



NEWS



Donna Benson-Chan
Executive Director

Dear Members & Friends,

As 2016 unfolds, Impact Austin remains steadfast to our mission as a progressive leader in women's philanthropy, bringing new resources to the community and making philanthropy accessible. Reaching \$5,000,000 in cumulative grants is a testament to our collective giving model as well as a tribute to our members. Together, we continue to demonstrate the impact that can result from informed and focused grant making.

We are in the thick of our strategic planning work for 2017-2019 and several themes are emerging through our member feedback channels. In the upcoming months, Impact Austin will evaluate these ideas and incorporate them into our strategic plan:

- Expand the recognition of our leadership in the community by increasing our brand awareness
- Build on our Grants Innovation road map to better fulfill community needs
- Expand opportunities for philanthropy education and growth
- Continue our focus on growing and retaining an enthusiastic and diverse membership
- Refine our infrastructure and explore funding sources to improve our long term sustainability

Please watch for more updates via our e-communication.

Best wishes,
Donna Benson-Chan

Grant Application Progress Report

23 Nonprofits Invited to Submit Program Grant Applications

More than 120 Impact Austin Grant Review Committee members spent weeks reading, researching and analyzing more than 90 Letters of Inquiry (LOIs) received this year in the program areas of Culture, Education, Environment and Family. A program grant of \$94,000 will be awarded to the winning proposal from each area. Find out which 23 nonprofits are

moving forward [here!](#)

Catalyst Grant applications are under review now with site visit finalists expected to be announced in late March.



Help Us Amplify Austin!

It's that time of the year again - time to Amplify Austin!

Amplify Austin is an annual, 24-hour initiative that focuses efforts to raise much needed funding for Austin nonprofits. Last year, Impact Austin raised more than \$23,000 from generous donors like you during this period!



This year, we'll amplify the impact even more with a Challenge Grant of \$5,000 contributed by Impact Austin members. Donate between **6 pm March 8 and 6 pm March 9** and for every dollar we raise, up to a total of \$5,000, it will have double the impact!

Visit our page on the Amplify Austin website and schedule your donation now.

[Amplify Austin Donations Page for Impact Austin](#)

This also is a great opportunity to ask your friends, family and colleagues to get involved and support Impact Austin.

Thank you for your support!

FY 2015 Annual Report Released

Impact Austin has just released its FY 2015 annual report and audited financial statements. It was a great year for Impact Austin with the organization reaching a giving milestone and its youth initiative, Girls Giving Grants (g3), celebrating its 10th anniversary and nearly \$50,000 given to youth-focused Austin nonprofits.

Check out the [annual report](#) to learn more about these accomplishments, our new Catalyst Grant and other updates.



Member Spotlight

Get to Know Impact Austin Member Val Colbourn

Did you know Impact Austin has an International flair? Well, we do, and a big part of it is our philanthropy education leader, Val Colbourn. We caught up with Val in between jaunts around the world, and got to learn more about this fascinating woman!

[Learn more](#) about Val and what inspires her to be an active member of Impact Austin.



Val Colbourn

Girls Giving Grants Update

The members of Girls Giving Grants (g3) have been busy reviewing grants from 37 fantastic local nonprofit since November and have selected their top two finalists for site visits! On April 9th, the girls will visit Casa Marianella and Interfaith Action of Central Texas to learn more about their programs. At their final meeting on April 17th, g3 members will select their grant recipient who will be awarded their \$7,000.



Visit our [website](#) for more information on g3.

Annual Meeting Sponsorships Available!

The Impact Austin development team is looking for ten \$500 sponsors for the annual meeting on Monday, June 6. This is a great opportunity for members to let other members know about their business! Sponsorships are available for individuals as well. Benefits include sponsor name and/or logo being featured on:

- All annual meeting promotions
- Annual meeting signage and slide presentation
- E-blast to all members post meeting with link to sponsor website



Members cast their votes at the Annual Meeting

Members wishing to sponsor the meeting, either personally or via their business, should contact [Julie Fritz](#).

Following Up with ZACH Theatre - A Study of Success!

Kimberly Theodore Sidey, Associate Director of Development of ZACH Theatre touched base with us recently, and shared some great news! (ZACH's Arts

Across the Curriculum program was an Impact Austin grant winner in 2013) Students who participated in ZACH's Arts Across the Curriculum showed outstanding improvements in vocabulary recall, complex understanding and flexibility in creativity. Kimberly says it would not have been possible without Impact Austin's support.

[Read more.](#)



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