

YOUNG WOMEN'S ALLIANCE FOUNDATION
ANNUAL REPORT

2012/13



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WOMEN'S
ALLIANCE

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Dear YWA and YWA Foundation supporters,

It has been a monumental year for the organization, and the Foundation. With your continued support, we have moved forward in efforts to develop our members personally and professionally, as well as give back to girls and young women in Central Texas through scholarships and grants that support them, ultimately inspiring all women to give back to their community.

The second annual YWA Foundation Annual Report gives insight to your financial contributions and donations to the Foundation this year. It is because of you, the YWA Foundation is able to influence the Central Texas community to be a place of limitless opportunities where every woman reaches her full potential.

As we welcomed the 15th anniversary of the Foundation this year, our members raised funds by reaching out to their individual networks, and hosting fundraising events through our Foundation Fundraising Campaign. Our annual Holiday Party allowed members and the public to mix and mingle while donating during the month of December. The Austin Under 40 Awards Gala, a Young Women's Alliance and Young Men's Business League event honoring those who excel professionally and as philanthropists, raised \$65,000 to support the YWA Foundation and the Young Men's Business League, whose sole charity is the Austin Sunshine Camps. YWA hosted its first annual Spring Soiree (previously a YWA Fashion Show) at the French Legation Museum to honor the 2012-2013 scholarship and grant recipients, YWA's Partner Organizations, YWA Alumnae, and the YWA Advisory Council. This year YWA was able to award 17 scholarships and a \$5,000 grant to Girlstart to support two after school programs at Pleasant Hill and Palm Elementary Schools within the Austin Independent School District.

On behalf of the 2012-2013 YWA/F Board of Directors, and the entire YWA membership, we thank you for supporting us this year. As we move into YWA's 20th anniversary, I am confident that with your never-ending support, YWA and the YWA Foundation will continue to be a part of a pivotal movement for girls and young women.

Thank you again, and we look forward to all you will help YWA and the YWA Foundation accomplish in the coming 2013-2014 year, and each year beyond that.

Sincerely,

Lynley Prather

*YWA and YWA Foundation President
2012-2013*



Organization Overview

The Young Women's Alliance (YWA) is an organization of women that empowers its members to develop personally and professionally through educational programs and opportunities to lead, network and serve.

"As YWA is entering our 20th year, I am continually impressed with how the organization has prospered and the caliber of young women that we continue to support and educate. Throughout the years, YWA members have grown through the professional and personal development provided by the organization, becoming leaders in the government, business, education, and non-profit sectors throughout the Central Texas community. As they continue to grow as individuals, these women are also helping to fulfill the YWA vision by creating the next generation of female leaders through scholarships and grants provided by YWA Foundation and the numerous community service projects in which YWA members participate."

– *Carol Thompson, YWA Founder*

"I am so thankful for the support of the Young Women's Alliance and their investment in my education. I strive to be a leader in my community, fostering positive change and representing the young women with tenacity and poise."

– *Kate Bell, Masters Student at the University of Texas at Austin and 2012 YWAF Higher Education Scholarship Recipient*

The YWA Story

The Young Women's Alliance was established in 1993, when 20 young professional women gathered in the home of Carol Thompson, a leading Austin businesswoman, to network and trade business strategies and information. The group began meeting regularly, and by 1995, membership had grown to 50 women and became a non-profit corporation.

YWA members are comprised of a diverse group of more than 200 women from different industries and varied backgrounds, ranging in age from their early 20s to late 30s. Members envision a community of limitless opportunities where every woman reaches her full potential.

The YWA Foundation

In 1997, the YWA established the Young Women's Alliance Foundation (YWAF) as a 501(c)(3) non-profit to conduct philanthropic giving in the community. The Foundation empowers tomorrow's female leaders by awarding educational scholarships for girls and women and providing grants to the organizations that serve them, ultimately inspiring all women to give back to their community.

YWAF Programs: Scholarships

Young Leaders Scholarship

The YWAF Young Leaders Scholarship is available to high school seniors who demonstrate superior leadership skills and who will be attending college or trade school. Recipients are chosen based on leadership roles, financial need, academic achievement, and commitment to community service during their high school career.

YWAF awarded ten scholarship(s) in the amount of \$1,000:

Adriana Velazquez-Martinez of Liberal Arts and Science Academy High School
St. Edward's University, Major: Political Science, Psychology, or English

Emily Knox of Round Rock High School
Southwestern University, Major: Education, Minor: Psychology

Emily Rosen of Liberal Arts and Science Academy High School
Knox College, Major: Neuroscience and Biochemistry

Kaci French of James Bowie High School
The University of Texas at Austin, Major: Biology, Minor: Music Performance

Lamar Nava (GENaustin) of Austin High School
The University of Texas at Austin, Major: Social Work

Lauren R. Hendricks of Pflugerville High School
TBD, Major: Broadcast Journalism, Minor: Spanish

Lissa Grant of McNeil High School
Texas State University, Major: Pre-Physical Therapy

Maricarmen Quiroz of Reagan Early College High School
Texas A&M, Major: Biomedical Engineering, Psychology

Nora Greene of McCallum High School
TBD, Major: Fashion Design or Graphic Design

Rini Sinha of Hendrickson High School
The University of Texas at Austin, Major: Mechanical Engineering/Journalism

Austin Sunshine Camps Scholarship

The YWAF Austin Sunshine Camps Scholarship is a \$2,500 scholarship awarded to senior women in the Austin Sunshine Camps Sunrise Leadership Program, whose primary goal is reducing the high school dropout rate.

YWAF awarded two scholarships in the amount of \$2,500 each:

Andreana Saenz, Crockett High School

Stephen F. Austin State University, Major: Accounting, Business

Brandie Brown, McCallum High School

University of Mary Hardin Baylor, Major: Nursing

Higher Education Scholarship

The YWAF Higher Education Scholarship is available to women enrolled in graduate school or their junior or senior year of college. Recipients are chosen based on demonstrated financial need, commitment to community service, academic achievement and leadership potential.

YWAF awarded five \$2,500 scholarships to women who will be enrolled in graduate school or their junior or senior year of college in the 2013–2014 school year. These wonderful women have shown a strong commitment to community service, academic achievement and leadership potential and will be completing a Community Impact Project of their choosing during the semester they receive the scholarship.





Annie DuPre, University of Texas at Austin
Master in Global Policy Studies
Community Impact Project: Train middle school students to be leaders through a partnership with United Way for Greater Austin

Ana Rivera, University of Texas at Austin
Certification in Human Rights and Social Justice
Community Impact Project: Work with Advocates of Youth and Planned Parenthood through mentorship, sexual health education and advocacy workshops



Kelsey Smith, Southwestern University
Bachelors in Religion and Public Health
Community Impact Project: Align the HealthStart Foundation’s public school health education program with the TEKS and manage curriculum feedback to ensure effectiveness

Yasmin Turk, Texas State University
Doctorate in Environmental Geography
Community Impact Project: Document the stories of Austin Muslims through a series of audio podcasts in conjunction with the Institute for Interfaith Activism



Sanjna Zadoo, University of Texas at Austin
Bachelors of Science in Psychology
Community Impact Project: Transform Longhorn EMS into a First Responder Organization (FRO)

Spring Soirée



YWAF Programs: Community Grant Program

The YWAF Community Grant Program provides annual grant funding for 501(c)(3) organizations in the areas that support the health, education and well-being of young women and girls. Through such philanthropy, YWA enhances the exceptional society that their members live in and deepens the impact that women are having in the Austin community.



Kristen Reynolds, Amelia Whitman, Julie Shannan, Lynley Prather, Cristina Reyna

Girlstart

www.girlstart.org

In 2013, YWAF awarded Girlstart its \$5,000 YWAF Community Grant. Girlstart is a non-profit organization created to educate and empower girls in science, technology, engineering, and math. The grant will support the further expansion of Girlstart After School and will offset the costs to deliver after-school programs at Pleasant Hill and Palm Elementary School, two schools within the Austin Independent School District.

“We’re thrilled to support Girlstart because they understand that empowering young girls creates opportunities,” said YWA and YWAF President Lynley Prather. “This sort of empowerment transforms lives as well as our community, which is the core of the Young Women’s Alliance mission and vision.”

“We are grateful for YWA and YWAF’s partnership to empower more girls with high-quality STEM education,” said Girlstart Executive Director, Tamara Hudgins. “YWA members have been among our most dedicated volunteers. We are honored that the YWAF is supporting Girlstart After School, so that we can, together, reach more girls.”

2012: Giving Back to the Community Through Volunteer Work



Girlstart

www.girlstart.org

Girlstart was also awarded the 2012 YWAF Community Grant. During the 2011-2012 school year, Girlstart expanded its after-school programming to serve more than 25 high need school sites in Central Texas. The YWAF grant money directly provided educational supplies and materials for the Spring semester 2012 at the new After School programs at Pleasant Hill and Palm Elementary schools in Austin.

“Research consistently shows that low-income and minority girls and those living in rural environments are least likely to pursue science, technology, engineering, and math education and careers” stated Tamara Hudgins, executive director of Girlstart. “These funds will help us to prepare and train the next generation of problem-solvers, and thought-leaders.”

Sources Of Revenue

Au40 (Austin Under 40 Awards)

www.austinunder40.org

The Austin Under 40 Awards (Au40) has been an annual Austin institution since March 1997 when the Young Women's Alliance (YWA) and Young Men's Business League (YMBL) first joined together to recognize Austin men and women under the age of 40 who have achieved personal excellence in their respective fields while demonstrating outstanding community service.

The 15th Annual Austin Under 40 Awards was held on February 22, 2013 in which over 700 people attended to recognize the best and brightest young professionals. Proceeds from the event benefited the YWA Foundation and the YMBL Austin Sunshine Camps.

Business and Community Support

Additional donations from the community are presented to YWA throughout the year.

Fundraising Events & Donations

Foundation Fundraising Campaign

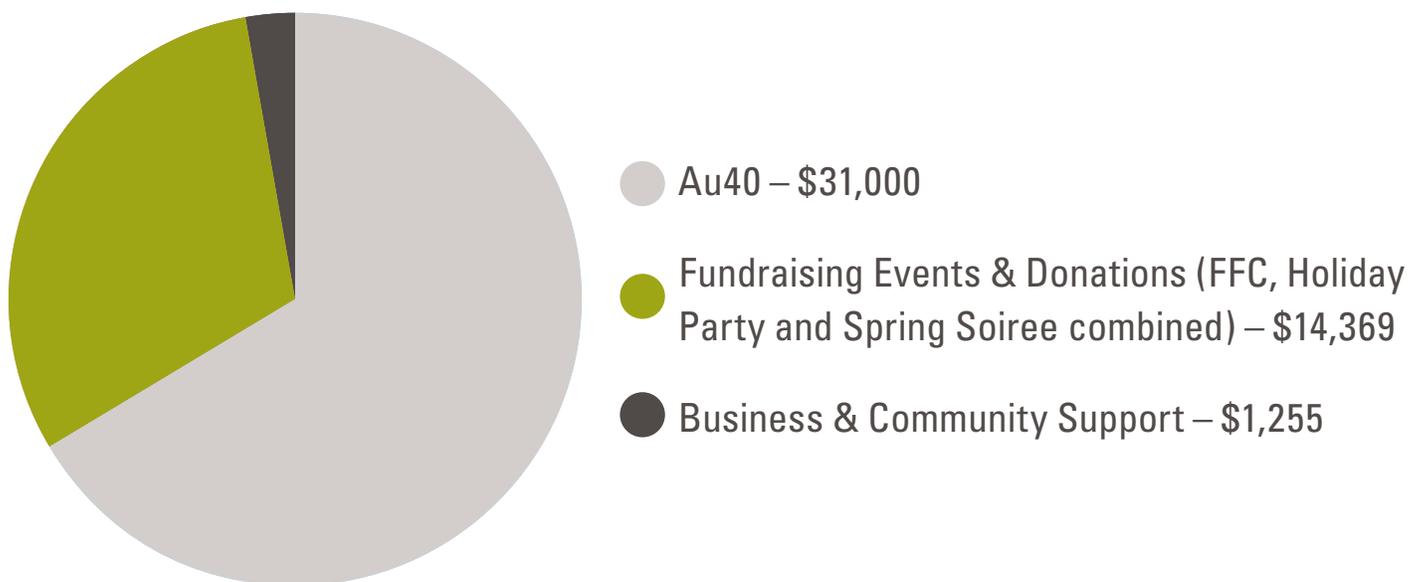
In November 2012, YWA launched its third Foundation Fundraising Campaign (FFC) where members were encouraged to reach out to friends and family to raise money for the Foundation. The campaign ran for two months and 188 contributors donated towards YWAF scholarships and grants.

Holiday Party

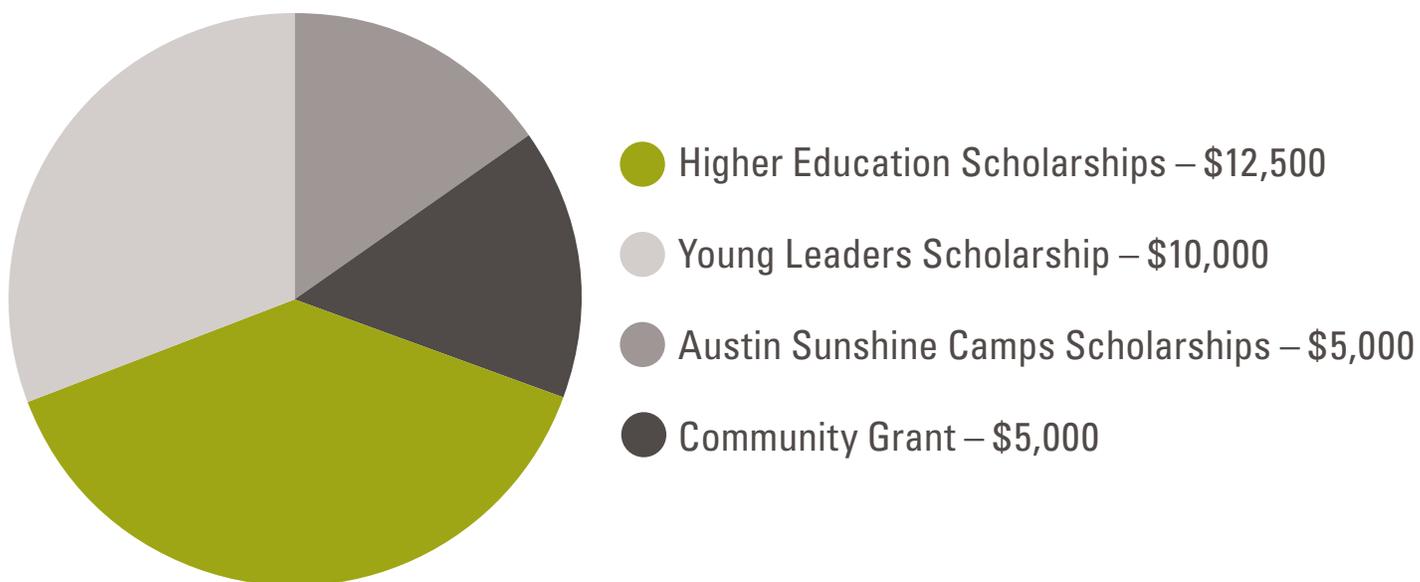
The Foundation Fundraising Campaign efforts were complemented by the YWA Holiday Party, which was opened to the public for the second time this year. Donations from attendees helped to raise an additional \$2,000+ to support the Foundation.

YWA Spring Soirée

This was the inaugural year for the YWA Spring Soirée, which was held on May 4, 2013 at the French Legation Museum. This event allows those who give generously to YWAF through donations and time an opportunity to see for themselves how they are helping make dreams come true. Many past and present recipients attend the event and are given time to speak about how the assistance from YWAF has helped them. They can expand upon how receiving scholarships and/or grants has been a gateway to reaching their goals.



Where We Give Our Money



Our Partner Organizations

In 2009, the Young Women's Alliance began to partner with local organizations to support the continued success of future female generations. The Young Women's Alliance offers mentors and volunteers for our partner organizations. The Young Women's Alliance Foundation offers financial assistance for our partner organizations through grant and scholarship programs.



The Austin Sunshine Camps is operated by the Young Men's Business League of Austin (YMBL). Since 1928, these programs have helped serve economically disadvantaged children in the Austin area by teaching conflict resolution and communication skills, self-confidence, trust, teamwork, leadership skills and life skills.

www.sunshinecamps.org



Founded in 2006, Explore Austin combines the benefits of mentoring and outdoor adventure in a six-year program for 6th through 12th grade inner-city youth. Focusing on team building and leadership training by utilizing its unique ACES framework, Explore Austin helps increase self-confidence, build character, and develop a sense of responsibility for themselves and those around them.

exploreAustin.org



GENaustin

GIRLS EMPOWERMENT NETWORK

GENaustin (The Girls Empowerment Network of Austin) is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization. GENaustin fosters healthy self-esteem in girls by engaging them to explore and define their personal values and build skills that empower them with confidence and courage to make wise choices.

genaustin.org



Founded in 1997 in Austin, Girlstart is a non-profit organization created to educate and empower girls in math, science and technology. Girlstart has an enviable record of engaging, educating and motivating girls to enjoy and become more proficient in mathematics and science in elementary school, middle school and beyond.

www.girlstart.org



girl scouts of central texas

The Girl Scouts Beyond Bars program (GSBB) brings daughters together with their inmate mothers, offering them a chance to rebuild their broken relationships. The major goal for Troop 1500 is to strengthen the bond between mother and daughter in order to break the cycle of crime.

www.girlscouts.org/who_we_are/our_partners/initiatives/gsbb.asp

2012-2013 YWA & YWAF Board of Directors

Young Women's Alliance

President – **Lynley Prather**

President Elect – **Sandra Rivera**

Immediate Past President – **Kate Stoker**

VP of Alumnae Relations – **Vanessa Fuentes**

VP of Community Service – **Kathryn Freeman**

VP of Finance – **Jackie Rogers**

Co-VPs of Marketing – **Heather Caraway & Robbie Jane Paup**

VP of Membership – **Bonnie O'Neil**

Co-VPs of Operations – **Noelle Salerno & Andra Seely**

VP of Programs and Events – **Kate Stoker**

Young Women's Alliance Foundation

President – **Lynley Prather**

Senior Vice President – **Kristen Reynolds**

President Elect – **Sandra Rivera**

Immediate Past President – **Kate Stoker**

VP of Austin Under 40 Awards – **Crystal Pharr**

VP of Foundation Development – **Alex Patterson**

VP of Finance – **Jackie Rogers**

VP of Foundation Giving – **Amelia Whitman**

Co-VPs of Marketing – **Heather Caraway & Robbie Jane Paup**

Co-VPs of Operations – **Noelle Salerno & Andra Seely**



2012-2013 YWA & YWAF Board of Directors

2012-2013 YWA Advisory Council

The YWA Advisory Council is a select group of Austin's business and community leaders who serve as advisors and mentors for the YWA Board of Directors and guest speakers at meetings. Council members serve YWA for a term of three years and meet regularly with the YWA Board of Directors. Most recently, YWA Advisory Council members have given their time and expertise to such events such as the annual YWA Advisory Council Panel Meeting, service on the Austin Under 40 selection committee, and assistance with organizational improvements and strategic planning.

Advisory Council members are available to the YWA Board of Directors in a general mentor capacity as well as to answer more specific questions regarding their respective committee, organizations they serve or leadership roles they hold within the Austin community.

Kelsey August, CEO, Lone Star Direct

Mary Dean, Founder/CCO, Kickskirt

Libby Malone, Director of Community Relations, Grande Communications

Tracey McCoy, Regional Sales Manager, Johnson Controls, Inc.

Heather McKissick, President/CEO, Leadership Austin

Kerri Qunell, Director of Marketing, St. Edwards University

Cookie Gregory Ruiz, Executive Director, Ballet Austin

Julie Shannan, Deputy Director, GIRLSTART

Dave Shaw, President, Russell Shaw

Martha Smiley, Of Counsel, Winstead

Carol Thompson, The Thompson Group

To learn more the Young Women's Alliance
and the Young Women's Alliance Foundation visit:

www.youngwomensalliance.org