



# Annual Report

October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016



## 2015.16 Board of Directors

Sue Smith, President  
 Carla Masterson, Vice President  
 Beth McGrath, Treasurer  
 Robert Walters, Secretary, Treasurer  
 Kate LeBoeuf, Secretary  
 Stefanie Ollison, At-large  
 Yohan Kim, Student Rep

## 2016.17 Board of Directors

Sue Smith, President  
 Carla Masterson, Vice President  
 Kate LeBoeuf, Secretary  
 Stefanie Ollison, At-large  
 Yohan Kim, Student Rep

## Staff

Mary Anna Dunn, Director  
 Erin Lahan, Art Teacher (2016.17)

## Awesome Alliances

It has been our privilege to work in partnership with the following organizations and artists during the past year:

- Camping for All
- Charlottesville CLASS
- Charlottesville Parks and Recreation
- Jack Jouett Middle School
- Jesse Frye
- Kim and Jimbo Cary
- Mecca Burns
- Ninni Baekström
- VSA Arts Charlottesville/Albemarle

## Special Thanks to:

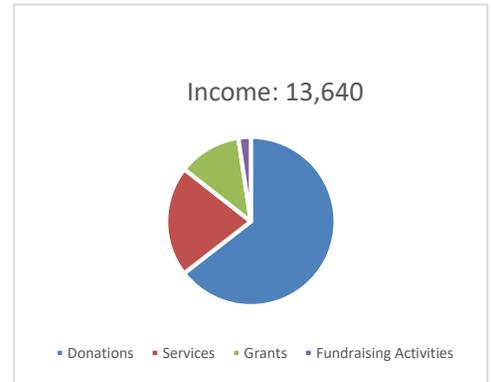
ANONYMOUS FOUNDATION  
 The COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S THEATER  
 DONOR ADVISED FUND of The Charlottesville Area  
 Community Foundation  
 THE PERRY FOUNDATION  
 T & N PRINTING

## HIGHLIGHTS

Approximately 670 children and youth participated in our programs and partnerships this year. Our activities included:

- ❖ The Summer Inclusion Program;
- ❖ Workshops at Ivy Creek, Post High, Elk Hill, and The Park School;
- ❖ Monumental Collaborations at Jack Jouett Middle School;
- ❖ Hub Week-end Activities with Resettled Children.

## 2015.2016 Financial Summary



A complete financial report is available on our website and through the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs.



Considerable research has supported the idea that the greater the number of supportive environments available to youth and the greater the consistency across settings in reinforcing positive attitudes and behavior, the greater the likelihood that youth will show gains in academic achievement, social skills, and emotional development. -- Palmer, Anderson, and. Sabatelli (2009). "How Is The Afterschool Field Defining Program Quality?" *Afterschool Matters*.

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**Because of you** 600 children Parks and Recreations Summer Camps participated in inclusive programming. 17 students at Jack Jouett Middle School had a visiting artist in the classroom to help them design and create a mural celebrating the school's diversity. 50 children and youth with disabilities participated in art and literature workshops. Sustained engagement in quality enrichment programming makes a difference to children, which is why YOU are making a critical difference in our community.

**You each have your own gifts to bring**, and not everyone listed below enriched the lives of children in the same way. Some donated time, some collaborated with us, some donated resources -- cash or in-kind. Some opened their facilities to us. Some networked with us. Most enriched children's lives in more than one way. What I can say about everyone named below is that we treasure ALL their gifts. That is why you will never see our supporters differentiated by the method or quantity of their support. Every individual, every foundation, every organization, and every corporation listed below made a difference to the children and youth of our community and for this we are always so deeply grateful:

ALLISON PARCELL, **Amy Newton**, Amy Vandenburg, **Anonymous Foundation**, Aaron Hall -National Inclusion Project, **BARNETT BOOKS**, *Beth McGrath*, Cami Kaplan, *Camp Gordan Clark – Boston YMCA*, *Camp Shelanu of Levin Jewish Community Center – Durham*, *Camping for All*, *Carla Masterson*, Center for Non-Profit Excellence, Charlottesville City Schools—CLASS, Charlottesville Parks and Recreation -- Camp ExL, Chelsea Marrs. Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign Charities, CACF COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S THEATER DONOR ADVISED FUND, *Deb Shapiro*, Donna Evans and her Art Students, Edgerly Family Boys and Girls Club – Boston, *Elizabeth Gonzalez*, Elk Hill School, GE Fanuc, **Greta Dershimer**, Hong Fan Bloom, Jack Jouett Middle School, Mr. and Mrs. James Adams, **Janet McDonald**, **Janet Muse and Robert Walters**, Jean and Steve Botts, JESSE FRYE, **Jessica Primm**, John Williams, Kate LaBoeuf, **Laura Jones**, Libby Allen, Marbles Kids Camp – Raleigh, *Marian Morgan*, **Marty Snell**, Mary Anna and Mike Dunn, **Mary Cook**, *Mary Miller*, Mecca Burns, Morgan Fogler, *Natalie Bucher*, National Inclusion Project, **Ninni Baeckström**, *The Park School*, **THE PERRY FOUNDATION**, STEFANIE OLLISON, **Sue Smith**, *T & N Printing*, *The Park School*, United Way – Thomas Jefferson Area, Varian Medical Systems, **VSA Arts**, Yohan Kim.

**BUT WHAT ABOUT ME?** Our fiscal year ends on September 30<sup>th</sup>. If you have contributed to or participated in our programs since then, look for your name in our annual valentine and our 16.17 annual report.



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*... Despite advances in incorporating inclusive programming, children who qualify for special education, particularly children with significant disabilities are grossly under-represented in afterschool programs. AfterSchool Issues Brief, 2008.*

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## A YEAR OF ACTION

### The Summer Inclusion Program

Our alliance with Charlottesville Parks and Recreation, Charlottesville City Schools/Class, and Camping for All continued this summer for the sixth year. Through this program, we assist with the selection, training, and on-going support of “inclusion leaders” who are able to provide that little extra assistance a child may need to have a successful camp experience.

Support takes many different forms. It may mean helping the child identify a safe space to go when s/he is feeling overwhelmed. It may mean setting up visual schedules. It may mean communicating with other staff about what triggers meltdowns. These are only a few examples of the ways inclusion leaders along with the rest of the camp staff have helped support children with autism, ADHD, mood disorders, and other challenges have a better camp experience.

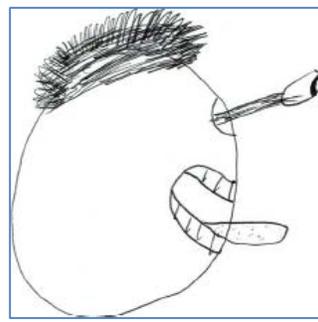
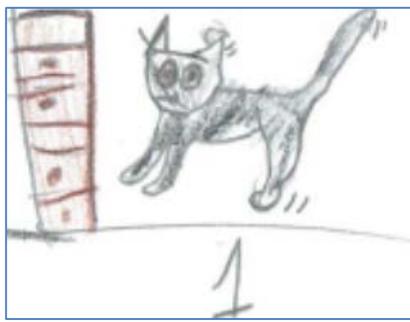
We are thrilled with the impact of this alliance. Approximately 600 children a year have the benefit of attending a camp where staff have received training and adaptive materials in order to make their camps more inclusive. But, although it is a large program, the Parks and Recreation/CLASS day camp is by no means the only camp in the area and we believe *all* children, not *some* children, should have an opportunity to attend a camp that has these supports in place.

That’s why in the coming years we will be turning our attention to providing more trainings in the community. These trainings will be open to the public and will feature presenters with expert knowledge of inclusion. We plan to add a “training the trainer” piece to the program, so that those who attend can effectively share what they’ve learned with other staff. If you are not already signed up for our e-newsletter, please do so to learn more about these trainings as they are scheduled. You can sign up on our website at the bottom of our home page: [www.enrichmentalliance.org](http://www.enrichmentalliance.org).

### Workshops and other VSA Collaborations

Our alliance with VSA Arts, Charlottesville/Albemarle continues to be a strong collaboration that has greatly increased our capacity to enrich the lives of children and youth with disabilities. VSA is a partnership that develops arts-based programs, activities and events for students and adults with disabilities. It is part of the VSA Affiliate Network, a program of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Through VSA, Mary Anna has had the opportunity to offer art and poetry workshops this year at the Albemarle County Post High School, The Ivy Creek School, The Elk Hill School, and The Park School. One of our most popular workshops, *Comic Creations*, has been offered three times over the past year. In this workshop, students are introduced to some of the basic elements of comic drawing, such as exaggerated features and special effects. Examples of student cartoons are shown below.



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**A 2009 longitudinal study by UCLA’s James Catterall showed that arts-engaged low-income students are more likely than their non-arts-engaged peers to have attended and done well in college, obtained employment with a future, volunteered in their communities and participated in the political process by voting. *The Hecfinger Report, 2009.***

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## Monumental Collaborations

Drive past Jack Jouett Middle School and above the entry you will see a beautiful mosaic mural welcoming the students. This mural is the third of our Monumental Collaborations with McGuffey Art Center artist-in-residence Ninni Baeckström. The mural, featured on the masthead of this year's newsletter, is composed of a variety of flowers. The students chose this design to symbolize the welcome the school extends to its highly diverse population. They will begin work on a second mosaic this winter. We extend thanks to the donors who made this work possible, and to the Perry Foundation for a generous grant to complete the project.

Monumental Collaborations offers students the chance to work with a successful sculptor whose works are seen not only around our community, but around the world. It also offers the young people a chance to express pride in their culture and heritage. When Ninni first conceived of this project, she said, "Art can give a voice to people who too often don't have a voice." Ninni has helped students at Green County's William Monroe Middle School, Charlottesville High School, and now Jack Jouett lift up their voices. Thank you to Ninni, to our supporters, and to the schools who have opened their doors to this project. I would especially like to give a shout out to Jack Jouett art teacher Donna Evans. A portion of funds raised have gone to Donna's extracurricular art activities, reaching students who might otherwise be unable to participate in the arts due to scheduling conflicts.

## The Hub

When supporters look at the impact of non-profit organizations, they tend to look for large numbers, and unfortunately may focus more on quantity than quality. The Hub, which serves children from refugee families, emphasizes quality over quantity, focusing on no more than six participants at a time, and retaining them for years. Two of our Hub students who began in elementary school will be graduating from high school this year! Over the past several years, we have met with Hub students on Saturday mornings, about once a month, for activities led by the Enrichment Alliance. Recently we have shifted our focus to helping them gain access to the rich array of opportunities already available in the community. We believe this step is crucial for community integration.

We are currently working with our participants to identify the types of out-of-school time opportunities they would like to be involved with. Next steps will involve problem solving around financial and transportation barriers. **We have had several mentors move away from the area recently. In order to succeed in helping these students connect to meaningful and engaging activities outside of school, we will need more mentors.** Mentors must work well with young people and be able to pass a criminal background check. As a further protection of our youth, at The Hub we mentor in groups with two or more mentors present. We ask for a commitment to meet with mentees one Saturday every four to six weeks. Between meetings, some legwork may be needed to help research opportunities for these young people. If you are interested in mentoring, contact us at [staff@enrichmentalliance.org](mailto:staff@enrichmentalliance.org) for an application.



**Through mentoring organizations, youth are provided with programs that help keep them in school, out of trouble, and most importantly, put them in direct contact with caring adults who provide crucial support and guidance." Laurie O. Robinson, assistant attorney general, Office of Justice Programs. September 2012.**

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## Looking Out Around Us:

As part of our Summer Inclusion alliance with Deb Shapiro of Camping for all, we visited exemplary summer day camps in other states. These camps were identified with the help of Aron Hall of The National Inclusion Project. Deb went to Boston where she visited South Shore Family YMCA- Camp Gordon Clark and Edgerley Family Boys And Girls Club. Mary Anna traveled to the North Carolina Research Triangle area, where she visited The Marble's Kids Museum Camp in Raleigh, and Camp Shelanu at the Levin Jewish Community Center in Durham. This fall, we have been following up with phone interviews. Our analysis of our research is just beginning. All the camps were different and the take-aways were different as well. Here are a few things we noticed at one or more camp: Camp staff are well-trained in strategies that promote a positive, disciplined environment; camps that are part of a year-round program have the advantage of being able to offer extensive training to staff across time; the use of carefully screened, well-trained volunteers and interns improves staff to child ratios and opens up opportunities for enhanced programming; strategies that are helpful for children with disabilities can help all children. These are only a few of the initial impressions we have taken from these camps. Subscribe to our newsletter to get updates on our findings next year (subscription information is given below). We are very grateful to the four camps that opened their doors to us and put up with all our questions and to The National Inclusion Project for their very helpful recommendations.

## Getting Involved

### Social Media

You can sign up for our e-newsletter through our website:

[www.enrichmentalliance.org](http://www.enrichmentalliance.org)

You can find us on Facebook at Enrichment Alliance of Virginia and on Twitter @Enrichva.

### We have a Pinterest Boards for:

- Local Special Needs Friendly Programs.
- Suggested Adaptive Materials.
- Articles building the case for enrichment and inclusion.

<http://www.pinterest.com/enrichva/>

### Volunteering

Volunteers are especially needed in:

Mentoring, help connect resettled children to meaningful out of school time activities.

Fundraising, help plan our spring event.

Marketing, help build an audience for our trainings.

Communication, various opportunities including creation of brochures, web design, and assistance with slide shows.

Technical support, on-call for assistance with IT issues.

Administrative support, assist with operational activities, such as government filings.

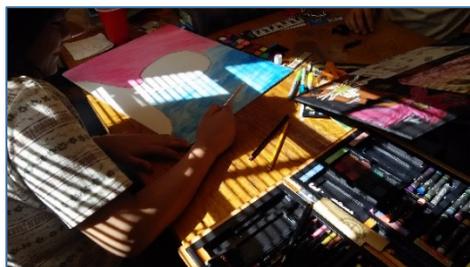
We post our volunteer opportunities through the United Way Volunteer Center

<http://www.unitedwaytja.org/need-help/for-nonprofits/volunteer-center>

or simply write Mary Anna Dunn at [staff@enrichmentalliance.org](mailto:staff@enrichmentalliance.org).

### Rewards and Employer Programs

Virginia State Employees: The Enrichment Alliance is a Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign charity. You can enroll in your state employer's campaign program to have donations automatically deducted from your payroll. Our CVC number is 07876.



**Kroger Shoppers:** You can link your Kroger Plus card to the community rewards program and designate us as your charity. Our NPO Number is 92863.

**On-line Shoppers:** We are enrolled in Good Shop (<http://www.goodsearch.com/goodshop.aspx>) and Amazon Smile ([www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com)). Find us on these websites and designate us as your charity of choice.

**Please remember to check with your employer about match programs.**

You can provide financial support our programs on our website through our [Donate Now](#) button, or by sending your check in the enclosed envelope.

**Join us in April for bingo night and win Ani and Alex charms for yourself or a friend while you support our programs.** Time and Place TBA on social media. (If you would like to volunteer to help plan this event, contact [staff@enrichmentalliance.org](mailto:staff@enrichmentalliance.org))

**The Enrichment Alliance of Virginia is a tax exempt 501 c (3). A copy of our financial records is available through the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs.**



### **Mission**

The Enrichment Alliance of Virginia is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing ideas, people, and resources together to enrich the out-of-school school time of critically under-served children and youth.

### **Vision**

That all children, regardless of income, location, language barriers, or special needs will be able to be included in meaningful, enriching activities during their out-of-school hours.

### **Values**

**Collaborative** strategic alliances

**Enriching** meaningful activities

**Inclusive** out-of-school time programs



PO Box 1423

Charlottesville, Va. 22902

[www.enrichmentalliance.org](http://www.enrichmentalliance.org)

**There are print media fans and there are electronic media fans. If you are more of an electronic media type, please drop us an email and we will send you our annual report electronically next time.**

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Do you realize how many children you helped last year?  
Do you know how quality enrichment programs impact  
under-served children and youth?

Are you interested in hearing about exemplary inclusive  
camps in other states?

Would you like to see examples of art work from our  
programs?

Do you want to get involved with The Enrichment  
Alliance?

Have you seen our mural at Jack Jouett Middle School?

Do you like Bingo?