



ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17

Kitchen Table Literary Arts Center, Inc.

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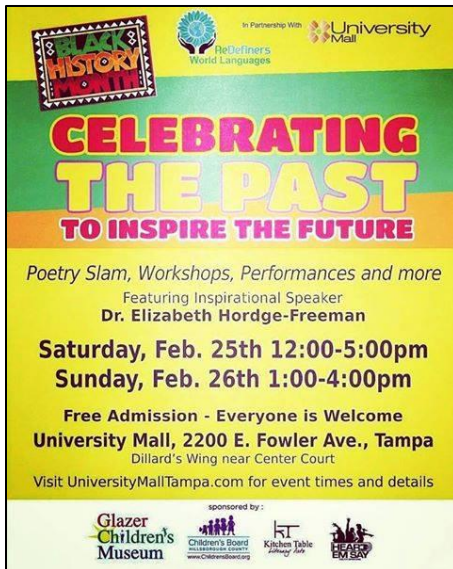
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ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

The 2016-17 fiscal year brought the **Three-Year Strategic plan** we developed with Lisa Pickens, an independent nonprofit consultant, to an end. In review of our strategic goals—to establish our back-office operations, develop our three-prong programming model (**public**

programs, community partnerships, and creative writing society), and position ourselves for fundraising—the strides we’ve made in the last three years have been right on point.



We’ve been able to see considerable growth in our community partnerships and established our work within the arts education community through online and local initiatives. We’ve established a clear vision, an intentional path ahead, for Kitchen Table Literary Arts as an organization.

“We’ve spent three years deciding who and what we are as an organization. It’s now time to be who we are, to act like who we are. It’s time to step into our vision. It’s time to do more.” - Sheree Greer, Director

As we work toward our next Three Year Strategic Plan, we take the failures and triumphs, opportunities and lessons-learned with us. Through expanded public programming, new and established community partnerships, and a more robust financial plan, I know we’ll continue to move ever closer to becoming the community-based, socially-responsible, master’s house-dismantling organization we see in our dreams.



FINANCIAL SUMMARY



This year was all about setting the stage for financial sustainability and diverse sources of income. At the top of the fiscal year, Kitchen Table hosted our first fundraising event. Not only did we raise money and secure pledges from donors, we also utilized this time to network and seek out potential board members that could lend their talent and assist in fundraising initiatives. The success of the private fundraiser led us to organize an additional fundraiser, open to the public and in partnership with a corporate sponsor, in early 2017. Since the announcement of our 501 (c)(3) status, we have had the pleasure of receiving dedicated supported from the community and those who believe in our mission.



Not to be outdone, the executive team also pledged quarterly dues, and to make sure that we diversify our sources of income, we established a partnership with online retail giant, Amazon, through their **Amazon Smile** program. We've also participated in the global giving movement, **Giving Tuesday, Tampa Bay's Give Day**, and added additional fundraising and sponsorship options to our web

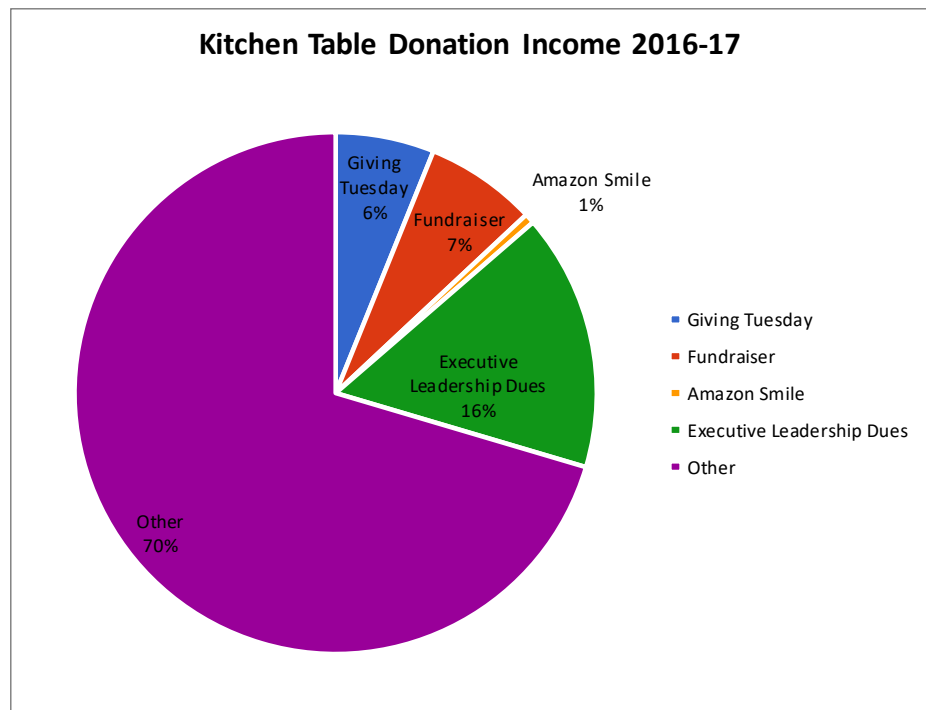
presence. A grant from the **AIDS Health Foundation** in recognition of our work in education was also a welcome addition to our financial growth over the past year.



"We've had the pleasure of receiving dedicated support from the community and those who believe in our mission." - Jasmine Smith, Financial Director

HIGHLIGHTS

- September 2016: First official fundraiser
- November 2016: #GivingTuesday Online Campaign
- December 2016: Amazon Smile Partnership Begins
- April 2017: Spring fundraiser with corporate partner, Westshore Mall
- May 2017: Give Day Tampa Bay Campaign



OUTREACH SUMMARY

Our 2016-2017 year proved to be a year of networking and organizational identity rather than public programming and continuous outreach. In year three, Kitchen Table Literary Arts focused on building online and inter-organizational relationships with writers, readers, educators, and like-minded organizations.



We partnered with **Mahogany Books** in Washington D.C. through an affiliate program that supported our reader-centric outreach during our book club cycles. Our book club also debuted its VIP options, which raised the level of participation and strengthened our relationship with our book club participants.

*“Year four will surely be a year of ‘Action’ and ‘More Action’.”
- Slam Anderson, Outreach Director*



We also participated in the **Mama's Bail Out Day** with the **Bay Area Dream Defenders**. The humbling and necessary day was the first of our planned collaborations with the Dream Defenders as partners, moving us more toward community-building and social activism, which is at the core of our organizational values.

In efforts to continuously build upon our local network, we co-sponsored and co-hosted the first annual **Black Heritage Community Expo** at University Mall for Black History Month. At the Expo, we connected with other nonprofit organizations and individuals with similar missions and goals. The mall atmosphere also granted us the opportunity to interact and share our services and programs with a diverse audience.



LEADERSHIP, BOARD, AND MISSION

We welcomed three new board members for our 2016-2017 year. The additional board members joined the team to contribute to specific strategic goals concerning network-building, fundraising, and programming expansion.

Board Member Association

Adella S. Deacon, DPT, JD

Orlando A. Pizana, MA

Donald Gordon, BA

Dr. Albert Farr, PhD

Kirsten Tersteegen, MA

Ashley Butler, BA

Organizational Leadership

Director: Sheree L. Greer, MFA

Financial Director: Jasmine M. Smith, MBA

Outreach Director: Tiffany “Slam” Anderson, BFA

Mission

Kitchen Table Literary Arts Center builds awareness, appreciation, and support for Black women and women of color writers, poets, and their work.

Kitchen Table Literary Arts Center builds awareness, appreciation, and support for women of color and black women writers, poets, and their work. In addition to our outreach across communities, we offer beginner, intermediate, and master level writing courses exclusively for Black women and women writers of color through our Creative Writing Society.