



ANNUAL REPORT

2015-2016

Dear Friends,

You helped make this another fantastic year for Creative Action's kids!

Over the past year, we've worked diligently to continue to strengthen and build Creative Action's programs to best meet the needs of the community.

Because of your support, we have made great strides in providing youth the tools to achieve long-term success in their academic, social and professional lives. Yes, we are making learning fun by using the creative arts! But what our Teaching Artists do in their classes goes deeper into practicing skills like teamwork, conflict resolution, empathy, creative thinking, public speaking, listening, leadership and more. Being a 4C student - Creative Artist, Courageous Ally, Confident Leader and Critical Thinker - is a pathway to becoming a successful adult.

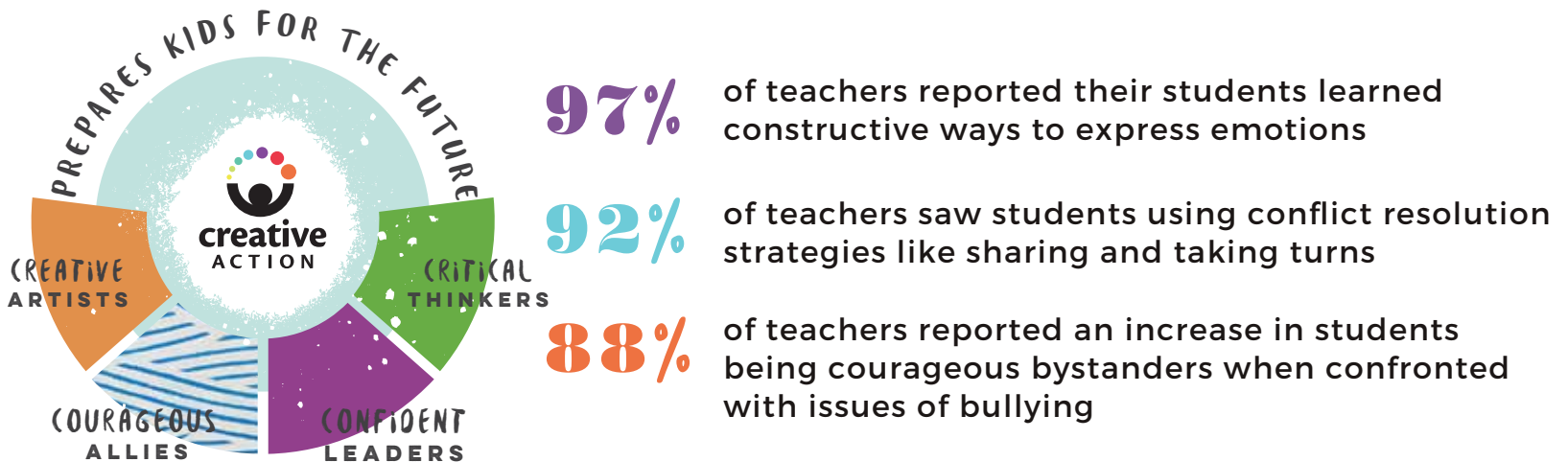
In the last year, Creative Action has deepened our programs at area schools. With our Spark Schools program, students in Austin and Round Rock are engaging in arts-integrated education throughout the day. Students make murals, films, computer animations, video games, original songs, dance performances and plays. They are learning directly from professional artists and growing their own skills to eventually become a part of the creative economy. At these schools, we've seen some amazing things happen - an increase in teacher retention, better student attendance rates, higher test scores, and a decrease in behavior problems. Students and educators are thriving in this collaborative program.

It's been exceptional to see our programs reach more students last year. Our teen programs expanded with the introduction of our Youth Cinema Collective. This collective of 14 to 18 year-olds work together to produce original films about issues affecting their peers. Their first short, *Tokenized*, is already being accepted into festivals around the country. Changing Lives Youth Theatre Ensemble performed their original play, *Playing Against the Roles*, to more than 3,200 Austin students. Creative Action's interactive classroom performances visited more than 9,800 students last year. This means nearly 10,000 students learned more about bullying, empathy, and how to be better friend.

It's been an amazing year and we are already on our way to making a bigger impact in this current school year. Thank you for joining us as we impact the lives of youth across Central Texas!

With love and gratitude,
Karen LaShelle, Executive Director

WHAT DID *Teachers* SAY AFTER THE PROGRAM?



OUR IMPACT



50,000
HOURS OF CREATIVE ACTION
PROGRAMMING

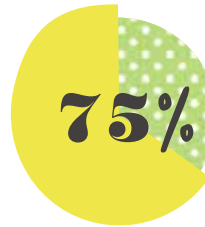
485
CLASSROOMS
FIVE DISTRICTS



1000
TEACHERS & EDUCATORS
TRAINED



21,066
STUDENTS & FAMILIES
SERVED

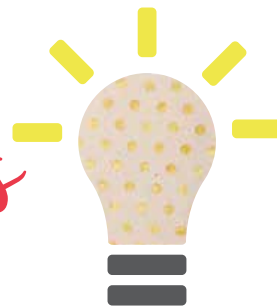


OF YOUTH SERVED ARE FROM
LOW-INCOME
COMMUNITIES



After School Students

- 91%** DEVELOPED COLLABORATION SKILLS
- 88%** IMPROVED AS ARTISTS
- 75%** INCREASED THEIR CONFIDENCE



Teen PROGRAMS

100% UNDERSTOOD AND VALUED GROUP DIVERSITY

98% DEVELOPED CONFLICT RESOLUTION SKILLS

94% INCREASED THEIR PROBLEM SOLVING ABILITIES



“I’VE LEARNED A LOT ABOUT BEING A **CONFIDENT LEADER** AND BEING BRAVE TALKING IN FRONT OF PEOPLE, BECAUSE YOU NEED TO DO THAT WHEN YOU’RE A LEADER.”

ELLA after school student, Bryker Woods Elementary

“Exposure to the arts is everything. Our scholars are embracing **HEALTHY RISK-TAKING** as they learn through arts-integration.”

KEITH MOORE principal, Lee Lewis Campbell Elementary
Media & Performing Arts Institute



“WE SUPPORT IMPACTFUL NONPROFITS AND CREATIVE ACTION IS AT THE **TOP OF OUR LIST** BECAUSE THEY GUIDE YOUNG PEOPLE TOWARD FULFILLING FUTURES. ”

CARLY & CLAYTON CHRISTOPHER board member & donors

“A lot of people are creative, but it’s dormant. If somebody **HELPS YOU UNLEASH IT** you’ll be surprised at what’s down there.”

ZENOBIA ORIMOLOVE student, Continuing Creativity





"My two kids learn in very different ways, and Creative Action
MEETS BOTH OF THEIR NEEDS
so that every day they're happy and excited to go to after school."

CYBIL after school parent

"I GET TO SEE CREATIVE TEACHING STRATEGIES
AND **I'VE LEARNED SO MUCH** THAT I'VE BEEN
ABLE TO PUT INTO PRACTICE IN MY CLASSROOM."

DIANA DULL educator, Becker Elementary



"By supporting and nurturing the next generation of
ACTIVISTS AND LEADERS
I know I'm positively impacting society."

ETHAN PARKER teaching artist

"MY STUDENTS ARE SO BRIGHT, AND IT'S GRATIFYING
THAT **THEY ALL WORK TOGETHER** TO CREATE
SOMETHING TO SHARE WITH THEIR PEERS AND
FAMILIES."

MICHAEL LOVE dance instructor, Lee Lewis Campbell Elementary
Media & Performing Arts Institute



OUR FINANCIALS

REVENUES

Programs	\$1,640,204
Grants	\$648,664
Capital Campaign	\$357,630
Donations	\$169,587
Special Events	\$246,997
Total Revenues	\$3,063,082

EXPENSES

Programming	\$2,440,682
Fundraising	\$276,603
Management and General	\$338,547
Total Expenses	\$3,055,832

NET ASSETS

Beginning of Year	\$2,740,830
End of Year	\$2,748,080

54%
Earned Revenue



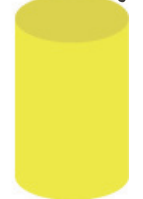
21%
Government



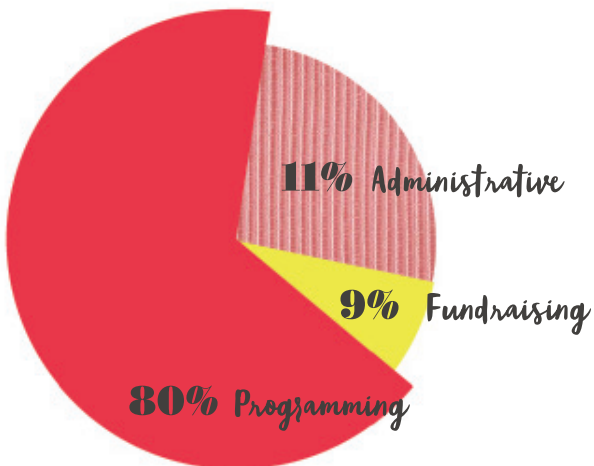
15%
Special Events
& Individual
Donations



12%
Foundations
& Corporate
Giving



2015-2016 % of EXPENDITURES



At Creative Action, we make certain your donation goes far to ensure all children have access to creative youth development in our community. In addition to a strong base of support, our programs operate on a highly sustainable funding model that utilizes earned revenue from school district contracts and a small number of fee-based programs to provide no-cost programming to youth in low-income communities throughout Central Texas.

80% of our After School students attend for free or at a reduced cost.

OUR DONORS

Creators (\$500-\$999)

Austin Foodshed Investors
Paula & Kevin Burns
Becky & Raman Dewan
Kirsten & Brandon Dickerson
Sam Elkin
Robert Francis
Marina Gorbis & Chris Sleischut
HomeAway
Hunter Quartermane Salon
Julie & Jeff Jumonville
Maja Kermath & Ryan Miller
Sherry Matthews
Lisa Matulis-Thomajan & Stuart Thomajan
Cathy & Rodney Nairn
Brady Sadler
Mike Slover
Veritas Foundation

Sparklers (\$1,000-\$4,999)

Alamo Draffthouse Cinema
Deidre Awtry Madres & Troy Madres
Kristy & Adam Battani
Benchmark Bank
Cathy Benouis
Bentley Net Lease Group
Kelsay & Bruce Bentley
Karen & Ray Brimble
Laura & Eric Buehler
C3 Presents
Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Verónica Castro de Barrera & Martin Barrera
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The Kirr Foundation
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Brooks Morgan
Panacea Collection
Celeste & Adrian Quesada
Jean & Dan Rather
Tiffany & Ralph Ritter
Michael Rogers
Syd Sharples
Leslie Sholl Jaffe & David Jaffe
Kim Sierra
South Congress Hotel
Skyler & Jimmy Stewart
SXSW Film Festival
Natalee & Charles Thornburgh
Joe Warnock
Carron Whittaker
Suzanne & Marc Winkelman
Sean Ziari

Heroes (\$5,000-\$9,999)

American Innovations
Jamie & Blake Chandlee
Polly & Lonnie Cooper
Gustavo Gomez
Lynn & Mark Hall
I.A. O'Shaughnessy Foundation
Kor180

Evangelina & Keith Kreeger
James McDermott
MFI Foundation
Irene & Clarence Mou
The Pacey Family Foundation
The Reese Foundation
Shanti Foundation for Intercultural Understanding
Texas Capital Bank
The Tecumseh Foundation
United Way for Greater Austin
The Wright Family Foundation

Builders (\$10,000-\$24,999)

Andy Roddick Foundation
Applied Materials Foundation
Catto Charitable Foundation
Cedar Park Jewelry
Kirsten Ericson & Joe Ross
Genevieve & Ward Orsinger Foundation
Laurie & Dirk Gosda
Meinig Family Foundation
New Waterloo
The Powell Foundation
Shield-Ayres Foundation
Anne & Rich Smalling
Texas Commission on the Arts
Topfer Family Foundation

Leaders (\$25,000-\$49,999)

Anonymous
Austin Community Foundation
Burdine Johnson Foundation
Carly & Clayton Christopher
Deep Eddy Vodka
Shantel & Dave Ferdman
H-E-B
Mueller Foundation
National Endowment for the Arts
Webber Family Foundation

Dream Makers (\$100,000+)

City of Austin Cultural Arts Division
City of Austin, Department of Health & Human Services



The mission of Creative Action is to spark and support the academic, social and emotional development of young people.

Through interactive classroom performances, after school arts residencies and community-based programs, Creative Action's team of professional Teaching Artists inspire youth to be Creative Artists, Courageous allies, Critical Thinkers, and Confident Leaders in their community.

By discovering their own voice, gaining confidence in sharing their perspective, wrestling with big ideas, and deeply engaging in the world around them, youth become better prepared to work through social, emotional and academic challenges to become the next great thinkers, doers and makers.

We envision a more just, caring, joyful and compassionate world. When youth build meaningful connections with peers and positive adult role models and holistically develop their creativity, compassion, confidence and critical thinking skills, they are better equipped for success as adults who contribute to making the world a better place.



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