

INSPIRING CREATIVITY. FOR GOOD.

Creativity changes lives in powerful ways. Especially young lives. It shifts, refines, and expands. It lets kids say "I'm an artist" and know it means freedom. Freedom to explore their potential, freedom to express ideas, and freedom to be themselves. A freedom that's unstoppable.

Each day of each year, we see the lasting power of the arts at Arts Umbrella. Four locations, dozens of community programs, thousands of lives changed for good—it's been another incredible year at Arts Umbrella.

See how young lives are forever changed because art matters...

CREATIVITY IN NUMBERS

► 20,063 students enrolled

took part

► 1,116 classes , programs, and camps



➤ 258,850 student instruction hours bursaries totalling \$150,186 scholarships totalling \$60,685 ► 197 artist-instructors

CEO'S MESSAGE

Thank you to our community of supporters for giving us so much to share in this annual report. Every year, I am privileged to see the impact our artist-instructors have on the children who either attend Arts Umbrella, or experience Arts Umbrella through our community programs.

I witness happy young people in the classrooms, totally focused on their work, developing their techniques, and discovering their passions. It makes no difference if it is dance, theatre, architecture, media arts, or any of our visual arts programs, the quality of the experience is the same for all the children we serve. We are devoted to "Inspiring creativity. For Good."

Looking back on the year, as I enter my last year as CEO, I see so many exciting accomplishments we achieved by working with community partners to involve young artists in major projects:

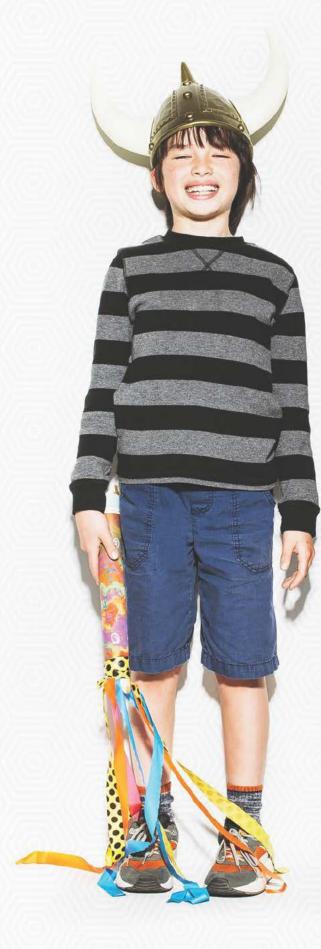
- ➤ Two Arts Umbrella instructors worked with a team of instructors in Bogotá to develop and teach a curriculum for disadvantaged children. Three of the young Colombians then came to Vancouver for Arts Umbrella's summer classes. With the support of the Vancouver Biennale and the Buschlen Mowatt Nichol Foundation, these young people experienced something they never believed possible.
- A group of our visual arts students produced a commissioned art piece for the new TELUS Garden building.
- Alumni, students, and instructors participated in Capture, Vancouver's first photography festival.
- A working partnership with the CAG and SFU resulted in a summer intensive visual arts program for teens, ending with a public showing of their art.
- ▶ We established a formal relationship with Ballet BC that will influence the future of dance in Vancouver and beyond.

If all children can participate in the arts, they have the chance to develop life skills that will remain with them forever.

As I prepare to leave Arts Umbrella, I want to thank the Arts Umbrella family—the Board, the artist-instructors, the administrative staff, our donors, the volunteers, and all the people that have helped children access the arts at Arts Umbrella. We are working together for good.

Sincerely

Lucille Pacey
President and CEO





BOARD CHAIR MESSAGE

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to present the 2014/15 Annual Report, and share with you the progress that Arts Umbrella has made over the past year.

The Board has continued to shape a strong framework for change and growth at Arts Umbrella and lay the groundwork to move forward. The expansion into Surrey proved to be a big step and a challenge as the organization adapts to a multi-site offering. We are committed to the Surrey community and the children and youth who need access to quality arts education and training. We also will continue to consider the renewal planning for our Granville Island facility as we clearly need to address space requirements with continued program growth.

The Board is most grateful to Lucille Pacey for her continued leadership during the transitional period prior to her retirement from Arts Umbrella. We appreciate Lucille's exceptional contribution to Arts Umbrella over the past 11 years and her energy, enthusiasm, and absolute passion for educating and inspiring children through the arts.

As the Board completes the recruitment of a new head of Arts Umbrella, we are also looking forward to confirming a new vision and strategic direction for the organization. We have put into place a proper succession plan to ensure an effective transition to the new leader.

Finally, we have welcomed several new members of the community to the Board, all of whom will ensure Arts Umbrella's mission and governance are healthy and strong. This expanded Board is prepared to take Arts Umbrella to the next phase of its evolution and I invite you to join us for this exciting part of our journey.

We look forward to an impactful 2016.

Sincerely

Michael Lee Board Chair

Inspring creativity. For good.

THINGS WE DID

- CREATED **PUBLIC ART**
- specific installation. SEPTEMBER 2014

SEPTEMBER 2014

2 SHARED LOVE ON THE CHALK

Our Chalk Walls debuted for Culture Days 2014—and Granville Island visitors continue to consider what love means to them. The project was inspired by the global art movement, Before I Die.

Twelve teens took on a year-long clay

building. Receiving full scholarships,

the students created a stunning site-

project for the new TELUS Garden

MURAL FOR VANCOUVER **DESIGN WEEK** SEPTEMBER 2014

Young visual artists created an interactive mural for Vancouver Design Week, allowing the public to peek into our art studios.

4 EXHIBITED

OCTOBER 2014

Advanced drawing and painting students exhibited in collaboration with Vancouver Opera's Stickboy, based on the book by Shane Koyczan. The powerful exhibition examined "how teens respond to bullying—a heavy subject matter," said Roxanne Gagnon, Artistic Director, Visual & Media Arts.

GORDON

NOVEMBER 2014

Artemis Gordon, Artistic Director, Dance, travelled to Milan as guest judge for dance festival Milano Danza Expo, allowing her the opportunity to meet international dance professionals and recruit new dancers for Arts Umbrella's vanguard programs.

MET NOAH

JANUARY 2015

Noah Diguangco, 9, inspired Arts DIGUANGCO Umbrella staff at the annual Continuous Learning Committee event with his compelling TEDxKids talk, Kids Can Too. "I've learned to look for opportunity and not to be scared to do something I haven't done before," said Noah, who started his first business at age 7. Noah's mom, Kellie Diquangco, teaches Early Learning Visual Arts at Arts Umbrella.

MARCH 2015

Instructors Jessica Jang and Jason Wright travelled to Bogotá, Colombia to teach more than 26 students for CulturART Exchange—a new initiative created by school Liceo Boston and supported by the Vancouver Biennale. Then in July 2015, Arts Umbrella welcomed three of the Colombian students for two weeks of teen intensive programs, sponsored by the Buschlen Mowatt Nichol Foundation, and an exhibition. "In my heart, it is a dream come true," said one of the CulturArt students.





8 ALUMNI SHOW FOR CAPTURE

APRIL 2015

Alumni, teaching artists, and teen photography students exhibited their work at Remington Gallery during Capture Photography Festival, showing the reach of Arts Umbrella's 35-years-and-growing legacy.

12 SUMMER DANCE INTENSIVE AT SFU

AUGUST 2015

Every summer, Arts Umbrella's International Summer Dance Intensive brings together world-renowned teachers, choreographers and repetiteurs to offer a dance experience that leads dancers to reach their potential. This year, the intensive program took place with venue partner Simon Fraser University, providing four world-class studios located in the School of Contemporary Arts' downtown campus. "The space elevated the program," said Artistic Director, Artemis Gordon.

9 PAUL MONIZ DE SÁ WORKED WITH SPIFI RERG

APRIL 2015

Paul Moniz de Sá, Artistic Director, Theatre & Music, took on the role of gruesome giant The Meatdripper in Steven Spielberg's adaptation of Roald Dahl's *The BFG*. Paul spent two months in a performance capture suit working alongside very talented artists including Bill Hader (Saturday Night Live), Jemaine Clement (Flight of the Concords), and Mark Rylance (Bridge Of Spies). *The BFG* opens in theatres summer 2016.

13 LAUNCHED VISUAL ART SUMMER AUGUST-SEPTEMBER, 2015
Under a brand new program, teens collaborated with and learned about the local art community through an ambitious series of workshops at Arts Umbrella, the Contemporary Art Gallery, and SFU School for the Contemporary Arts. "It's a big deal for the arts community in Vancouver," said Roxanne Gagnon, Artistic

wrapped up with a one-day exhibition

Director, Visual & Media Arts. It

at the Contemporary Art Gallery.

10 SHAPED THE FUTURE OF DANCE

MAY 2015

Ballet BC and Arts Umbrella announced a Memorandum of Understanding aligning their similar, progressive artistic visions for dance. "This affiliation allows Arts Umbrella and Ballet BC to grow our shared vision of bringing new, exciting, and contemporary dance forms to Vancouver and the world," said Michael Lee, Board Chair.

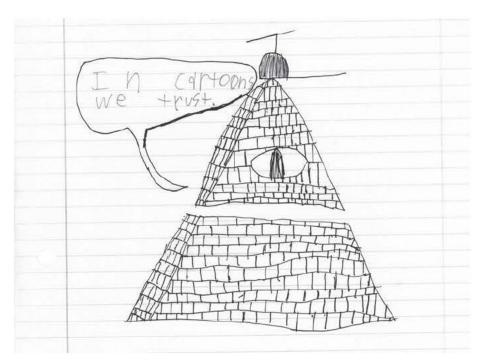
\$60,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS

JUNE 2015

More than 60 talented young artists received awards at our annual Scholarship Night. Instructors recognized students of all ages, ranging from four-year-old Madeline Graham, who twirled her way to the stage, to dance graduates pursuing professional careers. "It helps make an art form we've worked on for 18 years possible," said dancer Haley Heckethorn, who received an RBC Award.



ART MATERS



Lukas loves cartooning on lined paper with a ballpoint pen. "It clicks with me," says the young artist.

BECAUSE GENEROSITY CAN START YOUNG

LUKAS, 10

Ten-year-old Langley student Lukas draws. A lot. He loves cartoons, he says, because "I can express myself."

But besides being a young artist, Lukas is also one of Arts Umbrella's youngest donors.

For the past two years, Lukas has collected charitable donations instead of birthday gifts ("Most parents really like that!" says mom, Nicola). And when asked about his plan this year, Lukas said he wanted to donate to "kids and art and supporting it the right way."

Together, the family discovered Arts
Umbrella's community outreach programs and
made a donation. Lukas says all kids should
experience the fun of the arts—"it's plain
great," he says.

And what does the young cartoonist see for his future?

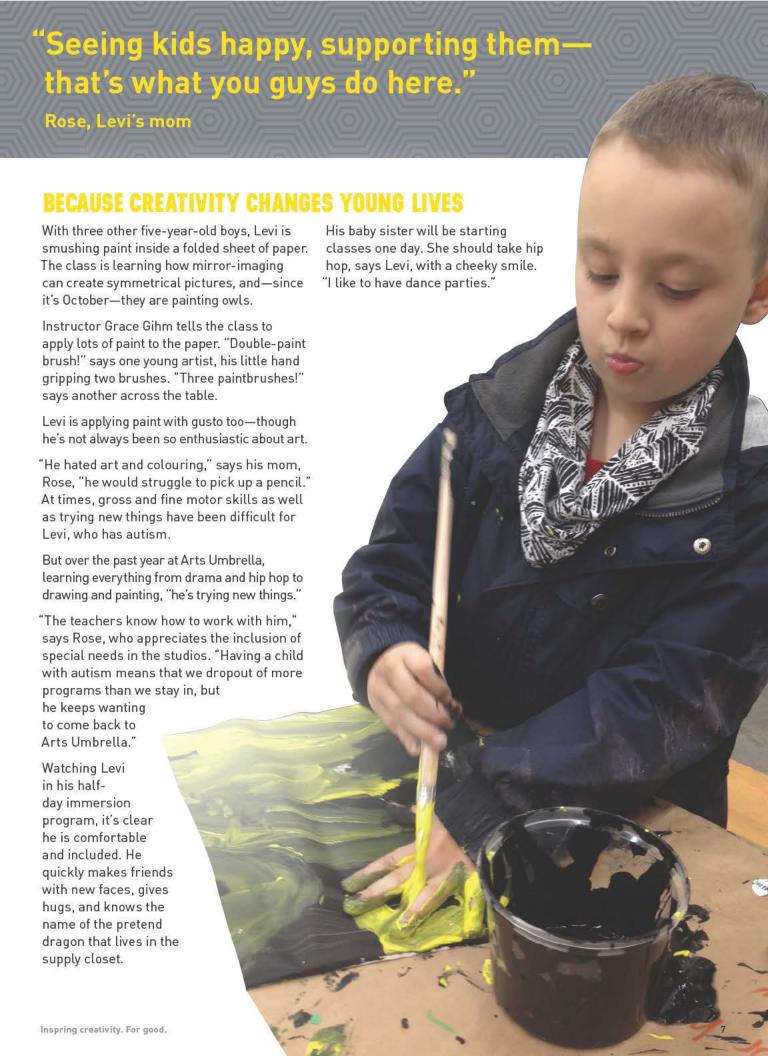
"My future self will think 'That was a cool idea'," he says, of making a donation. "And my future self might just join Arts Umbrella." ELLA, 3

"I gave the money to the other kids," says three-year-old Ella, who might be Arts Umbrella's littlest donor. "Now other kids can dance." At her third birthday party, Ella's family asked guests to consider a donation for Arts Umbrella instead of a gift.



"She's very aware," says Ella's mom, Carey, adding that the family often talks about helping people.

But like most young artists, Ella is just as focused on visiting Granville Island's parks and dancing in her Imagination through Movement class. "Ella loves dance," says Carey, "So we'll definitely be at Arts Umbrella for a long time."



ART MATTERS

BECAUSE DANCE DEFIES BORDERS

AND AS I DANCE MY HEART BEATS HOME

By Charlie Prince

I've always fantasized about going to Israel.

All I want to do is just stand there, immobile. Nothing more; simply feeling the earth move beneath my feet. When I closed my eyes this past Thursday, I could easily have been there, for at that time the land came to me, through the body and words of the ethereally talented Sharon Eyal.

Eight years ago I was forced during the war with Israel to move from Lebanon to Montreal with my sister to seek a better life and a more secure future. Given the circumstances of my departure, I left the country with the impression that Israel was an evil place, and anything coming out of Israel was not to be approached or respected. I had a lot of hatred, justified but not questioned.

The two countries were and still are technically at war. I am not allowed to go to Israel because of where I come from. If I somehow make it there, I will not be allowed back into my country for the Lebanese authorities will see my passport has been stamped with their enemy's emblem.

And who knew that 8 years 4 months and 3 days after saying goodbye to my mother under the bombs, behind barbed wire, I would be in Vancouver doing Gaga with company members of one of Israel's most cutting edge dance ensembles: L-E-V. Learning L-E-V's repertoire that day was like tasting a forbidden fruit. I was doing something that all my life I was taught was wrong, and I was loving every single minute of it. Every step, every articulation felt as though I was in a place I had never been.

Yet, I still felt a primal connection to my roots in Eyal's choreography as it rippled through my spine, as she told us to imagine the sea beneath us as we went into a releve arabesque, or count every petal as we threw an imaginary bouquet of flowers behind us. It is in moments like these that I am reminded of the fact that the Lebanese, Israelis, and Palestinians are brothers and sisters, coming from the same land, sharing the same sea, under the same sun, but separated by borders and politics that have come to scar the face of the earth.

I remember as a child sitting on the shore in South Lebanon, caressing the tide, and imagining that these very waters were at some point in Israel, in Palestine, and that somehow by touching the salty water I was experiencing a place that—as far as I was concerned—did not exist in my immediate physical reality.

During the workshop I was moved beyond words, both literally and figuratively. I was in my own way attesting to the power of dance and art to make the world a better place, to bring peace, dignity, and integrity to unlikely places and hearts.

Nothing can remove the simple fact that we are made of flesh and skin, that our bodies in themselves are not political entities until they are made to be by nationalistic and religious ideologies. Through dance I am learning to connect with myself, with others, and with my past, present, and future. There is a purity in the human body that allows it to create



ART MATTERS



Esha: dancing at Arts umbrella.

BECAUSE BURSARIES HELP FAMILIES

"I love it when I get to dance with other kids," says Esha, a 10-year-old bursary student who dances at Arts Umbrella six hours each week and also takes theatre classes. "It can be hard to remember all the choreography, but when I finally remember the steps, I totally get into the dance."

For about two-thirds of Arts Umbrella students, like Esha, a chance to remember the steps, or access any arts programming comes with barriers.

"As a single parent with no financial support from the other parent, it has been incredibly difficult at times to expose Esha to a diverse and well-balanced childhood," says Shameem, Esha's mom. "Esha is aware of the need for financial support and I believe it has made her more empathetic towards others... to appreciate the kindness of people we do not know."

As Esha continues her dance and theatre classes, her confidence and dedication grow too. "I like coming there," Esha says, "I get excited to try new things,"—showing how kids can flourish and explore their potential when they find a safe and supportive outlet.

"She is becoming more and more confident and expressive in her language and sense of self," says Shameem. Arts Umbrella programs are especially important for the family as they share a strong love for the arts—in part, a legacy of Esha's grandfather, who danced with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet.

"Esha never had the opportunity to meet her grandpa, but she has him in her life, especially through dance."

Esha and many other students develop creative confidence at Arts Umbrella because of our generous Bursary Fund donors: Bosa Properties Foundation, CKNW Orphans' Fund, Kinder Morgan Foundation, London Drugs Foundation, Marin Investments, Momentum Fitness, and Polygon Homes. Our Arts Umbrella Bursary Fund provides important financial support to 349 families each year.

BECAUSE CREATIVITY MEANS BELONGING

"I spent my Friday nights at musical theatre class, which meant I had to say no to a lot of high school parties," says Arts Umbrella Theatre & Music alumna Mika Chircoski.
"I think having that focus and those friends outside of high school helped me to have a really great school experience while staying away from some of the more risky behaviour."

Beyond high school, the arts have had a lasting impact in Mika's life—both personally and professionally.

"Because of my theatre and performance background, public speaking comes very naturally to me," says Mika, a lawyer with the federal government in Vancouver. "When speaking in court, in a meeting, or with a client, I use the skills I learned at Arts Umbrella." She adds that creative pursuits have also helped her become a more effective problem-solver.

Like many former Arts Umbrella students, Mika's day job isn't on

MIKA CHIRCOSKI

the stage or screen, but arts training has helped her grow a life-long appreciation. Attending performances and singing with Higher Ground Women's Ensemble, a North Vancouver choir, are just two of the ways she keeps the arts as part of her life.

"I think exposing children to arts programing at a young age gives them an appreciation for the arts, and gives them important skills that will be relevant in any career," she says. "And as much as we need people who spend their careers in the arts, we also need people engaged with the arts and interested in being an audience member."

BECAUSE THE ARTS LEAD TO SURPRISING CAREERS

Repainting a damaged car is an art form for 20-year-old Jolene Orr.

"You have to be good with colours, hues, and blending," says the apprentice automotive painter. "It surprises me every day—you have to be precise."

Always a young artist, Jolene took a free visual arts community program at Arts Umbrella Surrey Centre in Grade 12. She says the interesting projects "pushed me to do something artsy." And for a car family, that morphed into studying automotive refinishing.

Her favourite paint job is a tri-coat pearl white. It takes "a lot of effort" to apply the base coat and almost see-through layers for an end result that's captivatingly beautiful.

Jolene's mom, Rosalyn, remembers the impact Arts Umbrella had on her daughter.



"Jolene was encouraged to help out with the other kids," says Rosalyn, who, as a driver, helps provide safe transportation for outreach students. "It made a big change in her—Jolene was never shy but it brought her out even more. Arts Umbrella showed her she could do so much more."

Jolene is now working toward her Red Seal, with the long-term goal of becoming a head painter.

And her dream project? "To work in a restoration shop with all the classic cars," she says.

Westminster Savings sponsors this free community program in Surrey Centre, with about 68 students ages 6 to 19 attending theatre and visual arts classes each week. "This program gives Surrey children and youth the opportunity to access the lifelong benefits arts education can bring," says Gavin Toy, Westminster Savings President and CEO. "The story of Jolene inspires us and is a tangible indication of how, together with our community partners, we are making our communities healthier and more inclusive places to live."

ART MATTERS



BECAUSE CREATIVITY IS FOR GOOD

The Krepiakevich family has long been part of the Arts Umbrella family. As parents, students, event guests, volunteers, fundraisers, and more, they show the reach of Arts Umbrella's 35-year legacy.

Terry: "We have been involved with Arts Umbrella for 25 years, including near perfect attendance at Splash! We are grateful that such a wonderful organization exists in our community and the inspiration it provides to children and youth. Through all these years, we saw our two children learn, experience, and grow from the wonderful Arts Umbrella experience."

Alexia: "Having participated in dance, theatre, and arts programs as a child, I value how this experience fostered curiosity in me. I believe arts education is a vital component of child development, helping build self-confidence and ignite creativity. I am proud that our family continues to support Arts Umbrella to help other children and youth."

Stefan: "As an alumnus of Arts Umbrella, my role with the organization has now changed from student to volunteer. I am delighted to now give back to this organization by assisting with the integration of new technologies into their fund development, marketing, and management systems."

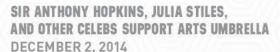
Charlene: "As a strong advocate for the arts over many years, I passionately believe the arts foster ideas, visions, and possibilities in people and communities. At Arts Umbrella, our children benefited from this unique environment that provided them with opportunities to explore, learn, and experiment through dance, music, theatre, and visual arts."

AWESOME THINGS WE DID THIS YEAR

SPLASH 2014

OCTOBER 18, 2014

The 32nd annual Splash Art Auction and Gala, presented by McMillan, was a magical night at CBC studio, inspiring guests to embody the theme 'act your shoe size, not your age.' Over 400 guests made stylish entrances to showcase their best black tie attire—often paired with their most fabulous pair of sneakers! Guests and sponsors, including matching sponsor Macquarie, raised more than \$300,000 in net proceeds for Arts Umbrella programs.



Local and international celebrities, including Sir Anthony
Hopkins and Julia Stiles, supported Arts Umbrella for
#GivingTuesday. Celebrities took to social media to raise funds
for Arts Umbrella's free-of-charge outreach programs. "The
arts have made an incredible impact on my life and being able
to give back is a great feeling," said actor Aleks Paunovic.
"It's a great cause worthy of our support."

ARTS UMBRELLA INVITATIONAL 2015

JULY 13, 2015

The sun was shining and players enjoyed a memorable, fun-filled day on the links for the 18th annual Arts Umbrella Invitational. The tournament raised an incredible \$80,000 in net proceeds for the Children's Arts Umbrella Foundation. "Having partnerships with the many sponsors and golfers who come together for this event is crucial," said Arts Umbrella President & CEO, Lucille Pacey. "We feel extremely grateful to them all."

150,000 GAMERS SUPPORT ARTS PROGRAMS FOR KIDS JULY 2015

About 150,000 charity-minded consumers helped Vancouver-based video game developer Relic Entertainment raise about \$75,000 for Arts Umbrella. In just seven days, gamers purchased thousands of pay-what-you-want digital content bundles through Humble Bundle. The funding will benefit hundreds of kids, but a group of Media Arts students also got an insider tour and demo at Relic's Yaletown studio. "Making video games is really fun," Justin Dowdeswell, GM at Relic Entertainment, told the students. "So have fun!"





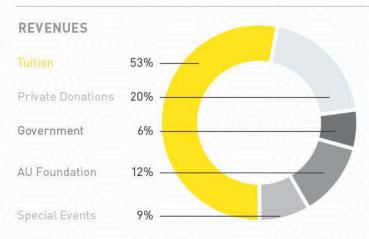


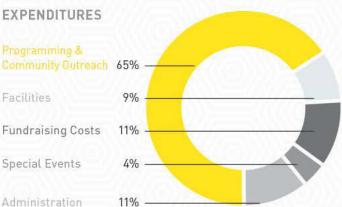


CHILDREN'S ARTS UMBRELLA ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES For the years ended August 31, 2015 and 2014

2015

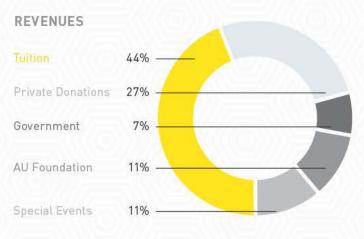




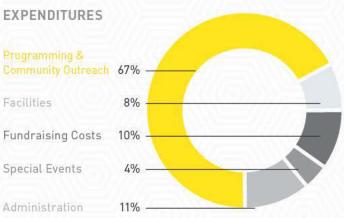
Total Revenue \$5,464,24

Total Expenditures \$5,445,276

2014



Total Revenue \$6,006,007



iotal Expenditures \$6,116,868

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SEPTEMBER 1, 2014 - AUGUST 31, 2015

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Inspring creativity. For good.

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