

The Renaissance

35-59 81st Street, Jackson Heights, NY 11372

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Development Report to the Board of Trustees June 6, 2018

2017-2018 Grant Update

(See attached sheet for more information.)

• **Direct Appeals**

These include checks and online donations received in response to Summer, Angel Fund, Garden Appeals – all direct donations to the school.

- Angel Fund – The angel fund as of June 4, 2018 has a balance of \$3,766, after the expenditures of \$2,660 to provide support to:
 - 5 students for the Middle School trip
 - 1 student for Nature’s Classroom
 - 2 students for their senior dues
 - 6 students for the senior trip.

Donations in any amount are always welcome.

- PK-2nd Grade Art Fund – see below under Friends of Renaissance.

• **Pending grant applications:**

- Gates Foundation “To and Through” Guidance Challenge – The college office is again applying for funding to strengthen our college and career readiness indicators. This grant would allow us to replace our student information system to be able to run more robust, timely reports and accurate, cloud-based transcripts.
- Federal Farm-to-School Grant – Renaissance is the lead school in a consortium to apply for this grant, which will support building a purchasing pipe-line from local or regionally sourced foods; and will help us assess local or regional product availability and identify key supply chain relationships necessary for our program plan.
- NYS Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant – We are proposing a consortium with Future Leaders Institute and possibly one other charter school for mental health and counseling supports – up to \$250,000 for Renaissance.
- Special Legislative Grants – Senator Peralta was able to secure a \$25,000 “Bullet Aid” grant for TREA, Rensizzle and our Leadership program, and the contract is being registered now. It will be able to pay the school back for a portion of the Leadership and Rensizzle budgets.
- NYC Discretionary Funding – We were not successful in applying for Capital funding through the city council this month—again submitting the audio/visual upgrade for the auditorium, and more computer funding. We received conflicting information and it ended up in the same black-hole as before. However, we are assured by Danny Dromm’s office that if we work through them next year, we will get something submitted. We are in the contract-registration phase for FY18 Discretionary member-

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item funding for TREA in the amount of \$5,000, and will most likely get approved for that amount for FY19.

• **Update on Current Granted Programs:**

- Federal E-Rate for FY 2017 – there was a very long delay in getting determination letters out to grantees this year. We finally heard that we were funded for \$29,419 for internet fees, with a new internet provider: Transbeam/GPT.
- NYSED 2016-2019 Dissemination Grant to disseminate best practices around our College and Career Readiness program. We are partnered with the CSA professional development organization, ELI, who is providing professional development support in Growth Mindset practices, and the SPED Collaborative. The end-of-year meeting between the schools was held on June 1. Goals for the next and final year will focus almost entirely on the College and Career Office, college readiness goals.
- DYCD Compass Explore – Summer Permaculture program –\$42,106. We have completed two very successful summer programs, and will offer the program again for 3rd-5th graders. We are completely booked with over half of the students coming from outside our school (priority was given to our population), with a waiting list of 20 students. This is the final year of a 3-year contract, so we will be investigating renewal soon.
 - As many of our successful partnerships have in the past, this partnership grew out of a Rensizzle week suggestion by a 7th grader 4 years ago. It has grown to include a HS Leadership group, and a favorite “Little Sizzle” group.
- NYS Special Legislative - Project BOOST. Senator Peralta proposed us to CEI-PEA for their BOOST project; we received \$8,000 to fund a high-school AP Support Incentive program. The 40 10th and 11th grade students who received the 40 highest GPAs in their AP classes will go to Club Getaway on June 25. (The seniors were promised a Great Adventure trip.)
- Strebor Family Foundation – The Spring drama production will be “Harvey” by Mary Chase. The foundation is cutting back on all donations by 25%, but they awarded us \$1800 for production costs.

In-Kind Grants and Donations

- DYCD SONYC grant received by 82SA for our middle-schooler after-school program, continues this year. The program has been aided considerably by the addition of Dan Fanelli as the Education Liaison, providing curricular ties to the after-school STEM activities, training 82SA teachers to lead the activities and following-up with teachers for additional curriculum ties and up-to-date homework assignments.
- CASA (NYC Council) after-school enrichment grant will go toward a media arts class for our 5th graders with Children’s Museum of the Arts.
- Urban Advantage (STEM Education) and Bubble Foundation (Nutrition Education) have all continued in some form. Bubble does not provide direct service to students at this stage, but will provide PD, some parent demonstrations, in the case of Bubble, and supplies/trips for the school and families.

Partnerships

Due to our budget problems, the outside partnerships that we have to pay for are up for discussion. We will use the recommendations of the college office to prioritize the programs

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used in our Leadership program, and classroom residencies will be carefully prioritized for maximum impact. However, we are committed to continue what makes Renaissance special, and give our students exposure to the cultural jewels our city has to offer.

Renaissance continues to nurture outside community partnerships as a way to expand our influence beyond the school walls. Our long-time partner Bubble Foundation is now working our CSG to promote healthy eating for families, as well as offering cooking demonstrations in our elementary classrooms. We are renewing a partnership with the Carnegie Foundation, called “Link UP: The Orchestra Sings” with new music teacher Katie Schmelzer and the 5th grade.

Probably the best example of how these partnerships have grown is evidenced by the Leadership Program’s opportunities for community involvement and skill-building for our students, through our extensive list of community partners. For purposes of this report, I will only list the in-school residencies that are part of the Leadership Program on Wednesday morning.

Leadership Program Partners

- Engineering for Kids – 2 programming classes
- Global Kids – 2 leadership classes
- Sadie Nash Young Women’s Leadership Project
 - Middle School Sadie Nash program in 82SA’s SONYC program
- LAB Project: Learning About Business
- Beyond Organic Design – Permaculture Design
- Tech Crew
- Stage Jazz Band

Friends of Renaissance

Our goals for the FOR board are focused entirely on building our membership, by reaching out to our alumni base, and fundraising for Renaissance initiatives. Currently we are focused on the PK-2nd grade art program, and raising money to keep Nicole Pouliet with us for another year. We have given ourselves a goal of raising \$15,000 by the end of June, through online donation sites and a Paint and Sip Event coming up at the end of this week. (See the attached flier! And give generously if you have not already!)

Please consider supporting the Friends of Renaissance initiatives and events, as brought to you throughout the year by our liaison, FOR Board Chair, Conor McCoy.

Other

Renaissance’s political advocacy efforts continue to be the most successful way of bringing money to the school. We will continue to work with the NYC Charter Center by joining their budget-advocacy trip to Albany in the continuing fight to get our funding formula restored. We are counting on a new initiative of the Coalition for Independent Charter schools to support the hiring of Patrick Jenkins & Associates to more directly advocate for the special needs of independent charters, as well as our continuing work for conversion charter school relief.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebekah Oakes, Director of Development and Partnerships

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THE RENAISSANCE CHARTER SCHOOL

Grants Awarded 2017-2018

Direct Appeals:

Direct Funding Appeals - Unrestricted	800	
FOR Grant from other Direct Appeals	5,112	10/11/2017
Friends of Renaissance, Apple Bank Account	6,056	06/04/2018
Angel Fund (SAF) from 2016-2017	1,643	
Angel Fund Donation from 2017 Seniors	1,631	
Angel Fund collected 2017-2018	4,885	
PK-2 Art Fund collected for 2018-19	2,330	
DIRECT TOTAL	\$22,754	

Government/Corporate/Foundation Grants:

Conversion CS Advocacy – Contract Expenses		FY18 Conversion CS Contract Reimb.
NYS Charter School Dissemination, 3 yrs: \$500K	183,372	College Bound
NYS Legislative Bullet Aid - Peralta	25,000	TREA Immigrant Dialogues/Rensizzle
NYS Legislative Project Boost - Peralta	7,300	AP Support Group
DYCD COMPASS Grant	41,320	Permaculture Program Summer-Spring
DYCD NYC City Council Discretionary	5,000	TREA
US Carol M. White Physical Education Grant	14,416	RO Salary offset + consortium expenses
US E-Rate Internet Reimbursement:	29,419	Cable Internet reimbursement-discounted rate
US Counseling Grant-Consortium	55,000	Jennyfere salary reimbursement
US Project Aware Mental Health First Aid	2,678	\$237447 expended 16-17
Strebor Foundation	1,800	spring drama production
The Bydale Foundation	5,000	unrestricted
Target Foundation/Healthier Generation	1,000	Sports Equipment
GRANT TOTAL	\$371,305	
TOTAL	\$394,059	

In-Kind Services Received 2017-2018

	Value	
TASC/Discretionary - 82SA CBO After School	60,000	funding for 5th, 9th and 10th
OST DYCD - 82SA 6th-8th grade program	273,000	middle school after-school program
CASA After-School Programming (Dromm)	20,000	CMA for after-school
Urban Advantage		STEM services, trips, supplies (\$450)