



YEST
AN
ERIT ED,
VENTED,

BUT I HAD A
LION
INSIDE
THAT WON'T
SHUT UP

-DeLoof



CHANGING WORLDS

FY18 ANNUAL REPORT

and

"I USED TO
WANT TO
"SHE TRIED"
ON MY TOMBSTONE
BUT NOW I WANT
"SHE DID IT"
- Katherine Dunham

WORDS AND ART THAT
CHANGE THE WORLD

Homage
A

HOPE

HOPE is being able to see

"there is light
all the darkness"

Tutu

SUCCESS

Success isn't
about the money you make

It's about the
differences

FY18 Annual Report

WORDS AND ART THAT CHANGE THE WORLD

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- Katherine Dunham

LETTER FROM LEADERSHIP



2018 was an exhilarating year for Changing Worlds!

Numerically, we reached almost 2,000 students with direct programs and 13,000 community members with public events. We worked alongside more than 30 partners, bringing over 60 residencies into 25 schools in 20 different community areas. Changing Worlds reached more youth in 2018 than in recent years.

Programmatically, we developed new curriculum to assist young people overcome the cultural, racial and gender stereotypes and violence so prevalent in our city, in our country, and in the world.

Through the **Indigenous Peoples Project** youth connect with their indigenous ancestry. They unpacked the negative stereotypes often associated with their communities as they developed answers to the question, "Who are the indigenous people of the Americas and how do we continue to benefit from their history and culture?"

Changing Worlds added a Community Connections component to the **Peacemakers Program**, expanding our reach from one community to three. We held a peacemakers Summit where youth began developing their own plans for peace. The 250 students produced artwork that was showcased, along with three other organizations at the Chicago Cultural Center from September through January of this year. The exhibit was sponsored by DCASE and the City of Chicago's Year of Creative Youth. This was the first ever youth artist exhibition at the Chicago Cultural Center

Long time teaching artist, Diana Solís, added our first LGBTQ+ focus to the **Adelitas: Women and Femmes of Courage** curriculum. Working from her earlier, frequently used programs, Adelitas Women of Courage, the new program reaches high school students and connects them with LGBTQ+ history, resources and community leaders.

Our work is made possible by your generosity as individual donors, members of our Board of Directors and Associate Board, foundations, volunteers, partners, and staff. Your generosity enables us to expand our mission of fostering inclusive communities of youth who continue to **Change the World**.

Alicia T. Vega
Executive Director

Jason Osborn
Board President

MISSION AND VALUES

Changing Worlds' mission is to foster inclusive communities through oral history, writing and art programs that improve student learning, affirm identity and enhance cross-cultural understanding.

Our five core values are central to fulfilling the organizational mission:

INNOVATION

Building inclusive and empathetic communities where people of all cultures, points of view, beliefs and differences are respected and valued.

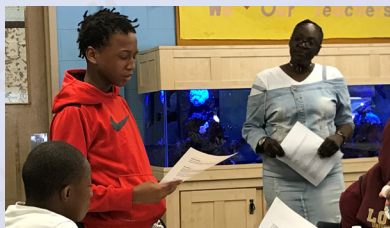


INCLUSION

Advancing creative, reflective and strategic approaches in developing solutions to programmatic and organizational challenges.

EQUITY

Activating the voices and potential of all people in our practices and programs.



INTEGRITY

Maintaining transparency and ethical practices in all aspects of Changing Worlds.

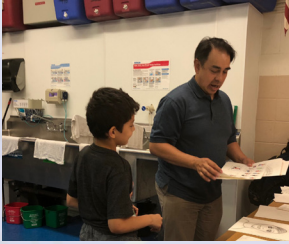
GROWTH

Fostering a culture where learning is cultivated, supported, and affirmed.

*SHE DID IT
- Katherine Dunham*

IMPACT

CELEBRATING CHANGING WORLDS' REACH



Impacted **20** community neighborhoods

In **25** Schools

More than **30** Partners

Over **60** Residencies

Nearly **2,000** youth

96% youth of color

Over **13,000** community members

NEIGHBORHOODS SERVED

ALBANY PARK

Alessandro Volta Elementary School
William G. Hibbard Elementary School

BRIGHTON PARK

Calmecca Academy of Fine Arts and Dual Language

CHICAGO LAWN

Marquette Elementary School

CLEARING

John C. Dore Elementary School
Nathan Hale Elementary School

ENGLEWOOD

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Academy
of Social Justice

EVANSTON

Walker Elementary School

KENWOOD

Reavis Elementary Math & Science
Academy

LOWER WEST SIDE

Joseph Jungman Elementary
School
Orozco Fine Arts & Sciences
Elementary School
Pilsen Elementary Community
Academy
Irma C Ruiz Elementary School
John Greenleaf Whittier Dual
Language Academy

NEAR NORTH SIDE

George Manierre Elementary
School

NEAR WEST SIDE

William H Brown Elementary School

NEW CITY

James Hedges Elementary School
William H. Seward Communication
Arts Academy Elementary
School

NORTH LAWNDALE

Charles Evans Hughes Elementary
Charles Sumner Math and Science
Community Academy

RIVERDALE

George Washington Carver Primary
School

SOUTH SHORE

Horace Mann Elementary School

WASHINGTON HEIGHTS

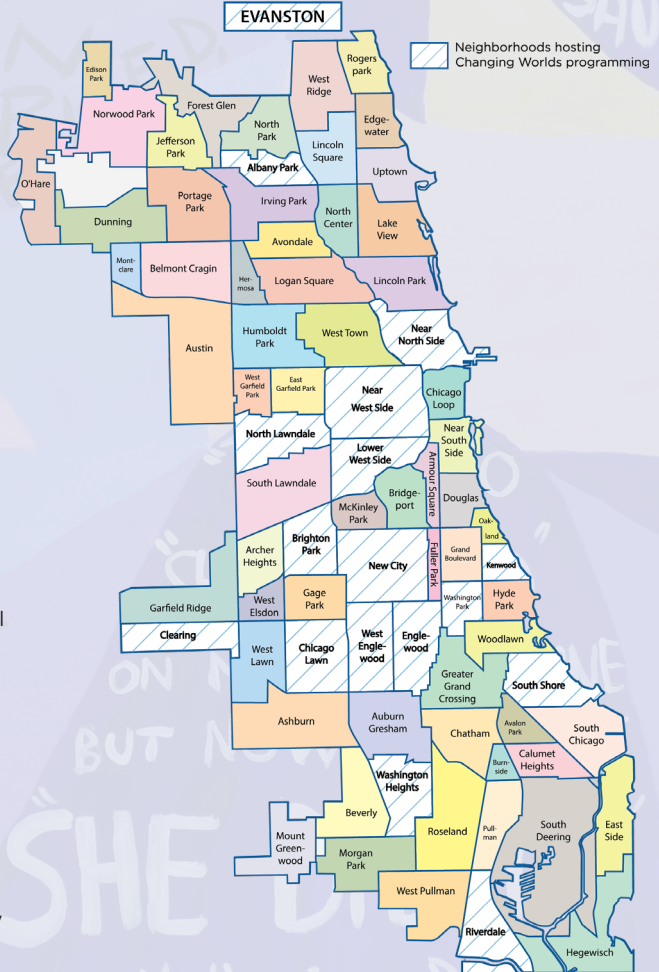
CICS – Longwood Middle School

WASHINGTON PARK

Edmond Burke Elementary School

WEST ENGLEWOOD

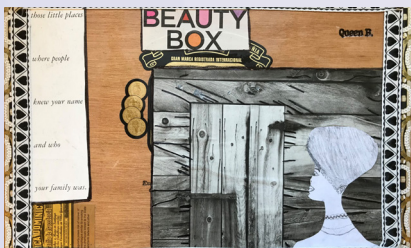
D.S. Wentworth Elementary School



TODAY'S PROGRAMMING AT CHANGING WORLDS

CONNECTING LIVES AND CULTURES THROUGH LITERACY AND THE ARTS

Changing Worlds' programming integrates writing, oral history, drama, dance and visual art into uniquely designed curriculum that examine culture, family history and community. This dynamic approach helps participants explore their own backgrounds and promote cultural understanding while strengthening academic and artistic skills.



IN-SCHOOL PROGRAM: ARTS, CULTURAL AND LITERACY CONNECTIONS (ACL)

We partner schools with Teaching Artists and Literacy Specialists in the classroom. The ACL curriculum pairs art-making and writing to explore "Big Ideas" that enhance students' learning in the arts and other academic content areas. The ACL program, offered to 3rd-8th grade students, complements the academic, cultural and artistic interests of the school.

ACTIVATING TEACHING ARTISTS AND LITERACY SPECIALISTS

Changing Worlds' Teaching Artists and Literacy Specialists bring a wealth of professional experience to the classroom and after-school setting. They introduce students to unique cultural perspectives through their artistic mediums and approaches to writing.



AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM: ARTS AND CULTURAL CONNECTIONS (ACC)

We partner community organizations and schools with Teaching Artists to explore culture through dance, drama or visual art during after-school hours. Changing Worlds' integrated approach provides students with rich exposure to one or more cultures while developing valuable artistic skills. Residency options include drawing and painting, digital photography, murals, drama, African Dance, Samba, Bomba, and Hip Hop. The ACC program, available for 1st-12th grade students, is customized to meet the cultural and artistic interests of the school.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH INITIATIVES

IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE ORAL HISTORY & PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT follows the journeys of Chicago immigrant and refugee families through their stories of change, cultural traditions and dreams for the future. These intergenerational stories were told by families from Poland, Cambodia, Iraq, Mexico, Somalia, Pakistan, Nicaragua, Palestine, Bosnia, Kosovo and Puerto Rico. The exhibit provides viewers with a unique perspective on immigration, identity, family, opportunity and sacrifice. Changing Worlds also offers a traveling exhibit, Immigrant Experience through the Eyes of Teens.



FAMILY NIGHTS enable families to discover unexpected connections through the celebration of family history, culture and heritage. Incorporating writing and story-telling experiences, each family creates projects filled with personal meaning. Past family night activities have included creating a family tree, designing a family crest and engaging in a community dance.

TEN THOUSAND RIPPLES (TTR) is an interactive public arts project, undertaken as a collaboration between artist Indira Freitas Johnson and Changing Worlds. TTR provides the general community with an intense and meaningful public art experience outside of traditional art venues, serving as a catalyst for community conversations and interactions about peace and nonviolence. The emerging Buddha sculptures can be seen all over Chicago in parks, public plazas, alleys, libraries, building lobbies, and abandoned lots.



PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT CHANGING WORLDS?

FIRST INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PROJECT SUPPORTED BY THE FIELD FOUNDATION

Changing Worlds rolled out our first Indigenous Peoples Project: Re- visioning Columbus programs at Hibbard, Volta and Calmecca. Students learned about the role of Indigenous peoples in the history of North America and contemporary American society by travelling to the Mitchell Museum in Evanston and working with visiting artist Ernest Whiteman, an Arapaho native, filmmaker and part-time educator from the museum. He shattered myths about Native Americans during their work together in the classroom and at the museum. The program was led by long-time teaching artist Bill Eller who engaged

students in processing their experiences through comic making, sculpture and developing narratives of their own families' histories in the Americas.



CHANGING WORLDS' FIRST YOUTH BULLS GAME

OUTING We took a large group of Changing Worlds students for a celebratory evening that marked a year of dedicated work in their respective programs. It was a great turnout where the youth danced during the event, made it on the Jumbotron, caught a t-shirt and had a wonderful time cheering on the Bulls! Members of the Changing Worlds board underwrote admission, transportation, and snacks.



"A lot of our Latino students actually have Indigenous blood and don't realize it... One question I ask is, "Do your grandparents speak another language other than Spanish?" A little lightbulb goes off, like, 'yeah! How did you know?' **They begin to realize 'my Latinidad isn't strictly of Spanish origin...' it's a mixture of Native, African and European cultures.**"

-Teacher, Hibbard Elementary

CHANGING WORLDS' FIRST PEACEMAKERS SUMMIT

In the Peacemaker Program, students interviewed community leaders and activists on subjects of community, home and safety, and then transformed these conversations into poetry and visual art. At the summit and exhibit at DeVry University, the schools came together to share their art work and perform their writing for each other. Students participated in workshops that expanded the subjects they explored in their school programs. Finally, they developed action plans to create change and encourage others to participate their concerns. The facilitators that lead these action planning groups encouraged about the students' interests in

participating in positive change in their communities. The Peacemakers Program exemplifies the Changing Worlds model of using art to examine and resolve social issues.



ADELITAS: WOMEN & FEMMES OF COURAGE

In the summer, long time teaching artist Diana Solís joined forces with Changing Worlds veteran Cynthium Johnson-Woodfolk and new comer Robin Reid Drake to expand Diana's original Adelitas program. What began as a program asking elementary age students to identify powerful female role models through the history of the Adelitas (or women's units) of the Mexican Revolution, has expanded to become Changing Worlds' first LGBTQ+ focused program. In their research, the teaching artists discovered that several of the Adelitas were in fact transgender, prompting a larger inquiry into the role of LGBTQ+ people in forging paths toward justice and equity across North American cultures. This program engages LGBTQ+ and allied high schoolers with LGBTQ+ history through poetry and visual art.



- Katherine Dunham

LEADERSHIP IN THE COMMUNITY

CHANGING WORLDS RECEIVES AMERICA SCORES' CALLIOPE AWARD

The Calliope Award honors those who have used their voice, skill and resources to help advance the mission of America SCORES and to positively impact the communities that they serve.



CHICAGO'S TOP LATINA LEADERS IN PHILANTHROPY

Make It Better listed Executive Director, Alicia Vega as one of Chicago's top Latina Leaders.

LGBT HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

The Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame made Executive Director, Alicia Vega a 2018 inductee. The Hall of Fame recognizes dedicated individuals and organizations whose services have improved the society in which we live. The Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame is both a historic event and an exhibit.





BEYOND BUSINESS

Beyond Business: Latinas at the Table featured Executive Director, Alicia Vega, as a panel discussant. The event was organized by the Women Business Development Center's Latina Accelerated Development Program.

FLOURISH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE CO-CHAIR

Executive Director, Alicia Vega serves as a co-chair to the Flourish Chicago Conference. Flourish is an organization dedicated to transforming the lives of high-achieving women in leadership roles. The September conference was attended by over 100 Chicago area women executives. Changing Worlds arts program Adelitas – Recognizing Women Warriors in Children's Lives, was featured at the conference and a workshop conducted for women leaders.



10,000 RIPPLES PROGRAM GOES TO CHINA

Dong Feng of the Beijing Yongyuan Foundation said he was so inspired by the Emerging Buddha Sculptures he saw during his visit to Chicago that he wants to bring the 10,000 Ripples program to China. He purchased one large Buddha sculpture to take back to China.

Changing Worlds remains in conversation about distributing other sculptures in China and supporting Dong Feng in creating community conversations about peace.



JO ANN BECK & JOSEPH B. GLOSSBERG LEADERSHIP AWARD WINNERS

The Leadership Award, established in 2011, recognizes Jo Ann Beck and Joseph B. Glossberg's for their leadership and commitment to Changing Worlds and for their work in cultivating future creative leaders. Each year, we recognize two students for their demonstrated leadership, personal and artistic growth, creativity and commitment to cultural awareness.



YOSELIN REYES **CALMECA ACACEMY, 5TH GRADE**

Yoselin Reyes is a 5th grade student at Calmecca Academy of Fine Arts and Dual Language located in Brighton Park. Last fall, Yoselin participated in the Changing Worlds Comic Arts program taught by Diana Solis. In the Comic Arts class, Yoselin created a comic strip titled Butterfly Girl, which explores the history of indigenous cultures as Butterfly Girl saves her community from the perils of gentrification. To be a good leader, Yoselin says that it is important to be yourself and help others. When she grows up, Yoselin wants to pursue a career in social justice to continue to help the people in her community, just like Butterfly Girl.

SEMAJ ANDERSON **BURKE ELEMENTARY, 6TH GRADE**

Semaj Anderson is a 6th grade student at Edmund Burke Elementary School in Washington Park, located on Chicago's south side. Semaj currently participates in the Changing Worlds Hip Hop Theatre class taught by Maya Odum and Cynthia Johnson-Woodfolk. Semaj, a talented dancer, loves to share his dancing skills at school and at home. His greatest influence and role model is the legendary Michael Jackson. Semaj loves to dance like Michael Jackson while listening to his music. When he's not moonwalking, Semaj breakdances or watches the classic 80s, Beat Street movie series.



EMERGING LEADER AWARD

Changing Worlds' Emerging Leader Award recognizes an emerging artist from a Chicago community whose creative and social works furthers the mission of Changing Worlds beyond the reach of the organization.

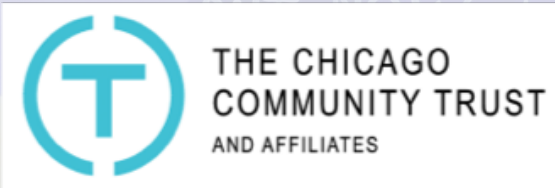
TONIKA JOHNSON VISUAL PHOTOGRAPHER

Tonika Johnson is a photographer/visual artist from the South Side neighborhood of Englewood. In 2010 she co-founded Resident Associate of Greater Englewood (R.A.G.E), and now serves as its Program Manager. In 2018, Changing Worlds honored Tonika with the Emerging Leader Award. Since then, Johnson has gone on to gained local and national attention for her Folded Map Project, through which she facilitates conversations around segregation and disparities in wealth and opportunity across the Chicago landscape.



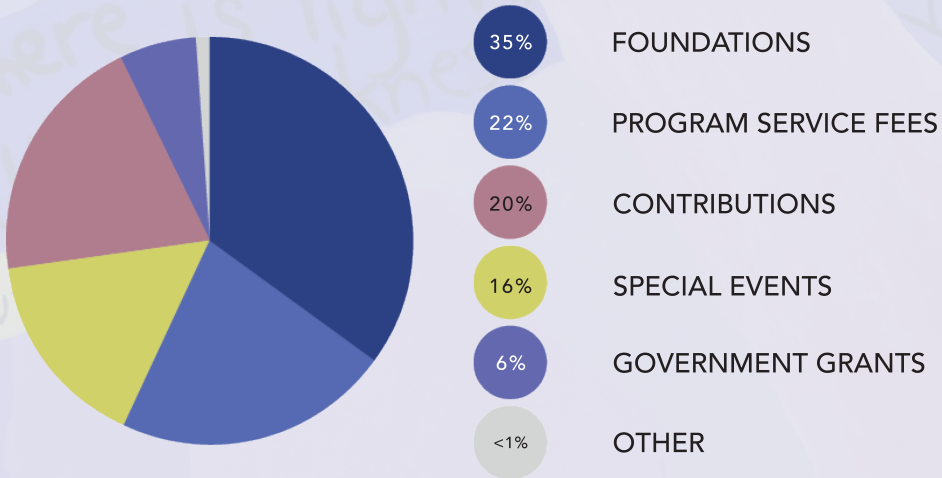
LIFETIME LEADER AWARD

The Chicago Community Trust is a community foundation dedicated to improving the region through strategic grant making, civic engagement and inspiring philanthropy. The Trust has supported Changing Worlds since its inception with over \$600,000 in competitive grants and gifts from donor advised funds. The Trust's grantmaking enables Changing Worlds to fulfill and grow its mission. We wish to acknowledge publicly the importance of the Chicago Community trust in our community-wide accomplishments.

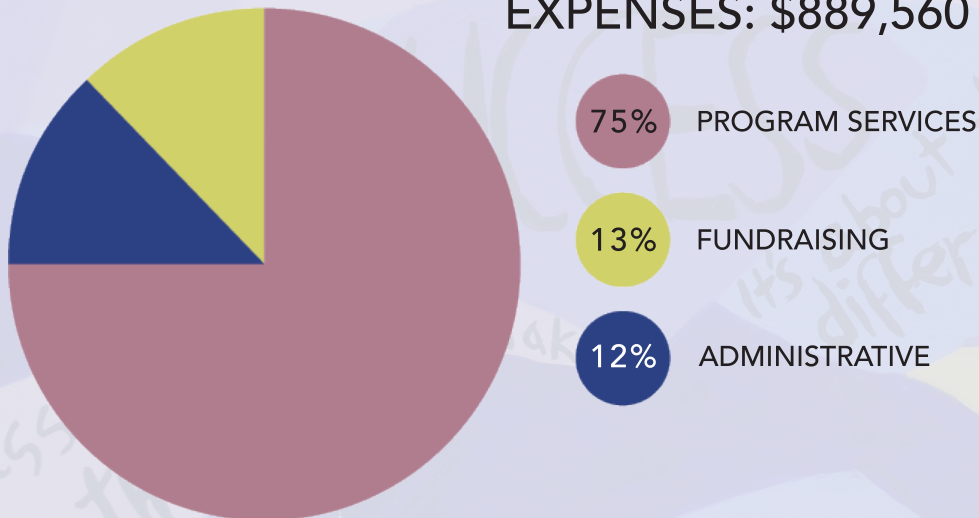


FY2018 FINANCIALS

INCOME: \$701,213



EXPENSES: \$889,560



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS + FUNDERS

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Department of Cultural Affairs & Special Events
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A gift to Changing Worlds can be made by check, credit card or online at our secure website: **www.changingworlds.org**

Checks payable to Changing Worlds can be mailed to:

**CHANGING WORLDS
PO BOX 167294
CHICAGO, IL 60616**

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Changing Worlds prides itself on offering meaningful volunteer opportunities. Experiences range from leadership roles on our boards to working with teachers and families on arts, cultural awareness and literacy programs. Our volunteers help advance Changing Worlds' mission through one-time, short-term or long-term opportunities.

PLEDGE A GIFT

A pledge of any amount can be paid over time in cash or stocks. Monthly, quarterly and other payment schedules are available.

TRIBUTES: HONOR OR MEMORIAL

Honor someone, living or deceased, in celebration of a birthday, anniversary or other important occasion. A tribute gift is a thoughtful way to acknowledge family and friends. When you make a tribute or memorial gift, a special card can be sent to the honoree or designated family member recognizing your gift.

MATCHING GIFT

Contact your Human Resources department to determine whether your employer has a matching gift program.

NAME CHANGING WORLDS IN YOUR WILL

Extend your commitment to Changing Worlds by remembering us in your will. It takes only one simple sentence to do so: "I give to Changing Worlds, a non-profit organization in the State of Illinois, the sum of \$ _____ (or a _____% of my estate) for the benefit of Changing Worlds and its general purposes (or a particular program).

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT US AT
INFO@CHANGINGWORLDS.ORG OR CALL **312-421-8040**

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WAS
THE SHYEST
HUMAN
EVER
INVENTED.

BUT I HAD
LIONS
INSIDE
THAT W
SHUT

me
ke you make."
-Michelle Obama

"I USED TO
WANT TO
"SHE TRIED"
ON MY TOMBSTONE
BUT NOW I WANT

"SHE DID IT"

-Katherine Dunham



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