

Making a Difference



The Rotary Club of Toronto | Marketing & Communications Special Edition

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ROTARY CLUB OF TORONTO CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Encroachment Policy Balancing the Present and the Future



Thanks to donations, fundraising, excellent investment advice, and one large transfer from another foundation, the Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation's endowment has grown over the years to a substantial sum. By the end of 2016, it stood at approximately \$18 million. The Board of Directors of the Foundation, made up of Club members, has a fiduciary obligation to manage this portfolio in keeping with the Foundation's charitable objectives and the intentions of its donors. One of the more difficult tasks the Board faces, is to balance the desire to help those currently in need with the duty to maintain and, hopefully, grow the resources of the Foundation so that it will be there to help those in need in the future, and to give future members of the Club the ability to identify worthy causes for the Foundation to support. While the Board has broad discretion to make exceptions, the general philosophy for many years has been to avoid reducing its capital (on an inflation-adjusted basis) and allow for a limited amount of growth in the portfolio, in making decisions about how much to give. In order to give the Board guidance, a model incorporating reasonable assumptions as to investment returns and likely donations, was developed in 2005 to codify the analysis, and an encroachment policy was formally adopted by the Board. Over the years, the careful management of the Foundation's funds have allowed for exceptional projects to be undertaken, such as the \$1 million in total charitable donations made in the Club's Centennial year, while still maintaining long-term growth in the regular donations we make in order to better our community.

– by Peter Love

ArtHeart's Project Kids & Cameras – Supported by Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation – by Judy Fournier, Executive Director - ArtHeart



With the generous donation of \$5,000 from the Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation, ArtHeart will provide kids with the same opportunity as was given to them in 2016. With the funds received from Rotary, we are currently preparing the application/registration forms, creating promotional materials to distribute in the community at a variety of outreach opportunities and will be starting the workshops in April once March Break and the Easter holidays are over so there is no interruption in the workshop schedule.



Some of the children trying out the cameras for the first time.



Listening attentively while being taught so basic camera skills.

The kids will learn the basics of a camera, how to operate it, how to select subjects and frame them properly for their photos. Through the workshops they will learn to be creative and to express themselves through their photography.

Project Kids & Cameras is a unique photography program designed for kids ages 8-12 residing in Regent Park. Our young participants learn how to use digital cameras and engage in a series of creative photography assignments that encourage self-awareness, artistic expression, creative and critical thinking, innovation, collaboration and visual literacy. The program's camera-on-loan initiative allows participants to take a digital camera home to document their family and community life and culminates in a student photo exhibit open to the community-at-large.

As the workshops progress we will forward updates to share and also once the exhibition date has been set, we will let you know so those interested can attend.

I am attaching a few images from our 2016 Project Kids & Cameras so you can see the joy in the kid's faces as they eagerly learn.



Proud photographer in front of her photograph that was printed and framed and shown during the 2nd Annual SPRUNG Art Show & Sale.

Thank you so much Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation for your support!

FOUNDATION DIRECTORS

Foundation Appointees

Peter Love (Pres/Chair)
Susan Howson (Vice Pres)
Bill Empey- (Investment Cm.)
Luzita Kennedy- (Res & App. Cm.)
Valerie Clarke - Dir. at Large

Club Appointees

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Our posts about Steve Paikin and Liberty Silver had the most activity. 789 reaches for Steve and 1.2k for Liberty Silver. The strongest interaction remains amongst Male followers.

Rotary Club of Toronto "Buzz Group"

- Elizabeth Simmie
- John Fortney
- Marcy Berg
- Rudy Haddad
- Arash Shahi

THE ROTARY CLUB OF TORONTO, PHILANTHROPIC COMMITTEE.

Youth and Children Service (YCS) Committee Your Rotary dollars are hard at work!



The members and friends of Rotary and Rotaract in YCS are busy making a difference in the lives of youth and children of our community via our multiple sub-committees and high profile/impact initiatives. Wondering what they are doing and think you can help?

Last year 8 charities were financially supported to further their cause (Dusk Dances & The Chill Foundation are 2 such organizations featured on this page). We hosted our 86th Children's Christmas Party – bringing smiles to 100s of children with disabilities, hosted our 3rd annual Youth Leadership Expo engaging and empowering 600 students, selected 10 deserving finalists from City of Toronto and celebrated youth civic leadership. We strengthened our partnership with TDSB, supported youth organizations in partnership with two community outreach events, facilitated Youth Exchange students, and ended the year with a celebration!

This year we have welcomed Healthy Beginnings as a sub-committee, are welcoming our third Rotaract club from Ryerson, are working with some interested students in the creation of Interact clubs engaging high school students, have created and have put together an awards committee to focus our giving on a specific theme with this year being mental health, amongst others. With more requests from youth and children causes, our roster of potential projects / community partners to support for the year is already filling up. With so much going on, all we need is your help to make it happen!

Join us: Every 3rd Tuesday from Sept to June at 5:30 pm in the Rotary Office Boardroom.

YCS MANDATE: The YCS Committee focuses on the health, education, abuse and neglect, social development and life enrichment of youth and children in our community.

– by Brent Thomas, Chair

Marketing & Communications Committee Chair: Sylvia Geist
"Making A Difference" Issue Editor: Sylvia Geist

The Rotary Club of Toronto Supports Youth in Unlocking Life Skills through Board Sports – by Alistair Thomson, Local Manager, Chill Toronto



A local charity is helping to take a creative approach to achieve formative experiential learning opportunities for Toronto youth – through skateboarding! Thanks through support from The Rotary Club of Toronto, The Chill Foundation has augmented a unique curriculum to help youth overcome life's challenges through board sports.

Chill's core youth development program uses snowboarding and skateboarding as learning tools to allow roughly 150 Toronto youth the opportunity to participate each year. Chill removes all barriers of access associated with snowboarding (including transportation, instruction, and equipment) and allows children to participate at absolutely no cost. Chill's programs run for 6 weeks and include a weekly youth development lesson that focuses on: patience, persistence, respect, responsibility, courage, and pride to build the internal capacity of Chill's students, provide skills youth use to pursue.

Chill has served more than 20,000 young people since the program began, working with approximately 1,400 youth annually. We work with social service agencies, mental health agencies, foster care programs, juvenile justice programs, and schools in local communities to select youth participants. Everything is provided to the youth at no cost.

We focus on the resiliency of our participants to help them reach their full potential and see that there is a path out

The Rotary Club of Toronto Supports the Partnership between Dusk Dancers and Harwood Public School in 2016 Dance Festival

– by Sylvie Bouchard, Festival Director, Dusk Dances



Established in 1993, Dusk Dances is a curated dance festival that brings high quality contemporary and traditional dance to urban public parks. The festival features an array of choreographic works presented every night at sunset. As dusk descends, a theatrical host leads the audience to five eclectic dance pieces that unfold in different areas of the park. Audiences are invited on a pay-what-you-can basis to an innovative site-specific festival, which is not only an artistic event, but a social and cultural one as well.

In 2016, with the help and support of The Rotary Club of Toronto, Dusk Dances partnered with Harwood Public School, to grow an educational project titled Dusk Dances in the Schools. During a 12-week process, students from grades seven and eight, spent half a day, once a week, working with two dance artists to develop two 5-minute dance works. The culmination of this project was the presentation of the two student pieces on the school grounds, as part of Harwood's Annual Family Feast.

The two dance artists who worked with the students were from different dance backgrounds - urban dancer Celine Richard-Robichon and contemporary dancer Meredith Thompson. Celine and Meredith worked together with the grade seven and eight students through a process that is collaborative in nature, involving the students' ideas and movement vocabulary. Both pieces were created at the intersection of urban dance and contemporary dance, allowing the students to experience a wide range of ideas, movement vocabularies and practices. The presentation of the dance pieces during Family-Feast was a highlight, alongside a presentation by younger students from Harwood Public School prior to the dance presentation.



Chill Program participants carefully measure and apply glue to the wooden veneers that will form their own skateboard deck

of their current circumstances. Their current situation doesn't have to define them or determine their path in life; Chill helps them to realize alternatives beyond the struggles they are dealing with.

The Toronto Chill site, a recent recipient of the Rotary Club Children and Youth Committee grant, piloted a Build Your Own Board Project in Chill's Skateboard Program. 25 youth participants were given the opportunity to build their own skateboard. Participants assembled their skateboard decks from individual wood veneers, molded the deck in an air press, and finished the boards with wood working hand tools. Thanks to Rotary's support, each Chill participant have the opportunity to continue to skateboard with a board they constructed themselves!

Find out more about Chill at www.chill.org/toronto



Students from Harwood Public School in Toronto performing Dusk Dances in the Schools

The project was led by dancer, teacher and writer Janice Pomer, who also mentored the two artists that taught the program.

Dusk Dances in the Schools affords young people the opportunity to work with professional dance artists, and learn about dance and the arts. It allows young people to learn, through dance and through a creative process, embodied transferable skills, as well as tools and lessons that they can then use on their life journey: commitment, work ethics, working within a group, being a leader, dedication, focus, patience, curiosity and problem-solving. Young people get to share their achievements and experiences with schoolmates, family and friends, and connect to the school curriculum in a different way.

A heartfelt thank you to The Rotary Club of Toronto Youth and Children Service Committee for their support towards this project, helping many young people soar.

Find out more at www.duskdances.ca



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