

ANNUAL

**FUTURE
URBAN
LEADERS**

REPORT

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A LETTER TO OUR FRIENDS

Dear Friends,

As we look ahead this year, I am humbled by the support of our teachers, volunteers, donors, and community. 2021 brought its fair share of challenges for our programming as we continue to feel the ripple effects of the COVID pandemic. We have however, seen such growth, strength, and determination from our scholars. Who have shown up every week with energy and passion to learn and grow.

As we begin 2022, Future Urban Leaders is harnessing the power in FUL. Our programming is life-changing and we know that our scholars are the future leaders of our community and beyond. When a scholar enters our programming, they quickly learn that we are here for the long-haul. We work with scholars from as early as four years old and encourage, grow, and empower them until their high school graduation day (and sometimes beyond). We are invested in our scholars, we want to see them shine. The power in FUL is through the power of self-awareness, grit, dignity, inclusiveness, and empowerment. Please enjoy our 2021 annual report as we highlight some of the ways the Power in FUL is impacting the future of urban Milwaukee youth.

Thank you for your continued support and for allowing our scholars to discover the power in FUL.

Sincerely,

Brandon Vonck

Brandon Vonck
FUL Board President





Power in Play:

PLAY WITH PURPOSE

YOUNG EINSTEINS

Our Young Einstein's are our youngest scholars beginning in 4K and going to 2nd grade. In this program we take a STEAM-based approach to curriculum building, which allows our scholars to develop critical thinking skills and curiosity about the world around them at a young age.

Play is more than fun for young children. Play is the way children learn about the world, themselves, and others. Providing the space, time, and freedom for children to play, no matter how they play, also provides the opportunity to learn.. The power in play is harnessed by our Young Einsteins program.

When our Young Einsteins program first began, it was to offer childcare for the younger siblings of FUL scholars. We wanted to provide a childcare service to save families from making two trips to pick up their kids from school. In more recent years however, we have grown the program to utilize STEAM learning and lessons to help even our youngest scholars begin to play with purpose to build the foundation for success.

By definition, STEAM Education is an approach to learning that uses Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics as access points for guiding student inquiry, dialogue, and critical thinking. Research shows that STEAM education leads to youth who take thoughtful risks, engage in experiential learning, persist in problem-solving, embrace collaboration, and work through the creative process - all of these are tools we want to help scholars add to their toolbox at an early age.

Our Young Einsteins have the opportunity to explore art projects and science-related game-based activities as part of their play.

“Kids at this age tend to miss out on science, because there is such a focus on reading, literacy and math. This is why our Young Einstein’s programming offers science and game-based topics - to help fill in the gaps of their exploration and learning,” stated Emily, FUL’s Young Einsteins Program Coordinator.

As we look to 2022, our goal is to assimilate our Young Einsteins program to align more closely with our other FUL programs. We plan to do this through aligning our STEAM learning with standards-based learning to provide more structure to lessons and play activities we offer our Young Einsteins.

Another exciting venture we are eager to dive into this year is bringing basic coding through games to our Young Einsteins experience. Coding and computer science is in essence another language that, with early exposure, is easier to master. As a part of our STEAM programming, we are excited to allow our students to create and explore programming in its simplest form through coding.

LEADERSHIP APPRENTICES

Our Leadership Apprentices are our 3rd through 5th grade scholars. In this program, scholars have the opportunity to access a wide range of experiences including art education and exploration, personal health and wellness, STEM education and an introduction to our leadership principles.

Unlike our Young Einsteins, our Leadership Apprentices are recommended to Future Urban Leaders based on their stature as a student and individual. Our Leadership Apprentice programs focus on self-awareness, and that our self-awareness is stronger if you know who you are and what you stand for. During this stage in our programming, our goal is to expose our scholars to a wide range of experiences to allow them to figure out where their talents and interests lie.

Power in Creativity:

LEADERSHIP THROUGH ART

The power of creativity in children's developing years is critical in learning how to express and cope with feelings. Creativity also expands a child's mental growth by providing opportunities to try out new ideas, and new ways of thinking and problem-solving. Learning through creative activities, such as art, helps to acknowledge and celebrate our scholars' uniqueness.

During 2021, we were able to partner with Arts @ Large to introduce our elementary scholars how art can be used as a bridge to learning and practicing leadership.

The program began with our FUL Values Project. During this Values Project, we would have an artist lead a unique activity each week that was centered around the FUL values of dignity, inclusivity, grit, and empowerment. Scholars would have the opportunity to practice these values both individually and collectively through art and creatively expressing themselves.

"We want to teach our scholars it is not what you do, it is the vibe you carry and how you do things," stated Adam, the program director at FUL.



“Leadership Through Art is designed to push our

SCHOLARS TO LOOK INWARD

AT THEIR CORE VALUES

to begin understanding how our values lead the way we create, work, lead, and live. By incorporating art, we allow scholars to explore themselves to help them build their own self-awareness and worth.”



Power in Energy:

THRIVE 2 SURVIVE YOGA

We all possess an energy within us. If we can teach our scholars the power to harness positive, motivated, inspiring energy as children, they are more likely to become positive, motivated, and inspiring adults. This is where the power in energy can change lives.

In partnership with Jamilla Carney and her organization Agape Yogastry. We provide specialized yoga classes that go far beyond stretching and breathing for our Leadership Intern scholars. The specialized yoga curriculum helps youth explore and learn self-care techniques that lead to improved mental, emotional, as well as physical health.

Through these yoga sessions, scholars learn more about themselves, and how to better interact with their peers and the world around them.

“Our yoga practice is centered on the four values of FUL; inclusivity, grit, empowerment, and dignity. I use yoga and mindfulness as a way to further help scholars learn, embrace, practice, and embody these values in a physical sense through moving their bodies and mindfulness, “stated Jamilia

These weekly classes often begin by providing scholars with a prompt. As an example, ‘respect’. The class discusses how we respect ourselves

LEADERSHIP INTERNS

Our middle school scholars are known as the Leadership Interns (grades 6 - 8). Throughout this program our scholars learn all about creating a pathway to career and college goals they want to achieve. We offer programming such as entrepreneurship education, STEM-based career exploration, arts and humanities

engagement, and health and wellness emotional learning. At this stage, scholars have the opportunity to select which classes they would like to be involved in based on their interests and goals. By empowering scholars to take ownership in their schedule, we hope to build their confidence and self-identity.

and our bodies, and how when we are able to respect our own bodies we can respect those around us and be better members of society.

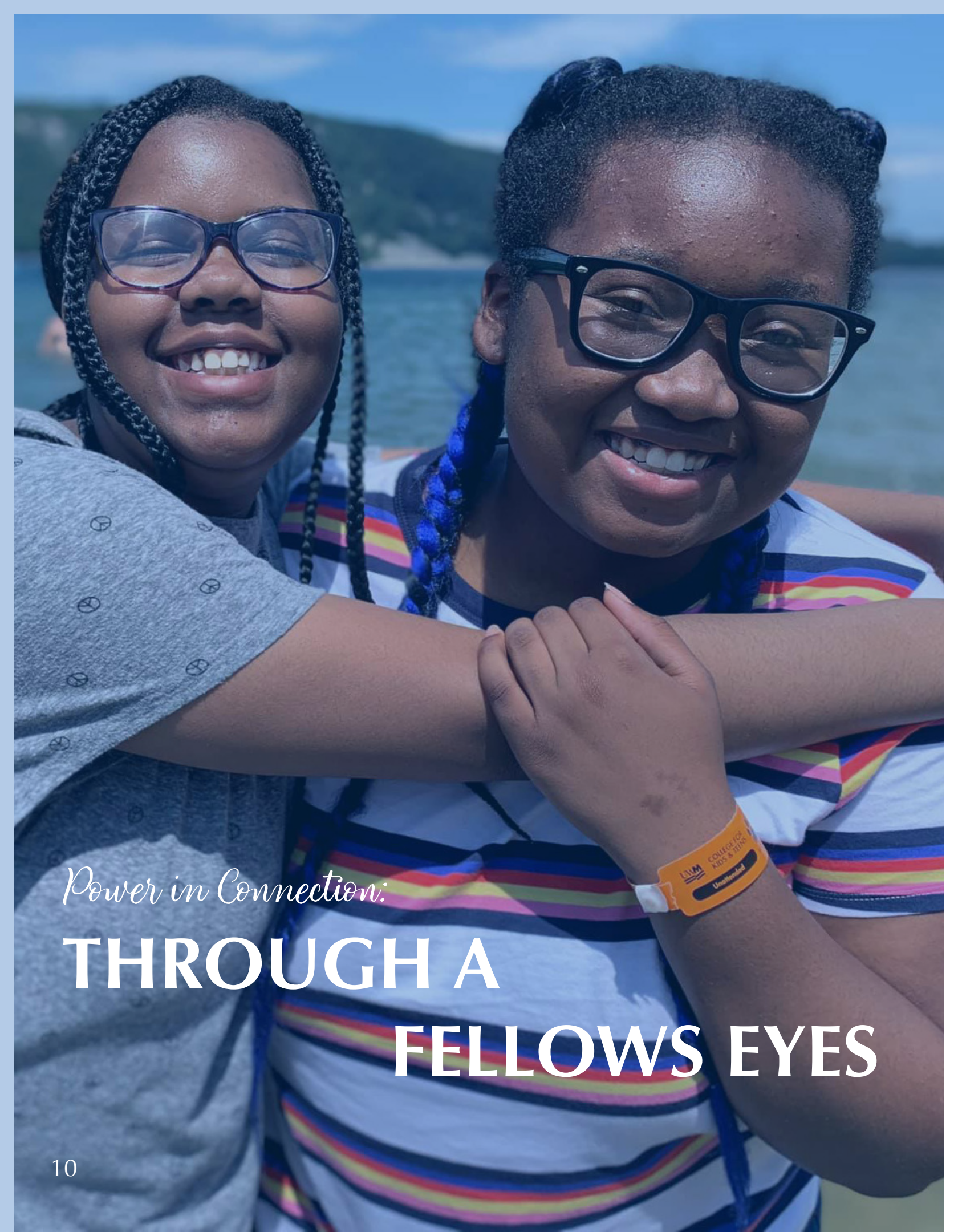
The class then moves into a series of yoga poses and breathing techniques that focus on respecting ourselves, we keep an open dialogue about how it feels to be respected and why this feeling is an intricate part to them succeeding and reaching their goals.

Each class ends with a grounding activity and or breathing exercises that forces scholars to slow down and just be for 5-8 minutes. Taking

a pause and calming our minds can have huge impacts on our cognitive abilities.

"I have seen scholars tap into their energy in my class. When we recognize, feel, and harness the energy within us. We can then tap into our power to control our energy and lead with it," said, Jamilia

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Power in Connection:

THROUGH A FELLOWS EYES

Max, a high school senior who has been a part of our Future Urban Leaders programming for the past six years. Max will be graduating this Spring and is set to be a freshman next year at Milwaukee School of Engineering (MSOE) pursuing a degree as an engineer.

“FUL is all about providing access to opportunities. In middle school you begin exploring different experiences. Once you get into high school you have the opportunity to not only explore, but also to refine and build the skills you need to take yourself to that next level.”

When I joined FUL as a sixth grader, FUL was still in its earlier stages. We were small and there was definitely a family-like atmosphere amongst scholars and staff. As a middle schooler, FUL provided me access to many opportunities while also assisting me academically with my school work. As I moved into high school, I naturally became not only a Fellow, but also a leader amongst the other scholars.

As a Fellow, Future Urban Leaders is all about College and Career Readiness, ACT Prep, and helping to connect scholars with the resources they need to pursue the next step for them.

“For me personally, FUL has been able to help me make the best decision for me as to which college I wanted to attend. FUL connected me to individuals at a few campuses I was interested in, signed up for tours of campuses, and gave me all the tools I needed to make my decision. The Fellows program has also been huge in helping me prepare for the ACTs. I am happy and excited to be attending MSOE this Fall,” stated Max.

Future Urban Leaders is about more than just an after-school program. We are here to do

whatever it takes to empower our scholars and support them to reach their goals. We hope that through our relationships with scholars and the opportunities we are able to connect them with that they are equipped with the tools they need to lead a life they are proud of, but also to be positive leaders in our society once they graduate and move onto their future endeavors.

“Student-wise Future Urban Leaders has helped me maintain my goals and academics with a 4.0 GPA. As an individual, FUL has helped me learn to be patient and observe situations. I now feel like I have the tools to analyze a situation and process how I should react. It has helped me in all types of relationships I have.

The relationships that I have built through FUL has been my favorite part of being involved. I never had Mr. Kreuger as a teacher, but I feel like he has been in my life for years. I really look up to him and I know he believes in me. He is always pushing me to my full potential. I have really enjoyed the family-like relationships that I have built,” explained Max.

The power of connection is one of the powers that FUL possesses that we believe truly sets us apart from other organizations with similar visions and missions as us. Connection and relationships are at the root of what we do at Future Urban Leaders. When a scholar joins FUL, they join the FUL family. As an organization, we are going to work to support and provide that scholar with whatever they need to pursue their interests and goals. We want to be at their high school graduation and beyond. We care deeply about each of our scholars, their interests, passions, and dreams. We want to empower them to achieve their full potential and to thrive in the life they choose to live.

Power in Empowerment:

PURSUING A PASSION FOR ART

Our Fellows program focuses on financial literacy, ACT prep, college exploration, career readiness, and community and civic service. For Erin, FUL helped connect them to resources and opportunities that set them on a path to be a student at Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design in Fall of 2022.

"I have always wanted to pursue art. Mr. R and Mr. K picked up on my passion for art since being a young scholar and have helped connect me to opportunities to grow my skills and passion since.

As a Fellow, FUL has helped me stay on top of scholarship applications, college applications, and helped me apply for an opportunity to stay at MIAD for a few weeks before the Fall. The opportunity to stay at MIAD didn't work out, but the fact that Mr. R and Mr. K saw the opportunity and took the initiative to help me apply for the opportunity meant the world to me," said FUL Senior Scholar Erin.

The power in connection is at the root of everything we do at FUL with our scholars. We believe in each and every one of our scholar's abilities to achieve their goals to fulfill their full potential.

"FUL is really so much more than just academic support. FUL has helped me personally, by always checking in on me to see how I am doing. They want to know what my needs are as an individual and as a student. I know that Mr. R and Mr. K care about me as a complete person. Not all of the things FUL does are academic, some things we do are just for fun,

FUTURE URBAN LEADERS IS AT ITS CORE ABOUT BUILDING A COMMUNITY. WE ARE LIKE A FAMILY," stated Erin.



LEADERSHIP FELLOWS

The final program our scholars participate in is our Leadership Fellows program as 9th to 12th graders. This program is a comprehensive college and career readiness program and includes entrepreneurship, arts and health related education. Topics like financial literacy, ACT prep, college exploration, community and civic service are tools added to scholars' toolbox as they plan and begin to transition into the next phase of their lives.

Power in Support:

THANK YOU!

FUTURE URBAN LEADERS 2021 MAJOR DONORS

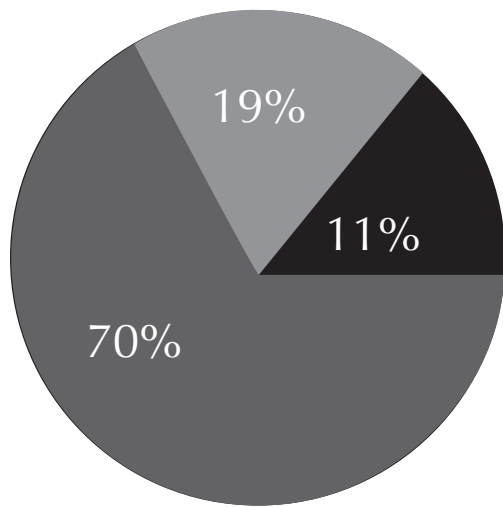
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Gale Family Foundation
JLH Fund
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Shannon Kennedy & Bill Shepard
Green Bay Packers Foundation
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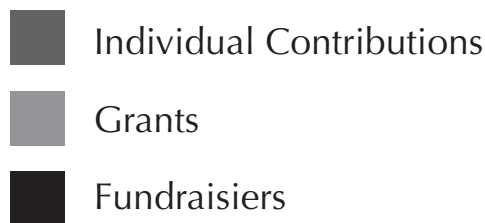


Power in FULL:

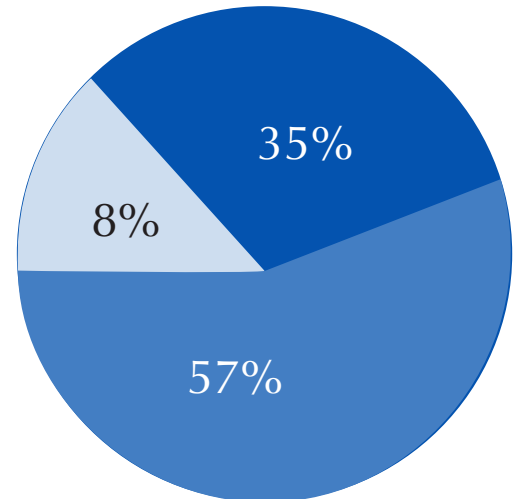
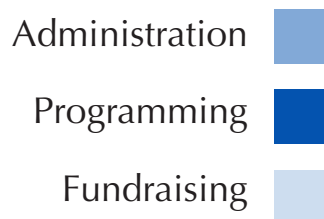
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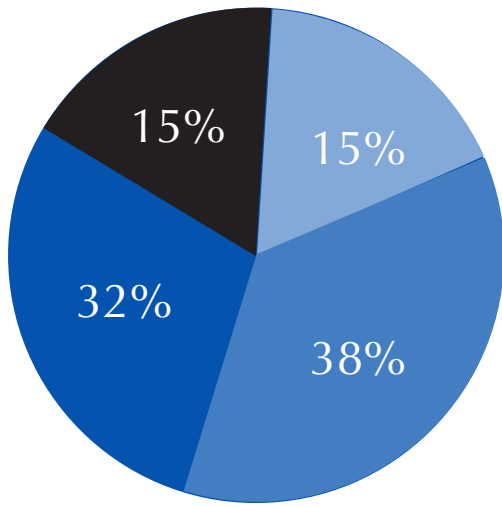
EXPENSES



15
contracted partners
(organizations and
individuals)

10
volunteers

5
paid staff



In 2021, Future Urban Leaders served a total of 135 scholars (4K-12th grade) with our programming.

20

Young Einsteins
4k-2nd grade

48

Apprentices
3rd-5th grade

41

Interns
6th-8th grade

20

Fellows
9th-12th grade

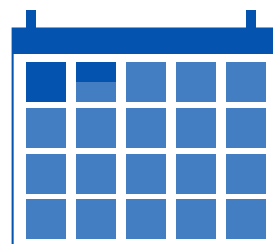
100%

of our scholars are African American



92%

meet the federal guidelines for free-reduced fee lunch

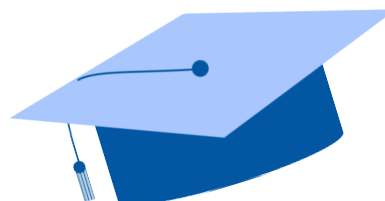


94%

attendance retention of scholars from session to session



24 scholars achieved their entrepreneurship goals and start their own small enterprises



Graduated our 2nd class of FUL scholars in 2021



LOOKING AHEAD

As we look to a new year, we look forward to exploring new opportunities to discover and expand the power in FUL. We are especially excited to see our third class of scholars graduate from high school this Spring and begin their next big adventure. We also look forward to continuing to build our community outreach here in Milwaukee, in an effort to educate our community on the work we do and how we can use more support.

All of this work is only possible because of the support of individuals like you. Thank you.

HELP EXPAND THE

Power in FUL

VOLUNTEER

Donate your passion and time to help create meaningful changes in the lives of our scholars, by becoming a FUL Ambassador!

futureurbanleaders.org/volunteer

ATTEND AN EVENT

2nd Annual Raffle - March 17, 2022

WGIRLS Spring Gala: Havana Nights! - May 6, 2022

Power in FUL Online Event - June 6 - 10, 2022

2nd Annual Golf Outing - August 20, 2022

Learn more at futureurbanleaders.org/fundraising

MAKE A DONATION

Make a donation at futureurbanleaders.org/donate

\$10

Provide art supplies for one of our scholars to explore creatively

\$20

Sponsor basic coding curriculum to one of our Young Einsteins for a month

\$50

Sponsor one scholar to attend a week of our Thrive 2 Survive Yoga classes

\$100

Sponsor four scholars to participate in one of our connection building summer camping trips

\$250

Sponsor two scholars to participate in our Leadership Through Art program

\$500

Help sponsor our Power in FUL scholarship, a \$1,000 scholarship provided to each scholar upon graduation.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

