

Annual Report 2018-19

portland
children's
Museum





At Portland Children’s Museum and Opal School, we offer children, parents, and teachers the opportunity to express themselves through materials like clay, wire, and paint. In our refurbished Twilight Trail, the “material” is light.

Walking through this darkened exhibit, I’m amazed by the experimentation underway—particularly with the glowing campfire. I’ve witnessed not only the roasting of hot dogs from the Theater and steaks from the Market, but also pegs from the Lite Brite and ice bricks from the cave—just to see what the “coals” would do.

Indeed, our Museum, School, and professional development experiences ignite the imaginations of children and adults alike. We witness their faces light up with joy and confidence when they discover a new phenomenon or master a skill.

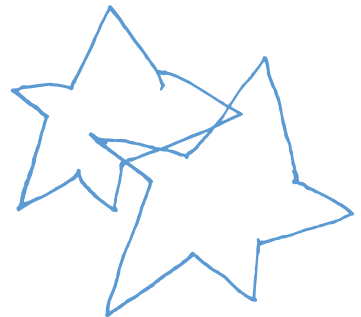
In so doing, we strive to highlight the creative capacity of children. By cultivating Museum and classroom environments that encourage children to take the lead and shape their own learning, we focus the spotlight on their innate problem-solving abilities.

Your support results in countless lightbulb moments every day. As a result, we nurture children who can break through the world’s dark clouds, shining with solutions.

Thank you!



Ruth G. Shelly
Executive Director





Playing with LIGHT

Renovated in 2018, the Twilight Trail exhibit illuminates the wonders of our region, encourages authentic connections between children and caregivers, and expands learning opportunities by offering light as a material of exploration.

“In the heart of this space,” says Director of Exhibits Somya Singh, “families come together in a calm, cozy setting meant to evoke the wild.” New exhibit components include a waterfall composed of reflective fishing lures, a twinkling night sky complete with shooting stars, a faceted ice cave, and an alluring campsite. “All of us are attracted to a campfire and gathering around a warm hearth,” explains Somya. “It’s part of our nature as human beings—we are wired for community.”

Designed to increase accessibility for all ages and abilities, Twilight Trail invites visitors to dwell in the space for longer periods of time. If the elaborate stories created in the ice cave (“I’m a king! There’s a unicorn!”) and conversations heard ‘round the campfire (“I’m making hot cocoa with marshmallows!”) are any indication, that’s *precisely* what’s taking place beneath the twilight glow of this re-envisioned space.

The real magic wand is the child’s own mind.

—José Ortega y Gasset

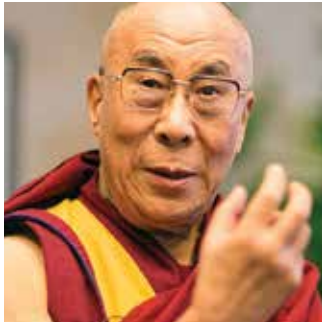




Constructing a Notion of COMPASSION



Opal School six and seven-year-olds developed theories and ideas about compassion with input from the world's primary expert: His Holiness the Dalai Lama. When Executive Director Ruth Shelly prepared to attend a summit in India, *Fostering Universal Ethics & Compassion Through Museums*, she invited involvement from first and second graders in Opal School's Dogwood classroom. After extensive conversations about their own experiences with inclusion and exclusion, they worked to construct their own practice framework for compassion: **Notice—Feel—Pause—Think—Act.**



Ruth brought the framework to the Dalai Lama and posed the children's question: Do you need all these parts of compassion for it to still be compassion? His Holiness replied, "A sense of concern for others' wellbeing, or compassion, creates action, and action makes the difference to others."

The children wove the Dalai Lama's message into their dialog, honing their thinking and transforming their linear framework into a circle.

Grey: *What is the next step after you act?*

Vanya: *It keeps going like that, like the cycle, like how you get rain.
It's a cycle like that, but also compassion could be a cycle.*

How powerful for children to develop their own understanding of the world rather than having definitions imposed upon them by adults. At Opal School, children engage around issues, practice decision-making, ask complex questions, listen with compassion, and invent their own understandings. Absorbing a sense of agency, they know that their curiosity matters and their ideas can have an impact.

Local Research— GLOBAL IMPACT

What draws people from Tanzania, Singapore, Brazil, and 12 other countries to Portland Children’s Museum? A set of programs that have impact both locally and globally: our professional development opportunities. Through workshops, online courses, consultancies, keynote speeches, and an annual Symposium, our professional development team shares learning originating within Opal School to influence classrooms all over the world.

Deeply steeped in research, Opal School Teacher-Researchers glean best practices from children to evolve and strengthen our learning approach, Playful Inquiry. This powerful approach draws more than 1,800 teachers and administrators from across the country and the world to learn how to incorporate Playful Inquiry into their own classrooms.

One recent participant said, “I feel so motivated and energized now, at a time when I was questioning my desire to pursue this career. So frustrated—and now so willing! [I have] more courage and more confidence.” She, along with her peers, impacted more than 50,000 students last year with lessons learned through Opal School.







CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

The Museum as a Space for Everyone

At the Museum, we strive to serve all children. If families are unable to venture to our Washington Park location, devoted staff bring activities to them.

Through intentional outreach, Community Engagement Manager Stephanie Madrid helps serve as a bridge between the Museum and diverse communities across Portland.

“I visit residents, speak to them in Spanish about our programs, and help families feel accepted and included,” she says. One challenge some may face is “not seeing other people who look like them at the Museum. I show them that I work here and that this is a space for everyone.”

Ongoing partnerships with local organizations such as King School Museum of Contemporary Art and KairosPDX bridge transportation, financial, language, and cultural barriers. “Cultivating genuine relationships throughout the city encourages more children to play, connect, and explore,” says Director of Museum Experience Jeremiah Sazdanoff.

And the impact can last a lifetime. It’s this type of grassroots community collaboration that helps all children feel welcome at the Museum. As one young visitor shared, “This is a place for me, and I can come back here.”

Connecting with people and letting them know how we can support the development of their child is always a great experience.

—Stephanie Madrid, Community Engagement Manager

Preparing for the FUTURE

In 2018-19, we planted seeds for growth in three strategic areas.



Through our **Birth-Three Initiative**, we support the development of our youngest visitors—manifested in our new exhibit, Sprout Spot, and new programming in Sprout Studio, to debut November 2019.

Our **Adult Learner Initiative** invites adults to notice and support the experiences children have in our spaces through enhanced programming, intentional signage and materials, and increased professional development options for teachers.





Additionally, supported by a diverse advisory committee, we developed **Drip City**, our new place-based water exhibit, with generous initial funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and The Collins Foundation. We eagerly look forward to building this space over the next two years.

Each of these projects propels us forward as we deepen our commitment to developing innovative problem solvers, reminding adults of the gifts and talents of children, and providing spaces for playful exploration and imagination.

*We know that plants need sun, water, and food
in their soil, but they also need
love, help, and protection...just like kids do.*

—Ethan, age 7



135

Lanterns created for Opal School's annual Lantern Walk



16%

Increase in camp attendance

5,202

Memberships

\$315,025

Provided in free and subsidized admission



254,516

Visitors

7,890

Offsite visitors

110%

Increase in average donation amount



7,200

Pounds of clay





9,564

Miles (from Tanzania)

Furthest distance traveled to attend our teacher Symposium



267,320

Shooting star appearances in Twilight Trail

450

Teachers who took courses on opalschool.org



4,071

Volunteer hours

13

Private play events for children experiencing disabilities



Most popular Instagram post



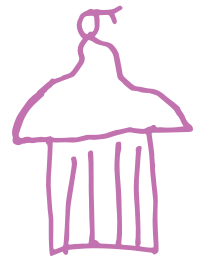
A whole lot of corks!

In the Maker Studio, children can transform corks into anything imaginable.



292

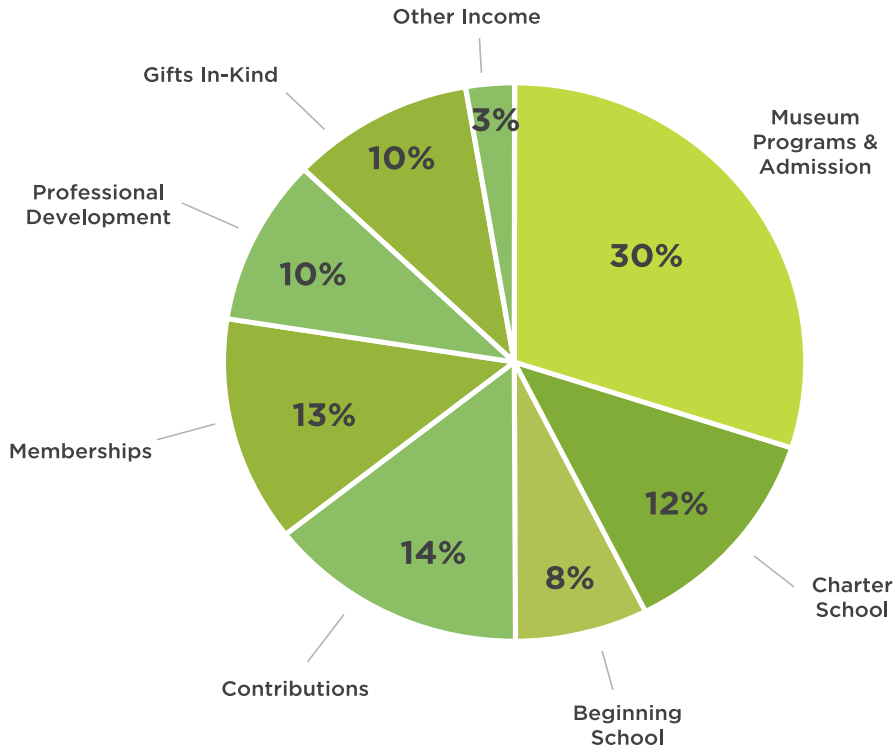
Choruses of "Happy Birthday" sung



REVENUE

Total revenue: \$4,761,947
Less gifts in-kind: -484,888

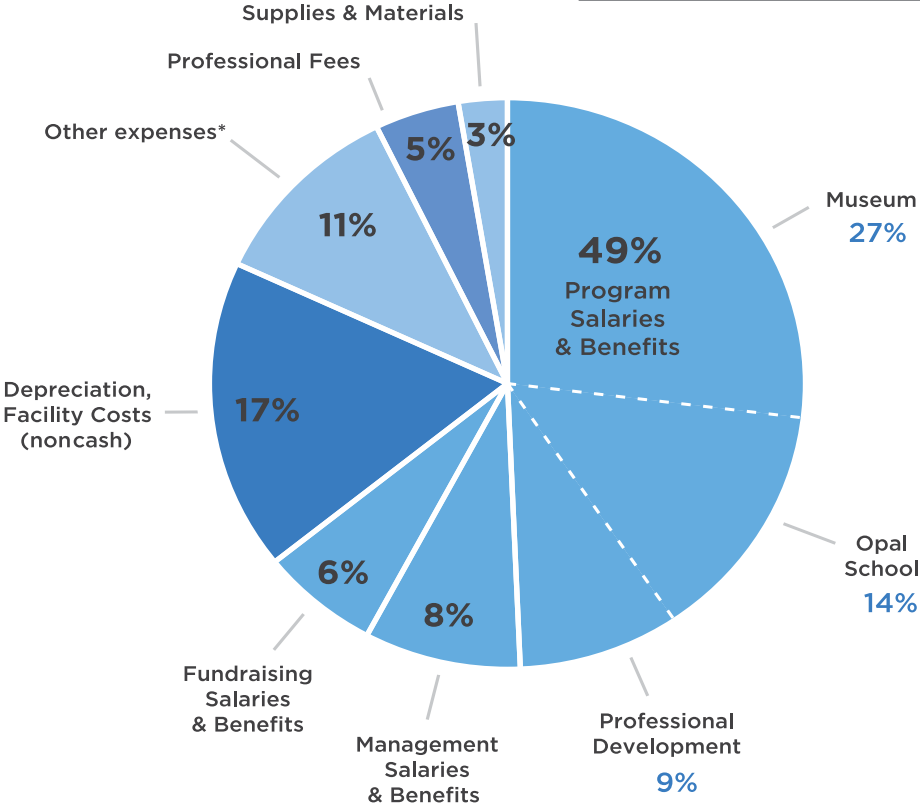
\$4,277,059



EXPENSES

Total expenses:	\$5,107,712
Less depreciation:	-295,525
Less fair market value of facility rental, utilities, and maintenance donated by Portland Parks & Recreation (noncash)	-603,160

\$4,209,027



* Includes technology, events, equipment & maintenance, printing & advertising, interest & bank fees

2018-19 ANNUAL FUND CONTRIBUTIONS

\$50,000-\$99,999

Harold and Arlene Schnitzer CARE Foundation
Maybelle Clark Macdonald Fund
The Collins Foundation

\$25,000-\$49,999

James and Shirley Rippey Family Foundation
Joseph E. Weston Public Foundation of
The Oregon Community Foundation
The Oregon Community Foundation

\$10,000-\$24,999

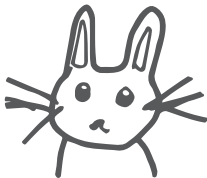
Agustin and Alysson Enriquez
Banfield Pet Hospital
ESCO Foundation
Herbert A. Templeton Foundation
Kaiser Permanente
KinderCare Education, LLC
Oregon Arts Commission
Randall Children's Hospital at Legacy Emanuel
The Standard
Don & Marian Vollum
Wheeler Foundation
Mark & Kendall Youngblood
Zidell Family Foundation

\$5,000-\$9,999

Bank of America
Clark Foundation
Jay & Renee Haladay
William A. & Allyson Harris
Jubitz Family Foundation
Juliet Ashby Hillman Foundation
Leuthold Family Foundation
Northwest Bank
Portland Rotary Charitable Trust
Salesforce.org
The Jean Vollum Fund
Wells Fargo Foundation

\$2,500-\$4,999

Alyssa Aaby & Fletcher Ray
First Interstate Bank
Barran Liebman, LLP
Phillip & Julie Beyl
Brown & Brown Northwest Insurance
Columbia Bank
Robert Countryman
Roderick & Virginia Cruickshank
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP
Sheila Fox Morrison & Steven Morrison
GBD Architects, Inc.
Jessica & Brian Getman
Lydia & Timothy Hanson
Intel Corporation
Jacqueline Rayot Olsson Charitable Foundation
Al & Nancy Jubitz
Michael & Susan Kosmala
Oscar & Mary Mayer
Cole Mills
Neil Kelly Company



Nike Employee Matching Gift Program
NW Natural
Oregon Department of Education
PacifiCorp
David & Nicole Peterson
Bryan Powell & Janice Weis
Rose E. Tucker Charitable Trust
George Sandoval & Ann Martin
Shriners Hospitals for Children
Jamie & Denise Shulman
Rob Stackhouse
Kathy & Mike Swift
The Florence V. Burden Foundation
U.S. Bank/U.S. Bank Foundation
Dan & Emily Watson
Jay Wilt

\$1,000-\$2,499

Jessica & Craig Aaker
Kenneth & Celia Austin
Beau & Monika Bennett
Beth Hutchins and Pete Skeggs
Leslie Brunker
Scott & Glenda Burns
Karen & Wei-Li Chong
Cochener Family Foundation
Craig & Kris Cochran
Coraggio Group Incorporated
Kelly Sue DeConnick & Matthew Fritchman
Shawn & Jennifer DuBurg
Durham and Bates Insurance
Robert & Gwen Elfers
Rob & Gina Erickson
First Interstate Foundation
Diane Girard
Judy Graves
Megan & Andrew Grim
William & Beth Hathaway

Heritage Bank, Portland Branch
Russell Hornsby & Denise Walker Hornsby
Bronwyn & Tyler Houston
Ironlight
Annette & Marlin Kendall
Scott & Kathy Kiever
Michael & Samantha Kim
Jason Kirtland
Lindsey Klinger
Chip & Kathy Masarie
Spencer Noecker
Melissa Oliver-Janiak & Donald Oliver
Oscar Harrison Mayer Fund of Fidelity Charitable
Tara Papandrew & Chad Johnson
Traci & Sean Ray
Christina Reyes
Kathryn & Matthew Richards
Andrew Rosengarten
Kathleen Rowlands & Bruin Rugge
Marie Selby & Timothy Johnson
Ruth & Kevin Shelly
Cheryl Snell & Edwin Swanson
Bob Speltz
Dennis & Weise Spidal
Mack & Valerie Stallcup
Talia & Daniel Stein
The Oscar G. & Elsa S. Mayer Family Foundation
Tillamook County Creamery Association
Stephanie Tolk & Scott Zelenka
Samantha & Thanh Tran
Travel Portland
Umpqua Bank
Josh & Laura Veentjer
Christopher & Anne Weiland
Tyson Wisbrock & Effie Manos

\$500-\$999

Dennis & Andrea Baker
Steve Brown & Kimberly Crouch
Tina Cartwright
Emily & Billie Cleek
Rebecca & Andrew Connelly
Convivium, LLC
Julienne & Ryan Coyle
Todd & Heather DeCook
Cheryl & Casey DeGroot
Lisa & Ryan Dripps
Duncan and Cindy Campbell of The Campbell Foundation
Dyer Studio, Inc.
eBay Foundation
Gabriela Elizondo-Davila & Daniel Davila
Marc & Amy Freeman
Erin & Michael Gorsline
Bob & Polly Gravely
Gray Family Fund
Sonal & Gavin Haladay
Debra & Michael Handy
Matthew & Annie Harad
Irene & Shervin Hess
Molly & Matt Honoré
Trond & Catherine Ingvaldsen
Tori Jones & Dave Nunn
Kaiser Foundation Health Plans of the Northwest
M. Alfred & Marilee Karlsen
Ruxy Lazarescu & Adi Rustanbegovic
Wake & Sandra Mack
Jason Maurer
Mayer/Reed, Inc.
Kymberley & Stuart McCornack
Colin McEanearney & Adelaide Wainwright
Belinda McFadgen & John Craney
Ben & Allison Morris
Maria Murashkina & Erik Drews
Sarah & Robert Nevue
Alexa Olson Vasconcelos & Miguel Vasconcelos

Laura & James Parker
Mishawn & Jason Pederson
Shelley Peng & Devin Field
Korwren & James Peterson
Portland General Electric
Emily & Maxwell Reid
Colleen & Mark Reuland
James Rollins & Kerry Duff
Elizabeth Shuler-Krause & Eric Krause
Mika & Roger Thomas
Kristin Walrod
Lauren & Ben Wucombe
Samantha & Tarek Younes

\$100-\$499

Douglas & Rebecca Aaker
Andrew Akers
Jesse & Langley Allbritton
Autodesk Foundation
Jennifer & Jason Bailly
Nicholas Baulne
Erin & Brandon Bloomquist
Heather Brandi & Jake Sparks
Rachel Bridgewater & Daniel Landau
Julio & Stephanie Brown
Jessica Bryant
Matt & Angela Bryant
Julianne & Justin Byrne
Cambia Health Foundation Matching Program
Larry & Janet Cartmill
George Caspar
Melissa Cwiklinski
Kristen Darmofal
Mary Gage & Ben Davis
Dev Dion & Mindy Clark
Jessica & Sean Donnell
Jeff Downey
Jenny Doyle
Kaysha & Zach Duffy

Desiree Eden and Luis Ocampo
Jolie & Mike Faulkner
Mike & Amy Ferguson
Diane Field & Dick Williams
Zach & Amanda Fritz
Jennafer & Jacob Furniss
Susan Haas & Jeffrey Nadler
Miles & Carey Haladay
Damien & Madeline Halls
Dave & Terri Hammond
Jenn Harbick
Linda Hassan Anderson & Dwight Anderson
Danica & Peter Haviland
Eliab Huerta & Bathsua Mendoza
ICF Consulting Group Inc.
Mark James & Corinn Joseph
Samantha & David Janec
Carolyn Johnson-Evans & Adolph Evans
Christine Jorgensen
Javdat & Dilyara Karimov
Julia & Richard Kassissieh
Katherine & Terence Kent
Ryan Kliewer
Robert Kraft & Sandra Johnson
Lana Kralik
Laika, LLC
Allison Lee
Justin & Sabra Leitenberger
Michael Lex & Kristen Sullivan Lex
Jennifer Lord & Syllas Daughtrey
Branden Loveland & Maryanne Garvie-Loveland
Shauna Luessen
Jessica Maki
Michael Maurer
Valerie McClintick
Lyndsey & David Miller
Hollie & Scott Nine
Raymond & Carol North
Katherine & Robert Nowlin

Maynard & Joan Frances Orme
Brendan & Melinda O'Scannlain
Tara & Mark Palansky
Meghan & Lloyd Pollard
Regan Preston & Jordan Gal
Trish Rolin, in memory of
Suzanne Wright Mitchell
Eric Rosenfeld
Suzanne Sanchez & Chrissie Ott
Lane Selman & Samuel Walker
Irene Concepcion-Sestric and James Sestric
David & Lisa Shotwell
Maria Sosnowski
Sherry & John Stewart
Sabrina & Marc Stoffregen
Angela Swenson
Synopsis Inc. & The Synopsis Foundation
Scott Taylor
The Boeing Company
The Kroger Co.
Erin & David Thompson
T-Mobile
Amy Trotter & John Tseng
Nancy Truszkowski
Devon & Mitchell Trux
Deva & Dylan Vance
Michael & Terry Vanorman
Verde Cocina
Terese Wagner & Jack Coelho
Cathie Wemlinger
David Wheeler & Sarah Murray
Eryn & Michael White
Sabrina & Brigitt Whitescarver
Judiaann Woo & Gregor Halenda
Myles & Stephanie Younger
Pfizer Foundation
Sarah & Ted Zahn

In-Kind Donors

A to Z Wineworks	Natural History Museum of L.A. County
Mark & Denise Beekman	Nothing Bundt Cakes
Dew Anna Brumley	NW Kids Magazine
Bull Run Distilling	Papé Material Handling
Cogent IT	PDX Parent
Columbia Sportswear Company	Piano. Push. Play.
Cupcake Jones	Ponzi Vineyards
DB Dessert Company	Portland Nursery
Eric Reid	Portland Parks and Recreation
GRAMMY Museum	Carly Sienna
Russell Hornsby	Jeffrey & Bryn Sopko
HOTLIPS	The Pie Spot
KEEN Footwear	The Rebuilding Center
La Brea Tar Pits & Museum	Norman Tolentino
Loog Guitars, LLC	Travel Portland
Wakefield Mack	Virgin Orbit
Mad Science	Joe Vithayathil
McDonald Jacobs, P.C.	Don & Marian Vollum
Moonstruck Chocolate Company	Widmer Brothers Brewing
Multnomah Whisk{e}y Library	Scott Zelenka

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2018-19

Jessica Getman *Chair*

David Peterson *Vice-Chair*

Melissa Oliver-Janiak *Secretary*

Samantha Tran *Treasurer*

Beau Bennett

Agustin Enriquez V

Brian Gibbs, Ph.D., MPA

Bob Gravely

Bronwyn Houston

Kristi Reichlein

Christina Reyes

Andrew Rosengarten

Jamie Shulman

Jeffrey Sopko

Sabrina Stoffregen

Erin Thompson

Dan Watson

Judiaann Woo

Mark Youngblood

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Karen Chong

Robert Countryman

Shawn DuBurg

Bob Elfers

William A. Harris

Heather Howitt

Al Jubitz

Julie Mancini

Tom Kelly

Don Vollum



Our Mission

To develop innovative problem-solvers through playful learning experiences
that strengthen relationships between children and their world.



A moon glows from above in Twilight Trail.

ANNUAL REPORT ONLINE: portlandcm.org/more/about-us

DONATE: portlandcm.org/donate

ADDRESS: 4015 SW Canyon Road • Portland, Oregon 97221



portlandcm.org