



REMEMBERING EVA



2015 - 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

REMEMBERING EVA



**A girl of
strength &
compassion**

Eva Gunther
1984-1997

Eva had a strong sense of fairness and justice, tempered by a compassionate and loving nature. Her family has established the Foundation to remember Eva by sharing with others the chance to develop their unique interests.

OUR MISSION

To support the physical, social, moral, intellectual, creative, spiritual, psychological and emotional growth of motivated girls between the ages of 11 and 18 who have a demonstrable financial need.

The Foundation supports the expression of girls' inner selves in a variety of contexts, and with its awards hopes to fuel their motivation and passion to reach their dreams.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



As I reflect on the Eva Gunther Foundation's programs, values and accomplishments, I appreciate how well the Fellowship Program manifests our signature idea: to support motivated girls to encourage their agency, unique capacities and engagement in the world. Eva's enthusiasm for life was expressed with joy, vitality and trust that others were there to help, support and guide her. Her circle of family, teachers, friends and mentors recognized her

passions and abilities; these relationships nurtured her growth and self-expression. We believe that all girls need support and encouragement of caring adults who value their individuality and that the important role of mentorship enhances girls' development. Recognizing that relationships are essential, we ask adults to take a personal interest by nominating girls for Fellowships.

In the past year the Eva Foundation has gone through a significant re-focusing, coinciding with the transfer of fiscal sponsorship of Alliance for Girls to the Women's Foundation of California. We followed through on our initial commitment to support AFG through its incubation and assisted its maturation into a strong, vibrant and change-making advocacy organization. I want to congratulate and thank Emma Mayerson, the Executive Director of Alliance for Girls for her visionary leadership and Mark Gunther for his steadfast guidance in creating an innovative model of collaboration, inspiration and resource exchange among girls' agencies in the Bay Area. At the same time, we have returned our focus to the Fellowship program. To date we have given over 450 Fellowships to girls to support travel on service learning programs, visit colleges, study their art, and play sports, among other things. We look forward to receiving nominations from mentors, teachers, and others working with girls to help them go forward to develop their passions and life paths.

In January 2015 EGF Vice President Alissa Bernstein, Ph.D., completed the EGF Fellowship Program Impact Evaluation. The study has confirmed the effectiveness of our unique model of giving Fellowships to middle and high school age girls, and also has directed us to areas of potential strengthening and development. Please read Alissa's summary included here. With great respect and affection, I thank Alissa for her dedication to conducting clear and thorough research and a report that will guide our board in important decisions about the direction of the next phase of our Fellowship program.

This past summer Della Krantz Leapman and Alissa Bernstein have guided the design of a new Eva Gunther Foundation website to better communicate our work and improve its relevance and attunement to youth and connectivity. I thank Della, Alissa and Mark for their creativity and skill in enhancing the online presence of EGF to provide easier access for the community to nominate prospective fellows and learn about what we do.

Last but not at all least, I want to thank Dick and Lois Gunther, whose steadfast support and love has made the Foundation's work possible for the past seventeen years, and to express my deep appreciation to all of our family, friends and donors who have continued to sustain and support us. Words alone cannot capture the spirited dedication of all of our board members, Susan Andrews, Alissa Bernstein, Charlotte Burchard, Della Krantz Leapman, Laura Mason and Nancy Rubin, and how deeply their contributions shape the Eva Foundation and inspire me at each meeting. Enormous gratitude goes to Mark Gunther, whose work as managing director, guiding force and chief operator of the foundation has catalyzed our growth and innovation while steering a firm and steady course since we began this work. Having recently cut back on some of my professional duties, I have taken on more visible leadership of the Eva Foundation, and look forward to continuing to grow our unique program and presence among the community of those who care about girls' development.

Remembering Eva with love,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne Krantz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Anne Krantz

FINANCIAL REPORT



Over the past two years, the unexpected but heartening success of Alliance for Girls enabled its planned transfer to the Women's Foundation of California on November 30, 2015. Due to AFG's strong base of support and prudent management, a substantial fund balance also was transferred at that time, identified on the operating statement. The operating losses shown represent 1) the

spending down of previously reported AFG grants, and 2) the internal fund transfer of unrestricted funds to the Collaboration Fund. As these funds were already counted as unrestricted revenue when received, their expenditure drops to the bottom line. We are proud of our role in founding AFG and look forward to a continuing relationship in the future. The Fellowship Fund awarded sixty Fellowships worth \$99,628. The 2015 investment in the Fellowship Impact Study produced a series of recommendations that, as they are implemented, will improve the program's operations, communications, and pedagogical support. This could also lead to the Foundation's taking a stronger and more public stance around Fellowships, mentoring in general and the development of more support and partnerships to expand and replicate the program.

Operating Statement

	FY 2015	FY 2016
General Support	137,326.00	101,630.00
Support Restricted to AFG	74,645.00	56,638.52
AFG Earned Revenues (1)	30,961.53	14,083.65
	242,932.53	172,352.17
Community Engagement Program(2)	154,293.35	59,853.33
Fellowship Program(3)	77,296.21	50,208.00
General & Administrative	49,779.90	31,581.02
AFG Funds transferred to WFCA(4)		57,584.58
	281,369.46	199,226.93
	-38,436.93	-26,874.76

(1) Membership and conference fees

(2) Alliance For Girls Operating Expenses

(3) 2015 includes Impact Study expense

(4) Women's Foundation of California assumed AFG fiscal sponsorship 11/30/15

Balance Sheet 6/30/2016

Assets

Cash in Bank	88,473
Total Assets	88,473

Liabilities & Fund Balances

Grants payable	4,000
Fellowship Fund(5)	11,213
Unrestricted Fund	73,260
	88,473

(5) This fund is a Board-designated fund

Fellowships Given

Year	Total Given	Total Fellows	Average Grant	Sponsoring Agencies
2001-2012	247,964	209	1,186	51
2013	45,086	42	1,073	9
2014	54,691	59	927	11
2015	49,318	29	1,701	14
2016	50,208	31	1,620	16

FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM IMPACT EVALUATION



The Board commissioned the study because it wanted to 1) understand the impact of the Fellowship program on Fellowship recipients, 2) discover if the Board's goals for the program were being met, and 3) to understand if the Nomination Process was effective or should be adjusted. Using qualitative assessment of the Fellowship program, the study focused on the experiences of 44 individual recipients of Fellowships, and 38 mentors. The key

indicators developed to undertake the assessment include: 1) a feeling of being cared for or loved, 2) a girls' sense of self-confidence, self-awareness, and self-reflection, 3) a broadening of her sense of capability, 4) Development of a sense of initiative 6) Elements of Fellowship experience can be traced into current life, and 7) Whether she had fun. The Study draws conclusions in four areas.

1. Mentorship: The Foundation's objective of supporting girls who are mentored by caring adults in their lives has been very successful. Mentors of Eva Fellows witnessed girls' successes both overall and in the outcome of their fellowship. The Fellowship strengthened the relationship between a girl and her mentor by fostering increased communication, trust, and a more holistic relationship.

2. The Fellowship Experience: A Fellowship allows a girl with the opportunity to engage in experiences beyond their financial means. The experience is animated by her motivation, curiosity and desire. The Fellowship successfully encouraged girls to explore new areas of interest and provided the platform through which girls were inspired to pursue these interests into the future. In interviews the majority of girls (29/44) made some connection to what they are doing today, whether directly or indirectly. The accompanying graphic shows the words girls chose to describe their experience.

3. Self-Awareness, Reflection and Growth: A Fellowship has a measureable impact on girls self-concept, including self-awareness, confidence, sense of self in the world, and initiative. It often catalyzes a girl's belief in her own capacity and motivation. Girls felt more proactive, felt a newfound ability to make a difference in the world; they saw themselves as leaders and felt empowered to pursue a goal. They became better public speakers. The Fellowship helped broaden girls' sense of their own potential, making them better able to advocate for themselves in the future.

A third of the girls (15/44) said the Fellowship sparked their desire to work to make the world a better place. Thought some were involved in fellowship activities that involved volunteer work or travel to developing countries, others wanted to give back due to the generosity of the Foundation. For these girls, the Fellowship strengthened their capacity to see themselves in relation to others in need, and provided them with a sense of being part of a community with the ability to make a difference.

4. The Nomination Process: Nominator/mentors found reflecting on their nominee was a rewarding experience; the changes they witnessed in their nominees supported the claims of the interviewed girls. Typically, girls are very successful in their Fellowships, suggesting the Foundation communicates it's criteria clearly. This is reflected in mentor's discussions of reasons to select a nominee. Requiring a final letter serves as a valuable way for girls to reflect on how they grew, show improvement and achievement, and help them appreciate the experience.

Alissa Bernstein
Alissa Bernstein



What girls say when they talk about their Fellowships

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



I can speak for the Bay Area Girls community in expressing our gratitude to the Eva Gunther Foundation for its early and steadfast support of Alliance for Girls. Alliance for Girls (AFG) has quickly become the largest regional alliance of girls' organizations in the country, with 130 members serving more than 250,000 girls and young women in the San Francisco Bay Area annually.

The values on which Alliance for Girls was founded— authenticity, fearlessness, compassion and justice— has enabled its rapid growth and success. The Eva Foundation has embodied these values in its program funding, fellowships and convenings for fifteen years, and so was a trusted player in the field. The girl-serving community accepted AFG as an extension of the Foundation's work. Today, though no longer fiscally sponsored by the Foundation, Alliance for Girls carries these values and beliefs in its DNA.

AFG was a program of EGF for much of the period of this report, and was able to continue to maintain and grow its services during this time. Highlights include:

- More than a dozen collaborations between girls' organizations were facilitated by AFG, enabling new, innovative programs and expanded opportunities for girls.
- Alliance for Girls' 4th Annual Conference convened 360 attendees representing 175 organizations serving approximately 469,000 girls and young women annually. 94% of attendees reported that what they learned at the conference will help them be a stronger champion for girls in their organizations and in their lives.

- AFG's topical and timely workshops and trainings get consistently positive reviews from attendees. This year's workshops were on girl's social development, girl's cognitive development, and understanding Title IX.
- AFG won a highly competitive Innovation Award from the National Girls Initiative, funded by the U.S. Department of Justice. The project, Addressing Girls Needs, partners AFG with Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) to address the expressed needs of girls through new and modified policies, practices and programs. We produced the first study of girls' actual school experience, "Valuing Girls Voices, the Lived Experiences of Girls of Color in Oakland Unified School District." The project leverages the collective expertise, experience and power of its membership to address the identified problems by creating multi-disciplinary and innovative approaches to fortifying the structure of Oakland schools so they become safer, more supportive and inspiring places of learning for girls.

Alliance for Girls continues to grow and expand its efforts to eliminate systemic barriers to girls' success and strengthen the programs and organizations that are giving girls the tools they need to thrive. We thank the Eva Foundation and it's extended community for giving Alliance for Girls a chance to thrive.

Emma Mayerson
Emma Mayerson, Executive Director

FELLOWSHIP LETTERS

The goal of an Eva Gunther Fellowship is to enable motivated girls to have eye opening, life changing, or simply fun experiences outside the range of their everyday life. To nominate a Fellow visit www.evafoundation.org.

Dear Mr. Gunther,

Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to explore my interest in scientific research through the Summer at Brown Pre-College Program. In addition to working in a science lab, I had the opportunity to grow personally as well. My experience at Brown University exposed me to college life and instilled in me a newfound sense of independence. From completing research assignments to budgeting for groceries, I was responsible for managing my time and responsibilities. I bonded with international classmates and had fascinating discussions about the differences between our countries' societal norms and Disney's indoctrination of gender roles and stereotypes in young children. . . .

. . . My experience through the Summer at Brown Pre-College Program has increased my interest in pursuing a career in biotechnology. I have become more confident in my ability to use lab tools and technology. Moreover, I now know for certain that I want to attend a college that offers scientific research opportunities for undergraduate students. Having had a taste of the college experience and a better understanding of the course of study I wish to pursue, I now feel more confident that I will be able to achieve my goals through college and beyond.

Sincerely,



Esmee Morales

ff

During July, I attended the young women's writing and college preparation programs at Smith College in North Hampton, Massachusetts. For 2 weeks I attended morning workshops with acclaimed novelist Terra Mcvoy and poetry classes in the afternoon....This was the first time I had ever written my own story without it being required or affecting my grade in school.

For my afternoon class, we were given writing prompts and required to write poems and share them after we wrote each of them. When I first started, I did not enjoy this class because I did not enjoy sharing my work...By the end of two weeks, I had...learned more about myself as a writer...in the end, the quality of my work is more important than how nervous I am in presenting it.

For my third week, I completed a college admissions workshop. This was a lot more difficult because in each class I was faced with the harsh reality that college was very soon....Completing these assignments showed me that I am more capable of applying myself than I thought....I am becoming more aware of who I am as a person....

This summer experience was different than any other I have had.... I learned how to apply myself to my work, even if I wanted to go out to town with friends instead. I have a better idea of what college will be like and I have learned how I behave when meeting and working with new people. I also came home with a conviction that I want to study Film and Cinematography. I am a good photographer, and I think can combine my love of storytelling with my love of photography. Already, I'm thinking about jobs that I might get one day when I'm an adult. I look at the credits for tv shows

and think that someday my name will be up there.

Thank you for making it possible for me to have this experience, and accomplishing all that I did.

Sincerely,

Shea Ellison
(In photo, far right)



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We remember and honor these losses in the Eva Foundation Family: Rabbi Leonard Beerman, Thea Faust Anderson, and Marjorie Taylor, who for 75 years was a Gunther family friend and confidant. May their memories be a blessing.

EVA LEAH GUNTHER FOUNDATION

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Remembering Eva 1984-1997

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