

# UHEIGHTS

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2019

REPORT

TO THE

COMMUNITY

# LETTER FROM LEADERSHIP

As we reflect on 2019, we could not have known then how important our community would become. Not only has the UHeights community been instrumental in supporting us in weathering the storm of 2020, we have solidified its role as a catalyst for change.

We evolve with our neighborhood by responding to its needs; by providing affordable and free space for hundreds of community groups; by ensuring our most vulnerable neighbors have a place to find refuge; and by offering a pay-what-you-can programming model.

As we look ahead, we will continue to apply a racial equity lens to our mission and strategic decision making and will continue to increase our community activism efforts to impact change.

Together we will uphold our mission to truly be a “Place for All.”



*MAUREEN EWING, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR*

*EMMA DECARREAU, CO-CHAIR*

*SUSAN SAMUELSON, CO-CHAIR*



“The experience of being a part of the University Heights Artist Collective has changed my perspective on what people can accomplish when we all believe in one another.”

*-BRITTANI ANGLIN,  
UHEIGHTS ARTIST  
COLLECTIVE MEMBER*

“I have been teaching all types of partner dance at UHeights for almost 30 years and I still love teaching there. Dance is all about the connection to a partner, the floor, community, self and surroundings. I can’t think of a more nurturing place to learn something as challenging and rewarding as partner dancing.”

*-MICHELLE BADION,  
LEARN TO DANCE*

“There is such a sense of inclusion and community at University Heights. I have been welcomed to the classes and invited to stretch and grow, all in the company and support of wonderful people”

*-JAYASRI,  
UHEIGHTS PROGRAMMING  
PARTICIPANT*

# A PLACE FOR ALL, A PLACE FOR YOU

## MISSION

UHeights promotes lifelong learning, creativity, culture, community activism, and the preservation of our historic building.

## HISTORY

Built as an elementary school in 1902 in response to the burgeoning University of Washington population, University Heights Center was the first school for thousands of neighboring children for 87 years. In 1989, due to declining enrollment, the school shuttered its doors. It was reborn again as a community center —University Heights Center— in 1990, when the community came together to save the building from demolition.

Now on the National Registry of Historic Places as well as a City of Seattle Historic Landmark building, University Heights Center continues to serve Seattle through a wide variety of classes, workshops and programs. From arts & cultural programming that connect and engage our community members to critical human services that extend basic necessities and meaningful resources to our more marginalized neighbors, University Heights Center establishes itself as the vital heart of a burgeoning community.



## RESIDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Academy for Precision Learning  
Broadway Bound Children's Theatre  
Northwest Boychoir and Vocalpoint! Seattle  
Three Dragons Academy  
Defensive Driving School  
University District Children's Center  
OTB Solutions  
Seattle Displacement Coalition  
Neighborhood Farmers Market Alliance  
University Heights P-Patch  
University Temple Children's Center  
Yugakusha School

UHeights is a critical anchor in a burgeoning neighborhood. We are home to 12 community-focused resident organizations. Together, we provide services that bolster our surrounding neighborhood through programming centered around early childhood education, K-12 specialized education, afterschool arts activities, housing solutions, healthy living alternatives, environmental activism, and more. Collectively, we support over 200 employees and host over 100 volunteers generously contributing their time and talents towards our mission.

### RESIDENT ORGANIZATIONS HIGHLIGHTS:

**YUGAKUSHA SCHOOL** is a Japanese language school for Japanese and Japanese American children who want to pursue a traditional Japanese education in the U.S.

**THREE DRAGONS ACADEMY** is dedicated to providing arts enrichment to youth and families seeking alternative education or supplementary arts tutoring through their art, music and theater-based curriculum.

**NORTHWEST BOYCHOIR** and **VOCALPOINT!** Seattle strive to make available music education and performance opportunities for children and young adults while contributing to the cultural life of the community by providing access to a unique choral resource.

# ARTS & CULTURE

UHeights has served as a meeting place for artists, activists and educators of all ages and cultures for nearly 120 years. We host hundreds of community and cultural groups who provide classes and events, such as gender non-conforming Swing Dance classes, Scottish Dancing, the Nepalese Society, civic/advocacy meetings, the Neighborhood Farmers Market Association, Seattle Public Libraries, and much more. UHeights also sponsors many free opportunities for family friendly events, a summer music/cultural series, in addition to managing The Auditorium, which hosts a diverse array of performances, including music, theater, film, lectures and more.



**UHEIGHTS THEATRE ALLIANCE** Our alliance has grown to 18 small local theatre and performing groups presenting close to 100 free or pay-what-you-can performances each year. Nearly all the member groups are led by and/or produce works by people of color, immigrants, the LGBTQ+ community, and women.



**UHEIGHTS ARTIST COLLECTIVE** Over 30 artists display an ongoing Gallery of works throughout the halls of our historic building. The Collective also hosts Art Walks to bring together our artistic community from visual artists and artisans, jewelry makers, and clothing creators to performers in dance, music, and poetry.



**SOCIAL JUSTICE FILM FESTIVAL** UHeights participated in the festival as just one venue showcasing documentaries and narrative films pertaining to issues including incarceration, oppression, environment and sustainability in an effort to bring together community members to discuss and advocate for change.



**2019 SUMMER PARK POP-UP** We collaborate with the Neighborhood Farmers Market Association to host an extravaganza of delights for the average 5,000 patrons of our Saturday Farmers Market. The UHeights plaza is activated with live music and dance performances by local musicians and cultural groups, a unique Food Truck Round-up and table displays by our own UHeights Artist Collective.

**SECOND SATURDAYS** Offering many FREE and pay-what-you-can performances geared towards families and children, UHeights was proud to host The Evan's Family Variety Show, Daffy Dave, and Caspar Babypants.

# HUMAN SERVICES & COVID-19 RESPONSE

When the COVID-19 pandemic began, we realized UHeights was positioned to be an important community anchor throughout the crisis. UHeights and its resident organizations quickly pivoted to address the newfound needs of our community, with a focus on our most marginalized neighbors. While UHeights is closed to the public, we remain open to provide many critical services and resources.

## DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION FOR KING COUNTY\*

### Number of homeless youth:

- 955 unaccompanied youth and young adults accounting for 8% of total unsheltered population.
- 248 - under the age of 18
- 707 - between 18-24 years old

### Estimated number of people living in vehicles:

- 2,747 ( 50% of total unsheltered population and a 28% increase from 2019)

\*From 2020 Seattle/King County Point-in-Time Count of Persons Experiencing Homelessness



## UHEIGHTS COVID-19 RESPONSE

Hosted team of nurses from Swedish Medical Center for Community **COVID-19 TESTING.**

**400 FREE MEALS** four times a week from our south parking lot.

A comfort station including two **PORTO-POTTIES** and **HANDWASHING STATION.**

A **SAFE LOT** for people living in their cars with Tiny House kitchenette, laundry, shower and bathroom.

**PARTNERS:** The Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle, U Temple United Methodist Church

## SEATTLE STREET SINK

**PARTNERS:** Jeff Hou and his team from UW, Real Change

**AVAILABLE:** 24/7



**EMERGENCY CHILDCARE** for essential workers.

Space for the **FARMERS MARKET** which reopened in April and continues important food distribution.

Distributed **300 CLOTH MASKS** to our community.

**ONLINE CLASSES** and arts and cultural programming, including Bollywood Dance, Zumba classes, Thursdays at 10 (book clubs, etc.), poetry classes, and an emotional support group led by a licensed therapist to help people manage stress in their lives.

*We have had record attendance and attendees from across the world!*

### **THE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM**

UHeights is proud to be one of the first businesses in the U District to successfully hire youth for both short- and long-term employment opportunities where they gain valuable job training while earning a living wage.

**PARTNERS:** YouthCare, Sanctuary Arts Center

### **OVERALL PROGRAM STATS SINCE INCEPTION:**

- 5 Youth hired for longer-term employment opportunities, working nearly 3,100 hours
- 40 Youth hired for short-term roles

Assistance to the U District Partnership and the UHeights Artist Collective to paint **MURALS** on the boarded up windows of closed small businesses.



photo: Jeff Hou





# PRESERVATION



“Old ideas can sometimes use new buildings. new ideas must use old buildings.”

*-JANE JACOBS, AUTHOR & ACTIVIST*

Old buildings like UHeights are integral to the social fabric of our rapidly growing and gentrifying City’s culture—a culture that is at great risk of losing its original character. The historic UHeights building tells the story of our City’s past, while providing a space for the public to learn about our local history.

**2009** - The University Heights School is purchased from the Seattle School District with State of Washington, King County, City of Seattle and UHeights funds.

**2010** - UHeights is registered as a National Heritage Site by the US Department of the Interior.

**2014** - New Playground is installed.

**2015** - Seismic Retrofit and renovation of grounds is completed.

**2016** - UHeights Plaza Constructed

**2017** - The Auditorium is renovated.

**2019** - Water Mediation Completed! Roof, parapets, and cornices are repaired.  
- Elevator Installation Project begins.  
- Approximately 45% of the \$1.5 million budget is raised.  
- Necessary pre-construction work is completed.  
- Design process to be completed by fall of this year, with construction slated for completion in the fall of 2021.

**CURRENT** - Our staff works daily to respond to the needs of the building. They refurbished two floors on our main level with 4 more floors planned within our resident organizations. The vintage chalkboards in The Auditorium were painted by volunteers of Nordstrom on Advocacy Day with a new blackboard coating to prolong their use.

## TO DATE, WE HAVE INVESTED \$5 MILLION INTO PRESERVATION EFFORTS

We are very grateful for the support of:

4Culture

M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust

The Washington State Historical Society’s Heritage Capital Fund

Councilmember Teresa Mosqueda

Councilmember Abel Pacheco

City of Seattle Department of Neighborhoods

City of Seattle Office of Arts & Culture

Joshua Green Foundation

Kawabe Memorial Fund

The Lucky Seven Foundation

Nesholm Family Foundation

The Norcliffe Foundation

Norman Archibald Charitable Foundation

Rotary Club of University-District, Seattle

The Tulalip Tribes of Washington

Patricia S. Weber

# COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS

UHeights is honored to work with many organizations to fulfill our complementary community missions!




## UHEIGHTS ARTIST COLLECTIVE

Aaron Brown	UDYC P.O.C. Street Arts
Ann Thomas	Vibrant Palette Arts Center
Brittani Anglin	Alex Lubbers
Candise Salinas	Pallavi Garg
Chris Lecocq	Nicolina Miller
Ekta Gupta	Lindsay Reeves
Elise Tissot Storey	Tyreesha "Lady" Jenkins
Jonathan Decker	Daniella Rosaline
Kendra Azari	Jenny Messerle
Kiam Wright	Akshara Ravela
Kree Arvanitas	David Mampel
Kristian Winnie	Kristina Nielander
Lee Harper	Sheri Brassell
PAWS with Cause	Adrienne Bell-Koch
Steven Omondi	Anne Earhart
Susan Moffitt	Kara Swanson

Fremont Abbey Arts  
 Neighborhood Farmers Market Association  
 Northwest SHARE  
 Sanctuary Arts Center  
 The Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle  
 U District Family Y  
 U District Street Medicine  
 U Temple United Methodist Church  
 University District Partnership  
 YouthCare

## BUSINESS PARTNERS

  
 The M Seattle  
 WSECU  
 Big Time Brewery & Alehouse  
 Richaven Architecture & Preservation  
 University VW Audi  
 Wells Fargo



# UHEIGHTS BY THE NUMBERS

**\$687,742**

scholarships awarded to children attending school programs

**512**

children receiving full rides & tuition assistance

**115**

children who attended school at UHeights have learning challenges

**190**

free community events

**1,763**

classes and performances held throughout the year

unsheltered youth worked

**3,100**

hrs since program inception

more than  
**\$950,000**

in free space, donated to civic, community & arts groups

**224**

community groups used our space

**3,389**

children attended school or arts programming

# FINANCES

Statement of Financial Position as of  
December 31, 2019

## ASSETS

Change in Net Assets	\$387,313
Other Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$8,315,758
Total Assets, End of Year	\$8,703,071

## LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Total Liabilities	\$201,700
Total Net Assets	\$8,703,071
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$8,904,771

Statement of Activities as of December 31, 2019

## SUPPORT & REVENUE

Rent Revenue	\$738,175	48%
Contributions & Grants	\$622,734	40%
In-Kind Contributions	\$64,266	4%
Program & Other	\$105,493	6%
Total Support & Revenue	\$1,530,668	100%

## EXPENSES

Program Expense	\$944,120	82%
Management & General	\$80,488	8%
Fundraising	\$118,747	7%
Total Expenses	\$1,143,355	100%

# 2019 HONOR ROLL

Thank you so much to the members of our community who generously supported UHeights in 2019!

Max Alin  
Dema Alkhalil  
Nancy Amidei  
Thomas G. Andrew  
Jennifer Annable  
Kurt Armbruster  
Sanjay Batra  
Tamara Belland  
Aleks Bennett  
Ethan Bernstein  
Hilary Bernstein  
Jaron Bernstein  
Misha Berson  
Toni Beymer  
Sarah Bluvas  
& Greg Gatcombe  
William Brickett  
Kathy Brostoff  
& Mel Belding  
Elizabeth Cain  
Bill Cameron  
**Castruccio Family Foundation**  
Lauren D. Chen  
Chickadee Music  
Together  
Lori Cohen & Woody Wheeler  
Frances & Gerry Conley  
Richard Conway, Jr. & Susan Ann Williams  
Marisa Anne D'Angeli  
Kathleen Day & Chris Farnsworth  
Emma & Justin Decarreau

Edla Deppman  
Pranati Desiraju  
Chris DiNardo  
Emily Ditty  
Christopher Eckels & Kristen Crummett  
Colin & Anna Ewing  
Della Ewing  
Gordon Ewing  
Malcolm Ewing  
**Maureen Ewing & Tom Langehaug**  
Nadia Ewing  
Roger Ewing  
Amy Ferguson  
Matthew Fox  
Liv Froehlich  
**Jim Gram**  
Michael Halberstam  
Gale Harpold  
Cynthia Hazard  
Kathy Hightower  
Aaron Hoard  
Randy Hodgins  
Matt Hoehnen  
Douglas & Trish Honig  
**Joan and John Horn**  
Lois Horn  
William Horn  
Donna Howard  
Jane & David Huntington  
Daniel Iden  
Keith & Dorothy Imper  
June Ivers  
Bernita Wilson Jackson  
Tiffany Jay  
Larry & Lani Johnson

Maria Johnson  
Rene Jovel & Amy Smith  
The Kenney Family  
Edward & Mary Lou Knappe  
Karen Ko  
Amanda Koch  
Ruth Korotzer  
Savita Krishnamoorthy  
Kent Lake  
Kay Landis  
William & Ethylanne Larrimore  
Kirk and Nonnie Laughlin  
Maurice & Gail Libbing  
Debbie Finch Libbing  
Lisa Lichtenberg  
Shaina & Andrew London  
Marshall Longtin  
Kathleen & Mike Lovejoy  
Dorina Maley  
Monica Martin  
Jackie Hampson McDonald  
Rick McLaughlin  
Jimmy McNamara  
George Monagan  
Teo Morca  
Elizabeth Mountsier  
Daniel Myers  
Mark & Ellen Notbohm  
Patricia Novotny  
**Brigid Nulty**  
Leslie Nulty  
Russell Owen  
Gaurav Pai  
Bellamy Pailthorp  
**Alexander Park & Janelle Henney**

Jim Patton & Jacquie Webster-Patton  
Paws With Cause  
James Peacey  
Play Orbit Studio  
Linda Povinelli  
Laurel Reitman  
Lynn Retallick  
April Rettkowski  
Virginia Rice  
**Richaven Architecture & Preservation**  
**Laura Robinson**  
David Rosen and Jeanine Needles  
Lauren Rosen & Will Atkin  
Susan Ross  
Andrew Ruthford  
Cindy P. Safronoff  
**Susan Samuelson & Mark Miller**  
Ansel & Sarah Santosa  
Paul Schiavo  
Betsy Schneider  
Ed Sider & Kay Rodriguez  
Sarah Simon & Manish Dalmia  
Basant Singh  
Amy Sloper  
Lani Smith  
Scott Soules  
Dave Spicer  
Sailor St. Clair  
**Ben Starsky & Alie Ibarra**

Lorraine Starsky  
Amy Stephson  
and Brian Rapalee  
Bradley Stevens  
Christopher Stuessy  
Shirin Subhani  
Elizabeth Sweet  
Marian & Jennifer Tanau  
Kelly Thompson  
& Mike Schumacher  
Tanya Ting  
Jessica Wagoner  
**Roger Wagoner & Kay Livingston**  
Jaclyn Weber  
& J. Kevin Kane  
**Patricia S. Weber**  
Sylvia Weinmann  
Jessica Wexler  
Stefan Wiktor  
Kathryn Wiley  
Mason Wiley  
& Jessi Libbing  
Stanley & Anne Willard  
Douglas K. Wills, Jr.  
& Dianne K. Wills  
Marianne Willumsen  
Yugakusha School  
Anonymous (43)

We strive to keep our donor listing accurate and up-to-date.

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



# STAFF & BOARD

## STAFF:



Maureen Ewing  
Executive Director



Mason Wiley  
Associate Director



Olena Billingsley  
Operations Manager



Shirin Subhani - Outreach  
& Program Coordinator



Nicolina Miller  
Development Coordinator



Aaron Brown  
Facilities Manager



Addison Kramlich  
Facilities Technician



Vincent Delli Paoli  
Facilities Technician

## BOARD:

Emma Decarreau (Co-Chair)  
Susan Samuelson (Co-Chair)  
Beth Mountsier (Treasurer)  
Patricia S. Weber (Secretary)  
Dema Alkhalil

Joan Horn  
Brian Rich  
Rick McLaughlin  
Brigid Nulty  
Roger Wagoner