



Spring 2017

Making Life Better Together

L.A. GOAL Around the World

Over 15,000 individuals in three states viewed our Members' artwork at gallery shows, boutiques, and exhibitions last year, helping fulfill our mission of educating the public about the abilities of people with developmental disabilities through art.

Inside Out at NYC Metro Area Abilities Expo



In 2016, we traveled east to the New York Metro Abilities Expo, where we introduced new audiences to L.A. GOAL and our Members' unique artwork and abilities. [Pictured: Alyssa Mannis, Director of Visual Arts and Brad S., L.A. GOAL Artist]

Inside Out in Austin: MassMutual Convention



We exhibited at the MassMutual Convention in Austin, Texas, marking the start of a new collaboration. Our long-time partner, MetLife, was acquired by MassMutual in 2016. We're excited about our new partnership with MassMutual SpecialCare!

Teaching Our Methods to Korean Students



Several South Korean youths taking part in the prestigious Asan Frontier Youth education program visited L.A. GOAL to learn how to create integration between university students in Korea and people with developmental disabilities who are of similar age. In Korea, individuals with developmental disabilities do not have many opportunities to interact with their communities. Our student visitors want to change that by developing a program in Korea like our Teen Volunteer Program.

Sharing Stories with Visitors from Rwanda



In December, we shared about our services with representatives from Jessie's Place, a nonprofit that supports individuals with disabilities in Rwanda, including those living in impoverished and rural communities. We hope to start an art pen pal project between our Members and Jessie's Place participants in the coming year. We donated supplies for their art program. [Pictured: Back row: three representatives from Jessie's Place and L.A. GOAL Board Member, Lily Wolk, Front row: L.A. GOAL Member, Lisa Y.]

A Message from Petite Konstantin, Executive Director

2016 was a year of new partnerships, growth, and learning for our Members, volunteers, and staff. I am pleased with the achievements our Members made last year: 98% showed improvements in self-esteem and communication, life, vocational, and social skills; and 100% of those receiving arts instruction exhibited a higher level of self-awareness and an improvement in their creative abilities.

We take pride in having a 58% employment rate among our Members, three times the national average for individuals with developmental disabilities. We hired two Members last year, increasing the total number of Members employed at L.A. GOAL to 27. By employing Members, we give them work history, which helps them when applying for jobs in the community. However, due to minimum wage increases, our success also means that we will have to increase our revenue in the coming years, so we can continue to hire and employ our Members.

I am grateful for the continued support of our extended L.A. GOAL family--we couldn't do it without you.

Petite Konstantin

The Power of Performance Arts

Music Therapy

We provide group Music Therapy to 48 individuals



who attend our weekday program, which is led by our certified Music Therapist, Pablo Sune. Pablo also leads our Music Chorus on Saturdays, in which 27 Members take part.

We find that music helps many of our Members

develop skills, including communication, self-expression, attention, motor skills, and self-confidence. We notice a transfer of results from our Music Therapy program to our other programs. For Members with a dual diagnosis of developmental disability and dementia, Music Therapy helps "bring them back" for periods of time and eases anxiety and distress.

Jenny has a very short attention span. This year, she expressed interest in learning to play the xylophone. Pablo lettered the keys on the xylophone and assigned a letter to each note. Jenny learned to play seven songs. Incredibly, her attention span lasts for the full length of every song she plays. At our annual recital, Jenny played a solo of "Jingle Bells" (pictured above, accompanied by Pablo).

Over 100 members of the public attended our 2016 recital in December.

Drama



25 Members take part in our Drama program, which, like Music Therapy, has a profound impact on communication skills, self-awareness, self-confidence, and motor skills.

In 2016, the Members performed an original play, *Advocates and Love*, which they had been workshopping and re-tooling for two years. The play was about their experiences advocating for themselves as individuals with developmental disabilities. Special thanks to our Drama Director, Ronnie Baker and Anne Cooper.

Members in Drama are now working on their next show, "I Remember," in which they share memories from their lives.

Meet Lisa Haas: Our Clinical Intern

Our Clinical Intern, Lisa Haas, moved to L.A. from Maryland and is currently working on getting licensed in California. She provides individual and group counseling to L.A. GOAL Members and their families/caregivers. She is supervised by our Board Member, Dr. Joan Dasteel.



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Largest Art Show Ever!



Our 2016 Annual Art Show had the highest attendance of any show we have hosted in the past 26 years! We had 892 attendees, including many new supporters. The show was partially supported by the L.A. County Arts Commission, marking a new partnership for us. At the show, we launched a new product: zines written and published by L.A. GOAL Artists.



L.A. GOAL is supported by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Arts Commission.

Teen Volunteers Give Over 1,000 Hours



Last year, our TADAA Teen Summer Volunteer Program hosted 32 high school and college students, who volunteered over 1,000 hours in our Art Studio, Custodial program, and Adult Education program. We are so proud of how the TADAA program educates youth in our community about the abilities of individuals with disabilities.

E-Newsletter and Blog Launch

We started an e-newsletter and blog last year, which we send to our supporters monthly. We integrate Members into the process of creating content as often as possible, including as interviewers and interviewees of one another. The e-newsletter and blog allow us to keep our supporters up to date on achievements, upcoming events, and opportunities to support L.A. GOAL.

Our Newest Paid Artist: Lia

A member of our Expansion Program, Lia revealed a hidden talent for art. She took the initiative to ask the Director of Visual Arts for a job as an Artist. After 9 months of apprenticeship, Lia was hired by L.A. GOAL as our 24th paid Artist. In addition, Lia volunteers to assist in the Art Studio when members of the Expansion Program have studio time.



8 Years in the Making: A Driver's License!

L.A. GOAL has supported D'Marcus to achieve a number of personal goals over the years, including living independently with a roommate, becoming an Assistant Art Instructor in our Art Studio, and taking community college classes. In 2016, D'Marcus achieved a goal he's been working towards for 8 years: a driver's license! D'Marcus is now saving up to achieve his next goal: owning a car.



S. Mark Taper Foundation Grants 65K



We are pleased to announce that we received a \$65,000 grant from the S. Mark Taper Foundation to support our work in 2017!

making life

A Message from Peter Wendel, President of the Board

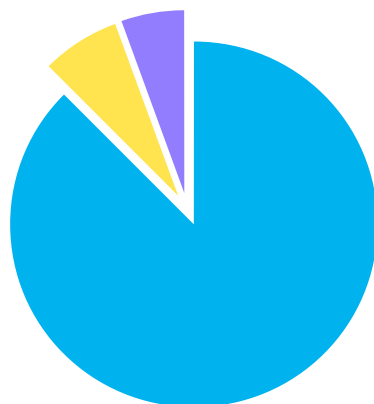
As we reflect on recent accomplishments, I am also looking out to what's ahead. Our focus for 2017 includes increasing community acceptance and inclusion of people with developmental disabilities by creating more opportunities for collaborative learning. We are planning art classes, family/caregiver trainings, and workshops that will be open to the community. As we provide these additional opportunities for community integration, we will continue to maintain the quality and excellence of our services.




2016 Financial Statement

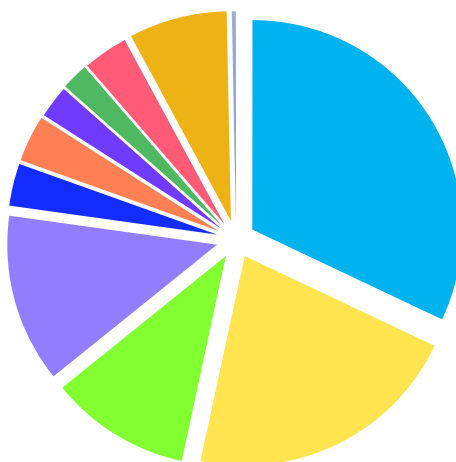
Expenses: \$906,282

- Program Expenses: \$793,069
- Management and General: \$62,654
- Fundraising: \$50,559



Income: \$935,927

- Foundations/Trusts: \$300,000
- State Regional Center: \$199,536
- Individual Donors: \$101,363
- In-Kind Services: \$121,743
- In-Kind Goods: \$30,437
- Sales of Art/Art Products: \$33,642
- Corporate Donors: \$23,483
- Members Dues: \$19,533
- Investment Returns: \$32,457
- Temporarily Restricted: \$70,819
- Other: \$2,914



In 2016, we welcomed Andrew Weissman and Carlos Lugo to our Board of Directors. Andrew is a lawyer and former Culver City Mayor and City Councilman. Carlos is a Senior Building Inspector for the City of Culver City. [Andrew (top), Carlos (below)]



**Temporarily Restricted Funds are gifts and grants that are restricted for use during a particular time period or for specific projects. Restricted funds are counted as income in the year received. When released from restriction, these funds are counted as a negative number for the year they are released. In 2016, \$70,693 was released from restriction.*

We are proud to now be Platinum Certified through GuideStar, the highest level of transparency.

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Thank you, Laura!



After 14 years of exceptional service as L.A. GOAL's Director of Development, Laura O'Neal is pursuing a career in filmmaking. We are so grateful for everything Laura has brought to L.A. GOAL, from grants, to video and photography expertise, to one of the biggest hearts on the planet.

In Memory of Maria Z.



We dedicate this newsletter to the "Mayor of L.A. GOAL," Maria Z., who passed away on January 31, 2017. Maria learned to speak, read, write, and sing at L.A. GOAL. In the words of Petite Konstantin, "Maria taught us that no one is ever too far away to be reached."

Welcome to Our Newest Staff Members!



We'd like to welcome our three newest staff members: Rachel Hamburg, Director of Development (left); Petra Staal, Assistant Director of Development (center), and Caroline Keyes, Lead Art Instructor (right). Both Rachel and Caroline first joined the L.A. GOAL family as volunteers and have now joined us as staff.

Give While You Shop!

Give to L.A. GOAL through Amazon Smile!



Amazon will donate to the charity of your choice if you shop through Amazon Smile (smile.amazon.com). It's exactly the same as shopping on Amazon, only L.A. GOAL benefits at no additional cost to you!

Reassign L.A. GOAL as your Ralph's organization!

Ralph's, Kroger's, or Food For Less stores donate to nonprofit agencies through Club Card purchases. Designate L.A. GOAL as your nonprofit and they will direct a portion of their profits from everything you purchase to L.A. GOAL - without charging you extra.

To give, sign up for an account on Ralphs.com and select L.A. GOAL as your organization under "Community Rewards." Our organization number is number 81413.

Note: Open enrollment throughout the year, however you must **reassign** us as your charity of choice every September to continue giving. Thank you!!



Wish List

We welcome you to bring in-kind donations throughout the year. And you can now fulfill our wish list directly through Amazon with the click of a few buttons! Search for "L.A. GOAL" under "Find a List or Registry" or go to: <http://a.co/fulE0vs>

For Members in Need:

Gift certificates for food and clothing
Grooming products (and sunscreen)

For educational/vocational/life skills programs:

Mailing Labels (Avery #5160 & #5162)
8.5 X 11 copy paper (white & color)
8.5 X 11 cardstock (white)
8.5 X 14 copy paper (white & pastel)
School supplies

For our Visual Arts program:

Canvases, all sizes
Frames: 9x12" to 20x24"
Watercolor paper (140 lb)
Acrylic paint
Paint brushes: synthetic, flat, and round
Tape: blue painter's
Embroidery thread
Drawing sketchbooks
Drawing paper - Bristol, illustration board, etc.

For our basic life skills programs:

Laundry (detergent, bleach)
Fabric softener (sheets)
Dish soap
Liquid hand soap (pump)
Cleaning products (Windex, Comet)
Scrubby sponges
Ziplock baggies - all sizes
Aluminum foil
Wax paper
Plastic knives, forks, and spoons
Paper plates, napkins
Hot/cold cups
Tissue (boxes)
Napkins
Food: tuna, soup, peanut butter, jam, canned fruit

THANK YOU TO OUR 2016 DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS!

Thank You! to everyone who gave their support last year. We have used your funds efficiently, bringing new programs to help our adults with developmental disabilities to reach their highest level of independence. **Thank you!**

VISIONARIES \$20,000 & Above

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Disabilities Studies Philanthropy Class at UCLA

GOAL-TENDERS \$2,500 - \$4,999

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Our In-Kind donors donated over \$150,000 in goods and services in 2016

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Lisie Yalowitz
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VOLUNTEERS

Our volunteers clocked over 4,000 volunteer hours in 2016

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Christine Blaauw
Claudia Buchinsky
Mae Chiu
Ed Dasteel
Eddie David
Margie Dickens
Teri Ford
Bryan Gilbreath
Meredith Gordon
Ingrid Gunther
Lisa Haas
Daniel Heidner
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Brenda Noyes
Michele Pultorak
Kathie Quiring
Tina Reserva
Jerry Rojeski
Barbara Sanders
Audrey Swartz
Nina Warner
Clare and Katie Weber

OUR TEEN VOLUNTEERS

32 Teenagers from 13 high schools and colleges participated in our summer teen volunteer program T.A.D.A.A., which provides opportunities for interaction and learning between our Members and youth in our community. Teen volunteers donated more than 1,000 hours of service in 2016.

T.A.D.A.A. is open to all local teens in high school and college. If you know a teen who would like to take part, contact us at tadaala@gmail.com

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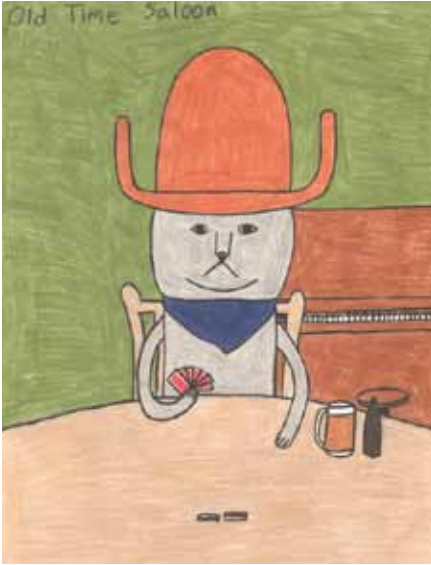
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Poppy Paulos
Craig Safan
Linda Safan



We are excited for our new partnership with MassMutual SpecialCare. MassMutual supports our Annual Art Show and educates our families/caregivers about planning for the future.

Upcoming Events



L.A. Zine Fest
 May 28, 2017
 10am-6pm
 California Market Center
 110 E. 9th St.
 Free Entry

The Not So Perfect Show
 A collaboration between
 L.A. GOAL Artists and staff

Exhibit Reception
 June 11th, 2017
 11:00AM-3:00PM
 Helms Design Center at Helms Bakery
 8745 Washington Blvd
 Culver City, CA 90232



Visit our Etsy store at:
www.etsy.com/shop/LAGOAL

You can also come by L.A. GOAL to purchase.
 Open for your shopping pleasure Monday -
 Friday, 9a.m. ~ 2 p.m.



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