, and continuing success of Rutland Area Robotics. Our selection as a recipient for this sustaining grant creates unprecedented opportunities to serve the students of Rutland county. We celebrate the lasting legacy the Hayes Foundation leaves upon the educational landscape of our region, and through their generosity, will strive to build upon it for many years to come.”

For more information about these organizations and the work they do, visit theaterinthewoods.org, rutlandrobotics.org, and thehayesfoundation.org.

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