



GIRLS
GARAGE

2023 IMPACT REPORT



185 100% 6

STUDENTS ENROLLED IN
AFTER-SCHOOL AND SUMMER
PROGRAMS

OF TEEN STUDENTS
ATTEND FOR FREE

PRO BONO COMMUNITY
PROJECTS BUILT BY
STUDENTS



A YEAR OF JOY



Dear beloved community,

2023 marked our tenth birthday! This year, we built some of our most complex projects to date: a community sauna for Shelterwood Collective and a bevel-frame geodesic dome for the Eames Institute. We also reconnected with ongoing partners and clients to build fun and useful projects, like chicken tractors for Growing Leaders. In the midst of a chaotic world, we continued to push our own teaching practice to better listen to and serve our students.

But by far our biggest feat was moving into a brand new location! We spent the entire fall building out and moving into our new 5000-square-foot workshop on 2nd Street in West Berkeley.

This new home feels like the perfect way to celebrate our 10th birthday. Our new space honors where we've been and where we're going, with expanded classroom capacity, more tools, and more art space.

And as usual, we could not have done any of it without you! Here's to our community, and the next decades to come.

In service and sawdust,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emily Pilloton-Lam'.

Emily Pilloton-Lam
Founder and Executive Director

2023 IMPACT

74%

OF TEEN STUDENTS IDENTIFY AS YOUTH OF COLOR



"I get to learn skills not readily available to most women."

-
SOFIA
18 YEARS OLD

96%

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

185

STUDENTS ENROLLED IN AFTER-SCHOOL AND
SUMMER PROGRAMS

53%

OF TEENS COME FROM
LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLDS



"I've met a network of
awesome people."

-
TALIA
17 YEARS OLD

\$514K

IN FREE PROGRAMMING PROVIDED TO TEEN YOUTH

66%

OF STUDENTS ATTEND GIRLS GARAGE
FOR 3 OR MORE YEARS



ADVANCED DESIGN/BUILD

Our Advanced Design/Build program is a year-round cohort of our most committed builder girls and gender-expansive youth. This cohort brings together 9th-12th grade students from diverse backgrounds to tackle complex, community-based projects designed and built by students themselves.

In the winter, our students honed their woodworking skills through creating optical illusion cutting boards. They installed the 20-ft geodesic dome at the Eames Institute in the spring, and in the summer they installed an ADA-accessible sauna for Shelterwood Collective in Cazadero.



CONSTRUCTION + COMMUNITY

Our Construction + Community program provides carpentry instruction for 9th-12th graders, which they use to build projects for local nonprofit clients.

In 2023, our students focused on building various projects for our longtime client Urban Tilth, including picnic tables, benches, and a beautiful shade house structure for their community gardens.





YOUNG WOMEN'S DESIGN + BUILDING INSTITUTE

The Young Women's Design + Building Institute is an immersive week-long design/build experience for rising 9th-12th grade students. The program brings together diverse cohorts of youth each summer to design and build a real-world project for a local nonprofit client over the course of just five days.

In 2023, our students started construction on an ADA-accessible sauna for Shelterwood Collective, which our Advanced Design/Build cohort finished and installed later in the summer.



PROTEST + PRINT

Protest + Print is an activist art program where teens explore and express the complex personal and political issues by experimenting with new mediums, including printmaking, linoleum block carving, and textile arts.

In 2023, our teen artists teamed up with Dovetail Workwear to put their own feminist spin—through sewing, spray painting, and painting—on workwear. They also designed a silkscreen poster exhibit for Berkeley Public Library.

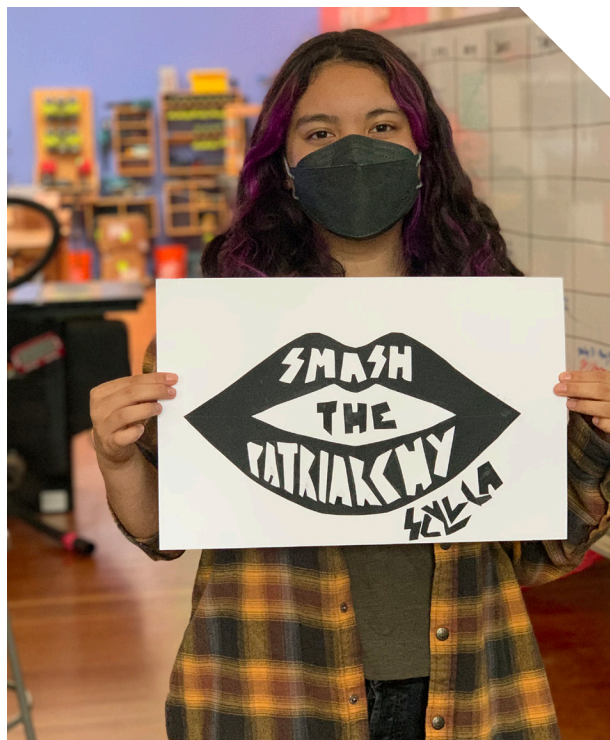
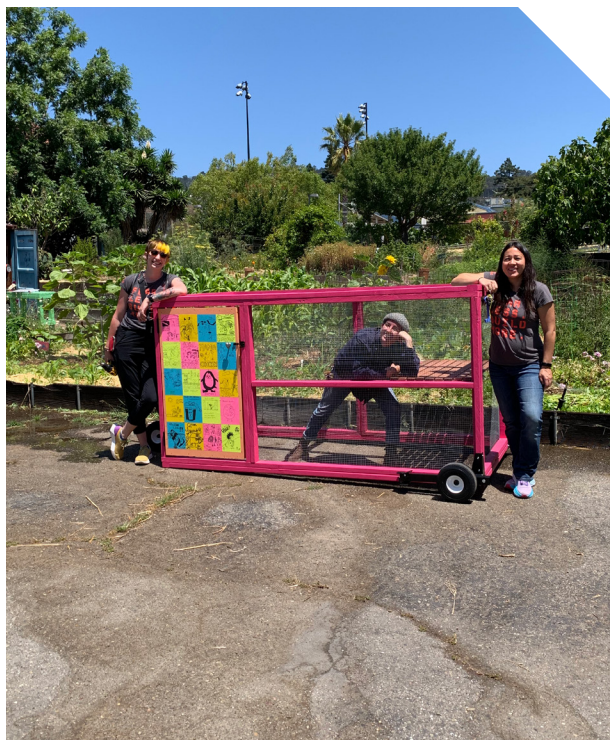


Photo: Smeeta Mahanti



BUILDER BOOTCAMP

Builder Bootcamp is a weeklong summer camp for girls and gender-expansive youth entering 5th-8th grades. Students learn and apply skills in carpentry, graphic design, metalwork, collaboration, and teamwork.

In 2023, our young cohorts built two chicken tractors for our longtime client Growing Leaders. For extra flair, they created colorful "chicken trading cards" and wheatpasted them to the tractors' doors.





IN OTHER NEWS

We moved to a new location in West Berkeley! With a fully outfitted wood shop, roll up doors, administrative offices and print studio, our new home is the perfect place for us to continue our next chapter as an organization.

Our staff took a “retreat” to Yosemite, where they helped a trail crew rebuild timber fences in the front country.

We continued investing in professional development opportunities, including artistic workshops and industry conferences.



FINANCIALS

Support from foundations, corporations, and individual donors made it possible for us to deepen and expand our free programming, move locations in Berkeley, and completely renovate our new workspace.

2023 marked our most successful fiscal year to date, thanks to the relationships and trust we've built with donors, new and old. Led by our indomitable Director of Development, Kristy Higaes, our fundraising efforts this year centered around increasing corporate support and consistent communication with existing donors through newsletters, storytelling, and in-person tours.

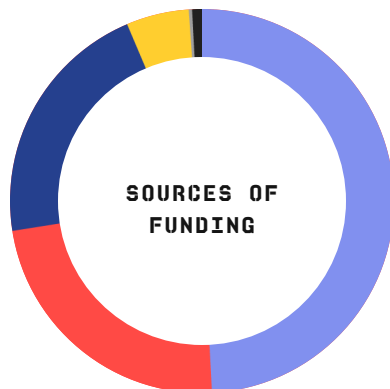
Our individual and foundation support remained consistent, totaling 72% of our revenue. Our community continues help us grow by connecting us to their networks and amplifying our missions and programs.

The results of our intentional development strategy played out in the numbers: in 2023, we increased corporate support by 306%. With the help of community and foundation support, we were able to renovate and remodel our new workspace in West Berkeley. Even with moving costs, we managed to exceed our revenue goals by the end of the year.

In 2024, we'll be continuing to build a diverse portfolio of support and building vital community projects while cultivating bravery and determination within our fearless builders.

\$1,295,575

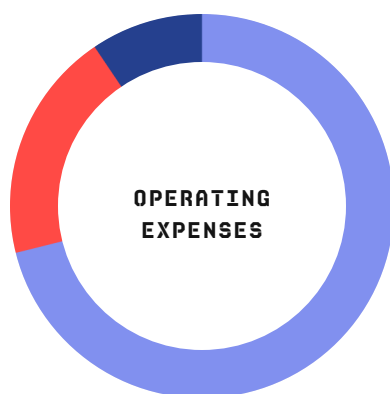
TOTAL REVENUE (2023)



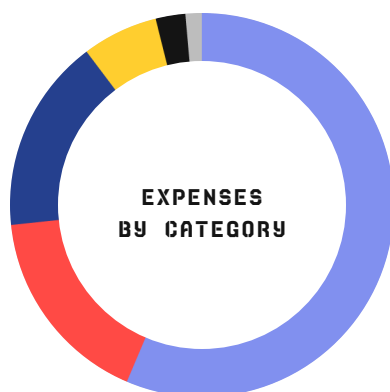
Grants	\$639,492 (49%)
Individual Donations	\$256,466 (23%)
Corporate Sponsorships	\$272,600 (21%)
Earned Income	\$68,834 (5%)
In-Kind Donations	\$4,520 (0.4%)
Other	\$7,494 (0.6%)

\$1,046,859

TOTAL EXPENSES (2023)



Program Services	\$746,914 (72%)
Overhead	\$202,763 (19%)
Fundraising	\$97,182 (9%)



Personnel and Benefits	\$590,927 (57%)
Occupancy	\$177,647 (17%)
Building Materials and Tools	\$172,022 (16%)
Administration and Compliance	\$67,868 (7%)
Office Expenses and Other	\$125,884 (2%)
Outreach and Promotion	\$12,511 (1%)



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