

Donate Today!

Join our Giving Circle

\$5000 HEAL Childhood Injustices
\$2500 COPE with Adversity
\$1000 GROW Beyond Trauma

■ \$500 ■ \$250 ■ \$100 ■ \$50

All donations directly benefit Barnstone Art for Kids and the families in our community.



2018 Live Volunteers

Trish Beilman
Drena Brubaker
Brint Detwiler
Alyssa Dohler
Marggy Escorcio
Maureen Fendrick
Polly Gable
Monique Hedegard
Cliff Hillis
Eileen Hughes
Kathy Hunt
Valerie Lingo
Van Morgan
Laura Ransom
Tom Ransom
Tony Riley Hill
Erin Ring
Kyle Ring
Dori Smith
Lauren South
Allison Stinger
Kirsten VanVlandren

Artists

Nancy Barch
Rachel Brown
Brittany Brubaker
Rhona Canderloro
Sue Ciccone
Holly Cusumano
Lisa Ford
Teresa Haag
Jesse Harrington
Mary Holton
Rhoda Kahler
Kimberly Knorr
Wendy Liss
Joanne Mark
Christy Maurer
Emily Mills
Christina Oddo
Trisha Onuskanych
Marcia Reiver
Michael Riley-Hill
Don Shoffner
Linda Turoczi
Maryann Worrell

It's FAST! It's FUN! And SO MANY Were a Part of It!

Barnstone Art for Kids 1st ever fundraiser took place on April 7, 2018. Over 150 people attended Barnstone LIVE! Art Spectacular. More than 20 artists provided on the spot entertainment as they created works of art immediately available for auction. This LIVE! Art function will become Barnstone's annual fundraiser.



LIVE artist **Christine Oddo** completing her first LIVE round.



LIVE artist **Holly Cusumano** shares her encaustic techniques.



Mayor **Peter Urscheler** congratulates young artists on their art sales.

Our Mission:

Using the Power of Art to foster resiliency in children facing adversity

Barnstone Art For Kids

Lynn Detwiler
Executive Director

Lisa Katarynick
Director of Programming

Erin Ring
Volunteer Coordinator

Board of Directors

Allison Stinger *President*

Carrie Marcus *Vice President*

Eric Daugherty *Treasurer*

Erin Ring *Secretary*

Sean Halloran

Lynn Detwiler

Constance Dougher

2018 Annual Report

Letter From The Executive Director



Lynn Detwiler
Executive Director
Barnstone Art For Kids

2018. #MeToo. Parkland Shootings. Climate Change. Humanitarian Crisis. Hurricanes. Wild Fires. Major events affect us all. For those experiencing childhood adversity, it's just more confirmation of the misfortune of life.

Is there any wonder why there's been an increase in requests for additional programming? Is there any wonder Barnstone Art for Kids has experienced such rapid growth?

Power of Art enrollment increased 25% in 2018. We saw a similar rise in Beyond the Power. We suspended Barnstone's summer program in favor of summer expansion of Beyond. Teen Power was introduced in 2018 serving 23 teens and we served 71 children through On-the-Go programs at Barkley, Manavon, and PAMS.

We are thankful for the commitment and service of our mentors. Both the number of mentors and service hours increased in 2018. Lisa Katarynick was hired as Director of Programming to administer programs and alleviate the overflow. Connie Dougher came on Board. To summarize, our community expands. More students, more mentors, more employees, more donors, more board, more babies....

We grow. We learn. Nowhere have we grown more than in teen development. Adolescents have a way about letting you know when you don't have it just right. We are listening.

Teens are faced with many issues as they begin to bridge the gap between childhood and adulthood. Teens are irritable, quick to temper, and impulsive as they try on different selves. They feel pressure. We all do. Exaggerated and awkward behaviors compound teen understanding and exploration of rules, sex, identity, norms. Discovering a unique individuality while simultaneously fearing being labeled different. This "normal" process of healthy development is arrested by the impacts of complex trauma.

But, despite the presence of adverse experience, teens still want to be teens. They want to individuate. They want their own space. They need to push away, and they need to know you'll still be there.

This dynamic influences Barnstones' teen curriculum as teens move toward more mature relational experiences with their mentors. Mentors prove to be safe testing ground for teens discovering their adult selves. Safety and trust issues abound. Physical and verbal boundaries are tested and explored. Mentors provide the necessary safety and guidance during this (occasionally trying) journey toward independence.

By viewing teens through the trauma lens, here's what we learn:
Relaxing a little offers great opportunity for the teen to be in control.
Providing freedom to explore allows the bigger picture to emerge.
Reflective listening establishes a healthy sounding board.
Easing judgment encourages fearless development of the authentic self.
Allowing mistakes lays the best foundation for reflection.
Guide. Listen. Endure. Repeat.

In 2019, we put all we learn into practice as Barnstone Art for Kids integrates further into trauma informed children services. Look for advances in our On-the-Go series and improvements in the teen program. Anticipate placing more importance on the entire community as we speak to the larger issues and explore help the community becomes more informed and active.

Sure, 2018 hit hard, but with your help, Barnstone answered the call and will continue strong through 2019 and beyond.

Best,
Lynn

Building Confidence

We give children the control to take each project in the direction they choose. When a mentor supports a child's unique vision, (s)he feels confident, empowered, and respected.

Healthy Expression

Barnstone provides fun materials and encourages each child to look at the world in a different light. Children can express themselves without fear of judgment. Kids are allowed to be kids-and have fun being creative.

Nurturing Relationships

While assisting with the creative process, our positive adult role models are attentive, empathetic, and reassuring toward each child and his or her imagination.

Inspiring Passion

We wholeheartedly believe in the old adage "it takes a village." We invest our energy into building the right environment children need to succeed. By pairing a child and mentor they create positive moments that provide hope and impact a lifetime.

Barnstone Programs Show Results

The lessons learned in 2018 have helped shape our path toward the future. We know from our collection of demographic information that our population served is truly reflective of the Phoenixville community at large. What has surprised us, however, are some of the other challenges that our kids bring with them. For example, in 2018, the average ACE score for our kids was 5.3. Significant because while having one or two ACEs is not uncommon, only about 12% of the population has a score of four or more. Additionally, nearly 50% of participants have Autism spectrum diagnoses, and another 20% of children experience other forms of developmental disorder. Considering Barnstone receives the majority of its referrals from behavioral health and/or family services partners, we recognize that we are working with kids who genuinely need us, and value their experiences.

Barnstone continued use of our Mentor Evaluation Tool (MET). As part of our quality improvement process, this questionnaire provides valuable feedback on children’s progress, and insight into our programs. Our tool measures 5 key areas: **Communication, Problem Solving, Creativity, Social Skills, and Craftsmanship**. Our 2018 groups each experienced successes to one degree or another. Highlights include:

Sept. 2017 - May 2018:

- With improvement close to 60%, every child in Group A showed gains across all domains!
- Group B showed more modest gains of 9% overall. The average ACE of this group was over 8.

Jan. 2018 – Dec. 2018:

- Group A showed strong, significant improvements in the Communication, Problem Solving, and Creativity domains with overall growth of 20%.
- Teen group showed modest improvement of 10%.

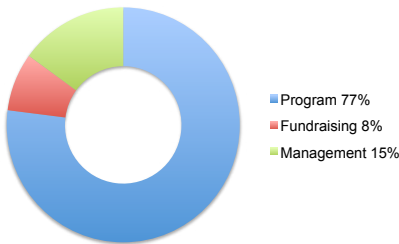
Sept. 2018 starts

- Only half way through the curriculum but all groups show strong early improvement.

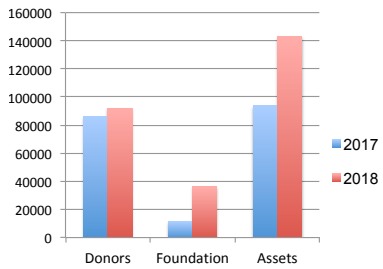
One recent and very interesting piece of feedback from mentors and our own observations have helped inform our program decisions. After creating groups specifically for teens and delivering curriculum based on our historic content, we have come to understand that our teens highly value the broader group social interaction with their mentors and the other available group members. This data was more anecdotal, but suggests that the teens look at their time in session as an opportunity to practice social skills, seek adult feedback on developmentally relevant topics, and clarify their own role identities. We know that Barnstone offers them safety and a more relaxed atmosphere (than school perhaps), and it would appear that our kids are taking advantage of that.

Ultimately, the MET data points, the narrative feedback gathered from mentors, the parent feedback, and our own observations all inform the conversation about program quality and service delivery. We will continue to measure and ask questions in order to improve and make our programs the best they can possibly be.

2018 Expenses



Revenue



Thank You!

A very special thank you to all our donors and funders. You have helped make this a truly remarkable year for Barnstone and the families we serve.

2018 Phillie Charities Award Celebration
Lynn Detwiler, Phillie Phanatic and Maureen Fendrick



Lisa Katarynick was welcomed as the Director of Programming. “Miss Lisa” brings her art and education “super powers” to add creative energy to the programs she’s come to know through years of service as a mentor.



Barnstone Art for Kids announces **Constance Dougher** to the Board of Directors.

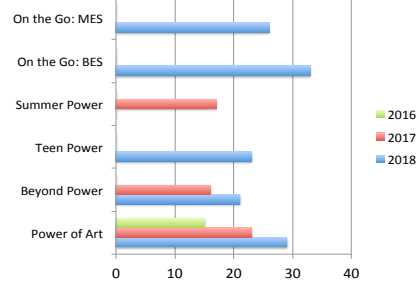


Leah Rhiannon born 12.17.2019 to proud parents Erin and Kyle Ring.



Barnstone Art For Kids knows “it takes a village” and a large part of that village are our volunteer mentors. In recognition of our volunteer mentors this year we hosted a creative party to support our undercover yarn bombing project. Yarn bombing is a type of street art or graffiti motivated to bring life, warmth and a feeling of belonging in the community. So we set out one cold winter evening, pom poms and knitted and crocheted pieces in tow to spread our creative message. Phoenixville Middle School and High School students returned to school on Monday morning to find Barnstone Art For Kids’ message, “**Art Just Is!**”

Program Enrollment



Volunteer Hours



Barnstone Loom at Kiwanis KidsFest 10.6.2018.



Barnstone programming for Neumann University 7.23.2018.



Barnstone mentors continue to build healthy relationships in the safety of the barn.

New Programs



On The Go

Transportation issues often preclude children from attending programs at our Barnstone facility. On the Go brings a condensed version of the Power of Art directly to children in the community.

Teen Power: Emerging Voices

The new teen program specifically considers the developmental tasks of adolescence, and their need to have their own space. Teens are guided through their creative expression with more challenging art projects, listening to music and having more fluid, open discussions with their peers and one-to-one mentors.

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