



4,481

NUMBER OF INSTRUCTIONAL
HOURS PROVIDED



502

TOTAL NUMBER OF ONLINE
SESSIONS HELD IN 2020

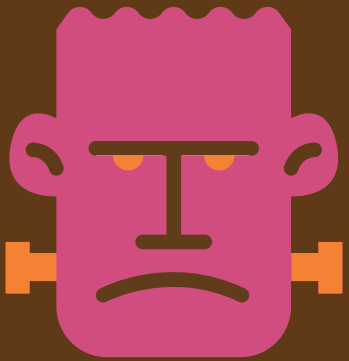
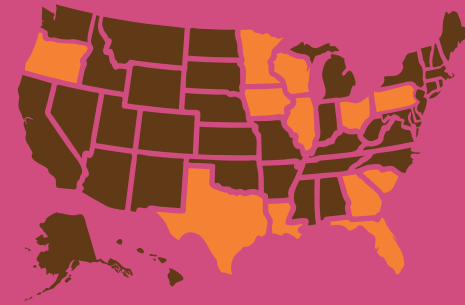
32K

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF
APPLAUSE EMOJIS USED DURING
WORKSHOPS ON ZOOM



12

NUMBER OF STATES WITH
STUDENT ENROLLMENTS



27%

ESTIMATED INCREASE IN THE
CREATION OF MONSTERS, ALIENS,
DRAGONS AND OTHER LIFEFORMS
THANKS TO DOODLE LOUNGE



4,553

NUMBER OF DISCORD MESSAGES
BETWEEN STUDENTS & MENTORS
ON DIGITAL ACADEMY CHANNEL

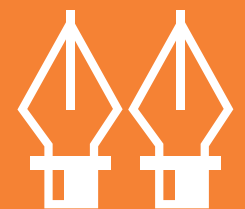
80

QUESTION OF THE DAY
EPISODES PRODUCED



**20
20**

ANNUAL REPORT



ISLANDS
OF *Brilliance*

Dear Friends of Islands of Brilliance,

This past year brought challenges no one could have foreseen. As schools were closed, social activities canceled, and everyone forced to stay home, we realized that community, connection, and creativity were needed more than ever.

We will be a light...

As 2020 unfolded this quickly became our mission. We were committed to bringing light to our community during these uncertain times. It was a call to action to find a way to continue to serve our students. Our in-person workshops became online workshops, our group activities moved to Zoom rooms, and student conversations over breakfast went virtual. Not only did we continue to offer our core workshops, but we also expanded our programming and are now serving students coast to coast.

- We developed three tiers of distance learning programming for students at every skill level: Sandbox, our most accessible programs for creating and connecting, Foundation, student-driven with 1:1 mentorships, and Academy, apprentice instruction with design thinking methodologies.
- We implemented the Concierge Approach, assisting families in determining which level of programming is appropriate for their students.
- Highlights of our new programming developed in 2020 include our Question of the Day, Doodle Lounge, Natterdays, Smactivities, and private mentoring. Lighthouse Conversations was created to provide weekly support and community for parents and caregivers.
- Our biggest fundraiser, Colors & Chords, traveled to Gratitude Island, a virtual world imagined and created by Foresight Studios with the help of our own Digital Academy students.
- We continued to offer our popular 2D and 3D Foundation workshops and our pre-employment advanced design Digital Academy with an increased enrollment over the previous year.

Even amid uncertainty and change, we found ways to create the ideal learning environment for our students to build on their abilities to achieve new goals and reach new heights. Our brilliant students continue to amaze us!

While it was certainly a challenging year, we are proud of what we have accomplished. We know that our programming was often the only activity our students had providing support, engagement, and offering a creative outlet. Although our classes looked very different this year, the outcomes remained the same. We witnessed our students develop self-confidence, express their creativity, master technology, and improve their communication skills while building important connections to their peers and mentors.

We are committed to continuing to be the light for all who need our services and hope to shine even brighter in the coming year.



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Board Chair

Board of Directors

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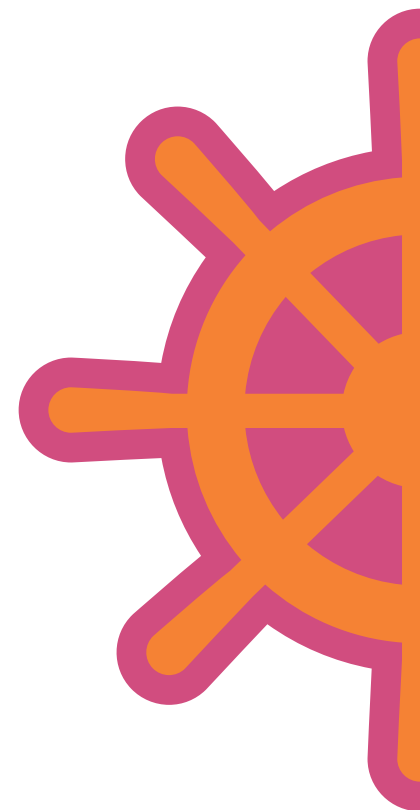
Michelle Pape
Director of Development

Stephanie Phillips
Special Education Coordinator

Charlie Fairbanks
Creative/Technology Support

Kim Gerdes
Marketing Coordinator

Additional background information and media coverage available at:
islandsofbrilliance.org/annual-report



Our Mission

By using creativity, technology, and one-to-one guidance, we are positively changing personal perceptions of self and promoting broader community views of those on the autism spectrum from people with disabilities to people with capabilities.

FY 2020 Operating Revenues

\$425,611

-19% vs. 2019

44.1% Private/Corporate Grants
35.6% Earned Income
10.8% Fundraising Events
9.5% Individual Contributions

FY 2020 Operating Expenses

\$492,737

+35% vs. 2019

78.0% Programming
11.5% Administration
10.5% Fundraising

Gratitude

Thank you to the foundations, corporations, community partners, and individuals who provided financial and in-kind support in 2020 for programming and operations.

Private Foundations

Autism Speaks
Bader Philanthropies, Inc.
Dan & Lynn Tarrence Family Foundation
Dorothy Inbusch Foundation
First Business Charitable Foundation, Inc.
Gardner Foundation
Greater Milwaukee Association of Realtors Youth Foundation, Inc.
Greater Milwaukee Foundation
Greater Milwaukee Foundation
- Jorgensen Family Fund
- Mary L. Nohl Fund
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Nonprofit Management Fund
Potawtomi Hotel & Casino Heart of Canal Street
Stackner Family Foundation
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Bert L. & Patricia S. Steigleder Charitable Trust
Walmart Foundation
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Corporate Donors & Community Partners

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C2
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Colectivo Coffee Roasters, Inc.
Dynamic Color Solutions, Inc.
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Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Wisconsin & Metropolitan Chicago
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