

Dear Lab community



This past year has been a great one at Lab, and we have watched our community come together in wonderful ways.

As Lab looks to its future, we recognize how much we build on our past—as a school grounded in some of the most innovative approaches to learning; as a school connected to one of the most outstanding universities anywhere; as a school that has at its core a group of people passionate about learning and ideas; as a community whose rich diversity is central to how we teach and learn and inspires us to be our best and kindest.

We have spoken often about leaning into our past because when we do, we can also look forward to our future. This past year has been a great one at Lab, and we have watched our community come together in wonderful ways:

> With the volunteer leadership of many involved families, Lab successfully launched the annual Parents Fund Drive in October 2016. Families responded with generosity

to this more focused, fun, grassroots effort to build Lab's annual contributions. And participation doubled!

- > The first ever Dewey Dance motivated a new group of parents and guardians to come out for an evening of casual fun, "Thriller" dancing, and contributing to our school. We are seeing the value of finding new ways to connect and will continue to do so.
- > Our alumni are staying ever more connected to Lab and to each other. Alumni Weekend drew record attendance—530—and our alumni are contributing to Lab more consistently than ever, both through philanthropy and their presence on campus and in our classrooms.

As we look forward to the rest of this school year, we continue to seek ways to engage our community and to build upon Lab's great strengths.

We will focus on ensuring a robust financial aid program that helps allow outstanding students to join Lab regardless of ability to pay.

We will expand the many ways we work with our community and build new partnerships. Our work with the filmmaking team from *American Epic* is a wonderful example of how history, technology, music, and community intersect. And we look forward to

welcoming the filmmakers when they visit Lab this year as our first Kistenbroker Family Artists in Residence.

We will leverage our role as part of the University of Chicago into opportunities that shape our program, inspire civic engagement, and connect our children to the intellectual and creative resources that abound across this campus. In turn, we will identify ways for Lab students and faculty to contribute to the life of the University.

We will create an "arc of making" that promotes learning by doing in ageappropriate ways for students across all grades

We will celebrate the potential we all have to enhance this wonderful learning community. Lab is only as good as its people and their desire to be involved.

Already you have shown your commitment to Lab. To all the parents, alumni, faculty, staff, and friends who have contributed in so many ways, thank you.

Warmest regards,

David Kistenbroker Chair, Lab Board

Charlie Abelmann Director

Fundraising Highlights

> The first-ever Parents Fund doubled participation to 42%

> The inaugural Dewey
Dance attracted new
faces with a much
more casual night of
community—500
guests raised almost
\$190,000 through
gifts, tickets and raffle
to fund a new minibus
and Lab Logs playground
equipment

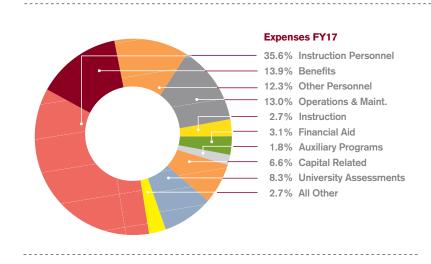
> Parents of the 2017 graduates raised more than \$150,000 to establish the Class of 2017 scholarship

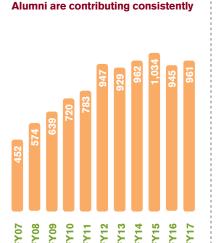
> Lab's participation in "UChicago Giving Day" generated record results

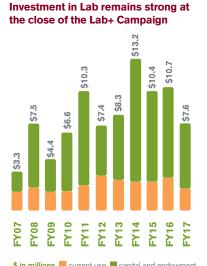
> More than **570**people attended Alumni
Weekend 2016 to
reconnect and reminisce

> More alumni donors than ever renewed their gifts. Lab hit 70% alumni donor retention.

2016-17 Financials and Fundraising



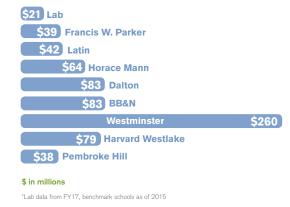




\$18.9 \$20.6 \$21.0 \$19.8 \$21.2

Lab endowment is

Lab endowment in comparison to peer independent schools*



Operating Statement as of June 30, 2017

REVENUES
Tuition & Fees
Auxiliary Programs\$4,283,262
Gifts
Restricted Gifts/Current Use\$5,996,775
Unrestricted Gifts\$771,638
Total Gifts
Endowment Payout\$992,663
Other Income
TOTAL REVENUES
EXPENSES
Instruction Personnel\$24.662.275
Other Personnel \$8.507.785
Benefits
Total Personnel \$42,793,542
10011 013011101
Instruction\$1,836,175
Operations & Maintenance\$9,023,117
Financial Aid\$2,153,097
Auxiliary Program\$1,251,885
Capital Related \$4,584,483
University Assessments\$5,728,808
All Other Expenses \$1,872,290
Total Non-Personnel\$26,449,855
TOTAL EXPENSES
Addition to Capital Reserves \$0
,
NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)\$0

Development Report as of June 30, 2017

\$924,083
\$481,707
\$141,601
\$311,641
\$1,859,032
\$5,294,738
\$399,263
\$2,000
\$30,000
\$5,726,001
\$7 595 0 33

Philanthropy at Work

Ignite someone's future with financial aid



Financial aid changes lives by providing the means for outstanding students to attend Lab, and when our classrooms are filled with outstanding students the experience is improved for all.

Nearly one in 10 students at Lab receives some type of financial aid—apart from any tuition benefit a family might be afforded because a parent or guardian works for the University of Chicago.

"I know money is not a thing people like to talk about, but it's very interesting to see the different mentality between someone who grew up in a middle class family on the South Side of Chicago and people who grew up in an upper middle or upper class family in Hyde Park or the North Side," says Sam van Loon, '15, a junior at Northwestern University, who joined U-High from a grade school in the Mt. Greenwood neighborhood on Chicago's South Side. "In a lot of ways, Lab is similar to a university in terms of the intellectual climate. So being exposed to that, as well as the very high academic rigor, prepared me super well for college."

Carol Guzman, '12, says,
"Being at Lab was unlike
anything else. It was very
diverse. I went to a school
where it was mostly a Hispanic
population. So I had never
gone to school with people

from so many different races, so many different cultures, so many different family backgrounds."

Ms. Guzman graduated from the University of Richmond and is now working for the Jewish United Fund in Chicago. She came to U-High after having been part of the High Jump program, which provides academic enrichment for talented middle schoolers from families of limited financial means, and which has partnered with Lab for years.

"For me," she says, "I had the best time of my life. It prepared me for college, it prepared me for everything in my life."

Enrich the student experience with educator education



Every Lab teacher participates in some form of professional development. In 2017, Lab funded more than \$140,000 for specially-requested professional development activities. Six teachers attended the EdTech Teacher **Innovation Summit in San** Diego where a major theme around "iteration" emerged. Two presenters in particular, says computer science teacher Jeremy Schwartz, "Provided me with the most lasting and meaningful set of new ideas and challenges to bring into my pedagogy and Lab's developing program."

He's talking about the executive director of the Teaching Systems Lab at MIT, who ran a session on design thinking in the classroom, and a "maker movement pioneer." They emphasized that innovation is often the result of iteration and that "tinkering" is a nonlinear approach to reaching a goal. Lab's expanding makerspaces are allowing students exactly this kind of hands-on experience.

Helping connect a growing community

Parents'

Association

> 113 mentor families recruited to help welcome 104 new families at 22 summer neighborhood parties, and 10 parent orientation events across four divisions

- > Provided ongoing parent support through monthly Parent-to-Parent meetings, Restaurant Week outings, Mix & Mingles, Lower School tours to ESH parents, Diversity Committee meetings, and Parent Nights
- > 1,300+ members of the Lab Community and 160 volunteers came together to celebrate the year at Lab at the revival of Rites of May
- > \$15,000+ awarded in faculty and student grants across multiple disciplines, helping virtually every grade; Introduced Community Service to homerooms in grades N-5 to enhance students' awareness and participation in the world outside Lab
- > A new Volunteer Fair encouraged parents to get involved. Volunteerism up +25%

Hosting prominent thinkers through the PA Speaker Series

- > Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot, MacArthur prize-winning sociologist and the Emily Hargroves Fisher Professor of Education at Harvard University. Her work examines the culture of schools, the broad ecology of education, and the relationship between human development and social change.
- > Robert T. Michael, UChicago Eliakim Hastings Moore Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus and Dean Emeritus, Senior Fellow, NORC. Prof. Michael addressed *The Five Life Decisions* critical decisions all face about college, career, partners, health, and parenting.
- > Eboo Patel, founder and president of the Interfaith Youth Core and member of President Obama's Inaugural Faith Council, on making interfaith cooperation a social norm. "The question of how people orient around religion differently, or interact with one another, whether that be based on conflict or cooperation, will be one of the most engaging questions of the 21st century."

Experience the maker movement (think shop class for the 21st century)



The idea of the makerspace has taken root in the very short time that Lab has had its new and restored spaces:

> At Earl Shapiro Hall, Lab's youngest learners are exploring, building, refining, and tinkering to make things work: from designing and assembling wooden plant trellises to crafting complicated Rube Goldberg machines. > Lower School classes used cardboard and creativity to build interactive arcade games—and anything they could think of—as part of a global Cardboard Challenge.

> High School musicianengineers turned Ikea salad bowls into elements of an electronic orchestra.

Today's maker experience moves well beyond the traditional shop experience many adults may recall from their youth. Maker work crosses the lines of technology, music, computer science, art, math, and science integrating many modes of thinking and problem-solving. And, as Lab expands its maker program more formally into the Middle and High Schools, more is to come. Lab teachers and students are literally taking hold of learning.

Inspire a broader perspective through partnerships



In its second year, the Internship for Civic **Engagement paired Labbies** and UChicago Charter Schools students and placed the teams in a number of nonprofit and government offices around Chicago's mid-South Side. By connecting academic skills learned in the classroom with the needs and expertise of the community, students better understood local social, political, and cultural issues. "It's been extremely eye opening seeing the impact that we can all have on communities, and the impact that one organization can have in changing individuals' lives," says Lab sophomore Constantin Carrigan.

Junior Madison Christmas says, "I made friends with a lot of people from Woodlawn. I think that being together showed us that we have a lot in common. Going into the real world, you are going to meet all these new people. You're not going to be with the people you've known your whole life. Being in this internship forced me out of my shell, which changed my perspective and helped build myself as a person."

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EX OFFICIO

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Charles Abelmann Director University of Chicago Laboratory



"Giving someone the ability to afford a great education when they don't have the means to do so is the most valuable gift you can give anyone."

-SAM VAN LOON, '15

School Leadership

As of October 1, 2017

Charles Abelmann

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Interim Executive Director, Alumni Relations and Development

Nicole Hood Director, All-Schools Programs

and Partnerships Christopher Jones

Associate Director of the Schools, Finance and Operations

Curt Lieneck Director, Information

Technology Nicole Neal Director, Student Services

Irene Reed, '92 Executive Director, Admissions and Financial Aid

Stephanie Weber Principal, High School

Carla Young Principal, Nursery-Grade 2

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Beverly Biggs Dean for Faculty, Nursery-Grade 2

Ana Campos Dean of Students, High School

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David Ribbens Director, Athletics Jeremiah Stevens Director, Alumni Relations and

Giving Joseph Wachowski Director, Operations

"Our parents made real sacrifices for us to attend Lab and to have so many opportunities."

-ANDREA AND OLIVIA JOHN, BOTH CLASS OF 2003, WHO NAMED THE THOMAS AND ANNITA JOHN SCHOLARSHIP IN HONOR OF THEIR PARENTS



Parents' **Association Board**

As of October 1, 2017

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Liz Anderson

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Mariana Ingersoll Middle School Council Angela Cobb Lena Jessen Colleen Sheehan Heather Tamburo

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Scott Edelstein, '83 Julian Federle, '02 Chief Policy and Programs Officer Illinois State Treasurer's

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