



# IEARN-USA

ANNUAL REPORT | 2016

International Education and Resource Network  
Learning with the World  
Since 1988



## INVESTING IN THE NEXT GENERATION OF GLOBAL CITIZENS

Dear Friend,

We are honored to share the impact of iEARN-USA's programs in 2016 as well as our strategic goals to address the needs of educators and youth in this increasingly global world.

As we near our 30th Anniversary at iEARN, we are continuing to work hard to strengthen our network and our role as a global education leader in an increasingly tenuous and volatile world that is faced with many uncertainties.

Within this report you'll find information about our Global Projects, Professional Development, Partner Programs and Financial Outlook.

iEARN-USA is committed to the growth and sustainability of our work and to providing the best opportunities to educators to suit their needs in collaboration through global project based learning and virtual exchange.

Our 2016-2018 Strategic Plan addresses four key areas:

- Governance:** Strengthen and grow our Board of Directors for future growth and increased impact.
- Resource Development:** Expand and diversify revenue streams so that iEARN-USA continues to be financially viable in the long-term.
- Programs:** Become the essential resource and recognized expert for U.S. K-12 global collaboration through project-based learning.
- Infrastructure:** Strengthen the long-term viability of the organization.



As a friend and partner of iEARN-USA, I thank you for your support and I look forward to working together to continue to empower young people, support educators, and transform learning as a pathway towards global citizenship.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Tonya Muro*

Tonya Muro  
Executive Director

*Mona Raiba*

Mona Raiba  
Chair, Board of Directors

## iEARN GLOBAL PROJECTS

### iEARN PROJECTS: BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

On December 7, 2016, 16 students, their teachers and parents from Helen Keller Middle School in Easton, Connecticut were invited to the United Nations to present on the iEARN Global Project "Water is Life" at the United Nations Office for Sustainable Development.

**Water is Life** is aligned with SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation and SDG 14: Life Below Water. In the 2015-2016 school year, 22 schools from 10 countries (Uganda, Taiwan, Iran, Jordan, Tunisia, U.S.A., India, Russia, Ukraine and Australia) collaborated together to develop a deeper understanding of the range of issues pertaining to water sustainability and conservation from different environmental and cultural perspectives.

*"My students were honored to share this project. They were awarded a rare opportunity they will remember forever. The members from the UN DESA Division were very impressed...and urged us to continue in our efforts to spread awareness and maintain the commitment to caring for the world's water." - Jennifer Rose, iEARN Educator, CT*



### YOUTH MAKING A DIFFERENCE GLOBALLY

All iEARN Projects are aligned with the United Nation's 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Youth around the world are learning how to care for the planet and its people with their peers worldwide and making a positive impact in their local and global communities.

**2016-2017 iEARN PROJECT BOOK** is a comprehensive and updated guide to iEARN Global Projects. Included in the book are 94 iEARN projects and eight Learning Circle themes from 119 project facilitators in 40 countries. A new version of the Project Book is released each autumn.



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR EDUCATORS

iEARN offers extensive online and in-person courses to provide educators with the skills and knowledge to successfully integrate global project-based learning into their classrooms. To check out the latest offerings visit: [us.earn.org/our-approach](http://us.earn.org/our-approach)

*"The opportunities for lasting and impactful professional development are myriad."*  
-Robin, iEARN Educator



### BRIDGE PROGRAM

iEARN provides teachers with a structured training on implementing iEARN Global Projects and collaboration into their classrooms. In 2016, 150 educators participated in introductory workshops and 5-week online courses. 15 educators participated in an advanced, project facilitator online course. The BRIDGE Program is funded by the Aspen Institute's Stevens Initiative.

### GLOBAL EDUCATION AMBASSADORS

In 2016, iEARN introduced a leadership program for advanced iEARN Educators, called the **Global Education Ambassadors (GEA) program**. GEA is generously supported by a grant from the Posner-Wallace Foundation. GEA's serve as regional representatives, support recruitment and training of new iEARN educators, and participate in professional development opportunities to continue building leadership skills in global education. iEARN currently has a network of 15 ambassadors and is looking to expand this number to 25 by 2018.



91%

of U.S. iEARN teachers surveyed shared that iEARN has contributed to their professional growth.

### ACTION RESEARCH

Through a self-paced 12-week online tutorial educators learn how to become "action researchers" and evaluate their own teaching practices in the implementation of iEARN Global Projects in their classrooms. This process can help educators rethink and strengthen classroom practices, continually evolve to meet student needs, and become peer leaders by sharing their outcomes on [www.earnactionresearch.org](http://www.earnactionresearch.org).

## PARTNERSHIPS FOR GLOBAL EDUCATION

iEARN-USA works with partners within the United States and around the globe to provide meaningful global education experiences to K-12 students and educators.



### BRIDGE PROGRAM

iEARN-USA is currently implementing the **BRIDGE Program (Building Respect through International Dialogue & Global Education)** funded through the Aspen Institute's Stevens Initiative, a tribute to late Ambassador Chris Stevens. In 2016, the first year of the program, 150 teachers from 10 countries in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), as well as the U.S. participated in professional development and international networking. More than a 1,000 students in MENA and the U.S. collaborated in global projects in 2016.

### NATIONAL SECURITY LANGUAGE INITIATIVE FOR YOUTH

For more than eight years iEARN has worked in partnership with the American Councils for International Education Consortium on the NSLI-Y program. NSLI-Y is a prestigious program initiative, funded by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, which provides full scholarships for U.S. high school students to learn critical languages abroad.

For the 2016-2017 school year, iEARN-USA facilitated programs for 119 students to study abroad

*"This was a life changing experience and really helped shape who I am as a person. I became a lot more open and have discovered a new passion for language learning"*

- NSLI-Y China participant

in Korea, Morocco, India, China and Taiwan, for summer and yearlong exchanges and cultural immersion. iEARN also manages the NSLI-Y interactive website ([nsliyinteractive.org](http://nsliyinteractive.org)) and leads six virtual-interactive events connecting NSLI-Y students abroad, NSLI-Y alumni and educators and language learners in the U.S.

## PARTNERSHIPS FOR GLOBAL EDUCATION



**GLOBAL COLLABORATION GUIDE**  
With the support of a generous grant from the Longview Foundation, iEARN-USA created the Teachers' Guide to Global Collaboration, a new effort to bring together resources and opportunities for global collaboration. The guide was officially launched in 2017 at [globaledguide.org](http://globaledguide.org).



### THE KENNEDY-LUGAR YOUTH EXCHANGE AND STUDY (YES) PROGRAM

Funded by the U.S. Department of State and sponsored by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, the YES program is an academic year exchange program for secondary school students from countries with significant Muslim populations. The YES program is managed by various partners in the U.S. and internationally.

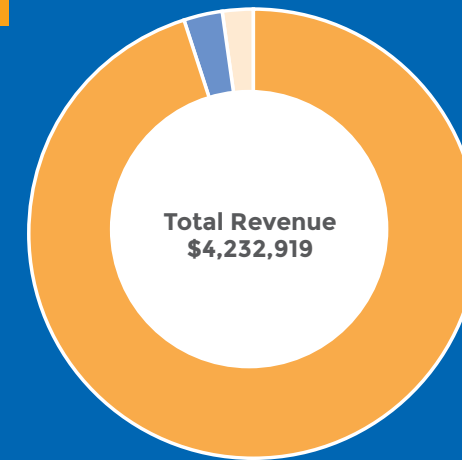
iEARN manages YES programming in Bangladesh, Cameroon, Israel, (Arab communities), Liberia, Mali, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, and Suriname, and also advises and manages virtual exchange activities, program websites, social media campaigns and webinars for participants and alumni. In 2016, iEARN-USA's YES team coordinated programs in eight countries for more than 220 students.

### U.S. SUMMER SISTERS EXCHANGE PROGRAM

In the summer of 2016, 19 gifted Pakistani high school girls from low to middle income backgrounds received scholarships to attend pre-college summer programs at prestigious American universities. The exchange is part of "Let Girls Learn" initiative, funded by the U.S. Department of State and is administered by a consortium of partners, including American University, iEARN-Pakistan, the Society for International Education, US-Pakistan Women's Council, and iEARN-USA. The program has been in operation since 2013 and continues through summer 2017. Learn more at: <http://iearnpk.org/ss/ss.htm>

## FINANCIALS HIGHLIGHT

### REVENUE

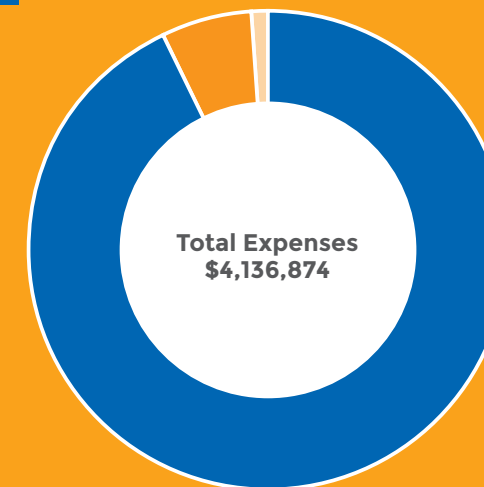


**94.58% (\$4,003,588)**  
PROGRAM FUNDING (FEDERAL & FOUNDATIONS)

**3.20% (\$135,270)**  
ONLINE COURSE & MEMBERSHIP FEES

**2.22% (\$94,061)**  
DONATIONS, IN-KIND SUPPORT & OTHER

### EXPENSES



**93.13% (\$3,852,489)**  
PROGRAM

**6.09% (\$251,967)**  
MANAGEMENT & OPERATIONS

**0.78% (\$32,418)**  
FUNDRAISING

To view the Annual Report Online and additional financial statements visit:  
[us.iearn.org/annualreport](http://us.iearn.org/annualreport)

Available Online

- Form 990
- Audited Financial Statements
- Past Annual Reports

## DONORS AND FUNDERS

We are so thankful to the generosity and commitment of our partners and donors.

### PROGRAM FUNDERS

Key programmatic funding and leadership

Adobe Foundation  
The Aspen Institute's Stevens Initiative  
Longview Foundation  
National Wildlife Federation  
Posner-Wallace Foundation  
U.S. Department of State  
U.S. Embassy Pakistan

### PROGRAM PARTNERS

Programmatic partnership and in-kind support

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Asia Society  
Digital Youth Network  
DreamYard  
Famiglia Pizzeria  
Generosity Series  
Global Education Coalition NYC  
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Global Nomads Group (GNG)  
Hungarian Pastry Shop  
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IRIS - Iowa Resource for International Service  
Kids Can Make a Difference  
Manhattan Valley Wines & Spirits  
Minds on Design Lab  
Mobility International USA (MIUSA)  
My Hero Project  
Participate (VIF)  
Partners of the Americas  
Salesforce Foundation  
Soliya  
Teachers College at Columbia University  
Trader Joe's  
U.S. Embassy Morocco  
Virtual Exchange Coalition

And of course...iEARN's International Network!

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## BECOME A CHAMPION OF iEARN-USA'S PROGRAMS!

## MULTI- CHARITY RUN/WALK



Make a **donation** by mail or by visiting:  
[us.earn.org/donate](http://us.earn.org/donate)

Become an **iEARN Member Educator**: [us.earn.org/join](http://us.earn.org/join)

### Monthly Giving

Consider making a recurring monthly gift to sustain iEARN-USA's programs year-round.

### Matching Gifts

Many companies double (or sometimes triple) the value of donations made to iEARN-USA. Check with your company to see if they offer this benefit.

### Partnership/Sponsorship

Join iEARN-USA as a program partner or sponsor - contact the Development Team at 212-870-2693 ext. 4911 for more information or other ways to make an impact on iEARN-USA's work!

# **iEARN-USA**

**ANNUAL REPORT | 2016**

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