



Annual Report
HOPE STONE, INC.
2017-2018





MISSION

To unlock the innate creativity of young people and adults through our arts outreach programs.



VISION

Art for All

ARTS EDUCATION METRICS STUDY

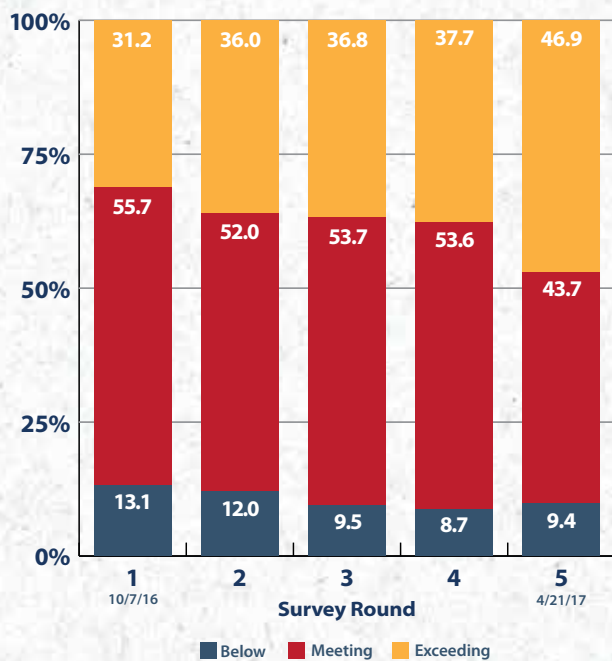
“My students seem to approach problems in a different manner.

They’re taking more risks and able to solve or see the problem differently.”

–Browning Elementary teacher

A significant study with Rice University was conducted during the 2016-17 school year at Browning Elementary, a four-year community partner in The Hope Project. This economically disadvantaged, urban elementary school is located on the northern edge of downtown Houston and is in the Houston Independent School District.

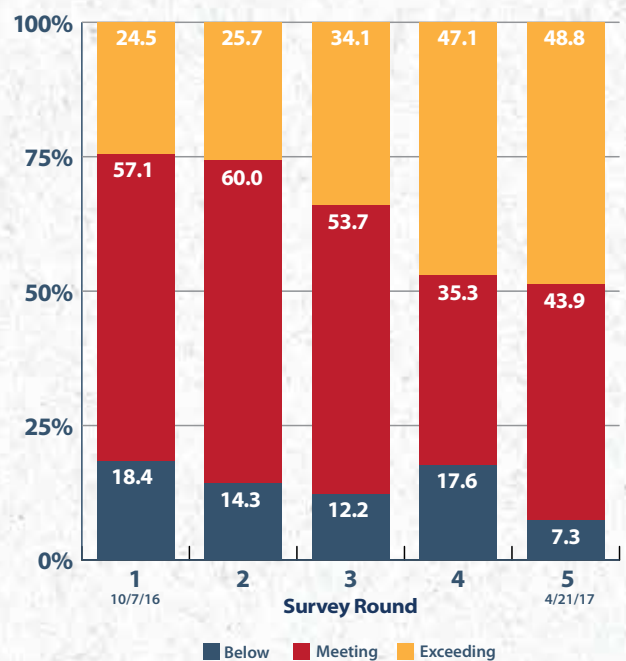
“Evaluating the Efficacy of The Hope Project at Browning Elementary: A Study of Student Behaviors and Attitudes” finds that by the end of the 2016-17 school year, The Hope Project had positive effects on and significantly greater ratings of student behavior at school and at home by teachers and parents. Students participating in The Hope Project were also more likely to “Meet” or “Master” grade level expectations for Writing STAAR test scores than the Control Group.*



TEACHER SURVEYS AND FINDINGS

By the end of the school year, student behavior at school in the Below standards category dropped by **3.7%** and student behavior Exceeding standards increased by **15.7%**.

*Full study findings are available upon request.



PARENT SURVEYS AND FINDINGS

By the end of the school year, student behavior at home in the Below standards category dropped by **11.1%** and behavior categorized as Exceeding standards increased by **24.3%**.

“After Hope Stone, they’re very excited,

a lot of energy, super motivated and ready to go back to class.”

–Browning Elementary teacher

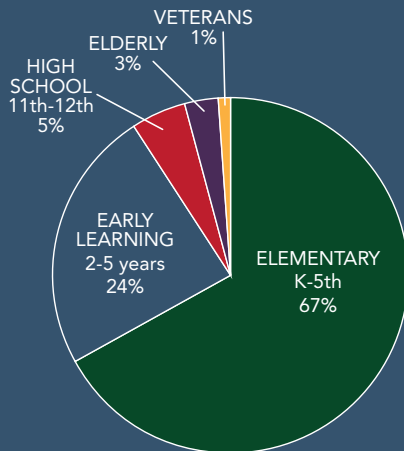
“Playing violin helps me with my shyness. It helps me really express myself.”

–Browning Elementary student

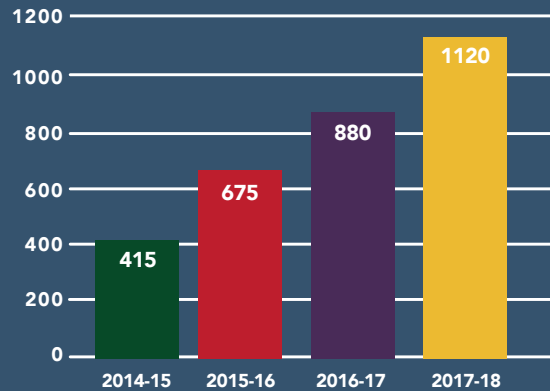
THE HOPE PROJECT

Created in 2002, the program serves children and adults in their schools and facilities, where highly skilled artists teach them the artistic disciplines of music, dance and theater. The Hope Project provided its services during 2017-18 to 10 schools/organizations, reaching over 1,100 students, of which 90% were economically disadvantaged. The program's goal is to develop creative citizens who learn teamwork, compassion and problem-solving abilities that are essential to the success of our growing communities and businesses.

PARTICIPANTS BY GRADE/AGE LEVEL



NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS



*“Doing art feels limitless,
like I can express myself without
being judged.”*

—high school student in multi-generational theater class



“When I started the Hope Stone free drumming class

offered to Veterans in the fall of 2015, it was a very bleak time in my life. I felt everything was terrible. But having this art really turned my life around. I was feeling very hopeless, but not with Hope Stone around. It brought a lot of hope when hope just wasn't there. It was having something to get my heart beating again. It was watching Vets helping Vets. The class really freed my soul. In fact, it freed a lot of me, and led me to get my job and really move back into owning my life.”

—Veteran and participant in drumming circle class

HOPE STONE DANCE

Over the past 20 years, Hope Stone Dance has established itself as a modern dance performance company that continually presents fresh and innovative work and is recognized for promoting collaboration in Houston's artistic community. Known for its strong, technical ensemble with "effortless partnering" and "gorgeous, big-hearted movement," Hope Stone Dance often takes its work to unconventional spaces – warehouses, museums, public art spaces and neighborhood streets – where it brings communities together through the power of live art. The company annually presents its performance outreach work to over 3,000 children and teenagers.

"Hope Stone's dancers are highly engaging, handsomely diverse, strong technicians and good actors . . . it's good to see a Houston company tackling thoughtful material, in such good form."
– *Houston Chronicle*

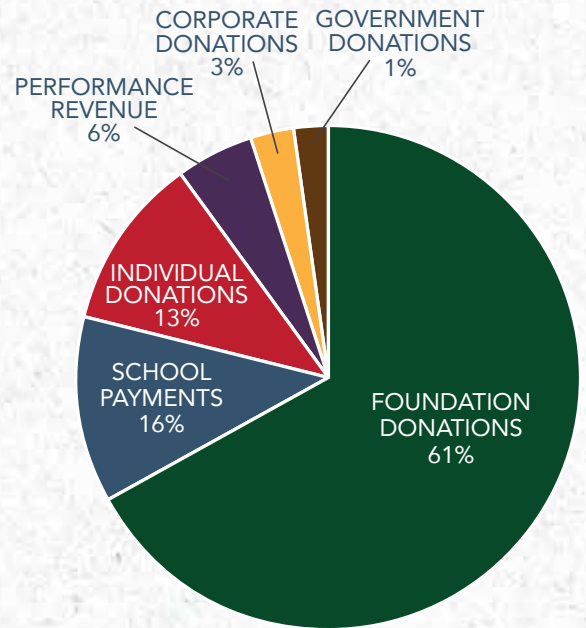


"The sheer exuberance and technical virtuosity of the dancers performing, and my own kinesthetic response, brought me such joy last night."
– *audience member*

FINANCIAL REVIEW 2017-2018

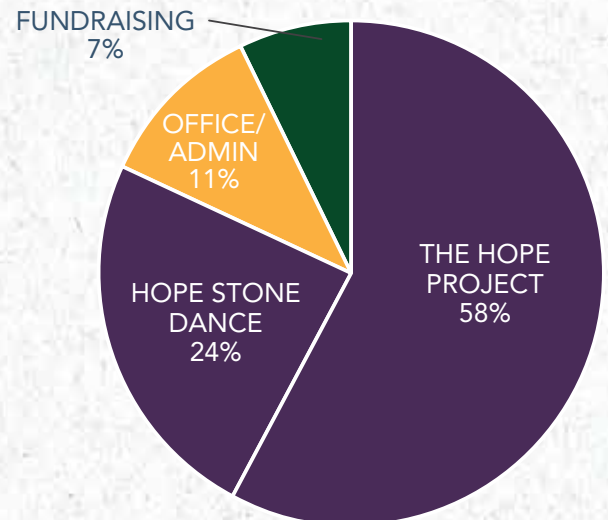
REVENUES

While the largest portion of our funding comes from foundations, we continually strive to create a more balanced revenue profile. Our community partners' investment in The Hope Project classes at their schools and facilities increased by 4% this year. Individual donations also increased by 2%. We are so grateful for 20 years of community support as together we make the greatest impact.



EXPENSES

The majority of the total expenses (82% or \$264,405) are allocated towards the services we provide through our two programs – The Hope Project and Hope Stone Dance. We continue to be good stewards of donors' generosity by deeply focusing our resources on the children and adults we serve in our community.



Our 20th anniversary season

was a time for celebration and nothing captured it more beautifully than our performance "Collective+Hope." Hope Stone Dance performed its joyful *squared dancer* and other classic works, and then shared the stage with four community partners from The Hope Project – high school students from Cristo Rey Jesuit College Preparatory School of Houston in a powerful percussion performance, senior citizens from Brookdale West University dancing with High School for the Performing and Visual Arts students, and Browning Elementary students on violin and in spoken word monologues. It was a celebratory performance, truly embodying our organization's vision – Art for All.

It is an honor after 20 years to remain a vital part of Houston's art and arts education community. As Hope Stone moves into its next 20 years, we are strengthened by those who have supported its history and sustainability and eager to continue our work of art-filled teaching, creating and presenting.

–Jane Weiner, Founder & Director
Amy Pearl, Managing Director