

WORKSHOP HOUSTON

2009-2010 ANNUAL REPORT
SEPT. 1ST, 2009 – AUG. 31ST, 2010



MISSION

TO PROVIDE YOUTH WITH CREATIVE, TECHNICAL, AND EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES.

VISION

TO LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR A JUST SOCIETY BY CREATING A COMMUNITY THAT PROVIDES YOUTH WITH SUPPORT, EXPANDED OPPORTUNITIES AND ALTERNATIVE DEFINITIONS OF SUCCESS.

VALUES

COMMUNITY

Communities are the primary social unit capable of progressive change; a community can create collective action while retaining the freedom of individual voices. Participating in a positive and engaged community that recognizes our interdependence and supports and mentors youth is the best way to inspire youth to reach their full potential.

EMPOWERING INDIVIDUALS

The building blocks of communities working to change society are empowered and educated individuals. We define empowerment as individuals seeing change as a realistic possibility and having the power to do what they believe is right. We find that the best way to prepare someone to create power for themselves is to provide opportunities for learning and creative expression, and allow space for them to define and enact change for themselves and their communities.

EDUCATION AS A WAY OF LIFE

We see education and the pursuit of knowledge as a central goal in life, as well as the best way to prepare youth to lead fulfilling lives and to inspire them to participate in positive communities. Through creative, hands-on, and self-directed projects we are able to engage youth in learning and show them that education can be relevant to their lives as well as be a vehicle for growth and change. Finally, we work to tie education to empowerment by teaching youth the critical skill of how to use information to make positive decisions.

JUSTICE

We recognize that historic injustices are an important factor in creating the inequalities that exist in American economic, political, and educational systems. Our work seeks to both alleviate the critical problems these injustices create for youth, while at the same time defining and working towards a new society that is just for all people.

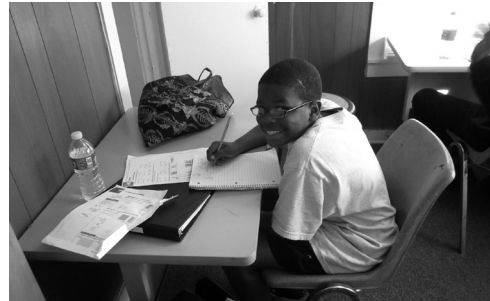
CULTURE

We affirm the dignity and worth of all people. Additionally, we celebrate and respect the variety of human culture. We strive to participate in a society that holds both of these values paramount.

STRUCTURE AS VALUES

We recognize that in working to change society the structure of our organization must reflect the values of the community we wish to create, just as we must model the behavior we expect of our participants. With this knowledge we structure our organization around collectivity and collaboration which allows us to be inclusive, supportive, dynamic and innovative, all traits we desire in our community. We also work to continually improve ourselves by becoming, more disciplined, more accepting of change, better communicators, and better educators.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES



OUR PROGRAMS USE THE RESOURCES OF OUR FIVE SHOPS TO PROVIDE YOUTH WITH CREATIVE, TECHNICAL AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES.



THE BIKE SHOP is a community bike education resource. The shop has all the tools and resources of a professional bike shop which participants use to learn about bikes and bike repair in a dynamic cooperative learning environment.



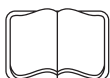
THE CHOPPER SHOP is a welding and metal fabrication studio where students have the chance to design and build their own chopper and low-rider bicycles. Advanced students create even more ambitious projects, including go-karts, bike racks and metal sculpture.



THE STYLE SHOP is a fashion design and silk-screen studio where students create their own clothes and accessories. Students learn basics of design through drawing and computer graphics, and move on to creating their own pieces in our sewing and printing labs.



THE BEAT SHOP is a music production and recording studio where students explore music of all forms, mainly focusing on the foundations of hip-hop. After going through projects devoted to playing music, making beats, sampling, mixing and writing lyrics, students create their own songs and albums.



THE SCHOLAR SHOP is a learning library that provides academic support and tutoring for students in our other shops. Students develop academically through daily homework help, reading and writing exercises and assistance in fundamental skills.

PROGRAMS

THE THIRD WARD BIKE SHOP

Open to all community members, the Bike Shop is a place for youth to learn new skills and accomplish goals through hands-on learning, and an important resource for the neighborhood. Our Open Shop program provides everything you need to fix your own bike, from mechanical expertise to parts and tools. For people who need a bike, our Earn-a-Bike program offers the chance to get one through a work exchange that helps keep the shop running smoothly, teaches bike repair skills, and benefits the community by fixing bikes for local charities.



“Volunteering and my involvement with the Bike Shop has given me a purpose in my life, literally changing my life, through gaining the ability to help others.”

– Steve Pedigo on volunteering in the Bike Shop.

THE MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

In this program, youth in grades 6-8 build creative and technical skills through hands-on, project-based activities in the Beat, Chopper, and Style Shops, and receive daily academic support in the Scholar Shop. These new learning experiences deepen our students’ commitment to their own education and show them how they can succeed through their own creativity and intelligence. In the program, students become a part of a positive peer group and form relationships with caring adults. To build this sense of community and give youth a chance to show their work from the shops, the program offers regular field trips, camping trips and events.



“Workshop Houston helps you experience your inner talents.”

– Darius Harrison on his participation in the Middle School Program.

THE HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

In this program, students who have gone through the Middle School Program act as role-models for younger students and work with staff mentors to succeed academically in high school. As advanced students, high school-aged participants lead through example by working in the shops on their own projects and help newer participants build their skills. Students in this program work closely with staff to ensure they are doing well in school and on the path toward graduation and college.



“Workshop Houston has been very beneficial. Mike enjoys going and it really makes him want to go to college.” – Evelyn Ashford on her son’s participation in the High School Program.

THE SUMMER LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Open to graduating eighth graders and students in high school who have excelled at Workshop Houston, this program offers youth an academic- and service- oriented summer internship. In the program, students attend Rice University Summer School in the mornings and help in the shops in the afternoons. Like High School Program participants, Summer Leadership Institute interns act as role-models for younger students through commitment to academic and creative achievement.



“Chris’s positive outlook, imagination, and willingness to interact with his peers truly enriched our classroom environment...in this way, Chris was almost the “glue” that kept the class together.” - Rice Summer School Teacher on SLI participant Chris Williams.

LETTER FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Workshop Houston was built on the belief that learning is more than just what happens in a classroom. Creative hands-on projects that teach students about how they can use their education in the world can be the key to opening up a young person's inner fortitude and excitement for learning and growth. Through our programs, students have the chance to see how what they learn - both in and out of school - can truly enrich their lives. In 2009-2010, we worked to expand our programs so that even more students can have this experience.

In the Middle School Program, more than 50 participants engaged in creative projects in the Style, Beat and Chopper Shops, and received academic support in the Scholar Shop. 89% came from James D. Ryan, the local middle school, where 95% of students qualified for free/reduced lunch in 2009-2010. Based on evaluations and staff observation from the year, we have tripled the capacity of the program for the 2010-2011 school year and dramatically expanded the shops' hours. In response to students' needs, we have also added even more academic guidance by increasing the time and individual attention students receive in the Scholar Shop.

Over the summer, we held our second session of the Summer Leadership Institute. Three of our graduating eighth grade students and one returning ninth grade student were able to get a taste of the college experience at Rice University's Summer School, and become role models for Workshop Houston's younger students. We are very proud of all the work and effort they put in over the summer, and continue to help them and our other Middle School Program alumni work towards their goals in the High School Program this school year.

The Bike Shop had more than 500 new participants and continues to be an incredible way for anyone to experience Workshop Houston's hands-on educational philosophy. In our Earn-a-Bike program, more than 80 people rode off on bikes they fixed for themselves, and more than 90 bikes were donated to local charities. 46% of visits to the shop were made by youth under 18.

None of this would have been possible without the incredible generosity of our new and long-time donors. Through the financial support of more than 400 generous individuals and organizations, Workshop Houston exceeded its fundraising goals in 2009-2010. It is because of this support and our wonderful community of donors and volunteers that we were able to expand our programming this year and will continue to make so many more strides in the years to come.

Thank you for your dedication, which has made all of this possible.



Sam Jones
Board President, Workshop Houston

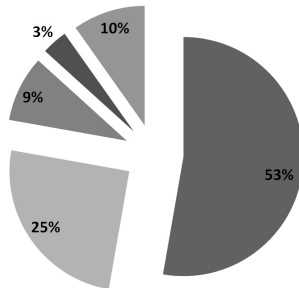
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

"I donate to Workshop Houston because I know my money is going to good use: they run their operations on a shoestring, they work hand in hand with their local community, and they offer a diverse approach to reach kids, using a variety of educational, artistic, musical, and practical approaches."

- Jake Goldstein, donor and 2010 Annual Campaign Committee Member.

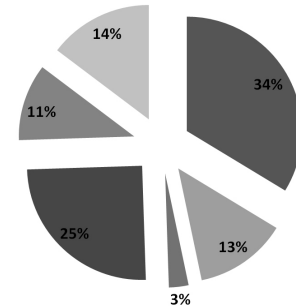
FISCAL YEAR 2009-2010 (SEPTEMBER 1, 2009 - AUGUST 31, 2010) INCOME AND EXPENSES

INCOME



FOUNDATION GRANTS	173,918.71	53%
MAJOR GIFTS	82,623.61	25%
ANNUAL CAMPAIGN	29,405.63	9%
EARNED INCOME	11,464.00	3%
SPECIAL EVENTS	32,310.00	10%
TOTAL	329,721.95	100.00%

EXPENSES



MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM	108,001.00	34%
BIKE SHOP	41,668.00	13%
HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM/ SUMMER LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE	8,825.00	3%
SHARED PROGRAMMING EXPENSES	80,070.00	25%
FUNDRAISING EXPENSES	34,776.00	11%
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	46,953.00	14%
TOTAL	320,293.00	100%

FISCAL YEAR 2009-2010 (SEPTEMBER 1, 2009 - AUGUST 31, 2010) BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS

Capital One Checking	17,180.88
Tower of Gold Savings	81,101.94
Accounts Receivable	40,250.00
Undeposited Funds	7,739.15
Utility Deposits	667.82
Advances	577.85
PayPal Account	2,347.56
Total Current Assets	149,865.20

FIXED ASSETS

Land	50,000.00
Vehicles	7,956.88
WIP-3531 Building	14,790.85
WIP-3529 Building	2,073.07
3529 Sauer St.	54,999.80
3615 Sauer St.	57,500.00
Equipment	14,942.13
Building Improvements	145,403.61
Land Improvements	6,064.17
Metal Storage Buildings	4,390.00
Accumulated Depreciation	-50,186.37
Total Fixed Assets	307,934.14

TOTAL ASSETS 457,799.34

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	2,562.75
Payroll Liabilities	7,176.60
Total Liabilities	9,739.35

EQUITY

General Contingency Reserve	81,101.94
Unrestricted Surplus	-110,640.26
Temporarily Restricted Assets	29,538.32
Retained Earnings	462,116.07
Net Income	-14,056.18
Total Equity	448,059.89

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 457,799.24

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