# Gloucester Education Foundation Annual Report 2017

celebrating

Gloucester Education

Gloucester Education

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## A Look Back at GEF's First 10 Years





The beautiful birthday cake on the cover of this year's Annual Report was created by **Caffe Sicilia of Gloucester** and donated to GEF for its 10th Birthday Gala in November of 2016.

#### Cover photo by Marty Del Vecchio.

10th Anniversary Gala photos on page 3 by Vincenzo Dimino, 2016 Gloucester High School graduate and former GHS Photography Program student.



#### **Mission Statement**

The Gloucester Education Foundation drives innovation, encourages creativity, expands student opportunities and empowers educators to strengthen teaching and learning in the Gloucester Public School District.

#### 2017 Board of Directors

June Landergren Steel, President Christine McGrath, Vice-President Joe Calomo, President-Elect Dean Murray, Treasurer John Bjorlie, Clerk Marie Cahoon, Recording Secretary Sarah Grow Serena Low Anna O'Connor Kathleen Purdy Joe Rosa John Sarrouf Jochem Struppe Christina M. Raimo, Executive Director

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## All Things Large and Small, and the Butterfly Effect

When we began planning our 10th anniversary Annual Report, we had a basic but important decision to make: How do we decide what to highlight in this retrospective? Do we focus on the large programs that the Gloucester Education Foundation has funded? Just the top ten? GEF, after all, has been an extraordinarily active education foundation since its earliest days—in fact, we recently crossed the \$6 million threshold in revenues generated on behalf of the Gloucester Public Schools! In the end, we opted to highlight as much as possible—from our large game-changing programs, to our long-standing and endearing programs like elementary music and the Mad Hot Ball, to lesser-known and smaller initiatives—because we think that it tells the true story of the value that GEF and, by extension, our community have added to Gloucester's Public Schools over the past decade.

The impact of GEF's large programs are easily recognized. Gloucester High School's robotics program—started initially by GEF as an after-school club—is now a central component of the school's engineering program, which recently received state and national recognition for its excellence. GEF's *SEA Initiative* helped spark the restructuring of science education at Gloucester's middle school, which in turn laid the groundwork for the Birdseye-Hammond STEM Center and the school's designation as the O'Maley Innovation Middle School.

We are grateful for these sizeable accomplishments—but we are also proud of the smaller grants that we've made over the years for programs that are equally meaningful. Just as history shows us that small ideas and events can transform the world in unanticipated ways, GEF recognizes that sometimes a little support can make a big difference that is not always immediately apparent. GEF funding of an elementary field trip, for example, may spark an interest in engineering in a student's later years... an after-school program might engage a middle-school student in a new interest and put him on the path to college...or perhaps, funding for supplies for a high school biology or chemistry classroom will nurture a future scientist who will one day develop new cures and therapies.

Chaos theory suggests that when a butterfly flaps its wings on one side of the world, its impact can be felt in unexpected ways at the opposite end of the planet, even at a much later time. As GEF enters its second decade, we hope to have ever increasing impact, in ways large and small, on the Gloucester Public Schools—and to be a "Butterfly Effect" of sorts that brings positive and long-lasting benefits to Gloucester's children. As always, we thank you, our community, for your support and partnership as we continue to help students "Think the Best."

## A Backbone for Innovation

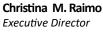
For the past ten years, the Gloucester Education Foundation has made an enormous contribution in support of the Gloucester Public Schools, which has vastly enriched the learning opportunities that we can now provide for our students. In the areas of literacy, science, art, technology, professional development, grant acquisition, and even the renovation of learning spaces, GEF has been a proverbial backbone for innovation and enhancement of programs for students in all grades and at all levels.

Support from the Gloucester Education Foundation has been as consistent as it has been tangible. GEF's funds have enabled students to explore engineering, science and technology through such projects as the building of robots, and the design and construction of both suspension bridges and wind-powered vehicles. In art funding has been provided for kilns and photography equipment, and for a variety of special art projects. GEF's support has enabled our elementary students to learn from real-world theater professionals. And, of course, there is the Citywide Arts Festival, the Mad Hot Ball, and more.

In technology, the District now has 3-D printers at both GHS and O'Maley. We have a full-fledged digital photography program and an entire computer science program where there was none three years ago. GEF has also provided support for online resource materials and equipment for the high school chemistry program, and the expanded and experimental teaching of biotechnology and genomics in the high school biology program is largely due to GEF's support. The list goes on.

In sum, for the past ten years, the Gloucester Education Foundation has collaborated with and supported the District's efforts to fulfill its mission and implement strategies for achieving that mission. And, GEF continues to build and grow support for Gloucester's Public Schools. Armed with a mission common to and compatible with that of the District's, GEF has helped the District create a culture of excellence. The District is, to say the least, extremely grateful.

June Landergren Steel, President





**Dr. Richard Safier** Superintendent, Gloucester Public Schools

## **Glorious Gala Celebrates GEF's 10 Years**



More than 250 friends of the Gloucester Education Foundation gathered at Gloucester's new Beauport Hotel on November 4, 2016, to celebrate the tenth anniversary of GEF's first grants to the Gloucester Public Schools. The Gala attendees celebrated GEF's past decade, toasted to its future and took part in lively silent and live auctions to raise funds for the renovation of the music suite at O'Maley Innovation Middle School. Spurred on by a generous \$45,000 gift made by GEF friends and donors John and Mollie Byrnes (shown at right, cutting the cake), the Gala audience pledged an additional \$81,000, for a total of \$126,000 that GEF contributed to the project. The first phase of the renovations, which will include an upgrade of the main band room, the choral room and two practice rooms, will be completed over the summer of 2017, in time for the start of the school year in September.

#### The Gloucester Education Foundation wishes to thank its 10th Birthday Gala Committee:

Marie Cahoon Kathleen Clancy Kathleen Costa Jenn Fernandes Samantha Porter Giddings Serena Low Erica Keyes Aria McElhenny Erin McKay Grace Numerosi Sarah Oaks Anna O'Connor Graziella Paone Amy Racofsky Maggie Rosa Robyn Salvanelli June Landergren Steel



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# **10 Years of Thinking the Best**

In June of 2005, Gloucester parent Ed Shoucair engaged a group of individuals to explore the potential for raising funds to help bring about transformational change to the Gloucester Public Schools, which were facing serious budget challenges. Among those joining the discussion were Gloucester Mayor John Bell, School Committee Chair Jonathan Pope and School Superintendent Christopher Farmer.

After a series of discussions with other parents, community leaders and students, the first organizing meeting of the Gloucester Education Foundation (GEF) convened on September 8. Present were Ed, along with Gloucester residents John Doyle, Bob Cunningham, Suzyn Ornstein, Liz Bish, Chairman Pope and Superintendent Farmer.

During the Fall of 2005, the foundational building blocks of the nascent organization were put into place. The early mission was bold and energized the community into action: Make Gloucester one of the five best public school districts in Massachusetts within five years. The tagline "Think the Best" was adopted and became quickly associated with GEF.

At the time of publication of this Annual Report, GEF has generated more than \$6 million for the Gloucester Public Schools, funding an astonishing array of programs, projects and experiences that has been engaging and exciting Gloucester's children in learning and opening new doors to future possibilities for our students.

As we begin our second decade, we reflect on our work of the past 10 years, presented over the next several pages. debroiti

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GEF raises \$100,000 in its first year; first grants totaling \$36,600 support after-school programs at O'Maley in music and foreign languages and after-school enrichment at Gloucester High School

GEF incorporated as Massachusetts nonprofit on April 28, 2006

First grant for Ballroom Dance instruction; this ultimately leads to the Mad Hot Ball, now an annual springtime tradition in Gloucester!



GEF funds Gloucester High School NASA *FIRST* Robotics competition, which quickly becomes a popular after-school program

First GEF Board of Directors formed, with Founder Ed Shoucair as President; first Board committees organized for governance, fund raising and programs; Community Council formed as advisory group

## 2006-2007



Gloucester students in after-school robotics program enter *FIRST* Robotics competition in Boston

Birdseye-Hammond Fund established, foreshadowing STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) labs at O'Maley Middle School

A \$65,000 grant John and Mollie Byrnes establishes Endowment Fund





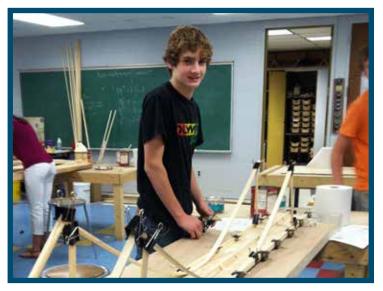
First Citywide Band formed; string instruction brought back into elementary music education

GEF introduces "Master Classes," visits by leaders in various fields to Gloucester classrooms to talk with students about careers and in the evening to the community



GEF receives commitment of \$1.3 million for the SEA Initiative, a three-year collaboration between the Gloucester Public School District and MIT that unleashes a flood of new activities in teaching of science and technology:

- Summer Engineering Adventure, a collaboration between GEF, the Gloucester Public Schools, MIT's Edgerton Center, and Maritime Gloucester, launches; over two weeks students learn design and engineering skills through an ROV-building project at Maritime Gloucester and go "over the bridge" to engage in laboratory experiences on the MIT campus
- Science curriculum specialist for the schools and teacher professional development at MIT
- Math Investigations textbooks purchased for the elementary schools
- Series of elementary science field studies to Mount Avalon, tidal pools, vernal ponds and Dogtown instituted; elementary students learn about robotics from members of Gloucester High School Robotics team
- At O'Maley, bridge-building introduced into science curriculum



45 Gloucester High School students participate in the *FIRST* Robotics competition in Boston and bring home the prestigious Judge's Award

Executive Director position created; Maggie Rosa serves as first Executive Director on a volunteer basis



First GEF-sponsored Citywide Arts Festival held, showcasing student achievement in performing and visual arts

Special arts fund established in memory of GHS arts educator Nancy Hochberg Higgins to support future arts education in Gloucester



First GEF Golf Tournament held at Bass Rocks

Support for GHS ceramics program and after-school stipends, including Docksiders and chorus, drama, school literary magazine and newspaper, National Honor Society, marketing/DECA program, student council and class advisors





GEF makes first grants to elementary theater programs, which over the years have enabled students to work with real-world theater professionals



*Physics of Robotics* curriculum created, bringing the study of robotics into the school day curriculum at Gloucester High School





O'Maley afterschool program expands to include flight simulator training, boat hull design, robotics and digital film and video instruction



Elementary science program expands to include field studies at Red Rocks, visit to MIT for 5th graders, geographic mapping and Ocean Explorers program

Summer literacy through art program piloted at Veterans

GHS graphic design program reinstated with GEF funds

New O'Maley science, technology, engineering and math units introduced, including groundwater studies, wind mill blade design, DNA and chromosomes, and renewable energy...new microscopes and additional lab equipment purchased

Art supplies, including 10 new easels, purchased for GHS



### 2010-2011



Birdseye-Hammond STEM Center dedicated at O'Maley, creating schoolwide resource for applied learning in science, math, technology, manufacturing, design and engineering

District math specialist hired

GEF funds Gloucester High School chess program

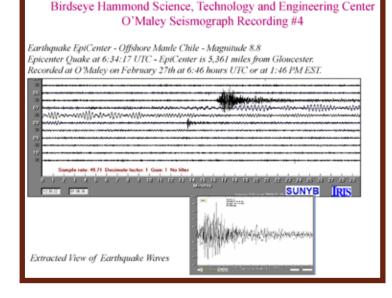
New teen mentoring program for middle school students entering high school piloted

Grade 5 LEGO engineering introduced

GHS equipment and supplies for chemistry, physics and ecology studies, including glassware, spectrophotometer, GPS with computer interface, pH sensors, colorimeters, gas pressure sensors, spectrum tube power supply with gas tubes

GHS students participate in statewide Drama Festival with GEF support

O'Maley science program adds unit on fossils and geologic time scales, seismology unit and seismograph, *Forest Connections* field studies...environmental sensors and probes...bluebird nest box construction as a way of studying ecology, design and engineering...electronic balances...force and motion studies, and much more





Murals depicting Clarence Birdseye and John Hays Hammond for O'Maley STEM Center created by local artists with GEF stipends

First community education forum held in Gloucester bringing community together for a conversation on *Essential Learning Skills in the 21st Century* 

First Districtwide elementary summer literacy program

Development of art history curriculum begun in collaboration with Cape Ann Museum

First Career Day at O'Maley

Wind turbine installed atop O'Maley; students gather data used in studies on weather and alternative energy and, in math classes, graphing





Students at O'Maley learn about air currents by building full-scale wind cars tested on the O'Maley outdoor track

Soundfields amplification systems introduced in all elementary schools, enabling students to hear clearly the voices of their teachers and each other when making presentations; these are now in all K-2 classrooms

CAD software for vocational education

Safety improvements for GHS Cabinet Innovation and Design program

Grades K-2 STEM curriculum development and professional development for teachers

iPads introduced into study of chemistry at GHS

Art Explorations textbooks purchased for elementary art classes

JoRide bicycles purchased for special education students, helping them improve balance skills, self-confidence and independence



As support for elementary theater continues, Shakespeare introduced for the first time when East Gloucester School presents *A Midsummer's Night's Dream* 

Students in the summer literacy and arts program at Veterans' Memorial School produce stunning murals of Gloucester, displayed at Cape Ann Art Museum (see back cover)



GEF grants to elementary schools help implement schoolyard gardens

Generous Gardeners holds first annual plant sale to benefit GEF



*Genome Gloucester* summer project at Gloucester High School introduces students to the study of DNA and modern biotechnology lab procedures

Advancing Engineering at O'Maley Middle School introduces students to design and technical drawing

GEF Founder and President Ed Shoucair steps down; Maggie Rosa becomes President of the Board; GEF hires Christina Raimo as first full-time paid Executive Director

Arts/Science Residency in Paper origami program at O'Maley



## 2013-2014



#### O'Maley becomes one of a handful of Massachusetts Innovation Schools focusing on STEM

Cross-curricular Writing Coordinator position at O'Maley established

First set of digital cameras purchased for Gloucester High as the school converts to all-digital photography program



GHS engineering students participate in *SailBot®* program, held in Gloucester, and enter robotically controlled sailboard that they designed and built into competition

GEF purchases 60 iPads for sixth-grade house at O'Maley, setting the stage for implementing one-to-one model over the next few years

*Gardening at O'Maley* established to teach science through gardening

Second education forum held—*Access and Empowerment: Technology as a Game Changer in the 21st Century Classroom;* noted author-technologist Alan November speaks on role of technology in learning

## O'Maley offers nineteen afterschool classes through afterschool program, revitalized with GEF funding





O'Maley wet lab (the "Slime Lab") opens for study of life science

GEF Mission statement revised: *GEF drives innovation, encourages creativity, expands student opportunities and empowers educators to strengthen teaching and learning in the Gloucester Public School District* 



ShopBot<sup>®</sup> digital CNC router added to Cabinet Design and Innovation program, combining woodworking artistry with design, mathematics and computer science

Artistic Bridges program developed in collaboration with Cape Ann Museum to bring artists into all of Gloucester's classrooms

GEF collaborates with District to secure federally-funded 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant to establish *Gloucester U* after-school program at Gloucester High School

GEF supports *Quadcopter* robotic helicopter program at GHS

216 GHS biology students attend *Bodyworlds* exhibit in Boston

O'Maley theater sound and lighting upgraded

Dance Through the Decades introduces 3rd grade students to American social dance forms



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GEF introduces 3-D printing to Gloucester schools with industry-standard ProJet<sup>®</sup> printer for the engineering program at Gloucester High School and 25 MakerFarm<sup>®</sup> units at O'Maley

Math Olympiads math program implemented at all of Gloucester's elementary schools



Heart monitor watches piloted at Veterans' Memorial School for physical education classes

GHS expands summer AP<sup>®</sup> preparation classes to seven subjects; Gloucester District named to AP Honor Roll

All-school *Word Generation* vocabulary building program begins at O'Maley

Cruise for Schools event raises \$25,000 for GEF





First *Countdown to Kindergarten* program, a collaboration between GEF and numerous other Gloucester nonprofits, welcomes Gloucester's newest students to the schools

New microphone system for GHS theater

Vernier Labquest<sup>®</sup> equipment and AP publications purchased for AP and Honors chemistry sections at Gloucester High School, along with *Mastering Chemistry* online subscription

*Farm to Table* program implemented in GHS culinary program; GEF support helps establish GHS greenhouse

Third education forum focuses on *Access and Empowerment: Evolving Libraries in the Digital Age* and features noted Harvard Technologist David Weinberger

GEF collaborates with District to secure second 21st Century Learning Centers Grant for O'Maley Academy after-school program

GEF teams up with Awesome Gloucester Foundation to offer matching challenge grants to Gloucester students to implement ideas to make their schools "more awesome"

GEF helps District secure support from Massachusetts Life Science Center for new science and lab equipment at O'Maley

Beeman Memorial School pilots JamHub<sup>®</sup> Greenroom technology in its music program



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New state-of-the-art iMac photo and graphics art laboratory opens at Gloucester High School

Grant from local family foundation supports major technology assessment; GEF supports broad teacher professional development in integration of technology into teaching practice

New program in computer science and computer lab opens at Gloucester High School

GEF helps District secure \$100,000 grant from Cummings Foundation to convert O'Maley Library into O'Maley Learning Commons, a technology-rich hub for learning and collaboration

*Summer Science Camps* begin at O'Maley; students work with teachers to test ideas for new science curriculum

GHS electrical technology program acquires Lab Volt<sup>®</sup> Solar/Wind Training unit, making GHS just one of four schools statewide to offer training in alternative energy technologies





Aquaponics units installed in grade 6 houses at O'Maley

Summer literacy program offered to at-risk 2nd-graders in collaboration with Cape Ann YMCA

New instruments purchased for O'Maley music program

Incredible Years program offers support to parents at Veterans' Memorial School

First *Power of Play* Festival held for all Gloucester students and families



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## GEF Support Transforms Library Resources

The libraries at O'Maley Innovation Middle and Gloucester High Schools have each been undergoing a transformation into a "Learning Commons," a hub where students and teachers are able to access and use technology and other resources to collaborate on research and learning. Each site now has its own "green room"—literally, a space with green walls that enables students to shoot professionalquality videos. Last spring, GEF funded a new "Creation Lab," at Gloucester High School, complete with new iPads, iMac computers and an Apple TV for projection of presentations. Students have access to industry standard software and equipment to edit film projects and documentaries, record personal interviews with community members, design video games and fashion, write music, work on presentations for class assignments and explore other creative avenues.

## Major funding fuels technology integration at Gloucester High School

GEF support has been helping to reshape the way that technology is being used in learning and teaching at Gloucester High School, in tandem with the Gloucester District's ongoing initiative to equip all students in grades 8-12 with personal Chromebook digital devices.

GEF funding last year supported a broad program of training in integrating the use of technology in the classrooms. To date, virtually all of GHS staff have received training in the first level of Google Applications for Education (GAFE), with more ongoing trainings planned in anticipation of students at all grade levels having their own personal devices by 2018.

## **Technology Advances the Arts, Too**

Two GEF-funded projects are providing students with unique resources that are enhancing education in music and theater arts. At Beeman Memorial School, the third year of the Beeman JamHub® program completed the school's music lab, where elementary students are using technology to learn the basic structures of music and compose their own music using software programs used in the commercial music industry. And at Gloucester High School, GEF support purchased QLab, a state-of-the-art sound and lighting system for the GHS Theater Program that will improve the technical aspects of future theater productions at the school–and will also provide students pursuing the technical side of theater with access to technology that is used in professional drama.



## GEF-Funded Programs Win State, National Recognition

Two Gloucester High School programs that have received support from GEF over the years were awarded major recognitions in the past 12 months. Some of GEF's earliest grants funded an after-school program in robotics—now a major part of the school's curriculum in physics and engineering. Recently the program and GHS teacher Kurt Lichtenwald received awards from the International Engineering and Technology Association and MassTech, two leading associations in engineering education, for excellence in teaching and overall program.

Students in the GHS photography program, which has benefitted from considerable support from GEF's donors in recent years, also received honors in the 2017 Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, a statewide competition sponsored annually by the Boston Globe. Additionally, GHS Senior Marcos Trejo earned a National Silver Medal for his photographic work, *New Proyect*, shown above. He was identified by a panel of creative professionals as one of the most talented young artists in the nation! Of the more than 300,000 works of art and writing submitted in this year's competition, only the top 1% were recognized at the national level.

## Loving Premiere Supports Technical Upgrades for O'Maley Theater

In support of GEF, Gloucester resident and Hollywood producer Sarah Green premiered her new film, *Loving*, at the Cape Ann Cinema & Stage in downtown Gloucester last

November to a sold-out house. The film chronicles the true story of Richard and Mildred Loving, a married couple arrested in the late 1950's because Richard was white and Mildred was black. Their subsequent landmark case before the U.S. Supreme Court overturned state laws banning interracial marriage. The event raised \$3,500 for GEF, which will support upgrades to the theater at the O'Maley Innovation Middle School.



## **GEF Financial Information**

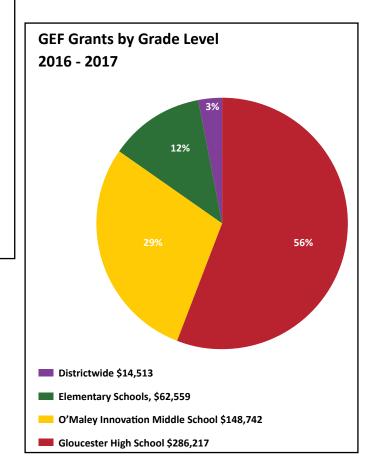
	GEF FY 2017 Cash Flow	
(April 1, 2016 - March 31, 2017)		
	Unrestricted Support*	\$299,118
	Restricted Support**	
	Programs	\$394,202
	Endowment & Investment	\$22,658
	Restricted Total	\$416,860
	TOTAL RECEIVED	\$715,978
	Program Support	
	Arts	
	Gloucester High School	\$3,885
	O'Maley Innovation Middle School	\$133,738
	Elementary Schools	\$17,000
	Districtwide	\$13,638
	Arts Total	\$168,261
	STEM	
	Gloucester High School	\$275,532
	O'Maley Innovation Middle School	\$11,044
	Elementary Schools	\$15,887
	STEM Total	\$302,463
	Literacy	
	O'Maley Innovation Middle School	\$2,960
	Elementary Schools	\$4,170
	Literacy Total	\$7,130
	Other	
	Gloucester High School	\$6,800
	O'Maley Innovation Middle School	\$1,000
	Elementary Schools	\$25,502
	Districtwide	\$875
	Other Total	\$34,177
	Program Support Total	\$512,031
	Payroll	\$76,959
	Operations	\$94,093
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$683,083

\*Unrestricted funds may be granted at the discretion of the GEF Board of Directors to any worthy program, project or initiative. \*\*Restricted funds were donated to GEF for specific/targeted purposes. GEF donors are welcome to designate their contributions to areas of special interest.

In the interest of transparancy, GEF posts its financial statements on its website as soon as they become avaialble.

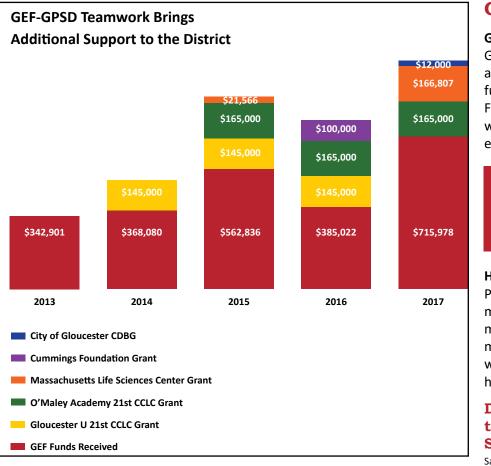
## GEF-GPSD Teamwork Creates Additional Support for Gloucester's Public Schools

GEF helps support the Gloucester Public School District in ways that you won't see reflected in our financial statements (see chart at right). In Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015, GEF and the District collaborated on two Federally-funded grants through the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program, which established after-school programs at Gloucester High School and O'Maley Innovation Middle School. Combined, these efforts resulted in an additional \$930,000 from 2014-2017 for the District. In FY 2015, GEF helped the Distict secure an additional \$21,566 from the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center, and in FY 2016, a \$100,000 grant from the Cummings Foundation. Over the past year, GEF's collaboration with the District brought an additional \$188,807 into the Gloucester Public Schools Schools from the Masssachusetts Life Sciences Center and the City of Gloucester's Community Development Block Grant program. Since 2014, GEF has helped raise an additional \$1.24 million for programs in the Gloucester schools, above and beyond GEF's ongoing contributions.



FUNDS RECEIVED

**EXPENDITURES** 



## Leave your mark on education in Gloucester

Our community generously supports Gloucester's children–and the need to support public education in Gloucester will continue into the foreseeable future. We invite you to be part of that future by making a provision in your will or another planned gift to GEF to help ensure that we can continue to bring innovative and exciting programs to Gloucester's children. Your family attorney or financial advisor can provide guidance. For more information, contact GEF at 978-282-5550, or visit www.gloucestereducationfoundation.org/endowmentfund-planned-giving.



## Other ways to give

#### Gifts of assets

GEF accepts gifts of stock and other appreciated assets such as bonds, mutual funds, real estate or other capital assets. For information, visit

www.gloucestereducationfoundation.org/ endowment-fund-planned-giving.



#### Honor a teacher

Parents, grandparents and other family members can honor students' teachers by making an honorary donation to GEF. For more information, visit

www.gloucestereducationfoundation.org/ honor-a-teacher.

#### Donations were made in honor of the following Gloucester Public School District Staff in FY 2017:

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## Thank you to the 2017 *Power of Play* planning committee:

Beth Calomo Kathleen Costa Melissa Francis Erica Keyes Teresa Leaman Serena Low Laurel McDonald Aria McElhenny Kristin Michel Sarah Oaks Anne Marie Oliveira Amy Racofsky Robyn Salvinelli

#### www.thinkthebest.org

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#### Community Leader (\$10,000 - \$24,999)

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