



Decatur  
Education  
Foundation

# IMPACT REPORT 2016-2017



## OUR COMMUNITY

## OUR KIDS



together we make  
a difference





# LIGHT BRIGHT

Young children are fascinated by light and darkness, and teachers at College Heights Early Childhood Learning Center found a way to turn that natural interest into learning. A DEF grant for a light table allows our youngest students to explore and identify colors, patterns, light, and reflection.

## STITCHING IT UP

Coloring books, move over – there’s a new craft trend in town.

Students at Decatur High now have the option of learning embroidery during their Connections period (a class period when they can explore non-academic interests). Recognizing students’ need for constructive down-time and a creative outlet to reduce stress and improve learning, math teacher John Chesnut established the Embroidery Connection and After School Club. With the help of a DEF grant, he was able to purchase the supplies needed for 30+ students to complete embroidery projects they designed themselves.



## CENTERED ON WRITING

The sixth grade ELA teacher and co-sponsor of Renfroe’s Young Authors Club, Ms. Boersma, wanted to create a writing center in her classroom – a designated area where her students could go during class time to generate ideas, improve language use, and support one another in the craft of writing. The space – equipped with cushions, clipboards, and creative activities – is also used as an inviting “after school hub” for students who want extra writing help.

DEF awarded

**\$34,000**

*in teacher grants during the 2016-17 school year, and more than*

**\$300,000**  
*since 2003.*



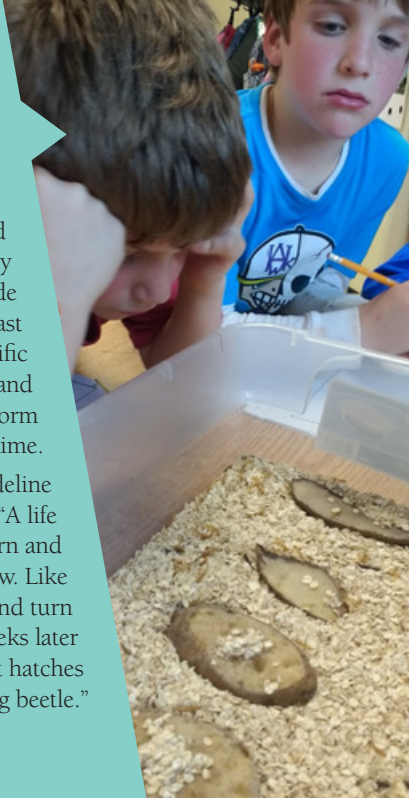




## TADPOLES, MEALWORMS, AND MUSHROOMS — OH MY!

What do tadpoles, mealworms, and mushrooms have in common? They all had a home in the second-grade classrooms at Oakhurst Elementary last spring. Students practiced scientific inquiry skills as they compared and contrasted the life cycles of each life form and their changes over time.

Second grader Madeline summed up what she learned: “A life cycle is how something is born and about how it’s going to grow. Like mealworms hatch from an egg and turn into a mealworm, and a few weeks later it forms into a pupa and then it hatches into a darkling beetle.”



## NOT YOUR TODDLER’S LEGOS

The future is robotics – at least that’s what the students at FAVE think! The First Lego League Robotics Program had grown exponentially in recent years, and no longer had the capacity to include the 40+ fourth and fifth graders who wanted to join. To ensure that every student who wanted to participate could join the program, DEF provided a \$1,500 grant to support three additional robotics teams.



## F.AVE STUDENTS GO GLOBAL ON TED

In this age of YouTube, having good presentation skills is a must. At FAVE, five to six classes per week can prepare a presentation for the daily morning news video. It’s a great opportunity for students to practice public speaking, express their creativity, and share ideas, but equipment limitations sometimes result in low-quality audio and video.

Through a DEF grant, teacher Eddie Johnson purchased a Padcaster Ultimate Studio that turns an iPad into a portable recording device. The new equipment will help improve the students’ productions, and Mr. Johnson’s class has learned to use the technology to record their final presentations, which will be posted on the TED Ed YouTube Channel to share their ideas with the world.



## SECOND GRADERS SAY OLÉ!

To conclude the spring learning expedition on Mexican culture, Winnona Park Spanish teacher Señora Ortiz planned a cultural “fiesta” so her second-grade students could showcase their learning. The students learned traditional Mexican songs and dances, but they didn’t have any traditional costumes for their final performance. DEF connected Señora Ortiz with Chrissy Weeks, a longtime DEF volunteer and skilled seamstress. With the help of funds from DEF and skills from Chrissy, the second graders were able to perform in traditional Mexican costumes that will continue to be available for use in future fiestas.





## CIGAR GUITAR

Pair the science of sound with a hands-on guitar-making activity and you've got a recipe for student engagement. Third-grade students at Oakhurst Elementary worked in teams to build one-string guitars using cigar boxes, and integrated their knowledge of music and science with the practical skills of collaboration, problem-solving, and tool safety. Teachers Cindy Aldridge and Courtney Hartnett applied for a grant to support this rockin' project.

## JUST LIKE ME BOOKS

The Intervention team at Clairemont Elementary felt that their existing guided reading library of leveled books failed to adequately reflect the rich diversity of the school's population. The team purchased leveled books from a multicultural children's book publisher with help from a DEF grant. The new books help create more varied learning experiences through the diverse cultures and characters represented, and serve as a tangible way in which the school can celebrate its diversity as a community.

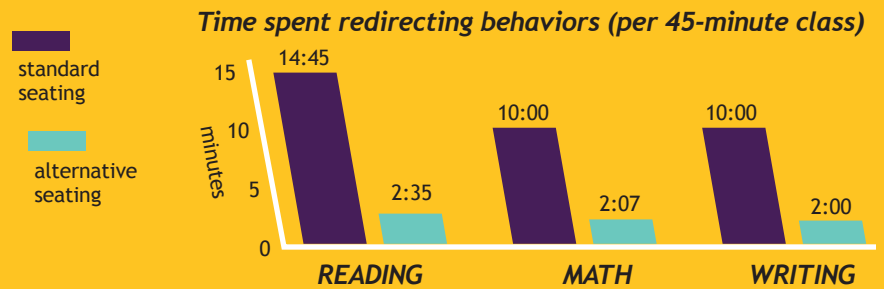
Intervention teacher Christie Manasso said, "These books help our students grow into empathetic, empowered, and literate learners, no matter what their background, and take us another step toward equity and opportunity for all of our students."



## 21ST CENTURY CLASSROOMS

During the 2016-2017 school year, DEF received a significant number of grant requests from teachers looking for funds for alternative seating for their students. Research has shown that flexible seating options can improve focus, reduce disruptive behavior, and increase productivity.

Classrooms in Westchester Elementary, Clairemont Elementary, and Renfroe Middle School all received grants for alternative seating, which included exercise balls, wobble stools, stand-up desks, beanbags, and desk cycles. Teachers were asked to provide feedback on how the seating options affected their students' learning. The overall response from teachers and students was positive, and the results quantifiable. Clairemont teacher Laurie Kezh provided this data:



## FOLLOWING THE BEAT OF A DIFFERENT DRUM

Approaching FAVE music teacher Nick Brooks' classroom, you can feel the rhythm and hear the beat before you open the door: the West African Drum Ensemble showcasing their skills during the last week of school. The drums, purchased through a DEF grant, include a variety of djembe and dundun drums that allow the students to learn music from West Africa, the Caribbean, and South American countries. Using the African model of teaching – demonstration, imitation, and repetition – Mr. Brooks is providing his fourth- and fifth-grade students an opportunity to play non-Western instruments. He has also established an African Drumming Ensemble that meets in the mornings before school.





Moira Smiley is a nationally renowned singer-songwriter who has written many choral arrangements that the DHS chorus has learned and performed. Having experienced one of Moira's performances and master classes herself, DHS Choral Director Elise Eskew wanted her students to have the opportunity to work with this creative and inspirational artist.

Dr. Eskew collaborated with the Agnes Scott College Music Department, the Global Village Project, and DEF to bring Ms. Smiley to Decatur for a concert and master class. Her choral students attended a concert at ASC and attended a master class the next day.

One of the attendees, freshman Cara Jensen, shared, "Moira's workshop felt like traveling around the world without ever leaving the chorus room. The way she was able to bring any piece to life regardless of its origin was a unifying experience, because it taught us how to appreciate the similarities between different cultures and our own."



## A SPECIAL VISIT



## CONSTRUCTING CONTRAPTIONS

Mazes can be fun to solve, but wouldn't constructing one be even better? It hardly seems like schoolwork, but Glennwood Elementary's Links teacher, Katharine Schultz, thought constructing contraptions would be a great way to encourage scientific inquiry, investigation, and experimentation among her students.

Using a mixture of recycled items and materials purchased through a DEF grant, the first, second, and third graders created machines using levers, pulleys, wheels and other mechanical tricks. They presented their work at a Contraption Convention where parents and community members could experience their designs. This highly interactive unit encourages collaborative problem solving and teaches the early concepts of engineering.



## GETTING CRAFTY IN THE KITCHEN

Intervention teacher Desiree Cabrices wanted to give her students a fun activity they could do together every Friday that would help them develop motor skills through cooking. With the help of a teacher grant, she purchased food items that her students could use to prepare a meal for themselves. Students looked forward to the weekly cooking activity and were proud of the practical kitchen skills they learned and can apply outside of school.





## SMARTPHONES, SMART ROBOTS

If you walked down the hall the first week of school at Decatur High, you might have seen students staring at their phones . . . but it's not what you think. This year's AP Computer Science students are learning coding using Sphero SPRK+ robots and their smartphones. Using an app on their phones, they write code that programs the ball-shaped robots to perform a variety of tasks: navigate a maze, mimic the solar system, or even swim across water.

Dave Custer, who teaches the class and wrote a DEF grant for the robots, has seen an exponential increase in the number of students now interested in taking the class. "It's a fun and engaging way to get students interested in coding and working collaboratively," he said.

## CREATIVITY WITH A CAUSE

Last fall during the Culture for Caring Symposium, the sixth-grade halls were lined with brilliantly colored, full-sized posters imploring passersby to care about important issues like immigration, deforestation, and equality. The sixth-grade art students were challenged to create digital artwork to promote community awareness.

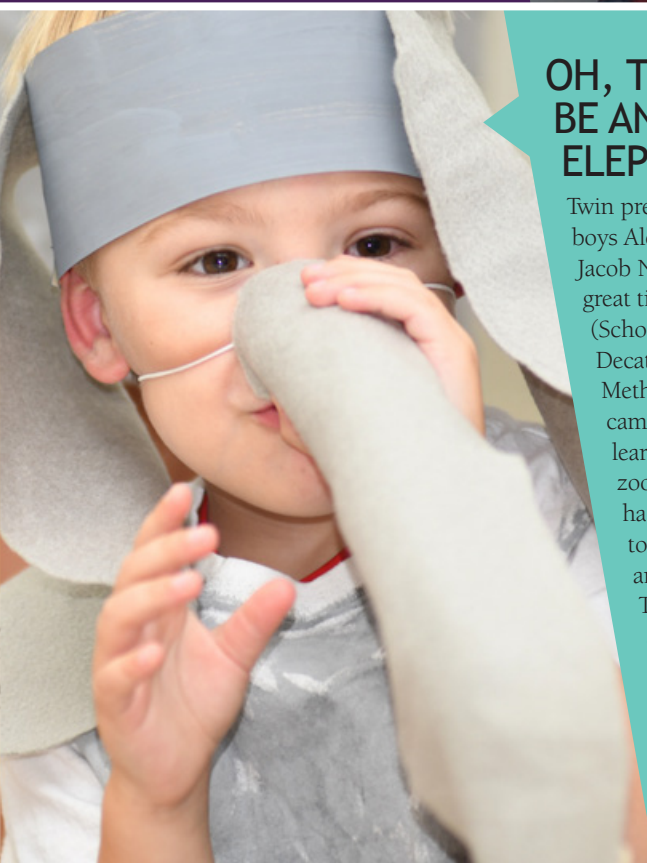
Their vibrant, eye-catching art was then transformed into posters using a Canon imageProGraph large-format printer, which was purchased through a DEF grant and will be used for many more innovative art projects in the years to come.





# GAZING AT THE STARS

What's up there? As part of a science unit on celestial bodies and their effects on the Earth, second graders from Glennwood Elementary took a nighttime field trip to Agnes Scott College's Bradley Observatory, where ASC astronomy students led them on a "sky tour." A DEF grant helped fund some high-powered binoculars for the second graders to use for future outer space expeditions. The binoculars will be available for use by the entire Glennwood community.



## OH, TO BE AN ELEPHANT

Twin pre-school boys Alexander and Jacob Neisse had a great time at SAND (School at North Decatur United Methodist) summer camp, where they learned all about zoo animals and had the opportunity to be their favorite animal for a day. Thanks to a DEF Special Education Summer Grant, the Neisse boys were able to stretch their minds and their imaginations during the summer months.



## STRONG SISTERS

At DEF, we see great value and results in collaboration, and seek to support projects that maximize our community resources. DHS teacher Francis Johnson did just that when she contacted Agnes Scott College to establish a mentoring program for her students through a weekly learning connection, Strong Sisters. The program paired a group of DHS students with several ASC students to increase their cultural awareness and expand their social skills and experiences. The groups bonded during their two main outings, which were funded through a DEF grant – they visited the Museum of Civil Rights in downtown Atlanta and went bowling together in Decatur.



# REACHING FOR PEACE



REACH Scholar Tony Ford had an unforgettable summer experience: he attended Peace-builders Camp at Koinonia Farm in Americus, Georgia. Together with 19 others from all over the world, Tony learned about human rights, social justice, and what it means to be a good citizen. The group lived together for a week, held lively discussions about societies and stereotypes, and participated in a number of team-building activities and service projects.

The group prepared meals for a food bank, visited detainees at a refugee detention center, and built a play structure there for children who come to visit family members. Tony's favorite activity centered on the issue of "food deserts" and the difficulty of finding healthy food in those areas. He said, "It helped me think a lot about society and really changed my outlook."

## SCHOLAR REACHES HIGH AT STEM CAMP

Ninth-grade REACH Scholar Maha Sidi received a DEF grant to attend the Alixia iDTech camp for girls at Georgia Tech this summer. This two-week residential camp introduced Maha to the field of electrical engineering and coding principles, and allowed her to get a taste of life on a college campus.

Maha and Tony were two of three Renfroe students nominated by their teachers last year to participate in the REACH Scholars program, run by the Georgia Student Finance Commission, which supports students who show academic promise.

## GO FLY A KITE!

With the help of Decatur Makers, DEF mentors and their mentees worked together to build kites, using band saws and sanders. Of course the best part of the process was taking the kites outside to test them out.

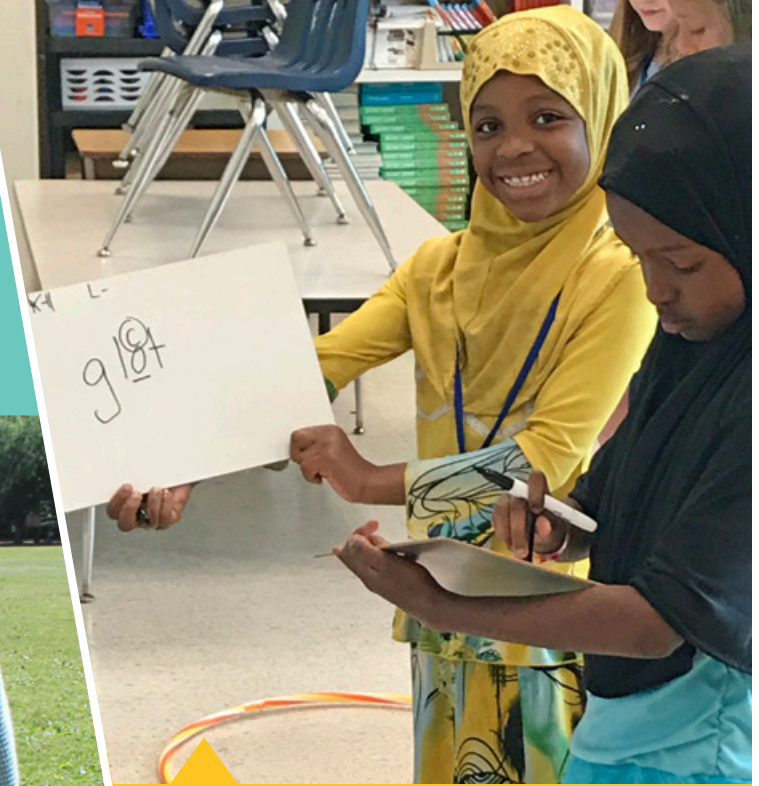


**DEF awarded \$18,000** in opportunity grants during the 2016-17 school year.



## HIGH-TECH TREASURE HUNTING

Third-grade students are required to learn geographical concepts like latitude and longitude. Winnona Park teacher Katie Woodbridge wanted a fun way to make these concepts a little less abstract for her students. What better way to learn the practical uses of coordinates than through a treasure hunt! With a DEF grant, she purchased 13 handheld GPS devices that would allow her students to work in groups to geocache – the hobby of digital treasure hunting that is wildly popular worldwide.



## SUMMER READING

Every summer, 20 or so Decatur students enjoy a free reading camp that also serves as a training course for committed public school teachers. Through DEF's partnership with REAP (Reading is Essential for All People), a Decatur-based nonprofit, this experience is a win/win for both teachers and Decatur kids.

Since 2013, more than 1,600 CSD readers have been positively impacted through REAP teacher training and summer reading camps. The best part may be that the teachers learn alongside the students. As one teacher commented, "This class is hands-down the best professional development I have ever had. I will reach all my readers with the skills I learned in your class."

## ROBOTICS TEAM ROCKS!

As STEAM and robotics become more critical for a 21st century education, DEF has worked to support local efforts and ensure that all students have access, by funding scholarships to allow more students to participate and ensuring that Decatur's Robotics program could represent its school and its city in regional and state competitions. Decatur now has three levels of robotics for students ranging in age from 9 to 18. The high school team competed in three regional robotics competitions (the photo shows the high school team at the regional competition in Columbus, Ga.), and progressed to compete in the state competition in the spring.







# IT TAKES A VILLAGE

It all started with a phone call. A family in need called Clairemont Elementary's former PTA President Kelly Walsh asking if she could help them locate some school supplies for their kids. Kelly then called CSD's Family Support Specialist Robbin Dickerson and they quickly hatched a plan to organize a back-to-school backpack drive to assist the 700+ families in Decatur who might also need help. In just two weeks' time and with the help of DEF to facilitate and publicize the event, hundreds of backpacks, notebooks, calculators, paper, rulers, and writing utensils were collected. The supplies will be distributed throughout the year to families in need.

## 5A5K COLLABORATION

One of the ways in which DEF helps Decatur students is through community collaboration. We join forces with other local nonprofits to share our resources and best practices to benefit our mutual causes. One example is the Oakhurst Fifth Avenue 5K. DEF co-hosts the fall race with FAVE (Fourth-Fifth Academy at Fifth Avenue). Proceeds from the event support students at the school and across Decatur.

Photo by Beate Sass



# ON THE SAME PAGE

Every year, DEF supports "On the Same Page," an interactive citywide reading initiative that encourages students and families to read and discuss the same book at the same time through learning expeditions and organized activities. DEF contributes funds to ensure that all Decatur families can participate. The book chosen for 2016, *The One and Only Ivan*, about a gorilla who spent 27 years as a shopping mall attraction, led to field trips to Zoo Atlanta, parties focused on wildlife and natural habitats, and a lecture by the book's author, Katherine Applegate.



## IN HONOR OF CAREGIVER REGINA PRESLEY

Some people were just meant to work with young learners, and Regina Presley is one of them. Ms. Regina, a longtime caregiver at the Frasier Center, retired last May after 11 years. During that time, she nurtured and supported countless toddlers, including the grandchildren of Bill and Patricia Shropshire. They were so grateful for that experience, they wanted to honor her legacy at the Frasier Center. Together with daughter Kate and her husband, Eric Swett, they established the Regina Presley Fund, which will provide tuition grants so that low-income families in our community can experience quality early childhood education.

“All of the children in Decatur should have access to an open, diverse, and caring daycare center like the Frasier Center, with loving caregivers like Ms. Regina,” said Bill. “It is our hope that this fund serves as the beginning of something bigger that will impact young families for years to come.”

*Photo by Arthur Ratliff*



## MARDI GRAS PARTY WITH A PURPOSE

Every February, Oakhurst residents hear the blare of brass and the clash of cymbals when the Mead Road Mardi Gras Parade and Party gathers at Harmony Park and marches through the neighborhood. This fun “party with a purpose” raises funds to benefit music programs across City Schools of Decatur.

In the past three years, MRMG has raised more than \$20,000 and funded grants to provide choral music and a new euphonium for Renfroe Middle School, and new costumes for the high school’s music theatre ensemble. Let the good times continue to roll in Decatur!



*Photo by Beate Sass*



## BOOKS BRING HAPPINESS

Every year, DEF brings boxes of donated children’s books to give away at the Decatur Housing Authority’s National Night Out, an annual community-building event. Young attendees are encouraged to choose a book that they would like to take home to enjoy, and thanks to the generous donations from our community, we always have a wide range of books to offer them.





# TOUR DECATUR

Every year, our community comes together in the name of health and fitness to run the Tour DeCatur 5K, one-mile fun run, and Tot Trot. This past spring nearly 3,000 runners – community members and CSD families – participated in DEF's main spring fundraising event that brought in more than \$85,000 to support DEF's grants, scholarships, and mentoring programs.

Photo by Dean Hesse

*DEF events raised \$190,000 last year to support kids. More than 6,000 community members participated, and another 200 volunteered.*



## READER-TO-READER BOOK SALE

Is there anything better than watching young kids engrossed in a new book? That's a common sight at DEF's annual Reader-to-Reader Book Sale at the Decatur Book Festival. Kids of all ages find great books at a great price, and the funds raised from the sale support programs that support literacy, including REAP, Book Fair Bucks, and the citywide reading initiative, On the Same Page.



## FALL FESTIVITIES

Since 2009, DEF has hosted a festive fall event to help raise funds to support Decatur youth. What started out as a backyard affair grew into a big community party celebrating some of the city's local chefs and their versions of a low country boil. Check out our re-imagined fall event, Supper & Sips, on October 19. For tickets, visit [defsupper.com](http://defsupper.com)

Photo by Russell Kaye



## A TIME TO CELEBRATE

As our seniors finish their final projects, we take some time out to honor some of Decatur High School's hardest-working students with college scholarships at our Celebration of Excellence event. This year, we awarded 19 seniors with more than \$50,000 in scholarships that were donated by generous community members and former DHS students and families to help these bright students start their college careers on solid footing.



DEF awarded **\$55,000** in scholarships for 2016-2017

Total awarded to date is **\$575,000**



Photo by Lynette Davis

## WE LOVE TO EAT & GREET

When guests walked up to the home of Lauren and Joey Burby, the first stop on the Eat Greet Progressive Dinner and Home Tour, they were greeted by an oyster station from the nationally renowned Kimball House. This event pairs great and unique Decatur homes with award-winning local restaurants, all in support of Decatur's kids. Guests also enjoyed cocktails from Cakes & Ale, shrimp and grits from Wahool Grill, salad from Souper Jenny, appetizers from Double Dragon, and delicious desserts from Butter & Cream.

## STUDENT GROWTH NETWORK

Members of the Decatur community met to discuss the progress of the Student Growth Network (SGN), an initiative started by Lori Heemann to honor her son, DHS graduate Joe Bodine, after he lost his fight with addiction. The SGN will be housed at Decatur High School and will work to identify the needs of our kids and, through community partnerships, to provide wraparound support services to ensure that our kids have what they need to be successful.





# IN THEIR OWN WORDS

## LAURIE KEZH

*Clairemont Elementary teacher*

“I have been the recipient of DEF grants that have completely changed the course of the year for some of my at-risk students at Clairemont. Last year, my second graders in Special Education went from some of the lowest MAP and screener scores to some of the highest gains in the building! I feel that my alternative seating, sensory items, and sensory-based classroom completely changed their lives. They are already making crazy great progress this year! DEF made it all possible.”



## ZACK LOEHLE

*Decatur High School Class of 2013*

I received an Edventure grant from the DEF the summer before my senior year at Decatur High School. That grant allowed me to attend a two-week summer program at Sewanee Environmental Institute (SEI). As a result of the DEF grant and my attending SEI, I applied to Sewanee for college, double-majored in Ecology and English, and am now working for an environmental nonprofit outside of Washington, D.C.

“I cannot thank the Decatur Education Foundation enough. The friends I made that first summer in Sewanee have become lifelong companions; the school that once seemed far-off became home. The person I am today and the opportunities I continue to enjoy stem in large part from the Edventure grant I received in the spring of 2012.”



## JENNIFER RHETT

*Executive Director of Reading is Essential for all People*

“The Decatur Education Foundation has been instrumental in Reading is Essential for All People’s (REAP) ability to support and move Decatur readers forward. Structured Literacy provides the foundational language skills necessary to become strong readers, writers, and spellers; it is especially critical for struggling readers. Thanks to funding and support from DEF, more than 1,600 CSD readers have been positively impacted through teacher training and summer reading camps since 2013.”



## MORGAN BERHOLD

*8th Grade, Renfroe Middle School*

For my 13 by 13 Project (bar mitzvah service project), I decided to donate \$300 to the Decatur Education Foundation because sometimes people complain about school and how it could be better, including me. DEF is the foundation that raises money and receives grants to make all of the schools in the school system a better place to learn. Now that I have an opportunity and the platform to contribute to making school better instead of complaining about it, I’m going to take advantage of that opportunity.”

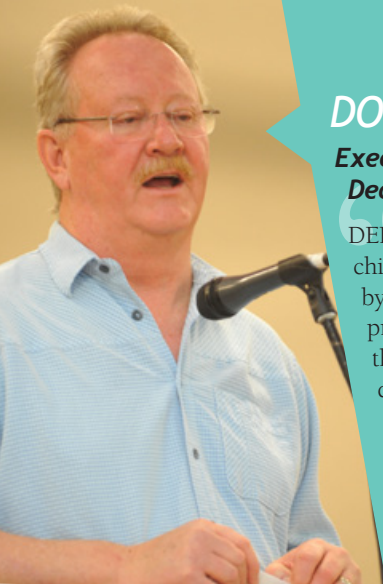


## ELISE ESKEW

*DHS Choral Director*

“The choral program has grown from 35 to 160 students in only five years. This would never have been possible without the more than \$6,000 made available to this nascent program by DEF. Your nonprofit’s generous giving has inspired positive morale among students and staff that has fed its growth every year.”

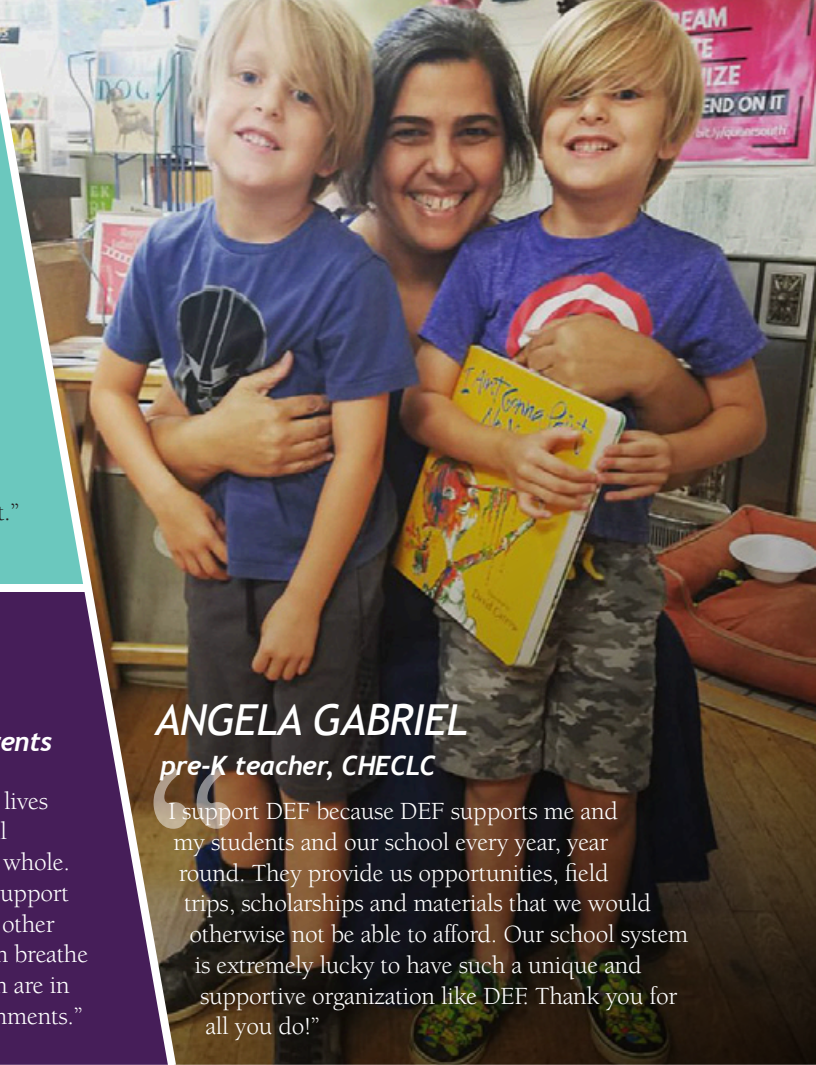




## DOUG FAUST

*Executive Director,  
Decatur Housing Authority*

DEF touches the lives of many DHA children through the computer lab supplied by DEF and its partners, DEF scholarships provided to high school graduates, and the Opportunity Partnership that opens doors for DHA youth to help them achieve their dreams. We greatly value our working partnership with DEF and appreciate how DEF empowers success within DHA youth while respecting the vision of each student.”



## ANGELA GABRIEL

*pre-K teacher, CHECLC*

I support DEF because DEF supports me and my students and our school every year, year round. They provide us opportunities, field trips, scholarships and materials that we would otherwise not be able to afford. Our school system is extremely lucky to have such a unique and supportive organization like DEF. Thank you for all you do!”



## AMY & JAMES RADFORD

*City Schools of Decatur Parents*

“We believe that by enriching the lives of local children in need, we will strengthen the community as a whole. We made a gift specifically to support summer opportunities so that other parents in our community can breathe easier, knowing their children are in safe and fun learning environments.”



## DR. DAVID DUDE

*Superintendent, City Schools of Decatur*

We are so appreciative of everything that DEF does for our school system and our kids. Our partnership with DEF allows us to focus on educating students, knowing that additional resources will be there to support our initiatives.”



## DONALD HORACE

*DEF Board Member*

DEF represents and reflects what is best about the city of Decatur. Specifically, DEF actively seeks to encourage and support all children, irrespective of race, religion, culture, or gender, and to provide sufficient resources so that he or she can be his or her best and most successful self. Sometimes, DEF offers resources to children and their family before they even make the request.”

*Photo by BeateSass*

## MARK SANDERS

*City Schools of Decatur parent*

At Art It Out, the campers create pieces of art that serve as reminders of the various skills they are learning. Last year Mikayla filled a small chest with mementos like a surfboard (a reminder to go with the flow and ride the wave when she’s stressed out) and a magnifying glass (a reminder to look closely at the behavior of others to see how they are feeling and behaving). Art It Out camp has been great for Mikayla the last couple of years. She has been able to learn skills in the summer that she can bring with her into the next school year to help her navigate her “tween” years. We are grateful to the Decatur Education Foundation for supporting our summer camp experiences with Art It Out.”





## OUR MISSION

We harness community resources to provide educational and enrichment opportunities for all Decatur youth.

## OUR VALUES

- We are flexible and responsive to the changing needs of children in our community.
- We are inclusive and welcoming to all who want to engage in our work.
- We operate with a philosophy of collaboration and support rather than competition.
- We value integrity, equity of opportunity, collective impact, and entrepreneurship.

## WE DO OUR WORK IN FOUR MAJOR WAYS

**WE REMOVE OBSTACLES** that impede learning for our kids (poverty, learning differences, abilities, mental health, life challenges) so that all our kids can find success in school and life.

**WE PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES** that accelerate and deepen learning and empower Decatur's kids to make a positive contribution on our world.

**WE SUPPORT TEACHERS AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS** to ensure that our kids have engaging, meaningful classroom experiences.

**WE STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY PROGRAMS** to extend our capacity to provide great experiences for Decatur's kids.

**With the support of their community,  
all children can reach their full potential.**

## Board of Directors

Lillian Pettus, Chair  
Tenielle Bailey  
Erin Braden  
Chris Brown  
Annie Caiola\* \*\*  
Cathy Carlomagno  
Han Choi  
Brad Cornett  
Lindy Miller Crane\*  
Irm Diorio  
David Dude\*\*  
Doug Faust\*\*  
Lew Lefton\*  
Todd Ohlandt  
Lexie Parker\*

Karen Riggs\*  
Tasha White\*\*  
Kyle Williams\*  
Natalie Williams  
Marc Wisniewski  
**Members who  
joined in June 2017**  
Donald Horace  
Molly Marrah  
Claire Miller\*\*  
Michelle Stevens

\* Completed board term  
in 2017  
\*\*Ex-officio

## Founding Friends

Jon and Frances  
Abercrombie  
Jane Carriere  
Susan Cobleigh  
Haywood Curry  
Walt Drake  
David Ewing  
Bill Floyd  
Gayle Gellerstedt  
Gué Hudson  
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Ida Love  
Rich Mahaffey  
Emilie Markert  
Bill Mealor  
Lyn Menne  
Carol Morgan  
Leslie Munson  
Charlie Orth  
Pat and Hilda Patrick  
Katie Pedersen  
Tony Powers  
Marty Sadler  
Jimmy Smith  
Judy Turner  
Bob Wilson  
Elizabeth Wilson  
Bill and Donna Woolf

## DEF Team



Gail Rothman,  
Executive Director



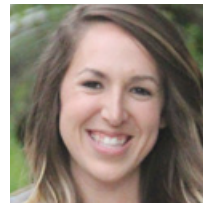
Meagan Berardi,  
Director of Community  
Engagement



Elise Drago,  
Office Manager



Erin Murphy,  
Communications  
Coordinator



Marie McCollum,  
Mentor Program  
Coordinator



## CONNECT WITH US

Learn more. Get involved.  
Make a difference.

200 Nelson Ferry Road, Suite B  
Decatur, GA 30030  
404-377-0641

DecaturEducationFoundation  
 @DEF\_DecaturGA  
 DecaturEducationFoundation

[decatureducationfoundation.org](http://decatureducationfoundation.org)

**During the 2016-2017 school  
year, more than 2,400 people  
supported the work of the  
Decatur Education Foundation.**

If you are inspired by the stories in these pages, consider making  
a gift, in any amount, so we can ensure that all children in  
Decatur have opportunities to reach their full potential.  
[decatureducationfoundation.org/donate](http://decatureducationfoundation.org/donate)