



**HIGH  
JUMP**

**Annual Report 2021-2022**



## From the **Board Chair**

Dear High Jump Friends,

It was my honor to serve as the High Jump Board Chair from 2020 - 2022, two of the most challenging years the organization has faced in its 30+ years of operation. The impact of the Covid pandemic on classrooms and children, especially children of color, is well-documented, and we will see the effects of their experiences for years to come.

I am very proud of High Jump and all of the work we have done during the pandemic to not only survive and thrive as an organization, but we have also put forth significant effort to make sure that our students' essential needs were met and their academic potential fostered. We have delivered food and equipment to our Scholars, transitioned in and out of virtual learning, launched a new pilot program, and grown the number of students we serve every year.

During my tenure as Chair, we also welcomed Yolanda Luna-Mroz as our Chief Programs Officer. Yolanda has extensive experience as a school principal, and her leadership is one of the reasons High Jump has been able to navigate the pandemic and emerge better able to serve our Scholars. Partnered with the leadership of Nate Pietrini (Executive Director) and Jill Reid (Chief Advancement Officer), I am confident that the organization is well-positioned to continue to grow and provide industry-leading equity-focused education programming to Chicago's middle grade students with academic ambition but limited economic means.

My deepest thanks for all your support this year and throughout my tenure as High Jump's Board Chair. It has been an honor to help lead this organization and I look forward to continuing to support High Jump's mission.

Sincerely,



Katie Barber  
Board of Directors, Chair



## From the **Executive Director**

Dear Friends of High Jump,

2022 marks my fifth year as High Jump’s Executive Director, and I am overjoyed with our work during that time. Since 2017, the inspiration I have felt from our 7th and 8th graders and teachers has driven our improvements and growth and kept us focused on our ability to weather the storm of the pandemic. During that time we have grown our Scholars Program by 25%, increased our college completion rate from 79% to 87%, and transitioned to 1:1 devices for our students at no cost to them, just like all High Jump programming.

One of my proudest moments at High Jump so far has been the launch of the Community Scholars pilot program. Every year, we receive applications for High Jump from over 1,000 interested and eligible 6th graders who want to be a part of our program, but despite our growth we have only been able to admit 225 per cohort. For the past few years we have worked with Northwestern University’s School of Education and Social Policy to think about ways to serve more of the students who would benefit from our program but don’t have access, either due to our capacity, the geographic location of our campuses, and more. I am pleased to report that, after a postponed launch due to Covid, in the summer of 2021 we launched the new pilot program, Community Scholars. This unique program brings High Jump’s proven curriculum and model to neighborhood schools, and could be a monumental development in our long-term goal to serve every interested and eligible student in Chicago. More information about this pilot program is available in this report.

Thank you for being a part of High Jump’s story. Since 1989, we have grown from a burgeoning project to a leading organization in the fight for equity in education. In the coming years we will continue to expand our reach, all thanks to our steadfast supporters.

Sincerely,



Nate Pietrini, Ed.D.  
Executive Director



**In 1989, High Jump started with a single, mighty mission:** To bring equity to education for Chicago middle grade students who have exhibited academic ambition and potential and who are of limited economic means.

**Today, that mission is stronger than ever.** High Jump empowers Chicago’s middle schoolers to become well-rounded leaders through our tuition-free programs with one-of-a-kind experiences, resources, and educational support for curious and motivated 7th and 8th-grade students who want to challenge themselves academically.

## Board of Directors

### CHAIR

Katie Barber

### TREASURER & CHAIR ELECT

Cindy O'Connor

### IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR

Nicole Mann

### VICE PRESIDENT

Wilkingson Germain

### SECRETARY

Diane Saltoun

### DIRECTORS

John Akalaonu, Cohort 4

Omid Bañuelos, Cohort 10

Marc Cerone

David Chazen

Sarah Cobb

Sarah Cogswell

Vincent Cozzi

Randall Dunn

Mary Fifield

Jamie-Clare Flaherty

Tim Friedman

Arla Gomberg

Pam Gordon

Shelley Greenwood

Cynthia Heusing

Mariana Ingersoll

Lena Jessen

Erik King

David Koo

Karen Krehbiel

John G. Levi

Deneese Walia Levin

Kim Lynch

Sonya Malunda

Thomas Meyers

Anna Meytina-Lurye

Dara Milner

Philip Nevels, Cohort 5

Heidi Ortolaza-Alvear, Cohort 10

Georgy Ann Peluchiwski

Abby Phelps

Janet Rauschenberger

Scott B. Rose

Stephanie Ross

Cheryl Rudbeck

Nick Shields, Cohort 6

Kim Taylor

Errett Van Nice

Ramon Villalpando, Cohort 5

### DIRECTORS EMERITI

Diana Aixalá

Richard J. Almeida

Bill Barker

Sally Carton

Paula H. Crown

Charles S. Gofen

Langdon D. Neal

Annmarie Neumeier

Eleanor Nicholson

Richard Rothkopf

Todd A. Smith

Tina Wardrop



High Jump equalizes access to education for Chicago middle school students who have exhibited academic ambition and potential and who are of limited economic means.

We provide academic enrichment, counseling and support to students of diverse backgrounds, with the goals of sending our participants to superior college preparatory schools, ensuring their success while they are there, and enhancing their ability to gain admission to highly regarded four-year colleges and universities.



# Our Impact in 2022

87% of High Jump Scholars matriculated to rigorous top college prep high schools

**Short term impact**  
**2 YEARS** of academic growth per year of High Jump



**100%** of High Jump alums graduated from high school



**Long term impact**  
**98%** of High Jump alums are now attending college



**78%** of High Jump alums will be the first in their families to attend college

## Scholars



### Ayan | 7th grader | Cohort 33

One night I got like a letter from the mail, and I was excited to open it because it was for me. I thought High Jump would be a good opportunity that I might not get in the future.

***“An opportunity I wouldn’t have if I didn’t come to High Jump is knowing who I am more as a person.”***

Over the summer, in math I learned about solving for the X, and we’re learning it at our school now. So I really benefited from what I learned at High Jump. Since I’m not the best at math, the TA and the math teacher, they will talk to you like personally and actually help you.

Before I came to High Jump, I did not know what I wanted to be. Over the summer, we did a ‘Who Are You?’ project. And that kind of helped me know what I wanted to do and what I wanted to be. When I grow up, I want to be a therapist.



### Adrian | 8th grader | Cohort 32

When the pandemic started, I got pretty quiet, but once I joined High Jump, I started speaking up more during class, and now I’m more open and confident even during regular school. It’s definitely something that High Jump has helped me grow the most in.

***“High Jump helped me feel seen and heard and overall, just comfortable with a good group of friends who I know I’ll carry with me to high school.”***

Meeting new people – getting to know kids from across the city that I wouldn’t have had the chance to know otherwise – has been one of my favorite parts of the program.

I didn’t get to do any computer programming in middle school, but we had a virtual programming class at High Jump and it showed me all these new cool languages and ways to make websites. I’m excited to pursue my new passion in high school.

With three campuses in Chicago, High Jump serves **OVER 350 middle school students** representing 48 zip codes across the city.



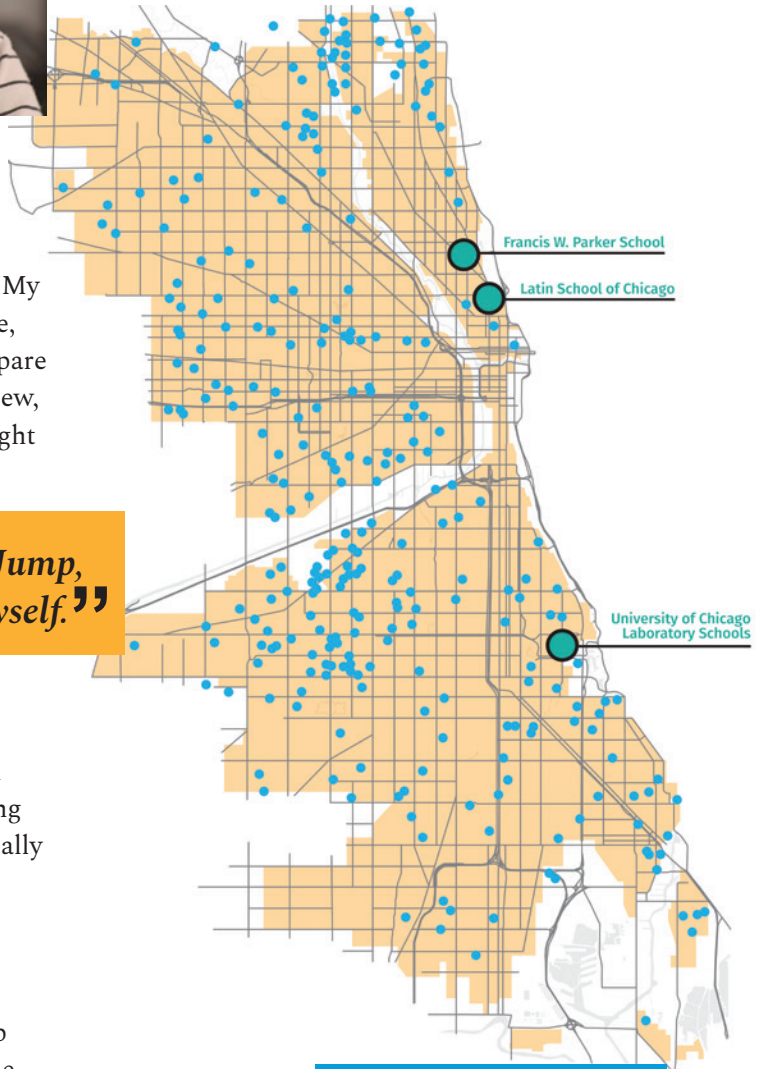
**Trinity** | Junior in High School | Cohort 29

When I first heard about High Jump. My mom just threw it on me. She was like, “You do more work... it helps you prepare for high school.” And after my interview, I was like, “Hold on. This actually might be a great opportunity for me.”

*“During my time in High Jump, I felt like I could most be myself.”*

I would say High Jump prepared me for high school by taking the time to have those one on one meetings with me. It was a very positive and uplifting community and that’s something I really needed as a child.

I’m now a High Jump alum and currently a TA for High Jump. One responsibility of a TA is to lighten up the mood, like seeing when they come into my class, just making sure they’re happy, they’re positive. And then making sure that when they come in here, they can confide in me and they can talk to me and they can tell me what’s going on at home.



Additionally, we support **OVER 530 High Jump alums** in high schools in Chicago and across the country.

# Community Scholars



Community Scholars is a partnership between High Jump and Northwestern University's School of Education and Social Policy with support from Chicago Public Schools (CPS), and District 65 Evanston/Skokie (D65).

Launched in the summer of 2021, this pilot program explores a cost-effective and scalable model to serve more communities and, ultimately, more students.

Community Scholars are part of a school-based "cohort" at their middle school with access to 150 hours of academic enrichment per year over the summer and after-school, with a particular focus on STEAM programming. The program launched at Armstrong Elementary School (CPS) in Roger's Park, Nichols Middle School in Evanston (D65), and Philip Rogers Elementary School in Chicago/West Ridge (CPS). In the coming years we will explore ways to bring this program to more neighborhoods, reaching more students across the city.

***“I am learning new advanced things that most people my age don't know. It also helps me with high school, getting into a good high school, and just being ahead of my class.”***

- Community Scholar, Armstrong Elementary



***“I am benefiting from participating in the High Jump program because it is great preparation for the future. I am confident with the amount and level of skills that I have learned. I look forward to seeing how much more challenging this program is going to become.”***

- Community Scholar, Rogers Elementary



# Alumni Scholars

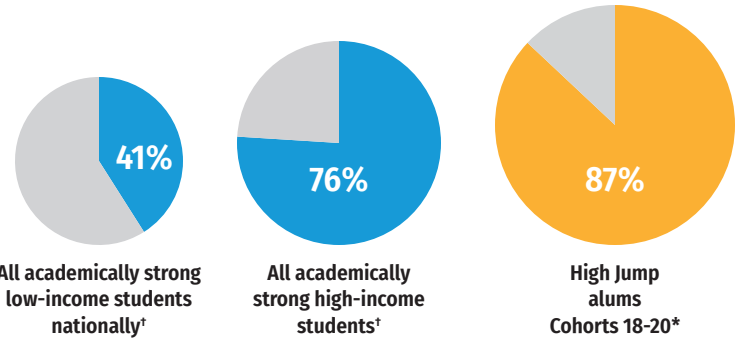


### Scholars go on to do Big Things

After High Jump, our Scholars go on to attend top high schools and colleges in Chicago and across the country and graduate from college at a higher rate than their peers.

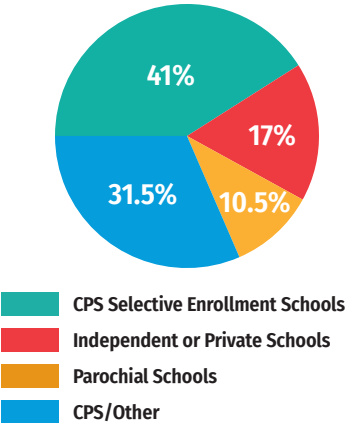
### 4-Year College Completion Rates

**87%** of High Jump Scholars graduate from 4-year colleges within six years of high school completion compared to 41% of their peers.



<sup>\*</sup>within six years of high school completion  
<sup>†</sup>within eight years of high school completion

### High Jump Scholars matriculated to the following types of high schools in 2022:



### Lifelong Learning for Scholars

The continued academic success of High Jump alums in high school and their enrollment into premier colleges and universities across the country affirm the long-term impact of the program.

**100%** of High Jump's high school class of 2019 are now attending college. Several students received college scholarships, including the prestigious Posse Scholarship. Schools they are attending include University of Chicago, University of Michigan, New York University, Kent State University, Middlebury College, Dominican University, Trinity College, and more.



## Sustaining Leaders Fund

**“Our story is Chicago’s story; our success is Chicago’s success: It belongs to students, parents, dedicated educators, support staff and principals. We all envision a bright future for our students, one in which every student in every neighborhood has the ability and support to achieve success.”**

Dr. Janice Jackson, CEO of Hope Chicago, as guest speaker at the Sustaining Leaders Fund luncheon.



**The Sustaining Leaders Fund is an essential group of donors dedicated to supporting High Jump’s mission to equalize educational opportunities in Chicago.** Members of the Sustaining Leaders Fund are pillars of the High Jump community who make a deep and lasting investment in our shared community at an individual level with unrestricted annual fund gifts of over \$7,500.

If High Jump were to charge for its academic enrichment programming, it would cost \$7,500 per student per year. A year full of one-of-a-kind experiences, access to resources, and curriculum that exposes students to culturally relevant literature, rigorous math instruction, and experiential learning.

High Jump would like to thank the members of the 2021-2022 Sustaining Leaders Fund.

Navneet Arora and Lori Eppstein  
Katie and Chris Barber  
Sheryl and Robert Bellick  
Marty Eckstein and

Carol Bernstein Eckstein  
John and Jacolyn Bucksbaum  
Sally and John Carton  
Marc Cerone and Nick Trakas  
David Chazen

Sarah and John Cobb  
Vincent Cozzi  
Mrs. Paula Hannaway Crown and  
Mr. James Crown

DD Danforth Burlin and Johannes Burlin  
Laura and Anthony Davis  
Lauren and Michael Erdin  
Paula and Tim Friedman

Lara Frohlich and John Bremen  
Jock Fullmer  
Arla and Joel Gomberg  
Barbara Goodman Manilow  
Sarah and Jonathan Graham  
Lisa Gregg and Randy Mitchell  
Mr. Kenneth Griffin  
Cynthia Heusing and David Kistenbroker  
Mariana and Paul Ingersoll  
Lena and Andrew Jessen  
Bruce and Marcia Johnson-Reid  
Lori and Stephen Kaufman  
Michael and Rosalind Keiser  
Priscilla and Steven Kersten  
Karen and Liam Krehbiel  
John and Jill Levi  
Ms. Kimberly Lynch

Ms. Barbara Malott Kizziah |  
Malott Family Foundation  
Nicole and Brad Mann  
Andrew and Mary Beth Mc Nerney  
Matthew D. Means  
Anna Meytina-Lurye and Alexander Lurye  
Dara and Ross Milner  
James Mitchell  
Cindy and Michael O’Connor  
Georgy Ann and William Peluchowski  
Abby and Mason Phelps  
Janet and Jon Rauschenberger  
Scott and Laurie Rose  
Diane Saltoun and Bruce Braun  
Jodi Steinberg  
Sara Stone  
Rika Yoshida and Joe Mansueto

After two years of virtual events, we were delighted to safely host over 350 guests.



## Spring of Opportunity **Benefit**



Together we raised nearly **\$1,000,000.**



“The personal stories of our alums show us **the power of High Jump** to provide opportunity, spur growth, and set students up for a lifetime of success.”  
- Nate Pietrini



“High Jump was one of my earliest experiences that showed how much other people were willing to support me.”  
- Annas Rahman



Scan this QR code to watch the benefit video:



# Honor Roll – Individual

## \$100,000+

Paula and Tim Friedman  
Kenneth C. Griffin Charitable Fund

## \$50,000+

Nicole and Brad Mann  
Georgy Ann and William Peluchowski

## \$25,000+

Mary Jane and Michael Baughman  
David Chazen  
Andrew and Mary Beth McNerney  
Matthew D. Means  
Cindy and Michael O'Connor  
Abby and Mason Phelps  
Joe Mansueto and Rika Yoshida

## \$10,000+

Navneet Arora and Lori Eppstein  
Katie and Chris Barber  
Katie and J.R. Berger  
Marty Eckstein and  
Carol Bernstein Eckstein  
Sally and John Carton  
Marc Cerone and Nick Trakas  
Sarah and John Cobb  
Vincent Cozzi  
Paula Hannaway Crown and  
James Crown  
Michelle and Michael Episcopo  
Lauren and Michael Erdin  
Mary and Christopher Fifield  
Jenny Friedes and Steve Florsheim  
Nathalie and Wilkinson Germain  
Katie and Brent Gledhill  
Charlie and Mary Gofen  
Arla and Joel Gomberg  
The Crown Goodman Family  
Pam and Michael Gordon  
Cynthia Heusing and David Kistenbroker  
Mariana and Paul Ingersoll  
Andrew and Lena Jessen  
Lori and Steve Kaufman  
Rosalind and Michael L. Keiser  
Lesly and David Koo  
Karen and Liam Krehbiel  
Catharyn Cutright and Randall Larrimore  
Jill and John Levi  
The Horner Family Foundation  
Deneese Walia Levin and Matthew Levin

Anna Meytina-Lurye and  
Alexander Lurye  
Kimberly Lynch  
Barbara Malott Kizziah I  
Malott Family Foundation  
Suzanne Lynch and Thomas Meyers  
Dara and Ross Milner  
James Mitchell  
Lisa Gregg and Randy Mitchell  
Amy and Jay Novak  
Robert and Johanna Rahal  
Janet and Jon Rauschenberger  
Laurie and Scott Rose  
Diane Saltoun and Bruce Braun  
Kim and Jim Taylor

## \$7,500+

John and Jacolyn Bucksbaum  
Laura and Anthony Davis  
Laurel Elzinga  
Michael and Briana Fosnaugh  
Lara Frohlich and John Bremen  
Bonnie Fry and Michael Rothman  
Jock Fullmer  
Ravin and Sonal Gandhi  
Erin and Jon Grodnick  
Bruce and Marcia Johnson-Reid  
Brandi Kenner-Bell and  
Juanshederick Bell  
Steven and Priscilla Kersten  
Jennifer Kim and Ben Hellweg  
Adrienne and Erik King  
Annmarie Neumeier  
Cheryl and Thomas Rudbeck  
Sara Stone

## \$5,000+

Anonymous  
Brian Bauer and George Jasinski  
DD Danforth Burlin and Johannes Burlin  
Marcy and Greg Carlin  
Krishnan and Erica Chandrasekhar  
Jerome and Simona Chazen  
Kathy Chazen  
Louise Chazen Banon  
Erika and Paul Cohen  
Anne and Tom Cox  
Neha Dakwala-Shah and Chirag Shah  
Meg and Karl Frey  
Suzanne Gignilliat and Tom Hinkes

Sarah and Jonathan Graham  
Rachel and Devin Gross  
Jeffrey Hesse and Julie Conboy  
Mark Hoplamazian and Rachel Kohler  
Krissan and John Jennings  
Sunhee Lee and Laird Zacheis  
Brigid McGrath and Jon Najarian  
Michaels-Dutton Charitable Fund  
Phil Nevels  
Tanya and Michael Polsky  
Catherine and Michael Rosenberg  
Ann and Tom Simpson  
Jill and Jodi Steinberg  
Susan Stelter  
Kirsten Villers  
Val Vlahos and Stephen Madry  
Alex and Devanee Washington

## \$2,500+

Leslie and William Barker  
Sarah Cogswell and Benjamin Sinaiko  
Joan Craig and Peter Ruggiero  
Cindy and Stephen Cruise  
Michelle and Tom Cusick  
Liz and Tim Devine  
Nancy and Joseph Dwyer  
Robbie and Lindsay Everest  
Jamie-Clare Flaherty and  
Andrew Pickens  
Marcia Friedl-Smith and Todd Smith  
Kriste and Dave Gaudet  
John and Kate Gilligan  
Lee and Sandy Golub  
Pat Goodwillie and Ligia Mendez  
Frank and Iryna Greywitt  
Alexis and Andrew Gross  
Caroline and Dan Grossman  
Alison and Tom Hafner  
Dina Isaacs  
Anna Jeong and Dennis Nam  
Carol Jones and Tom Hynes  
Stacey and Scott Kaniewski  
Linda and Colby Lamberson  
Margaret and Mike Lawler  
Elaine and Art Margulis  
Max and Katie Meyers  
Bonnie and Matt Micheli  
Dora Moore  
Dr. Eleanor A. Nicholson  
Gail and Sean O'Connor

## Honor Roll – Individual

Shauna Peet  
Mollie and David Rattner  
Hunter and Kira Schenk  
Andrew and Gigi Schwertfeger  
Bill Smith and Laura Bertucci  
Natalie Spadaccini Rosenberg and  
Matt Rosenberg  
Val Wiley  
Andrea Wishom-Young and  
Charles Young

### \$1,000+

Anonymous  
Drs. Manjot Gill and Nimit Aggarwal  
Diana Aixalá and Gavin Campbell  
John Akalaonu  
Heidi and Craig Albert  
Jill and Richard J. Almeida  
Norma Amofa-Loza and Michael Amofa  
Helen and Michael Arkes  
Doug Armstrong  
Amanda and Will Atkins  
Trissa Babrowski and  
Sundeep Mullangi  
Richard and Janice Bail  
Omid Bañuelos  
Snjeza and Sebastian Barrack  
Carrie and Rolf Barth  
Drew and Alice Becker  
Ellen and George Benson  
Michael and Pamela Bless  
Elizabeth and David Blinderman  
Jenny Brown  
Elizabeth Buchanan  
Lucy and Michael Burg  
Adam Caplan and Amisha Rigia  
Lisa Centone and Joseph Curci  
Sonia Chae and Bob Agler  
Nick and Liz Christen  
Stephanie and Michael Chu  
Aurelia and Benjamin Cohen  
Matt and Katie Colman  
Guy and Courtney Comer  
Cathleen Connelly  
Kristin Finney-Cooke and  
Dr. Gerald Cooke  
Sharon Corwin and Martin Kelly  
Dennis Daughtridge and Dale Meyer  
Eric Dodson  
Amy and Jeff Donnell

Mia and Alexander Duchnowski  
Liz and Randall Dunn  
Melissa Fischer  
Wende Fox Lawson and Jim Lawson  
Stuart Frankel and Rita Mirman  
Meggan Friedman and Sam Valenzisi  
Sophie and Douglas Goodwillie  
Kelley and Paul Audrain  
Shelley Greenwood and John Lincoln  
Shawn and Lewis Ingall  
Jeff and Marian Jacobson  
Eloise Johnson  
Tori Jueds  
Kelly and Peter Kaiser  
Rebecca and Patrick Kempton  
Joyce and Greg Kenner  
Steve and Lori Kloehn  
Susan and Thomas Koltun  
Dr. Michael and Cathy Lee  
Jeannette Levitt  
Bob Lewandowski and Mona Gupta  
Sonya Malunda and Charles Lampley  
Tara Marsh and Greg Winsor  
Megan Matte  
Rachel Bronson and John Matthews  
Sabina McBride and Andrew Baker  
Rick McCombs and Katrina Veerhusen  
Ellen and Russ McManus  
Krista and Rick Meyers  
Fred Wilson and Elissa Morgante  
Michael E. Murphy Foundation  
Ruthann Neumeier and Jeremy Guterl  
Jenny Notz and Ian Watson  
Jimmy and Jennifer Oppenheimer  
Heidi Ortolaza-Alvear and Andres Alvear  
Craig and Danyelle Post  
Sara and Andy Ray  
Ann and Richard Rothkopf  
Catherine and David Rothschild  
Carol Rubin and Steven Kaplan  
Lynn Sasamoto and Todd Kurisu  
Maggie Schell  
Mary Jo Schuler  
Brinda and Vineet Shah  
Dawn and Benjamin Shapiro  
Paul Sidrys and Anne McClain Sidrys  
Craig and Larissa Silberberg  
Craig and Cheryl Simon  
John Skakun  
William and Melissa Smith

Vik and Ruchika Sohoni  
Michal and Mark Solovy  
Sangeetha Somayajula and  
Pradeep Natarajan  
Maury and Dina Tognarelli  
Dr. Melissa Tracy  
Adam and Amanda Tyler  
Julia and Errett Van Nice  
Aimee Hilado Villalpando and  
Ramon Villalpando  
Scott Vogg and Amy Tomlinson Vogg  
Dr. Kristin Walter  
Sarah Weiss and William Strom  
Greg and Keren Weiss  
Rebecca and Peter Woan  
James Xiang

# Honor Roll – Corporate & Foundation

\$100,000+



Chicago Dermatological Society  
Serving dermatologists since 1901

JACK KENT COOKE FOUNDATION

\$50,000+

ANONYMOUS



NEW YORK LIFE  
FOUNDATION



\$25,000+

ANONYMOUS



The Brinson Foundation



Illinois  
State Board of  
Education



The John Buck Company  
Foundation



LLOYD A. FRY  
FOUNDATION

THE  
SIDLEY AUSTIN  
FOUNDATION



\$10,000+

ANONYMOUS

ANONYMOUS



CHIBIZSTRONG



HOULIHAN LOKEY



LUTHER I. REPLOGLE  
FOUNDATION

The Osa Foundation



PRITZKER PUCKER  
FAMILY FOUNDATION

ROBERT R.  
McCORMICK  
FOUNDATION



William Blair

\$2,500+

ANONYMOUS



CDK GLOBAL



FIRST EAGLE INVESTMENT  
MANAGEMENT FOUNDATION



Parker

GOOGLE, INC.

JENNER & BLOCK

KIRKLAND & ELLIS



MODERN



FRONTIER

TRANSMARKET OPERATIONS LLC



IN-KIND SUPPORTERS



Parker



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
CHICAGO | LABORATORY SCHOOLS

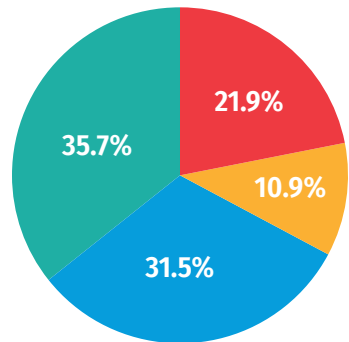
# Revenue and Expenses

## REVENUE

Contributions	\$1,113,948
Special Event Contributions	\$985,440
Foundation & Corporate Grants	\$340,596
In-Kind & Other Support	\$683,957

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**Total Revenue** **\$3,123,941**

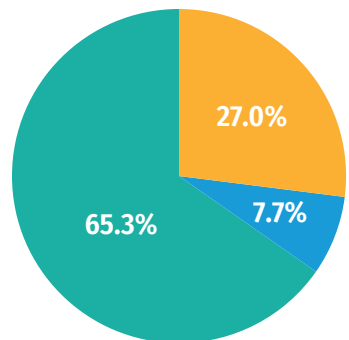


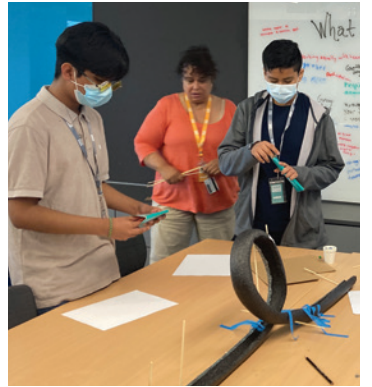
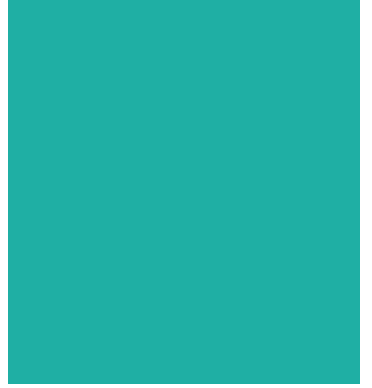
## EXPENSES

Program	\$2,215,638
Management & General	\$261,119
Fundraising	\$916,280

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**Total** **\$3,393,037**





**HIGH  
JUMP**

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Chicago, IL 60607  
[highjumpchicago.org](http://highjumpchicago.org)

