



**THE**

# Right Brain

**INITIATIVE**

**2016 - 17  
PROGRESS  
REPORT**

# THE 2016-17 Right Brain PROGRESS REPORT

**Can you believe it?** At Right Brain we are kicking off our 10th year of bringing arts integration to K-8 schools in Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington counties! We've learned new ways to empower educators and ensure that every student has the opportunity to think creatively and critically, imagine new possibilities, and take ownership of their own learning.

**The Right Brain Initiative transforms learning for all children through the arts, creativity, innovation and whole-brain thinking.**

Fourth grade Right Brain students at Scouters Mountain Elementary in North Clackamas worked with BodyVox Dance to explore gravity, planets, and galaxies through creative movement.

PHOTO BY LEAH VERWEY



COVER PHOTOS (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP): KENDRA YAO, LEAH VERWEY, FRANK HUNT (2)

## A Story of Partnership Quatama Elementary School and The Right Brain Initiative



Shawna Munson's sixth grade class worked with Oregon Ballet Theatre to introduce movement into the study of the water cycle. "It wasn't until we worked with Right Brain artists from Oregon Ballet Theatre that we learned how to truly integrate the arts and use them every day." —Janis Hill, Quatama Principal, 2007-2014 (2010)

PHOTO BY JIMENA CABELLO

**THE YEAR IS 2007.** Quatama Elementary School is preparing to open as one of three new elementary schools in the Hillsboro School District. The Right Brain Initiative is identifying its first twenty school partners and Quatama Elementary is among them.

The year is now 2017. Quatama and Right Brain are entering their tenth year of partnership. Arts integration has become an essential part of the school's identity and we are sitting down to interview four key members of the Quatama community to better understand how Right Brain has become part of the fabric of Quatama over the last 10 years.

**What was it like to start a new school and a new partnership with Right Brain at the same time?**

**Janis Hill** (principal of Quatama Elementary, 2007-14): I specifically remember the initial meeting in 2007 with our assistant

superintendent and the other two new Hillsboro elementary school principals. She presented the idea of Right Brain and asked if we were interested and of course, we all were. I have always felt that the arts are an important part of learning, but I didn't know how to get there. Right Brain seemed like a perfect fit. But it was scary for all of us at first, so I told my teachers, "We are asking our kids to be brave learners, so we've got to be brave learners, too. We need to put ourselves out there."

**How has Right Brain impacted your teaching and how did you make the arts part of your daily routine?**

**Shawna Munson** (teacher at Quatama Elementary, 2008-present): Right Brain gave me a different outlook. It pushed me to learn and adapt and incorporate all these different strategies into what I was doing. And





**“With Right Brain, they’re able to show their smarts differently and it provides them with that feeling of success.”**

**-SHAWNA MUNSON,  
QUATAMA TEACHER  
2008-PRESENT**

I really saw a difference in my students and my teaching practices. I became more engaged. I was more excited. I was learning new things. It was like being a first time teacher all over again! I took risks with my students. I danced with my students, I sang with my students, we did crazy things together! And it was really fun. I modeled for them stepping outside my comfort zone and then they were able to do the same for me. The biggest thing that I’ve come to realize is that the arts aren’t just one more thing on my plate. They’re going to make my job easier. It’s actually a tool that I can use to help streamline what I’m doing. There’s a lot of informal peer-to-peer sharing happening in the hallways and classrooms all the time, but we also have time set aside at staff trainings, grade level meetings, and faculty meetings. Sometimes we post pictures on Twitter of a lesson we’ve done using the arts, and other teachers will see it and come ask us about it. It encourages friendly competition between us, like “what can I do to make my class look even *more* creative?”



A Quatama first grader explores sculpture and circuitry during a Right Brain STEAM residency. (2010)

PHOTO BY JANIS HILL



The halls of Quatama are filled with students' work. “You can walk around the halls here and all you see are students and their work. That’s what is up on the wall. It’s them.” –Christy Walters, Quatama Principal, 2014-present

PHOTO BY CALEB BOURGEOIS

#### **Why is Right Brain important to students?**

**Cassandra James** (student at Quatama Elementary, 2010-17): Doing Right Brain strategies with my teachers and working with the artists helps me learn in the other subjects, because when we get to use our hands and bodies, it makes it more fun and interesting.

**Shawna Munson:** For a lot of kids, Right Brain allows them to be successful in subjects where they may not have found success before. With Right Brain, they’re able to show their smarts differently and it provides them with that feeling of success.

#### **How have the arts and Right Brain become part of the fabric of Quatama?**

**Shawna Munson:** The arts are in every subject now! Even if we don’t realize that we’re integrating the arts, they’re automatically there.

**Christy Walters** (principal of Quatama

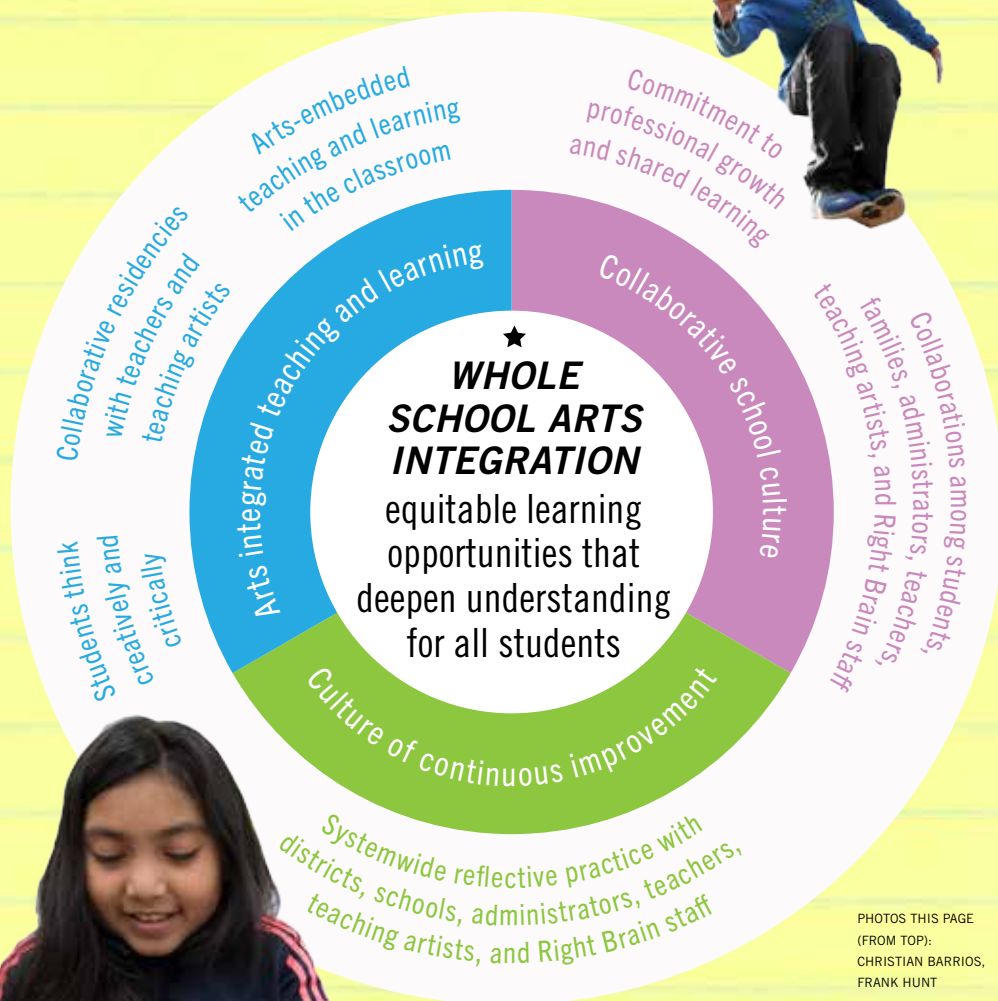
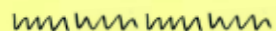
Elementary, 2014-present): Being a Right Brain and STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, math) school has made the arts more accessible for everyone. We weave the arts into everything. Because there is so much creativity involved in science and engineering, even the teachers and students who don’t self-identify as artists feel empowered to say: “I am creative.”

Right Brain does a great job of introducing multicultural and inclusive teaching practices. You get to tap into all sorts of different mediums and different ways of forming ideas about the world. You can walk around the halls here and all you see are students and their work. That’s what is up on the wall. It’s them. It’s like that old saying about creating mirrors and windows in a school so students can see themselves and also see out into the world. Right Brain helps us do a great job of this in a safe way.



## THE RIGHT BRAIN INITIATIVE

# How It Works



★ Each component in this model serves the others and must be addressed simultaneously and continuously. "All of them, all of the time"

PHOTOS THIS PAGE  
(FROM TOP):  
CHRISTIAN BARRIOS,  
FRANK HUNT



"Creative thinking means you have a **big imagination** and use juicy words—**magical phrases**, and a creative mind."

—RIGHT BRAIN STUDENT



PHOTOS THIS PAGE (FROM TOP):  
LEAH VERWEY, CHRISTIAN BARRIOS



**68**  
TOTAL  
SCHOOLS

2 new schools  
coming in  
2017-18!!

**1,689**

TEACHERS & SCHOOL  
STAFF SERVED

**1,668**

UNIQUE INTEGRATED  
ARTS EXPERIENCES  
(classrooms served)

OREGON DEPARTMENT  
OF EDUCATION

REYNOLDS SCHOOL  
DISTRICT

CORBETT SCHOOL  
DISTRICT

PORTLAND  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

GRESHAM-BARLOW  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

HILLSBORO SCHOOL  
DISTRICT

NORTH CLACKAMAS  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

OREGON TRAIL  
SCHOOL DISTRICT



# THE Right Brain INITIATIVE

2016-17 SCHOOLS

**2,837**

INDIVIDUAL  
PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT HOURS

**816**

EDUCATORS  
AND ARTISTS  
PARTICIPATED

**27,003**

STUDENTS SERVED

Asian: 7%  
American Indian/Alaska Native: 1%  
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander: 1%  
Black/African-American: 8%  
Latinx/Hispanic: 25%  
Multiracial: 5%  
White: 54%

KICKING OFF OUR <sup>10<sup>th</sup></sup> YEAR!



# THE Right Brain

# INITIATIVE Timeline

<p>Visioning Committee forms to create what is first known as Arts Partners</p>	<p>Becomes a program of the Regional Arts &amp; Culture Council</p> <p>\$173,000 in public funds secured</p>
<p>Portland General Electric Foundation becomes the first private sector contributor with \$25,000</p> <p>Serve first 4 districts, 20 schools, 9,003 students</p> <p>US Bank awards \$25,000</p> <p>Harold and Arlene Schnitzer CARE Foundation awards \$75,000</p> <p>Spirit Mountain Community Fund awards \$25,000</p>	<p>The Collins Foundation awards \$150,000</p> <p>Select Operating Partners: Young Audiences, Deborah Brzoska, Dr. Dennie Palmer Wolf</p> <p>James F. &amp; Marion L. Miller Foundation awards \$150,000</p> <p>First round of all-day professional development workshops for teachers and teaching artists</p>
<p>M.J.J. Murdock Charitable Trust awards \$128,000</p>	<p>KeyBank awards \$25,000</p> <p>The Oregon Community Foundation awards \$15,000</p>
<p>Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts chooses Portland Metro as an Any Given Child site</p> <p>First Imagine This! a creativity symposium for educators</p>	<p>Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts selects Right Brain as a Partners in Education site</p> <p>First annual Spring Colloquium to make student learning visible</p> <p>JPMorgan Chase Bank Foundation awards \$25,000</p>
<p>Meyer Memorial Trust awards \$150,000</p>	<p>First Willamette Week Give!Guide campaign raises \$7,260</p> <p>National Endowment for the Arts awards \$25,000</p>
<p>The Concordia Foundation awards \$15,000</p>	<p>Bank of America awards \$15,000</p> <p>Maybelle Clark Macdonald Fund awards \$25,000</p>
<p>Serve every elementary school in the Gresham-Barlow School District</p>	<p>Release Brain Food activity decks created in collaboration with AIGA Portland</p>
<p>The Oregon Community Foundation awards \$210,000</p>	<p>Wieden + Kennedy awards \$75,000</p> <p>Release data correlating Right Brain's presence in classrooms with above average test score gains</p>
<p>Receive the "Game-Changing Project" award from Portland Monthly's annual Light a Fire Awards</p>	<p>DuBois Charitable Lead Trust awards \$25,500</p>
<p>Serve every elementary school in the Corbett School District</p> <p>Laird Norton Family Foundation awards \$25,000</p> <p>Pilot first school-based, full-faculty professional development</p>	<p>First Tech Federal Credit Union awards \$15,000</p> <p>Accept the Phi Beta Kappa \$5,000 award for building creative exchanges with diverse audiences in the arts and humanities</p>
<p>Launch first major fundraising event SHIFT: An experiment in fashion design</p>	<p>Present at the National Council on the Arts, the advising board of the National Endowment for the Arts</p>

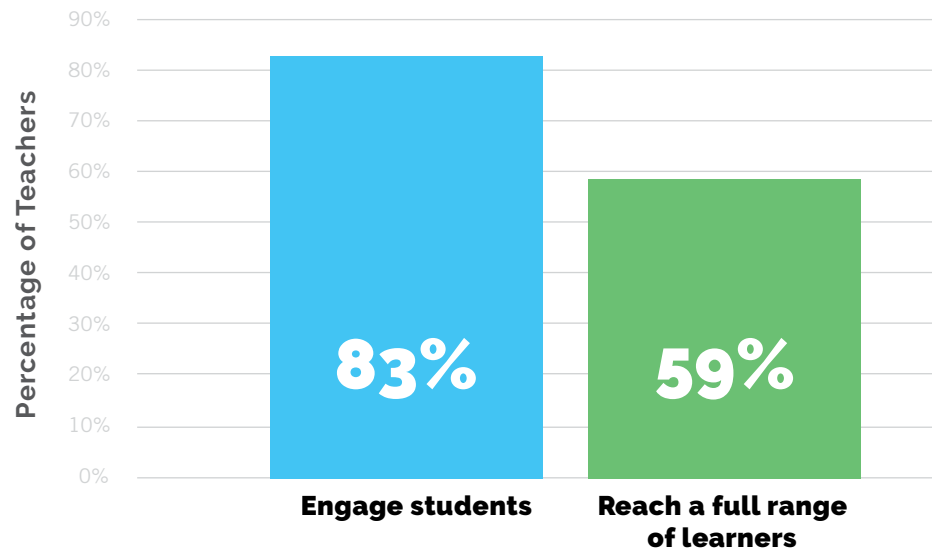
Please note that all grants are first time funding awards.

# 2016-17 Evaluation Report

THE RIGHT BRAIN INITIATIVE worked with the Portland State University Center for Student Success to identify ways in which Right Brain's arts-based strategies have impacted teachers' instructional practices and students' abilities to think critically and creatively.

Through surveys and interviews, teachers reported 1) the top two reasons they use Right Brain strategies in the classroom, and 2) how their students' abilities to think critically and creatively was impacted by the use of Right Brain strategies.

## TOP REASONS TEACHERS CITE FOR USING RIGHT BRAIN STRATEGIES IN THE CLASSROOM



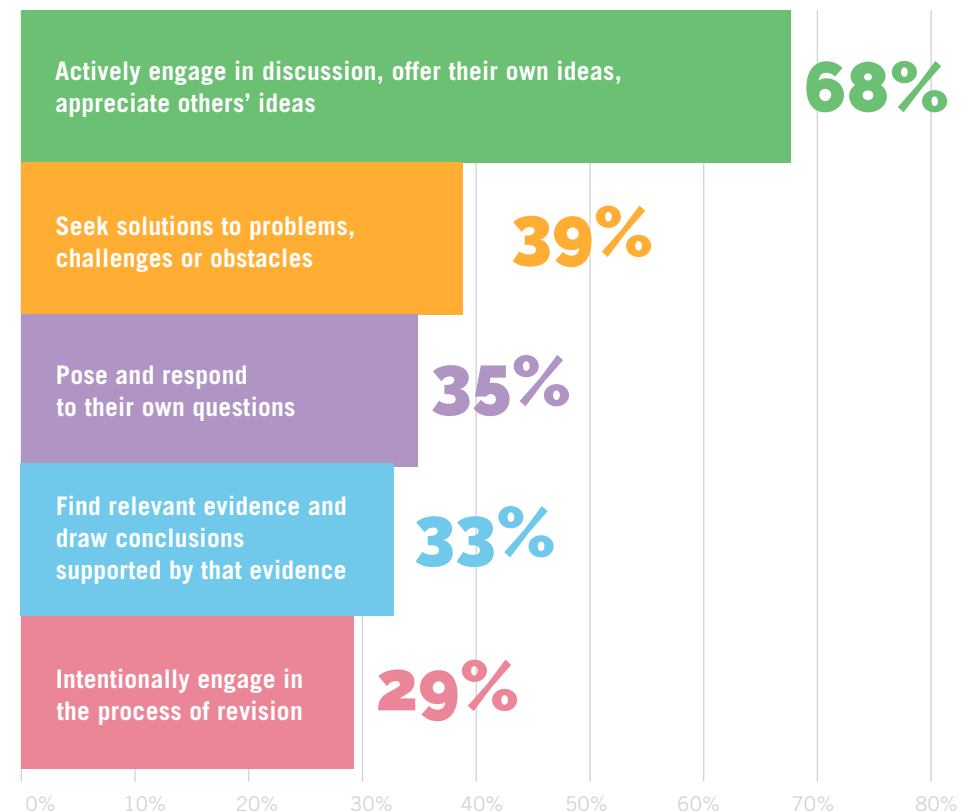
“Right Brain is a bank of **arts-based strategies** that teachers can use to **help students access content.**”

—RIGHT BRAIN TEACHER

“Arts integration can **show all of the learning of a child**—it allows children to show and use all of their intelligences. It helps children **make meaning and sense of their learning.**”

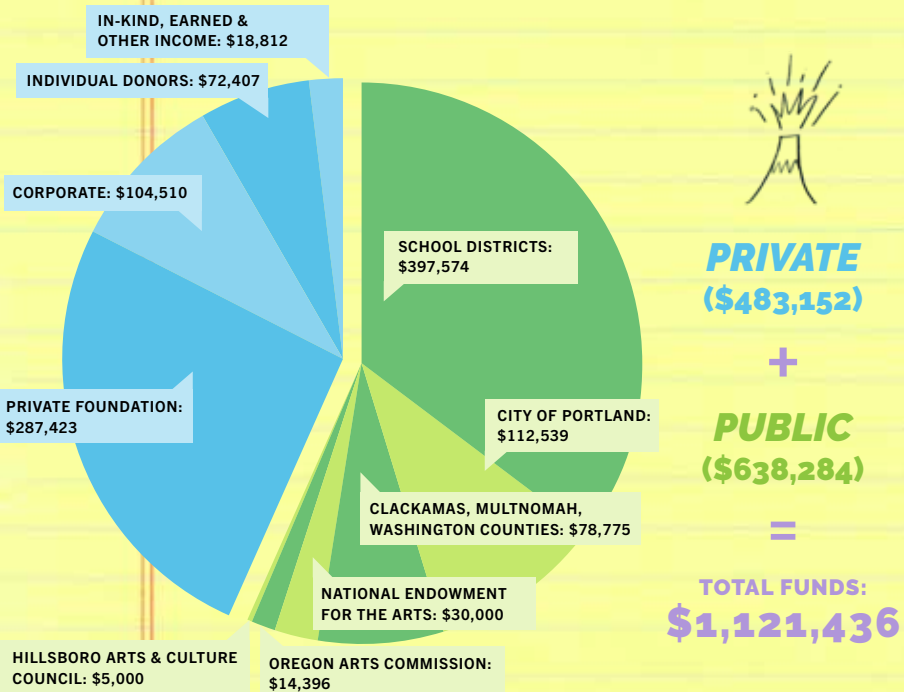
—RIGHT BRAIN PRINCIPAL

## PERCENTAGE OF TEACHERS THAT OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING EVIDENCE OF STUDENT LEARNING AFTER USING RIGHT BRAIN STRATEGIES

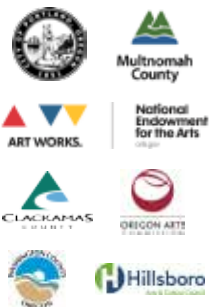


Percentage of Teachers Reporting Evidence of Student Learning

# The Right Brain Initiative Funding



## PUBLIC SUPPORT



## FOUNDATION SUPPORT



Rose E. Tucker Charitable Trust  
Madison-Waldo Fund of Oregon Community Foundation  
AHS Foundation  
Portland Community College OJT  
BNY Mellon Foundation  
The Schlesinger Family Foundation

## CORPORATE SUPPORT



# 2016-17 Funders

(Gifts from July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017)

## IN-KIND:

Northwest Health Foundation  
North (video)

## INDIVIDUAL DONORS (\$50+)

Mandy and Nathaniel Allen  
Tarn Allen and Cory Meisch  
Brian Aptekar  
Kristin Asai and Justin Mackewich  
Ilyse Ball  
Todd Baran  
Jesse Beason and Jeffrey Gierer  
Jennifer Belknap Williamson and Jason Williamson  
Alan and Cari Bennett  
Dominic Bianchi  
Tim Bishop  
Stephen Blackstone  
Verlea Briggs  
Jim and Karen Brunke  
Deborah and Thom Brzoska  
Patricia and Paul Buescher  
Allen Burrell  
Rebecca Burrell and Kevin Noonan  
Eric and Robin Busch  
Christopher Cameron  
Ingrid Carlson and Francis Rochon  
Matt Carron  
Joan S. Childs and Jerry Zaret  
Freeland Church  
Cary Clarke and Meredith Dunn  
Eve Connell  
Rocky and Becky Dallum  
Helen Daltoso and James Wilcox  
Eloise Damrosch  
Michael Davidson and Patricia Johnson  
Nancy Deal-Whitacre  
Lisa and Steve Decker  
Laura DeSimone and Bill Roulette  
Autumn Dobbins

Jen and Jason Dolan  
Anonymous Donor  
James Dorenkamp  
Janice Duchon  
Shari Dunlop and Tom Huminski  
Katherine and Brad Durham  
Phoebe and Grant Ebright  
Matthew Fiorito  
Barbara Fishleder and John Wolfe  
Eric and Elizabeth Foxman  
Robin Friedman  
Elizabeth and Geiner Gallardo  
Sharon Garner  
Greg Giersch  
Sally Godard and Ron Olisar  
Eloy Gomez  
Abby Goodman  
Michele and Erik Graham  
Jenny Gruenemay  
Chad and Serra Hadsell  
Timothy Hahn  
Donna Hammar  
John Hancock  
Dewayne and Gloria Hankins  
Todd and Susan Harris  
Jeff Hawthorne  
David Helfrey and Stacy Bolt  
Jelly Helm  
Morton Henig  
John Henry and Josie Bourke  
Vicki Henschel  
Cynda Herbold  
Janis and Roger Hill  
Phillip Hillaire  
Jessalyn Horton  
Pat Hillinger  
Windy Hovey  
Jenny Hudson and Duncan Rotch  
Michelle and Ali Husain  
Kathryn Jackson  
Debbie Jain  
David Johnson  
Marvin and Betsy Kaiser  
Roberta Kaplan  
Charis Kennedy  
Kathy and Andy Kerr  
Teresa Ketelsen  
Anne Kimberly

Sinead Kimbrell  
Tiffany Kirkpatrick  
Inger Klekacz  
Cynthia Knapp  
Mike and Nancy Kolosseus  
Carin Landgren and George Pacavsky  
Jason and Jennifer LaPier  
Barbara and Terry Lawson  
Deb Lee  
Joy Leising and John Paul Kelley  
Cheri and Dan Lethin  
Meredith and Jeff Lind  
Joanna Lipske and Joel Rotert  
Bruce Livingston  
David Loitz and Marta Lilly  
Matt Long  
Jack MacNichol  
Peg Malloy  
Jodi and Mike Maas  
Barbara Mason  
Jennifer Matsumura and Jim Cooper  
Mary Mayther-Slac and Gary Slac  
Dwight and Karen McFaddin  
Cynthia McGean and Sam Mowry  
Anne E. McLaughlin  
Kimberly Menig  
Kirsten Meyer  
Kristin Meyer  
Max and Lori Miller  
Ric and Corlice Mims  
John and Diane Miner  
Megan Mischler  
Linda Nelson  
Angela and Robert Nicholas  
Daniel and Kathy Norton  
Vicky and Phil Oberrecht  
Margaret Olney and Steve Marsh  
Jeremy Palenchar  
Greydon Patterson  
Kally Pelky  
Maddison Pfeiffer  
Robert and Michelle Pugh  
Maria Reyes  
Jane Ribadeneyra and

Kelly Egan  
Jennifer and Mark Rice  
Steven Rosenbaum and Christine Lundeen  
Daniel Rosenberg  
Carlyn Rosenthal  
Roxane Russell  
and Chet Hiatt  
Lesly Sacki and Manish Chandhok  
Catherine Samson  
Valerie Sasaki  
Ryan Schenk  
Jim and Jan Schlachter  
Chad Seegmiller  
Michael and Patti Seely  
Gabrielle Serra  
Kelly Shannon  
Randy Short  
Carol and Walter Smith  
Shauna Smith  
Julie Stahl and Damian Rothermel  
Marna Stalcup and Timothy Drilling  
Tiffany Stinger  
Kim and Timothy Strelchun  
Jake Sullivan  
David and Enid Traisman  
Beverly Trover  
William Uicker and Regina Injety  
Lauren Vannini  
Cathy Varner  
Joy Waite-Cusic and Joseph Cusic  
Christy Walters  
Kimberly Warner  
Andrew Watson  
Alea Webster  
Emily Weltman and Jacob Gamage  
Sarah and Robert White  
Steven and Lainie Wilker  
Beth Williams  
Carolyn Wood  
Jeffrey Work  
Michele Wren and Paige Richardson





REGIONAL ARTS & CULTURE COUNCIL  
411 NW PARK AVENUE, STE. 101  
PORTLAND, OR 97209

## 2016-17 PROGRESS REPORT

KICKING OFF OUR 10<sup>th</sup> YEAR!