

ANNUAL REPORT





2017

MESSAGE FROM

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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As I complete the second year of my term as President of the Board of Trustees, it is natural to reflect on what we have accomplished over the past two years. I am proud to say that the AFC has significantly increased its value proposition to its members and supporters by expanding our programming and extending our outreach to the community. Of course the accomplishments we have realized were only possible with the collaborative efforts of the Executive Committee and the Trustees of the organization, and I wish to extend my personal thanks for their commitment to the foundation.

When I took office in 2016, the AFC was in transition as an organization. Our previous Executive Director, Kit Anderson, retired in June, 2015, and the foundation operated without a day-to-day leader for over three months before we retained her replacement, Stephen Sendelbeck. With our new ED in place, the foundation was once again poised to move forward with the challenge of finding new ways to reach the public and carry out our new purpose:

**TO HELP PEOPLE DISCOVER
- AND EXPERIENCE -
THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF DESIGN.**

Our first challenge was to find a way to reach the public with information about the built environment that surrounded them. We embarked on a program to create a walking tour app that would bring information to the user about the buildings that are around them, and in September, 2016 we launched our ArchiTour Cincinnati app in conjunction with the launch of Cincinnati's new streetcar. The initial app included three walking tours, one that followed the streetcar line, one that documented the Fourth/Fifth Street corridor, and one that identified 20 Must See Buildings in the urban core of the city. Since its launch, the app has grown to 7 walking tours with an 8th tour under development that will provide information on architecture in the Covington/Newport area.

While this was happening, we continued to grow our in-school education program: Design LAB: Learn And Build. Under the leadership of our new Education Director, Christen Lubbers, the AFC was able to reach over 2,000 students in more than 100 classrooms throughout the Greater Cincinnati area with 80+ professional volunteers going into these classrooms and working directly with the students. We continue to refine this program and make a difference in these students' lives by teaching them "design thinking" and raising their awareness about the possibility of careers in the design, architecture, and construction professions. We also participated in a session at the A'17 AIA Conference on Architecture in Orlando in April 2017 where we shared our approach to student education. There were nine other organizations from around the US participating in the event that operated very different programs. We are pleased to say that Design LAB was clearly the longest running program and reached the largest number of students of any of the programs presented at the conference.

We also continued to offer our legacy programs that included the following:

- The Apple Award Gala honored James T. Fitzgerald, FAIA, Chairman Emeritus of FRCH Design Worldwide for his contributions to the community and leadership in the development of the Contemporary Arts Center.
- The Great House tour of the Corbett Residence that drew nearly 300 people to tour the home designed by a protege of Frank Lloyd Wright, John deKoven Hill..
- We conducted construction tours of two of Cincinnati's most iconic buildings, Music Hall

Trustee Emeritus

Gary L Herfel, Esq.
Donald Junker, AIA
H.C. Buck Niehoff, Esq.
Alice Weston



2017

THE PRESIDENT

and Union Terminal. We were able to gain access to these two buildings during their renovation and to give our members an opportunity to see the transition in progress.

- We conducted a roundtable on an important topic for the future of Cincinnati: constructing decks over Ft. Washington Way to reconnect the CBD with the Banks and the riverfront area.

But the most significant accomplishment the Architectural Foundation of Cincinnati realized under my tenure as President was the introduction of our new program designed to showcase great architecture in the community by providing behind the scenes access to buildings that are not ordinarily open to the public. Doors Open Over the Rhine was held in October 2017, and over 800 people registered for the five hour event. They were able to access 30 unique venues in Over the Rhine at their convenience, and they used the AFC's second app, Doors Open OTR, to plan their visits to the locations that were of greatest interest to them. Venues ranged from arts facilities such as Memorial Hall, the Cincinnati Shakespeare Company, the Ensemble Theater, and the Art Academy to businesses such as Cintrifuse at Union Hall, Empower, and Lightbourne Communications to philanthropic organizations like People's Liberty and Findlay Kitchen. This was the largest program the AFC has attempted to date, and it clearly was a success based on the level of participation and feedback that the AFC has received from the venues, participants, and volunteers. The Board of Trustees has committed to continuing the program in 2018 with a two day event that will focus on downtown Cincinnati.

So as I step down as President of the Board and turn the leadership of the AFC over to the capable hands of Lauren Della Bella, I do so believing we are making a difference in the community and helping the public understand how architecture and design contribute to the quality of life in Greater Cincinnati. We can only do so with the financial support of our Corporate Partners, members, and the organizations that have provided us grants to carry out our mission. Thank you to all who made the past two years successful, and I look forward to even greater things under Lauren's leadership.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Grace

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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2017

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for year ending December 31, 2017

ACTIVITIES

SUPPORT AND REVENUES

| | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Events/programs | \$ 1,040 |
| Memberships | \$ 3,150 |
| Corporate Partnerships | \$ 44,500 |
| Grants/gifts | \$ 58,505 |
| Miscellaneous | \$ 70 |

TOTAL S&R \$107,265

EXPENSES

| | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Events/programs | \$ 26,444 |
| Education | \$ 9,613 |
| Administration | \$115,608 |
| Development | \$ 702 |
| Operations | \$ 32,010 |
| Communications | \$ 5,310 |

TOTAL EXPENSES \$189,687

Other Income/Expense

| | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Interest/dividends | \$ 3,447 |
| Realized gain/loss | \$ 10,377 |
| Unrealized gain/loss | \$ 6,901 |
| Depreciation | \$ 358 |

TOTAL OTHER \$ 20,367

FINANCIAL POSITION

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Current assets | \$ 95,828 |
| Current liabilities | \$ 31,919 |
| Temp Restricted funds | \$ 30,901 |
| Unrestricted funds | \$ 95,063 |
| Net Income | \$ (62,055) |

Compiled from statements prepared by
Loftus & Loftus, CPA.

GRANTS

The Architectural Foundation of Cincinnati was the recipient of financial support for one or more of its programs from the following foundations:

- The Spirit of Construction Foundation provided a grant to support Design LAB: Learn And Build in the amount of \$15,000.
- The Carol Ann & Ralph V. Haile Jr. US Bank Foundation provided a grant to support Doors Open Over the Rhine in the amount of \$10,000.

CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS

The following organizations were Corporate Partners of the Architectural Foundation of Cincinnati in 2017:

Platinum Level (\$5,000)

- GBBN Architects
- Hixson Architecture Engineering Interiors
- Oswald Company
- Pioneer Cladding & Glazing Systems
- Western & Southern / Eagle Realty

Gold Level (\$2,500)

- CMTA Consulting Engineers
- First Financial Bank
- FRCH Design Worldwide
- HGC Construction
- Messer Construction
- RCF Group
- SHP Leading Design
- Turner Construction

Silver Level (\$1,500)

- Graydon
- Neyer Properties

CORPORATE SUPPORTER SPONSORSHIPS

The following organizations provided financial support to the AFC at the \$1,000 level:

- BKD
- CR architecture + design
- Dinsmore
- Horan Associates
- Neyer Management
- North American Properties
- Northside Bank & Trust
- Turnbull-Wahlert Construction

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CONTRIBUTIONS

The following organizations provided contributions to specific programs or activities of the AFC:

Design LAB: Learn And Build

- Champlin Architects
- Cincinnati Museum Center
- Hixson Architecture Engineering Interior Design
- Rhinegeist Charitable Suds

Doors Open Over the Rhine

- First Financial Bank
- FRCH Design Worldwide
- GBBN Architects
- Hixson Architecture Engineering Interior Design
- Messer Construction
- SHP Leading Design
- Turner Construction
- Jay Schuermann - EOE Furniture

IN-KIND DONATIONS

The following organizations provided in-kind donations to support the Design LAB: Learn And Build program:

- Curbell
- Mayhew & Pepper
- Plaza Art Supplies
- Public Library of Cincinnati
- THP Limited
- UC College of Design Architecture Art & Planning

The following organization provided the use of their space as the headquarters for the Doors Open Over the Rhine event:

- AIA Cincinnati

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS

Additional support for the AFC was provided by the following individuals:

MEMBER (\$75)

- Beverly Erschell
- Robert Heimann
- Rick Koehler
- Ron Kull
- Michael Mauch
- Ingrid Shick

SUPPORTER (\$100)

- Lisa Barngrover
- Donald Beck
- Jay Chatterjee
- Robert Dorsey
- James Fitzgerald
- James Geier & Greg Smith
- Steven Goldstein
- Frank Russell
- Greg Tilsley

ENTHUSIAST (\$250)

- Fred Bruce
- Michael Koch
- Mark McKillip
- Jay Schuermann
- Alan Weiskopf

PATRON (\$500)

- James Millar



2017

PROGRAMS &

Design LAB: Learn And Build



Students learn how structural forces work in bridges using a simple exercise

Design LAB: Learn And Build completed its 21st year in operation and the third consecutive year under the leadership of the AFC. The 2017 program theme was Bridge, and over 2,200 students in more than 100 classrooms participated in the program. More than 80 volunteers presented the students with the challenge to design a bridge of their choice, and the projects ranged from pedestrian bridges to landscape bridges to allow for animal migration to trans-oceanic bridges to allow people to drive between continents! In addition, high school students were given the option to design a bridge out of balsa wood that was tested to collapse at a special event at DAAP, hosted by THP Limited. The structural engineers were able to give the students feedback about their designs and how they could have made them stronger.



Students display their bridge project at the Design LAB Exhibit at the Library

The Design LAB Exhibit at the Public Library of Cincinnati was one of the most successful under the AFC's leadership. Students and their families were more engaged, and they had the opportunity to present their projects to design professionals and experience a critique of their designs.

The 2017-18 Design LAB project is underway, and this year's theme is Food For Thought. Students are being challenged to design spaces where food is produced, prepared, sold or served.

PROGRAMS, ROUNDTABLES & TOURS

The AFC offered 6 programs and tours in 2017 that addressed a wide range of issues.



Attendees at the Charitable Suds event at Rhinegeist build their own models

- The year started off in February with a special event and fund raiser at Rhinegeist Brewery. The Design LAB program was the beneficiary of the brewery's Charitable Suds night where one dollar of every beer purchased was contributed to the AFC. Friends of the program enjoyed a social event and games that related to the nature of Design LAB.
- In March, the AFC's Corporate Partners were treated to an appreciation event at Graydon's new offices in the Scripps Center. Along with a networking opportunity, attendees heard a presentation by Steve Kenat from GBBN and Bob Grace from Turner on the design and progress of the Union Terminal renovation.
- In April, the AFC tackled the issue of decking over Ft. Washington Way with a roundtable entitled "Healing the Divide". Nearly 100 attendees heard a brief presentation on the history of the project, concepts of design for public spaces, and the structural, technical, and financial challenges of building the decks. Panelists included Don Clinton from Cooper Robertson NYC, Chris Hermann from MKSK Columbus, and Chad Edwards from emersion Design Cincinnati, and they discussed their perspectives on these issues. The highly engaged crowd provided questions to the panelists and left with a greater understanding of the benefits of this project.



Participants engage in dialogue with the roundtable panelists at Graydon

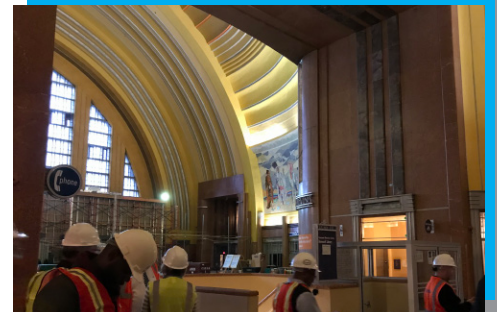
2017

ACTIVITIES

- In June, AFC supporters were given the opportunity to be the final group to tour Music Hall during its renovation prior to its grand opening in October. The tours were led by representatives of Messer Construction and afforded the 50+ attendees the opportunity to preview the improvements to the historic structure.
- In September, the AFC presented a review of John Harrison's new book, "Home Visual Communications" at the Mercantile Library. John Faherty, director of the library and author of the book, introduced John and his work, and John Harrison discussed some of the homes that were documented in it. John also autographed copies of his book, and the proceeds from the sales went to the UC College Conservatory of Music's Harmony Fund.
- In November, the AFC offered our Corporate Partners an opportunity to see the renovations of Union Terminal in progress. Over 50 participants were given guided tours by representatives of GBBN and Turner to understand the complexity of the renovation and the construction challenges that had to be addressed. While the project was only halfway through the construction period, the tours gave participants a chance to see the transformations that were underway as well as a vision for what the final product would be.



Participants tour Music Hall in June under construction



Participants tour Union Terminal in November under construction

DOORS OPEN OVER THE RHINE

In October, the AFC took on its most ambitious project to date. Doors Open Over the Rhine offered attendees the opportunity to gain access to facilities throughout the OTR community that are not ordinarily accessible to the public. Thirty arts, educational, business, and philanthropic venues opened their doors to the public from noon to 5:00 pm on a Sunday afternoon, and more than 800 people registered to participate in the event. Attendees could download the Doors Open OTR app to see the participating venues and plan their visit before the day of the event. With support from 44 volunteers, the AFC greeted visitors at the door of each facility with a volunteer from the venue who could answer specific questions. Many locations offered tours of their facilities, and some even offered food and beverages to the attendees. The goal of the event was to showcase the amazing design that is happening in OTR beyond the bars and restaurants that are most visible and to demonstrate the financial commitment that has been made in this community to ensure that it will thrive into the future.

This program was offered free of charge to the public thanks to a generous grant from the Carol Ann & Ralph V. Haile, Jr. US Bank Foundation as well as contributions from many of the AFC's Corporate Partners.



Experiencing Memorial Hall's transformation during Doors Open OTR

ArchiTour CINCINNATI

The AFC continued to expand its architectural walking tour app that now offers 7 tours of downtown, Over the Rhine and the University of Cincinnati campus. This app is free and available through the App Store and GooglePlay.



Visiting A359 to learn about their business during Doors Open OTR



2018

CALENDAR

2018 Board of Trustees

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Jay Schuermann
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James Stapleton
FRCH Design Worldwide

Charlie Thomas
Eagle Realty Group

Vincent Terry, AIA Cincinnati Rep
Moody Nolan

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

The AFC is planning the following 10 events in 2018. Dates are tentative.

February 21

Corporate Partner Appreciation Event at Messer Construction

March 22

Cincinnati Zoo Tour

April 18

Affordable Housing in Transitional Communities Roundtable

April 28 thru May 5

Design LAB Exhibit at the Public Library of Cincinnati

May 23

Apple Award Gala at Music Hall

July 19

UC College of Business Construction Tour

August 18

Architecture Tour of Columbus, IN

September 22-23

Doors Open Cincy

October 25

Union Terminal Pre-Opening Tour

November 15

Corporate Partner Appreciation Event

SUPPORT THE AFC

The Architectural Foundation of Cincinnati is a 501(c)(3) philanthropic organization. Contributions are tax deductible.

Memberships begin at \$75. Corporate Sponsorships begin at \$500. Corporate Partnerships begin at \$1,500.

Present and planned gifts are welcome. Please remember the AFC in your annual giving and estate plans.

Make checks payable to the Architectural Foundation of Cincinnati and mail to:
659 Van Meter St.
Suite 540
Cincinnati, OH 45202

For additional information about the AFC, please contact:

R. Stephen Sendelbeck, AIA
Executive Director

Christen Lubbers, LEED Green Assoc.
Education Director