

PEASLEE



NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER



annual report



to the community





A Message from Peaslee Board and Staff

Peaslee Friends & Partners,

As Peaslee reflects on another year of deepening work in education, enrichment and community building for social change, we are grateful for partners like you who bolster our efforts. Cultural work, arts and music connect us. Education and activism help us reimagine a just world. Community organizing builds people's collective power to reshape our reality. There are precious few spaces that nurture this work. We are blessed at Peaslee to hold such a space and continually aspire to grow our impact.



Peaslee Board and Staff

Peaslee continues to build a conscious and connected community prepared to handle collective challenges by bringing resilience, creativity and commitment into people's lives whether they are five, fifteen or fifty. Children and grandparents grow, parents are supported, youth voices are activated and amplified, creative ideas are incubated, complex issues are unpacked and coalitions are built. This critical work is only possible with the investment and engagement of people like you. Thank you for your continued commitment to Peaslee. We appreciate your contribution to this life-giving work.

In Solidarity,
Peaslee Staff and Board

OUR MISSION

Peaslee Neighborhood Center is a peaceful place in Over-the-Rhine where residents create and engage in participatory education to foster creative expression, self-determination, and social change.

In Remembrance



Our friend Tom Dutton, a freedom fighter who believed deeply in education, activism and lifelong learning in community will be deeply missed. He has given us a great example to follow as we continue the long work toward justice. Thank you Tom.

Peaslee Family

2017 Board of Trustees

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Over-the-Rhine Resident, Peaslee Co-Founder

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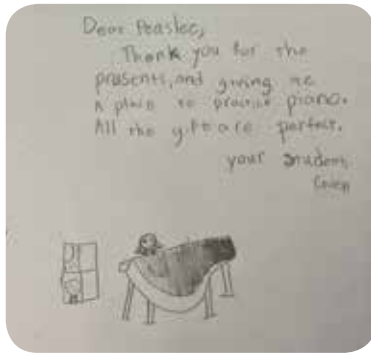
Piano Program



Community Building, Solidarity & Partnerships

In 2017, our Piano Program supported 34 students ages 5-65 in spring and fall, with 11 first time piano students. Ten piano students earned Level One, Two or Three Certificates. Students participated in recitals and performances throughout the year that were attended by more than 200 people.

Additionally, through a partnership with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra more than 350 people in Peaslee families were able to access amazing professional arts and musical performances.



Peaslee believes in community and building relationships. We are a hub for education, organizing and social change. Our eight tenant non-profit partners, engage in work focused on education, advocacy and organizing to build a better world. We pool resources and collaborate to extend our impact in the community.

In 2017, Peaslee and the Cincinnati Interfaith Worker Center presented Community Organizing Night School Sessions where a Community-Based Curriculum was developed and facilitated. Approximately 50 people interested in social change attended from a wide variety of backgrounds, ages and issue interests.

We continue to see people putting this education into action and connecting with others to make positive change.



Writing Programs

Girls' Writing Circles engaged 4th-6th graders, through a partnership with Rothenberg Preparatory Academy. In each session, girls developed their voices, read poetry, wrote creatively and shared their work, verbally affirming one another. At the end of each semester, the girls participated in a showcase where they displayed and read their writing aloud. They also put out two publications of their work.

The Justice Seekers Women's Writing Circle continued its sessions offering a space to take in poetry, write and affirm the voices of sister writers.

Over-the-Rhine Community Writing Collaborative is an initiative connecting Peaslee and other community-based writing programs. With leadership of Peaslee board member Chris Wilkey, the group began work to create an original book of collected community writings. In 2017, these programs engaged 139 people in writing and their work was showcased with approximately 235 attendees.



"I can do anything I set my mind to because I am strong, and Black, and I can overpower through anything."

-Kenya Harris 5th Grade





Community Education Programs

In 2017, our Community Education Program educated and engaged 2,158 individuals.

Service Learning & Visiting Groups

Over 1,180 individuals came to us in groups visiting Over-the-Rhine to learn about social justice issues in the community. Twenty-five percent (25%) of these visitors were involved in deep, ongoing partnerships directly connecting them to the stories, wisdom, and insight of local residents. Visitors participated in Community Journeys, Housing Simulations and Urban Plunge activities. Explored topics included analysis of current urban issues and the ways they are rooted in white supremacy, capitalism and patriarchy.



“If you have come here to help me you are wasting your time, but if you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together.”

-Aboriginal Activists Group
Queensland, 1970's



Neighborhood Residents & General Public

Other Community Education work more directly engaged neighborhood residents, other urban core families, and general community stakeholders. Approximately 978 people were involved with this education, dialogue and advocacy work.

* Ongoing coalition work engaged 404 people and included organizing, educating, advocating and developing leadership with the Keep Our Courts/Do Development Differently campaign, which works to protect and invest in public spaces with priority placed on community voice and benefits. The coalition engaged 2 teams of student architect/design students and other professionals to further develop a community-based plan for Main & Schiller. We also gathered resources for a new round of community input, organizing and advocacy.

* Our public education events on alternative community development strategies opened our doors to meaningfully engage residents throughout the city who are concerned about equitable development in their communities. We began work in coalition with other partners to influence city-wide development policy around affordability and access.





Agents of Change

Our Agents of Change program, involving local youth ages 11 – 15, continued to delve into the intersection of self-expression and social change. In both our school year and summer programs, youth engaged in critical thinking and work to find and creatively exercise their voices, exploring their own agency. This program serves primarily low-income youth from Over-the-Rhine and other urban core neighborhoods.

In 2017, their major group projects included an Agents of Change Manifesto video; photo, video and audio recordings; and game design for a new cooperative board game.

2017 was the program’s third year and our youth doubled in numbers. Older youth also engaged in mentorship with children in the Peaslee Kids Summer Program through paid internships, building job experience while contributing to the positive development of younger children.



“We believe in our agency as individuals, while recognizing that we will bring change to our community only when we work together. Change is hard, and we can’t do it alone.”

-Agents of Change Manifesto



Peaslee Kids Summer Camp

2017 was the pilot year for our Peaslee Kids Summer Camp. This new program provided a safe, supportive space for learning, fun and positive youth development for 27 children from Over-the-Rhine and other urban core neighborhoods, ages 6 - 10 years of age.

The curriculum included reading, hands on experiments, art, music, swimming, field trips and small group discussions. The camp was designed and implemented by caring, certified teachers, assistant pre-service teachers and a group of mentors who met with the children twice per week.

The children also participated weekly in Yoga and Mindfulness and African Drumming classes. Peaslee Kids showcased their learnings by leading the Samba Parade with their instructor, Baba Charles Miller at the Macy’s Kids, Cultures, Critters and Crafts Festival at the Cincinnati Zoo and at a public showcase at Peaslee with their families and community members.

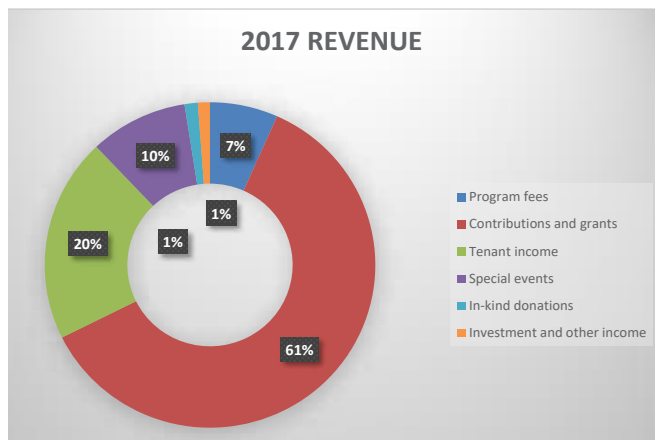


Peaslee Thanks These Organizations For Their Support:

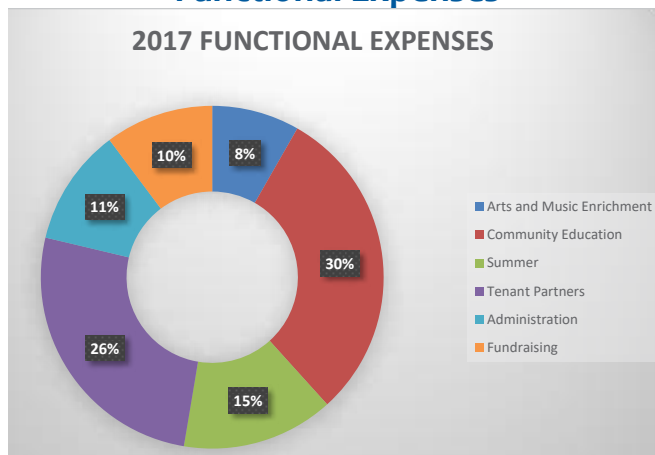
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 St. John Catholic Church
 St. Joseph Church
 The Andrew Jergens Foundation
 The Keyboard Club
 Thomas J. Emery Memorial Fund
 TruPartner Credit Union
 United Methodist Financial Credit Union
 William O. Purdy, Jr. Foundation Fund of GCF
 Xavier University Student Liturgies

Income



Functional Expenses



2017 Income & Expenses

	Jan - Dec 17
Income	
Program fees	25,266
Contributions and grants	231,376
Tenant income	77,010
Special events	36,403
In-kind donations	4,900
Investment and other income	4,468
Total Income	379,423
Expense	
Direct program	43,896
Personnel	192,824
Professional fees	8,599
Occupancy	39,432
Maintenance	17,631
Office	5,181
Outside services	1,442
Training and development	2,724
Special events	9,980
Other	826
Depreciation	25,087
Total Expense	347,622
Net income	31,801
Arts and Music Enrichment	28,762
Community Education	104,387
Summer	49,881
Tenant Partners	90,604
Administration	38,424
Fundraising	35,564
	347,622

Peaslee Thanks These Individuals

FRIENDS OF PEASLEE

Anonymous
June Alexander
Louise and James Bangel
Marla Banks
Mildred Barhorst
Kristen Barker
Lois Benjamin
Judith Beyke
Judith Blackburn
Ruth Bockenstette
Connie Brossart
Daniel Brown
Mary Burke Rivers
Christine and Bob Sheadler
Robert Conda
John and Barbara Coyle
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Aleshia Walton
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Evelyn Widner
Rob and Kristin Wilson
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Myra Yates
Judy Zehner
Susan Zidinak

EDUCATING

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Katheen Clemmer
Constance Coleman
Sherry Crow
Mary Diane Custer
David Gruber and Esperanza Tovar
Nancy Dawley
Daniel Dell
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Steve Elliott and Jan Weber
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Jessie Henson
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Andrea and John Kornbluh
Jeanne Kortekamp
Sarah Lavelle
Barbara Maloney
Michael Maltinsky
Michael Marcotte & Mary Clare Rietz
Mimi Gingold and Al Gerhardstein
Suzanne Morrissey
Roy and Jacqueline Newman
Doc and Beth O'Connor
Mary Oehler
Barbara and Eugene Otting
Mark and Sally Richter
Paul Richter Jr.

Mary Ann and Robert Roncker
Joyce Schaub
Robert and Polly Scherger
Joseph and Kathleen Schwab
Amy Silver and Josh Spring
Alice and Ken Skirtz
Kathleen Snyder
Shannon Starkey-Taylor
Barbara and Richard Traud
Lawrence Ungerer
Olden Warren and Sheila Hill
Bruce and Laurie Fairlie Weil
Joseph Wessling
Elizabeth Wiggs Ttees
Christopher Wilkey & Donelle Dreesse
Pat Youngblood

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Brian and Michelle Dershaw
Deane and Phyllis Elliott
George and Gail Gundrum
Laura Hils and Peter Hale
Margaret Quinn
Chuck and Julie Schubert
Bill Woods

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Rene Cheatham
Robert Donovan
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Lisa and Adam Flood
Cassie and Parker Niemann
George and Joan Rebeck
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Laura Tabor
Sue Wehrman

EMPOWERING

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Dorothy Christenson
Nicola daRoza & Josh Cunningham
Jim and Peggy Flood
Bill and Suzanne Joiner
Liz and Robert Maxwell
Bonnie Neumeier and Michael Flood
Kate and Joe Pflum
Julia Weaver

Peaslee Thanks These Foundations, Organizations and Businesses For Their Support:



www.peasleecenter.org

Follow our work on social media @peasleecenter



Phone: (513) 621-5514
 Email: administration@peasleecenter.org
www.peasleecenter.org



Peaslee Neighborhood Center
 215 E. 14th St.
 Cincinnati, OH 45202



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