2018 Annual Report

Inspiring the next generation of innovators, engineers, and creative problem solvers.
What I love most about The Works Museum is that there’s always something new – challenges to embrace, opportunities to be seized, and programs to inspire. The Works Museum is fully invested in delivering STEM education experiences that are of the highest standard, so we continue to re-invent and re-invigorate our programs to better serve our community, with a focus on addressing educational disparities.

Our goals and achievements consistently center around the breadth and depth of our community engagement, and 2018 was no exception. Museum attendance continued to increase as we surpassed our goals in the number of schools we served through our Engineering for All K-6 workshops, as well as the number of kids who participated in our summer and school break camps. We also opened a special makerspace for families – The Workshop – to provide hands-on opportunities for students and grown-ups to use real tools to design, create and engineer together.

As we remain committed to our mission - to inspire the next generation of innovators, engineers, and creative problem solvers - I’d like to acknowledge the many partners, donors, and volunteers who are on this journey with us. I speak for the whole organization when I express my sincere gratitude for your support.

Together we are building a future workforce capable of solving complex world problems, while making strides in expanding our ability to reach underserved audiences.

As you’ll see in this report, it is truly our strong, passionate community that both gives us purpose and drives us.

Thank you.

Jill Measells
CEO, The Works Museum
The Workshop

December 2018 saw the opening of our family makerspace, The Workshop.

This new experience was developed to give visitors the opportunity to create in a hands-on, tool-based learning environment. We noted that while the Twin Cities has many makerspaces available for adults, and metro area schools have spaces available to students, there weren’t options for families to make together. “In past generations, families may have built together in their home workshop, sewed together, or generally tinkered. But today, many adults may not have the knowledge, skills, or tools needed to support this kind of at-home engineering. We wanted to fill that need,” says Kit Wilhite, Director of Education.

Throughout 2018, Museum staff conducted research with community partners to guide the space and programming plan. With insights from a steering community and online and in-person interviews with local educators and makerspace designers and facilitators; we launched the space and our first season of programming. Participants explored woodworking, sewing, circuitry, soldering, Arduino, and stop-motion animation in a variety of drop-in activities, classes, and camps. We also partnered with Success Academy to test a new education partnership. Students from these programs helped to design, prototype, and build a new circuitry experience for the Museum gallery.

Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, and we look forward to continuing to build our maker programming. Thanks to Firefly Scientists Foundation, Xcel Energy Foundation, Schott Foundation, and the University of St. Thomas School of Engineering for financial and in-kind support for this project.

Autism Spectrum Disorder and Accessibility at The Works Museum

Visiting a museum can be hard for families living with autism. Children on the autism spectrum may need more preparation to understand what to expect from a visit, or may become overwhelmed by sensory stimulation. Yet, learning about engineering concepts and growing creativity, perseverance, and problem solving skills through activities like those at The Works Museum is critical for all children.
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Emerson Automation Solutions: Measurement & Analytical
Leroy and Ruth Fingerson
Margaret and Dr. Ilo Leppik
Pentair Foundation
Shattuck-St. Mary's School
Statement of Financial Position

Assets
Cash: $262,360
Accounts and Contributions Receivable, Net: $5,005
Other Assets: $3354
Property and Equipment, Net: $2,092,511
Total Assets: $2,363,230

Liability and Net Assets
Current Liabilities: $165,606
Long Term Notes Payable: $1,612,764
Total Liabilities: $1,778,370

Net Assets
Unrestricted: $506,860
Temporarily Restricted: $78,000
Total Net Assets: $584,860

Audited financial reports are available upon request
beth.haney@theworks.org

Revenue
Total: $1,188,541
- Merchandise Sales -1%
- Memberships 4%
- Programs 64%
- Contributions 31%

Expenses
Total: $1,317,947
- Group Programs 49%
- Public Programs 32%
- Fund Raising 11%
- Management and General 8%

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