THE EISNER FOUNDATION
2016 ANNUAL REPORT
Our Mission

The Eisner Foundation identifies, advocates for, and invests in high-quality and innovative programs that unite multiple generations for the betterment of our communities.
From the CEO

For twenty years, The Eisner Foundation has done good work. This work has improved the lives of thousands of Angelenos of all ages, genders, and races, connecting them to first-class educations, safe housing, quality healthcare, and access to arts, sports, and the great outdoors. The Eisner family should be immensely proud of their legacy. Los Angeles is a better place because of The Eisner Foundation.

This legacy could have been enough. But this year, energized by a changing demographic that we felt an obligation to engage and what we saw as an opportunity to achieve true impact, we decided to become the only foundation in America solely focused on intergenerational solutions. Our mission became to identify, advocate for, and invest in high-quality and innovative programs that unite multiple generations for the betterment of our communities. Basically, we decided to fund non-profits that brought together seniors and kids in a way that benefitted not only both groups, but also their communities. As a result, we gave grants to preschools housed inside senior centers, mentoring programs of all kinds, charities that recruited seniors to work with developmentally disabled babies, and organizations that provided resources to grandparents looking to adopt their grandchildren, among many others.

This decision to change and to forge a new path took great courage, and it seems appropriate that in our 20th year, this Foundation, made possible by a family’s willingness to be entrepreneurial, innovative, and responsive, has reinvented itself. And as a result, Los Angeles, and the people we serve, can look forward to another twenty years of good, even great, work.

Since our founding in 1996, The Eisner Foundation has given over $124 million to support many outstanding organizations working in Los Angeles County and beyond. Our efforts have made a lasting impact on our community, from the growth of the Michael D. Eisner School of Education at CSUN, educating more LAUSD teachers than any other school in the region, to the expansion of Eisner Pediatric & Family Medical Center, which now serves over 32,000 low-income patients each year, to the dozens of other community-based organizations that provide wrap-around services to vulnerable populations.

This year, we are proud to have given over $6 million to a host of exceptional nonprofits. We have worked with many of our longtime partners to help them adjust to our new mission, including MEND Poverty, School on Wheels, and the Alliance for Children’s Rights. We are also excited for the new partners our transition has brought—organizations like EngAGE and Generations United, whose efforts are demonstrating the promise and rewards of true intergenerational programming.

I am pleased to share this year’s successes in the following report. In addition to our wonderful partners, I’m pleased to highlight several impressive grantees, our Keewaydin and Songadeewin campers, this year’s Toy Drive, and much, much more.

Our first full year with our new intergenerational focus has been a resounding success, and on behalf of my talented staff, I thank the Eisner family for making it possible through your generosity, your leadership, and your trust. I look forward to building your philanthropic legacy in the years ahead.

Trent Stamp, CEO
Celebrating 20 Years

Founded in 1996, The Eisner Foundation has worked to make Los Angeles a better place for two decades. This good work continues a long tradition of family philanthropy that dates back to Sigmund Eisner, Michael Eisner’s great-grandfather, and Milton Dammann, his maternal grandfather.

Today, The Eisner Foundation gives an average of $7 million each year to nonprofit organizations in Los Angeles County. Since 2011, it has also annually awarded the Eisner Prize for Intergenerational Excellence, recognizing national organizations with innovative programs that bridge multiple generations.
20 Years of Philanthropy

1996
The Eisner Foundation founded

2002
First campers go to Keewaydin

2003
Eisner Pediatric & Family Medical Center dedicated

2011
First Eisner Prize awarded

2015
Foundation sets new direction solely supporting intergenerational programming

1999
Project GRAD launches in Los Angeles

2003
Michael D. Eisner College of Education at CSUN dedicated

2008
A strategic shift prompts the appointment of CEO Trent Stamp

2013
Jane B. Eisner School dedicated at Camino Nuevo
An Impactful Legacy

$124,255,429 Granted

Over two decades, The Eisner Foundation has disbursed millions to make Los Angeles a better place for all. With a history of supporting nonprofits focusing on children, seniors, education, healthcare, and more, these funds have aided the most vulnerable populations in our community and improved the overall quality of life in Los Angeles.

60 Capital Projects
An early adopter of supporting organizations through capital funds, The Eisner Foundation has enabled nonprofits to better serve Los Angeles with improved facilities.

9 Naming Gifts
The Eisner Pediatric & Family Medical Center, the Jane B. Eisner School at Camino Nuevo Charter Academy, and the Michael D. Eisner School of Education at California State University, Northridge, are just a few institutions serving Los Angeles in the Eisner name.

7 Eisner Prizes
The inspiration for today’s mission, the Eisner Prize for Intergenerational Excellence has recognized organizations across the country with innovative intergenerational programs since 2011.

60 Keewaydin Campers
With several weeks of camping, hiking, canoeing and learning to “help the other fellow,” the Foundation continues an Eisner family tradition each summer. At Keewaydin and Songadeeewin, a special group of children benefit from the same character-building experience as the Eisners have for a century.
“I greatly admire The Eisner Foundation from the bottom of my heart. They are great philanthropic leaders, and they are part of the fabric and the foundation of this city.”

—Frank Gehry
2016: A New Direction

In 2015, The Eisner Foundation became the only U.S. funder investing exclusively in intergenerational solutions to overcome society’s most persistent challenges of inequality, lack of access, and injustice.

The Foundation first identified the need for such solutions in 2011 when it established the Eisner Prize for Intergenerational Excellence. With this realignment, it has worked hand-in-hand with partners and grantees to support existing intergenerational programs and inspire new ones.

Los Angeles is ground zero for many of the challenges today’s youth and older adults face across America, making the need and potential impact of programs focused on these populations even greater. The Eisner Foundation is committed to identifying, cultivating, and celebrating programs combining the strengths of each age group to create lasting, positive change.
2016 Giving

$6,318,288 Total Given

- Aging: $470,000
- Arts: $1,482,300
- Children & Families: $903,476
- Civic & Community: $534,000
- Education & Training: $1,552,350
- Health & Wellness: $893,687
- Mentoring: $390,000
- Other: $92,475

161 Letters of Intent
27 Site Visits
23 New Grants
2016 Grants

Competitive Grants
826LA • Bet Tzedek • Boys & Girls Clubs of the LA Harbor • California State University, Northridge • Children's Institute, Inc. • Encore.org • EngAGE • Extraordinary Families • Fulfillment Fund • Generations United • Generation to Generation Los Angeles • GOALS • GOOD+ Foundation • Grandparents as Parents, Inc. • Inner-City Arts • Jumpstart for Young Children • Koreatown Youth and Community Center • L.A. Kitchen • Los Angeles County Museum of Art • Los Angeles LGBT Center • Los Angeles Philharmonic Association • Mayor’s Fund for Los Angeles • ONEgeneration • Partners for Children South Los Angeles • Project GRAD Los Angeles • Saint Anne's • Social Venture Partners Los Angeles • Southeast Asian Community Alliance • Spark Los Angeles • Turnaround Arts CA • UCLA Division of Geriatrics • University of Southern California

Discretionary Grants
826LA • Alzheimer's Association • Americas Society/Council of the Americas • amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research • Angels of the Amazon • Asbury Park Music Foundation • Aspen Camp • Aspen Music Festival & School • Aspen Public Radio • Baby2Baby • Beverly Glen Playgroup • Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence • Children's Defense Fund-California • Children's Museum of the Arts • Classical KUSC • Columbia University Medical Center • Common Sense Media • Cure Sanfilippo Foundation • Denison University • Directors Guild Foundation • DoMore4:Good • East Hampton Library • Exceptional Children's Foundation • Foundation for National Progress • Foundation for the Red Bank Public Library • Friends of the Food Coalition • Generosity.org • Georgetown University • GOOD+ Foundation • Grantmakers in Aging • Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association • Harvard University Law School • Harvard-Westlake School • Hawn Foundation • Hayground School • Headstrong Project • Hermosa Beach Educational Foundation • Hermosa Beach Little League • Inner-City Scholarship Fund • International Medical Corps • J. Paul Getty Trust • Jake Foerster Music Arts Fund • Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation • KCRW • Kean & Company • Kidspace Children's Museum • L.A. Goal • L.A. Music Center Opera Association (LA Opera) • Ladies' Village Improvement Society • Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence • Learning Rights Law Center • Los Angeles Conservancy • Los Angeles Philharmonic Association • Lung Cancer Research Foundation • Manhattan Beach Education Foundation • Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center • Milk + Bookies • Milken Institute • Music Center • Natural Resources Defense Council • NPR Foundation • Omo Child • One Story • P.S. ARTS • Para Los Niños • Putney Open Door Fund • RENS Basketball • Roger Tory Peterson Institute of Natural History • Ronald McDonald House New York • Santa Catalina School • ScholarMatch • Seed Global Health • Skirball Cultural Center • Smithsonian Institution • Southern California Grantmakers • Southern California Public Radio • St. Lawrence University • Tashirat Foundation • The Allen Stevenson School • The Aspen Institute • The Center for Early Education • The Chautauqua Region Community Foundation • The Colburn School • The Colleagues • The Educational Fund to Stop Gun Violence • The Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles • The Lawrenceville School • The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society • The New 42nd Street • The Rape Foundation • TreePeople • United Friends of the Children • United Way of Genesee County • University of Denver • USC Anne Peters Westside Center for Diabetes Fund • USC Center on Philanthropy & Public Policy • USC School of Cinematic Arts
MEND (Meet Each Need with Dignity) has worked to provide food, clothing, health, and education services in the San Fernando Valley since 1971. The Eisner Foundation has supported their important work since 1998.

After announcing a focus on intergenerational programming, the Foundation was eager to work with longtime grantees like MEND to continue strong relationships. MEND’s senior volunteer program and relatively new Grow Together Project provided fruitful opportunities to work with the organization to further intergenerational connections.

In the past year, MEND has exceeded their goals in senior volunteer recruitment and expanded the Grow Together Project to incorporate community cooking classes into the family gardening program. The intergenerational relationships formed through MEND’s programming will not only have a positive impact on community members in need, but also the volunteers who benefit from remaining engaged by giving back.
School on Wheels works with one of the most vulnerable populations in Los Angeles: homeless schoolchildren.

School on Wheels tutors thousands of students in shelters, on Skid Row, and in other unstable housing situations with a network of over 2,000 dedicated volunteers. Armed with staggering statistics on how stability affects academic performance, the organization requires consistency from their tutors.

With support from The Eisner Foundation, School on Wheels increased its efforts recruiting and retaining senior volunteers. 150 more students benefited from senior tutors in the past year as a result, and School on Wheels has since found senior volunteers to be significantly more likely to continue their commitment than their younger counterparts. In addition, these seniors consistently report feeling valued for the positive impact they’ve made.

Because of this funding opportunity to expand their network of senior volunteers, School on Wheels can more efficiently recruit new tutors—and help a growing number of homeless children break the cycle of poverty through education.
It’s a common storyline: the older generation doesn’t understand the world of the younger generation, and the younger generation sees their elders as out-of-touch.

But our partner Encore.org is working toward changing intergenerational attitudes and the larger narrative of warring generations. With their new initiative Generation to Generation, they plan to activate a million people over 50 to become engaged in ways that benefit children, and in doing so, themselves and the whole community.

This effort, which launched in November 2016, will bring together existing programs and create new ones to promote older adults advocating for and engaging with children and youth. Over five years, Generation to Generation will support innovative and scalable pilots that will change millions of lives. Adults aged 50 and over will work with organizations like Boys and Girls Club of America and Jumpstart for Young Children, both of which The Eisner Foundation has also supported on a local level, to help the children they serve to thrive. Their involvement will range from formal arrangements to informal, from paid to volunteer.
In the News

Intergenerational Solutions Are Not Just Nice, but Necessary

Numerous programs demonstrate that bringing older and younger people together benefits both groups and society at large.

As America ages, we must change how we see older adults and their ability to engage intergenerationally with their younger peers. The future of aging can only be enhanced if we recognize that our success and the national interest depend on connecting generations for good.

True Intergenerational programs see, as Nancy Henkin of Temple University says, “not nice, but necessary.” When implemented correctly and intentionally, Intergenerational programs can provide a multiplier effect in which both children, especially those from low-income families and communities, and older adults benefit, and transformative, measurable results can be created for society as a whole.

The benefits of Intergenerational programs can flow both ways. There are countless examples of younger people assisting older adults in areas like access to technology or working on behalf of seniors to address social or economic isolation. But here we’ll focus on Intergenerational programs that engage older adults as resources to address the challenges faced by youth.

Consider Sheneez Rogers Day Care Center in Butteville, Minn. This non-profit establishment is recognized locally as the premiere program for toddlers and

A day of remembrance and opportunity

September 11 marks the anniversary of one of the most traumatic events our nation has faced in generations. This year, it also happens to coincide with National Grandparents Day, which has been celebrated every Sunday after Labor Day since 1978.

The overlap of these two days invites us to consider how different our perspectives can be even within our own communities—and how broadening our perspectives through intergenerational bonds can benefit us as individuals, strengthen our communities, and challenge us to be more open-minded to the world at large.

The Encore Career Movement Grows Up

After an upbeat conference, four challenges lie ahead

To me, there’s nothing more inspiring than being surrounded by inspiring people. I just had that experience, covering Encore.org’s sold-out Encore2016 conference in San Francisco, a gathering of 405 encore career movement activists, advocates and ambassadors from 14 countries. Their mission: to cultivate second acts for the greater good.
Going Gray in LA is a new series from 89.9 KCRW that explores aging in Los Angeles, funded by The Eisner Foundation.

Beginning in August 2016, producers Ruxandra Guidi and Bear Guerra have shared stories from along Broadway Avenue. Home to some of the city’s most diverse and disenfranchised populations, these areas feature a wealth of perspectives on what it feels like to grow old in Los Angeles. This series has visited a senior center in Lincoln Heights, affordable housing projects in Chinatown, a tight-knit community in Little Tokyo, and a caregiving home in South L.A. Through the stories found within, a group that often feels invisible is given a voice.

The series will conclude in March 2017, and related public events will prompt further conversation on aging in Los Angeles.
Special Initiatives

In addition to grantmaking, The Eisner Foundation takes part in several special initiatives throughout the year.

The Eisner Prize for Intergenerational Excellence has been awarded to superb intergenerational organizations nationwide for five years, bringing attention to the importance of such work. Likewise, efforts surrounding the Aspen Institute and the Aspen Ideas Festival also raise the profile of the Foundation.

Partnering with a local organization in Anaheim, the Foundation also sends several local underserved youth to the Keewaydin and Songadeewin camps in Vermont, continuing an Eisner family tradition.

Locally, The Eisner Foundation staff organized volunteer opportunities, served on boards, held an annual Holiday Toy Drive, and more, augmenting funding efforts with action.
The Eisner Prize is designed to recognize excellence by an individual or a nonprofit organization in uniting multiple generations, especially seniors and youth, to bring about positive and lasting changes in their community. The 2015 Eisner Prize winners were celebrated in February 2016 in San Francisco at Encore.org’s sold-out annual conference, attended by hundreds of activists and advocates for the encore movement.

Generations United in Washington, D.C. was awarded The Eisner Prize for Lifetime Achievement in Intergenerational Advocacy. Generations United improves the lives of children, youth, and older adults through intergenerational collaboration, public policies, and programs.

L.A. Kitchen in Los Angeles was awarded The Eisner Prize for Innovation in Intergenerational Solutions. L.A. Kitchen provides young adults aging out of foster care and older adults recently released from prison with culinary job training in a 20,000 square foot kitchen.

These two organizations exemplify the promise of intergenerational programming, and we are proud to showcase their accomplishments.
Keewaydin & Songadeewin

Each year, The Eisner Foundation continues an Eisner family tradition: camp.

On the shore of Lake Dunmore an hour from the small Burlington, Vermont airport lies Keewaydin, where three generations of Eisners (soon to be four) have spent their summers. Michael Eisner himself attended from age eight to twenty-two, joining the staff in his later years. He credits Keewaydin as the place where he developed the values and principles that have served him throughout his life.

For over a decade, The Eisner Foundation has sent a group of Orange County youth from disadvantaged backgrounds to Keewaydin and its sister camp Songadeewin to benefit from the same character-building experience the family has had for almost a century. This year, fourteen children aged ten to fifteen spent four weeks of camping, canoeing and more. Working closely with GOALS in Orange County, the group was selected based on their leadership skills and potential to benefit from attending camp.

Throughout the camp experience, Keewaydin's motto of “Help the Other Fellow” is impressed upon the children, as it has for decades. Each year, the groups return with increased self-confidence and honed teamwork skills—and the 2016 group was no different.
The Aspen Institute

As the Chairman of the Arts Committee at The Aspen Institute, Michael Eisner spoke in conversation with film executive and founder of The Black List Franklin Leonard at the 2016 Aspen Ideas Festival in June. He also spoke with the Los Angeles Philharmonic’s Deborah Borda. Renowned for her creative leadership and relentless search for innovation, Borda shared her continuing commitment to multidisciplinary collaborations, technological advancement, youth outreach and education, and about her dedication to positioning the LA Phil as an endless resource and enduring focal point of Los Angeles culture. The Eisner Foundation is a proud supporter of the LA Phil’s Youth Orchestra Los Angeles.

Michael Eisner also continued to support the arts at the Aspen Ideas Festival through the Harman-Eisner Artist in Residence Program, now in its tenth year. The 2016 Harman-Eisner Artists are Renée Fleming and Theaster Gates. In 2017, the Harman-Eisner Artists in Residence will include artist Jeff Koons.
Holiday Toy Drive

Once again, The Eisner Foundation partnered with the GOOD+ Foundation to collect toys for underprivileged children in the Los Angeles area.

Through the generosity of The Eisner Foundation family, including The Tornante Company, Mozaic, Foundation staff, and the Eisner family themselves, hundreds of children had a brighter holiday season.

Through the GOOD+ Foundation, these toys were distributed to partners including Eisner Pediatric & Family Medical Center and the Children’s Institute, Inc.
The Eisner Foundation augmented its grantmaking with community service and other special activities throughout 2016.

In June, the Foundation partnered with the GOOD+ Foundation and The Children’s Institute, Inc. to send 15 fathers and their children to Disneyland on Father’s Day. Part of the Project Fatherhood Initiative, this event was part of a program encouraging fathers’ engagement in their children’s lives, particularly in low-income and urban areas in Los Angeles.

The Foundation also brought together colleagues from Southern California Grantmakers for an afternoon of service at L.A. Kitchen. With 40 volunteers from foundations across Los Angeles, the group not only learned more about this thriving intergenerational organization, but also worked alongside L.A. Kitchen staff and students to prepare meals for distribution to local agencies.

CEO Trent Stamp served on several boards in 2016, including the Milken Institute for the Future of Aging, Grantmakers in Aging, Southern California Grantmakers, the Center on Philanthropy & Public Policy at USC, the Eisner Pediatric & Family Medical Center, and Hermosa Beach Little League. Program Director Cathy Choi served as co-chair of the Southern California chapter of Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy and served on the Education Leadership Council for Southern California Public Radio.
"The Eisner Foundation grant really focused us on making a targeted recruitment effort for seniors. **We wouldn’t have been as successful without this support.**"
- Catherine Meek, School on Wheels

"With the help of The Eisner Foundation, the young children in our Early Childhood Education program will benefit from the engagement of **dedicated senior volunteers**, who will in turn **reap the rewards** of working with these dynamic children."
- Tony Walker, St. Anne’s

"It’s been great to have the support of The Eisner Foundation, because we can subsidize the financial commitment from nonprofits and **get people on board faster**. We want more people to know about this program and take advantage of it."
- Diane Helfrey, Social Venture Partners Los Angeles
“Thank you for helping L.A. Kitchen reveal the power of food to strengthen the community.”
- Robert Egger, L.A. Kitchen

“There is wonderful potential for each generation to learn from the other and become more tolerant of each other. This grant from The Eisner Foundation provides the critical support needed to transform this concept into reality.”
- Linda Zukowski, University of Southern California

“The Eisner Foundation’s focus and support enabled us to look closer at multigenerational families and approach others afraid to ask for the support they needed to support a child.”
- Janis Spire,
  Alliance for Children’s Rights