



Ann Bancroft
FOUNDATION

2020 IMPACT REPORT

SEE WHAT
WE'RE MADE OF

DEAR ANN BANCROFT FOUNDATION SUPPORTERS,

What can we say about 2020? There was so much that was good and yet so much heartbreak around the world. Each year we seek to pause and reflect on the year – our challenges, achievements, and stories of resilience from our girls and for our work here at the Ann Bancroft Foundation.

A mentor wrote to us this last fall: “Like so many of us, the pandemic has taken away the opportunity to participate in the activities we love. Getting this grant, at this time, would allow Jessica to continue creating art even in the midst of COVID-19, and to still feel like she is working her way to her goals.”

This is why we do this work.

The pandemic was particularly hard on women and girls around the world. Because of this, we are even more dedicated to our work to invest in a girl’s dream to nurture her confidence, self-esteem, pride, and self-advocacy by connecting girls with activities that let them show the world what they are really made of.

Prior to the pandemic, we expected 2020 to be our largest grantmaking year in our history. We started off 2020 strong, but were quickly overcome with the reality of the pandemic and its impact on our girls, their families, and our work. We ended up suspending our spring grant cycle as the state was shutting down and girls’ activities were cancelled and programs shuttered.

We were back in the fall and, although our numbers were lower than usual, we were thrilled to support 80 girls to make their dreams come true! We remained committed to increasing our geographic range across Minnesota and were able to increase our reach to 77 of 87 Minnesota counties.

During 2020 our mission remained unchanged, but how we served girls needed to shift. We quickly turned to virtual programming and offered more than a dozen virtual opportunities for girls to come together for peer learning and education. We updated our website to offer links to community emergency resources, mental health resources, and updated information on our grantmaking plans.

Our staff was working from home, our volunteers were volunteering from home, and our long-standing in-person Annual Celebration and Fundraiser became a virtual event.

Although our 2020 Annual Celebration and Fundraiser was virtual, we were still able to raise \$230,000, surpassing our revised goal! Thank you to the 600 of you who attended remotely from around the state, the country, and the world. Our event was a success because of your continued support of us even during extremely uncertain times.

Also, in 2020 our Executive Director, Sara Fenlason, departed after an amazing 6 years at the helm here. Sara was our first executive director and laid the groundwork for a strong organizational structure and grantmaking program. We are forever grateful for her leadership and vision. We have an interim ED in place (Christine Ganzlin) and will be announcing a new Executive Director in the upcoming months.

We recently received a note from one of our 2012 trailblazers, Abby. She described how her grant to attend a camp at Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center “led me to discover a passion for outdoor science, further leading me to a degree in geology and two international field research projects.” We are so proud of her and the path she has created for herself.

As we write this, some of the pandemic restrictions are being lifted here in Minnesota and other places around the world. As pandemic restrictions continue to evolve, however, we are hopeful that we can more fully get back to the business of serving girls so that they can realize their dreams and feel supported along the way.

2022 marks the 25th Anniversary of the Ann Bancroft Foundation. We will announce a new strategic plan that includes input gathered from many of you, our donors, and friends. Save the date – our 25th Anniversary Celebration will be in person next year on April 28, 2022, at The Depot in Minneapolis!

Thank you for all you do for the Ann Bancroft Foundation and the girls and mentors we support. And thank you for staying on the journey with us over this last year.



Ann Bancroft
Founder



Jackie Hartman
Board Chair

TENACITY.

THAT'S WHAT WE'RE MADE OF.

“AS ONE OF THE FEW GIRLS
TAKING ENGINEERING
ELECTIVES IN HIGH
SCHOOL, MY VOICE IS
OFTEN IGNORED. IN THE
PAST, I HAVE JUST
ACCEPTED THAT.

NOW, I HAVE LEARNED THE
IMPORTANCE OF BEING
TREATED AS AN EQUAL.”





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“While it is important to be humble, it is also important to take time to acknowledge your talents!”



NAOMI LOPEZ

Spring 2017 Trailblazer

My name is Naomi Lopez, and I'm an alumna of ABF. I used my ABF grant to attend a pre-college program at Carnegie Mellon University when I was 16 years old.

Now, I am a senior at Carleton College and study political science. This year, I'm also applying to law school! I'm pursuing a career in Child Protection and Juvenile Justice. I strongly believe we all should invest in the well-being and growth of children, particularly BIPOC youth. I've enjoyed working with dedicated non-profits and professionals in Minnesota with similar goals.

If you are a past recipient of an Ann Bancroft Foundation grant or are interested in applying, you have done something in your life that is worth being proud of. Congratulations! Maybe you learned a challenging piece of music in band, beat your personal record during a race, or earned some stellar grades in school. These are all accomplishments you should confidently claim and say, "Yeah, I just did that." Girls in our society, however, are taught to downplay their successes and not brag.

When I was younger, I struggled to accept any praise for my work. I missed so many opportunities to celebrate the awesome stuff I did as a result. I was reminded of the importance of taking ownership and pride in my achievements when I started college last fall. I worked hard throughout high school (and during the summers thanks to my Dare to Dream grant) and got into my dream college.

I was accepted into my school on my own merit, but I somehow felt out of place and underqualified. It was a classic case of imposter syndrome. The term imposter syndrome is used to describe a pattern of negative thinking a person may have when they are rewarded for their success. Although individuals deserve their accomplishments, they may experience feelings of doubt and inadequacy. To overcome my imposter syndrome, I reflected on all the studying, extracurriculars, and hard work I had done in order to get into college.

I challenge girls involved with ABF to take a moment to reflect on something they did in the past year that made them proud. Think about how much effort, bravery, and skill it took! We have all done something awesome, so let's own it!

POSITIVELY IMPACTING MN GIRLS

Each year the Ann Bancroft Foundation evaluates the impact of its programming by having grant recipients respond to a survey before and after their grant-funded experience.

During 2020 the Ann Bancroft Foundation, like others, had to shift and work to best meet the needs of our girls and other stakeholders. We worked to stay connected with our grant recipients. This did not always prove to be an easy task with our Trailblazers taking on the daunting task of navigating the many challenges of COVID-19 – distance learning, families struggling with unemployment, illness from COVID-19, mental health concerns, and online fatigue.

We opened our regular Spring 2020 grant round, but eventually cancelled the spring grants because most programming and experiences for Trailblazers were cancelled due to the pandemic.

We had a successful Fall 2020 grant round (although smaller than most years due to COVID-19), and we did not get those evaluation results until recently, so they will be reported in our next Annual Impact Report.

In 2018 and 2019, we awarded \$358,670 to 751 girls across Minnesota. We are proud that in 2019, 25% of our grants went to girls who live outside of the 7-county Twin Cities Metro region.

We can report some amazing cumulative evaluation results for the years leading up to 2020.

RESILIENCE.
THAT'S WHAT WE'RE MADE OF.



Between 2016-2019 girls who received ABF grants reported the following about the impact of their grant awards:

99% of girls surveyed agreed that applying for their grant helped them think about, describe, and work toward their dreams.

95% of girls surveyed indicated that their mentor's support through the grant process was helpful and that their mentor was an adult they could trust.

84% of evaluated grant recipients report that without their ABF grant, they were not sure that they would have been able to participate in their funded activity.

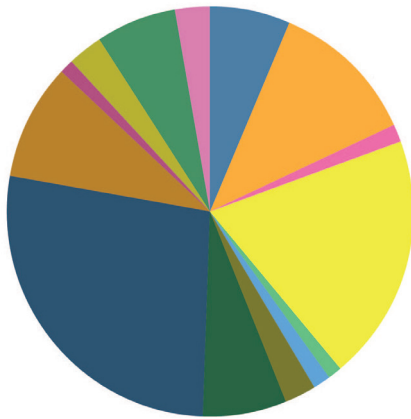
99% of girls surveyed agreed that their funded activity helped them learn more about themselves, was a good experience, and changed their lives for the better.

ABOUT OUR GRANTEES

We had only one grant round due to the pandemic (normally there are two). We had to cancel the spring 2020 round because the activities were being cancelled. All girls were encouraged to re-apply for a future round..

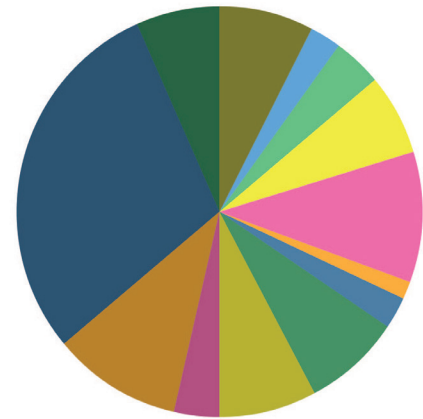
- 78 grants awarded
- \$35,000 in grant dollars

GRANTS BY ACTIVITY



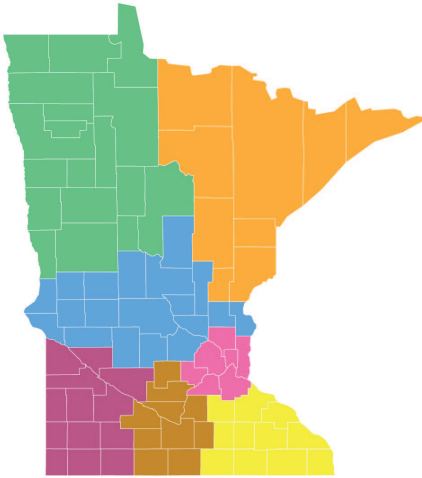
Leadership	5
Dance	9
Horse Training	1
Travel	15
Volleyball	1
Outdoors	1
Gymnastics	2
Basketball	5
Dance	21
Art	7
STEM	1
Softball	2
Education	5
Cheerleading	2

GRANTEES BY GRADE AT TIME OF AWARD



Kindergarten	6
1st Grade	2
2nd Grade	3
3rd Grade	5
4th Grade	8
5th Grade	1
6th Grade	2
7th Grade	6
8th Grade	6
9th Grade	3
10th Grade	8
11th Grade	23
12th Grade	5

AWARD DISTRIBUTION MAP



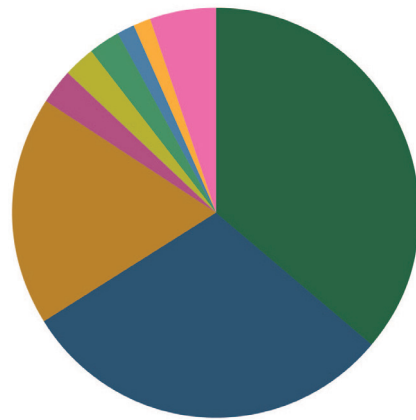
Northeast	7
Northwest	0
Central	1
Metro	65
Southeast	0
South Central	1
Southwest	0

AWARD DISTRIBUTION BY COUNTY

Anoka	5
Carver	1
Dakota	3
Hennepin	49
Kandiyohi	1
Koochiching	1
Lake	1
Le Sueur	1
Ramsey	7
St. Louis	7
Washington	1

ETHNICITY

Our grantees come from a wide variety of ethnic backgrounds as reported in the application process.



Black or African American	28
White	23
Multi-Ethnic	14
Arab	2
Hispanic	2
Somali	2
Asian	1
American Indian or Alaska Native	1
Chose not to share	4

THE ANN BANCROFT IMPACT AWARD

Linda Green, the owner of Art of Dance Studio in Brooklyn Park, was the recipient of the 2020 ABF Impact Award. Linda is the living embodiment of “Imagine Something Bigger,” realizing her dreams for dance with the opening of her own studio in 2002. She has taught and mentored hundreds of girls over the years including more than 55 ABF Trailblazers. Linda is one of our strongest advocates in her community and is truly a friend of ABF.

In Linda’s own words: “I’ve always wanted to dance. It’s my passion. I love the art of dance and that empowered me to say, ‘You know what, I didn’t have this when I was really little.’ I had a dream that one of these days not only am I going to dance on the big stage, but I’m going to make sure that other girls are going to do the same thing. And what better than to teach them the art of dance. That’s an extension of me and that’s what I want to give back.

The Ann Bancroft Foundation has meant so much to these students. I feel like ABF is giving the same thing that I have given. They are giving the opportunity where girls wouldn’t have one before to learn the art of dance, to experience dance in a way that impacts them to have self-esteem, self-worth, and confidence to go out into the world and say, ‘You know what? I can do this.’ ”

Hear more from Linda and watch one of her class sessions on our YouTube channel at <https://youtu.be/IYQZ6tPKVZ8>.









DETERMINATION.
THAT'S WHAT WE'RE MADE OF.

“I THINK IT'S SUCH A
GREAT OPPORTUNITY
FOR GIRLS TO HELP
RAISE THEIR
CONFIDENCE LEVELS
AND ACHIEVE THEIR
DREAMS AND GOALS
IN THE FUTURE.
MYSELF INCLUDED.”

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“Without determination, I would have stopped going after my dream long ago.”

THANK YOU TO OUR 2020 DONORS!

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The Ann Bancroft Foundation is funded 100% by contributions – *we could not fulfill our mission without your generosity and support.* The following lists include donors who contributed \$250 or more throughout 2020. If you feel there is an error, please contact us at (612) 338-5752 x192 so we can correct our records.

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** Indicates individuals who have joined the Legacy Society by including the Ann Bancroft Foundation in their estate plans. For information about making a planned gift please contact Jennifer Summers Arriola at (612) 338-5752 x192.*

TRIBUTES AND MEMORIALS

IN HONOR OF

Barb Bitterman

In honor of my mom: Behind every girl (and boy!) is a girl who grew up strong!

Kevin Bitterman

Jane Cowles

A new connection with a kindred spirit, thanks to a virtual "Chat With Ann"

Amy Sandeen

George Floyd

#blm

Lindsay Johnson

Bonnie Gerhard

Thank You Bonnie for all you do for us and the community!

Sonja Griebel

Kathy Holm

Merry Christmas Grandam! Thank you for supporting us and all that we do!

Sonja and Ruby Griebel

Donna Lightbody

Brenda Lightbody

Jodi O'Donovan

Thank you for being a great teacher and friend. Merry Christmas.

Ruby Griebel

Sarah Rondeau Ananthan

Sarah Fritz

Mason and Eli Schribman-Charney

Robin Schribman

Teresa Thour

Thankful for you!

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Emily Vogel

Dan Smith

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MY ANN BANCROFT FOUNDATION INVOLVEMENT:

Donor, Board Member, Development Committee Chair, Feasibility Committee Member

HOW I BECAME INVOLVED WITH THE ANN BANCROFT FOUNDATION:

A young woman from the YWCA Minneapolis was a speaker at the ABF Annual Event, so I attended. Then, Kris Petersen and Sara Fenlasen invited me to get more involved.

WHY I CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE ANN BANCROFT FOUNDATION:

My whole life has been about supporting girls and women. The ABF model of providing direct support to girls to make their dreams happen speaks to my heart.

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO OTHERS WHO MAY WANT TO GET INVOLVED:

Volunteer experience should fill you – and there are many opportunities at ABF to be involved. You can be a grant reviewer, help with outreach to girls, volunteer with the annual celebration, mentoring, equity and diversity work, and more.



2020 FINANCIALS

Statement of Financial Position (Unaudited)

Cash	\$730,800
Other Assets	\$61,730
Total Assets	\$792,530

PPP Loan	\$45,500
Grants Payable	\$34,440
Other Payables	\$6,940
Total Liabilities	\$86,880

Net Assets With Donor Restrictions	\$300,380
Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	\$405,270
Total Net Assets	\$705,650
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$792,530

Statement of Activities (Unaudited)

Without Donor Restrictions

Revenue

Institutional Grants	\$119,600
Individual Contributions	\$154,900
Annual Event	\$229,940
Other Events & Income	\$6,310
Gifts in Kind	\$11,730
Total Revenue	\$522,480

Expense

Salaries & Benefits	\$202,640
Grants & Direct Program Costs	\$34,700
Contract, Outside & Professional Services	\$42,200
Annual Event	\$39,140
Office & Occupancy	\$55,520
Other Expenses	\$22,690
In Kind Expenses	\$11,730
Total Expenses	\$408,620

Change in Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	\$113,860
With Donor Restrictions	
Contributions	\$200,380
Release from Resetrictions	-\$24,880
Change in Net Assets - With Donor Restrictions	\$175,500
Total Change in Net Assets	\$289,360



CELEBRATE 25 YEARS OF ABF

Our 25th anniversary is in 2022 and we invite everyone to join us for the celebration. There will be small gatherings throughout the months leading up to the big party on April 28, 2022, in person at The Depot Minneapolis.

These 25 years would not have happened without the support of thousands of donors, volunteers, mentors, parents, and of course, our Trailblazers. Thank you all. We have created a web page at www.annbancroftfoundation.org/news/25Years with highlights from the past 25 years along with information on upcoming events. Bookmark it and keep checking back for updates and new content throughout the next year.

THANK YOU!

We would like to thank the many supporters of the Ann Bancroft Foundation who make our work possible. Special thanks to CCF for donating the time and conception, development and prepress work, to Graphic Knowledge for image retouching, and to Dolan Printing. Their pro-bono services and reduced pricing have minimized cost for production of this report.

MISSION

The Ann Bancroft Foundation inspires and encourages girls to imagine something bigger. We strive to build confidence and offer tools that will allow a girl to go after her dreams and feel supported along the way. Through grants, mentorship, and ongoing development opportunities, the Ann Bancroft Foundation is giving Minnesota girls strength to achieve their full potential.



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