



ANNUAL REPORT 2020

UHEIGHTS

MISSION

University Heights Center promotes life-long learning, creativity, culture, community activism, and the preservation of our historic building.

EQUITY STATEMENT

UHeights recognizes that systemic racism and oppression have, and continue to, plague our communities. We work against dominant culture to implement anti-racist strategies and programs by:

- Centering the voices of the people of the global majority and those with lived experience through deep-listening.
- Engaging in self and organizational reflection.
- Fostering a welcoming and learning community center environment.
- Offering a pay-what-you-can model.
- Investing time and money into anti-racist efforts, including training, programming, and donating to BIPOC-led organizations.

At the University Heights Center (UHeights) a diverse, inclusive, and equitable workplace is one where all employees and volunteers, whatever their gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, age, sexual orientation or identity, education or disability, feel valued and respected. We are committed to a nondiscriminatory approach and provide equal opportunity for employment and advancement in all of our departments, programs, and worksites. We respect and value diverse life experiences and heritages and ensure that all voices are valued and heard.

We are committed to modeling diversity and inclusion for the nonprofit sector, and to maintaining an inclusive environment with equitable treatment for all. To provide informed, authentic leadership for cultural equity, UHeights strives to:

- See diversity, inclusion, and equity as connected to our mission and critical to ensure the well-being of our staff and the communities we serve.
- Acknowledge and dismantle any inequities within our policies, systems, programs, and services, and continually update and report organization progress.
- Explore potential underlying, unquestioned assumptions that interfere with inclusiveness.
- Advocate for and support board-level thinking about how systemic inequities impact our organization's work, and how best to address that in a way that is consistent with our mission.
- Help to challenge assumptions about what it takes to be a strong leader at our organization, and who is well-positioned to provide leadership.

- Practice and encourage transparent communication in all interactions.
- Commit time and resources to expand more diverse leadership within our board, staff, committee, and advisory bodies.
- Lead with respect and tolerance. We expect all employees to embrace this notion and to express it in workplace interactions and through everyday practices.

UHeights abides by the following action items to help promote diversity and inclusion in our workplace:

- Pursue cultural competency throughout our organization by creating substantive learning opportunities and formal, transparent policies.
- Generate and aggregate quantitative and qualitative research related to equity to make incremental, measurable progress toward the visibility of our diversity, inclusion, and equity efforts.
- Improve our cultural leadership by creating and supporting programs and policies that foster leadership that reflects the diversity of our community.
- Pool resources and expand offerings for underrepresented constituents by connecting with other arts and human service organizations committed to diversity and inclusion efforts.
- Develop and present sessions on diversity, inclusion, and equity to provide information and resources internally, and to members, the community, and the nonprofit and arts industry.
- Develop a system for being more intentional and conscious of bias during the hiring, promoting, or evaluating process. Train our hiring team on equitable practices.
- Include a salary range with all public job descriptions.
- Advocate for public and private-sector policy that promotes diversity, inclusion, and equity.
- Challenge systems and policies that create inequity, oppression and disparity.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR STATEMENT

This video is close-captioned.
Go to [YouTube](#) for easy viewing.



We survived one of the most difficult years in a century. Our community came together in strength, resiliency, and creativity, providing: childcare for essential workers, connection during a period of prolonged isolation; and expanded services for our neighbors who are unhoused. And as we look to the future, we are happy to report our in-person programs are coming back strong! Thank you for your support during a challenging year.

[Please view a video of what we did together in 2020.](#)



“The Safe Lot gave me a kitchen, friendship, and community. It has changed my life for the better.
Safe Lot Participant”



“There is such a sense of inclusion and community at UHeights. I have been welcomed to classes and invited to stretch and grow.
Jayasri”



“Favorite part of Zumba:
The music, sense of community, physical activity that is fun to do and makes me feel mentally and spiritually much better.
Participant”

“UHeights is special to me because it is a good place with a sense of community and belonging.
Alex, APL Student”

U DISTRICT STATS*:

- 64% of population lives below poverty line
- 1,577 (23.8%) of total 6,607 population identifies as a minority

2020 SEATTLE/KING COUNTY POINT-IN-TIME REPORT:

(Out of total population experiencing homelessness)

- 5,578 (47%) are unsheltered
- 2,747 (50%) are living in their vehicles

COVID-19 RESPONSE &

Partner: City of Seattle



24/7 Hygiene Station

with ADA accessible toilet and **Seattle Street Sink**

✓ Contributed to a 25% reduction in biohazards in the U District



Partner: Rick Mohler, Jeff Hou, UW Architecture School, & Real Change

Safe Lot

Pathway to housing providing overnight parking for people living in their cars:

- Tiny House w/kitchenette
- Laundry and bathroom
- Case management

Partner: The Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle

✓ A couple welcomed a new baby and found a new home!



Mobile Health Van

Free basic healthcare assessments



In one month:
Served 55 people who are unhoused [1 pregnant woman, 3 under 18 years], providing healthcare assessments and distributing basic essentials

Partner: U District Street Medicine

*2018 Seattle Department of Neighborhoods report
2020 Census Demographic Data

RECOVERY PROGRAMS

Vehicle Residency Outreach

Offering families and individuals who call their cars home assistance with:

- legal issues, such as excess parking tickets
- vehicle repair
- connection to other social services and housing options
- gas/food gift cards



Partners: Interfaith Task Force on Homelessness
Low Income Housing Institute

✓ 60 people helped in one month alone!
Plus 120 people were left a note/booklet



Partner: Seattle Community Fridge



Fighting food insecurity, along with food waste, by providing **FREE FRESH FOOD**

✓ Food donated several times a week by local community groups & individuals

FREE FOOD TRUCK serving hot, vegetarian meals 4 times a week

✓ 18,786 meals served in 2020



Partner: NorthWest SHARE

ARTS & CULTURE

T.I.P.S. FOR TEENS

Creating a safe space for teens to explore emotions and work through issues through the lost art of letter writing.

“ TIPS for Teens has been an experience I look forward to every Tuesday, and after we finish each week, I always come away feeling like I learned something new and learned more about my fellow peers.

Anika, Facilitator ”



FINDING YOUR POETIC VOICE

Turning to poetry for healing and sharing of one's self. Featuring a new Poet of Color each week.

“ Poetry has a rich history and tradition in Black, brown, queer, trans, immigrant, disabled, undocumented, and otherwise marginalized communities. I found a home within poetry and I want others to find their home in it too. That's why I teach my weekly drop-in class with University Heights Center.

Ananya, Instructor ”



BOLLYWOOD DANCE

Taking the audience on a journey of storytelling through choreography and the culture of Bollywood.



Geeta, Instructor/Owner
Afsaana Dance Company

ZUMBA: A WORLD-BEAT WORKOUT

Where you lose yourself in the music and relieve stress, meet new friends, and form new communities.

“ I love Zumba with Sellyna, seeing friends, old and new ones. The music brings joy to my heart and I love moving my body. Sally F.



Sellyna, Instructor ”

“ I would say Zumba has brought me great joy and cheered me on these hard-to-deal days.

Adriana ”

THURSDAYS@10

Finding community through knitting, discussion, book club, and memoir writing.

SURVEY RESPONSES:
FAVORITE PART OF THURSDAYS@10

“ Getting together once a month with new friends. ”



“ The sense of community provided, connecting socially. ”

UHEIGHTS SKETCHBOOK PROJECT

A virtual and digital library preserving a unique visual history of and for our community.

“ I used the project as an affirmation of growth and inspiration. Pam ”



“ It's like a diary of the last three months! Jane ”

SECOND SATURDAY SPECTACULAR

Interactive fun for the whole family!



DAFFY DAVE



LOUIS FOXX



MIKEY MIKE



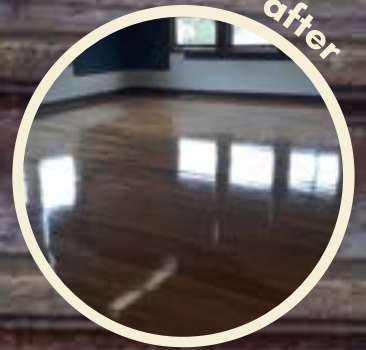
EVAN THE MAGICIAN

PRESERVATION

"Old ideas can sometimes use new buildings. New ideas must use old buildings."
Jane Jacobs, author & activist

FLOOR UPGRADES

Eight floors utilized by childcare and local arts & community groups



COMBATting COVID-19

AIR DAMPER and COLD PLASMA GENERATOR Upgrade

original fan system still in use!



new damper control board



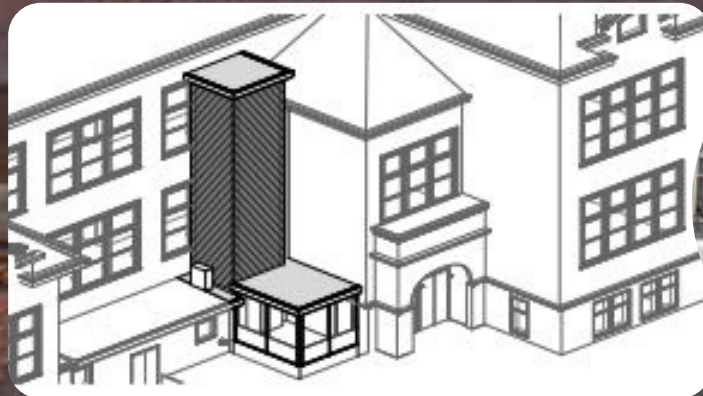
new filter system



We installed new air dampers with electric motors along with Air Handling Units to improve the natural airflow within the building to more effectively reduce transmission of COVID-19. The Cold Plasma Generators go the extra mile! They send positively charged ions into the air which bond with bacteria, mold, viruses, and dust, dropping these particles to the ground and effectively taking them out of the airflow!

Made possible in part with a grant from **4Culture**.

ELEVATOR INSTALLATION PROJECT



geotechnical survey



With the elevator, UHeights will not only be able to expand to provide 70 more childcare spots for a total of 175, we will also be able to better serve people of ALL abilities across all our programs. We are wrapping up the design and pre-construction efforts now. Stay tuned for more details and how you can get involved!

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT OF:

Representative Nicole Macri
Representative Frank Chopp
Senator Jaime Pederson
Councilmember Teresa Mosqueda
Councilmember Abel Pacheco
Patricia S. Weber

4Culture
M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust
Building Communities Fund,
WA State Department of Commerce
City of Seattle Department of Neighborhoods
City of Seattle Office of Arts & Culture
Joshua Green Foundation
Kawabe Memorial Fund

The Washington State Historical Society's Heritage Capital Fund
Norman Archibald Charitable Foundation
The Norcliffe Foundation
Nesholm Family Foundation
The Lucky Seven Foundation
Rotary Club of University District, Seattle
The Tulalip Tribes of Washington

RESIDENT

UHEIGHTS EXPANDS MUCH-NEEDED EARLY LEARNING SLOTS!

COMMUNITY NEED*:

- COVID-19 wiped out 27% of early learning spaces throughout King County.
- WA State has sufficient licensed child care capacity for only 41% of young children and 5% of school age children.
- Nearly 1 in 5 (18.3%) parents surveyed turned down a job or promotion due to child care issues, more often among Black and Native American parents.
- Nearly half (47%) of unemployed parents found child care issues a barrier to seeking employment.

UHEIGHTS' RESPONSE:

- ✓ Offer 105 early learning spaces during COVID-19.
- ✓ Increase to 175 early learning spaces when full licensing is achieved.
- ✓ Commit 50% of the 70 additional spots to families qualifying for State subsidies.

2,720
children attended school or afterschool arts programming

111
children learning at UHeights have learning challenges

\$513,677
scholarships awarded to children in programs

434
children receiving full rides & tuition assistance



*From Child Care Collaborative Task Force Industry Assessment, Washington State Department of Commerce, July 2020

“ As an inclusive school, our mission is built around creating community. There is no better example of that community than our partnership with UHeights.
Kelly, Director APL ”

“ UHeights provided us the space and support that we needed to continue to serve families as one of Seattle's oldest quality learning centers.
Kenzie, Director UTCS ”

“ UHeights has been supporting their tenants as much as they can in this pandemic. I greatly appreciate their generosity.
Yugakusha ”



ORGANIZATIONS



591
pay-what-you-
can arts &
cultural events

3,053
total participants
in UHeights
programming



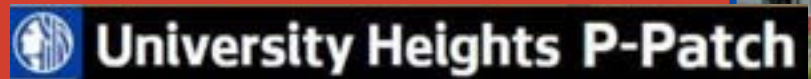
over
\$800,000
in free space
donated to civic,
community & arts
groups



THREE DRAGONS ACADEMY



2,036
total volunteer
hours



“ We value our relationship with the leadership of UHeights now, more than ever. The support we have received is invaluable to our future stability and success.
Northwest Boychoir ”

“ We appreciate the attention, consideration, and flexibility of the staff.
Thank you!
UDCC ”

“ Even in times of crisis, UHeights incubates new businesses/organizations in a way that no other space can, especially those in the fine arts and in education.
Three Dragons Academy ”

COMMUNITY &



**PLAY
YOUR*
PART**



Aaron Brown
Ann Thomas
Brittani Anglin
Candise Salinas
Chris Lecocq
Ekta Gupta
Elise Tissot Storey
Jonathan Decker
Kendra Azari
Kiam Wright
Kree Arvanitas

Kristian Winnie
Lee Harper
PAWS with Cause
Steven Omondi
Susan Moffitt
UDYC P.O.C. Street Arts
Alex Lubbers
Pallavi Garg
Nicolina Miller
Lindsay Reeves
Tyreesha "Lady" Jenkins

Daniella Rosaline
Jenny Messerle
Akshara Ravela
David Mampel
Kristina Nielander
Sheri Brassell
Adrienne Bell-Koch
Anne Earhart
Kara Swenson
Wrandy Davis

UHeights' generosity has been a game-changer for Parley [Productions]. We are blown away by the kindness and material support we have received.

Rebecca, Director

As an artist, it has been particularly gratifying to contribute to the UHeights Artist Collective and help create and grow the Art Hub. UHeights is a fantastic organization, and I feel blessed to be a part of it!

Elise

PARTNERSHIPS

We are honored to work with many organizations to fulfill our complimentary community missions!

Interfaith Task Force on Homelessness

Low Income Housing Institute

Northwest SHARE

Sanctuary Arts Center

The Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle

U District Family Y

U District Street Medicine

University District Partnership

YouthCare

The Doorway Project

Abbey Arts

BUSINESS PARTNERS

The M Seattle

WSECU

Rotary of the University District,
Seattle

Sunrise Rotary

Big Time Brewery & Alehouse

Richaven Architecture &
Preservation

University VW Audi

Touchstone

Portman Holdings

SHKS Architects



FOUNDATION AND GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



The Norcliffe Foundation

The Tulalip Tribes of Washington

Umpqua Bank Charitable Foundation

The Helen Martha Schiff Foundation

Building Communities Fund, WA State Department of Commerce

Amazon in the Community - Ben Starsky

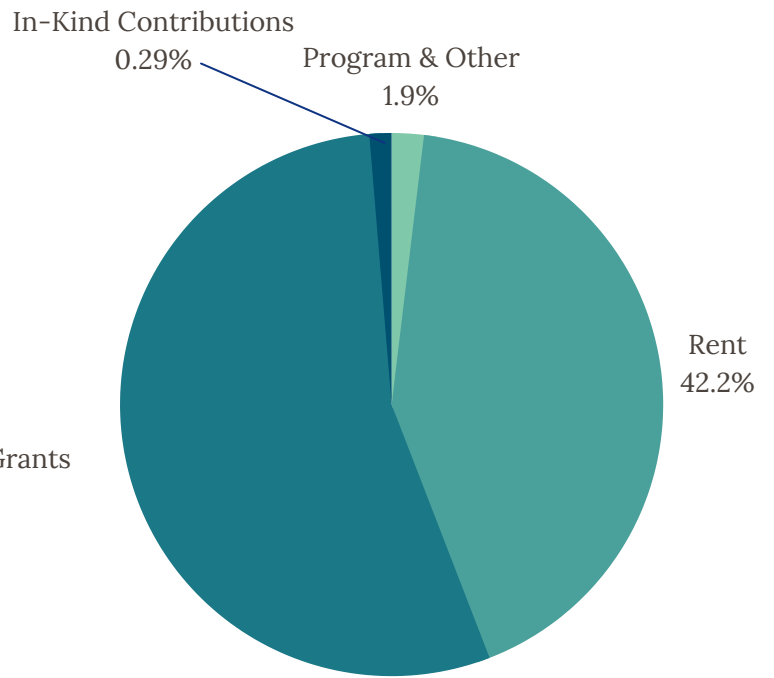


Statement of Activities as of December 31, 2020

SUPPORT & REVENUE

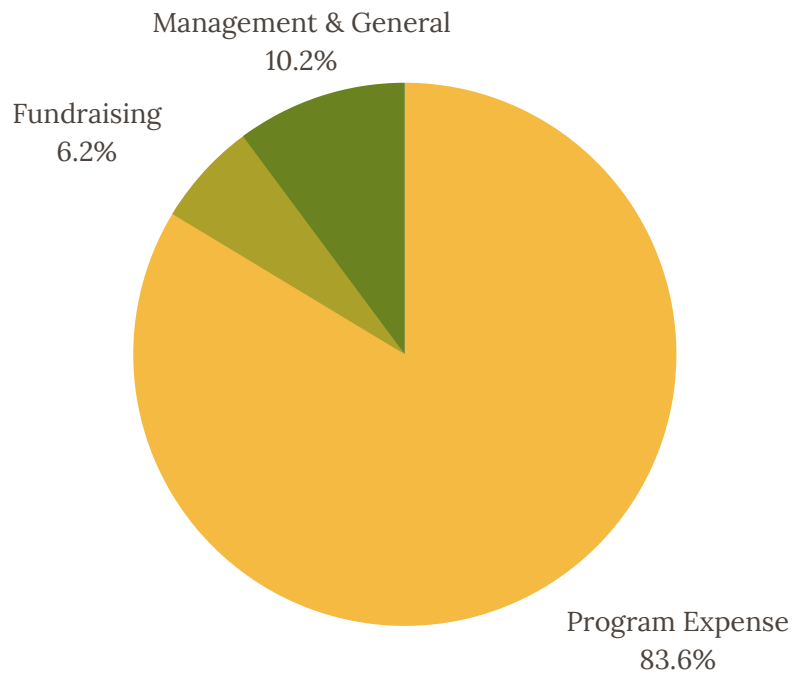
| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Rent | \$646,240 |
| Contributions & Grants | \$835,179 |
| In-Kind Contributions | \$20,101 |
| Program & Other | \$29,193 |
| TOTAL | \$1,530,733 |

Contributions & Grants
54.6%



EXPENSES

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Program | \$925,129 |
| Management & General | \$112,381 |
| Fundraising | \$68,516 |
| TOTAL | \$1,106,026 |



OVERVIEW

Statement of Financial Position as of December 31, 2020

ASSETS

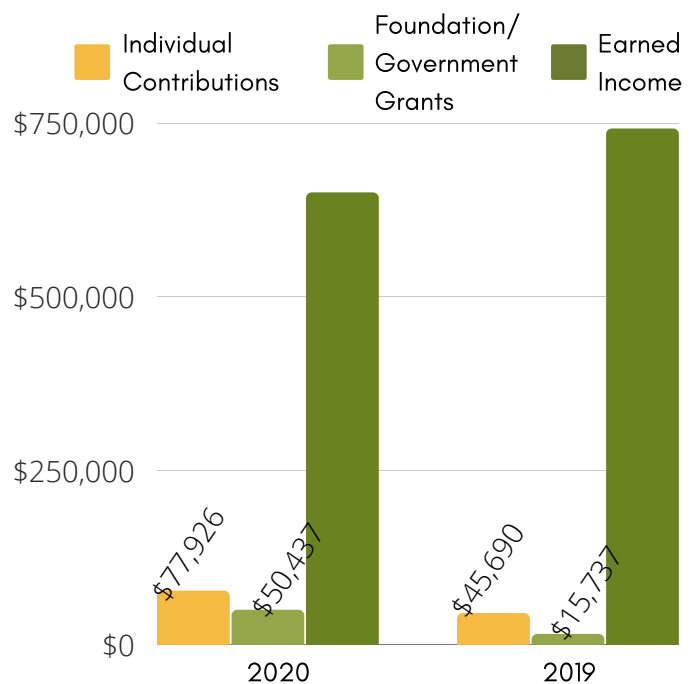
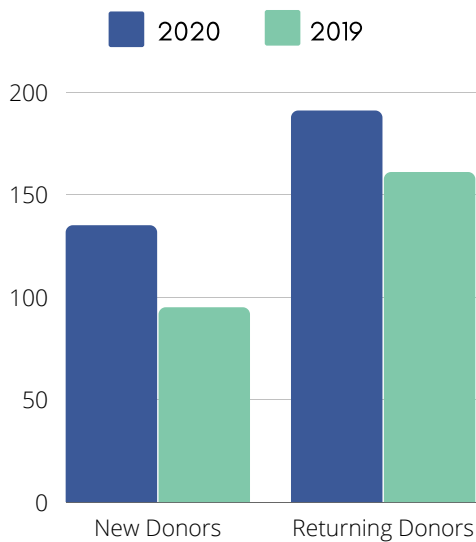
| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Change in Net Assets | \$424,707 |
| Other Net Assets, Beginning of Year | \$8,703,071 |

Total Assets, End of Year **\$9,127,778**

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

| | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Total Liabilities | \$161,910 |
| Total Net Assets | \$9,127,778 |

Total Liabilities and Net Assets **\$9,289,688**



HONOR ROLL

We are grateful for the members of our community who generously supported UHeights in 2020!

Afsaana Dance
 Max Alin
Dema Alkhalil and Tom Keagle
 Nancy Amidei
 Thomas Andrew
 Katharine Angell
 Jennifer Annable
 Jennifer Antos
 Rosemary Aragon
 Kurt and Cedar Armbruster
 Jennifer and Mike Astion
 Ross C. Baker
 Shandra Benito
 Arielle Bernstein and Mark Pinsof
 Ethan Bernstein and Julie Dunne
 Hilary Bernstein
 Olena Billingsley
 Rosemary Blakemore
Blume Company Real Estate
 Sarah Bluvas
 Kristi Boes
 Kendal Borrás and
 Tariq Dababneh
 Katie Breene and Scott Korn
 William and Leslie Brickett
 Jan Brooks
 Lisa Brooks
 Richard Brooks
Kathy Brostoff and Mel Belding
 Gail Bullat
 Marjorie Bunday
 Michael Burke
Castruccio Family Foundation
 Kara Ceriello
 Christina Chang and Paul Stucki
 Olivier Chaoul
 Laura and Jim Chatfield
 Chickadee Music Together
 Rob Christensen
 Kathryn Clark
 Devon Clemens
 Jerred Clouse and
 Morgan Turner
 Frances Conley
 Richard Conway, Jr. and
 Susan Ann Williams
 Catherine Cook
 Holly Cornelius
 Stephanie Costa
 Valerie Craig
 Robert Cranfill
 Cecile Cuddihy
 Aaron Dail
 Cindy Davies
 Gary Davis
 Kathleen Day and
 Chris Farnsworth
 Emma & Justin Decarreau
 Su Devan
 Elizabeth Diachun
 Emily Ditty
 Valerie Dodson

Lauren Dudley
 Chris Dundon
 Sara Early and Daniel Gamelin
 Christopher Eckels & Kristen
 Crummett
 Josephine Ensign
 Marion Evashevski
 Colin and Anna Ewing
 Della Ewing
 Gordon Ewing
**Maureen Ewing and
 Tom Langehaug**
 Nadia Ewing
 Roger Ewing
 Thomas Ewing
Katie Fallon
 Paul S. Faust
 Justin Fenton
 Amy Ferguson
 Anastasia Fersanova
 Melissa Fillion
 Senja Filipi
 Ann Flannigan
 Lisa Flemming-Pagano
 Daveen Fox
 Matthew Fox
 Filament: A Collab Lab
 Shelly Frappier
 Marilee Fuller
 Leona Furnari
 Betty and Vincent Gallucci
 Jayasri Ghosh
 Mandy Gibbs Rice
 Mary Goldman
 The Goldov Family Giving Fund
 George J. Goodall
 Jennifer Gordon
 Patti Gorman and
 Richard Knutson
 Leslie Grace
James Gram
 Sandra Gresl
 Jennifer Hagenow
 Edward J. Hanola
 Gale Harpold
 Christina Harris
 Carolyn Heberlein
 Kathy Hightower
Aaron and Jaime Hoard
 Douglas and Trish Honig
 Joan and John Horn
 Louis Horn
 William Horn
 Jane and David Huntington
 Keith and Dorothy Imper
 June Ivers
 Bernita Jackson
 Ahmed Jaddi
 Heather Jessup
Lani and Larry Johnson
 Marcus Johnson

Maria Johnson
Rick Jones
Julie Kageler
 Catherine Ketrick and
 David Mills
 Alison Kilroy
 Karen Ko
 Kay and Andy Landis
 Scott Lang
 Suzanne Langham
 William and Ethylanne
 Larrimore
 Joanie M. Larussa
Paula Laschober
 Kirk and Nonnie Laughlin
 Linda Leben
 Sharon Lee
 Ben Lernet
 Debbie and Mark Libbing
 Dara Lillis
 Roger Lindgren
 Reggie Liu
 Mike and Kathleen Lovejoy
 Keith B. MacDonald and
 Mary C. MacDonald
 Dorina Maley
 Aaron Marburg
 Monica Martin
 Cynthia E May
 Dr. Robin McCabe
 Jimmy McNamara
 Kristine McReavy-Kenney and
 William Kenney
 Nancy Meenen and
 David Werner Jr.
 Rita Meher
 Nina Mettler
 Eric Meyerson Jr.
 Dennis and Janet Miller
 George C. Monagan and
 Annie Martel
 Erin Morgan
 William Morse III and
 Alycia Delmore
**Elizabeth Mountsier and
 Jim Peacey**
 Daniel Myers and Suz
 Theresa Naujack and
 Lee Hartwell
 Leslie and Timothy Nulty
 Karina O'Malley
 Rimas Orentas and
 Pamela Collins
 J Otto Bulut
 Carly and James Pagano
 Carmen Parisi
 Susan Parker
 Judy Parretta
 James Patton
 Julia Paulsen
 Emmy Phillips

Molly Polk
 Natalie Pond
 Gary Pounder
 Barbara and Phillip Quinn
 Daniel M. Raftery
 Sandra Rankins
 Uma Rao
 Michael and Shelly Brown Reiss
 Terry Repak and Stefan Wiktor
Brian Rich
 Richards-Souders Charitable Fund
Janet and Brian Robinson**
Laura M. Robinson
 David J. Rodgers
 David Rosen and Jeanine Needles
**Susan Samuelson and
 Mark Miller**
 Jeanne Sauvage
 Paul Schiavo
 Amy Shelton
 Misty Shock Rule
 Julie Sienko
 Sarah Simon
Tracy Simpson
 Amy Sloper
 Scott Soules
 Dave and Marti Spicer
 Susan Starbuck
 Susan and Mick Storck
 Shirin Subhani and Naveen Valluri
 Elizabeth Sweet
 Roger Tang
 Esther Teodoro
 Tamlyn Thomas
 Kelly Thompson
 Tricia Tiano
 Nikki Tràn
 Sara Uvalle and Stephen
 Ann Vander Stoep
 Egils K. Virsnieks
 Jolene Vrchota
 Jessica Wagoner
**Roger Wagoner and
 Kay Livingston**
 Chris Walker
Patricia S. Weber
 Joanna Wehrwein
 Pm Weizenbaum
 Jessica Wexler
 JoElla and Mike Weybright
Mason Wiley and Jessi Libbing
 Douglas K. Wills, Jr. and
 Dianne Wills
 Mina Wirth
 Scott Wolf
 Wendy Woolery
 Verona Young
 Lawrence Zeidman
 Anonymous (51)

Major Donor

** Monthly Booster Club Member

“ UHeights is such a magical place and I have seen it grow and change for the last 10 years! Thanks for taking care of the community. Shelly ”



“ After seeing all your good works at the end of the year, I wanted to help out more. All the Best! Dave ”

“ Thank you for your outreach and support to the community during the pandemic. It shows the spirit of partnership and community that UHeights lives daily. Monica ”



“ Thank you for continuing to support our neighborhood throughout the year. Daniel ”

“ Love you all, Love your dedication. JoElla ”



“ We just wanted to donate and say how much we miss dancing in your space, but have been so impressed by what you have done for the community while we have been away. RSCDS Seattle ”

We strive to keep our Honor Roll accurate and up-to-date.

If you have any questions or would like to update your listing, please call (206) 556-2495.



STAFF



Maureen Ewing
Executive Director



Olena Billingsley
Operations Manager



Shirin Subhani
Program Manager



Aaron Brown
Facilities Manager



Addison Kramlich
Asst. Facilities Manager



Nicolina Miller
Development Coordinator



Vinny DiPaoli
Facilities Technician

BOARD

Susan Samuelson, Chair
Joan Horn, Vice Chair
Emma Decarreau, Treasurer
Beth Mountsier, Secretary
Pat Weber
Roger Wagoner
Rick McLaughlin

Dema Alkhalil
Jonathan Fotoohi
Keith Imper
Josie Cooke
Brian Rich
Brigid Nulty



FIND US

UHEIGHTS

Center for the Community
5031 University Way NE
Seattle, WA 98105

(206) 527-4278

info@uheightscenter.org

WWW.UHEIGHTSCENTER.ORG

BUILDING HOURS

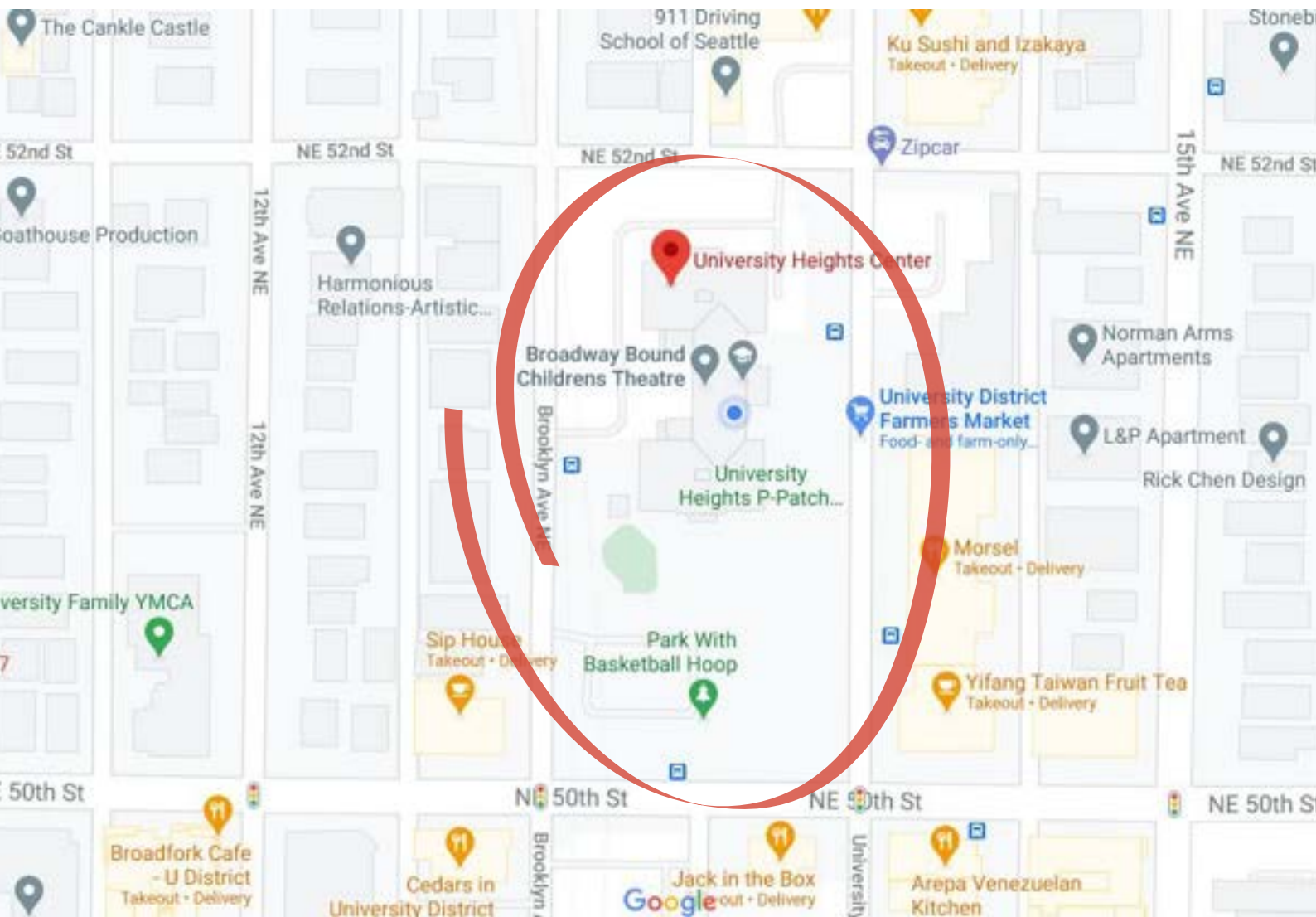
Monday - Friday: 8am to 8pm

Saturday: 9am to 4pm

Sunday: Closed

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday: 9am to 5pm





THANK YOU