

On the Move



CLASSROOM LAW PROJECT
2021-22 ANNUAL REPORT

LETTER FROM ERIN ESPARZA

Dear Friends,

The 2021-22 school year was especially busy, with Classroom Law Project on the move in a number of important ways. As teachers and students began to move back into their classrooms after more than a year of online classes, we continued to support them both in-person and virtually. Working with educators, partners, and volunteers, our team found creative ways to keep our programs engaging, impactful, and available to nearly 120,000 students statewide.

I continue to be proud of our community and its flexibility and commitment to civics education throughout Oregon. We built on the successes of the previous year, making virtual programs easier, and ensuring those experiences were the best they could be. You can read the details of these efforts in the following pages, and I'd like to highlight some of our major initiatives.

We fully rolled out our online We the Teachers Educator Resource Community. The robust site includes a "Homeroom" landing page and content pages organized by program (Mock Trial, We the People, Court Tours, Teacher Professional Development, etc.), as well as by grade level. We've migrated all our existing materials and continue to add new materials to the site as they are created. We also translated a number of key resources into Spanish, making our programs accessible to students we hadn't previously been able to reach. This online presence is a critical component of our outreach. During the school year, over 11,000 unique users visited our online sites, downloading nearly 2,700 items.

We moved more fully into new parts of the state this year as well. While our programs have always been available statewide, we made significant progress on our key initiative of establishing regional presence across the state. We continued to maintain a part-time Regional Program Manager (RPM) in Eugene, and were able to add two full-time RPMs, one in Central Oregon and one in Southern Oregon. These new staff have hit the ground running, making strong connections with educators and community partners in their regions. We're excited to see regional extensions of successful programs like Courthouse Experience Tours, Law Day, and We the Reader Book Clubs for teachers already underway.

Also informing our regional outreach, Educator Advisory Councils (EAC) were established in all 3 regions: Southern Willamette Valley, Central, and Southern Oregon. In April, the EACs presented to our Board of Directors on challenges and opportunities facing civics teachers, as well as recommendations for CLP to increase awareness, engagement, and enhance our programs. Data from

a statewide survey done by the EACs was a key input to development of our new 3-Year Strategic Plan this summer.

CLP moved in a literal way this year, too. After a couple of decades in the historic Gus Solomon Courthouse, we moved our offices to a new location. We were happy to move just down the street to Unitus Plaza (1300 SW Sixth Ave, Suite 190), but as you can imagine, moving everything after 23 years in one location was a major undertaking. Staff, Board members, and volunteers all pitched in to make it as easy as possible. We're very happy in the new space. As everyone gets back into in-person meetings and visits, we hope you'll find the time to stop by and see our great space, complete with a state-of-the-art conference room.



ERIN ESPARZA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As I reflect on all the activity of the past year, I am excited and satisfied to think about the things that make Classroom Law Project strong. For me, one of our greatest strengths derives from our amazing community of support — made up of our staff together with all of you: our Board, our volunteers, our long-time repeat donors, our teachers, and our partner organizations such as universities, local Bar Associations, museums, foundations, and many other education providers and nonprofits. One of the value statements from our strategic plan reads “Civic Identity: We are defined by our commitment to informed civic participation.” When I think about who CLP is, that is what comes to my mind – a group of people who are driven by a passionate belief in the mission of teaching and preserving our democracy and democratic ideals, and who are genuinely willing to dedicate their time and themselves to that.

I think about the fact that during this last school year, our hundreds of volunteers provided 14,792 hours of service, effectively adding 7.4 FTE worth of support. I think about how the whole CLP community came together in 2021 to pass The Civics Education Act (SB 513) to ensure that all Oregon's students receive civics education, exemplified by a letter of support signed by nearly 600 organizations and individuals from across the state. I am often asked how we are able to deliver so many programs, provide so much teacher support, and impact so many students with the small staff that “technically” makes up the CLP team. This community is how.

Classroom Law Project is a community on the move, and I'm excited to see what we've accomplished and where we're headed. Thank you for all your support as we continue this journey together.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Erin".

In Action

OREGON CIVICS CONFERENCE FOR TEACHERS

This year's virtual conference centered on the theme of Growing Civic Community and featured a keynote speech from Oregon state Representative Ricki Ruiz. The diverse learning opportunities we provided served 79 teachers, who applied that experience in their classrooms to 11,397 students.

COURTHOUSE EXPERIENCE TOURS

One of our most popular programs provides an authentic opportunity to learn about the justice system by observing real cases and court procedures. Despite being unable to provide in-person experiences, our Virtual Court Tours connected 682 students with judges from around the state.



CURRENT EVENTS

Each week during the school year, Classroom Law Project delivered timely, well-curated content and resources directly to the email inboxes of 857 Oregon educators - reaching over 100,000 students throughout the state. As students and teachers moved back into the classroom, these prepared lessons were more popular than ever.

STREET LAW

Street Law educates young people about how the law applies to their everyday lives. Students from Lewis & Clark Law School are trained by Classroom Law Project to team-teach in area high schools. This year, 22 law students, ten classroom teachers and 362 students around Oregon participated in Street Law.

MOCK TRIAL

This year, student teams, teachers, coaches, and judges moved through an all-Zoom environment for a successful, interactive competition experience. Thirty-seven teachers and 139 volunteers helped bring the law alive for 1,273 students, giving them a voice in what otherwise might seem a remote judicial system.

WE THE PEOPLE

Used both as in-class curriculum and as an extracurricular competitive activity, We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution is an active learning program designed to foster deeper understanding of the U.S. Constitution, Bill of Rights, and the institutions of government. The online high school competition experience this year engaged 10 teachers and 526 students, supported by the help of over 100 volunteer coaches and judges.



COMMUNITY ACTION PROJECTS

Over 100 students learned to work together to research community issues they care about, identify alternative solutions, and develop an action plan to guide policymakers in addressing the issue, often with the opportunity to present those to local government leaders or community members.

SUMMER INSTITUTE

This year we were able to return to an in-person Summer Institute, moving the action to Bend. Nineteen teachers who work with nearly 12,000 students attended the three-day experience centered on the theme of Educate, Engage, Empower.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TEACHER CONSULTATIONS

As they traveled through the various adventures of this school year, 300 teachers turned to Classroom Law Project for an array of professional development opportunities and individual consultations, serving 12,571 students. This included extensive outreach to teacher training programs around the state as budding teachers get ready to move into their careers.



Moving Words

FROM AROUND

Oregon

“ It’s incredibly helpful to have the resources from Classroom Law Project, from Weekly Current Events to the Oregon Civics Conference for Teachers — which is the best conference I’ve ever attended. I love going back to my students and telling them about cases in front of the Supreme Court, or how the Attorney General is dealing with bias and hate crimes in Oregon. It’s amazing to have access to so many resources, especially as a very rural school.

GAIL GREANEY, SISTERS HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER

“ Civics education taught me that there is a world outside of our small town.

JUREE KAZAR, SISTERS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT

“ My participation in Mock Trial has had a huge impact on me and my future. Growing up as a mixed African American and white student, I have witnessed racial discrimination all around me, and I have known for a long time that I wanted to work to make the justice system fair for all people. I joined the North Medford High School Mock Trial team my freshman year, and things in my life started to click. I fell in love with the excitement of the courtroom... I’m a first generation college student, and the first person in my family to graduate high school... anything is possible, and you can achieve anything if you put your mind to it.

**ALAZAY SANDERS, NORTH MEDFORD
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE**

“ We can and we must continue the work of making our very far from perfect union at least a little more perfect. I support civics education for the America and the Oregon and the community we want to become.

**REPRESENTATIVE PAUL EVANS, OREGON
HOUSE DISTRICT 20**



HELP US KEEP MOVING!

Your support helps us reach students and teachers like these throughout Oregon. We rely on volunteers and donors to keep our programs growing.

Your gift of time and financial support makes it all possible.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO DONATE



Classroom Law Project is one of our most valuable assets for civics and social studies teachers in Oregon.

JUNE MORRIS, PRESIDENT - OREGON COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES

Because of civics education, I am aware of my individual rights and the impact I can have on our democracy. Studying civics allows students to not feel intimidated by the language and terminology in the Constitution, or the way our government works. There is no time to put off helping the next generation of Americans understand the value of our democracy and participating in that democracy.

ANAHI SANCHEZ, PARKROSE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT

Civic engagement — the rights of free speech, press, and assembly, legal guarantees and protections, and community participation — is crucial to the ongoing pageant of community life.

This year nearly 1,200 teachers and 120,000 students learned more about practicing these skills.

OREGON CONTACTS BY REGION 2021 - 22

	Individual Teachers	Individual Students	Total Teacher Contacts	Overall Student Impact	Percentage of Our Impact	Percentage of Oregon Population
Metro	443	48,635	576	65,000	40.6%	43.5%
Northwest	135	8,770	152	10,829	6.8%	5.9%
Valley	303	27,533	331	35,493	22.2%	25.8%
Central	125	15,384	192	23,927	14.9%	6.8%
Southern	174	18,292	216	23,557	14.7%	13.6%
Eastern	13	1,372	13	1,372	0.9%	4.4%
TOTAL	1,192	119,987	1,480	160,178	100%	100%

Financials

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Year Ending June 30, 2022 (with comparative totals as of June 30, 2021)

	2022	2021
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 623,617	\$ 644,035
Grants and contributions receivable	219,181	92,915
Pledges receivable, net	113,485	43,950
Investments	176,749	136,089
Prepaid expense	6,710	4,800
Property and equipment, net	18,861	1,622
Operating lease right-of-use assets	231,828	-
Total assets	\$ 1,390,431	\$ 923,411
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Accounts payable	\$ 23,481	\$ 13,944
Accrued payroll and related taxes	17,325	12,342
Deferred revenue	10,000	15,000
Operating lease liabilities	239,759	-
Total liabilities	290,565	41,286
Net assets		
Without donor restrictions		
Board designated for Oregon Civics Reach Initiative	160,000	160,000
Available for operations	400,048	418,425
Total without donor restrictions	560,048	578,425
With donor restrictions	539,818	303,700
Total net assets	1,099,866	882,125
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 1,390,431	\$ 923,411



DID YOU KNOW?

Our volunteers provided 14,792 hours of service during the last fiscal year. That equates to 7.4 FTE worth of effort, nearly doubling the size of our staff!

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year Ending June 30, 2022 (with comparative totals as of June 30, 2021)

	WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	TOTAL	
			2022	2021
Revenues and other support				
Corporate and individual contributions	\$ 297,494	\$ 124,835	\$ 422,329	\$ 313,291
Foundation support	6,208	439,500	445,708	307,334
Government grants and contracts	126,072	-	126,072	116,627
Legal Citizen event, net of costs of \$39,899 and \$24,762, respectively	117,776	-	117,776	138,365
Program revenue	14,300	-	14,300	12,850
Paycheck Protection Program grant	-	-	-	93,752
Interest income	27	-	27	44
	<u>561,877</u>	<u>564,335</u>	<u>1,126,212</u>	<u>982,263</u>
Net assets released from restrictions				
Satisfaction of purpose restrictions	291,417	(291,417)	-	-
Satisfaction of timing restrictions	36,800	(36,800)	-	-
Total revenues and other support	<u>890,094</u>	<u>236,118</u>	<u>1,126,212</u>	<u>982,263</u>
Expenses				
Program services	562,348	-	562,348	453,668
Supporting services				
Management	204,829	-	204,829	163,816
Fundraising	121,955	-	121,955	113,230
Total expenses	<u>889,132</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>889,132</u>	<u>730,714</u>
Change in net assets before changes in investments	932	236,118	237,080	251,549
Net investment income	3,353	-	3,353	2,333
Realized and unrealized gains/(loss) on investments	(22,692)	-	(22,692)	26,723
Changes in net assets	<u>(18,377)</u>	<u>236,118</u>	<u>217,741</u>	<u>280,605</u>
Net assets, beginning of year	578,425	303,700	882,125	601,520
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 560,048</u>	<u>\$ 539,818</u>	<u>\$ 1,099,866</u>	<u>\$ 882,125</u>

Thank You: Volunteers

Keeping Civics alive and on the go in Oregon takes the dedicated effort of many people. Big thanks to our Board of Directors and our 590 dedicated volunteers who made it happen.

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