



GIRLS  
GARAGE

# IMPACT STATEMENT



6

YEARS IN OPERATION

40

DIFFERENT POWER TOOLS  
IN OUR WORKSHOP

381

PARTICIPATING GIRLS





# OUR MISSION

Girls Garage is a design and building program and dedicated workshop in Berkeley, CA, for girls ages 9-17. Fuse metal. Make trouble. Speak up. Stand out.

Since 2013, Girls Garage has been supporting girls in their quest to Fear Less and Build More! Through after-school classes, summer intensives, and workshops, our design and building programs promote creativity, grit, and curiosity through hands-on construction, problem solving, and meaningful making. Under the guidance of our skilled all-female staff, girls develop skills in carpentry, welding, architecture, engineering, graphic design, and applied STEM concepts through full-scale building projects for real-world clients. While working toward our 10-module Fearless Builder Girl certification, our girls discover and use their creative voices to transform their communities and go forth confidently into higher education and careers.

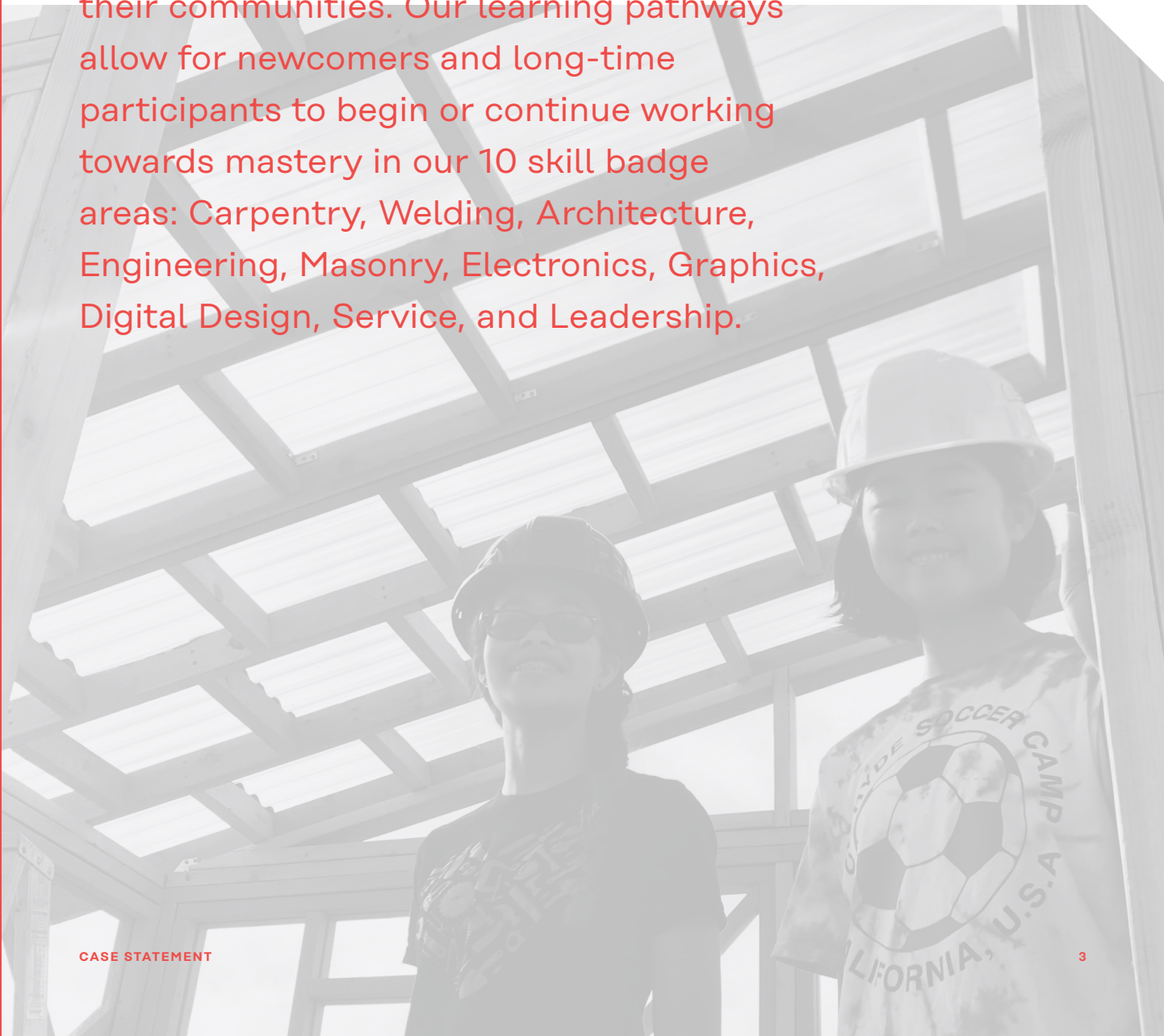
Girls from our program overwhelmingly describe an increased confidence in their own abilities, a greater interest in STEM careers, and an insatiable desire to keep building positive change in their lives and communities. All of our work takes place in our 3600-square-foot workshop, which includes a woodshop, metalshop, digital fabrication lab, classroom, and open makerspace. As a space created by and for girls and women, we are dedicated to supporting a diverse group of girls through building activities, radical feminism, and one-to-one mentorship.

Girls Garage is the cornerstone program of the non-profit Project H Design, which has been engaged in youth-built public architecture projects since 2008.



# PROGRAMS

We offer year-round instruction for girls to bring their audacious ideas to life and into their communities. Our learning pathways allow for newcomers and long-time participants to begin or continue working towards mastery in our 10 skill badge areas: Carpentry, Welding, Architecture, Engineering, Masonry, Electronics, Graphics, Digital Design, Service, and Leadership.



## AFTER-SCHOOL

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Our 8-week after-school sessions are offered in the fall, winter, and spring to girls ages 9-17. Each class meets one day per week for focused instruction in one skill area through challenging building projects. In our Wood and Carpentry classes, girls learn to use hand and power tools from speed squares to chop saws, drills and drivers, and more. Projects have included gumball machines, birdhouses, and toolboxes. In our Welding and Metals class, girls learn to MIG weld, cut, drill, and finish metal to produce projects such as side tables, bookends, and shelves. Our Pop-Up Shop class introduces girls to the concepts of entrepreneurship through the design and production of sellable craft products. Previous products including cutting boards, calendars, and posters have sold out online and at our sale events, and girls equally share profits. In our Advanced Design/Build class, teen girls apply engineering and architectural concepts to build full-scale service projects. Previous projects include a public greenhouse, furniture for a women's shelter, and a feminist escape room.

## WORKSHOPS

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Our affordable or no-cost workshops offer girls and families a way to try new skills. Our most popular workshops include Mother-Daughter Builder Bootcamp, Build-Your-Own Skateboard, Lockpicking, and Intro to MIG Welding.

## YOUNG WOMEN'S DESIGN AND BUILDING INSTITUTE

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This no-cost week-long intensive introduces girls ages 13-17 to multiple design and building techniques, skills, media, and a community of fearless builder women. From graphic design and screen printing to carpentry, welding, and architectural drafting, girls will explore the possibilities of building in their own lives, learning, and futures. Each year, girls design and build real projects for a community client, exploring issues of social justice and service. Girls also visit local STEM-related institutions and companies in order to connect learning to ongoing career and college pathways. This program is limited to 12 girls per week-long cohort and gives preference to girls who might otherwise lack access to our programming.

## SUMMER BUILDER BOOTCAMP

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For girls ages 9-13, this summer camp challenges girls to work together on ambitious building projects for a local partners (a nearby school, homeless shelter, or community garden). Each week, 24 girls learn to safely use chop saws, drills and drivers, a MIG welder, and more. Our summer camps are rigorous and fun, and bring together girls and women from diverse backgrounds each year.

# 28

PROGRAM SESSIONS  
OFFERED EACH YEAR

# 913

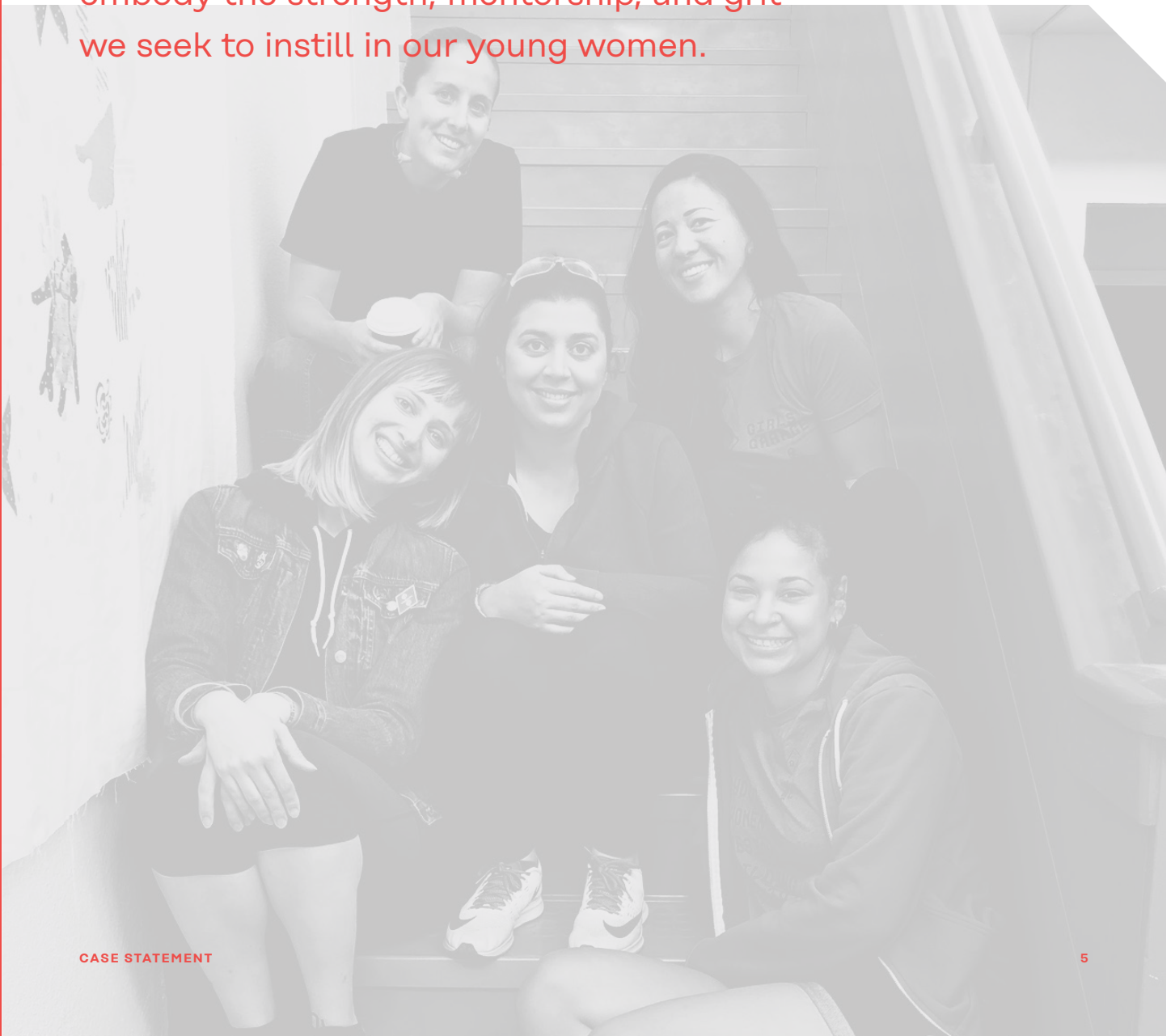
TOTAL BADGES AWARDED  
TO DATE IN 10 SKILL  
AREAS

# 63%

OF GIRLS ARE REPEAT  
PARTICIPANTS

# STAFF

Our skilled female instructors have decades of educational and building experience. They embody the strength, mentorship, and grit we seek to instill in our young women.





**EMILY  
PILLOTON**

-  
**FOUNDER AND  
EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR**

Emily founded Girls Garage in 2013 after teaching high school design/build for 5 years with Project H Design. Emily holds degrees in architecture and design from UC Berkeley and The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and is currently a Lecturer of Architecture at UC Berkeley. The author of 2 books, she speaks internationally about Girls Garage and has been featured in the New York Times, on the TED Stage and The Colbert Report. Emily is a lead instructor of Girls Garage's design and construction classes and has built a farmers market, tiny homes, furniture, and more with young girls.



**KRISTY  
HIGARES**

-  
**DIRECTOR OF  
DEVELOPMENT**

Kristy Higare is an educator, writer, and arts administrator who has worked for over twenty years serving youth and communities in Oakland and the Greater Bay Area. She was an integral leader of the youth program at The Crucible, where she worked for 12 years and received a Jefferson Award in Public Service for her work. She is a Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Equity Fellow, and in 2017 was selected as a fellow through the University of Pennsylvania, Executive Leadership Program, exploring Arts and Culture Strategy.



**ALLISON  
OROPALLO**

-  
**CARPENTRY  
INSTRUCTOR**

Allison is a high school shop and technology educator with over 15 years of building experience. She was featured (and voted Fan Favorite!) on HGTV's All American Handyman. She currently teaches at the Marin School of Environmental Leadership and the Regional Occupational Program Construction Technology Class at Terra Linda High School in Marin County, California. Alongside students and girls she has built a greenhouse, playstructures for goats, pop-up shops, and tiny homes.



**AUGUSTA  
SITNEY**

-  
**WELDING  
INSTRUCTOR**

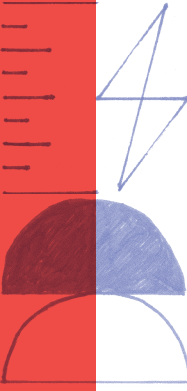
Augusta Sitney is a skilled MIG and TIG welder and sculptor who runs her own metal fabrication business in Oakland, California. She has made all kinds of radical things out of metal, from custom furniture for commercial clients to kinetic wind-powered sculptures. Augusta is also a shop mechanic at the California College of the Arts. Her work has been exhibited nationally and internationally.



**HYEYOON  
SONG**

-  
**GRAPHIC DESIGN  
INSTRUCTOR**

HyeYoon Song is an interdisciplinary artist with a primary focus on printmaking, painting and sculpture. She explores landscape, identity and narrative in her work by exploring the vocabularies of print and the multiple in an unconventional and multi-disciplinary context. HyeYoon obtained a BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and a MFA at the California College of the Arts. HyeYoon has taught at various institutions like CCA, Berkeley Art Museum, Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts, Youth Art Exchange and continues to be an arts educator in the greater Bay Area.



# PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Our projects challenge girls to go big, work together, and build real solutions with real impact in the world.





1

FRUIT STAND FOR REFUGEE TRANSITIONS,  
SERVING REFUGEE YOUTH AND FAMILIES IN  
SAN FRANCISCO, SUMMER 2017

2

WELDED KITCHEN PANTRY SHELF FOR  
WOMEN'S DAYTIME DROP-IN CENTER SAFE-  
HOUSE RESIDENCE, SUMMER 2018

3

RAISED PLANTER BEDS FOR THE FRONT YARD  
OF THE WOMEN'S DAYTIME DROP-IN CENTER  
SAFE HOUSE RESIDENCE, SUMMER 2018





4

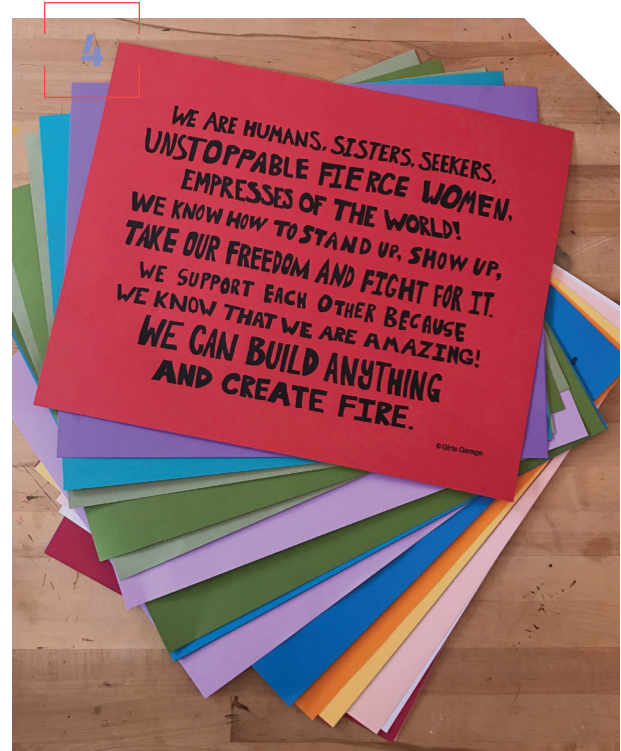
MANIFESTO WRITTEN AND SCREEN-  
PRINTED BY GIRLS IN OUR POP-UP SHOP  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP CLASS, SPRING 2018

5

GREENHOUSE FOR THE GARDEN AND  
LANDSCAPE PROGRAM AT BERKELEY YOUTH  
ALTERNATIVES, SPRING 2017

# 120

PROJECTS COMPLETED BY  
GIRLS SINCE 2013



5



# TESTIMONIALS

**“This is what people mean when they say STEM and making empowers girls!”**

-  
**FROM A FUNDER**

“Being at Girls Garage for the past five years has definitely made me more confident in myself and my abilities. I am happier here than anywhere else. Working in this community has allowed me to make new friends and practice new knowledge. I am excited to do more of this because I want to be a structural engineer. Girls Garage makes me feel like that crazy idea isn’t so crazy.”

-  
**FROM A TEEN PARTICIPANT**

“Girls Garage has changed the way my daughter feels about herself as a learner and a creative person - and perhaps that is the greatest gift the program offers our girls. The skill set my daughter is building is clear and undeniable (and acknowledged with a very cool set of badges!). I never anticipated the self-reliance she would gain, or the faith she would develop in herself as a result of her work. The experience has exploded her notion of what she believes she is capable of doing.”

-  
**FROM A PARENT**

**“I’m only 10 years old and I know how to weld. I can do anything.”**

-  
**FROM A YOUNG PARTICIPANT**



# IMPACT

From day one, we've worked hard to forge meaningful relationships with girls and measure real results over time. We use strategic evaluation tools to document and improve our work each year.

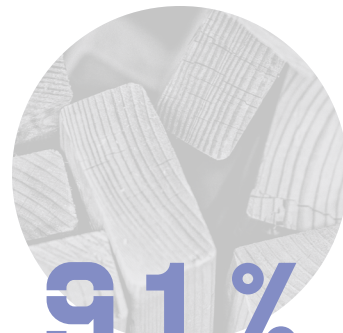
# 96%

OF GIRLS REPORT INCREASED CONFIDENCE AND INTEREST IN STEM AND BUILDING TRADES BECAUSE OF GIRLS GARAGE



# 64%

OF PARTICIPANTS ARE GIRLS OF COLOR



# 91%

OF GIRLS REPORT INCREASED CONFIDENCE IN ALL PARTS OF THEIR LIVES BECAUSE OF GIRLS GARAGE

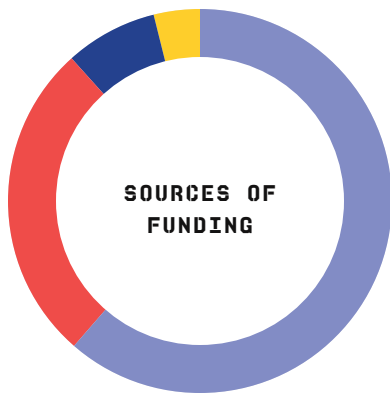
# 58%

OF GIRLS RECEIVE FULL OR PARTIAL SCHOLARSHIPS TO ATTEND GIRLS GARAGE

# THE NUMBERS: REVENUE

**\$406,523**

TOTAL REVENUE (FY2018)



● Grants	\$268,500 (66%)
● Service revenue	\$73,156 (18%)
● Individual donations	\$64,731 (16%)
● Investment income / other	\$136 (<1%)

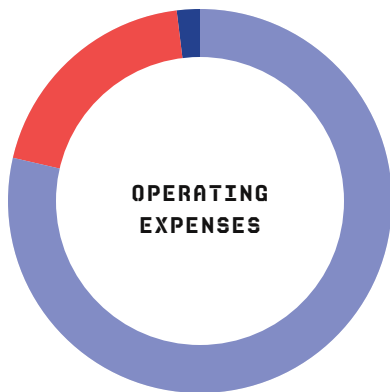
## SELECTED FUNDERS

The National Endowment for the Arts	2010-present	The Western Digital Foundation	2016-present
The Kendeda Fund	2012-present	The Ove Arup Foundation	2016
The Autodesk Foundation	2014-2017	Lenovo	2015-2017
Pivotal Ventures	2018	Ryobi Tools	2016

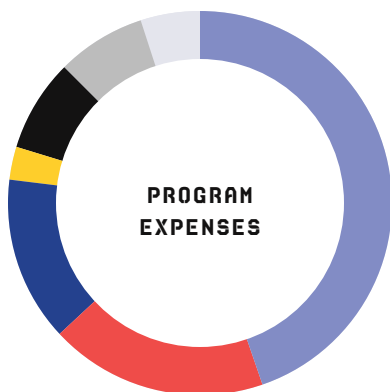
# THE NUMBERS: EXPENSES

**\$356,667**

TOTAL EXPENSES (FY2018)



● Program services	\$300,698 (84%)
● Overhead	\$54,383 (15%)
● Fundraising	\$1,586 (<1%)



● Salaries and instructor wages	\$164,308 (46%)
● Occupancy and utilities	\$82,326 (23%)
● Building materials and tools	\$39,568 (11%)
● Advertisement and promotion	\$23,639 (7%)
● Conferences and workshop travel	\$22,888 (6%)
● Other	\$6,529 (2%)
● Office expenses	\$18,409 (5%)



# OUR GOALS

In the next three years, we plan to expand our total annual enrollment, increase our no-cost programming, and outfit our space with new and improved equipment.

Over our next 3 fiscal years (2020, 2021, 2022), our four programmatic goals are to:

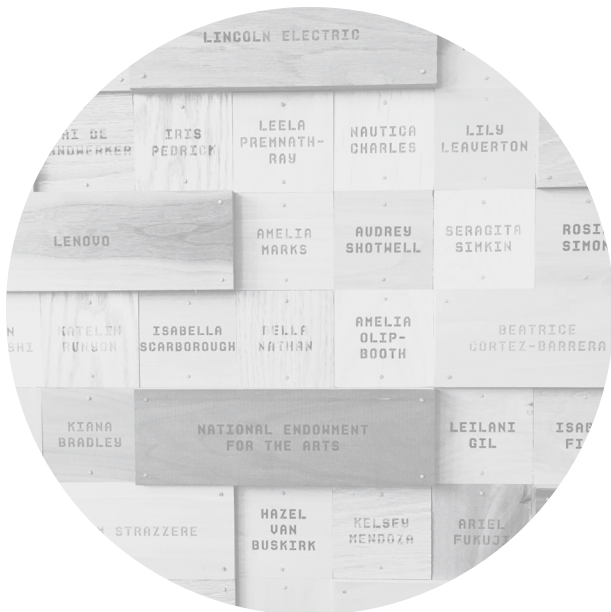
- 1) Increase our annual enrollment to 300 girls per year, with a focus on expanded teen programs,
- 2) Increase the number of no-cost programs available to all girls,
- 3) Outfit the Girls Garage workshop with updated, cutting-edge, and industry-relevant tools and equipment,
- 4) Expand our staff to include instructors with new expertise in STEM fields,
- 5) Secure a building as a permanent home for the Girls Garage program.

All of these goals will be made possible because of support from partners and donors like you. Our annual goal of \$350,000 in grant, corporate, and individual funding will propel Girls Garage into the next decade of programming with a solid operational base. Most importantly, our support allows us to offer more classes to girls at no cost, eliminating the barriers for all girls to attend and to go forth confidently into their lives and careers.

We invite you to join our donors circle and the dozens of other companies, individuals, and foundations who make our work possible. All donors at the \$500 or greater will receive a laser-etched tile with their name on it, which will be installed on our community wall.

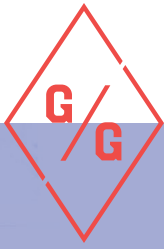
# SUPPORT OUR WORK

Join our community of funders and partners to help us reach our annual funding goal of \$350,000.



## FUNDING LEVELS

<b>\$500</b>	Covers tuition and materials for one girl's week-long summer camp
<b>\$1,000</b>	Covers tuition and materials for one girl's year-round programming
<b>\$2,500</b>	Covers material costs for all summer programming
<b>\$5,000</b>	Covers material costs for one year (four seasons) of programming
<b>\$10,000</b>	Underwrites one week of our no-cost teen summer institute
<b>\$25,000</b>	Covers full or partial scholarships for 50 girls for one year
<b>\$50,000</b>	Covers new equipment costs (CNC router, new laser etcher, etc)
<b>\$100,000</b>	Covers instructor and staff salaries for one year
<b>\$250,000</b>	Covers all instructor and staff salaries, and equipment costs for one year



FEAR LESS.  
BUILD MORE.



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