OUR VISION
Ensure every Milwaukee Public Schools Student will receive the support needed to achieve his/her full potential.

OUR MISSION
Inspire, engage and motivate the community, including philanthropic partners, businesses, families, former and current staff and students, in the support of Milwaukee Public Schools and the academic achievement of its students.

OPERATING STRATEGIES
1. Seek and cultivate private and corporate funding sources
2. Promote academic excellence in MPS by providing funding not available through traditional local, state, or federal sources
3. Provide opportunities for MPS teachers and staff to develop innovative projects through grants
4. Invest in programs and experiences that have a positive impact on student success
5. Encourage the educational achievement of MPS high school students by providing college scholarships for qualifying graduates
6. Develop a network of alumni to encourage their continued interest in and support of MPS
From the President & Executive Director

Dear Friends,

As we enter into the second full year of the “reconstitution” of the Milwaukee Public Schools Foundation and reflect back on 2016, we are filled with gratitude for those who have partnered with us to accelerate the growth of our four campaign pillars of Opportunity, Innovation, Big Ideas, and Scholarships. Working in collaboration with MPS Superintendent Driver and district leadership to identify district needs, we continue to raise funds to support groundbreaking initiatives that help MPS students move forward.

This fiscal year we were able to extend the impact of several pioneering programs which will be highlighted in the following pages. These programs include ProStart, the district’s culinary arts program; United Nations Schools of International Learning (UNSIL), a new Model U.N. initiative; MPS Drive, a free driver education program for MPS students, and the Advanced Placement Expansion Project. Lastly, MPS students continue to experience Milwaukee’s rich cultural institutions through the Learning Journeys program which has expanded the participating grade levels.

We are proud of the number of students, teachers, and schools that we were able to serve in 2016 and are pleased to be able to share with you the impact that you have created with your support. The following report provides a lens into our four campaign pillars and the programs and students that they support and serve.

The MPS Foundation is poised to create long-lasting partnerships and collaborations between businesses, nonprofits, communities of faith, other foundations, and the school district. This year we increased our contributions by 39% for a total of $1,088,899, ending the year with net assets in excess of $1,700,000. The momentum built in 2015 did indeed carry over to 2016! We are honored to support MPS’ continued progress, and we thank you for your partnership as we advance equity and excellence across Milwaukee Public Schools.

Sincerely,

John W. Kersey
President
Board of Directors
Milwaukee Public Schools Foundation, Inc.

Ann McClain Terrell
Executive Director
Milwaukee Public Schools Foundation, Inc.
In 2016, the MPS Foundation partnered with the Greater Milwaukee Foundation to create the United Nations Schools of International Learning (UNSIL), a group of eight Milwaukee Public Schools that serve students from diverse backgrounds, including students of different nationalities, languages, and cultures. Students at these schools represent the world; they speak 35 different languages, including Arabic, Burmese, Hmong, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Farsi, Swahili, Russian, Urdu, Haitian, Spanish, French, Bengali, Somali, Amharic, and many more.

The project supported MPS staff in creating and implementing curriculum for 4th and 6th grade students focused on the origin, mission, member countries, and priorities of the United Nations. Students also do in-depth research projects on an assigned United Nations country. Their studies culminate with a World Fair, where students have the opportunity to present their research projects, participate in a Family Meal, and view performances from multicultural groups.

Learning Journeys are high-quality educational events provided at no cost to all MPS students in eight different grade levels. In the 2016-2017 school year, the Learning Journeys program served nearly 24,000 students in collaboration with eight community partners. Each Learning Journey is designed by MPS subject-area experts in collaboration with community partners. The goal of the program is twofold: to connect children to their communities through formative experiences, and to support and enhance classroom instruction with hands-on activities. Teachers are provided with instructional materials for use before and/or after the Learning Journey to assist them in aligning hands-on activities with in-class instruction and learning goals.

Turnaround Arts is the signature program of the President’s Committee on the Arts and the Humanities. It empowers high-needs schools with innovative arts, dance, theater and music programs, arts integration across subject areas, arts resources, musical instruments and high-profile artist mentors as a proven strategy to help address broader school challenges and close the achievement gap.

Turnaround Arts does more than provide greater arts access to students, the program has also increased student achievement using the integrated arts model. According to a national research organization, over a four year period, Turnaround Arts schools experienced on average a 12.6 percent improvement in reading proficiency and a 22.5 percent improvement in math proficiency. Attendance increased and suspensions decreased following implementation of Turnaround Arts programs. Milwaukee Public Schools was selected as a program partner in 2016, and the MPS Foundation is proud to help support this programming.
CLASSROOM Grants

Ann Shansky Classroom Innovation Grant
The Ann Shansky Classroom Innovation Grant program was established in memory of Ann Shansky, an MPS teacher for 34 years. Mrs. Shansky dedicated her life’s work to the education and development of children. The grant program that bears her name is open to Milwaukee Public Schools teachers or students working in collaboration with an MPS teacher. Grants range from $100-$2,000 and may be used to bring new perspectives, methods, and models into the classroom. The program has funded a wide variety of projects, from classroom gardens and cooking demonstrations to take-home kits on various subjects to a trip to the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

ADVANCED Placement Expansion Project
Research shows that advanced placement and collegiate-level coursework is key to student success. Students who take this type of coursework and/or exams are more likely to graduate from college in four years, and more likely to perform well overall in college. The Advanced Placement Expansion Project provides a critical advantage to MPS students as they head off to college by introducing technology-enhanced classrooms and strategies that dramatically expand advanced placement course offerings throughout the district.

In 2016-2017, the Advanced Placement Expansion Project equipped three additional schools with Telepresence, an advanced video conferencing platform that provides live interaction between students at multiple campuses with a highly qualified teacher. In addition, 30 teachers have been trained on using Telepresence technology and in creating online learning environments. These technology-enhanced classrooms and online learning environments have created rich opportunities for students from different corners of the city to collaborate and for more experienced teachers to mentor newer teachers.

PROSTART Program
Restaurants provide one in 10 Wisconsin jobs. ProStart, a culinary arts and restaurant management program, was implemented in Milwaukee Public Schools in 2016. It pairs a nationally-used curriculum with local hospitality partners to build career readiness skills and connect students to restaurant and hospitality industry opportunities. Students who successfully complete the program earn credits toward an associate’s degree at Milwaukee Area Technical College or dozens of other local and national colleges. They will also earn industry certifications that jumpstart their careers immediately upon graduation.

School Fund Accounts
The Milwaukee Public Schools Foundation also supports the fundraising efforts of individual schools and MPS departments, and all schools and departments are eligible to participate. By providing administrative, accounting, and investment services as well as tools to facilitate donations and special events, the Foundation empowers schools and departments to set meaningful goals and establish financial support within their school community. The Foundation currently supports fundraising efforts for 18 schools and departments within Milwaukee Public Schools.
**SCHOLARSHIP Opportunities**

The MPS Foundation is proud to support MPS graduates as they pursue post-secondary educational opportunities. Each year the Foundation manages a robust scholarship program that matches outstanding students with significant financial need to a number of unique scholarship opportunities. Many include mentoring and other forms of ongoing support. Scholarships are available to support a broad range of student talents and interest, including the arts, STEM fields, and opportunities specifically for women and students of color. Funds are provided by community organizations, local corporations, and generous individuals in the community. In 2016, the Foundation was proud to introduce three new scholarship opportunities; more than $40,000 was awarded to our students.

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**A REMARKABLE Donor**

Milwaukee native Joan Robertson was born 100 years ago, on January 27, 1916, to Allan and Annette Roberts. Joan’s mother was an outspoken pacifist and suffragette who, up until her death at age 102, worked toward world peace and diplomacy through organizations like the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom. Joan was born two years after World War I started. The Spanish Civil War was underway while she studied English at the Connecticut College for Women. World War II began while she was visiting relatives in Europe, and the area where her aunt and uncle were living was bombed twice during that time. Shortly before the war ended in 1945, Joan married Alfonso Darius Robertson, cofounder of what became Wisconsin’s largest independently-owned insurance agency, Robertson-Ryan & Associates. She is the mother of five children: Allan, Bruce, Craig, Jay and Annette.

Joan’s volunteer work and the Fund’s support have revolved around similar organizations, such as the Peace Education Project of Peace Action-Milwaukee, the Greater Milwaukee United Nations Association, and the Ploughshares Fund, whose efforts lead to peace and non-violence. The fund also supports the Foundation’s Match Day and Milwaukee Succeeds, which Joan says provide answers to societal problems, as well as agencies like Planned Parenthood, Sharp Literacy, Milwaukee Ballet, and MPTV Friends. Joan Robertson, who was named the recipient of the 2014 UN Association-USA Goodman Lifetime Achievement Award, has strived for international peace and justice throughout her lifetime. Her commitment to the United Nations goes back to its founding more than seven decades ago in the years that followed the end of World War II.

The Milwaukee Board of School Directors recognized and honored Joan Robertson for her dedication, outstanding leadership, and commitment to excellence on behalf of the students of the Milwaukee Public Schools with the Excellence in Education award in November 2016.
The MPS Foundation operates on a calendar fiscal year, while many of the projects and programs we support operate on a school year basis. As a result, funds may not be spent in the same fiscal year they are raised, and our revenue and allocations charts reflect this.

**The MPS Foundation supports fundraising efforts for 15 MPS schools. The funds they raise are housed within the MPS Foundation and included in the chart above, but are restricted for each school’s use. These funds may be spent at the discretion of the school that raised them, in accordance with the wishes of their donors, and on a schedule set by each school.**
The Milwaukee Public Schools Foundation, Inc. seeks to raise funds and secure donations from individuals and private-sector organizations to support programs and projects not affordable through public funds to provide enhanced learning opportunities for students in Milwaukee Public Schools. The Foundation is supported through the generous gifts of individuals and organizations that care about supporting public education in the city of Milwaukee. The Milwaukee Public Schools Foundation extends a heartfelt “Thank You” to all of our individual and private-sector donors who continue to make the work we do possible. Our philanthropic, corporate, and community partners are listed below.

- Anonymous
- A Happy Thought Indeed LLC
- Adept Engraving, LLC
- Akin’s Path, Inc.
- Allure Studio Works LLC
- AmazonSmile
- Arteaga Construction Inc.
- Arts at Large Inc.
- ASQ-The Global Voice of Equality
- Aurora Healthcare
- Bader Philanthropies
- Baird Foundation, Inc.
- Bird Ladder and Equipment Co Inc.
- Bird Scaffolding Rentals LLC
- BMO Harris Bank N.A.
- Brewers Community Foundation, Inc.
- Briggs and Stratton Corporation
- Cheeky Monkey
- City of Milwaukee Employees
- City Year, Inc
- F10 Restaurant, Inc
- Gale Family Foundation
- GE United Way Campaign
- Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Wisconsin
- Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation
- Greater Milwaukee Committee
- Greater Milwaukee Foundation: Annette J. Roberts and Joan R. Robertson Fund for World Peace, World Law and Peace Education
- Greater Milwaukee Foundation: Bernice K. Rose Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Harley-Davidson Foundation
- Herb Kohl Philanthropies
- The Richard & Ethel Herzfeld Foundation
- Alice C. Holton Foundation
- Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee Employees
- Irgens
- Ironwood Foundation
- Jewish Community Foundation: Saffra and Levy Family Fund
- Kohl’s Department Stores
- Korinthian Violins LLC.
- Little Monsters, LLC.
- Marcus Corporation Foundation
- Marcus Hotels and Resorts
- Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce
- Michael Best & Friedrich LLP
- Milwaukee Art Museum Employees
- Milwaukee Bucks LLC
- Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewage District Employees
- Milwaukee Public Schools Employees
- Milwaukee Public Schools Division of Facilities and Maintenance Service Employees
- Milwaukee Public Schools Office of Academics Employees
- Milwaukee Public Schools Office of Finance Employees
- Milwaukee Workforce Investment Board
- MMAC-Community Support Fund
- Mueller Communications
- Nicholas & Associates, Inc.
- Northwestern Mutual Foundation
- OptumRx Inc.
- Park Bank Foundation
- Pieper Electric, Inc.
- Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP
- PTG Live Events LLC
- Riverside High ’66 Reunion
- Running Rebels Community Organization
- Salon Salon, LLC
- Shoreview Pediatrics
- Simple Milwaukee LLC
- Smoke Shack MKE, LLC
- Samprasong & Da Beast LLC
- Barbara Ann Stein Charitable Lead Trust
- The Firm Consulting LLC
- The GE Foundation
- U.S. Bank National Association
- United Way Metro Chicago
- WE Energies Foundation
- WEC Energy Group
- Wells Fargo Employees
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- Joseph & Vera Zilber Charitable Foundation
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