



ELL Foundation, Inc.

2018 Annual Report

P.O. Box 19975, Cincinnati, OH 45219

<http://www.ellfoundationcinci.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/ELLFoundationCinci/>

Development.events@ellfoundationcinci.org



ELL Foundation, Inc.

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ELL Foundation, Inc.

Letter from the Board President

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the English Language Learning Foundation, I would like to thank you for your commitment to our students and to our important charitable organization. Our mission of “helping English language learners to become successful in their academic lives while fostering their cultural identities” would not be possible without your support and the support from caring individuals just like you throughout Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky.



With your help, we were able to accomplish a great deal during 2018. At our 10th Annual Recognition Breakfast in February, we awarded \$17,385 in scholarships to 29 local English learners who are enrolled at the following colleges and universities: Northern Kentucky University, Cincinnati State Technical & Community College, the University of Cincinnati, the University of Cincinnati Blue Ash, Mount St. Joseph University, and Skidmore College. Cincinnati Public Schools Board of Education Board Member Melanie Bates coordinated a giving circle called “Gari’s Gang”, who made a \$1,395 donation to the Foundation in the memory of their dear friend, Gari Silverblatt. The funds from this donation will be used to support two \$500 college scholarships in 2019, with the remainder of the funds going to our Emergency Grant fund. Thanks to contributions from “Gari’s Gang” and others, we were able to award our first-ever Emergency Grant to a Northern Kentucky University student who received a small Emergency Grant to help her with a tuition emergency. We also helped to fund and facilitate the 2018 “Safari to the Water Underground” summer enrichment program this past July for local middle school English learners, in partnership with the Foundation for Ohio River Education and Northern Kentucky University. At the “Safari to the Water Underground”, students had the opportunity to learn about environmental science, microbiology, and chemistry from local experts.

The ELL Foundation remains committed to serving Greater Cincinnati/ Northern Kentucky English learners so that they achieve their very own American Dream. They deserve to reach their American dream, just like every other American. Many of our students have overcome serious barriers to come to the United States. Some of our students were forced to travel unaccompanied from Central America, traveling thousands of miles on foot, alone, in order to escape cartel violence and extreme poverty. One student said he almost died in the desert along the US/ Mexico border because of severe dehydration. Other students spent months in refugee camps after fleeing chemical attacks by the Syrian government. I encourage you to consider how you can give back to support our local ELL students, whether it be through tutoring and mentoring, getting involved in our summer camps, or hosting a fundraiser on our behalf to support student scholarships. Every little bit counts. Our students have worked hard to pursue their education, and they deserve our support!

Sincerely,

Keith W. Lanser, MA
Board President



ELL Foundation, Inc.

Student Stories

ELL Foundation Scholars Excel, Overcome Challenges, Give Back

One is on her way to becoming a pediatric nurse. Another has set his sights on a career in marketing. A third aspires to work in international business.

While these three area college students have different heritages and fields of study, they share much in common: dedication to academic excellence, a desire to give back to the community – and deep appreciation for the financial and motivational support they are receiving to achieve their dreams.

Their stories demonstrate the real-world impact of ELL contributors.

Yessenia Cantero Hernandez, a nursing student at Northern Kentucky University and 2018 ELL Foundation Student of the Year, hopes to obtain a position with Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center after graduating. But her goals don’t stop there; she also intends to earn a Master’s degree, which will position her “to become more involved as an advocate for communities that lack access to health care.”

Yessenia is grateful for the support of her ELL scholarship, which, she says, can “move mountains” in paying for needed expenses and help students like herself be successful in college.

Yet, the scholarship means more than dollars for Yessenia.

“To me, the ELL Foundation Scholarship represents hope. It is a representation of all the individuals who want me to be successful. As a Dreamer, to me this scholarship has not only been a financial support, it also has given me the motivation to keep moving forward.”

She is upbeat about the path ahead. “The future is bright and I am optimistic about all that is yet to come!”

Alex Nizigiyimana, an enthusiastic University of Cincinnati student, Bearcat fan and 2016 ELL Student of the Year, wants to work for a marketing company after he graduates. Also on his to-do list: becoming involved in a non-profit so he can “give back to the community.” Alex says the ELL Scholarship he received “meant a lot” and helped pay for books and other necessities he needed for his classes.

He hopes that the foundation continues to support other promising college students who come to Cincinnati from different heritages and first languages.

“I think it is important for students like myself to have access to scholarships that are funded by the English Language Learning Foundation because English is not my first language, and this foundation encouraged me to work harder in learning the language to better myself in America.”



Yessenia Cantero Hernandez



Alex Nizigiyimana



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Student Stories

Fatoumata Coulibaly, a past ELL Foundation Scholarship recipient currently attending Cincinnati State, felt proud when she began to cover more of her college expenses as she pursued her plans to embark on a career in international business. Then she hit a bump in the road.

She was working two part-time jobs to help pay for tuition, but her annual renewal application to obtain a card to work off campus languished with immigration authorities much longer than she expected. Though her mother in Mali was able to provide a portion of her costs, it fell short of what Fatoumata needed. She became worried she would not be able to pursue her education and attain her dreams.



Fatoumata Coulibaly

Then, Fatoumata heard of a new emergency grant offered for the first time in fall 2018 by the ELL Foundation. She applied – and received it.

“For me the emergency grant was like when people say ‘There is always hope somewhere.’ I had never heard about it before, neither did I know that it existed. The emergency grant allowed me to see the bigger picture of my situation and life in general.”



ELL Foundation, Inc.

Thank you for supporting our outstanding student leaders!



ELL Foundation, Inc.

Strategic Plan 2022

Goal 1: Enhance Scholarships and Educational Programs

- Significant enhancements were made to our scholarship application.
- We received 81 applications for our college scholarship program, a 65% increase over the previous year (and the most we have ever received)!
- We awarded our first-ever College Emergency Grant to a local student who faced a serious tuition emergency.

Goal 2: Enhance Strategic Management Processes & Procedures

- We updated our bylaws to include our core values of: diversity and inclusion, educational equality, multilingual literacy, dignity of all people, resiliency, and social justice.
- We welcomed new Board Member Maggie Oliveira, who teaches ESL at Cincinnati State Technical & Community College.
- We secured 100% board member contributions.
- A new conflict of interest policy was created, approved, and implemented.



10th Annual Recognition Breakfast



Strategic Plan 2022

Goal 3: Become Visible in Community/ Share Success Stories

- Cincinnati Public Schools Board of Education Board Member Melanie Bates was able to coordinate a Memorial Giving circle called “Gari’s Gang”, who made a \$1,395 donation in the memory of their dear friend, Gari Silverblatt.
- We promoted our college scholarship program at DePaul Cristo Rey High School and at Cincinnati Public School’s first-ever college fair at Woodward Career Technical Center.
- Our Facebook page activated 171 followers (+29.5%) and 166 likes (+28%) in 2018.
- Our website yielded 39,299 visits in 2018 (+28% over average visits per year).
- We released our first-ever ELL Foundation Newsletter in the fall of 2018.

Goal 4: Become financially sustainable

- Began Memorial Giving program, which raised \$1,595
- % of expenses spent directly on ELL Foundation programs: 84%
- % of expenses spent on administrative fees and fundraising: 16%
- Total revenue : \$34,613.54
- Total expenses: \$31,322.42
- Net income: \$3,291.12

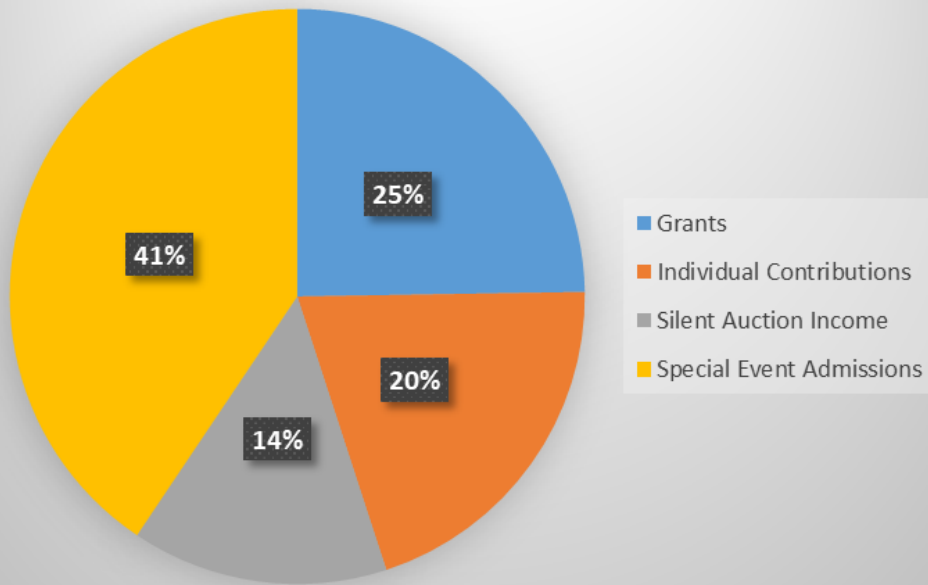


2018 Safari to the Water Underground

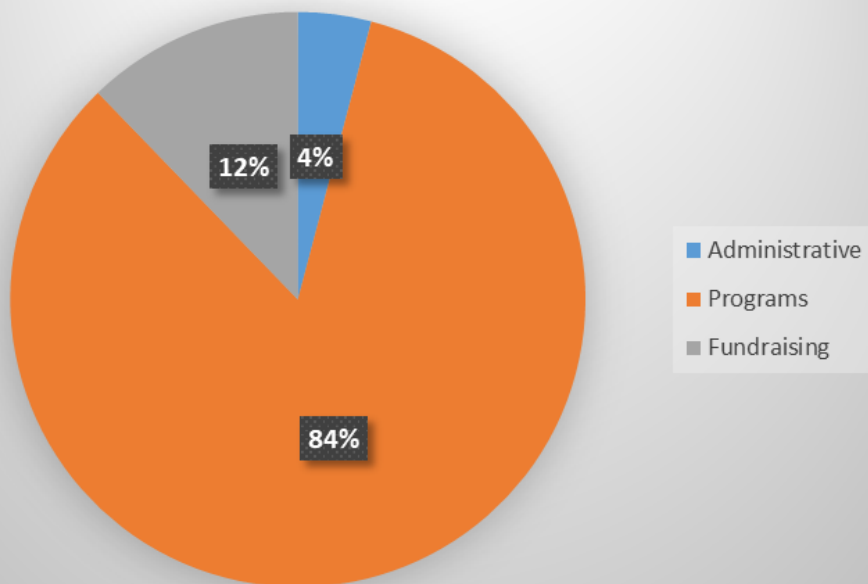


Financials

Revenue 2018: \$34,613.54



Expenses 2018: \$31,322.42





Ways to Give

1. Become an ESL volunteer tutor with Cincinnati Public Schools.

- By assisting ESL students in subjects such as mathematics, English and science, volunteer tutors and students develop mutually rewarding bonds and experiences for each other, parents, schools, and the community overall.
- If you are interested in becoming an ESL tutor, please contact development.events@ellfoundationcinci.org.

2. Volunteer with the ELL Foundation.

- Do you have a special talent or skill that you could share with the Foundation? Consider volunteering with our Foundation.
- We are always looking for people to help with: volunteering on our Recognition Breakfast Planning Committee, coordinating educational experiences for local ELL students, and hosting fundraisers throughout the year.
- If you are interested in volunteering with the ELL Foundation, please contact development.events@ellfoundationcinci.org.

3. Donate to the ELL Foundation.

- Consider making a one time, recurring, or memorial donation of any denomination online:

<http://www.ellfoundationcinci.org/support-us.html>

- Checks can be mailed to: P.O. Box 19975, Cincinnati, OH 45219.
- Consider hosting a fundraiser on Facebook for your birthday benefiting the ELL Foundation!



ELL Foundation, Inc.

Donors

The ELL Foundation has no paid staff, so we rely on the time, talent, and treasures of our volunteers and donors. We appreciate the contribution of each and every donor. Thank you!

Donors from 2018 are listed below:

Richard Adams	Hamilton County ESC	Frederick Odame
Rossana Bagialtsalief	Michael Hansen	Karri O'Hara
Denise Baszile	Rebecca Hansen	Maggie Oliveira
Melanie Bates	Hispanics Avanzando Hispanics	Edwin Ortiz Reyes
Alisa Berry	Daniel Hoying	Catherine O'Shea
David Blumenfeld	Terri Hurdle	Donna Park
Martha Blumenfeld	Mariela Jaen	R. Gregory Park
Karla Boldery	Nancy Jentsch	Anne Perry
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Margarita Brewer	Darlene Kamine	Linda Pohlgeers
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Virginia Browsh	Hissi Kershner	Ganiva Reyes
Robert Buechner	Melissa Kershner	Connie Reyes– Rau
Leo Calderon	Kathleen Kissel	Allison Reynolds– Berry
Esteban Calle	Larry Kissel	Lourdes Ribera
Catholic Charities of Southwestern Ohio	Marie Kobayashi	Pete Robinson
Johnny Chu	Robyn Lamont	Stanley Rosemire
Cincinnati State Technical & Community College	Evelyn Landrigan	Samuel Rowe
Cincinnati Association	William Landrigan	Jackie Rowedder
CPS– Academy of Multilingual Immersion Studies	Maria Lang	Ted Saulnier
CPS– Dater High School	Keith Lanser	SC Ministry Foundation
CPS– Roberts Academy	Maria Lanzot	Blair Schoen
Theresa Cruz	Ann Leichty	Brian Schultz
Maggie Davis	Yue Li	Dianna Schurd
Kathy DeAngelo	Donna Luggen	Jorge Seda
Jeannie Duch	Amanda McLaughlin	Paula Sherman
Beth Duff	Maureen Mello	Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati
Irene Encarnacion	Peter Mello	Jesse Slusher
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Patty Fong	Dawn Miklavcic	Gregory Stewart
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Larisa Franklin– Wright	Laura Mitchell	Janet Walsh
Gregory French	Trish Mitchell	Jan Welsh
Mary Friel	Giselle Mlynec	Carole Williams
Hana Gallmeyer	Mary Jo Montenegro	H. James Williams
Dianne Gebhardt French	Michael Mooney	Chris Wolff
Candace Gibson	Sarah Morales	Woodward Charitable Trust
Barbara Glueck	Rosa Maria Moreno	Bryan Wright
Charles Glueck	Mount St. Joseph University	Larisa Wright
Sara Goldstein	HA Musser	YMCA of Greater Cincinnati
Myrna Gomez	NKU Center for Global Engagement	Belle Zembrod
	NKU Latino Programs & Services	
	NKU World Languages & Literature	
	Northern Kentucky University	



ELL Foundation, Inc.

In Memoriam



Gloria Milord

April 13, 1945– November 14, 2018

We will forever miss our dear friend and former board member, Gloria Milord.



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