Education as *Unique* as Each Student
What Makes SEEDS OF LITERACY Different from other programs?

100% FREE FOR STUDENTS
We provide the materials, official practice tests, and tutors at NO COST.

WEEKLY IN-PERSON ENROLLMENT
No waiting until next month/quarter/semester. Students can come to Seeds for orientation, ANY WEEK, without an appointment. 2-DAY ORIENTATION Must attend both days. CHOOSE 12:00 OR 4:00 MONDAYS/TUESDAYS (Seeds West) or WEDNESDAYS/THURSDAYS (Seeds East)

“CLASS” TIME IS REALLY TUTORING TIME
There’s no teacher at the front of the room teaching everyone the same thing at the same time. Students work one-to-one with a tutor.
TUTORING TIMES MONDAY - THURSDAY 9AM - 11AM • 1PM - 3PM • 6PM - 8PM

LEARN AT INDIVIDUAL SPEED
Students won’t fall behind. At Seeds, each works at his or her own SKILL LEVEL, at his or her own PACE.

SEEDS DOES NOT HAVE A STRICT ATTENDANCE SCHEDULE
because life gets in the way of even the most dedicated students. Students can come as OFTEN as they like, at WHATEVER TIME works best for them — even if it’s not the same time each day.

THERE IS NO SET TIME FRAME TO GRADUATE.
The Seeds program is ONGOING. Most students need at least a few months of tutoring but it’s not uncommon for students to be with us a year or more.
DEAR FRIENDS

Lots of Annual Reports simply recognize donors with lists and photographs. And while I certainly want to recognize all of the people that made this past year possible, I also want to put their contributions into context. I want our donors to see WHAT they made possible.

Because of their generosity and unwavering support, we’ve been able to do some pretty incredible things — doubling our staff, creating supplemental learning opportunities for our students, enhancing brand awareness with the creation of new communications vehicles, adding a variety of fundraising events, and so much more.

I hope you enjoy reading more about just a few of this year’s highlights on the following pages.

Last year, our students made some impressive strides, as well:

- 57 Graduates - our largest since the test changed in 2014
- 166 students passed 244 GED sections.
- 600+ Grade level increases in at LEAST one subject

Unfortunately, despite our incredible successes, the year ended on a devastating note.

The State of Ohio announced they would no longer provide funding to Seeds — a 14% blow to our annual income. The decision was based on our award-winning program model. The State requires traditional enrollment (specific start and stop dates), while ours is rolling, with no program end-date. They mandate a classroom style, while one-to-one tutoring of individualized curriculum is our hallmark. Simply put, they cut our funding because we are different. But different is what our students need.

And different is what we will continue to provide, thanks to your continued support.

Bonnie Entler  
Executive Director

Paul Etzler  
President, Board of Director
How We Did It

The Challenge
Read 30-Minutes a Day

Challenge Inspires Club Formation
Last winter, students, tutors, staff, and friends were challenged to spend 30-minutes a day reading for an entire month. The challenge was so successful that an official book club was formed.

Award-winning playwright Eric Coble spoke with Book Club after members had spent several weeks reading his collection of short plays, Ten Minutes from Cleveland.

This led to the development of math, computer, and writing clubs: all of which supplement the individualized learning for which Seeds is known, while fostering a sense of community.

Angelou, Kipling, and more for World Read Aloud Day
Each year, on World Read Aloud Day, people around the globe read together and share stories to advocate for literacy as a human right that belongs to all people. On February 1, Seeds East celebrated WRAD by reading a selection of poems and a short speech. After morning class, students, tutors, and staff gathered to listen to poetry read aloud.

Our Mission
To provide personalized education that empowers adults to succeed in their communities.

For a detailed financial report, contact Bonnie Entler, Executive Director, at 216.661.7950 or bonnieentler@seedsofliteracy.org
Our Supporters

STUDENT SUPPORT
($0.01 to $49.99)

Mr. Mouyad Abduljabar
Mr. Jeff Ali
Appletree Books
Ms. Nancy Ball
Ms. Samantha Ball
Barnes & Noble
Ms. Linda Brandenburg
Ms. Jessica Brandt
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Butler
Ms. Jane Ciuni
Ms. Ashley Close
Ms. Lauren Conners
Ms. Betsy Cusack
Ms. Casey DiCaro
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Dolan-Laughlin*
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Donoughe
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Durkin^*
Ms. Roberta Feinstein*
Ms. Tiffany Fong
Ms. Melodie Grable
Ms. Maribeth Greger
Grob & Associates CPAs Ltd
Ms. Celeste Rapier Hicks*
Mr. and Mrs. Joel Jensen
Mr. Josh Jensen
Mr. Jordan Johnson
Mr. Shaun Kanary
Ms. Jennifer Kanke
Mr. and Mrs. John Kealy
Mr. and Mrs. Paul King
Ms. Courtney Knerem*
Ms. Kathy Kosmalski
Ms. Erin Kramer
Mr. and Mrs. Tomasz Lesiczka
Ms. Jen May
Ms. Dorothy Mayer and
Ms. Linda Mayer*
Mr. and Mrs. John McGinty*
Ms. Suzanne McWhorter
Mr. Richard Merhar*
MotivAction*
Reverend James O’Donnell
Ms. Twyla Palmore Turner
Mr. William Perry^*
Mr. Anthony Piunno
Mr. Donald Riethmiller
Ms. Kathleen Rosen
Ms. Erin Schmitt
Mr. and Mrs. Sigmund Sesplankis*^
SEEDS STUDENTS CELEBRATE 125 YEARS OF THE SINGERS’ CLUB OF CLEVELAND

What happens when the renowned men’s chorus, The Singers’ Club of Cleveland, chooses to celebrate classic books and a love of reading for the final concert of their 125th season? They call Seeds of Literacy with an invite for students to participate! Seeds students Hilary Whiting, Demetrius Pate, Sr., and Valerie Taylor joined The Singers’ Club before a packed house at the Breen Center for the Performing Arts. The program’s theme, Through the Looking Glass, featured poetry by Lewis Carroll and a variety of songs that ranged from folk songs and spirituals to classical choral pieces. Poetry, read by Seeds students, provided interludes between the musical segments of the program.
GED NO LONGER THE ONLY GAME IN TOWN

When the State of Ohio adopted the TASC and HiSET as alternatives to the GED for high-school equivalency, Seeds was faced with a huge task: Raise awareness among all of our stakeholders.

The new tests are not only more affordable, but they offer paper and pencil versions, an appealing contrast to the GED’s computer-only test.

Through a series of blogs and press releases, Seeds actually released announcements and comparison charts BEFORE the State.

Posters were hung, the website was updated, several series of social media posts were launched, and messaging about the GED transitioned to messages about the HSE. Noteably, Seeds was considered the primary source about the three tests by Google until other adult educators in the State began publishing materials about the HSE options.

A program manager was hired to help identify gaps in the existing curriculum, weave in materials for the new tests, and provide a series of workshops to train staff and tutors.

Finally, all materials for Tutor Training and New Student Orientation were updated to include information on the new test options.
PUTTING PI (Π) INTO PERSPECTIVE, WITH PIE

Math and measurement became something fun and tangible on March 14 (3.14, also Einstein’s birthday). Students brought in their favorite pies (with an e) to both measure and eat. It wasn’t long before students were measuring the circular tables at which they sit every day. Others measured their water bottles, coffee cups, and thermoses.
DEAN’S LIST
($250.00 TO $316.99)

Mr. Don Barrett Jr.
Mr. David Beach
Ms. Vida Berlec
Mr. Kevin Connors &
Ms. Loree Weiss Connors
Ms. Eileen D’Amato
Mr. and Mrs. Gene Dodaro
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Fruchey
Mr. and Mrs. John Hubers
Mr. Jonathan Hull and
Ms. Jo Steigerwald
Mr. and Mrs. Gerrit Keuchle
Mr. Adam Leidtke and
Ms. Jessica Paine
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Lesak
Mr. Alan Lufkin
Mr. Jeff Mack
Ms. Kimberly Malcolm
Ms. Lynn Martello
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen McClure
Mr. Larry Mills-Gahl
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Moritz
Moritz Family Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Otto
Ms. Susan Paxson
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Popelka
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Rambasek
Mr. and Mrs. William Reidy
Ms. Shelly Richmond
Ms. Denise Shafer
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Steigerwald
Mr. and Mrs. Dale Stitt
Thomson Reuters
Mr. and Mrs. Tony Warner

SCHOLARSHIP CLUB
($317.00 TO $499.99)

Anonymous (1)
Dr. Carolyn P Cacho-Bowman
Mr. James Calogeras
Climate - Tech, Inc.
Mr. William Gorton and
Ms. Susie Blackburn
Ms. Becky Hricovec
Mr. James Hudak
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Lang
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Ljubi
Mr. and Ms. Anthony Mazzella
Ms. Mary McDonnell
Mr. Tom Nowel
Reverend Timothy Plavac
Mr. and Mrs. Dustin Rawlin
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Salim
Mr. and Mrs. John Southworth
Ms. Connie Weixel
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Weixel
Mrs. Barbara Zoss

GRADUATES CLUB
($500.00 TO $999.99)

American Greetings Corporation
Anonymous (1)
Ms. Patricia Bakos
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Deegan
Mr. Richard DeLoof
Mr. and Mrs. Gregg Emmel
Ms. Andrea Ensch
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Entler
Falls Communications
Ms. Judith A. Gedeon
Ms. Angela R. Gott
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Grossman
Mr. and Mrs. James Gulick
Half Price Books Community Services
Mr. Michael Horvitz
Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Jeffrey
Ms. Eve Kalayjian
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Kappus

OUR LARGEST GRADUATING GED CLASS

The Class of 2018 was Seeds of Literacy’s largest since the test changed in 2014, with an incredible 57 graduates — some of whom passed their final subject just hours before graduation. Twenty-one of them attended the at-capacity Graduation Ceremony on June 20. Special guest, Ohio State Senator for the 21st District, Sandra Williams, presented the keynote speech. Graduates Latasha Jenkins and Dionne Lobban also addressed their classmates. A transcript of their moving speeches, as well as a photo essay of the event, are available on seedsofliteracy.org.
SOWING SEEDS OF HOPE: THE FINAL BRUNCH

Pure Imagination, whimsically inspired by Willy Wonka, was the theme of the 17th and final Sowing Seeds of Hope Brunch in September. The event was enjoyed by 185 guests and raised $46,000 for student instruction.

Pictured below, Seeds Leadership, past and present. Sister Kathleen Kilbane & Bonnie Entler

Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Khouri^  
Mr. and Mrs. John Kirk*^  
Lakewood Presbyterian Church*  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lampus*  
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Litzler*  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Manly*^  
Mr. and Mrs. George McGovern*^  
Medical Mutual of Ohio  
Mr. and Mrs. James Miller  
Mr. Robert Miller^  
Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Norton*  
Mr. and Mrs. Byron Olexa  
Mr. and Mrs. James Paine*  
Mr. and Mrs. Alan Paulus  
Mr. and Mrs. James Prexta*  
Ms. Mary Rawlings*^  
Mr. Ralph Ryan III*  
Saint Mark Woman’s League  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Scanlon  
St. Christopher’s by-the-River  
Ms. Shawn Sweet  
UBS Financial  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Unger*^  
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Vail*  
Walmart - North Olmsted  
Walmart - Steelyard  
Ms. Laura Williams

HONOR SOCIETY  
($1,000.00 TO $199,000.00)

Mr. and Mrs. Denis Amato  
Ms. Nicole Anderson  
Anonymous (3)*  
Arconic Inc.  
Arthur B. McBride Sr. Family Foundation*  
Bank of America  
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Beno*  
Judith Haskell Brewer Fund of The Community Foundation Serving Richmond and Central Virginia*  
Mr. and Mrs. James Byrnes*  
Carnegie Management and Development Corp.  
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Chisholm III*^  
Cleveland City Council*  
Cleveland Society for Human Resource Management Foundation  
Community West Foundation*  
Concord Benefits Planning Agency Inc.*  
Congregation of St. Joseph  
Drs. Harinathrao and Usharani Dacha  
Dollar General Literacy Foundation*  
Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation*  
Mr. and Mrs. Victor Erm*  
Mr. Paul Etzler*^  
Eva L. and Joseph M. Bruening Foundation*  
Farmers Insurance*  
Dr. and Mrs. David Fleming*^  
George M. and Pamela S. Humphrey Fund*  
Giant Eagle Foundation*  
Ms. Colette Gibbons*^  
Mr. and Mrs. Gus Golinski*^  
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Hartzell  
Harvard Business School Club of NEO Jones Day  
Richard & Bess Kaplan Donor Advised Fund of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland*  
Mr. and Mrs. John Katzenmeyer  
KeyBank Foundation*  
Mr. and Mrs. John Kirk*  
Mr. Bill Knoble & Ms. Lynda Sackett*  
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Lenhard  
Mr. and Mrs. William Litzler*^  
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Magee*  
Mr. and Mrs. John McMillan  
Ms. Megan Mehalko*  
Dr. and Mrs. Hemendra Mehta*  
Mrs. Ann Miley*  
Mr. and Mrs. George Miller*^  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Morris*^  
National Interstate Insurance Company  
New Community Bible Fellowship
PAJAMA PARTY

To promote BYOP @ Appletree (Bring Your Own Pillow), Seeds staffers appeared on WKYC Channel 3’s We the People in their pajamas. A new event, BYOP, was the answer to every bibliophile’s dream: spending the night in a bookstore, surrounded by thousands of books. Seeds made 14 new friends and everyone enjoyed a round of literacy-themed games at 2am.
Nordson Corporation
Ohio Higher Ed Aspire*
Omnova Solutions Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Owen*
Peoples Bank
Ms. Mary Helen Petrus*^
Mr. and Mrs. John Pinter*
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Rashid*^ 
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Rego
Reuter Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. John Ringenbach
Ms. Jennifer Rosenberg*^ 
RPM Inc.*
Saint Luke’s Foundation*
Mr. Scott Schulz
St. Ignatius High School
Mr. John Sterling*^ 
TEGNA Foundation*
The 2014 Jacqueline A. & Fred C. Rothstein Charitable Lead Trust*
The Abington Foundation
The Char and Chuck Fowler Family Foundation*
The City Bank Investment Company / City Bank Antiques*
The Cleveland Foundation*
The Ginn Foundation*
The Lubrizol Foundation*
The O’Neill Brothers Foundation*
The Pipe Line Development Co.
The Reinberger Foundation
The S.K. Wellman Foundation
The Stocker Foundation*
The Union Home Mortgage Foundation Third Federal Foundation* 
Thomas H. White Foundation
United Way of Greater Cleveland*
Mr. Jim Vine and Ms. Pam Gallagher
Ms. Elizabeth Voskuhl*^ 
Mr. and Mrs. Philip Weaver Jr.*^ 
Mr. Mark Yanochko*^ 

2017-2018 TRIBUTE GIFTS IN HONOR OF

In Honor of Nelson Beckford
Saint Luke’s Foundation

In Honor of Father Fred Benda
St. Ignatius High School

In Honor of Dr. Carolyn Cacho-Bowman
Ms. Victoria Williams-Ononye

In Honor of Brooke Emmel
Mr. Gregg Emmel

In Honor of Darlene Glass
Ms. Sally Richmond

In Honor of Paula Zimmer Golinski
Mr. Shaun Kanary

In Honor of John and Judy Groeneweg
Mr. Mark Groeneweg

In Honor of Kevin and LuAnn Hinkel
Mr. Paul Del Vecchio
Mr. Bradley Haidet
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Magee

In Honor of Margo Hudson
Ms. Nicole Anderson
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Owen

In Honor of Trudy Hutchinson
Ms. Sara Brintnall
Mr. Vincente Gonzalez

In Honor of Katie Kucera
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Vejdovic

In Honor of Bill and Joyce Litzler
Mr. Thomas Gill

In Honor of Dorothy Lohmeyer
Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Walden

In Honor of Al and Joan Luria
Ms. Jackie Gere

In Honor of Roger Lynch
Ms. Grace Lynch

In Honor of Tony Madalone
Ms. Pamela Madalone

In Honor of Wendy Mainardi
Ms. Maria Miranda

In Honor of Lynne Rambasek
Mr. and Mrs. Todd Rambasek

In Honor of Mary Rawlings
Mr. James Hudak

In Honor of Seeds Students
Ms. Karen Abbott
Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Khouri

In Honor of The Welty Family
Ms. Tiffany Fong

In Honor of Mark Yanochko
Ms. Nancy Simpson

IN MEMORY OF

In Memory of George Blackhall
Mr. Gregory Blackhall

In Memory of Judith Butler
Ms. Lori Dykeman

In Memory of Howard & Helen Corlett
Mr. and Mrs. George McGovern

In Memory of James Govang
Ms. Marilyn Berry

In Memory of Sr. Barbara Green, SSJ
Mr. Daniel Dolan-Laughlin

In Memory of Martin W. Hyson
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Mazzella

In Memory of Jane Shaffer Johnson
Ms. Brooke Emmel

In Memory of Greg Klayber
Ms. Shawn Sweet

In Memory of Joan Mary Spakowski
Ms. Deborah Anderson
Mr. and Mrs. James Bosiljevac
Ms. Betsy Cusack
Ms. Patricia Gettens
Mr. and Mrs. Don Fletcher
Mr. and Mrs. Terry Mayhew
Ms. Dolores Montean
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Otto
Ms. Stephanie Skolnick
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Slatt
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Whalen

In Memory of Jane Steigerwald
Anonymous

In Memory of Dave Tolhurst
Ms. Karen Tolhurst

In Memory of Art Zammikel
Mr. and Mrs. Paul King

IN-KIND BRUNCH DONATIONS

Ms. Janet Abbey
Action Maids
Advance Auto Parts
Advanced Spinal Rehab
Akron RubberDucks
Akron Zoo
Aladdin’s Eatery
Alcohol by Volume
SEEDS EAST ADDS EVENING CLASS

Seeds sought to replicate on the East side the successful three-class, two-registration times format that exists at Seeds West. This would ultimately serve more people in an area of great need (the Kinsman/Mt. Pleasant neighborhoods). An additional 108 students enrolled during the evening orientation offering, accounting for 37% of all new students at Seed East. Evening class attendance accounted for 25% of all Seeds East attendance during the first year. Interestingly, Seeds saw a slight redistribution of existing students as they moved to evening class to better accommodate their lifestyles.
John Robert’s Spa
K & D Real Estate Services
Kent State University Museum
Dr. and Mrs. Rustom Khouri
King Nut/Peterson Nut
Kleinhenz Jewelers
Knuth’s Shoes
La Danse Cleveland
Lake County Captains
Lake Erie Crushers
Lake Erie Limo
Lake Metroparks
Laurel School
Dr. Eric Lawrence
Le Petit Triangle
Legacy Hair Studio
Levin Furniture
Lisa Moran Ltd
Longhorn Steakhouse
Love, Anji - Paper Florist
Luca’s Restaurant
Mac’s Backs Books
Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage
Market Avenue Wine Bar
Market Garden Brewery
Ms. Stacey McKinley
Memphis Kiddie Park
Merchant Street
Mr. and Mrs. James Miller
Ms. Liane Miller Brown
Mitchell's Homemade
Momocho & El Carnicero
Monastery Greetings
Mountaineer Race Track & Gaming Resort
Mozie-In Beverage
Muldoon's Saloon & Eatery
Music Box Supper Club
Near West Theatre
Neon Beach Tanning
Mr. Frank O’Linn
Old Carolina Barbeque
Old Firehouse Winery
Old Time Candy Company
Only In Cleveland Apparel & Giftshop
Pacific East Coventry
Paul Duda Gallery
Petitti Garden Center
Pickwick & Frolic Restaurant and Club,
Home to Hilarities
Pizzazz on the Circle
Playground World
Playhouse Square Foundation
Playmatters Creative Toys
Psycle
Radisson Hotel Cleveland Airport
Red Tail Golf Club
Mr. and Mrs. Bradford Richmond
River’s Edge
Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum
Romano’s Macaroni Grill
Ross Beverage
Rozi’s Wine House
Rustic Restaurant
Sean Lewis
Sephora
Sky Salon
St. Edward High School
St. Ignatius High School
St. Joseph Academy
Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens
Starbucks
AN EMPHASIS ON DIGITAL LITERACY

Roughly 65% of all Seeds students enter the program without even basic computer knowledge. Two Digital Literacy Coordinators were hired and challenged with making computerized learning less intimidating.

It started slow, with laptops available in the classroom. As relationships with the DLCs formed, students became more comfortable and were less afraid to enter the underutilized computer labs. A weekly computer club began, covering the basics of using a mouse, opening and closing files, and an intro to email.

Digital components have been added to the curriculum and portals have been added to our website for use outside of Seeds. A monthly Student eNews was created to encourage internet use at home.

EVERYDAY IN-KIND

Anonymous
Appletree Books
Ms. Patricia Bakos
Ms. Patti Basar
Ms. Maia Beatty
Ms. Valerie Behrens
Ms. Deenah Byramjee
Mr. Dane Carney
Mr. James Coleman
Ms. Eileen D’Amato
Ms. Leigh-Anne Dennison
Ms. Deirdre Drennen
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Entler
Mr. Paul Etzler
Family Promise
Farmers Insurance - Independence
Mr. and Mrs. David Farrer
Dr. and Mrs. David Fleming
Mr. and Mrs. Gus Golinski
Half Price Books
Home Depot #6857
Ms. Betty Killeen
Mr. and Mrs. John Kirn
Ms. Kathryn Koza
Ms. Kara Krawiec
Mr. Kristi Krueger
Ms. Katie Kucera
Ms. Laura Kuhl
Ms. Kris Lemon
Dr. Steven Lewis
Loganberry Books

We work hard to present a correct list of our donors. If there is an error, please accept our sincere apologies and contact us to correct our records. Thank you.

AN EMPHASIS ON DIGITAL LITERACY

Roughly 65% of all Seeds students enter the program without even basic computer knowledge. Two Digital Literacy Coordinators were hired and challenged with making computerized learning less intimidating.

It started slow, with laptops available in the classroom. As relationships with the DLCs formed, students became more comfortable and were less afraid to enter the underutilized computer labs. A weekly computer club began, covering the basics of using a mouse, opening and closing files, and an intro to email.

Digital components have been added to the curriculum and portals have been added to our website for use outside of Seeds. A monthly Student eNews was created to encourage internet use at home.