

Peaslee Neighborhood Center

A Community Hub for Participatory Education and Social Change

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



2018

A MESSAGE FROM PEASLEE STAFF AND BOARD

Dear Partners and Friends,

Thank you for your connection with and investment in Peaslee Neighborhood Center. Whether you are an old partner or new friend to our community education center, your involvement is important to holistic, participatory education and social change work in our community. The continuous process of education is what Peaslee lives and breathes—it holds a special space for people of all ages to stay curious and activated. We continue to learn, create, and work for change together, committed to building a conscious, educated and connected community.

Every day we witness moments of growth as diverse and special as the folks here learning from one another. Peaslee is a place where, in a given week, piano melodies played by students young and old are floating into the hallway, budding activists are plugging in to organizing efforts, college students are listening to the stories and insights of long-time neighborhood residents, youth are discussing current events, community members are engaging in dialogue about important social issues, and friends are meeting during lunch to practice Spanish. In this safe and inclusive space, we stretch ourselves, open our hearts and minds to understand new perspectives, and recognize the limitations of our own. As we grow together, we build the empathy, solidarity and confidence we need to confront injustice and build a better world.

We are so glad that you are part of the community that has built and sustained this space. If you haven't visited Peaslee in a while, please stop in to see us any time. 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.

2018 Board of Trustees

Bonnie Neumeier, Co-Chair

Over-the-Rhine Resident, Peaslee Co-Founder

Amy Howton, Co-Chair

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Over-the-Rhine Resident, Cincinnati Health Network

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National Underground Railroad Freedom Center

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Northern Kentucky University

PARTNERSHIPS AND SOLIDARITY

For more than 34 years, Peaslee has maintained and improved a collective, accessible space for people to gather and work for positive change in our communities, city, region and nation. Complementing Peaslee's programs and community projects, seven non-profit partners housed in the Peaslee building are also working to build a more just world through education, advocacy and organizing. Together, we work in solidarity to amplify our impact in the community.



Peaslee practitioners and partners came together in December to celebrate Peaslee's 34th birthday

PIANO

In 2018, our four-level Piano Certificate Program served students ages 5-65 in spring and fall, including 9 first time piano students. More than 200 people heard students play in recitals and other community programs throughout the year.

A partnership with the CSO provided the opportunity for more than 300 Peaslee community members, including piano students and their families, to attend Lollipops family concerts at Taft Theater. In addition, 55 students and family members attended family engagement events hosted by Peaslee.

38 students
9 certificates



Thank you for your support! Keyboard Club, Matinée Musicale Endowment Fund

WRITING

Throughout the school year Peaslee facilitated weekly Girls Writing Circles with students in grades 4-6 at Rothenberg Preparatory Academy. In each circle, girls read inspirational texts, then wrote their own creative responses and shared their writing with the group. At the end of each semester, the girls read their writing aloud at a community showcase. They also released a collection of their work and published individual work in Streetvibes newspaper.

"Black is lovable, black is powerful, black is beautiful."
-London Williams, 4th grade



The Justice Seekers Women's Writing Circle continued offering women a space to reflect on poetry, follow their muse and affirm the voices of sister writers.

Over-the-Rhine Community Writing Collaborative is an initiative connecting Peaslee and other community-based writing programs. In 2018, a steering committee worked to compile *This Place of Ours*, a forthcoming book of original writing by community members. Peaslee also hosted writing workshops in the fall semester through a service learning project with Miami and Northern Kentucky Universities.



82 participants
shared work
that reached 230
community
members

Thank you for your support! Congregation of the Humility of Mary Ministry Fund, anonymous donor

COMMUNITY EDUCATION



Service Learning

In 2018, Peaslee continued to facilitate Community Journeys, Affordable Housing Simulations and Urban Plunge activities for groups visiting Over-the-Rhine to serve and learn about social justice issues in the community. Twenty percent of Community Education participants were connected to Peaslee through deep, ongoing partnerships, learning from the stories, wisdom and insight of local residents.

1,117 participants
20 schools and other groups

Thank you for your support! Congregation of the Humility of Mary Ministry Fund, Magnified Giving

COMMUNITY BUILDING AND ORGANIZING

Keep Our Courts: Do Development Differently Campaign

This ongoing coalition of residents and community-based organizations worked to protect and invest in public space while prioritizing community voice and benefits. Two hundred community stakeholders were engaged through surveys and door-to-door canvassing. We also connected with approximately 150 community members by organizing events, including a Community Clean-Up, Summer Kickoff and Community Campfire.

Equitable Development Rubric

In 2018, Peaslee created an educational/organizing toolkit to evaluate development projects and attach equity standards to public incentives like zoning changes and tax abatements. A steering committee of 16, representing nine neighborhoods, was formed to train and support local leadership around the rubric. By the end of the year, three community councils were examining ways to implement and/or endorse the toolkit as a framework for equitable development at the City level.

200 people attended
community input sessions



Thank you for your support!
Seasongood Good
Government Foundation,
Greater Cincinnati Foundation

AGENTS OF CHANGE

This was the fourth year of our Agents of Change program, which serves youth between the ages of 11 and 15 from Over-the-Rhine and other urban core neighborhoods. The number of participants in our school-year program doubled from 2017 to 2018. Throughout the year, youth learned about issues of social justice, engaged in critical thinking, and creatively exercised their voices. They continued developing and testing their cooperative card game, *The Movement*. For the second summer, Agents in their final year worked as mentors with children in the Peaslee Kids Summer Camp through paid internships, building job experience while contributing to the positive development of younger children.



"We believe in providing help, support, and encouragement to one another—in pulling each other up when we fall."
—from Agents of Change Manifesto



Thank you for your support! Seasongood Good Government Foundation, St. John's Unitarian Universalist Church, anonymous donor

PEASLEE KIDS SUMMER CAMP

Our Peaslee Kids Summer Camp provided a safe, supportive space for learning, positive youth development, and fun for children ages 6-10 from Over-the-Rhine and other urban core neighborhoods.

The curriculum included identity and culture, leadership, art, reading, and small group discussions. The camp was implemented by caring, experienced teachers with assistance from Miami University student fellows. Regular field trips extended kids' learning and their experiences into the community.

The children also participated weekly in Gardening, Cooking, and African Drumming classes. Peaslee Kids showcased their learnings by leading the Samba Parade with their drumming instructor, Baba Charles Miller, at the Macy's Kids Festival at the Cincinnati Zoo, and at a public showcase at Peaslee with their families and community members.



8 weeks of
summer enrichment
29 participants
11 field trips

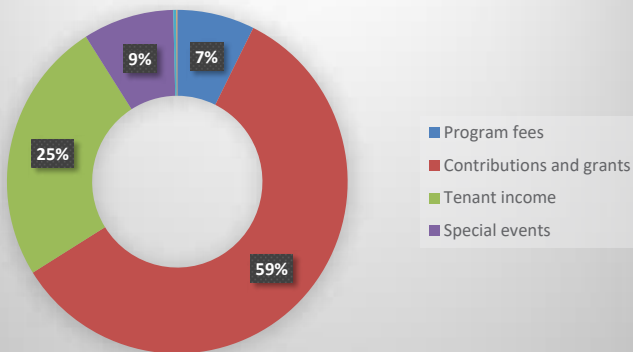
Thank you for your support! GE Community Services Fund, First Unitarian Carter Memorial Fund, Greater Cincinnati Foundation Summertime Kids Program, anonymous donor

PEASLEE THANKS THESE BUSINESSES & ORGANIZATIONS FOR THEIR SUPPORT

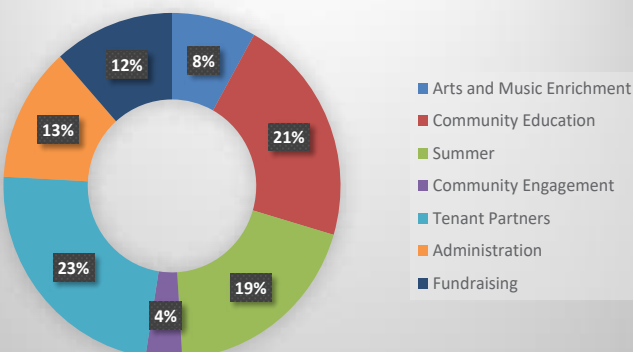
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 Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center
 The Keyboard Club
 Kneflin-Dillhoff-Hils & Kruse Agency, Inc.

Kroger Community Rewards
 Matinée Musicale Endowment Fund
 Miami University
 Miami University Center for Community Engagement
 in Over-the-Rhine
 Miami University Department of Teacher Education
 Mt. Healthy Christian Church Women's Fellowship
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 Parking Lot Management of Cincinnati
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 Printers Emergency Service
 PNC Foundation
 Rhinegeist Brewery
 SC Ministry Foundation
 Sister Elise Fund
 Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati
 Sisters of St. Francis
 St. John's Unitarian Universalist Church
 TruPartner Credit Union

2018 REVENUE



2018 FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES



2018 INCOME & EXPENSES

Income		Jan-Dec 2018
Program fees		27,042
Contributions and grants		215,780
Tenant income		91,313
Special events		31,707
In-kind donations		1,110
Investment and other income		293
Total Income		367,245
Expense		
Direct program		31,081
Personnel		231,094
Professional fees		10,163
Occupancy		41,976
Maintenance		17,087
Office		4,892
Outside services		2,292
Training and development		3,802
Special events		8,814
Other		1,280
Depreciation		24,796
Total Expense		377,277
Net Income		(10,032)

PEASLEE THANKS THESE INDIVIDUALS

FRIENDS OF PEASLEE

Judith Blackburn
Kenneth and Barbara Boesherz
Connie Brossart
Kathleen Clemmer
Shana Darden
Linda Fabe
Lauren Gjessing
Bob Gottmer
Anissa Lewis
Sr. Jo Ann Martini
Andy and Meghan Neumeier
Louise Stallworth
John P. Tafaro
Cassidy Venema
Tyrone Williams
Amy Wright

EDUCATING

June Alexander
Shirley Baldwin
Elizabeth Bartley
Caitlin Behle
Jonathan Blickenstaff and Angela Denov
John and Nancy Blignaut
Jan Brown Checco
Mary Burke Rivers
John and Barbara Coyle
Linda Davis
Nancy Dawley
Lillian and Benjamin Dean
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Charles Elliott
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Pat Youngblood
Judy Zehner

ENRICHING

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Theresa M. Brown
Susan Brownknight
Andy Brunsman
Daniele Cusetino
Jenni Doseck
Mimi Gingold and Al Gerhardstein
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Andy Hutzell and Amy Harpenau
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Sarah Lavelle
Jean Majors
Chris and Kevin McHugh
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Bob Scherger
Joe and Kathy Schwab

Amy Silver and Josh Spring
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Olden Warren and Sheila Hill
William Watts
Sue Wehrman
William Woods
Mary Wyett and David Wetzel

ENGAGING

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Lois Benjamin
Jon and Karis Cady
Brian and Michelle Dershaw
Mary Kay and Dan Drexler
Janis Dutton
Deborah and Donald Gilbert
Christopher Golf and Kathryn Mawer
George and Gail Gundrum
Koben Hinman
Amy Howton
George Kingston
Barb Maloney
Thomas Mosler
Stephen Peterson and Chris Bolling
Joe and Katie Pflum
Margaret Quinn
Joyce Schaub
Walter Vanderbush
Christopher Wilkey and Donelle Dreese

EMPOWERING

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René Cheatham
Dorothy Christenson
Nicola da Roza and Josh Cunningham
Jim and Peggy Flood
Chris Heckman and Kristen Meyers
Michael and Megan Hube
Bill and Suzanne Joiner
John and Carol Krehbiel
Liz Maxwell
Bonnie Neumeier and Michael Flood
Barbara and Butch Otting
Meili Price
Barbara and Richard Traud
Julia Weaver

Peaslee deeply appreciates these foundations and organizations for their sustaining partnership:

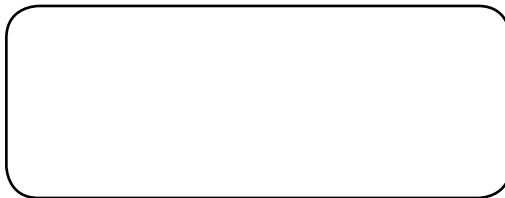


www.peasleecenter.org

Follow our work on social media @peasleecenter



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