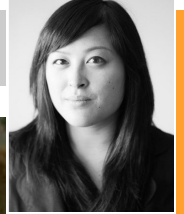




# YOUNG IMAGINATIONS

Placing the arts at the core of the educational process

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Valerie Jane Chua



ANNUAL REPORT SEPTEMBER 2012-AUGUST 2013

We provide students with the opportunity to progress creatively and encourage them to take positive risks. Listening and thinking skills are central as children gain an understanding and appreciation for diversity, commonalities and human values. In addition, the incorporation of the universal language of music and dance into the school day provides additional opportunities to all kinds of learners to succeed, gain self value and self esteem, and feel safer within their learning environments.

During the summer of 2012, Young Imaginations launched *Multicultural Music and Dance in Public Schools*, a model project addressing inequalities in public education. Evaluation results of classroom teacher assessments concluding our first year of the project suggest that the well-being of children and their pathways to opportunity are linked to the kinds of skills promoted by curricula and methodology within their academic environments. In knowing this, we will further improve our sequential curriculum in year two of the project and provide additional professional development to our arts educators to enhance their abilities to successfully provide for the needs of students today.

2012-2013 was a big year for Young Imaginations programs and we hope to continue on. Despite the continuous fluctuation in school contributions, we served approximately 6,500 students in 268 classrooms within 30 programs. Thank you to those who have supported us and our programs, allowing us to discover the unique gifts the children have to offer.

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Valerie Jane Chua  
Executive Director

Alan Scofield  
Founding Director

Maureen De Nieva  
Executive Assistant

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dean Yioulos, President  
Diane Kavantjas, Secretary  
Ron Tarica, PhD, Treasurer  
Valerie Jane Chua  
Marianne Locke, EdD  
Kim West  
Michael Williamsen

## ARTS EDUCATORS

Doug Arrington  
Monica Caldwell  
Chaskinakuy  
Nikola Clay  
Alisa Clayton  
Ivan Da Silva  
Jasmine Douville  
Scott Gifford  
Marianne Locke  
Patricia Miner  
Stuart Moody  
Jerry Moore  
Evelie Posch  
Alan Scofield  
Kaley Scofield, Apprentice  
Casey Thorne  
Rebecca Weisser  
Yangqin Zhao

## CONSULTANTS

Sandi Andersen-Tarica  
Eleanor Criswell Hanna, EdD  
Marianne Locke, Programs  
David Martin, Webmaster  
Sandra Reinhardt, CPA

## A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

The May 2011 President's Council on the Arts and Humanities report recommended that the field of integrated arts education be expanded, more fully funded, and more deeply incorporated into curricula and educator development. Yet, public funding is suffering at the hands of continuous budget cuts. When test scores go down in math and reading, the emphasis is put on those basic subjects to the detriment of other so-called elective courses.

Budget cuts have put music and dance education in the high-risk category. Young Imaginations collaborates with school administration and classroom teachers to structure music and dance programs in the pursuit of common educational goals.

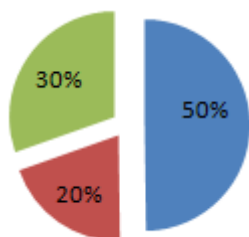


Research demonstrates the tangible benefits produced by collaborative arts education. Educators agree. When you look beyond the test scores, the evidence is clear that learning music, expressing yourself through dance, and participating and performing with others provides a richness to a child's education that will last a lifetime.

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

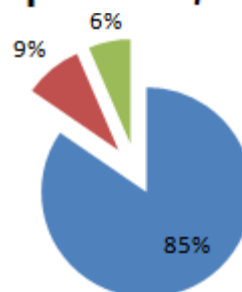
The charts show our income and expenses by category. With the loss, our reserve has fallen to \$36,705. We devoted 85% of expenses to Programs vs. 82% last year and 77% in 2010-2011. After four straight years of net gains, this year ended up with a net loss of \$13,825. As we emerge from the major recession, our schools are still terribly behind in terms of financial recovery as evidenced by the fact our earned income is a bit lower than last year. However, we continue with our aggressive fundraising efforts, as well as cost management, to compensate for this reduced school funding.

**Total Revenue: \$228,053**



■ Earned  
■ Individual donors  
■ Grants

**Total Expenses: \$241,878**



■ Program  
■ Administration  
■ Fundraising



YI Nominated for Heart of Marin



At Heart of Marin Award Ceremony with San Rafael US Bank Manager Jason Arebalo



Co-founder Marianne Locke teaching recorder



Short School Performance at San Rafael Community Center



Arts Educators at Professional Development

## A GLIMPSE AT OUR YEAR

There are many reasons why I became a teacher. But there are many unexpected perks that come with being a teacher that add to the daily joy of my job. One hidden treasure that I could never have dreamed of is how powerful it is to be a teacher at the same school that I attended as a child. This has allowed me to see my entire educational experience through the eyes of teacher, as well as the eyes of my twenty-eight fourth graders. One of their favorite parts of each week is attending dance class with Alan Scofield, who happened to be my dance teacher when I was a fourth grader. For thirty minutes a week, I am able to observe the excitement and anticipation that comes with dancing in front of a group of your peers. My students experience these feelings each week, just as I did as a nine year old. As an adult, I am able to appreciate the power of dance to foster personal expression, cooperation and empathy. The journey from student to teacher has come full circle for me, and I can proudly say that I use the lessons that I learned in dance class in my life as an adult. I hope that my students will one day will have the opportunity to reflect on what they gained from their educational experience, including dance class, and all that they do not yet realize that they are learning.

*—Erin, Classroom teacher at Edna Maguire*

## THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY AND SPONSORS!

Reports suggest that it will take until 2020 for public school funding to return to the levels of 2007-2008. What we all can never forget is that our children are the future of this great country. The arts have been proven to enhance the educational process so we must maintain our dedication to excellence for the children of northern California. Thank you to those who have so generously supported our work over these past years and ask that you continue with your wonderful donations.

### FOUNDATIONS & GRANTS

Chevron Humankind  
Keon Family Fund  
Marin Community Foundation  
Mill Valley Schools Foundation, aka Kiddo!  
The Lumpkin Family Foundation  
The Safeway Foundation  
The Tarbell Family Foundation  
Tompkins-Broll Family Foundation  
US Bancorp

### MAJOR DONORS

Anonymous (2)  
G. Khalsa  
Marianne Locke, EdD  
Gary Pollock  
Richard Rogan

### FRIENDS OF YOUNG IMAGINATIONS

CA Department of Financial Institutions Employees  
California State Employees Charitable Campaign  
Center for Volunteer and Nonprofit Leadership  
Dominican University of California, Alumni Association  
Pasta Pomodoro  
Patrick Carroll  
Pixar Studios, Publishing  
United Markets  
US Bank, San Rafael



# YOUNG IMAGINATIONS

Placing the arts at the core of the educational process

## INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS ARE KEY

In a rapidly changing environment Young Imaginations programs reach out to children in urban and rural settings, affluent and economically disadvantaged communities, and neighborhoods filled with children of diverse cultural heritages.

Young Imaginations offers California State Standards-based programs of 30-50 minutes weekly classes in which correlations are often made between the arts and classroom curricula. The classes are filled with opportunities for active participation. All classes incorporate both music and dance/movement elements.

Class content captures the imaginations of children by encouraging them to explore new possibilities while learning in an atmosphere of trust and openness. At each school, a quality curriculum is developed for a unit of 8-32 weeks or multi-year series. This happens year after year for 5, 10, or 15 years until we are now teaching the children of our first students.

Joyful learning through music and dance supports the child's developing language, socio-emotional and creative skills. Young Imaginations classes help students to:

- ⇒ Learn songs and singing games, explore instruments, and develop a sense of beat and rhythm
- ⇒ Improve balance and coordination, learn dances and games, and explore a range of movement possibilities
- ⇒ Develop self-confidence, group skills, focused attention, and a sense of spontaneous creativity
- ⇒ Enhance verbal memory through song, understand words through movement, and learn new vocabulary
- ⇒ Gain awareness of cultural differences through songs, dances, stories, and musical instruments

Contact us at (415)472-7338 or [youngimagination@sbcglobal.net](mailto:youngimagination@sbcglobal.net) for more information!



ANNUAL REPORT SEPTEMBER 2012-AUGUST 2013



## WE MOVED!

New Address  
4340 Redwood Highway F156  
San Rafael, CA 94903



Like us on Facebook!



Visit our blogsite! [youngimagination.wordpress.com](http://youngimagination.wordpress.com)



For \$60, you can support 12 weeks of classes for one student!  
Scan the QR code of donate at [www.youngimagination.org](http://www.youngimagination.org)

## CONNECT WITH US!