The Yellow Springs Experience National Bronze Symposium

The Yellow Springs Experience National Bronze Symposium was held October 13-26, 2013. Its purpose was to create public art through an experiential process that would impact residents of Yellow Springs, as well as visitors from the entire Miami Valley.

Artists were chosen from a national submission and jury process. Susan Byrnes (Cincinnati, OH), D’Jean Jawrunner (Tucumcari, NM), and John Weidman (Brookline, NH) joined invited artist, Brian Maughan of Yellow Springs. Over the course of two weeks, 1,700 people attended lectures, demonstrations, and educational events, culminating in a live bronze pour at the Antioch College Foundry with over 250 people in attendance on a very cold evening.

The Bronze Symposium also provided an important educational component locally at Antioch College, the Antioch School, Yellow Springs public schools, K-12, and the Clark County Juvenile Detention Center.

Under the guidance of Yellow Springs High School art teachers, Elisabeth Simon and Karleen Materne, an aluminum casting was executed. Students from the Dayton STEM school also participated. This was part of the newly implemented Project Based Learning (PBL). Students collaborated on a theme and narrowed down the vision to 11 tiles. The casts were made reflecting the different themes of the piece. Sometime during the warmer months the piece will be mounted and available for public viewing. Some comments from Ms. Simon’s students were “Now I notice public art whenever I’m in a city and realize all the work and number of people it takes to create the piece.” “When I was interviewing for college, they talked about lost-wax casting. I already knew the process. It’s not something most high school art classes get to experience.”

All goals of the The Bronze Symposium were achieved. The entire two weeks were successful beyond anyone’s imagination. Project Manager Joanne Caputo’s tireless work, creativity, and insight provided Yellow Springs with an experience rarely available outside academia or a much larger city.

This just in and great news. A grant for $5000.00 for Phase 2 of The Yellow Springs Experience National Bronze Symposium has been approved. This phase will allow for casting and mounting of 12 sculptures throughout the Village. The resulting Bronze Sculpture Trail will be the first of its kind in the village, with the final 12 castings mounted on low posts or walls and promoted through print and Internet maps as a public art trail. This public art will be another wonderful addition to the Yellow Springs community.
With 20 Miller Fellowships funded at the beginning of the 2013-2014 Antioch College academic year, it is not surprising that Dean of Cooperative, Experiential, and International Education Rick Krance recently called the YSCF-funded internships the cornerstone of the co-op program. And, with Antioch students interning at nonprofits all over town, the program, which is in its third year, seems to be fulfilling the spirit of Dick and Nolan Miller’s bequest, to foster town and gown relationships.

In the past, the Annual Report has touted the successes of the program by highlighting individual Miller Fellows and their roles at their local nonprofits. This year we are going to look at how the program is administered through the cooperation of the YSCF administration and the Antioch Co-op Department.

If a little more than two years ago, the first year of Miller, can be referred to as simpler times, there is a logical explanation for why it was just that—there was only one class of students to deal with. That class was also smaller than the two subsequent classes. At about 35 students, it was about one-third of the size of the classes that would follow.

Requests for proposals went out in the fall of 2010 for a class that would not start until almost a year later. Now, they go out in the summer of the same year. Once the deadline for proposals has passed, the YSCF trustees review them as a committee of the whole, referring to a list of criteria that includes such items as proposed tasks or duties; educational goals (the benefit to the student intern); the benefit to Yellow Springs community; and the ability of the organization to supervise and evaluate the fellows. What the trustees are looking for is a win-win-win situation—a benefit to the student, the nonprofit, and the community as a whole.

Once the grants are awarded, Antioch is notified of the beneficiary organizations and the job descriptions, and a job fair is scheduled during the first week the new students are due to arrive on campus. We hope they will arrive with resumes in hand. But, sometimes that is too much to ask of young people who are under a great deal of time pressure, and may not have much in the way of employment history.

Organizations are given the option of asking for one or more students to work for as much as three part-time quarters of 10 hours of work per week and a full-time quarter of 40 hours per week that coincides with what is referred to as the students’ co-op quarter. However, they can ask for less. An organization may need a student only for three quarters or may not be able to supervise a student for a quarter of full-time work. The proposals are many and varied. Sometimes they match the students’ needs; other times it takes a bit of tailoring to make them fit. Sometimes these things are hashed out at the job fair; sometimes the co-op department needs some extra time to work things out. And students have on occasion worked out their own solutions. They have split jobs, traded jobs, and even skirted the job fair by cutting their own deals with the nonprofit employers.

During the first two years of the program, an understaffed and overworked Antioch Co-op Department was concentrated on the co-op jobs that would take the students out of town, and was often unaware of the arrangements the students were making in the village in order to fit the program to their needs. Foundation Administrator Virgil Hervey was receiving timesheets with unfamiliar names, and fielding requests from nonprofits that wanted to make arrangements that looked vastly different from their original proposals. Miller was making his job look more like that of a program manager than a foundation administrator. At board meetings he would alert the trustees to the fact that he had to have the freedom to be flexible in dealing with the nonprofits, as long as they didn’t ask to exceed the funding that had been granted to them. The trustees agreed.

Meanwhile, the requests to buck the system were getting more and more complicated. YSCF had instituted a scheme of funding at the beginning of each quarter. But organizations were asking to move funds from one quarter to another to accommodate their needs and the students’ schedules. Many of these concerns were raised at the debriefing sessions at the end of the first two academic years. It was becoming clear that some of their questions would be more properly addressed to Antioch. Hervey needed help.
While YSCF had always had the students’ best interest at heart, Hervey felt the nonprofits and his fiduciary responsibility to YSCF had to be his first concern. After all, the students had Antioch to look out for them. At the same time, Antioch was beefing up the Co-op Department and undergoing a change in leadership. At the end of year two, Rick Kraince took over as head of the co-op department from the retiring Susan Eklund-Leen. He and Hervey met to discuss the list of debriefing concerns and agreed that Antioch needed a single point person to deal with the students and the nonprofits. With the extra help they had hired, this would now be possible for the first time. Yellow Springs resident Beth Bridgeman was given the job. Familiar with the local nonprofits and also a community member of YSCF’s Development Committee, Bridgeman would be a perfect fit.

Since she took over, Bridgeman and Hervey have met a number of times. As she learned on the job and began to face the same problems Hervey had been experiencing, it became clear to her that the Miller Fellows needed closer supervision during their part-time quarters. Several needs were not being met. With three classes now in place and three different co-op quarters to administer, scheduling was more difficult than ever. Matching up students with nonprofits that had very specific needs was difficult, to say the least.

To further complicate matters, the nonprofits were rehiring students who had worked for them in previous years. Spending time on training new hires was one issue for them, but when they had an intern they really liked, they wanted to keep him or her forever. The problem was that those second- and third-year interns were required to co-op out of town and needed to be replaced temporarily for one quarter. With a fourth class of students due to start in the 2014-2015 academic year, things would only get worse. Bridgeman’s other concern was that the first-year students were not getting a fair shot at the local jobs that interested them.

The solution she came up with is to return to that simpler time of the first Miller class, a time when it was envisioned that student work would start locally and expand globally. Starting next year, first-year students will get the first shot at those jobs that were awarded Miller Fellowship grants. In a perfect world that would mean all first-year students would have three part-time quarters and one full-time quarter of work at the local nonprofit of their choice. Given the specific needs of the individual organizations, Bridgeman and Hervey both know that is not possible. But, it’s a place to start.

### Preventing Violence

Not a cell phone was in sight, and you could have heard a pin drop when the entire McKinney Middle School and Yellow Springs High School student body heard Johanna Orozco speak about teen dating violence on February 7. It was a “Survivor Story.” As a teenager, Johanna had been in what seemed to be a good relationship. When it became abusive, she tried to terminate the relationship. Her ex-boyfriend attacked her at knife-point and subsequently shot her in the face with a sawed-off shotgun. Johanna survived and makes presentations to teens and communities to raise public awareness of violence in teen dating. She emphasizes the importance of seeking support and details what support is available for someone in a violent relationship. Johanna also gave an evening presentation at Antioch Midwest which was open to the broader community and was attended by a diverse audience that included students, their parents, and interested members of the surrounding area. A reception with refreshments from the Spirited Goat Coffeehouse and Current Cuisine followed the evening presentation.

Johanna’s presentations were sponsored by the Family Violence Prevention Center (FVPC) as a part of Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. The FVPC mission is to provide safe housing, prevention, intervention, and outreach for those in abusive relationships. Prior to Johanna’s presentation, Cherie Dixon, FVPC’s prevention coordinator, had organized a three-part program on healthy relationships for the students in Yellow Springs schools. FVPC also provides safe shelter for citizens of Yellow Springs, Bath Township, and beyond who find themselves in abusive situations.

Why did the Yellow Springs Community Foundation (YSCF) support the speaker of this “Survivor Story”? First and foremost, it touched 400 lives of the youth and adults who live in this community and provided information for individuals who might need help. Second, FVPC is not supported by levy dollars and must rely on donations and funded grants. Since the economic crisis in 2007, the FVPC shelter has been full and most funds must be used to cover related expenses. Funds for education and outreach programs are limited. Third, FVPC has a history with Yellow Springs. Its first shelter started as a two-room apartment in the Village. Currently, its six-unit complex in Xenia is being expanded to nine units. The unfortunate few in the Village who need shelter have found it with FVPC. In 2010, the YSCF supported an adult outreach program which was also held in Yellow Springs at Antioch Midwest. Finally, members of the YSCF Grants Review Committee and the Board were pleased to be able to support this program that focuses on the youth of the community. Yellow Springs High School and Antioch Midwest graciously provided space for the programs, hotel accommodations were provided by the Hilton Garden Inn, and the Yellow Springs Community Foundation provided funds for the speaker expenses. This outreach program was truly a collaborative, community effort.

Photos on facing page and to left were taken at a job fair for Miller Fellows.
During a recent Community Meeting held on the Antioch College campus, students, staff, and faculty gathered before a slide show of photographs detailing the ongoing renovations to Antioch’s performing arts space—Foundry Theater. The excitement was palpable. According to Antioch College President Mark Roosevelt, renovations were funded by an anonymous donor and the single largest grant the Yellow Springs Community Foundation has made in its 40-year history.

The $200,000 award resulted from a dual application presented by Yellow Springs Arts Council and Antioch College, proposing Foundry Theatre serve as the principal performing arts space for both the Yellow Springs community and Antioch College.

The renovations will take place in two phases. The first phase will keep the capacity the same at 225 seats, per fire code regulations. With the second phase of renovation, the capacity of a full house will increase to between 300 to 400 seats, fulfilling the community’s needs for a larger performance venue identified in needs studies.

Antioch College will continue to own and maintain the building and operations. The partnership results in an active advisory board comprised of members of the Antioch College community and community members representing area organizations nominated by the Yellow Springs Arts Council.

After the first phase of renovations, Foundry Theatre is slated to open April 1, 2014.

**From foundry to Foundry Theatre**

Antioch’s Dean of Community Life Louise Smith has a long history with the theater. First used as a foundry and fabrication space for the co-op project that became Morris Bean, the building was remodeled as a theater space in 1955. The main update to the space since the 1980s was an alumni-constructed makeshift dressing area on the backstage, and insufficient restrooms and insurmountable issues with the roof proved to be continual problems.

Still, according to Smith, the building had a special industrial aesthetic that lent it charm, and the large space proved to be a great venue for performance and community collaborations. Even if the only chairs in the building were from the 1970s.

The now independent Antioch College’s performance courses lead an investigation of voice, body, story, text, and space, where students come to understand both their own experience as performers and their responsibility to communicate to others. Students become familiar with history, contemporary practices, and theory through studies of performance and collaborations with visiting guest artists and community members.

“Foundry Theatre will provide the space needed to take experiential learning to another level,” according to Antioch’s new Assistant Professor of Performance Gabrielle Civil. “I’m very excited about the re-opening of the Antioch Theater. The funded renovation allows for performance classes to happen in a specialized space with access to professional stage lights and sound.”

As a site of sustained practice that is deeply engaged in co-creation with the community, the theatre activates the core of the Antioch mission, while serving a clear community need.

“After this first phase, community members will have the benefit of a sound roof, expanded restrooms and theater spaces that have been meticulously brought up to fire code,” Civil said.

With Antioch College architects and property management overseeing the renovations and daily operations, community representatives are free to focus on programming to ensure broad access to the rehearsal and performance spaces.

The Arts Advisory Board, comprised of both College and members of the wider community, are currently working on policies and procedures, including an events calendar and a scheduling mechanism, Civil said.

**Performing arts center needs assessment**

The need for a significant community performing arts space has been long discussed in Yellow Springs. In 2005, Lee Morgan brought together Hardy Ballentine, John Fleming, Tony Dallas, Louise Smith, and Jerome Borchers to discuss creating a theater.

The task force led to a 3-day community visioning meeting held at the Presbyterian Church in 2006, where approximately 300 community members attended to talk about theater and arts in Yellow Springs.

A variety of local projects grew out of that visioning process, helping to build increased capacity and sustainability for local arts organizations. As a result, the Yellow Springs Arts Council is now a more dynamic representative of local artisans spanning 13 identified domains of practice. And in 2013 the Little Art Theater opened a completely remodeled facility supported by a stronger operating base.

The theater is the final actionable goal of the 2006 Center for the Arts Steering Committee. The needs revealed during the visioning process—an ADA-compliant theater/performance venue in Yellow Springs.
Springs including rehearsal space, dressing rooms, technical facilities and lighting capable of seating larger crowds—will be met through Foundry Theatre.

Still, the second phase of renovations bringing a larger capacity to Foundry Theatre require further funding, and the Yellow Springs Arts Council, working with the former Steering Committee members, intends to launch a local capital campaign to assist with the second phase of renovations.

As with all successful Yellow Springs Community Foundation proposals, the request for support identified a means to address a clear community need. When Foundry Theatre is complete, performance artists working in drama, music, dance, choir, multi-media, and other forms will have the accessible space needed to collaborate, practice, and perform, impacting all age groups in the Yellow Springs community, including the Antioch College student body.

Tongue and groove maple flooring was reclaimed from west gym by Antioch volunteers (Jim Spangler and Tom Lamers who are shown here) and repurposed in the dance studio using a sprung floor design from Stage Step. Three thousand foam rubber cubes under the floor provide resilience, which helps prevent impact injuries.

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Transforming Our Schools

Project Based Learning (PBL) is the progressive approach to learning and teaching that is coming alive in our local schools. This innovative model is succeeding as a result of the enthusiasm and hard work of the students, teachers, and school leadership, and grants from the Yellow Springs Community Foundation (YSCF). Through PBL, students and teachers design projects that have significance and meaning to students and to the Yellow Springs community as a whole.

The focus of the PBL projects is as diverse as our community. High School students have worked together to develop a plan that would help increase the number of volunteers and donations to The Foodbank, Inc. Another PBL study explored ancient Egypt as a way to understand the development of future civilizations. And most recently a new PBL project has been launched at Mills Lawn to learn about the Ash Tree, examine the trees on the school property, and make recommendations to the school superintendent about a plan of action for managing the Ash Borer Beetle. The Watchdog, Yellow Springs High School’s new magazine, features regular profiles about PBL projects. Additionally there is a website (http://www.yellow-springs.k12.oh.us/PBL.aspx) if you’re interested in reading more about specific projects.

All PBL projects require multidisciplinary cooperation to solve complex problems in a group, the necessity to build deep understanding about a relevant issue, and a presentation component. The PBL students present to each other and to adult community members to take in feedback and improve project outcomes through constructive critique.

The YSCF grants for PBL were made possible by YScape, the Yellow Springs Capital and Endowment Fund. This donor-advised fund allows local philanthropists to make an impact at any time that is financially best for them. Individuals at any giving level can make a gift now and take advantage of tax benefits of a gift in the current year. Donors can then advise the YSCF about how to distribute the dollars at a later date. The trustees of the YSCF are confident that this fund will support positive impacts for the Yellow Springs community while providing flexibility and tax advantages to donors.

The YSCF helped to support the transition to PBL by funding critical professional development and coaching for the teachers. When asked if they would ever go back to traditional teaching if they had a chance, PBL school teachers respond with an emphatic No. Many felt that although they worked harder than ever using PBL, their jobs were far more fulfilling than in a traditional school. PBL “ignites our passion as educators and why we went into the profession.” “PBL is real world and not just focused on memorization and academic skills. Our children need to learn how to create new ideas and industries and become social and policy innovators. This kind of skill is not the ‘one and done’ of traditional test taking. Instead it is about grit, and overcoming adversity,” said Mario Basura, superintendent of the Yellow Springs Schools. “We are transforming education in Yellow Springs and this would not be possible without the help from the Community Foundation.”
From the President

As I near the end of my first year as president of the Yellow Springs Community Foundation, I am struck by the virtuous cycle of gift giving by the community to the Foundation and grant making by the Foundation to the community. This virtuous cycle enables the Foundation to support local projects and activities that enhance the lives of our children, our seniors, our environment, our arts and culture. In 2013, we made grants to support Yellow Springs and Miami Township in: education (conference on safe school climate); the social services (new car purchase for Senior Center); the environment (mosquito control); the arts (the Bronze Sculpture Symposium); and culture (renovation of the Antioch theater). In Miami Township, the Foundation supported the purchase of playground equipment for 4H Camp Clifton. And our Miller Fellows program made it possible for more than a dozen Antioch College students to serve the community by working part-time in 12 local non-profit organizations. We anticipate that these programs will have an enduring impact on the village and its people in the years to come.

As we prepare to celebrate the 40th anniversary of YSCF, I want to note the passing of two of our founders, George Asakwa and Hardy Trolander. George and Hardy worked tirelessly to gear up the Foundation and ensure it would be a vital organization for years to come. As George said years ago, “Individuals come and go, companies come and go, but I thought a community foundation would have some staying power.” Nearly four decades later, it is clear that YSCF has staying power. This is a result of your generosity, careful stewardship of your gifts, and the creative programs you have delivered with grants from the community foundation. It is my pleasure to be a part of this virtuous cycle that George and Hardy helped set in motion all those years ago, which continues to sustain and support the community and the Foundation.

Another pleasure of living in the village is the chance meetings downtown or at a community event. You never know whom you will run into on a quick run to the grocery store or on an evening stroll around the village. If you see a Foundation member on such an occasion, I encourage you to stop us and share a story of how the President’s Report, continued

Foundation has touched your life or to let us know how the Foundation might serve the community in the future. We are exploring how the Foundation can evolve to best provide a means for charitable giving and grant making to enhance the community life in Yellow Springs and Miami Township. We look forward to seeing you around town and hearing from you about this, too.

Sterling Wiggins

Introducing Our Newest Trustee

I have truly enjoyed my first full year as a trustee after having served five years as a member. Helping further the arts, youth, seniors, education, and other areas of our community has been extremely rewarding and fun. Little did I know when my family and I moved to Yellow Springs in 2000 that I would have the privilege of joining the Foundation and contributing to our community’s future in so many ways. I serve on our Grants Review and Public Relations committees, and serve as chairman of our Personnel and Technology committees. My fulltime job as the CRM Manager at Standard Register in Dayton has enabled me to also help improve the Foundation’s infrastructure by securing and implementing a Salesforce.com grant of their industry-leading CRM software platform. We use the software to manage contributors, grant requests and recipients, and trustee and member communications. We will also be updating and improving our website this year. My wife and I have also coordinated the Village’s youth baseball program since 2005 and I currently also serve as president of Yellow Springs Youth Baseball, Inc.

the President’s Report, continued

Foundation has touched your life or to let us know how the Foundation might serve the community in the future. We are exploring how the Foundation can evolve to best provide a means for charitable giving and grant making to enhance the community life in Yellow Springs and Miami Township. We look forward to seeing you around town and hearing from you about this, too.

Sterling Wiggins

Thanks to the Following Volunteers without whom the Annual Report would not be possible:

Brooke Bryan, Virgil Hervey, Lisa Kreeger, Jane Scott, Mary Kay Smith
2013 Grant Awards from Discretionary Funds

Home, Inc., $99 for technical assistance.
Antioch University Midwest, $4,500 for conference on safe school climate.
YS Arts Council, $3,000 for Bronze Symposium.
Greene Environmental Coalition, $3,500 for mosquito control in Yellow Springs.
YSKP, $4,000 for capacity building.
Senior Citizens Center, $6,000 matching grant for new vehicle for transport program.
Antioch College, $200,000 for renovation of theatre building.
4H Camp Clifton, $3,200 for playground equipment.
Senior Citizens Center, $15,625 for new roof.
YS Center Stage, $2,500 for production of Threepenny Opera.
WYSO, $7,060 for production software updates.
Antioch School, $6,000 for regional student recruitment.
YS Arts Council, $2,000 for Godzilla premiere.
Family Violence Prevention Center, $2,000 for “Survivor Stories” project.

Yellow Springs Endowment for Education Grants

$1,198 to purchase iPads for high school and middle school art program.
$695 for teaching materials for Judo Math program.
$999 for PBL sculpture unit in cooperation with Bronze Symposium.

YSCAPE

$9,157 for team visits to PBL exemplar schools.

Youth Philanthropy Grants

$300 for Knitting Club supplies to knit for charity.
$300 for dance costumes.
$300 for 22018 Class Book project.

Saul Young Grants

$300 to YSHS for senior Citizens Day expenses.
$300 to 365 Project
$300 to YSP Police Dept. coat fund
$300 to Arts Council Community Music Fund in honor of James Johnston

Miller Fellowships

The following nonprofit organizations were awarded Miller Fellowships:
Antioch School
Arts Council
Community Access TV
Community Solutions
Glen Helen Ecology Inst.
Home, Inc.
Senior Citizens Center
Tecumseh Land Trust
WYSO
Yellow Springs Experience
Yellow Springs Exempted School District
YS Kids Playhouse

“IT was creatively powerful and easy to leave my ‘normal’ world behind and to become part of the Yellow Springs community, thanks to their support and generous spirits. To focus on work and share the experience as fellow artists worked was a true gift. I look forward to continuing the friendships.” —D’Jean Jawrunner

We encourage all grantees to post comments and photos of their projects on our Facebook page.

The Yellow Springs Community Foundation is a tax-exempt, public, charitable organization, established in 1974, that manages monies for the benefit of all residents of Yellow Springs and Miami Township. Funds come primarily from three sources: an annual campaign, bequests, and memorial gifts.

Our Mission (What We Do)
The mission of the YSCF is to enhance community life in Yellow Springs and Miami Township by providing means for charitable giving and grant making that fund a broad range of activities.

Our Vision (Where We Will Be in the Future)
Entrusted with the responsibility of enhancing community life, the YSCF has the following vision:
• To serve as a catalyst and resource for philanthropy
• To build and be stewards of endowments that address the community’s evolving needs.
• To provide flexible and cost-effective ways for donors to improve our community.

The Community Foundation

During the Year

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<th>Funds/Endowment</th>
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<tr>
<td>From Shelbert Smith Scholarship</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From John Gudgel Scholarship</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From N.J. &amp; R.D. Miller Endowment</td>
<td>70,465</td>
<td>47,012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From School District Capital Sub-Fund</td>
<td>91,554</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From Tregillus Fund</td>
<td>280,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From Jeannie Felker Scholarship</td>
<td>4,834</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From Ray Schiff Capacity Building Fund</td>
<td>400</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From Restricted Pass-Through Funds</td>
<td>4,100</td>
<td>1,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Grants Distributed</strong></td>
<td><strong>$502,284</strong></td>
<td><strong>$177,813</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>From Restricted Endowments</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From Scholarship Funds</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From Memorial Funds</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>From Unrestricted Funds to Restricted Endowments</td>
<td>16,000</td>
<td>16,912</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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