New Hampshire Institute for Civics Education (NH Civics)



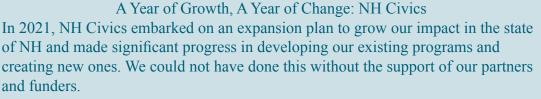


2021 ANNUAL REPORT

2021 Annual Report

A Letter to Our Partners, Funders & Supporters





We continued to meet the needs of the time, offering many of our programs in a virtual and hybrid format, which allowed us to expand our reach to participants across the state and nationally. We delighted in the opportunities we had to come together in-person, such as with our Treat Lecture, *Renewing Trust in Democracy: The Role of Courts* at Dartmouth College. We are looking forward to offering inperson programs again while also continuing to offer virtual options to keep our programming accessible.

In June 2021, we convened the NH Civic Learning Coalition, composed of 30 members from groups such as educators, students, administrators, and civics partners across the state to provide recommendations for NH state policy to increase and improve civic readiness. The Coalition will continue working to bring these recommendations to fruition.

Our website continues to provide access to world-class civics curriculum for grades K-12, created and tested by NH teachers. Last year, we had 9,681 unique visitors, with 14,649 unique visitors since its launch in mid-2020. Our mailing list has expanded to over 7,000 individuals.

The events of this past year have solidified for us the continued urgency of civics education and engagement and we are prepared to meet these challenges head on. We would like to recognize and thank our Board of Trustees for their vision and continued support for this critical work.

As we set out to continue growing our impact and reach, we would like to thank our funders for recognizing the urgency and value of civics education and civic engagement. Your support is critical as we build civic strength in New Hampshire.

Warthe Maelsen

Martha Madsen, Executive Director

Joe m Lews

Hon. John Lewis, Board Chair

Mission and Focus

OUR MISSION AND FOCUS

NH Civics is the only organization in the Granite State that teaches civics for free to people of all ages, political views, and zip codes. Our programs help people understand how democracy works, how to find the facts, and how to be good and active citizens. Committed to non-partisanship, we believe people of varied perspectives and ages deserve high-quality information, hands-on learning that lasts, and a confidence that their voice matters.

Program Capacity

2021 OUTREACH SUMMARY

- We expanded the New Hampshire's Kid Governor program reaching 58 classrooms in all 10 New Hampshire counties. This program impacted 1,500 students, an increase from 1,000 students in 2020. Our 2021 NH Kid Governor, Charlie Olsen, spoke all across the state and nationally about his platform on mental health. We hosted the "You Don't Have To Do This Alone" poster contest and created 3 instructional videos. We announced our 2022 New Hampshire's Kid Governor, Charlotte Cotti of Plaistow, NH, whose platform is helping the homeless in New Hampshire.
- We launched the NH Civic Learning Coalition bringing together approximately 30 stakeholders from various groups including teachers, administrators, youth, and civics partners across the state. The group will focus on the following policy options: More time spent on civics education, professional development and medialiteracy, youth voice, and equity. A white paper will be published in June 2022 about the Coalition's first year of work.
- We hosted four William W. Treat Lectures featuring former Secretary of Defense General James Mattis in conversation with young people and veterans across NH, former Solicitors General Gregory Garre and Neal Katyal moderated by Laura Knoy, former host of NHPR's The Exchange, civics education experts Peter Levine, Dianna Gahlsdorf Terrell, and Martha McCoy of EveryDay Democracy and authors of the NH Civic Health Index, Bruce Mallory and Quixada Moore-Vissing. All are available on our website and all focused on the theme: Our Civic Life: Renewing Trust in Democracy and Each Other.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



2022 NH's Kid Governor, Charlotte Cotti, gives her inaugural address at the NH State House.



2021 NH's Kid Governor Charlie Olsen speaks with President Biden.



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- We offered more adult programming, hosting five additional learning opportunities for the general public:
 - *Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Passage of the 26th Amendment
 - *NH Young Leaders Roundtable Discussion
 - *Civics Slam! With David Alcox (3 different sessions)

•We conducted free teacher professional development in 11 areas of study covering all grade levels and featuring both local and national presenters:

- *Reflective Patriotism: Grades 7-12 *Civic Friendship and Civics In Literacy: K-3
- *Civics With The National Archives (3 Workshops)
 - *6 Big Ideas In The U.S. Constitution
 - *In Their Own Words: Women's Petitions To Congress
 - *The Impact Of Racial Discrimination On Black American Lives In The Jim Crow Era
- *Civic Engagement in Our Democracy with Democratic Knowledge Project of the Harvard Graduate School of Education
- *How to Plan a Civics-In-Action Speaker Series with Your Students
- *Heart, Head, Hands and Feet and K-3 Civics Education
- *Telling Our Stories in Pictures and Words: Building Empathy Within a Diverse Community
- *NH's Kid Governor Bootcamp
- *3 Day Mikva Challenge Summer Institute

•We strengthened the nationally vetted civics curriculum, Mikva Challenge: Project Soapbox in five rural NH towns: Weare, Groveton, Pittsfield, Littleton, and Colebrook. Former Chief Justice John Broderick, First Lady Valerie Sununu, former NH Senate Majority Leader Dan Feltes, and former NH Humanities Executive Director Anthony Poore served as civic partners for the state-wide Soapbox event.

•We expanded our Civics 603 program, adding mock trial opportunities for grades 5 and 6 in addition to oral appellate arguments for grades 7-12, working with schools in Concord, Belmont, Nashua, and Rye. Completing its third year, this program has reached

almost 1,200 students.



Mikva Challenge Project Soapbox Mainstage Event 2021.



Civics 603 in action with students in Nashua, NH.



Attendees at "Renewing Trust in Democracy: The Role of Courts", A William W. Treat Lecture at Dartmouth College. Photo by Caroline Kramer.

Laura Knoy Moderates "The Role of Courts" with former socilitors general Gregory Garre and Neal Katyal. Photo by Caroline Kramer.

Sponsors

A big thank you to our sponsors for your support of our work!

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We are grateful for the support of our funding partners.

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2021 Donors

Thank you donors! You powered this year's accomplishments and infused the organization with the tools and resources necessary for growth.

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Future Outlook

In 2022, NH Civics will continue its expansion efforts, seeking to grow its reach statewide. As the sole organization in New Hampshire whose core mission is to promote civic education and engagement, we are called to expand our impact to meet the moment we are in where we know that trust in government and in our neighbors is low and a current culture of divisiveness prevents problem-solving.

This year, we will increase the reach of the programs and initiatives that we are already doing well and develop and offer new impactful programs, including continuing to expand our programs for adults. We will begin work on a K-3 early civics curriculum that introduces concepts like justice, compromise, community, democratic documents and procedures, leadership, rules/laws, empathy, civic agency, and respect for opinions that differ from one's own, filling a need for such a curriculum both statewide and nationally.

NH Civics will continue to grow in 2022 meeting the needs of the times head on.



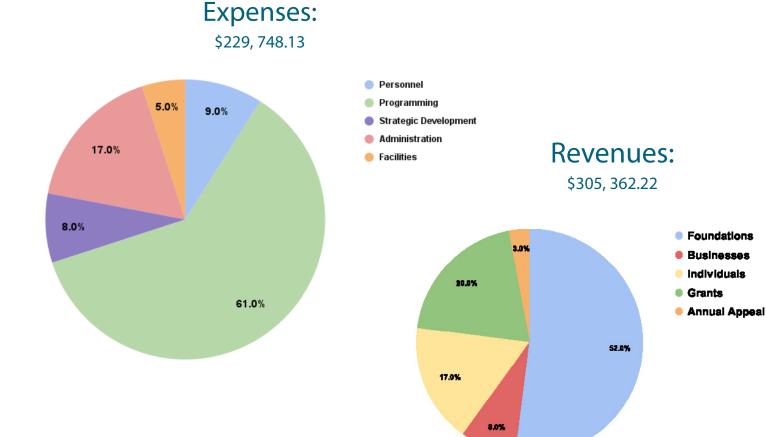
The NH Civic Learning Coalition, first meeting in June 2021.

The NH Civic Learning Coalition will move into its communications phase -broadcasting its work across the state through Building Civic Strength: NH Community Conversations with Laura Knoy, a partnership with NH Public Radio featuring discussion around civic engagement hosted in five NH towns: Franklin, Rindge, Nashua, Rochester, and Berlin and broadcast statewide. The outcome of these conversations will directly impact the Coalition's civic policy work.

We will continue to partner with our New Hampshire colleagues in Civics Education. Many thanks to the Warren B. Rudman Center of the UNH Franklin Pierce School of Law, the NH Supreme Court Society, the NH Bar Association, the NH Historical Society, NH Humanities, Citizens Count, Civics 101, the Loeb Center for Communications, NHPBS, NHPR, NH Listens, the NHCSS, and the NH Institute of Politics at Saint Anselm College for their partnership.

We hope you will join us as we build civic strength in NH and across the country.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT **Balance Sheet** As of December 31, 2021 **ASSETS** Cash and cash equivalents \$285,338.67 **TOTAL ASSETS** \$285,338.67 LIABILITIES AND EOUITY **Unrestricted Net Assets** \$177,873.78 **Total Restricted Assets** \$31,850.80 \$75,614.09 Net Income **Total Equity** \$285,338.67 TOTALY LIABILITY AND EQUITY \$285,338.67



Notes about the graphs Programming expenses fell short of forecasted levels due to COVID-19 and the shift from in-person to remote programming. Administrative expenses included items such as bookkeeping, tax filings, fundraising, insurance, dues and office expenses. A large proportion of personnel time is devoted to programming.



With appreciation, we honor our founder and first Chair, Mary Susan Leahy.

We owe our existence and our vibrancy to our founder, attorney Mary Susan Leahy. She headed the original task force in 2008, examining the issue of civics and the urgent need for it in our democratic system. She was passionate about civics before it became the hot topic it is now. We thank her for her determination, vision, and generosity.

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