

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



**The Black
Literacy & Arts
Collaborative
Project, Inc.**



A LETTER FROM OUR FOUNDER

This year has been one of the most challenging we've seen in our lifetimes. From the senseless killings of Black bodies, the loss of both freedom and loved ones due to COVID-19, the economic collapse that has impacted so many households, especially those within Black and Brown communities here in Boston and beyond -- it's been difficult to find the joy and motivation to keep fighting. While navigating life in 2020, we fought to find the balance through tears and hard work. Sadly, we are all too familiar with the socioeconomic disparities and injustices we face as a community. It is our mission to provide education, access, through the arts as well as equitable pathways for BIPOC youth to unlock their self-determining power and strengthen their community from within. This year has shown us, more than ever, how vital and valuable this work is. We never planned on launching this project so soon, there was more work to be done, but we also knew that we could not simply sit back and watch our community, our youth struggle for the right to simply exist much less for deserved access, and equity. We had to take action, therefore we had no choice but to show up and cement ourselves as a resource that our community both need and deserve.

This year forced us to push ourselves past our limits; to be creative, to innovate, to look beyond our individual challenges, and think about our tribe, the collective. It forced us to find more effective and transformative ways to serve our communities. What resulted was a better understanding of the needs of the people we serve and a stronger commitment to do everything we can to continue creating pathways for them to succeed. We are more committed than ever to drive equity and access to our communities. We have a long road ahead, but we're encouraged by the success and impact we've had thus far and those of you that have committed to joining us along the journey. Despite its challenges, this year proved to be transformative for our staff, our partners, and our community, and it wouldn't have happened without the support and advocacy of each of you. We thank you and look forward to working to build a more just society along with you in the new year and beyond.

Rochele Levy-Christopher

FOUNDER

OUR MISSION

OUR VISION

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Black Literacy & Arts Collaborative Project is to educate, empower and uplift BIPOC youth and creatives at the intersection of art, culture, and activism. By invoking radical imagination we encourage BIPOC communities to change landscapes all while inspiring new realities.



OUR VISION

Our goal is to support, educate and elevate BIPOC in order to create an equitable starting point between them and their white peers. Through artistic expression and engagement as well as bespoke programs and events, we serve as a connection point and source for underserved BIPOC communities to access the critical education and resources needed to thrive.

Through bespoke programs, events, and varied platforms, we connect our underserved communities with mentors they can relate to, curate unique experiences and programs, provide resources and invoke activism through a cultural and artistic lens.

OUR 2020 PROGRAMS

**This year, we successfully completed
8 programs and served over 500
youth and 200 families.**

8

**PROGRAMS
COMPLETED**

32

**VOLUNTEERS
ENGAGED**

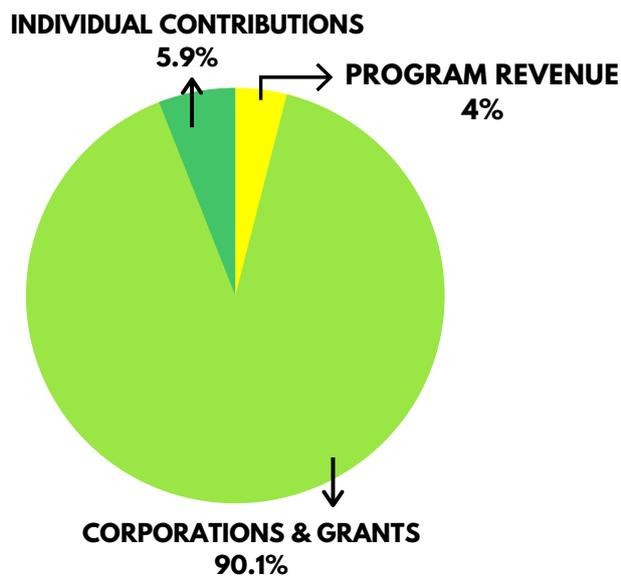
519

**YOUTH & FAMILIES
SERVED**

2020 FINANCIALS

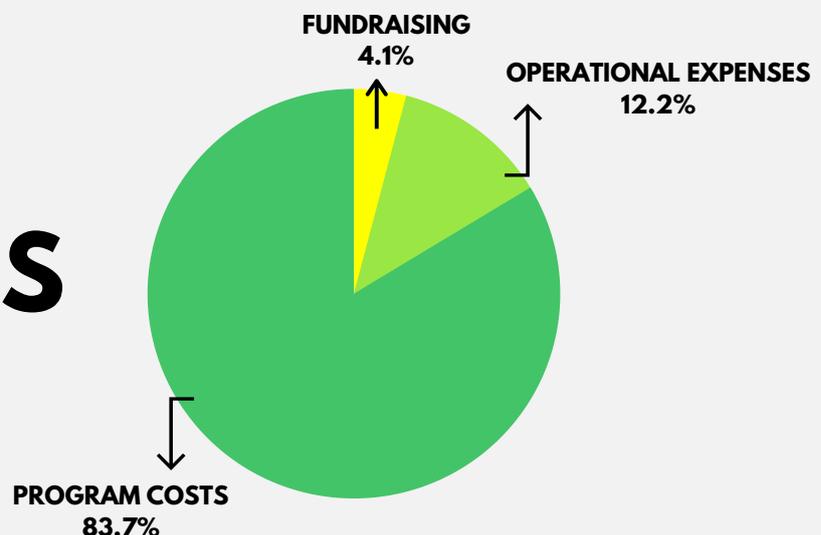
FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 2020

REVENUE



We're committed to using every dollar efficiently to grow and scale our impact. Your support helps us to empower and inspire the next generation of BIPOC leaders. Here's how your contributions helped in 2020.

EXPENSES



OUR PARTNERS & SPONSORS

This year, despite the unprecedented challenges facing the world and our community in particular, we were able to secure funding that allowed us to provide multi-faceted virtual programming and community resources.

We are incredibly grateful for these new partnerships and are excited about creating more magic with each of them in 2021.



THE COMMUNITY BUILDERS



DOING THE MOST GOOD®

BARNES & NOBLE



Henry Bear's Park



EVERYDAY BOSTON

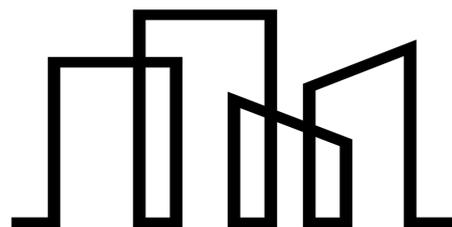


EXCEPTIONAL CARE. WITHOUT EXCEPTION.

CITY of BOSTON



OFFICE OF PREPAREDNESS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



UNION OF MINORITY NEIGHBORHOODS

OUR IMPACT

519

YOUTH & FAMILIES SERVED

237

BOOKS DONATED

86%

OF PARTICIPANTS SAY THEY FEEL THEY HAVE ACCESS TO THE RESOURCES
NEEDED AFTER PARTICIPATING IN A B.L.A.C. PROJECT PROGRAM



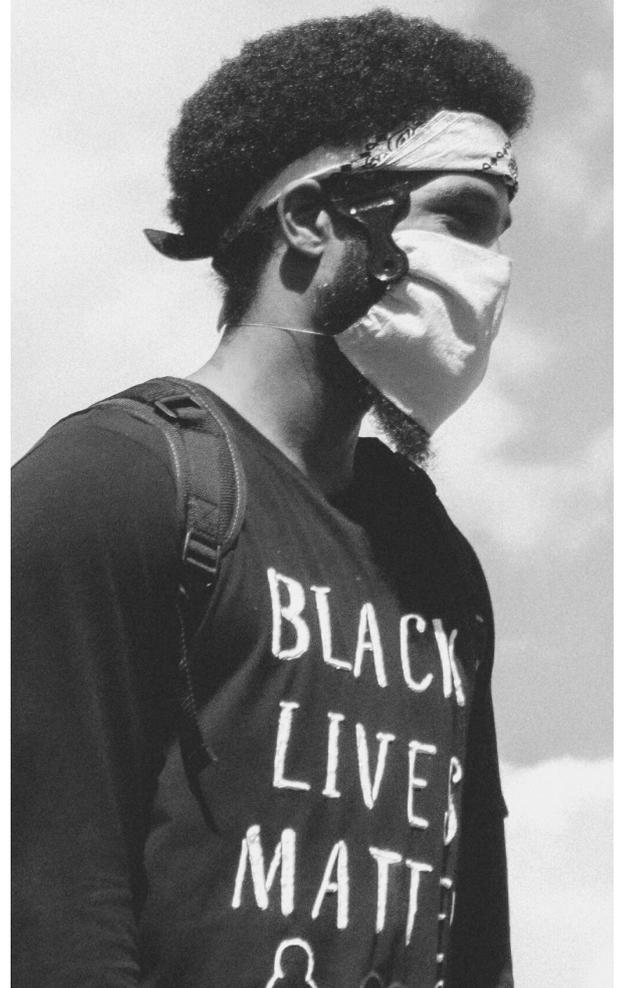
OUR IMPACT

100%

of youth, families, creatives, and small Black-owned businesses say their attitudes towards literacy, art, and activism positively changed after participating in B.L.A.C. Project programs.

100%

- Desire to be more involved in their community
- An increased understanding of their community
- Understanding the value of their cultural identity as an asset
- Formed a meaningful connection with a mentor or speaker
- Formed meaningful friendships with other program members
- A better understanding of how to start a business
- Increased self-awareness
- Increased confidence



2021 PLANS

We have much to accomplish in 2021. Some of those plans include:

Launching an Associate Board to grow the overall capacity and fundraising efforts within the organization.

Launching New Programs: In Fall 2021 we'll debut our Booked and Blessed program, which is designed to help young adults with current businesses learn best practices to better structure and operate them.

Going Digital: Redesigning our curriculum to better suit both fully virtual and hybrid environments. This includes digitizing and gamifying our content to increase engagement, collaboration, and scalability.

Partner with various local community organizations to create programming for children ages 0-5 and their families in order to provide early childhood education and associated tangible resources like clothing, food diapers, etc...



THE BLAC PROJECT

**THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR
DONORS, VOLUNTEERS, FAMILIES,
AND SUPPORTERS FOR HELPING
US GET THIS FAR! WE LOOK
FORWARD TO MAKING MORE
IMPACT WITH YOU IN 2021!**

CONTACT US!

hello@theblacproject.com

LEARN MORE AT

www.theblacproject.org

FOLLOW US @BLACPROJECT   

DONATE

