

# PEASLEE



## NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER



annual report

2017

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

**Bonnie Neumeier**, Co-Chair

*Over-the-Rhine Resident, Peaslee Co-Founder*

**Chris Wilkey**, Co-Chair

*Educator, Northern Kentucky University*

**Rene Cheatham**, Treasurer

*General Electric*

**Chris Heckman**, Secretary

*Losantiville Ltd.*

**June Alexander**, *Over-the-Rhine Resident, Community Educator*

**Bob Donovan**, *Over-the-Rhine Resident Cincinnati Health Network*

**Nicola da Roza**, *Over-the-Rhine Resident Fund Evaluation Group*

**Laura Hils**, *Alcohol, Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, U.S. Department of Treasury*

**Elizabeth Burnside**, *Over-the-Rhine Resident, Rothenberg Educator*

**Amy Howton**, *Design Impact*



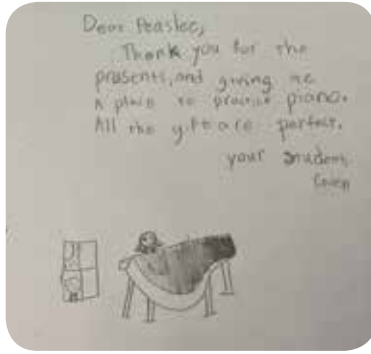
# Piano Program



# 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.

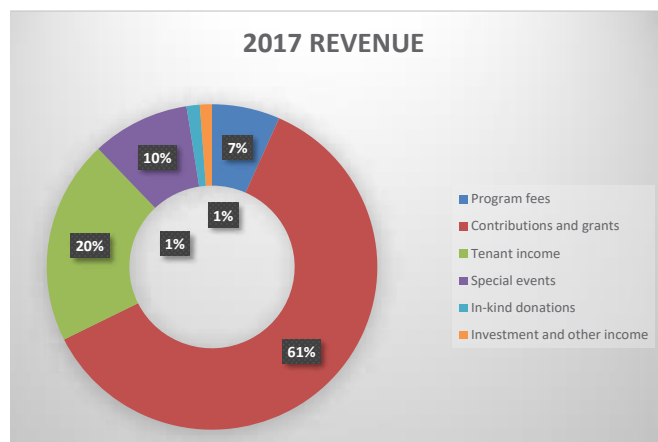


## Peaslee Thanks These Organizations For Their Support:

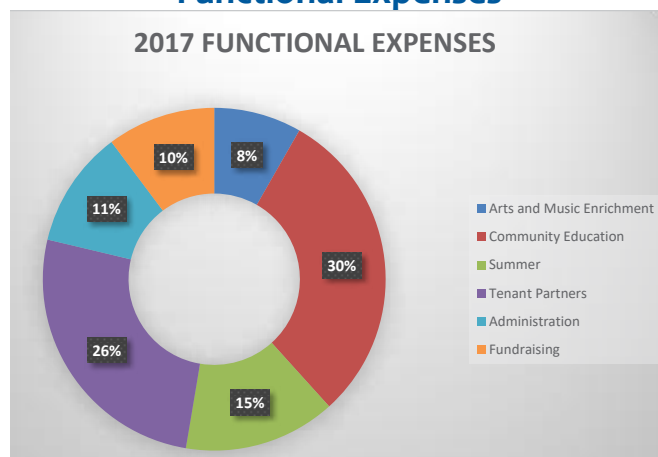
Austing Family Fund Through Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund  
 Ben and Jerry's Foundation  
 Black Lives Matter: Cincinnati  
 Church Women United  
 Cincinnati Bell  
 Cinfed Credit Union  
 Congregation Of The Humility Of Mary  
 CSC Special Events  
 Dominican Sisters Of Hope  
 Elder High School  
 Emanuel Bachmann Foundation  
 Episcopal Society Of Christ Church  
 Fatima Class Reunion  
 Fifteenth St. Project  
 First Lutheran Church  
 First Unitarian Church  
 Franciscans Of The Province Of St. John The Baptist  
 GE Foundation  
 GE Plant Employees Community Service Fund  
 Good Shepherd Lutheran Peace Circle  
 Gray & Pape, Inc.  
 Guardian Angels Church  
 Holy Angels School  
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Kircher Suetholz & Associates  
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 Mary Martha Magee Foundation, Fifth Third Bank  
 Matinee Musicale Endowment Fund  
 Mt. Healthy Christian Church Women's Fellowship  
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 Power Inspires Progress  
 Printer Emergency Services  
 Rhinegeist Brewery  
 SC Ministry Foundation  
 Schwab Charitable Fund  
 Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati  
 Sisters Of St. Francis  
 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
<b>Income</b>	
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
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>379,423</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
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
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>347,622</b>
<b>Net income</b>	<b>31,801</b>
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  
Lillian and Benjamin Dean  
Stephen DeMar  
Thomas and Martha Depenbrock  
Mary Jo Espelage  
Blair and George Evans  
George and Nancy Frondorf  
Kerry and Couper Gardiner  
Mer and Susan Grayson  
Sr. Joan Groff  
Peter Hames  
Mary Hartman  
Deanna Heil  
Harry and Kathleen Hendy  
Patty Hord  
Jonathon Blickenstaff & Angela Denov  
Katy Heins and Patrick Clifford  
Ellen Krasik  
Jean Majors  
Lois Marker  
Martha and Jerone Stephens  
Jo Ann Martini  
Mary Anne Curtiss  
Andy and Meghan Neumeier  
Carolette Norwood  
Ann Nufer  
Nikia Prince  
Ann Retford  
Richard and Ann Daeschner  
John and Sylvia Roth  
Jon and Jacqueline Seymour  
Eleanor Small  
Rebecca Smithorn

Louise Stallworth  
Karen Summers  
Eunice and John Timoney Ravenna  
Aleshia Walton  
Richard and Mary Welsh  
Evelyn Widner  
Rob and Kristin Wilson  
Mary Wyett  
Myra Yates  
Judy Zehner  
Susan Zidinak

## EDUCATING

Kevin and Aidil Arens  
Shirley Baldwin  
John and Nancy Blignaut  
Mary Anne Bressler  
Katheen Clemmer  
Constance Coleman  
Sherry Crow  
Mary Diane Custer  
David Gruber and Esperanza Tovar  
Nancy Dawley  
Daniel Dell  
Robert Egbert  
Steve Elliott and Jan Weber  
Don and Jane Gardner  
Gerald Froehlich and Laura Goodell  
Phil and Mary Hagner  
Chris Heckman and Kristen Meyers  
Jessie Henson  
Koben Hinman  
Amy Howton  
Ruthie Hurley-Franchi  
Andy Hutzler and Amy Harpenau  
Robert Kneueven  
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

## ENRICHING

Karis and Jon Cady  
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

## ENGAGING

Mitsy Behrmann  
Rene Cheatham  
Robert Donovan  
Dan and Mary Kay Drexler  
Nancy Fecher  
Lisa and Adam Flood  
Cassie and Parker Niemann  
George and Joan Rebeck  
Jennifer Summers & Brennan Grayson  
Laura Tabor  
Sue Wehrman

## EMPOWERING

Peter Block  
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:

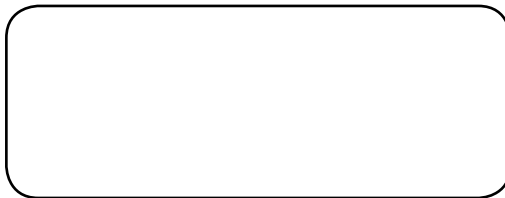


[www.peasleecenter.org](http://www.peasleecenter.org)

Follow our work on social media @peasleecenter



Phone: (513) 621-5514  
 Email: [administration@peasleecenter.org](mailto:administration@peasleecenter.org)  
[www.peasleecenter.org](http://www.peasleecenter.org)



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



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