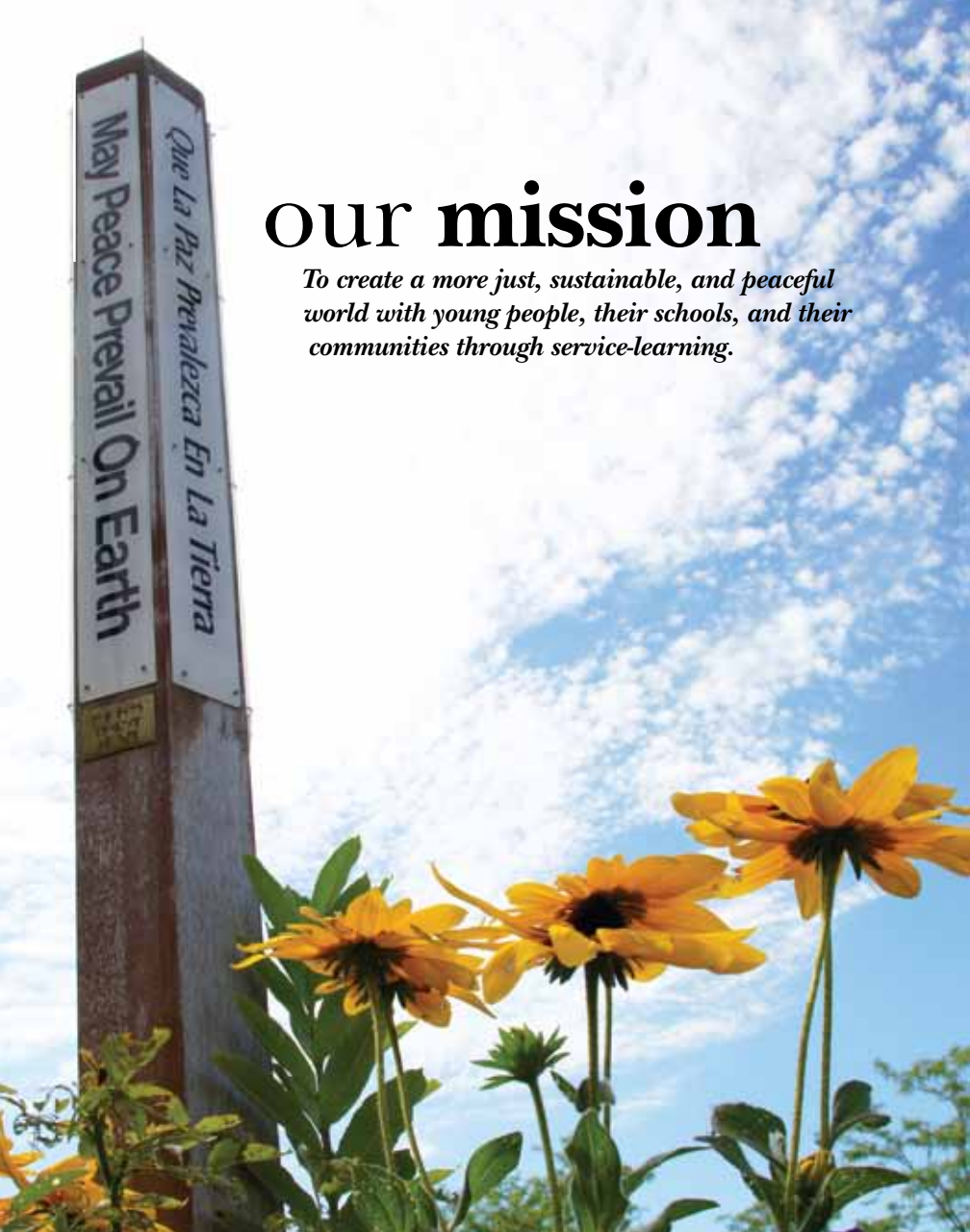


inspire



May Peace Prevail On Earth

Que La Paz Prevalezca En La Tierra

our mission

To create a more just, sustainable, and peaceful world with young people, their schools, and their communities through service-learning.



National Youth Leadership Council
1667 Snelling Ave N. | St. Paul, MN | 55108

A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER

This year was a time of great activity and anticipation for NYLC. Programs reached new levels of impact, young people became increasingly involved in our daily operations, and I prepared to step away from my role as CEO of the organization. In this midst of these transitions, we refined NYLC's vision and strengthened our focus.

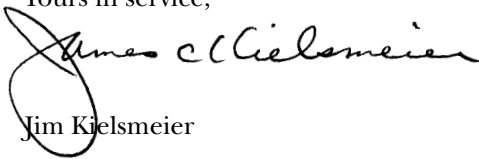
I am proud to introduce Kelita Svoboda Bak, who began as CEO of NYLC in Jan., 2011. She brings extensive leadership experience with national youth development and service-learning organizations, most recently serving as Vice President of Advancement at Camp Fire USA. Under her leadership, NYLC is committed to building upon our meaningful programs as we continue to set the standard for excellence in service-learning.

We also hired Jennifer Dotson as Development Director and celebrated the growth of the fund-raising activities that support NYLC's initiatives. With the expansion of our development department, we anticipate strengthened systems and strategies for fund development.

We salute the generous and increased commitments from many of our corporate and foundation partners, including State Farm, Shinnyo-en Foundation, Minneapolis Foundation, Best Buy Children's Foundation, and others. Coupled with ongoing federal support from Learn and Serve America, this meaningful financial investment from our community partners brought us through a milestone year and ensures an even brighter future for NYLC.

I hope that you will join us in supporting service-learning as an educational strategy that changes lives — for young people, for their teachers, and for their communities.

Yours in service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James C. Kielsmeier". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

Jim Kielsmeier



Volunteering at a community forum is **service**.

Researching local employment issues is **learning**.

Speaking out on issues, organizing a mayoral forum on jobs, and measuring community participation is **service-learning**.

responding to current **issues**

THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP IN AMERICAN EDUCATION

NYLC has a guiding philosophy that youth can be powerful agents of change. For nearly 30 years, NYLC has put current issues at the forefront of its work with young people – whether developing a camp that tackles issues of inequality, responding to hurricanes in the Gulf Coast with a summer school program, or training young people as peer educators to help prevent the spread of HIV.

This year, in addition to running model programs that address environmental degradation and teen driver safety, NYLC programs have focused on the achievement gap, often referred to as this generation’s civil rights issue. A 2009 report by McKinsey & Company cites the many gaps in achievement among students within the United States: on average, black and Latino students are roughly two to three years of learning behind white students of the same age; impoverished students are roughly two years of learning behind the average better-off student of the same age; and students of similar backgrounds perform dramatically differently across school systems and classrooms.

SERVICE-LEARNING AS A SOLUTION

Service-learning can help break through the barriers that are associated with the achievement gap – disparities in expectations, academic achievement, and preparation for post-secondary education. Service-learning is a method of teaching that engages students in meaningful service and integrates that service with established learning objectives. If implemented well, service-learning leads to increases in grades, attendance, problem-solving skills, test scores and other academic outcomes.

NYLC recognizes that young people are the largest stakeholders in the achievement gap. Utilizing service-learning as a tool for change, NYLC helps youth become part of the solution as they develop and implement service-learning projects that aim to narrow the gap in their schools and local communities.

developing young **leaders**

PROJECT IGNITION

Through a partnership with State Farm, NYLC runs a nationwide youth initiative that addresses the number one killer of teens: car crashes. In its seventh year, **Project Ignition** brought together 30 teams of high school youth to conduct teen driver safety campaigns that reached more than 50,000 people throughout their districts or in neighboring communities. In a large program analysis completed this year, we learned that the program's research-based strategies make it particularly strong at effecting change. We have doubled the number of schools engaged in what we now call **PI Nation**, and we celebrate the youth and their adult allies who are saving lives across the U.S. and Canada.





Spotlight:

Alec Lynn, *NYLT Alumnus*

"I did not believe that a week of camp could really change how I would live the rest of my life. Turns out, I completely underestimated the power of this camp. Not only did I leave NYLT with many new friends, but I also gained inspiration and motivation that would lead me to join AmeriCorps as a VISTA."

Since his VISTA year began, Alec has started a tutoring and mentoring program for middle and high school students in the Ionia school district in Michigan, putting service-learning into practice to combat the achievement gap in his hometown.

YOUTH INITIATIVES

The foundation of NYLC's work with young people is the **National Youth Leadership Training** (NYLT), first held in 1983. Last summer, we gathered more than 50 young people and 26 adult mentors from 11 states and 22 communities in a camp setting outside Minneapolis. Participants were immersed in outdoor leadership experiences, cultural explorations, and activities that illustrated disparities in the education system.

With their adult mentors, youth developed action plans to implement during the school year that address root causes of the achievement gap. Now they are starting tutoring programs, publishing school district newspapers, and running community-wide public health initiatives.

Young people work with NYLC in roles that range from involvement in the **Youth Advisory Council**, to serving on the Board of Directors, to working as summer fellows. These young leaders are working with NYLC staff to develop a manual that will train young people to take action on the achievement gap.

supporting educators

K-12 teachers come to NYLC for support in designing academically rigorous service-learning experiences — a hallmark of NYLC’s approach. This year, we trained more than 7,500 educators in all 50 states and 32 countries through 145 professional development workshops, online webinars, and graduate-level courses. We also provided a host of research-based articles in publications ranging from *Phi Delta Kappan* to the National Middle School Association’s newsletters, reaching more than 1.33 million readers.

GENERATOR SCHOOL NETWORK

The **Generator School Network** is an outgrowth of a model program that NYLC began in the 1990s. It followed the first schools that experimented with service-learning across the nation, from pueblos in New Mexico to urban neighborhood schools in Philadelphia. This year the GSN grew into a dynamic learning community of more than 1,000 educators in almost every state and 18 countries, who connect both in-person and online. Leader Schools in urban hub cities of Chicago, Minneapolis and St. Paul, New York, and New Orleans offer concentrations of best practices in areas such as service-learning and science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) instruction.



40 schools identified as Generator Schools over next 3 years.

1992

CNS funds 15 Generator Schools to develop model curriculum.

1998

W. K. Kellogg Foundation funds 7 “best practice” Generator Schools.

2000

Construction of online platform for educators.

2008



Spotlight: Guilford County, NC

In June and July, NYLC staff trained Guilford County Schools faculty on integrating service-learning into their curriculum. The school system's teachers and curriculum specialists developed thematic units aligned with North Carolina's Standard Course of Study for each grade, K-8, and for 10th-grade English and world history, reaching a total of 70,000 students.

LIFT: RAISING THE BAR FOR SERVICE-LEARNING PRACTICE

This year NYLC launched one of its most ambitious training tools, an online multimedia resource organized around the K-12 Standards for Quality Service-Learning Practice. **Lift: Raising the Bar for Service-Learning Practice** offers video clips and downloadable materials that illustrate each of the eight evidence-based standards for service-learning. Used frequently in professional development trainings, Lift has been accessed more than 3,200 times since its launch at the National Service-Learning Conference in March of 2010, with an average use time of almost 20 minutes.

GSN online community launched with 7 pilot schools.

Lift online resource launched.

GSN 2.0 launches; GSN reaches 1,000 member mark.

Expanding graduate course offerings through GSN.

2009

2010

2011

2012

advancing the field of service-learning

CONVENING THE FIELD

The 21st Annual National Service-Learning Conference, Inspire. Imagine. Innovate! was held March 24-27, 2010 in San Jose, Calif. The event attracted a total of 3,386 onsite and online participants, one third of whom were students age 23 or younger.

The conference program featured 165 presenters, including keynote speakers the Lost Boys of Sudan and creativity expert Sir Ken Robinson. The epicenter of the conference, the exhibit hall, featured 79 exhibitors, 12 college fair booths, and 67 schools participating in the service-learning showcase. In post-survey evaluation, 93 percent of attendees rated the quality of the event as good or excellent.



It is our work with **youth** that informs our practice with **teachers**, that guides the research and **policy** work we engage in as an organization.

RESEARCH & POLICY

NYLC's research and policy publications provide in-depth analysis of service-learning and why it works in the classroom. NYLC reports on the growing base of evidence that service-learning has a positive impact on student engagement in school, academic performance, civic engagement, and responsibility. We use this evidence to help teachers design academically rigorous service-learning curricula.

NYLC's **Growing to Greatness: The State of Service-Learning** gathers respected voices from the field to highlight important findings about service-learning. The 2010 edition highlighted how service-learning helps educators improve teaching quality and explored ways of breaking down barriers, particularly in elementary schools and schools that serve low-income families.

Published in 2008, the **K-12 Service-Learning Standards for Quality Practice** were distributed to over 50,000 individuals this year. Led by NYLC with RMC Research, these standards have been adopted in federal guidelines as requirements for all grant-making through Learn and Serve America, and as best practices in state departments of education and other national organizations, including the Peace Corps.

This year, NYLC presentations on service-learning research and policy reached nearly 5,500 people at international, national, and regional conferences. We placed 11 articles informed by service-learning research, policy, and practice in national publications and consulted on two book projects, extending our reach to 230,000 readers outside of NYLC publications.

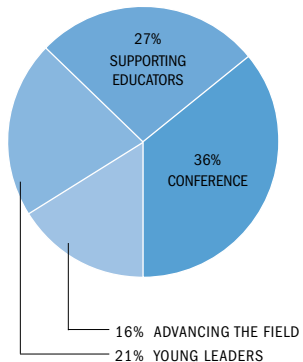
financial highlights

Investing in our Programs

NYLC focuses on three areas: developing young leaders, supporting educators, and advancing the field of service-learning.

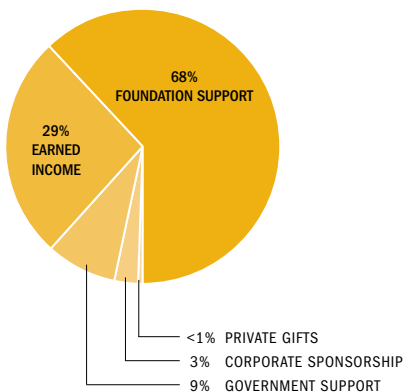
A breakdown of our annual budget illustrates the significant investment made each year in these program areas, all of which converge at our annual conference.

Total Investment \$3,899,880

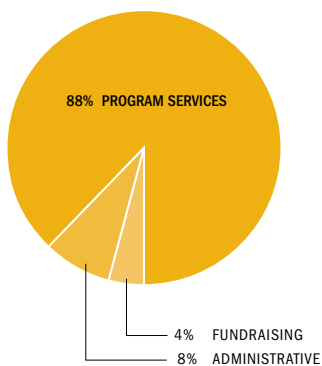


Revenue and Expenses

Total Revenue \$3,899,880



Total Expenses \$3,896,435



A full copy of the IRS Form 990 is available at www.nylc.org.

measuring our impact

Developing Young Leaders

- Directly involved 5,208 youth through NYLC programming.
- Inspired more than 30,000 youth to engage in their communities.
- Impacted an estimated 375,000 youth by training adults in service-learning.

Supporting Educators

- Educated 7,500 adults through 145 events.
- Worked with teachers from more than 186 schools and 145 organizations from 50 states and 32 countries.

Advancing the Field of Service-Learning

- Engaged 3,386 total participants in the National Service-Learning Conference.
- Distributed The K-12 Service-Learning Standards to more than 50,000 people.
- Reached more than 2 million people with written messages about service-learning.



Spotlight: Generator Go Green

*Service-Learning in STEM Education
Funded by Learn and Serve America*

17 Schools — 200 Teachers — 2500 Students

- More than 75% of teachers agreed that the G3 project taught them effective techniques for teaching environmental science.
- More than 95% of teachers identified areas of their service-learning practice they could improve.
- More than 95% of teachers said projects and resources had encouraged them to experiment with new service-learning approaches.

recognizing our partners

Working together in 2010

America's Promise Alliance	National Council of La Raza
American Association of School Administrators	Learn and Serve America
Alliance to Save Energy	Microsoft Partners in Learning
Best Buy Children's Foundation	Minneapolis Community Education
Boys and Girls Club - Twin Cities	Minneapolis Foundation
California Campus Compact	Minnesota Alliance with Youth
Center for Global Environmental Education	National Middle School Association
Central Touring Theater	National Service-Learning Partnership
City of St. Paul	New Foundations Charter School
Camp Kingswood	Outward Bound - Twin Cities
Corporation for National and Community Service	State Farm
Crosswinds Arts & Science School	State Farm Youth Advisory Board
EarthEcho International	SEANet
H2O for Life	Search Institute
Hamline University	Service-Learning United
HandsOn/generationOn	Shinnyo-en Foundation
Harris Interactive	TIES
Harry Hurst Middle School's Wetland Watchers	Three Rivers Park District
Institute for Global Education & Service Learning	University of Minnesota Extension Center for Youth Development
International Association for National Youth Service	Viterbo University
International Center for Research on Community Engagement	Vodafone Americas Foundation
Martin Research Consulting	Voices for National Service
	Volonteuropé
	Voyageur Environmental Center
	Youth Service America
	Youthrive & Peace Jam



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Wokie Weah

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†As of 1/4/2011

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Jim Kielsmeier

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***FY 2009-2010**

Serve. Learn. Change the world.®