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Board of Directors

Literary Board
Dear 826 Boston supporter,

This year has been one of unprecedented growth at 826 Boston. We opened two new Writers’ Rooms in partner schools and expanded our team from 19 to 24 members. As our community grows, we extend gratitude to our partners, our corps of dedicated volunteers, the donors whose contributions allow us to sustain and evolve our programming, university and nonprofit partners, and the families of 826 Boston students.

We are at a pivotal time at 826 Boston. Our strategic plan outlines goals to expand the Writers’ Room Program so that we can continue to scale our work with sustainable impact. This annual report is an invitation to reflect on what we have accomplished together as we spotlight the critical importance of teaching writing, and of celebrating our students’ powerful stories.

With thanks,

JESSICA DRENCH
Executive Director, 826 Boston

2017-2018
826 Boston

32,435 hours of high-quality writing programming
4,199 students served across programs
408 students received support with college essays
1,120 students published during Storytelling and Bookmaking Field Trips
In 2016, 826 Boston launched a five-year strategic plan to expand the impact of the organization, led by the replication of the Writers’ Room Program.

Writers’ Rooms emphasize writing as a curricular priority.

The program provides individualized attention that improves writing skills, a space for creative self-expression, and opportunities that would not otherwise be offered at school.

With a focus on publishing, tutoring in writing across subjects, and project-based learning, the Writers’ Room leverages the support of volunteer tutors and full-time dedicated staff to unlock students’ full potential. Over the course of a school year, a Writers’ Room will serve every student in the building through whole-class visits, individual writing assistance, and extracurricular activities. In 2013, 826 Boston opened its first Writers’ Room, a program modeled on the college-level writing center at Northeastern University, and has since opened four additional Writers’ Rooms in partner Boston public schools.

John D. O’Bryant School of Math and Science
The Writers’ Room at the O’Bryant (grades 7-12) creates opportunities for cross-disciplinary learning and hosts numerous after-school clubs, such as the literary magazine, Rubix, and a slam poetry team that won the Louder Than a Bomb state championship in 2018.

Jeremiah E. Burke High School
826 Boston opened its second Writers’ Room in September 2016 at the Burke. In addition to whole-class visits and drop-in writing assistance, the Writers’ Room hosts College Essay Boot Camp Month, which serves every senior in the school.

Boston Teachers Union School
In September 2017, 826 Boston opened its first Writers’ Room in an elementary/middle school. Each year, 300 K-8 students visit the Writers’ Room to work on writing projects across subject areas.

Boston International Newcomers Academy
826 Boston opened its fourth Writers’ Room and the first at a school serving the needs of a predominantly English Language Learner population in September of 2018.

Rafael Hernández School
The Blanca Burgos Bilingual Writers’ Room, which opened in January 2019, is our first Writers’ Room in a dual-language school and serves students in grades K-8.
“Through the services of the 826 Boston team, we have witnessed students who once struggled to fill the page transform into confident, passionate writers.”
—Ana Tavares, Principal of the Rafael Hernández School

826 Boston made the bold commitment to double the number of students served between 2016 and 2021 by opening a total of five new Writers’ Rooms over five years. We know the demand for the Writers’ Room Program is high in the district and that the model resonates with teachers—they see the program working in the increased confidence and communication skills of the students who spend time in 826 Boston Writers’ Rooms. A multi-year study with Northeastern University is underway and already demonstrating the effect of a Writers’ Room on a school community.

Our goal is to raise $3 million between 2017 and 2019 to support 826 Boston’s plan, which will change the way that writing is taught in the Boston Public Schools. The average annual cost of one Writers’ Room is approximately $125,000 per year, and includes the physical transformation of a room within a school building; one full-time staff member to manage the room, collaborate with teachers, and coordinate volunteers; and two full-time service members. By joining 826 Boston’s Campaign for Growth, you will help bring this transformative program to more Boston schools, and provide students with critical tools in communications, resilience, and self-advocacy.
Thank you to our supporters.

The list represents cumulative contributions during fiscal years 2018 and 2019, from July 1, 2017 through April 15, 2019.

GIANT SQUID GIVERS
gave more than $100,000.
Calderwood Writing Initiative • David Parker and Janet Tiampo • Wellington Management Foundation

SASQUATCH SAVIORS
gave between $25,000 and $100,000.
Amelia Peabody Foundation • Anonymous • Arsenal Yards Holding Company • Marcia Leavitt and Andrew Cohn • Cummings Foundation • Hestia Fund • Holly and David Bruce • Tim House and Ann Gary • Gillian and Bill Kohli • Liberty Mutual Foundation • Llewellyn Foundation • Ludcke Foundation • Massachusetts Service Alliance, AmeriCorps planning grant • Meredith Drench Charitable Trust • Nutter • Richard and Susan Smith Family Foundation

AGOGWE ALTRUISTS
gave between $2,500 and $10,000.
Amundi Pioneer Asset Management • David and Betty Bagnani • Boston Globe Foundation • Brookline Bank • Linda Button and Peter Vicars • CDQ Trust • City of Boston • Donna Cowan and Barry Nelson • Peter Drench and Anne Ferguson • Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation • Elsevier • Esther B. Kahn Foundation • Marla Felcher and Max Bazerman • Marc Foster and Andrea Roberts • Frank Reed & Margaret Jane Peters Memorial Fund I • Abe and Mia Gore • Great Expectations Fund of the Cape Cod Foundation • Carol Greenwald and John Brouder • Tom Hancock and Cathy Fullerton • Houghton Mifflin Harcourt • Lisa and Roger Krakoff • National Endowment for the Arts • Greg and Kim Netland • Putnam Investments • Ramsey McCluskey Family Foundation • Richard and Natalie Jacoff Foundation • Pamela and Steve Rosenberg • Schraft Charitable Trust • Leigh Simmons • Geoff Smith • Spark Foundation • Tiny Tiger Foundation • WGBH Nova Science Studio • Kevin and Ellen Whalen

PIASA BIRD PHILANTHROPISTS
gave between $2,500 and $10,000.
Anonymous • Emily Beker • Rebecca Bermont and Alex Benik • Kristina Bieker-Brady • Blum Shapiro • Boston Bruins Foundation • Boston Cultural Council • Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Corporation • Patricia and Lalor Burdick • Kate Burke • Cafco Construction Management, LLC • Cambridge Savings Bank • Cartoon Network • Kenneth Cohen and Kate Flora • Harvey and Cathy Cotton • Anne Covert • Mimi Curran and Co Bennett • Charles and Elizabeth D’Amour • Phil and Debbie Edmunson • EdVestors BPS Arts Expansion • Lynn and David Eikenberry • Adam and Michele Ferrari • James Fiala and Robin Hennessy • Mark and Valerie Friedman • Jon Fullerton and Louisa Lund • Jim and Mary Jo Gary • Barbara and Otis Gates • Goodwin Procter, LLP • Grantham, Mayo, Van Otterloo & Co. LLC • Robert and Judy Gundersen • Daniel and Craig Hanaﬁn • Hawkins Project • Hemphill Family Foundation • Daniel Johnson and Ebele Okpokwasili-Johnson • King McNamara Moriarty, LLP • Jeff and Julie Kinney • David and Christine Letts • M.S. Walker Fine Wines & Spirits • William Malo • Marlo Marketing Communications, Inc. • John Marshall and Lodovica Illari • Mass Cultural Council • MAXIMUS Foundation • Gretchen May • Jeff Meyersohn and Linda Seamonson • MFS • Lynne and Neal Miller • Emily and Chris Pardo • Arthur and Loel Poor • Polly Ribat • Shiyong Roh • Elizabeth and Stephen Rosen • Andy Rosenbloom • Allen Rossiter • RSM US LLP • Amy Russo • Marybeth Savicki • Diane Savitzky and Michael Pappone • Barbara and Eric Sheffels • Benielle Sims • Melissa, Ronald, and Emma Sunog • The Beker Foundation • The Pitcairn Donor-Advised Fund • The Royal Sonesta • TJX Foundation • Toast, Inc. • James Tobin • Johnathan Tobin • Tufts Health Plan • USI Insurance Services, LLC • Daniel Wasserman and Christine Chinlund • Wellesley Bank Charitable Foundation • WilmerHale • Julie and David Worzala • Aisling Zaccarelli

SQUONK SUPPORTERS
gave between $1,000 and $2,500.
Christopher Agostino • Alpin W. Cameron Memorial Fund • David and Jill Altshuler • Hale Andrews Jr. • Emily Anesta • Andrew Boimila • Leasa Burton • Melanie Calzetti-Spahr • Alice Cort and Bruce Walker • Hilarie Cranmer • Susan Culman • Rachel Curtis • Antoinette Czekanski • Rosemarie and Stephen DeFalco • Dickenson Family Fund • DigitaslBi • Maura Doherty and Steve DeLano • Margaret Drain • Zachary Drench and Heather Leavell • Yukiko and Eran Egozy • Deborah Fares • Umi and Mike Farrell • Bruce and Dana Gaffney • Thomas Gerace • GNYHA Ventures • Jonah Goldstein and Katrina Goldsaito • Jeff Gould • Perrin and Bruns Grayson • Mary Jo Hamilton • Harvard Book Store • Richard and Rebecca Hawkins • David and Chrisee Bowse • Michael and Mary Jenkins • John and Janice Jester • Jacqueline Kates • Lou Katz and Jean Ellis • Laurence Knowlton • Barry and Laura Korobkin • KOYA Leadership Partners • Ellen Lapriore • Mark and Carolyn Loughlin • Janet and David Mannheim • Rosalee and David McCullough • Timothy McGovern and Deborah Hicks-McGovern • Mark and Wendy McKenna • Meredith Corporation Foundation • Anne and John Messier • William Morgan • Marion and David Mussafar • Heather Myers • New England Foundation for the Arts • Amelia Newcomb and Scott Armstrong • Sharon Niles • Northeastern University Center of Community Service • Will O’Toole • Scott Oran and Meryl Kessler • Arthur Page • Randy and Nancy Parker • Tom and Mary Perrotta • Karen Pfeiferle and Geoff Cisler • Jill and Mitch Roberts • Michael Salinger • Joshua Schanker • John and Judy Sneath • Wendy Strothman and John Bishop • Jennifer Sunderland • Fidencio Saldana and Ana Tavares • TD Charitable Foundation • The Four Leaf Clover Foundation • James and Kristy Tiampo • Trident Booksellers • Larry and Carol Vifquain • Bi Vuong and Mr. Brian McDonald • David Warde-Farley • Laura Wattenberg • Martin and Grace West • Rob Wilstein and Lorri Berenberg

LAKE CHAMPLAIN CHAMPIONS
gave between $500 and $1,000.
Ellen Abdow • Sallie Adams • Paul Alexander and Evelyne Martial • Todd Barnhardt • Richard Barrali • Todd Bates • Trident Booksellers & Cafe • Elaine Bradley • Angela Braman • Jill Brofsky • Geraldine Bugge • Chubb Charitable Foundation • Christine Cignoli • Aaron Clayton • Barbara Cook • Christopher Cokerry • Kevin Dade • Henry Dinger

Thank you to our service and government partners.
826 Boston FY18
Financial Activity

**Total Expenses**
$1,244,063

**Total Revenue**
$1,676,294

- **77%** programs
- **14%** fundraising
- **9%** administration
- **22%** events
- **1%** store

**CHUPACABRA CONTRIBUTORS**
gave between $250 and $500.

A special thank you to the following photographers and designers for providing the images in this report: Joelle Riffle, Jennifer Waddell, Gretjen Helene, Leise Jones, and Helen Zhang.
Like the Sun in Dark Spaces

Every student at Boston International Newcomers Academy (BINcA) in Dorchester has arrived to the United States within the last four years. While navigating the challenges of graduating from high school, many students are learning English as a second, third, or fourth language. Like the Sun in Dark Spaces, one of the latest addition to the 826 Boston library, is a poignant collection of narratives written by more than 70 twelfth graders who graduated in the spring of 2018.

The publication of Like the Sun in Dark Spaces set the stage for deeper collaboration, which resulted in the selection of BINcA as the host school of 826 Boston’s fourth Writers’ Room.

“We come from five continents, and all of us speak at least two languages...we have all had to learn English throughout our high school years, which was difficult at varying levels for us all, but once mastered, made us want to dance for joy.”
—The BINcA Student Editorial Board

826 Boston is a nonprofit youth writing and publishing organization that empowers traditionally underserved students ages 6-18 to find their voices, tell their stories, and gain communication skills to succeed in school and in life.

For more information, please visit 826boston.org