

New Junior Cohort Selected

It's official. The High School Program Class of 2020 has been selected. Twenty-five juniors have already started to dig into grant applications and make site visits this month (sound familiar?). As usual, a lot more money was requested (\$80,000) than is available (\$25,000). Meet the new cohort:

Aaron Brown
Jane Houseal
Bridget Pierce
Jennie Bull
Olivia Kline
Meredith Revsine
Grace Buterbaugh
Lizzy Larscheid

Roger Rhomberg
Maggie Dee
Bram Lebovitz
Antony Silvetti-Schmitt
Grace DeGroff
Jack Moller
Mary Therese Thavis
Josephine Desir
Liza Montgomery

Oliver Van Der Meer
Lily Doody
Aimee Morrissey
Ashley Wefel
Claire Hanley
Parker Phillips
Julia Youman
Maddie Healy

For more information, please contact Karen Tardy at fpp@oprfcf.org.



FPP Scholarship Award Applications Coming

The 2019 FPP Scholarship Award Program will again recognize three enterprising college students for their continued involvement in philanthropic leadership roles on campus and/or in the community. The applications will be available in February via email attachment to all rising Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors.



FPP to Scale Nationally

Earlier this year, the Christopher Family Foundation, the first FPP donor investor in 2010, provided us with a capacity grant to create, publish and distribute our curriculum, lesson plans and resource materials for use by other community foundations across the country. A team of FPP mentors has been working on this project for the past several months along with outside curriculum writers, graphic designers and technology professionals. The final products will include the Junior Cohort Program Curriculum & Guidebook, Senior Cohort Program Curriculum & Guidebook, College Scholarship Program and Alumni Network Program. Based on the Three Pillars of Philanthropy model, the spin-off/startup is called the **Three Pillars Initiative**. The official launch of the program will be March 12, 2019. See our website at www.threepi.org.



Giving Trends Show Philanthropy is Being Driven More by the Wealthy, Less by the Middle and Lower Classes...Why This is Not a Good Sign.

Dr. Patrick Rooney, Associate Dean of the Lily Family School of Philanthropy at IUPUI completed a major research project last year on giving patterns in the U.S. It confirmed a disturbing trend in philanthropic giving: higher income households account for an ever-increasing proportion of contributed dollars, while middle- to lower-income household giving is declining. The data not only underscore the notion that while the rich get richer, the poor get...well, if not poorer they are only marginally better off...but also that "this hollowing out of the middle class and an even-less-monied donor pool coupled with the wealthy donor role in politics promises nothing good for democracy or public systems", according to the author. The adoption last year of tax reform legislation, the "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act", which effectively eliminated the charitable gift deduction incentive for middle- and lower-class taxpayers but left the deduction in place for wealthier taxpayers, only made the situation worse. With the influence wielded by wealthy donors, including political contributions they make, "...we have charity too often working in league with other efforts to control an environment", he stated.

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Did You Know?

Only two other major industries – retail trade and manufacturing – have a larger workforce than the nonprofit industry. According to Lester Salamon at Johns Hopkins University Center for Civil Studies, the 14 major industry sectors ("major" defined as an industry represented by at least 5% of the nation's employment) show that the nonprofit sector workforce is higher than that of the construction industry, wholesale trade, finance, transportation, real estate, professional services and utility industry. In 2017, the nonprofit sector paid more than \$635 billion in salary and wages to its employees. And the workforce continues to expand, as it has nearly every year for the last 40 years, including recession years!

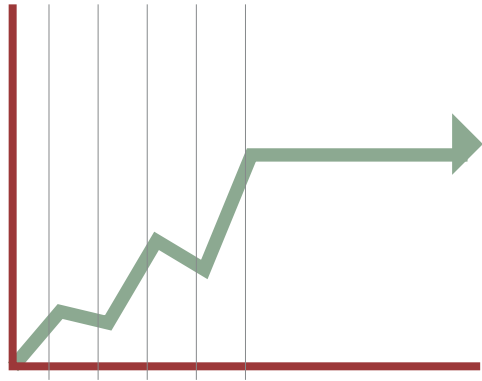


You Can Quote Me

"The secret message communicated to most young people today by the society around them is that they are not needed, that the society will run itself quite nicely until they – at some distant point in the future – will take over the reins. Yet the tact is that the society in not running itself nicely...because the rest of us need the energy, brains, imagination and talent that young people can bring to bear down on our difficulties. For society to attempt to solve its desperate problems without the full participation of young people is imbecile."

– Alvin Toffler



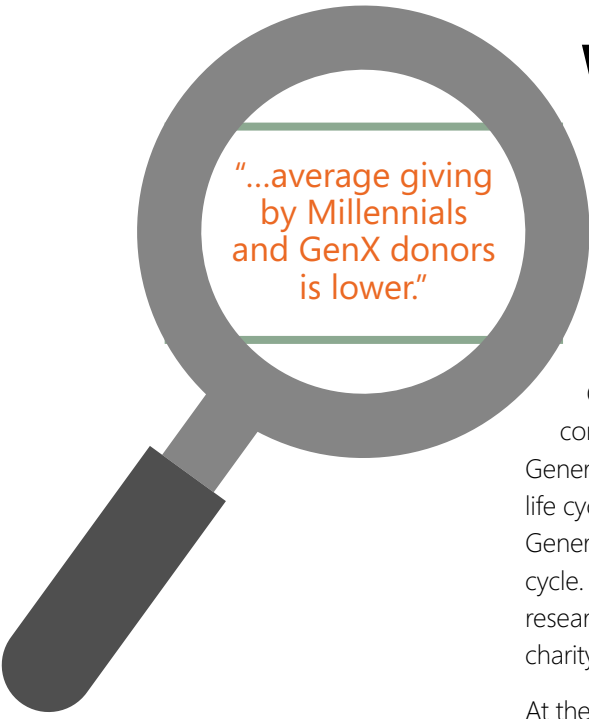


Charitable Endowment Managers See a Flat 2019 Investment Market

A recent survey reported by the Nonprofit Times indicated that more than 50% of the endowment and fund managers expect that the domestic stock market will not see big returns in 2019, certainly not the type of growth demonstrated over the past 10 years of post-Recession prosperity. Some fund managers predicted that modest growth will likely occur early in the year, but then will taper off by the end of the year, resulting in only single digit returns. **The chief culprits causing concern? Geopolitical tensions, the U.S.-China trade war and rising interest rates.**

Where are the GenX and Millennial Donors?

Giving Seems to be Slipping



"...average giving by Millennials and GenX donors is lower."

An interesting new study just released by Xiaoyun Wang and Mark Wilhelm at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis indicates that the Millennial Generation as well as Generation X are falling behind in making charitable contributions when compared with the Baby Boom Generation and Greatest Generation. The research compared the four generations using the same point in their life cycles, i.e. the same age range in each generation. Baby Boomers and Greatest Generation donors were roughly in line with each other at the same points in their life cycle. However, average giving by Millennials and GenX donors is lower. For example, research done in the United Kingdom found that 25% of the GenXers ages 30-44 gave to charity compared to 43% of the Baby Boomers ages 30-44. That's not an insignificant gap.

At the same time that the number of donors in the Millennial and GenX generations is declining, however, the overall amount of charitable dollars per donor is holding steady. That was confirmed by Giving USA which reported that contributions to charity by individuals in 2017 reached \$287 billion, a 5.2% increase over 2016. That's mostly due to the Greatest generation and the Baby Boom generation donors continuing to hold up their end. But before we ask the GenX and Millennial generations to step up, we need to inspire more trust and hope about the future, which appears very uncertain to them, says the authors.



The Future Looks Bright for Students of Philanthropy, Past and Present

The Future Philanthropists Program (FPP) was designed to teach students the art, science and business of philanthropy. Based on the May 22nd capstone event, the program is exceeding its goals!

Presenting to a packed auditorium at Dominican University, the junior class, senior class and program alumni exhibited that they had a complete understanding of the principles each had learned.

The juniors worked together to reach consensus regarding how they divide a \$25,000 distribution among many applicants, granting to the following organizations: BUILD Chicago, Green Community Connections, Maywood Fine Arts Association, Oak Park Education Foundation, Oak Park Women’s Guild, Opportunity Knocks, Sarah’s Inn, WSSRA and Youth Outreach Services. As part of the granting process, the juniors reviewed proposals, made site visits, and evaluated the impact of their decisions.

During their second year in the program, the seniors learned about fundraising and how to cultivate donors in a variety of ways. Historically, seniors have built on the successes of the previous senior class to set their annual fundraising goals. This year’s seniors were no exception, raising a record \$120,594, benefiting the program, through a silent auction, meetings with individual donors and foundations and a social event where seniors interact with guests to promote FPP and ask for financial support. Not to be outdone by the thunderous applause for the junior class, the senior fundraising effort elicited a standing ovation from the crowd, and encouraged FPP Mentor, Joe Smith to make an impromptu donation to the follow year’s fundraising.

Class of 2018 FPP Alumnus Maciej Dzumala reflected on his experience, “Time and time again, it’s been my commitment to

FPP that has provided me with a foundation of skills and unique achievements I’ve been proud to recount. While college will serve to facilitate my understanding of the world, I have the greatest gratitude to FPP for what it’s allowed me to learn about myself: that I will always be a philanthropist at heart, because philanthropy is the love of humanity.”

Beyond the program itself, FPP alumni have continued practicing their philanthropic leadership. To support that, the Alumni Leadership Awards were developed to reward outstanding FPP alumni who continue to make a difference during their four years of college. Emma Seavey, Amanda Youman, and Karina Donayre were this year’s recipients.

FPP Alumni also participated in an Alumni Brunch over the summer. The event consisted of words of wisdom from FPP founder Rick King, an alumni panel, remarks by alumni organization chair Amanda Youman, and, in the spirit of FPP, an update about a philanthropic endeavor in Africa presented by alumnus Lauren Flowers.

Class of 2015 FPP Alumnus Emily Schreck shared thoughts on her time with FPP, “The real-world lessons passed from the FPP mentors to FPP students were the magic of this program. These lessons were not something offered within the walls of OPRF, on the basketball court, or even at home. I have taken the lessons FPP shared and applied them to other nonprofit work and my summer internship. In my experience, FPP has continued to mould well-rounded high school students by providing them the invaluable experience of making the world a better place.”





SAY Guides Equity Conversations

This fall, as parents were occupied with the flurry of activity surrounding the first day of school – from buying color-coordinated folders and notebooks to helping their children pick out the perfect “first day” outfit to allaying nervous energy about new classroom assignments – another topic took center stage instead. A conversation on equity was pushed front and center when the first episode of “America to Me” aired on August 26th. Filmed at Oak Park and River Forest High School over the 2015-16 school year, the documentary focuses on “the effects of race and privilege on education as seen through the eyes of young Americans on the precipice of adulthood.”

Equity for all children in our community is the cornerstone of Success of All Youth’s (SAY) mission to empower every young person to reach their full potential. So, in anticipation of the community’s interest in the topic, and seeing an opportunity to offer productive information, SAY partnered with participants of the community leadership program Leadership

Lab, to devise “A Guide to Equity Resources in Oak Park and River Forest.”

Using information from SAY’s online Library of Community Resources, and experience the Leadership Lab team gained on their group project Racial Equity NOW in Oak Park – River Forest, the partnership was able to create a one-page guide detailing “many ways to get involved — direct action, connecting to others on a similar journey, and giving your time or money to organizations doing good work.” The Guide to Equity Resources in Oak Park and River Forest is available for download at sayopr.org/index.php/library.

In reaction to a great interest in the guide, SAY and its partners have shared links to the digital version on social media, and provided more paper copies to ongoing community events surrounding the documentary.

NextGen Builds Capacity to Connect

Connor Flynn joined NextGen Leaders in Philanthropy a couple years ago because he wanted to have a better understanding of where his financial contributions were going. He wanted to be involved in deciding how funds are used, and to become more connected with the OPRF community where he grew up, now that he had completed college. “NextGen Leaders is unique because it allows young people to collaborate and offer resources to local causes that they choose as a giving group,” commented Connor. “We create greater impact together than we could individually.”

Members experience the work of a professional foundation as part of the grantmaking process, all while they have their own, very different careers, such as those in technology, small business, marketing, accounting and real estate.

Each year, NextGen awards one or more capacity-building grants to a local organization. The application is a selfie-video explaining the need to be addressed. After careful evaluation of nearly a dozen entries vying for mini-grants, NextGen selected Pro Musica Youth Chorus and Pro Bono Network.

Pro Musica Youth Chorus offers unique opportunities for young singers to get on stage both as part of a group chorus and as a soloist, allowing them to highlight their individual talent. The grant allowed staff to attend a national conference which the volunteer run organization could not otherwise have afforded.



NextGen Grants Committee working to select 2018 grant recipients.

Pro Bono Network effectively ensures clients connect to legal services through a network of lawyers who donate their time and expertise to the organization. With the NextGen mini-grant to improve its technology system, Pro Bono Network will better connect lawyers to clients and process cases faster.

Connor invites other young adults and emerging leaders to join NextGen. “It’s a great network of emerging philanthropists who connect to organizations and causes they wouldn’t otherwise have opportunity to. It is very unique to be involved in grantmaking. I get a lot of value for the time and financial commitment I contribute.”