



Growing a sustainable ecosystem

I am proud to present our 2014 Annual Report for Ocean Discovery Institute: *Young Lives Transformed Through Science*. The Annual Report illustrates the transformative impacts achieved and hints at why I am excited to preside over the strategic direction the organization is pursuing for 2015 and beyond.



We recently developed a new business model. With this model as our guide, we will move forward with the next step in our organization's growth – opening the Living Lab and exploring the feasibility of replication on the East Coast. Fittingly, the model envisions a sustainable ecosystem in which our community, resources, and programs work in concert to grow the science and conservation leaders who will transform their community, their lives, and our world.

As I assume leadership of the Ocean Discovery Institute Board of Directors, I am proud to guide an organization with a strong foundation in the community and a long history of transformative impacts. I'm delighted to recognize my predecessor Sean Caddell, each of our Board members, Executive Director Shara Fisler, and the incredible community of staff, donors, and volunteers for their roles in making our organization a model for transforming underserved communities.

With your support we will succeed — and so will the thousands of amazing young people our programs reach.

Sincerely,



Kurt Gering
Board Chair

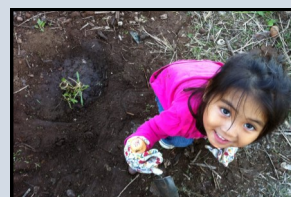
A national crisis

On a national level, the U.S. has fallen short in preparing its young people, particularly those from urban and underserved backgrounds, with the scientific knowledge needed for tomorrow's leadership.

A novel solution

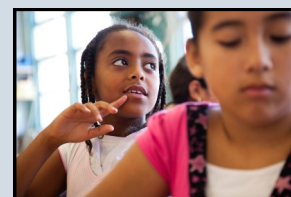
Ocean Discovery addresses this troubling trend by providing tuition-free, rigorous science programming that engages 6,000 students annually in the underserved San Diego community of City Heights. We use ocean science to teach all principles of science, technology, engineering, and math. Young people's curiosity is sparked by the ocean and, through their ongoing participation, they build the skills to succeed.

We implement our education model using a three-tiered approach focusing on:



1 Generating curiosity

We engage young people, their families, and community members in hands-on science and conservation programs.



2 Building skills and knowledge

We provide classroom and field-based ocean science education in local elementary and middle schools.



3 Developing leaders

We deliver intensive programming and support services to youth at the middle, high school, and college levels.

Ocean Discovery Institute is the proud recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring!



Volunteer mentors like Barbra Calantas (left) mentored Ocean Leader seniors through the college application process.

Our high school **seniors** submitted **116** college applications.

Developing Leaders

Over **130** scientists provided **mentorship** allowing students to envision **themselves** as scientists.

Nearly **60%** of current **college students** are **majoring in science**.



City Heights 5th graders use an electrophoresis machine, just as they may do in their future career.

3,498 students received hands-on **experience** with **scientific equipment** not available in their schools.

Building Skills and Knowledge

3rd through 6th graders **demonstrated** a **30% increase** in **science knowledge**.

Young people took part in **6,254 hours** of **authentic research** and conservation projects.



Young people take action for the environment during a Watershed Avengers canyon restoration event.

5,111 people **explored science** in their community.

Generating Curiosity

40% of environmental restoration event participants were **inspired** to **participate again**.

100% of high school students **expressed interest in pursuing science** and **conservation** careers.



A Living Lab for City Heights

In order to expand our reach from 6,000 to 20,000 students every year, Ocean Discovery is building a Living Lab — a permanent facility in the heart of the community we serve. This state-of-the-art, 12,000-foot facility with 35,000 feet of outdoor features will set the high expectations our young people deserve.



2014 Progress

- Finalized design and architecture
- Continued to engage 40 expert advisors in the creation of the facility
- Reached \$12 million of our \$15 million capital campaign goal

Preparing to transform lives on the East Coast

With the support of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Ocean Discovery spent 2014 exploring replication of our successful model in the Chesapeake Bay region. Here are the highlights:

- In April, staff made exploratory visits to Washington, D.C., Baltimore, and Norfolk, Va.
- Norfolk was selected as our ideal location for replication, and a “school shed” - all the schools flowing into Booker T. Washington High School - was identified.
- In November, staff returned to the region to meet with potential partners, including local school and government officials.



Ocean Discovery's community of investors includes individuals, foundations, corporations, and government entities. Each one empowers us to operate day to day and make a positive impact on thousands of young lives. Thank you for your support!



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**Denotes cumulative lifetime giving*

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“These young people **achieving** at
unprecedented rates are possible
because **you believe** in them. And
because of this, they believe in
themselves.”

— *Shara Fisler*
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Terressa Whitaker
Cindy-lou White

Volunteer support:

823

volunteers engaged

7,776

total hours logged

\$166,095

approximate value to the organization

Visionary Community

Members support Ocean Discovery through monthly automated gifts. These contributions of anywhere from \$10-\$100 provide critical, consistent support for our programs.

Shaan Akhtar
Benita Allen
Jason Anderson
Margaret Arnone
David Barkan
Joel Barkan & Stephanie Nehasil

**“I want to be an
engineer who
does something
useful for the
world.”**

— *Ulisses*
Ocean Leader, UCLA student

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Jeff Williams
Roy Wilson
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California Coastal Conservancy
National Oceanic & Atmospheric
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M5 Productions
Mission Bay Automotive
Morgan Stanley
Morrison Foerster
NRG Energy
Patagonia
RECON Environmental
Subaru of America
Union Bank of California
UC San Diego
Verizon

Revenue

Government Contributions	\$541,526
Foundation Contributions	\$439,815
<i>Bubble Up!</i> Gala	\$203,663
Individual Contributions	\$151,229
Corporate Contributions	\$142,956
Other	\$60,140
Total	\$1,539,329

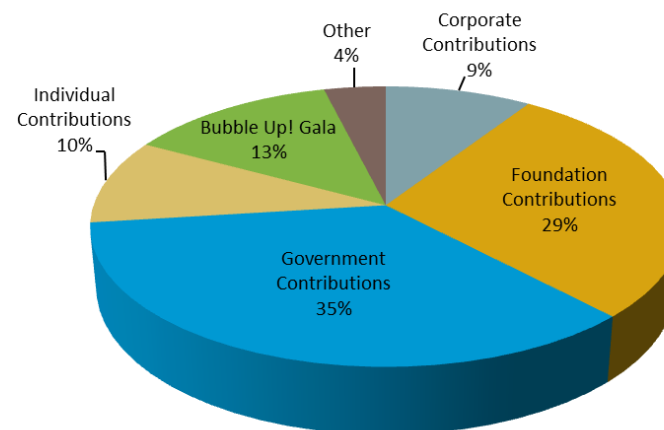
Expenses

Program expenses	\$1,098,363
Management and general	\$237,052
Fundraising	\$122,193
Total	\$1,457,608

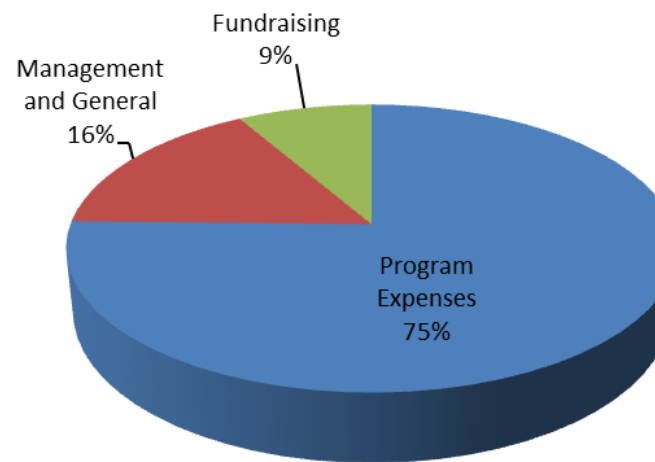
Net Assets

Beginning of 2014	\$1,985,463
End of 2014	\$2,067,183
Change	+\$81,721

Revenue Categories



Expense Categories



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