Dear Friends of UHeights,

Right around the time that UHeights was built in 1902, William Blake famously said, “The great use of life is to spend it for something that outlasts it.” Originally a beloved elementary school, since 1989 we have been a vibrant community center addressing the needs of our community. We purchased the building in 2009 and have since invested nearly $4 million in capital improvements, including a seismic retrofit, new park and playground, and most recently a large project to keep water out of our building by repairing our iconic roofline.

Although the preservation of the building is critical to our mission, it’s what happens inside that is most important. UHeights makes it possible for critical community services to have a home in Seattle, where the cost of rent is outpacing their fundraising.

We are home to 13 resident organizations, including schools, afterschool programs, homeless advocacy and conservation groups, and more. At 50-70% below Seattle’s average market rental rate, UHeights’ affordable space is critical to the survival of so many programs and events that are integral to the social fabric of our community.

In 2018, UHeights is proud to have launched the UHeights Theatre Alliance and Art Hub, both of which celebrate Seattle’s local artists using a “pay-what-you-can” model that allows ALL to participate. In addition, we have continued important services like the Youth Employment Program, while looking for ways to expand our programming to meet the ever-growing and changing needs of our community.

The preservation of the historic University Heights Center is a labor of love, but the building and our programs are built to last. It is through your support that we will keep UHeights standing for another 120 years!

Maureen Ewing  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Beth Mountsier  
BOARD CO-CHAIR
Susan Samuelson  
BOARD CO-CHAIR

MAUREEN EWING  
BETH MOUNTSIER  
SUSAN SAMUELSON

“UHeights is special to me because it is a good place with a sense of community and belonging.”
ALEX LUBBERS, ACADEMY FOR PRECISION LEARNING STUDENT

“UHeights’ generosity in opening its doors to us has been a game-changer for Parley. We are blown away by the kindness and material support we have received. We look forward to many, many more collaborations with its vibrant team.”
REBECCA TOURINO COLLINSWORTH, PARLEY PRODUCTIONS, UHEIGHTS THEATRE ALLIANCE

“Parley uses the space for events and performances. UHeights is special to me because it is a good place with a sense of community and belonging.”
ALEX LUBBERS, ACADEMY FOR PRECISION LEARNING STUDENT

“A PLACE FOR ALL”

“The Northwest Boychoir & Vocalpoint! Seattle has proudly made its home at the University Heights Center for the last 17 years. We love the UHeights staff because they are welcoming and supportive of our programs and our families. The recent upgrades and planned improvements to the building have strengthened the overall community and have allowed us to make UHeights our permanent home.”
MARIA JOHNSON, NORTHWEST BOYCHOIR & VOCALPOINT! SEATTLE

“UHeights is special to me because it is a good place with a sense of community and belonging.”
ALEX LUBBERS, ACADEMY FOR PRECISION LEARNING STUDENT

“UHeights’ generosity in opening its doors to us has been a game-changer for Parley. We are blown away by the kindness and material support we have received. We look forward to many, many more collaborations with its vibrant team.”
REBECCA TOURINO COLLINSWORTH, PARLEY PRODUCTIONS, UHEIGHTS THEATRE ALLIANCE
**MISSION**

UHeights promotes lifelong learning, creativity, culture, community activism, and the preservation of our historic building.

**HISTORY**

Built as an elementary school in 1902 in response to the burgeoning University of Washington population, University Heights Center was the first school for thousands of neighboring children for 87 years. In 1989, due to declining enrollment, the school shuttered its doors. It was reborn again as a community center—University Heights Center—in 1990, when the community came together to save the building from demolition.

Now on the National Registry of Historic Places as well as a City of Seattle Historic Landmark building, University Heights Center continues to serve Seattle through a wide variety of classes, workshops and programs. From gardening to shopping at Seattle’s largest farmers market, University Heights Center has something for everyone.

**A PLACE FOR YOU**

“I’ve been coming to the Thursday-at-10 gatherings for more than a year and I really look forward to attending each week. The people who come to these Thursday sessions are so generous with sharing that one cannot help but feel comfortable and welcome.”

JOELLA WEYBRIGHT, COMMUNITY MEMBER

“The UHeights staff and community are awesome! As an artist, it has been particularly gratifying to contribute to the UHeights Artist Collective and help create and grow the Art Hub. Bottom line—UHeights is a fantastic organization, and I feel blessed to be a part of it!”

ELISE TISSOT STOREY, UHEIGHTS ARTIST COLLECTIVE MEMBER

“It has been a pleasure working with UHeights for so many years. The atmosphere in the building is steeped in history, and the diversity of age, ethnicity, and the classes UHeights offers is refreshing. I have been renting rooms since 2003 and expect to continue for many more years.”

CHERYL MAREK, HELP TRAINING
UHeights serves as a gathering, entertainment, and learning space for residents of the U District and Greater Seattle area. Our varied programming reflects the myriad interests of the people who make our historic building their home, including: cinephiles, knitters, memoir writers, “kindie” rockstars, opera singers, Zumba dancers, and more! We also work hard to curate quality performances and proudly paid a variety of local artists, who performed for over 5,000 total audience members.

**ART HUB** Every third Friday evening as part of the larger U District Art Walk. Notable participating organizations include YouthCare, Paws with Cause, and Vibrant Palette Arts Center.

**HOMELESS YOUTH INTERN PROGRAM** UHeights regularly hosts homeless youth on our staff to build work skills toward sustainable future employment.

**IMPROV NIGHT** Improv teams face off in this collaboration with Jet City Improv the first Saturday of every month.

**LEGAL WORKSHOPS** Free workshops featuring topics related to immigration, small businesses, and more.

**THEATER THURSDAYS & CINEMA ECLECTICA** Two movie nights, sponsored by Scarecrow Video, that feature off-the-beaten-path cinema.

**THURSDAYS @ 10** Regular programs including a discussion group, book club, stitchery, and memoir writing group.

**SECOND SATURDAYS** Kid- and family-friendly programming every month featuring music, magic, and acrobatics.

**2018 SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL** Concerts throughout the summer coinciding with U District Farmers Market.
PRESERVATION

The preservation of the University Heights Center building is critical to continuing our rich tradition of serving as a community hub, while activating a historic site. **UHeights is a link to our city’s early past;** constructed in 1902, it is one of the most significant and beautiful historic structures in Northeast Seattle. We are also a bridge to the future, providing space for educating students of all ages and abilities and for residents of the burgeoning U District to gather, share experiences, and build connection.

To ensure this building remains a resource for generations to come, we have invested nearly $4 million in capital improvements since the State of Washington, King County and City of Seattle purchased the historic landmark on our behalf in 2009. Most recently, with the generous support of our community, we completed a $1.3 million project to preserve the building’s roofline, and to inhibit water infiltration into the building. UHeights’ roofline – indicative of the Mission Revival style that was celebrated at the turn of the century – is its most distinctive architectural feature and is critical to preserving the building’s historic façade and character.

We could not have accomplished this monumental feat without the help of the Washington State Historical Society’s Heritage Capital Fund, M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust, City of Seattle Office of Arts & Culture, Norcliffe Foundation, 4Culture, Norman Archibald Charitable Foundation, Joshua Green Foundation, U District Rotary, and Pat Weber. Special thanks to the hundreds of community members who donated to help make this project possible!

We have also completed an in-depth building-wide Condition Assessment that will guide our preservation efforts for the next ten years and beyond. Many thanks to Richaven Architecture & Preservation, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and 4Culture for making this possible!
UHeights is proud to be home to thirteen resident organizations that serve the Greater Seattle Area through education, arts & culture, and community activism. UHeights’ commitment to providing space at 50-70% below Seattle’s market rate allows these organizations to thrive in the U District, where they may not be able to afford rent otherwise. Each organization’s unique approach to public interest has shaped UHeights into a diverse and energetic shared space.

**RESIDENT ORGANIZATION HIGHLIGHT**

**ACADEMY FOR PRECISION LEARNING**
A K-12 school serving both typically-developing children and children on the autism spectrum that uses innovative instructional methods to ensure progress for each student.

**BROADWAY BOUND CHILDREN’S THEATRE**
Children of all skill levels and backgrounds are challenged to develop their mental, physical, emotional, social, and creative potential through the joy and discipline of live theatre.
In 2018, UHeights partnered with over 175 community groups to host 1,543 multicultural, educational, & arts classes and events. At UHeights in 2018, you could dance the Tango, learn ballroom dance, or don a kilt and kick your heels up with the Royal Scottish Country Dancers. You could center yourself through Qigung, meditation and Japanese Yoga classes. And then wind back up again to experience UHeights by Night with theatre & live music.

Our partnerships were as diverse as our city. From Fremont Abbey Arts to the Tabla Institute, from Seattle Modern Opera Company to Patsy Cline cover bands, we hosted a wide variety of live music. We also celebrated Seattle’s cultural richness by hosting groups such as the Nepalese Society, CeAtl Tonali, Gansango, Tudo Beleza and more.

We continued our important work with Sanctuary Arts Center, Roots, and YouthCare to employ youth who are homeless on our staff, in addition to hosting critical programs such as U District Street Medicine. We also launched a new collaboration with the King County Law Library to host free legal workshops.

We also forged new partnerships with 15 local theatre production companies to form the:

UHEIGHTS THEATRE ALLIANCE!
Multicultural, educational, and arts classes were held at UHeights. Children received full-ride or other tuition assistance to attend school or afterschool programs. Scholarships awarded to children attending school programming. Annual visits to UHeights. UHeights by the Numbers:

- 1,543 Multicultural, educational, and arts classes were held at UHeights.
- 2,290 Children attended school or arts programming.
- 175 Community groups used our space.
- 115 Children who attended school at UHeights have learning challenges.
- 536 Children received full-ride or other tuition assistance to attend school or afterschool programs.
- $817,411 In free space donated to civic, community, and arts groups.
- $675,646 Scholarships awarded to children attending school programming.
- 243,147 Annual visits to UHeights.
# FINANCES

## Statement of Financial Position

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<th>ASSETS</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
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</table>

## LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

| Total Liabilities | $175,658 |
| Total Net Assets  | $8,315,758 |
| **Total Liabilities & Net Assets** | **$8,491,416** |

## Support & Revenue

| Rent Revenue | $730,443 | 62% |
| Contributions & Grants | $399,772 | 34% |
| In-Kind Contributions | $18,711 | 2% |
| Program & Other | $14,637 | 1% |
| **Net Assets Released from Restriction** | **$8,750** | 1% |
| **Total Support & Revenue** | **$1,172,313** | 100% |

## EXPENSES

| Program Expense | $807,325 | 85% |
| Management & General | $76,710 | 8% |
| Fundraising | $71,563 | 7% |
| **Total Expenses** | **$955,598** | 100% |

## INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS

We thank our partners for the work that they do and their commitment to investing in the community.

**WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**JOSHUA GREEN FOUNDATION**

**THE LUCKY SEVEN FOUNDATION**

**NESHOLM FAMILY FOUNDATION**

**RICHAVEN ARCHITECTURE & PRESERVATION**

**U DISTRICT ROTARY**

**NESCIF FOUNDATION**

**NORMAN ARCHIBALD CHARITABLE FOUNDATION**

**WELLS FARGO**

**WSECU**

**4CULTURE**

**SEATTLE OFFICE OF ARTS & CULTURE**

**NORCLIFFE FOUNDATION**

**BIG TIME BREWERY & ALEHOUSE**

*The State of Washington is a source and the Washington State Historical Society is an administrator of these funds.*

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## 2018 HONOR ROLL

Thank you so much to the members of our community who generously supported UHeights in 2018!


If you have questions or would like to update your listing, please call 206-556-2495.
STAFF
Maureen Ewing – Executive Director
Mason Wiley – Associate Director
Jaron Bernstein – Director of Advancement
Olena Billingsley – Operations Manager

Shirin Subhani – Outreach & Program Coordinator
Aaron Brown – Facilities Manager
Addison Kramlich – Facilities Technician
Vincent Delli Paoli – Facilities Technician

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