



IMAGINE

Imagine a world where all children experience the joy of singing and dancing at school.

Imagine growing up with the self-expression and social interaction that music and dance provide.

Imagine a bright future fashioned with creativity and imagination inspired in the formative years.

A strong arts program supports academic achievement and fosters a lifelong love of learning. You can make a difference in childrens' lives by making a donation to Young Imaginations.

Please help make the world we imagine a reality. Visit www.youngimaginations.org to make your donation today!

Music and Dance Education in a Changing Environment

December 2010

Produced by Valerie Chua

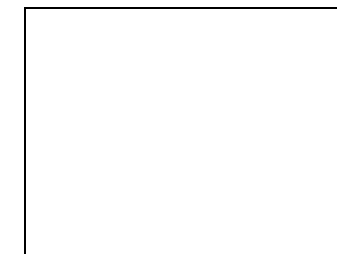
Y O U N G I M A G I N A T I O N S
Placing the Arts at the Core of the Educational Process

4340 Redwood Highway
Building D, Suite 318
San Rafael, CA 94903-2126



Teaching multicultural music and dance to our children is a contribution to their being fully human, a welcoming of their unique gifts to the world and a taste of how it feels to be wonderfully alive.

Alan Scofield
Founding Director



ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010

Music and Dance Education in a Changing Environment

The fundamental community organization – the one whose influence extends to the largest segment of any community – is the school. All of us at Young Imaginations are dedicated to working with the children and families who attend our schools.

The mission of Young Imaginations is “to place music and dance at the core of the educational process.” Our Strategic Plan, titled “Shaping Tomorrow,” supports California schools as they face the challenges and opportunities ahead. We are dedicated to strong governance, sound financial management, innovative programs, and ongoing assessment of our work with thousands of school children.

We challenge the current environment that limits the role of arts education in California classrooms. We believe that music and dance are indispensable to the education of every child.

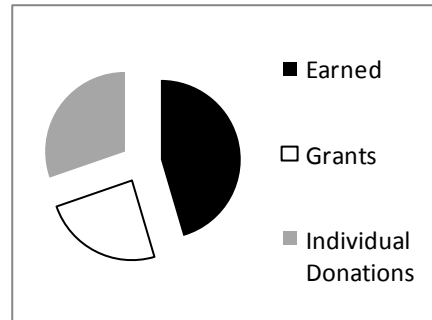
Young Imaginations has successfully completed 23 years dedicated to improving educational opportunities for children in urban and rural communities. These years are the cornerstone for future success. During a challenging recession we made bold decisions to bring multicultural music and dance to underserved school children who otherwise wouldn't receive this essential education.

Marianne Locke, EdD, Executive Director
Alan Scofield, Founding Director

ANNUAL REPORT — SEPT 1, 2009 — AUG 31, 2010

A STRONG FINANCIAL COMMITMENT SEPTEMBER 1, 2009 — AUGUST 31, 2010

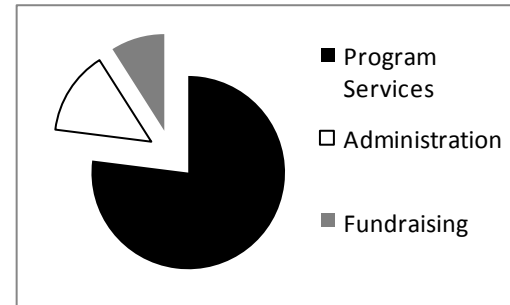
Funding sources for music and dance education are fragile. Yet Young Imaginations has made significant progress in 2009-2010 toward building an infrastructure capable of forward movement despite a prolonged recession. As shown below, the budget for in-school programs is 80% of the total expenses; the administrative and fundraising budgets are lean; and our reserve funds are recovering. Thanks to dedicated leadership and to the generosity of our funders, Young Imaginations is proving its ability to stay the course and provide a well-rounded education for today's children.



We are a small agency doing major work. Your support will make a dramatic difference for the children. Please support Young Imaginations in its work to keep music and dance in the life of each child.

Total Revenue: \$238,185

Earned	45%
Individual Donors	30%
Grants	25%



Total Expenses: \$217,968

Program Services	77%
Administration	14%
Fundraising	9%

PROTECT MUSIC AND DANCE IN OUR SCHOOLS We thank all our donors. Eleven foundations contributed a total of 25% of our total revenue. 30% of our total revenue was donated by 103 individuals. Without your support, we could not have made another wonderful year of music and dance for children.

A survey conducted by Guidestar concluded that "it has been, and continues to be, a difficult financial environment for nonprofits," with about 40% of over 7,000 respondents seeing declines in funding in the first five months of 2010.

We rely on you -- our grantors and individual donors -- to come forward for the children during these precarious economic times. Please visit our website at www.youngimagination.org and click on the "donate now" button to make a credit card donation. Your donation check may be made by mail to Young Imaginations, 4340 Redwood Highway, D318, San Rafael, CA 94903.

Diane Kavantjas, President
Board of Directors



DEDICATED TO EXCELLENCE Young Imaginations is a community of artists/educators who have records of artistic excellence and the ability to teach children in ways that feature their students' active participation in the exploration of world cultures. Young Imaginations specialists bring music and dance to life and constantly re-work their teaching to better fit the needs of each student in Young Imaginations classes.

We are grateful for the dedication of YI music/dance educators: Doug Arrington, Bruce Bierman, Chaskinakuy, Nikola Clay, Scott Gifford, Frieda Kipar, Astrid Mackwitz, Tom Mayock, Patricia Miner, Stuart Moody, Jerry Moore, Tara Pandeya, Wade Peterson, Evelie Posch, Beatriz Restrepo, Sharon Rogan, Alan Scofield, Gerry Smida, Jeni Swerdlow, Rebecca Weisser, Yangqin Zhao.

EDUCATING CHILDREN In today's test-driven academic climate, it can be hard to justify devoting time to the arts. In reality, however, it's more important than ever to remember that all the arts function as a mirror to life, helping us understand ourselves and showing us how to become more human. Students will find new connections between classroom learning and their musical experiences.

Children will also have an awakened interest in moving beyond passive consumption of recorded music, progressing into actively making music themselves with instruments and voices. It is my hope that the seeds we plant together in the primary grades will sprout, blossom, and finally bear fruit in the intermediate years when students finally have the opportunity to play recorders in 4th grade and band instruments in 5th grade and beyond.

Scott Gifford, Music Educator
Young Imaginations



ACCESS, EQUITY, AND QUALITY In a rapidly changing environment Young Imaginations programs reach out to children in urban and rural settings, affluent and economically disadvantaged communities, and neighborhoods filled with children of diverse cultural heritages.

Young Imaginations offers four standards-based programs of 30-50 minutes weekly classes in which correlations are often made between the arts and classroom curricula. The classes are filled with opportunities for active participation.

Music and Dance. Children learn the basics. Singing, playing musical instruments, and moving to music are part of each class. The content is culturally diverse.

Multicultural Dance. Children develop movement skills while learning to work with partners and in groups. They develop sensitivity to rhythm, beat, and style as expressed in the dances of diverse cultures and historical periods.

Music of the Americas. This unit focuses on music and dance presented by artists from the United States, regions of Mexico and Central America, and South American cultures such as Brazil and the Andean countries. Each artist presents two weekly classes within a unit of 10 – 12 weeks.

Music Around the World. Artists from a variety of countries bring their music and dance to school children. During 2009-2010 children met artists representative of regions as varied as the Philippines, China, the British Isles, Spain, and Afghanistan. A 12-week unit contains a combination of single-week and multi-week sessions.

Class content captures the imaginations of children by encouraging them to explore new possibilities while learning in an atmosphere of trust and openness. At each school, a quality curriculum is developed for a brief unit of 8-10 weeks or for an entire school year or series of years. This happens year after year for 5, 10, or 15 years until we are now teaching the children of our first students.

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ANNUAL PARTICIPANTS

5,500-7,000 Students Annually

37-44 Schools Annually

18-22 Arts Educators Annually