

Foundation 65

Supporting District 65 - All Kids, All Schools



I'VE GOT
DREAMS, M
YOU DON'T
KNOW, ME
CONFIDEN
ND ON THE
BRINK
DE EXPLORING

**Annual Report
2018**



From the Board Presidents

Dear Friends,

We are grateful to belong to a community that deeply values education for all of our children. In recent years, neighbors all over town have brought new energy and resources to the work of furthering educational equity and have opened avenues for sharing resources between school communities. We are excited about this momentum and thankful that Foundation 65 has been entrusted with helping to bring excellent literacy and arts programs to all our public schools.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors and volunteers, last year Foundation 65 provided almost \$256,000 to fund literacy and arts programs at District 65 schools. Since 2008 we have delivered over \$2.7 million to this end. We are privileged to award grants in collaboration with District 65 teachers, librarians, administrators, and community partners, all of whom care deeply about children's success. There is potential for lasting impact from these programs, because they complement curricular goals and are aligned with teachers' work.

Foundation 65 is continuing its commitment to educational excellence at all schools under new board leadership. Dr. Keith Robinson, an experienced educator and administrator, took over the role of F65 Board President in June 2018. Diane Lequar stepped off the board after three years as President, and will now bring her experience and knowledge to Foundation 65's Advisory Board. Together we will continue to focus on supporting excellence in education and building connections between students, teachers, schools, and the community.

This Annual Report for 2017-2018 highlights the impact of our organization's work. It is also, more importantly, a reflection of the generosity of our donors, whom we gratefully acknowledge.

Thank you for your support of public education and Foundation 65.



Keith Robinson
Board President



Diane Lequar
Immediate Past President and Interim Director



Foundation 65 welcomes new board members

Larry Brown Larry Brown is the Lead Software Developer at Northwestern University's School of Education and Social Policy. He received his BA in Computer Information Systems from Western Michigan University. Larry and his wife Chaneice have lived in Evanston for over 15 years, and he is actively involved in the Evanston community as a volunteer coach for various youth soccer, baseball, and basketball teams.

Andrea Ford Andrea Ford is Senior Director, Administration & Strategic Planning at Northwestern University – McCormick School of Engineering. Her current work in higher ed is preceded by a 15-year career at The Northern Trust Company where she was a Senior Vice President and Director of IT Governance. Andrea received a Bachelor's of Music degree in Arts Management, and an Executive Education Certificate in Nonprofit Management from Northwestern University. Andrea has served on the Oakton PTA, the board of the Musical Offering, as Chair for the Evanston Chicago-Main TIF Advisory Committee, and is a current member of the Woman's Club of Evanston. She has lived in Evanston for almost 30 years and in the same South Evanston neighborhood since 1999.

Kimberly Mahal Laude With extensive experience as both a teacher and teaching artist, Kim Laude specializes in the Kuumba Arts curriculum, which teaches the history and customs of various cultures through its traditional art forms. Kim has been involved as a performer and artistic staff with the Tamboula Ethnic Dance Company, the Pintig Cultural Group and the Haitian Congress to Fortify Haiti. She is also the Creator and Director of Kuumba Youth Program Inc., which serves several CPS schools throughout the South side of Chicago. Kim received a BA in Liberal Arts and Sciences from the University of Illinois at Chicago and has worked towards a Master's in Teaching from National-Louis University.

Alicia Salinas Alicia Salinas and her family moved to Evanston from North Carolina in 2007. She has been an active volunteer in District 65 schools since her daughters started school. She has been a Fluency Tutor, a Kindergarten Literacy Partner, and a Books and Breakfast tutor and summer reading buddy. She has also served as Dewey PTA TWI Co-Chair and Dewey PTA representative for the PTA Equity Committee. She is passionate about Latin-American literature and wants to share the joy of reading with children. She has volunteered to coach the Dewey Team to compete in Desafío de los Libros, a Spanish version of Battle of the Books, for the last two years. Alicia received her Master's degree in Urban Planning from Texas A&M University.

Steve Zehr Steve Zehr is a mechanical engineer focused on infrastructure and energy enhancement upgrades to commercial and institutional buildings. Before his career in engineering, Steve taught science at a public high school in New Orleans, LA where he served as Chair of the Science Department and founded and led an outdoor program, which conducted canoeing, camping and hiking outings. Over the past eight years, Steve has served on the board of Cherry Preschool, including two years as Board President. Steve has a B.A. from Goshen College and a M.S. from the University of Wisconsin.

Making a difference and making waves...

Through our grantmaking, Foundation 65 works to enrich and enhance the educational experience of all students in Evanston-Skokie District 65. Our goal is to give our educators the opportunity to continue to invest, innovate, and enhance education, even while district resources are limited and fully accounted for. At F65, we believe that community support for strong schools and teachers can transform the lives of children, making their world -- and ours -- a better place.

Since 2008, Foundation 65 has provided more than \$2.7 million in support of literacy and arts programming for our students and schools. We have partnered with district educators to help grow engaging, effective programs like our Summer Reading Program and Evanston Speaks: Youth Poetry Project from one school to all schools. We firmly believe that if a program proves educationally beneficial for one group of our students, our community is best served when its benefits are available to all.

Our goal is to add value to education for every student on his or her path through District 65 schools. When children in our schools are inspired by a visiting author or illustrator, partner with caring volunteers to enjoy books, or receive support to resist summer reading loss, they benefit from this community's belief that all students should thrive in all schools.



We would like to celebrate the recent installation of the *Making Waves* mural at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Literary and Fine Arts School. Textile artist Maggie Weiss collaborated with arts teachers Nan Stein and Randi Vega to bring as many King Arts students as possible into the creation of this extraordinary and beautiful work. Supported by grants from F65 and the Evanston Arts Council, this project reflects our community's support for art as an essential curricular area and embodies the power of art and literature in our school environment. Thank you to the many artists involved in *Making Waves*!



Funded Programs in 2017-2018

16 schools served

\$256,000 in funded programming

Art & Adventure with Open Studio Project

Books & Breakfast

Commissioned Work for Honors Orchestra
Based on Dystopian Themes with
Musical Offering

Evanston Speaks: Youth Poetry Project

Kindergarten Literacy Education at Play

Kindergarten Library Tours

Maintaining Oakton's Rain Garden

MSX (MetaMedia Summer Experience)

Responsive Art: Learning by Doing
with Art Encounter

Roots of Evanston Achievement (REACH)

Student Matinee & Workshop Series
with Mudlark Theater Co.

Summer Reading Program

The Language of Art with Art Encounter

Middle School Summer Reading –
Watering the Book Desert

Young Evanston Artists

In 2017-18 three-quarters of Foundation 65’s annual programmatic support was targeted to **STRATEGIC GRANTS** that invest in district-wide change and sustainable improvement in literacy.

Roots of Evanston ACHievement: Project (REACH)

Jointly funded between Foundation 65 and District 65, this initiative combines:

- professional development and embedded instructional coaching in early literacy for teachers;
- an adult volunteer tutoring program, Kindergarten Literacy Partners, that builds early literacy skills and joyful confidence in reading; and
- collaborative information-sharing between preschool teachers and D65 kindergarten educators for a smoother transition to kindergarten.

“The work we have taken up with the support of the REACH grant is of critical importance. We believe deeply in this work, for we are making a difference in the lives of our students and the teachers who serve them.”

*-- Elizabeth Cardenas-Lopez,
D65 Director of Literacy*

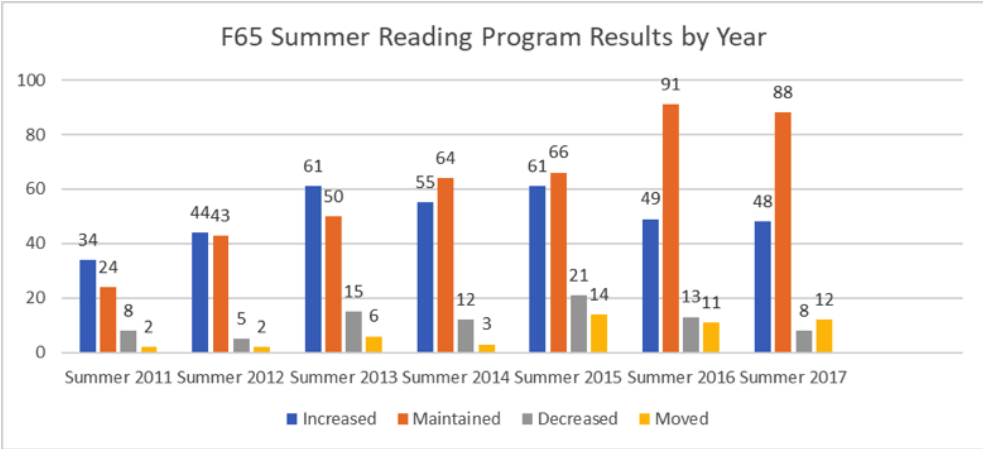
After year two of this grant, Spring 2018 data showed positive shifts in student performance over the historical baseline in 7 of 10 target growth categories for kindergarten and first grade. Perhaps the most heartening news was in the growth for children whose entire K/1 time was impacted by REACH: The first grade group of children who had measured not-kindergarten-ready on early literacy skills when they arrived at elementary school showed a growth of 15.5% over the five year average. This group experienced the largest growth among all other groups.

F65 Summer Reading Program for Rising 2nd Graders

Piloted by a talented, dedicated D65 reading teacher who was concerned about students’ summer skills loss, this program sends home 24 books to every student who received reading support during first grade. Reading specialists personally select books for each child, based on interest and reading level, and exchange letters over the summer. While Summer 2018 data will not be released in time for this report, history shows the program is highly effective. The expectation is that students who receive reading support would experience summer loss in reading skills, but since 2011 90% have maintained their reading level, and of that group, 40% actually saw an increase in skills. By keeping these striving readers engaged in reading during the summer, SRP helps them maintain the reading growth attained during the school year.

“Thank you so much for letting him participate in the Summer Reading Program. He got a chance to learn independent reading and he also thought it was fun to read aloud to me and his big brother. We have so many new books that we continue to read over and over!”

– Summer Reading Program parent



Last year 15% of F65's grant funding was for **ENGAGEMENT GRANTS**, those that encourage students and their families across schools in the district to build curiosity and joy around arts, reading, writing and learning.

Evanston Speaks: Youth Poetry Project

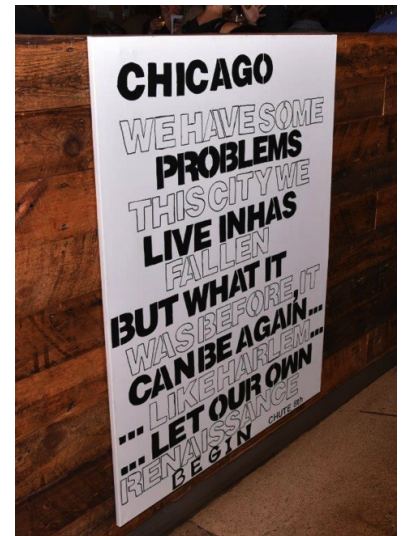
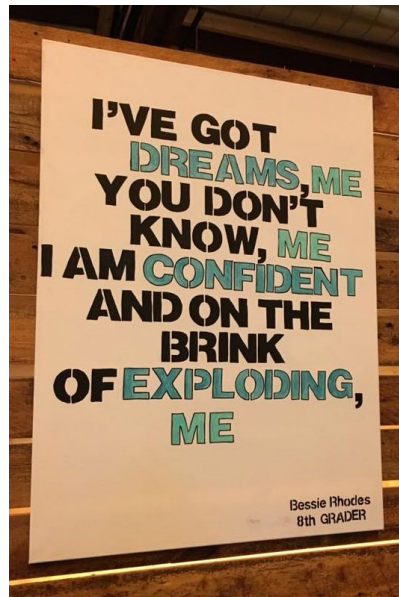
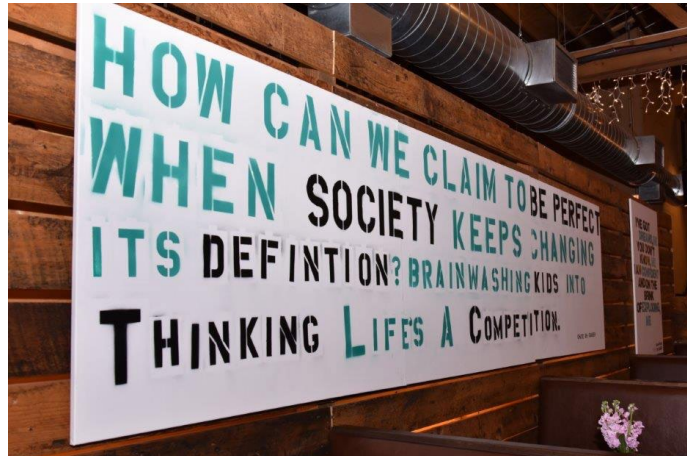
Now entering its third year, the Evanston Speaks grant was proposed by thoughtful drama and language arts teachers at Chute who wanted to meet rising interest in spoken-word poetry among middle school students. They developed a three-year plan to cultivate slam poetry programs at all middle and magnet schools in the district, and the results speak for themselves:

I am a book.
A real book,
with a real spine,
holding my head up, keeping
my chin up,
making me tall.

I am a true, genuine book,
with a true, genuine cover
hugging my story tight,
until it is time to be shared.

I am a tangible book.
Let me reach into your heart
and flood your brain with
ideas.

-- Haven 8th grader



Finally, about 10% of F65 funding is held for **RESPONSIVE GRANTS**, awarded to fund creative proposals from teachers and community partners who have great ideas for one-year projects that are innovative and often ripe for expansion to multiple grades or schools.

Responsive Art: Learning by Doing with Art Encounter



Visiting artists from Art Encounter led this program in coordination with the art teacher at Park School. Students engaged in interactive discussions of original, professional art; did a hands-on art project in response to that artwork; and briefly reflected and shared their artwork with the class. The program was specifically geared towards the individual special needs of the students, focusing on activities that are tactile and visceral, rather than two-dimensional and flat, and tailoring discussion around sensory feelings of the artwork.

“The students were extremely engaged in these projects, and really connected to the materials. It was an exciting way for this population to have a new and different art experience. They learned and grew from these opportunities.”

*-- Meredith Gipple,
Art teacher, Park School*

Concerto Grosso on Dystopian Themes

Rick Ferguson, Artistic Director of the Musical Offering, partnered with language arts teachers at Chute Middle School to enhance students' engagement with literature. Students developed original content in a favorite genre -- the dystopian story. Ferguson composed a concerto around the students' writing, and the Chute Honors Orchestra performed the music. As the project progressed, students and teachers in visual arts and chorus joined in, resulting in a memorable multimedia performance on the theme of dystopia for families and the community.



“The final performance definitely captured the essence of the project. The incorporation of the orchestra's performance, illustrations, and student narration was such a magical idea. Students' creativity was ignited in a way that was truly inspiring!”

*-- Lauren Monticello,
Language Arts teacher, Chute*



Looking Ahead:

Programs funded for 2018-2019

- Lincoln Expansion for Books & Breakfast
- Equity Suite – a Commissioned Work for Honors Band with Musical Offering
- Evanston Speaks: Youth Poetry Project
- Kindergarten Literacy Education at Play
- Kindergarten Library Tours
- MSX (MetaMedia Summer Experience)
- Northlight on Campus
- Perspectives: A Shared Author/Illustrator Experience
- Roots of Evanston Achievement (REACH)
- Summer Reading Program
- The Language of Art with Art Encounter



FOUNDATION 65
presents

Perspectives

a shared author experience

This program encourages District 65 students and families to view issues from diverse perspectives in literature and see themselves through authors and illustrators, their life experiences and in the stories they tell.



Join us for an evening with
R. Gregory Christie,
award-winning illustrator and author,
November 7th at King Arts School
2424 Lake St, Evanston

5:30pm Food Trucks & Art Display

6:30 Presentation by Mr. Christie

7:15 Book Signing

Books will be available for purchase from Bookends & Beginnings.

FREE and all are welcome!

With gratitude...

We gratefully acknowledge our generous donors. It is only with their help that we are able to enhance the educational experience of students across our community. Thank you for your support!

This list is inclusive of all donations and support from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

This list does not include support from My 65 raffle ticket sales.

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Lili Ren
Margaret and Larry Mackay
Patricia Carroll
Kurt and Chandra Hammond
Mollie Bass
Ben Swartzendruber
Chris VanDenBerg
Mark and Cheryl Kaplan
Vivian Barnes
Jessica and Doug Rosenbaum
Ian and Sheau-ming Ross
Jeanine and Carl Brownell
Ana Sferruzza
Michelle Young
Mi Gan
Lisa Robinson

Honoring:

William Housewright
Jessica Hughes
Jessica Hughes
Gloria Iverson
Gloria Iverson
Cary Jacobs
Liz Jean-Pierre
Maria Kareotes
Ellen Keen
Christine Kersnar
Caroline Klearman
Katie Kline
Meg Krulee
Meg Krulee
Suzanne Lang
Suzanne Lang
Sue Larson
Helen Lowe
Karen Luciana
Declan Lynch
Adam Macedo
Paula Maldonado
Brenda Malik
Staci Marcis
Staci Marcis
Nancy Marshall
Mary Lois Martin
Brooke McDermott
Jim McHolland
Ray McLaughlin
Katherine McMaster
Katherine McMaster
Andrea Mishkin
Mel Mueller
Traci Mull
Candis Murphy
Elizabeth Nelson
Ian Nifoussi
Kristyn Nordeen
Oakton Teachers and Staff
Connie Obrochta
Kelly Oldfield
Kelly Oldfield
Jesse Orbea
Jesse Orbea
Faye Pais
Faye Pais
Faye Pais
Faye Pais
Faye Pais
Tina Panagiotidis
Tina Panagiotidis
Leslie Perkins
Mindy Perry
Mindy Perry
Liz Pionke
Jessica Plaza
Tammy Plofsky
Tammy Plofsky
Melinda Pressoir
Melinda Pressoir
Elaine Purnell
Eileen Rahlfs

Generously donated by:

Megan Lynch
Ryan and Marie Dickey
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Cathy and Nitin Jain
Melissa Foster Boreis
David and Julie Singer
Tuere Atkinson
Kriegsmann Family
Jessica and Doug Rosenbaum
Heather and John Sweeney
Linda Shusterman

Financial Summary
as of June 30, 2018

REVENUE

Restricted	
Donations and Grants	3,683
PTA Equity Contributions*	4,000
Unrestricted	
Donations and Grants	453,853
In-Kind Support	7,000
Misc Income	5,023
Investment Income	242
TOTAL	\$473,801

EXPENSES

Programs	255,958
General and Administrative	52,848
Development and Fundraising	91,323
EvanSTEM Disbursement**	235,251
PTA Equity Project Disbursements*	-
TOTAL	\$635,380

FUND BALANCES

Permanently Restricted Net Assets	80,171
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	75,606
Unrestricted Net Assets	211,749
TOTAL Net Assets	\$367,526
Change in Net Assets	(161,579)

FISCAL AGENT

PTA Equity Fund Balance (6/30/18)	4,000
EvanSTEM Fund Balance	0

* Foundation 65 is acting as fiscal agent on behalf of D65 for the PTA Equity Project. A PEP seed fund was started at the end of FY2018. Disbursements began in FY2019. Contributions and disbursement decisions are made by the PTA Equity Committee, which has representation from every D65 school. F65 is not a PTA entity.

** Foundation 65 acted as fiscal agent on behalf of District 65 for the EvanSTEM grant. Grant funds were received by F65 in 2015 and disbursed back to D65 in July 2016 and July 2017. The grant is now fully disbursed.

F65 Assets excluding fiscal agency balances	\$363,526
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Foundation 65
PO Box 750
Evanston, IL 60204

Margaret Bavis
Scott Bramley*
Larry Brown#
Franz Calixte
Julie Cutter
Kalen Daniels
Sarah Darnton
Evan Finamore

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Bernice Weissbourd

Staff

Diane Lequar, Interim Executive Director
Nancy Marshall, Office Manager

* retired as of June 2018

new as of July 2018