

Youth in Arts.®

Fiscal Year 2015-16

Celebrating Our History and Envisioning Our Future

In Spring 2016, Youth in Arts celebrated our 45th Anniversary—and the milestone of reaching the “one million students served” mark—with a grand “Travel the World” themed gala supporting programs for PreK-12 students of all abilities in the North Bay.

This was the largest gala fundraising event ever hosted by Youth in Arts, and we were able to raise over \$30,000 to support our PreK-12 programs for students. Fund-A-Need auction bidding allowed us to expand the Walker Rezaian Creative HeArts Kindergarten Arts Program to a second site in the 2016-17 school year.

Held at the Marin Center in San Rafael, the event featured the traveling installation of our 2016 “Rising Stars” Marin County High School Art Show, along with “Travel the World” demonstrations by our diverse roster of Mentor Artists. Among the highlights, June Li created a giant-scale art piece reading “Travel the World with Youth in Arts” in Chinese script.

A global-themed dinner from An Affair To Remember Catering, a live auction of travel packages, and music from ‘Til Dawn A Cappella rounded out the evening. We are so grateful to our 45th Anniversary sponsors, especially our lead sponsor the Buck Family Fund of the Marin Community Foundation, and to all the students, artists, friends and supporters who made our anniversary celebration possible. Thank you!

SING OUT! ‘Til Dawn



‘Til Dawn also celebrated a special “birthday” last year with a “20th Anniversary Edition” of the SING OUT! our annual alumni gathering and performance. Presented at San Francisco’s iconic Great American Music Hall, the 2015 SING OUT! was headlined by Delta Rae, featuring ‘Til Dawn alums Ian, Eric and Brittany Hölljes and Elizabeth Hopkins. A chorus of alumni (“Still Dawn”) also sang hits from the group’s repertoire over the years. This year’s 2016 SING OUT! will be at the Sweetwater Music Hall in Mill Valley on December 26.

More information at youthinarts.org.



YIA Founders Phyllis Thelen, Joanne Dunn and Nyna Koppich

“My proudest moment in life is that I helped to start Youth in Arts...and look what it has become!”—Nyna Koppich



Mentor Artist June Li

"Travel the World" with Youth in Arts

Kids Learn Art Skills and the Value of Diversity

The Artists in Schools "Travel the World" program fills gaps in children's arts learning at school while introducing them to cultures around the world. As just one example from the past year, at Laurel Dell School, Mentor Artist Shawna Alapai'i taught traditional hula music and dance across the grade levels.

Children were able to see Shawna's professional company perform traditional hula at their school. Then, with support from the California Arts Council, children worked in class with Shawna over multiple weeks to learn Hawai'i'an songs, dances and stories.

They created a grand performance at Laurel Dell's popular "Del Sol" Spring festival. Family and friends were able to enjoy the children's formal procession and class-by-class music and dance performances.

Shawna was just one of over 40 mentor artists helping students to "Travel the World" through the arts last year. Great work, Shawna. *Mahalo!* (Thank you!)



Engaging Community

The Walker Rezaian Creative HeArts Kindergarten Arts Program

Each year, kindergarteners at a selected low-income school in Marin receive a visual arts program plus family workshops and an exhibit and celebration at Youth in Arts. This amazing opportunity comes through the generosity of the Walker Rezaian Creative HeArts Fund,

established at Youth in Arts by 5 year-old Walker's family, to celebrate his life and love of the arts.

In 2015-16, Laurel Dell students worked with Mentor Artist Suzanne Joyal to learn drawing, painting, mixing colors, working in three dimensions and more. Fifteen giant Guatemalan kites created at Family Art Nights added beauty to the whole school.

A gallery exhibit at Youth in Arts featured the kindergarteners self-portraits in a fanciful recycled cardboard "art world" focused on a "weather" theme linked to class curriculum.

All Laurel Dell K classes visited the gallery to play, create and celebrate their artistic accomplishments. With support from donors at our 45th Anniversary Gala, we will be able to expand this wonderful program to two sites in 2016-17!



"Art lifts up our spirit."
—Laurel Dell student

The Walker Rezaian
Creative HeArts Fund
Supported by the Walker Rezaian Memorial Fund

Reaching All Learners

A Mentor Artist Innovates to Provide Access

When she came to our "Arts Unite Us" program last year, Katie Issel Pitre was an experienced opera, creative movement and theatre artist who had worked with students of all ages. However, she had never experienced a Special Day Classroom (SDC) serving children with disabilities. Katie attended a YIA artist training and learned from our staff artists how to create Visual Cue Boards, common felt board tools for communicating with students who struggle to process spoken instructions.

Katie quickly took her cue boards to a new level with her "Arts Unite Us" students in SDCs at Olive and Edna Maguire schools. In each class, she led students through a series of interactive, improvisational songs. She created a cue board specific to each song, making new felt icons by hand between classes, based on students' additions to the songs. As she pulled each piece out of her bag, students were thrilled to see their parts of the story included.

"I see you, I respect you, I acknowledge your energy and presence."
—Mentor Artist Katie Issel Pitre at the end of each class session



In one class at Edna Maguire, Katie carried the board to a 9-year-old boy with Cerebral Palsy. Although mostly immobile, he leaned over to touch the bus cord to "stop the bus" (and the song) and then touched the cord again start it up again....all to squeals of delight from the class.

Katie has earned rave reviews from classroom teachers. Her innovative approach and her calm, yet strong presence help her empower students of all abilities to learn and share their creativity.

Finding a Voice

A Visual and Performing Artist Shines through "I AM" Programs

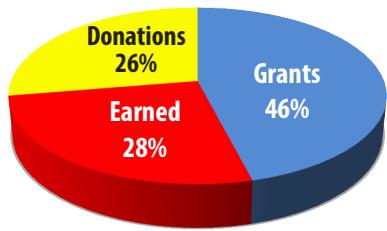
Youth in Arts "Intensive Arts Mentorship" (I AM) programs amplify the creative voices of a new generation of young artists. Siena Starbird, a junior at Marin Academy, joined 'Til Dawn as a new member in Spring 2016. Siena has also been twice featured in the "Rising Stars" Marin County High School Art Show at YIA Gallery, winning prizes both years and "Best in Show for Painting" in 2016. As a participant in C Street Project, our I AM program for visual arts teens, Siena helped to create a featured square at Italian Street Painting Marin 2016. We look forward to hearing and seeing much more from Siena as she continues to grow and learn, as an artist and a young leader in her community.



"My heritage is Black, Cherokee, and Passamaquoddy. My dad is white. I am from no one race. I am a pot stirred with greens and blues and rich waters to become café au lait brown...I am an artist. I am from everywhere and nowhere."
—Siena Starbird, I AM workshop reflection

Fiscal Year Ended July 31, 2016

Revenue and Expenses



Earned Income \$155,363
Grants \$258,619
Donations \$147,805
TOTAL INCOME \$561,787
Programs \$312,745
General Administrative \$69,777
Fundraising \$69,279
TOTAL EXPENSES \$451,801

Major Donors

\$30,000 and above

THE WILLIAM AND FLORA
HEWLETT
FOUNDATION



The Buck Family
Fund of MCF

Glea G. Wylie Fund

\$10,000-\$29,999

Alice Shaver Foundation
California Arts Council
Walker Rezaian Memorial Fund

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Joanne Dunn
Josh & Angela Rafner
Mimi & Kevin Murphy
Phyllis Thelen
Sheila Tuffanelli

\$2,000 - \$4,999

Chevron Humankind Foundation
Fenwick Foundation
Italian Street Painting Marin
Julie & Tom Ballard
Kathleen & Benjamin Kibbe
Luis & Nancy Belmonte
Marin Charitable Association
Miss Nicky's Preschool
One Foundation
Peet's Coffee & Tea

\$1,000 - \$1,999

Bruce & Linda Hopper
California Closets
Deborah & Bruce Bennett
Jane Miller
John & Cynthia Klock
June & Allen Tamura

Plus many dedicated donors under \$500

Youth in Arts Staff and Board of Directors

Staff

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Suzanne Joyal *Artists in Schools*
Morgan Schauffler *Program Manager*

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2015-16

Youth in Arts Donors...

...provided nearly 18,000 PreK-12 students with over 2,000 hours of creative visual and performing arts instruction and experiences;

...produced interactive family events for 6,250 parents and children to make and share art together;

...enabled 7,000 children to "Travel the World" with artists from around the globe offering authentic experiences in world art forms;

...funded programs for 1,200 students of differing abilities through our unique "Arts Unite Us" model.;

...empowered 'Til Dawn *A Cappella* to inspire an audience of 27,900 people, including over 10,000 other youth, with their powerful music;

...gave 2,200 community members a chance to see young artists' work featured and exhibited at YIA Gallery in downtown San Rafael;

...supported free field trips to Youth in Arts, including special, hands-on art activities, for local schoolchildren;

...provided free programs reaching over 40,000 individuals in total. These children and family members participated in Youth in Arts activities at absolutely no cost;

...showcased 150 works of art by high school students from nearly every school in the county at the "Rising Stars" Marin High School Art Show;

...helped us celebrate our 45th anniversary in the year our total students served reached the one million child mark.

Thank You!

For more information on our work and stories about the kids we reach, please visit our website at youthinarts.org