



*the
Yellow Springs
Community
Foundation*

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ANNUAL
REPORT MARCH 2013

Celebrating Yellow Springs

On a glorious late-summer afternoon, several hundred villagers gathered on Mills Lawn to enjoy food, games, conversations, music, and learning about some of the local nonprofit organizations funded by grants from the foundation. This party on September 8, given by the Foundation to honor Yellow Springs and Miami Township residents, was open to the public. It was not a fund-raising event, but a way to celebrate and thank the many volunteers, organizations, and donors that make Yellow Springs such a vibrant community.



Funding a Summer at the Opera

As with many nonprofits throughout the nation, the last couple of years have been a rough stretch for YS Kids Playhouse (YSKP), that venerable organization that has taught kids in the village how to do theater for what seems like forever. Yet, with a little help from the Yellow Springs Community Foundation and the Ohio Arts Council, they managed to pull off another successful summer season and are looking down the road to a sustainable future.

During the summer of 2012, the YS Kids Playhouse held its nineteenth summer immersion program for children, ages five to eighteen. Sixty-eight youth participated in the program, which included six age-appropriate immersion programs in theater, vocal music, music, technical theater, and dance based on Ohio's K-12 Fine Arts Academic Standards.

Learning opportunities galore were provided by the rehearsal and production of the YSKP original musical, *Mo's Night At the Opera*. It presented challenging material, mixing the slapstick comedy and an updated storyline of the Marx Brothers' *A Night at the Opera*, written and directed by John Fleming and composed by Neal Kirkwood, with musical vocals and score influences from Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*, mixed with YSKP's trademark jazz scores. The program also included a community presentation of Mozart's vocal and orchestral music presented by the Yellow Springs Community Chorus and Orchestra, a small community coffeehouse presentation, and a workshop and presentation of commedia del' arte forms and historical roots of *The Marriage of Figaro* with soloist and musical numbers.

YSKP was also part of the Dayton Street Cirque Carnivale, offering musical selections from the show, and participated in the 4th of July Parade. All events provided opportunities to stimulate local economic development in the arts through the Yellow Springs Experience. Approximately thirty-three artists participated as teaching artists and mentors. The production also provided a community arts/economic partnership opportunity. An estimated 3,000 people and 30 additional artists participated in the Yellow Springs Experience events. Direct partners included Antioch College, Antioch University Midwest, the Yellow Springs Arts Council, the Chamber of Commerce, the Dayton Street Business Alliance, and the Community Chorus and Orchestra.

According to YSKP's final report, an evaluation of the experiences of the participating youth showed they improved and learned arts skills across the spectrum of classes, rehearsals, and performances. All improved in standards based on Ohio's K-12 fine arts standards in Vocal Music, Theater, Music, and Dance. All of the participants showed improvement in one or more scores or attained one or more satisfactory rating thresholds. Program summative information shows the youth learned basic skills, and appreciated the sense of community in the experience. The kids also pointed to problem-solving, communication, working with others, and "learning Italian" as most memorable. Audience members had many glowing comments and overwhelmingly rated the quality of the children's theater as above average to excellent.

YSKP also met its proposed objective with audience members; out of 114 responses, 94% reported the show experience increased



The cast of Mo's Night at the Opera, performed at the Antioch Amphitheatre last July

their appreciation for youth arts making and 96% said YSKP makes our community more liveable.

Total funding in the amount of \$28,000 for YSKP's Summer Theater Arts Program and Community Arts Partnership came from an Ohio Arts Council Arts Partnership Grant of \$20,000, part of which was a matching grant, matching a grant of \$8,000 from the Yellow Springs Community Foundation.

YS Kids Playhouse receives no public funding. So in addition to ticket sales and tuition, which cover only a small portion of expenses, the organization relies heavily on grants. In a letter accompanying the final report on this project, YSKP President Brian Housh wrote, "The YSKP is proud of its achievement this summer and again wants to thank the Community Foundation for a true lifeline. YSKP is proud to announce we have received a grant for summer 2013 from the NEA for \$10,000, and we expect to announce a treasurer soon. YSKP is finding its roots back to becoming a viable organization."

As one audience member said in evaluating the program, "The opportunity for children to create a unique, original work is priceless. It lets both them and the audience understand that art can come from all of us. The chance to work with professionals in their field is an added bonus. What a great group. Been coming every year since the beginning."

Reinvention Stories

We've all done it . . . listened to radio. Visualization of what the announcer is describing is left to our imagination. And while radio with video is what we all know as television, the digital age is presenting an exciting new multimedia opportunity for a handful of public radio stations, among them Yellow Springs' own, WYSO. A Foundation grant of \$7,180 is helping WYSO reinvent and position itself as a leader and innovator in our exciting new digital world.

The grant funded purchase of a digital video workstation (a 21-inch Apple iMac computer), video editing software, and camera equipment. The local grant complemented a \$114,000 grant from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) for a ground-breaking multimedia collaboration project known as Reinvention, part of "Localore," a national documentary project sponsored by AIR, the Association for Independents in Radio. The Reinvention project brought Emmy-award-winning and Oscar-nominated Yellow Springs filmmakers Julia Reichart and Steve Bogner to WYSO as producers-in-residence. They joined with WYSO staff, trainees from WYSO's "Community Voices" program, several Miami Valley independent filmmakers, and a web designer to produce a series of multimedia radio stories and films to document how area residents are changing, or reinventing, their lives.

Last summer, the group divided into small teams of radio and film producers who walked Dayton's South Park, Belmont, Twin Towers, and Residence Park neighborhoods in search of examples of how Miami Valley residents have reinvented themselves in the current economy. The formula: to find and document individuals and tell a story about who they were before the bottom fell out, what happened to change their life, and what they are doing to change and become something new. The result: some seventy interviews that are the basis for a four-minute radio story aired Wednesdays on WYSO and available on the station's website at www.wyso.org, along with more details about the individual's story and a six-minute film.

Even though the project officially wrapped up at the end of February, the content creation and distribution will go on for some

WYSO Community Voices Coordinator Sarah Buckingham in the media lab funded by YSCF



The new studios of WYSO Public Radio on E. South College Street

time. "We've completed six of these multimedia stories so far and have enough material for a year's worth of others when they are each broadcast twice," said WYSO General Manager Neenah Ellis. "And then there's the new Reinvention Stories website that will showcase this marvelous work"

"Act 1," or the first part of each subject's story, "Who was I?" was launched in late February on the new Reinvention Stories website at www.reinventionstories.org. "Act 2," documenting each subject's life-changing event, and then "Act 3," explaining what the individuals are doing to reinvent themselves, were each added to the website in March and April respectively. Ellis also hopes to work with the CPB and the Association for Independents in Radio (AIR), for additional publicity and distribution.

WYSO was one of only ten stations nationwide to receive the Reinventions grant, all but one of which are in major metropolitan markets. Ellis said the project has presented WYSO a unique opportunity to learn how to tell stories in new and exciting ways that even she, a Peabody-award-winning former National Public Radio producer and bestselling *New York Times* author, never imagined. "And we couldn't produce these incredible stories without the equipment the YSCF grant funded," she added.

The computer and other equipment has already been used for other multimedia projects, and will continue to play an important role even after the last Reinvention story is completed. It has already been used to create an online media training course and it is available for WYSO staff, volunteers, and those who take the Community Voices training to develop their multimedia skills. Ellis believes this will help WYSO establish itself as the community's media center by providing a valuable and local resource for the area's media students and independent producers that will let them stay in the area and tell our local stories instead of relocating elsewhere to develop and practice their trade.

Experiencing Arts



The Village of Yellow Springs is fortunate to be the home of a creative and forward-thinking Arts Council, which was supported this year, in part, by a grant from the Yellow Springs Community Foundation. The Yellow Springs Arts Council (YSAC) has entered its fifth year of an expanded mission that includes supporting all arts disciplines and strengthening the local Yellow Springs economy via cultural tourism.

During the summer and fall of 2012, Yellow Springs Community Foundation funds supported the planning and implementation of a variety of community outreach events and programs that were enriching and enjoyable for residents and visitors to Yellow Springs.

The Yellow Springs Experience included:

- Experience Cirque Carnival—a community festival with musical and theatre performances, as well as workshops.
- Experience Wellness—an all-day Wellness Fair and evening Art Heals event, along with wellness workshops and demonstrations with participants from the Yellow Springs Community.
- Experience Holidays—a variety of Gallery Program events, including the Heartstrings Holiday Concert and Jumble Sale fundraiser, which generated over \$3,000 for the Arts Council.

Additionally, funds from the YSCF were leveraged to reinvigorate the YSAC's Education Program for 2012–13. Experience Saturday, an arts education series providing artist networking opportunities and Q&A with local artists, has promoted a nurturing environment for art making. Educational programming has also expanded through a partnership with the Yellow Springs schools, including an artist residency focused on bullying prevention, as well as a school field trip program. Deborah Housh, arts and cultural manager for the Yellow Springs Arts Council, says, "This is project-based learning led by YSAC artists and art educators, who design interactive activities that support student inquiry and reflection about local artists and critical concepts. The YSAC is excited about the growth potential of our programs and our enhanced partnerships within the community. The YS Community Foundation continues to be a fundamental collaborator in that success."

With the support of the YSCF, the YSAC has supported over 150 local creative workers through programs, services, and stipends for creative endeavors this year. More than 375 local school children have also received access to local art and artists through YSAC programs. Together the YSCF and the YSAC have filled the Village with a diversity of arts, culture, and creativity.



Supporting Our Schools

The Yellow Springs Endowment for Education was formed in 1994 as a nonprofit organization to benefit our local schools. A news release at the time reported this as “a visionary and proactive approach to supporting local public education, which endowment organizers view as a key ingredient to the high quality of life in a community. . . . The goal is to raise funds to create the endowment, the earnings from which will be used to support programs that enhance the vitality and quality of school programs. An independent board will administer the fund and make grants.”

The Community Foundation awarded the YSEE a \$24,000 matching grant, to be paid over four years, to help the new organization establish the endowment. Grants were to be made semi-annually in support of enrichment programs for students, faculty, and staff. Applications were to be made first to the school board, then reviewed by the YSEE board. This voluntary board included a school board member, appointed by the school board; a liaison with YSCF, a member or trustee appointed by the YSCF board; and representatives of the broader community. “A process was established for members of the school community, mostly teachers, to apply for monies. In other words, the applications came bottom up, reflecting a wide range of projects, interests, and disciplines,” said Foundation Trustee Joan Ackerman. “As the years passed, YSEE could no longer function independently, mainly because the IRS demanded expensive audits that took a huge portion of the monies generated by the fund.”

Effective July 1, 2009, the foundation and YSEE collaborated to form the YSEE Field of Interest Fund within the Foundation. This was an effective solution to a shrinking volunteer pool and escalating administrative costs—problems faced by many nonprofits. Now a five- to seven-member advisory committee reviews grant applications and presents its recommendations to Foundation trustees for approval.

In 2012 five grants from the YSEE fund were awarded to our local schools: \$8,288 for improving working memory and processing speed for struggling Mills Lawn students; \$3,750 for the Mills Lawn All-School Musical; \$679 for the Science Olympiad Team; \$1,000 for STARBASE Education; and \$500 for a Mills Lawn art technology project to purchase an iPad computer tablet.

Thirty students in grades 1–6 will participate in the Cogmed Working Memory Training program; begun in Sweden in 2001, it has been shown to have positive results in improving memory, math and reading comprehension, behavior, and work habits. Mills Lawn will work with Wright State University’s School of Professional Psychology in helping students to concentrate, remember better, and enjoy school more. “It is our hope that the results from the first 30 students to use Cogmed training will show [it] has a positive impact on a student’s academic success. If the results from this first effort are positive, it is our plan to offer Cogmed training . . . during the summer each year. Parents would pay for the cost of this summer school program,” wrote Special Education Supervisor

Barbara Greiwe in her grant application. Families can apply for financial aid, to be raised through an annual spring craft show to be organized by a parent organization.

The Science Olympiad grant will allow middle-school students to participate in a nationally recognized program that provides rigorous, standards-based challenges in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) disciplines. The program will link students to community mentors who are experts in their fields, complement the science curriculum, engage a now underserved student population, and support a specific goal of the 2020 School Board plan to “establish more challenging after-school activities.” The project will be capped by attending the National Competition in May, to be held this year at Wright State University.

STARBASE is a Department of Defense program that offers students a variety of learning experiences designed to increase interest in and knowledge of math, science, and technology. The entire fifth-grade class will participate in this free government program, an exceptional learning opportunity that runs from May 13–29. The grant helps cover transportation to the STARBASE site in Dayton, for which funds are not otherwise available.

Below: photos from Mills Lawn All-School Musical



Art and Soul: A Yellow Springs Art Fair

Art and Soul is a collaboration between the Yellow Springs Chamber of Commerce and Yellow Springs Schools. When Glen Helen decided to cancel the Nature Arts and Crafts (NAC) annual show, a huge void was left in Yellow Springs juried art fairs. Historically, NAC has been the kickoff of the Yellow Springs holiday season, along with “Holiday in the Village” and “Third Weekend Fling.” NAC attracted locals as well as visitors from Columbus, Cincinnati, Indiana, and Kentucky. The loss of NAC left a gaping hole in handcrafted, fine art items that have long been a draw for visitors to Yellow Springs during the holiday season.

Artist and longtime arts advocate Lisa Goldberg was project manager of Art and Soul: A Yellow Springs Art Fair. Lisa created the Yellow Springs Artists Studio Tour, the most successful and well-attended arts event in the village. Her ability to create and manage self-sustaining arts events is legendary. Lisa applied for and received a start-up grant of \$3,500 for the creation of an arts event that would, she hoped, become a Yellow Springs institution, even surpassing the attendance of NAC. The show was juried by three professional artists and all twenty-nine available booths were filled. There was a mix of local artists as well as some not well known in the Yellow Springs community. Initial estimates were that 300 visitors would attend the art fair. Over 600 visitors attended Art and Soul, many spending the day in Yellow Springs at local restaurants, shops, and getting to know our schools.

Art and Soul was a huge success by all measures. As a first-year event the support and attendance was phenomenal. This momentum gives artists confidence to apply in the next years for an event that has community support, great attendance, and a wide selection of handmade fine arts pieces. As the Chamber of Commerce positions the village as an arts destination, the addition of Art and Soul: A YS Art Fair furthers that mission. It was a lovely community event and a wonderful new kickoff to the Yellow Springs holiday season. Many thanks to Lisa Goldberg for her tireless work in the arts and also for using Art and Soul as a fundraiser for the YS Schools and the YS Police Coat Fund.

From the President

My two immediate predecessors in the Yellow Springs Community Foundation presidency used space in the final annual report of their terms to look back on what had been accomplished. I will follow that tradition, as I step down from the presidency after our annual meeting in March 2013. We have a plan to ensure a smooth transition to the next president, as I will remain a non-officer trustee for a final year.

When I first became a member of the foundation in 1993, our assets were \$772,000, and our income from all sources was \$90,000. That year we disbursed back into the community \$57,000 in grants and endowment distributions. The size of the foundation has grown considerably since then. We now have \$8.9 million in assets, and in 2012 had \$129,000 in income; we disbursed \$178,000 to Yellow Springs and Miami Township. Now we have forty-three endowment funds, six of which support Glen Helen or its programming. That extraordinary growth in a twenty-year period is of course possible only through the generosity of our donors, and the hard work of our committee members, foundation members, and foundation trustees.

During these twenty years, we’ve been involved in starting some very exciting programs that have had long-lasting impact on the village and its people. We helped to start the Yellow Springs Endowment for Education (1994); the Home Assistance Program, now through the Senior Center (1997); Yellow Springs Kids Playhouse (1999); a Youth Philanthropy program within the foundation, and Leadership Yellow Springs (2003); and the formation of the Little Art Theater as a non-profit (2009).

We’ve also been busy helping with things you can see, like vehicles for the Senior Center (first one in 1997); the replica of the train station, skate park, renovation of the high school track and the Women’s Park (all in 1998); farmland preservation of Whitehall, through a grant to Tecumseh Land Trust (1999); accessibility

Photos taken at Art and Soul: A Yellow Springs Arts Fair





2012 Grant Awards from Discretionary Funds

Little Art Theatre Association: \$30,000 for equipment needed for theatre renovation.

YS Kids Playhouse: \$8,000 for summer Theatre Arts Program.

WYSO: \$7,180 for equipment for a cross-media collaboration project, Reinvention.

Arts Council: \$11,250 for programming support.

Art & Soul, Yellow Springs Arts Fair: \$3,500 start-up grant.

Riding Center: \$1,500 for automatic horse waterer.

Arts Council Community Music in honor of Jame Johnston.

YS High School for Senior Citizens Day event.

Chamber Music Yellow Springs in appreciation of educational opportunities provided to children in Yellow Springs.

Youth Philanthropy Grants

\$300 for K-12 art show.

\$300 for Chem Buddies senior project.

\$300 for Musical Performance senior project.

Yellow Springs Endowment for Education Grants

\$8,288 for Improving Working Memory and Processing Speed for Struggling Mills Lawn students.

\$3,750 for Mills Lawn All-School Musical.

\$679 for Science Olympiad team.

\$1,000 for STARBASE Education.

\$500 to purchase I-Pad computer tablet for Mills Lawn.

Saul Young Grants

(unsolicited mini-grants recognizing individuals and projects that benefit the community)

Antioch University Midwest in recognition of their service to many nonprofits in Yellow Springs.

Yellow Springs Soccer in honor of retiring coach Jim Hardman.

Lions Club for 4th of July fireworks.

Police Department for coat fund.

improvements for the library (2005), the village pool, the Riding Centre and Glen Helen; emergency generators for WYSO (2006); and the Grinnell Mill Restoration (2007).

And we have supported the creation of new art and enterprises that enrich not only the local community but the larger world and beyond, by sponsoring the commission of a new play and a new chamber music piece (2007), and underwriting the costs for the beginning of the Community Voices program at WYSO, which can now be heard world-wide through streaming on the web.

Some highlights for the foundation itself include the hiring our first paid staff and office space (1995); launching of our web site (2005); launching our Facebook page (2009), even though I still don't have a personal Facebook account; joining with YSEE (2009); doubling in size with the Miller bequest (2010); and sending ten eager Miller Fellows out into local non-profits in 2011. In 2007, we reached a level of non-gift income sufficient to cover all foundation expenses. This means that every dollar you give goes to your charitable intent, and not to administration or overhead. This is an achievement of which we are particularly proud.

This community, using the Yellow Springs Community Foundation as a vehicle for charitable giving and grant-making, has done extraordinary things in these last two decades. It has been my great privilege to serve the community through the foundation; I will miss my foundation colleagues, and I will miss the work that we do. Yet I am happy to report that our trustees and membership function extremely well. I have the greatest confidence that, as I leave the presidency and subsequently the trustees, the Yellow Springs Community Foundation will thrive, will prosper, and will continue to enrich our community in transformative ways for many, many years to come.

Bruce Bradtmiller

Miller Fellowships

The following nonprofit organizations were awarded Miller Fellowships:

Antioch School
Arts Council
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

To All Grantees

We encourage you to post your comments and photos of your projects on our Facebook page.

Financial Report December 31, 2012

FUNDS	Market Value *Dec. 31, 2012	Market Value Dec. 31, 2011
Unrestricted Funds	\$74,328	\$94,347
Expense Reserve	25,000	15,099
Grantees Selected, not yet distributed	15,000	9,675
Total	<u>\$114,328</u>	<u>\$119,121</u>
Unrestricted Endowments	555,964	505,363
Restricted Endowments	1,852,185	1,669,247
William D. & Jane H. Baker Endowment —Net Fund Value	179,371	167,182
Sontag Fund—Net Fund Value	374,345	348,330
Yellow Springs Senior Citizens Endowment	268,993	254,304
Nolan J. & Richard D. Miller Endowment	4,149,873	3,808,697
Kenneth C. Tregillus Gift Fund	641,162	137,349
YSEE Field of Interest Fund	330,029	310,095
School District Capital Fund	145,048	0
Restricted Endowment Income to be distributed	55,073	61,158
Baker Endowment available for grants	2,050	1,274
Baker Endowment, grantees selected	0	0
Sontag Fund available for grants	31,669	27,284
Sontag Fund, grantees selected	15,000	0
N.J. & R.D. Miller Fund available for grants	123,102	97,038
YSEE Fund available for grants	16,980	14,611
YSEE Fund, grantees selected	0	2,500
Ray Schiff Capacity Bldg. available for grants	3,345	0
John T. McConville Scholarship available for grants	8,202	9,002
James A. McKee Scholarship available for grants	16,253	11,875
L. Shelbert Smith Scholarship available for grants	15,420	16,720
John Gudgel Scholarship available for grants	4,126	0
Jeannie Felker Scholarship available for grants	6,875	0
Restricted Pass-Through Funds	146	1,426
Total Funds	<u>\$8,909,659</u>	<u>\$7,562,576</u>

During the Year	2012	2011
Contributions Received		
For Unrestricted Funds	\$36,197	\$41,329
For Unrestricted Endowments	3,155	16,600
For Restricted Endowments & Scholarship Funds	121,454	125,085
For N.J. & R.D. Miller Endowment	0	675
For Kenneth C. Tregillus Fund	500,000	0
For School District Capital Fund	145,000	0
Total Contributions Received	<u>\$805,806</u>	<u>\$183,689</u>
Income from Investments	<u>\$231,047</u>	<u>\$217,650</u>
Grants Distributed		
For Unrestricted Funds	\$38,117	\$31,418
From Restricted Endowments Income	47,690	30,894
From Baker Endowment	8,274	12,129
From Sontag Fund	0	46,245
From YS Senior Citizens Endowment	12,715	13,414
From YSEE Field of Interest Fund	17,475	13,024
From McConville Scholarship	1,000	1,000
From McKee Scholarship	1,000	1,000
From Shelbert Smith Scholarship	2,000	2,000
From John Gudgel Scholarship	750	0
From N.J. & R.D. Miller Endowment	47,012	10,780
From Restricted Pass-Through Funds	1,280	50
Total Grants Distributed	<u>\$177,813</u>	<u>\$161,954</u>
Expenses	<u>\$75,356</u>	<u>\$64,715</u>
Transferred from Unrestricted Funds to		
Restricted Endowments	\$16,912	\$700
Scholarship Funds	\$0	\$16
Memorial Funds	\$0	\$21,765

* 2012 unaudited

The Community Foundation

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.
- To excel in strategic grant making in areas that include arts, culture, education, recreation, scientific research, and social services.

Trustees

Bruce Bradtmiller, president
 Sterling Wiggins, vice-president
 Dave Wishart, treasurer
 Jane Baker, secretary
 Joan Ackerman
 Mary Fisher
 Maureen Lynch
 Susan Miller
 Jane Scott

Members

Matthew Denman, Emily Fine, Barbara Forster, Tia Huston, Ellis Jacobs, Sandy McHugh, Chris Kristensen, Jodi Pettiford, Evan Scott, Tim Sherwood, Mary Kay Smith

Foundation Administrator: Virgil Hervey
 Financial Assistant: Rachel McKinley

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