




**ACTIVITIES BEYOND
the CLASSROOM**

2021-2023 Biennial Report



**ENRICHING
EVERY CHILD
ENSURING
EVERY OPPORTUNITY**



Our mission is to help students succeed through equitable opportunities in arts, athletics, and wellness that build character, ignite passions, and instill values that last a lifetime.

Board of Trustees

Board Officers

Richard Friedman, President
Charley Frank, Vice President
Barry Lucas, Treasurer
Bob Bedinghaus, Secretary

Board Members at Large

Sydney Fine
Carol Gibbs
Brandon Holmes
Alexandra Simons
Kate Solomon
Alex Stillpass
Lisa Thal (emeritus)

Leadership Team

Sally Grimes, Executive Director
Rachel Stallings, Deputy Director
Vanessa Macy, Director of Advancement
Sophia Scott, Director of Operations
Karen Swedersky, Director of Finance
Brian Leshner, Emeritus Director

Office and Programs Staff

Colleen Cheek, Manager of Special Projects & Initiatives
Austin Gullett, Athletics Coordinator
Jami Haring, Arts Education Coordinator
Adam Kozlove, Marketing & Communications Coordinator
James Lacey, Senior Manager of Resource Coordination
Carmen Lawrence-Bille, Senior Manager of Grants & Foundations
Ricky Miller, Senior Manager of Athletics
Breasia Morrow, Bookkeeper
Kaitlin Schiltz, Enrichment Coordinator
Julie Singer, Rothenberg Rooftop Garden
Mary Smith, Programs Manager
Lindsay Spaulding Simmons, Manager of Donor & Member Services
Ann Troyer, Rothenberg Rooftop Garden

Athletic Directors

Gage Bley, Riverview East School
Paul Brownfield, Aiken High School
DJ Dowdy, Taft Information Technology High School
Wes Gerhardt, Spencer Center
David Miller, Gamble Montessori
Jabreel Moton, Woodward Career Technical High School
Andrew Mueller, Hughes High School
Don Newberry, Shroder High School
Phillip O'Neal, Oyler School
Chloe Mayfield-Brown, Western Hills/Dater High Schools
Janeé Dunigan, Assistant AD Western Hills/Dater High Schools
Shauniece Steele, Walnut Hills High School
Jacob Buchanan, Assistant AD Walnut Hills
Brandon Hon, Assistant AD Walnut Hills
Derek Williams, Clark Montessori High School
Regina Williams, Withrow University High School

Resource Coordinators

Darcus Anderson, Roselawn Condon School
Dana Bierman, Aiken High School
Onyango Collier, Cheviot School
Ashley Davis, Woodford Academy
Heather England, Rockdale Academy
Angel Griffin, Frederick Douglass Elementary School
Karen Hordinski, Spencer Center
Cheri Jordan, Silverton Elementary
Cyril Martin, Hartwell Elementary
Taneeka Porter, Covedale School
Michael Teller, LEAP Academy
Tywanne Watson, Kilgour Elementary
Shelby Zimmer, Winton Hills Academy

Table of Contents

Our Vision	2
Strategic Plan	3
ABC by the Numbers	4
Staff Awards and Honors	5
ABC Through the Years	6
ABC Programs	8
CPS International Jazz Festival	12
Athletics	14
Resource Coordination	18
ABC Fiscal Sponsorship Program	23
Partners/Donor/Supporter	24

ABC turns 20 in 2024

Let's run the numbers on what that means.

20 years of serving the students in Cincinnati.

Approximately 200,000 student experiences positively impacted by cost free services and programs.

Well over a million dollars in fees, indirect costs, and tuition for pay-to-play enrichment programming that families were able to save, since ABC provided the program, the afterschool snack, the childcare, the uniforms, the transportation without any costs.

Hundreds of options for our Cincinnati children to select what they and their communities are interested in pursuing after school, from soccer to pottery to cooking to coding.

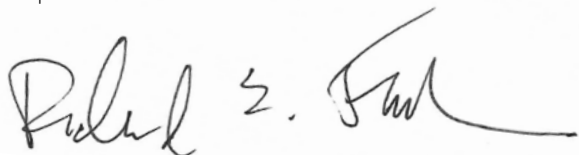
Millions of dollars raised by ABC staff to support the enrichment of Cincinnati children, dollars that local school districts and families likely otherwise would never have had access to.

Thousands of kids who learned essential life skills, from swimming to cooking to driving, in the many and varied ABC programs.

And as ABC turns 20, it is making more of an impact than ever before. When the organization began its efforts, it supported approximately 1,000 high school student athletes in the Cincinnati Public Schools. Now, ABC supports well over 15,000 students in grades K-12 across all disciplines, and interest groups in all regions of Hamilton County.

I am certainly likewise aware of the many students that have had the opportunity to discover a passion or an ambition or an encouragement in an ABC program. I am most confident that ABC will provide an ever-growing number of students with the opportunity to find that special place which will offer them spirited, significant, and important enrichment for their lives.

Happy birthday, ABC. A transformative legacy has been presented to us and we will not forsake it.



Dick Friedman
President, Board of Trustees

Ready for liftoff?

Rewind to 2004, when our lowest-income communities within Cincinnati Public Schools asked for help just to get their cheerleaders uniformed and students on the field. We started small, but we've conquered mountains, shattered barriers, and left our mark.

And we're just getting warmed up.

Hold onto your hats, because we have no intentions of slowing down any time during the next 20 years. Get ready for a happier, healthier, more adventurous, more curious, more engaged city of students than ever before. We have opened our door to the opportunities that have been knocking and we've discovered that the Greater Cincinnati community truly needs us. We're not just dreaming; we're doing.

I thank you for cracking open this biennial report, this celebration of all we have accomplished and all that's to come. If the community is steering this rocket ship, you are absolutely the jet fuel required to get us there. Your support sparks revolutions, inspires innovation, and turns dreams into reality.

So let's raise a toast: to our communities, who have guided our programs and development; to you, for coming with us on this journey to a better Cincinnati; and to our past achievements, our electrifying present, and our cosmically bright future.



Sally Grimes
Executive Director



OUR VISION

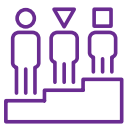
THRIVING CHILDREN,
ENGAGED PARENTS, AND
SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITIES.

OUR VALUES



EMPOWERING

We give staff, students, and communities the tools and agency to lead a life of freedom, choice, and opportunity.



EXEMPLIFY D.E.A.I.

We are diverse, equitable, accessible, and inclusive, and channel these values in our community work.



INTEGRITY

We do the right thing, even when nobody is watching. We are accountable, honest, transparent, and trustworthy.



PROBLEM SOLVERS

We are committed and intentional strengths-based leaders. We illuminate obstacles, that we may overcome them together.



COLLABORATIVE

Our work is built on the foundation of strong partnerships, family engagement, and community drive.



HOLISTIC

Through wraparound services that engage the whole family, we seek to solve root causes to systemic problems.

OUTLINE OF NEED

There are approximately

36,000 students

in the Cincinnati Public School district alone.



of these...

84% come from economically disadvantaged households

79% are Black, Hispanic, or multi-racial, which are historically underserved racial groups

53% experience chronic absenteeism

10% experience homelessness





STRATEGIC PLAN

2022-2025

What we know about the impact of enrichment activities beyond the classroom

1. Successful and safe students

Afterschool enrichment program participation correlates to heightened social emotional learning and “soft skills,” improved reading and math performance, increases in class participation and attendance, decreases in smoking and drug use in minors, and a higher likelihood of employment by age 29. (Youth.gov)

2. Students ready for their futures

Consistent participation in afterschool programs correlates with lower dropout rates, fewer risky behaviors, increased college- and career- readiness, and improved academic achievement for low-income students. (National Conference of State Legislatures)

3. Supported families, healthier economy

Parents and guardians who do not have access to childcare miss an average of eight days of work per year, and this decreased worker productivity costs businesses up to \$300 billion annually. Free afterschool programs keep parents at work longer, which means a healthier economy and, more importantly, that their family can earn more income to support itself. (Barnett & Gareis)

4. Overcoming the achievement gap

Students who come from low-income families miss out on 6,000 learning hours by sixth grade, compared to their middle- and upper-class peers simply because they cannot afford pay-to-play activities. This learning gap only increases over time. (Ed100)

5. ROI

With every \$1 invested in afterschool programs, at least \$3 are saved through increasing youth’s earning potential, improving academic performance, and reducing crime and juvenile delinquency. (Afterschool Alliance, 2020)

Our Strategic Direction

- To be positioned for regional growth, we will develop new programs in arts and wellness through partnerships and collaborations while expanding current programs and increasing our community profile.
- New funding resources will be created to invest in our people, processes, and programs.
- Our board and staff will reflect the diverse communities we serve.

Critical Success Factors

Expand our programs

- Enhance existing programs
- Expand arts programs
- Add wellness programs

Invest in our people

- Develop strong and active Board governance processes
- Ensure ABC is an employer of choice with an inclusive culture and competitive compensation
- Build an internship program

Invest in our infrastructure and processes

- Evaluate and update financial management systems
- Strengthen HR processes
- Audit insurance policies

Ensure financial sustainability

- Streamline processes/policies for member accounts
- Add structure to consult and work with additional districts
- Develop planned giving program
- Strengthen and streamline individual giving and grant programs
- Strengthen corporate giving strategy and direction
- Implement system for data-driven decisions regarding programs and fundraising

Increase our community profile

- Host annual signature community events in athletics, arts, and wellness
- Share our story of positive student outcomes
- Maximize our media presence via digital and mainstream media
- Elevate ABC’s brand through awards, community recognition, and key partners

ABC BY THE NUMBERS

61 SCHOOLS

WITH ABC-SUPPORTED PROGRAMS

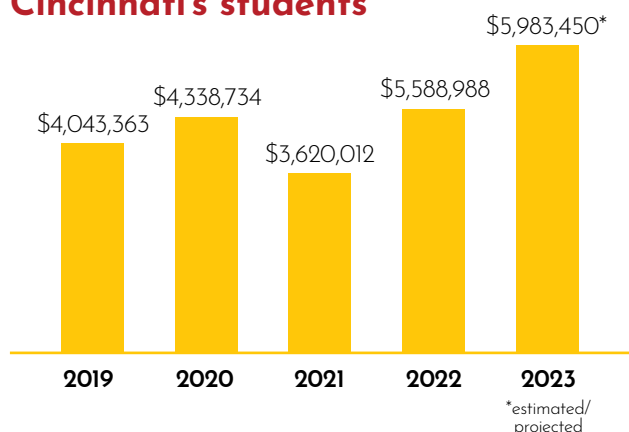


We believe in the power of responsible stewardship. We strive to maximize the impact of every dollar entrusted to us. These numbers tell a story of growth and strength, and underscore the stories of lives touched, communities empowered, and positive change sparked by the collective efforts of our teams.

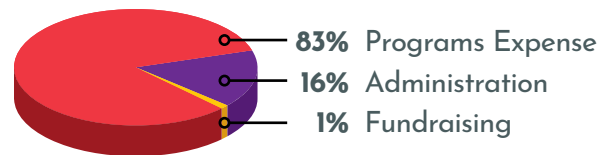
Ways ABC supports schools

- Support for the whole spectrum of activities, from arts to athletics to STEM, via dedicated personnel and fundraising
- Strong relationships with school leadership that provide continuity between in-classroom learning and ABC
- Strong relationships with hundreds of partners and funders throughout the city
- Quick turnaround for bill payments and financial management
- Pilot new initiatives on a small scale before launching broadly
- Provides funding for extracurricular activities via intensive fundraising, freeing up school funds for academics

Funds invested in Cincinnati's students



Program vs. Admin Expenses



Donated Dollars by Source*

Individual Donors	\$1,220,000
Foundations	\$610,000
Corporations	\$221,000
Partners and other NGOs	\$55,000
Total	\$2,106,000

Donated Dollars by Program*

Arts	\$75,000
Athletics	\$261,000
Resource Coordination	\$90,000
ABC Clubs	\$150,000
World Languages	\$12,000
KISR!	\$143,000
Member Programs	\$900,000
Other Programs	\$199,500
Operations / Unrestricted	\$350,000
Total	\$2,106,000

*average per year.

ABC Program Staff

Athletics	18
Resource Coordination	13
Fundraising and Management	9
Arts Programs	4
Other Programs	3

STAFF AWARDS AND HONORS

Spencer Award

ABC was one of six local businesses and non-profit organizations selected as a recipient of the Cincinnati Association's distinguished Spencer Award (2022), honoring organizations that deliver conspicuous and enduring contributions that have created greater diversity and inclusion in our community.



Rachel Stallings, Sally Grimes and Sophia Scott

Next Generation Afterschool Leader: Austin Gullett

In February of 2022, Austin, then KISR Enrichment Manager (now Athletics Coordinator) was recognized by the National Afterschool Association among a cohort of national peers.



Ohio Whole Child Network: Rachel Stallings

In February 2022, Rachel, ABC's Deputy Director who oversees all elementary, arts, and wellness programming, was invited to join a brand new initiative from the Ohio Department of Education which seeks to create a diverse network of educators, school personnel, child- and family-serving organizations, and families who support children from early childhood to grade 12 and represent Ohio's diverse communities. Only 150 leaders statewide were admitted to this exclusive network.



Athletic Director of the Year, 2022: Jabreel Moton

Jabreel, ABC's Athletic Director placed at Woodward High School was celebrated by the Southwest District Ohio Athletic Directors Association for his outstanding contributions to the student athletes in his school.



EXCEL for Nonprofit C-Suite Leaders: Carmen Lawrence-Bille

Carmen, then Director of Advancement and now Senior Manager of Grants and Foundations, graduated in 2022 from the National Leadership Institute of Greater Cincinnati's program on leading nonprofits.



Commendation from the CPS Board: Brian Leshner

In June of 2022, Brian, Founder and former Executive Director of ABC received a formal commendation from the Cincinnati Public Schools Board of Education for his 18 years of service to the district.



Resource Coordinator of the Year: Cheri Jordan & Heather England

ABC's Resource Coordinators placed at Silverton Elementary and Rockdale Academy were named the Resource Coordinator of the Year by Adopt a Class, a partnering nonprofit that relies on Resource Coordinators to connect low-income students with area businesses and civic groups. Cheri Jordan earned the honor in 2022, and Heather England was bestowed with the honor in 2023.



Cheri Jordan



Heather England (right)

Staff Superstar of the Month: Karen Hordinksi & Cheri Jordan

Karen and Cheri, ABC's Resource Coordinators placed at Spencer Center and Silverton Elementary were named the Most Valuable Kid (MVK) Staff Superstar of the Month. Karen was named Superstar in February 2023, while Cheri earned the ranking in May 2023. MVK relies on Resource Coordinators to help connect low-income students with free tickets to enriching and inspiring events and activities.



Karen Hordinksi



Cheri Jordan

ABC'S IMPACT THROUGH THE YEARS

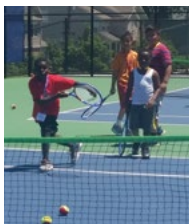
FROM ATHLETICS TO ARTS AND BEYOND

The year was 2004, and for a variety of reasons, the landscape for extracurricular activities was bleak. In most suburban schools, the answer was simple: families formed booster clubs and raised money to offset the costs. However, for many urban families, money was limited and booster clubs weren't an option. For this reason, a few committed individuals came together with the belief that no child should be without these life-shaping extracurricular experiences. Thanks to their efforts, and a one-time anonymous \$80,000 donation, a districtwide booster club known as Student Activities Foundation (now Activities Beyond the Classroom) was born.

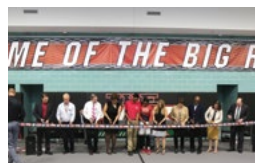


Activities Beyond the Classroom (then Student Activities Foundation) is founded.

Secured funding, including \$200,000 from the Bengals/NFL, to develop a new athletic field at Withrow High School.



Began creating and managing programs outside of grades 7-12 athletics, including arts enrichment, martial arts, youth tennis, 21st Century Community Learning Centers, and Community Connectors mentoring programs.



Secured an Impact 100 grant to turn an abandoned building into an all-sports athletic facility, The Mack, at Hughes High School.



Launched ABC Clubs, no-cost, customized afterschool enrichment programming, at three elementary schools.

2004

05

07

11

12

13

14

15

17

Entered into an agreement with CPS to manage Stargel Stadium.



Entered into a contract with CPS to manage the high school and junior high Extracurricular / Athletic Directors and their budgets.

Secured funding, including \$200,000 from the Bengals/NFL, to develop a new athletic field at Woodward High School.



ABC
ACTIVITIES BEYOND
the CLASSROOM

Changed the organization's name to Activities Beyond the Classroom to more accurately reflect its expanded programming.

Created a youth soccer program, initially aimed at engaging young girls (now enrolls all genders).





“It takes approximately 400 repetitions to create a new synapse in the brain; but if you learn in play, it takes only 10-20 repetitions.”

Karyn Purvis Institute of Child Development



Hosted the first ever CPS International Jazz Festival.

Secured a second Impact 100 grant to support Fourthwall Youth Studios.



Launched virtual ABC clubs to pivot for remote learning.

Partnered with CPS to launch Summer Scholars.

Brian stepped down from Executive Director position, succeeded by Sally Grimes.



ABC took student musicians to Barcelona for international festival.

ABC Soccer Invitational hosted at Stargel and TQL Stadium.



'18

Expanded Community Learning Center Lead Agency role to nine schools.

'19

Pivoted to deliver basic supplies and groceries to families struggling through COVID-19.

'20

'21

Secured funding, including \$250,000 from the Bengals/NFL, to develop a new athletic field at South Avondale Elementary School.

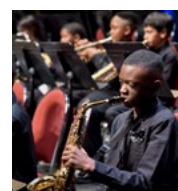
'22

'23

Third International Jazz Festival grows to include visual arts gallery featuring international student artists.



Ribbon cutting for completed athletic field at South Avondale Elementary School.





200 ABC PROGRAMS IMPACT OVER 15,000 STUDENTS EACH YEAR

PROGRAMS INCLUDE

BALLET
PHOTOGRAPHY
AFRICAN DANCE
VISUAL ART
DANCING THE GLOBE
UPCYCLE ART
EDIBLE ART
HIP HOP DANCE
GRAFFITI ART
ABRAKADOODLE
ART AROUND THE WORLD
GUERILLA MUSICIANSHIP
THEATER
AWESOME ART
GUITAR
BUCKET DRUMS
YOGA
MARTIAL ARTS
CARTOONING
HIP-HOP DANCE
CHESS
DRONES
ROBOTICS
ABRAKADOODLE
CHILDREN'S THEATRE
TUTORING

By providing a broad range of programs to students each year, from arts to athletics and STEM to life skills, we reach and inspire kids across our community.

ABC Clubs

These completely free afterschool clubs give students opportunities to learn about new activities, hobbies, and skills that they otherwise may not have the opportunity to learn about. These activities span the breadth of athletics, arts, STEM, life skills, and other activities. Clubs are designed thoughtfully with the communities they are implemented in to meet the needs and interests of local students. Clubs are offered three times per week for 30 weeks, and also include free food (including a snack and a meal), social emotional learning, and mentorship.

ABC CLUBS

2021-22 school year

- **3 schools**
- **90 students**

2022-23 school year

- **3 schools**
- **184 students**



ABC Fine Arts Clubs

This free arts enrichment program targets implementation at schools that are underserved in the arts. Through it, students participate in art activities of their choice for thirty weeks, where they practice and work towards a culminating project. Students also receive nutritious food, mentorship, and social emotional learning opportunities. At the end of the Fall and Spring semesters, students showcase their projects and share what they learn in the clubs.

ABC FINE ARTS CLUBS

2021-22 school year

- **6 schools**
- **90 students**

2022-23 school year

- **11 schools**
- **165 students**



Roselawn Condon Elementary's clubs paint their mascot in the cafeteria.

World Languages

Languages are more than ways to communicate. The words we use help us to connect, express ourselves, and share pieces of our cultures and worlds with each other. ABC supports and runs several free programs teaching world languages across CPS, including Spanish and American Sign Language (ASL).

Spanish and ASL

In the 2022-2023 school year, 65 students at Rockdale Academy participated in Spanish lessons. Students learned the basics of the Spanish language, including numbers, letters, and common phrases.

At Woodford School, nine students participated in American Sign Language classes afterschool. The participants met once per week for three months with the activity instructor and interpreter, where they learned to sign their names, letters, numbers, emergency language, and common phrases, as well as basic conversational techniques. ABC is incredibly proud of these students, who are now equipped to make their community a bit more welcoming for students who are hard of hearing.

Biliteracy before High School

Forty eighth grade students at The Academy of Multilingual Immersion Studies (AMIS) were joined by their families and honored for achieving language proficiency in a second world language. The Academy of World Languages (AWL) joined to recognize qualifying sixth through eighth grade students for their language gains. Approximately 100 students attended the year-end celebration recognizing the program participants for their work practicing and studying a second language. After presenting what they learned, the students were served foods representing each culture of the languages represented. All students earning high school credits were recognized for their proficiency in their language of study.

Ohio Seal of Biliteracy

A Seal of Biliteracy recognizes graduating seniors who can demonstrate high levels of proficiency in English and at least one other language. ABC supported this program by recognizing each qualified student with a certificate of completion and providing them with a graduate medal. ABC aligns its language programs with our elementary language celebrations so students can continue language studies in high school. Sixty students participated in the program, and 30 graduating seniors received the seal of biliteracy. In addition, several juniors qualified to receive the seal in their senior year.



Live a Language Foundation dissolution and contribution to ABC

The Live a Language Foundation was founded in 2015 to promote world language learning and cross cultural understanding. The Foundation promoted students from all backgrounds pursuing language skills to support a strong global economy, prepare students for careers, and increase cultural sensitivity. When the foundation realized it needed to dissolve, it sent all remaining funds to Activities Beyond the Classroom to support low-income students pursuing educations in world languages.



LIVE A LANGUAGE



High School Student Enrichment

Martial Arts at Aiken

During Summer Scholars 2021, ABC offered martial arts to Aiken students as a way to keep youth fit, encourage mindfulness, increase focus, and build the social-emotional skills of discipline and motivation. The program received such positive results and continued to be highly sought after once Summer Scholars ended, so ABC worked with Aiken High School to pilot an afterschool Martial Arts program for students in 9th-12th grades. The piloted activity reached capacity at 18 students and eventually had a waiting list to enroll. Students learned and practiced martial arts techniques, built social-emotional skills, and character. Because of the popularity of this program, martial arts will be forming as a school-day class in 2023.



Drivers Ed pilot program at Aiken High School

Six new drivers are on the road, thanks to ABC's pilot program. The program, launched in spring of 2023 in collaboration with Scott's Driving Academy, aims to provide drivers education to students who could not otherwise afford it. Learning to drive opens up many opportunities, such as more choices in work/ professions, the flexibility to run errands, and the ability to travel to new places. Additionally, having a driver's license provides independence and autonomy, which are critical for personal growth and development.

This program goes beyond skill development and improves student safety. Car accidents are the leading cause of death for teenagers in the United States, with the number one cause of accidents being cited as driving inexperience. By providing students with the opportunity to learn to drive safely, ABC is creating a safer environment for all drivers on the road.

Summer Scholars

Cincinnati Public Schools partners with ABC to provide summer enrichment

Cincinnati Public Schools invited all students, preschool through grade 12, to participate in the four-week Summer Scholars program. The free program, including transportation and meals, ran through the month of June and was available at all CPS schools. Parents had the option of signing up for a half- or full-day session. Students started their day with academic classes in the morning, followed by lunch and then enrichment hours. During enrichment, students at 20 Cincinnati Public Schools engaged in ABC program offerings. By leveraging the successful ABC Club model, students were given options of how they wanted to spend their enrichment time. Options included soccer, tennis, pottery, dance, video game design, and many more.

ABC partnered with 20 Cincinnati Public Schools to provide enrichment programming for Summer Scholars in 2022.

STUDENTS

Over **4500 students** participated in enrichment programs

ACTIVITIES

312 activities each week for a total of **2082 hours**

PARTNERS

68 instructors from across **31 organizations**

STEM

- Coding
- Video Game Design
- Beat Production
- Gardening

FINE ARTS

- Edible Art
- Graphic Design
- Cartooning
- Theatre

FITNESS

- Martial Arts
- Hip-Hop Dance
- African Fusion
- Ballet



CPS INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL

Presented by Activities Beyond the Classroom



2022

- 107 student musicians
- 11 professional jazz musicians from Cincinnati and 1 from Barcelona
- 1200 evening performance attendees

The second CPS International Jazz Festival returned May 7, 2022. Internationally famous jazz saxophonist Joan Chamorro from Barcelona, Spain joined 107 students and 11 regional jazz musicians for a full day of workshops, masterclasses, and performance opportunities, followed by an evening performance on the main stage at the Aronoff Center. Because cost of tickets was a barrier to access for families at the previous Jazz Festival, ABC waived ticket fees and allowed all members of the public free access to the show. By the time the instruments started playing, 1,200 seats were full in the Aronoff Center (about double the attendance from the first Jazz Festival).

The second Jazz Festival increased impact on the Cincinnati community by 153%. "It was outstanding to look out from the stage and see almost the entire orchestra section of the house filled," Sally Grimes commented. "To know that all of these families and individuals were here to celebrate Jazz and these students... to know that perhaps they'd all wanted to come last time but couldn't because there was a ticket price, was amazing. We've learned from that. The Jazz Festival will remain free and accessible in future years, so that anyone who wants to learn about and appreciate jazz will be able to."



2023

- Student art gallery featuring artwork from 5 countries
- 150 students, including 8 from Barcelona
- 523 evening performance attendees

The third CPS International Jazz Festival, hosted by Activities Beyond the Classroom, returned to Cincinnati on May 6, 2023, at the Aronoff Center for the Performing Arts. Acclaimed jazz artist and educator Joan Chamorro returned, this time accompanied by eight of his Barcelona-based Sant Andreu Jazz Band students.

ABC also partnered with the International Sister Cities Association to bring a new visual art installation to the lobby of the Aronoff before the show. The installation included pieces of art by children all over the world, including Japan, Zimbabwe, Ukraine, and China, all inspired by friendship.





Barcelona Jazz

September 1-8, 2022, Activities Beyond the Classroom (ABC) partnered with the Kennedy Heights Arts Center and Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS) to take eleven students across the Atlantic to a jazz festival in Barcelona, Spain.

In addition to several parent chaperones, the CPS Middle School Jazz Combo was accompanied on their trip by Dr. Isidore Rudnick, the Fine Arts Curriculum Manager and Director of the CPS Jazz Academy, as well as ABC's Executive Director, Sally Grimes.

This opportunity was made possible by the May 2022 Jazz Festival, which earned the invitation for Cincinnati students to play during the festival and inspired an anonymous donor to fund the trip for talented students. The students performed at the Jazzing Festival de Sant Andreu to a packed audience of jazz enthusiasts. The students also attended intimate workshops led by professional musicians, gaining valuable insight to their craft. Throughout the weekend, the CPS students had the opportunity to socialize and perform with student musicians from Barcelona and the Canary Islands, forming new friendships that cross international boundaries.

ABC is incredibly grateful for the partnership of the Fine Arts Curriculum Manager at Cincinnati Public Schools, and all that he contributed to this trip for the students.



Scan for more information and link to performance video



ATHLETICS

High School Programs

High School Athletics

- ABC employs a total of 18 staff members dedicated to equitable and accessible athletics programming in Cincinnati
- ~4,100 total student athletes at 13 High Schools (7-12)
- 155 Junior High Teams
- 295 High School Teams

Athletics Strategic Plan

ABC's Senior Manager of Athletics worked with the team of athletic directors and leadership team to develop a strategic plan to grow the impact and reach of athletic programming.

The plan focuses on:

- Nutrition and wellness of student athletes
- Professional development for athletic directors
- Fundraising support for teams
- Improving accountability measures
- Growing elementary sports offerings



Feeding student athletes

In partnership with La Soupe, ABC started an innovative pilot program to fight food insecurity and provide students with nutritious food. In Spring 2023, 120 fresh and healthy meals were delivered to Oyler School each week in advance of practices and games to make sure student-athletes were properly nourished before intense physical activity. ABC plans to grow this partnership and feed as many students as possible.

University of Cincinnati writes for change

In the Spring of 2023, ABC partnered with the University of Cincinnati's sports management graduate program. The cohort of early professionals was looking for experiential learning and understanding of the grant writing process, and ABC had plenty of opportunities to share! In collaboration with the program lead, Dr. David Kelley, ABC supported these students in their first grant writing experience and in return was handed five ready-to-submit grant applications and proposals written by capable students. "It was the most natural and synergistic partnership possible," described then Director of Advancement Carmen Lawrence-Billé. "We hope this partnership continues for years to come. The rising tide lifted all ships; everyone who participated in this partnership benefitted, and we had the privilege of introducing an entire cohort of young professionals to nonprofit work."

Taft High School basketball team wins state championship

In March 2022, the Taft Senators clinched the Division III State Championship by defeating Ottawa-Glandorf with a final score of 48-45. This victory marks their third state title in school history, with previous wins in 1962 and 2011. Head coach Demarco Bradley expressed gratitude to the coaching staff and fans, emphasizing the tremendous support from the city. The proud students credited the win to their resilience and persistence, and thanked their Cincinnati fans for cheering them on and believing in them.



Hall of Fame

On March 26, 2022, Activities Beyond the Classroom hosted the annual Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS) Athletic Hall of Fame during the All-Star Showcase, hosted at the University of Cincinnati's Fifth Third Arena.

The CPS Athletic Hall of Fame is dedicated to honoring accomplished student athletes from years past. Many of these high school athletes went on to compete at collegiate levels and had careers centered around the games they played. "The honorees are demonstrations to current students of the skills and values that athleticism instills in youth, and how those skills can manifest success in different ways throughout their lives," reflected Ricky Miller.

The cohort of honorees inducted into the Hall of Fame on March 26th included 14 former CPS students and coaches.

Walnut Hills Ducks dive in the pool

In the 2023 Greater Mansfield Aquatic Swimming and Diving Championships (GMAC), the Walnut Hills Swim Club displayed an impressive defense of their titles. Walnut Hills secured both the boys and girls combined team titles, and retained titles in the boys and girls teams. Notably, swimmer Klete Watters of Walnut Hills set new records in the boys 9-10 25 freestyle, 25 backstroke, and 50 freestyle. Furthermore, the backstroke record Watters broke was the oldest on the GMAC books, set 46 years ago! Congratulations to Watters and all his Duck teammates for this outstanding triumph.



Taft High School Basketball State Champions (Credit: Casey Weldon/Spectrum News 1)

Walnut Hills' Erin Martin makes history in wrestling

Walnut Hills High School proudly celebrates the remarkable achievement of senior Erin Martin, who secured the school's first-ever female wrestling state championship. Erin's historic victory in the 155-pound category at the Ohio High School Wrestling Coaches Association girls state tournament on February 20, 2023 held at Hilliard Davidson High School, is an inspiring testament to her dedication and skill.



Western Hills dives back into swimming

The revival of Western Hills High School's swimming program in 2023 is a testament to the dedication and vision of ABC's then Athletic Director Phillip O'Neal and the school's Spanish teacher, Amanda Snyder. After nearly three decades without a swim team, O'Neal's commitment to expanding opportunities for students and Snyder's passion for ensuring that every student has access to the life-saving skill of swimming drove the program's resurgence. Despite starting from scratch, with only two swimmers having prior experience, the team worked tirelessly to build their skills. They practiced at the Gamble-Nippert YMCA, and the program provided a sense of belonging and purpose to students, with one parent noting a significant improvement in their child's well-being. While currently operating as a club team, Western Hills aims to elevate swimming to an official varsity sport, with plans to expand the roster and offer summer programs to nurture future talent. This revival underscores the power of dedicated individuals in shaping the lives of students and the community.



Elementary Athletics

Swimming for Safety

ABC's original swimming program returned in Spring of 2023 to Taft Elementary School. In collaboration with the Cincinnati Recreation Commission, this program teaches young students the essential safety skills of basic swimming techniques, how to identify and reach the edge of a pool, and how to survive if they fall in water. ABC provided swimsuits, flip flops, and towels for approximately 100 kids, and the program took place during the school day, making it as easy as possible for students to participate. This program is set to continue and expand in future school years.

ABC Soccer

Soccer came back with a bang after COVID, with over 500 students at 30 schools participating in fall and spring seasons in the 2022-2023 school year. Many partners joined forces to help reinvigorate the soccer program, including FCC Foundation, TQL, and Anthem Insurance.

Each season culminated with an End-of-Season Soccer Celebration at Stargel and TQL Stadiums. During the celebrations, students participated in scrimmages, art projects, wellness programming, and skills clinics. Every student received a soccer ball, shin guards, water bottle, cleats, and a special certificate from FCC.



Martial Arts

At Hartwell Elementary school, students stay after school to work on their focus, discipline, and forms with ABC's partners at Five White Tigers, led by Master RJ Trusty. This long standing program has endured the years and supported the social- emotional skills and character development of over one hundred students. Students who participate in the program experience heightened confidence, self-esteem, empowerment, and self-efficacy, and these skills reflect in their academic performance.

Cleveland Parker Field

On June 17, 2023, ABC was honored at the ribbon cutting for the new Cleveland Parker III field at the Avondale Recreation Center. The event was attended by such luminaries as Mayor Aftab Pureval, Congressman Greg Landsman, and Cincinnati Reds COO & President Phil Castellini—and of course, Red's mascot Mr. Red Legs himself.

By providing a safe and accessible space for diamond sports, the field becomes a catalyst for personal growth, team building, and healthy lifestyles. Beyond the immediate benefits of physical activity, diamond sports cultivate important life skills such as discipline, teamwork, and perseverance. By supporting the Reds Community Fund in this initiative, ABC is actively working to bridge the gap in access to such opportunities and foster a sense of belonging among young individuals in Cincinnati.



RESOURCE COORDINATION AT ABC



ABC Resource Coordinators are creative and collaborative individuals that thrive in ever changing environments. Establishing Community Learning Centers within their respective schools, Resource Coordinators participate as the key leader in the school's needs assessment process to identify gaps in service for students, families, and the surrounding community. Once needs are identified, Resource Coordinators work with their community partners to pull together and provide the resources that support the students and their families.

ABC Resource Coordinators

- Support 14 schools
- Impact 4 major areas –
 - Academics
 - Health and well being
 - Community engagement
 - Parent and family engagement
- Support over 5,000 Cincinnati students/families (12 elementary / 2 high schools)
- Engage 250 partners throughout our 14 Community Learning Centers

Cuts and curls at Covedale

On August 17, 2022, the day before school started, Covedale Elementary School hosted an event for students to come to school to get their hair done by professional hair stylists and barbers for free. "We feel it's so important for every student to feel their best when they come to school," commented ABC Resource Coordinator Taneeka Porter. Not only did the event see a high turn out, but the event successfully engaged parents and families at a time when schools typically struggle to. Caregivers and students were able to visit the school, get to know the layout, and meet important teachers, staff members, and partners, making the first day of school a breeze.



Woodford tennis team's trip to the Western & Southern Open

Thanks to the generosity of a tremendous donor, Woodford Academy started a tennis program with the help of ABC three years ago. The program became very popular and as a result, players on the team asked to see a professional tennis match in person. Then Resource Coordinator at Woodford, James Lacey, worked with ABC to get tickets for the students to attend the 2022 Western & Southern Open. Eight students attended the event along with Lacey and their coach, and they watched four tennis matches throughout the day. Students left with lasting memorabilia from Western & Southern as well as ABC swag bags.

Douglass families celebrate collective growth

In Spring 2023, Frederick Douglass School's state report card rose from a 2 to a 3.5 star, due to improvements in academic and other metrics. "This is a huge success for Douglass staff and students," ABC Resource Coordinator Angel Griffin shared. To celebrate the school's success, Douglass hosted a red carpet event in which students and families enjoyed music and a catered meal, and received framed certificates. Special thanks to Union Savings Bank for supporting this celebration.



Silverton Color Fun Runs

Each spring for the past two years, the city of Silverton hosted a Color Fun Run at Ralph Ficke Park. During this event, individuals raced throughout a course in Silverton while spectators attempted to squirt paint and hoist colored powder packets on the runners. This fundraising event was organized primarily by the staff at Silverton Elementary, with all collected money going toward supporting the needs of the school. ABC's Resource Coordinator at Silverton, Cheri Jordan, was heavily involved in planning the logistics of the event, and helped check in all registrants on the day of the event.

ABC was proud to sponsor this event and provide participating kids with gifts of backpacks, water bottles, and bluetooth speakers.

Rockdale's mental health partnership with Cincinnati Children's Hospital

Rockdale Academy and ABC's Resource Coordinator placed there, Heather England (an award winning Resource Coordinator), collaborate and partner with Dr. Shaffer of Cincinnati Children's Hospital and Medical Center to support the SPARK (Simons Foundation Powering Autism Research for Knowledge) DEI Initiative. The initiative aims to better support families and students diagnosed with autism. Rockdale Academy provided physical space and support for all events, and the Resource Coordinator attends monthly meetings and programs, including information sessions about the initiative, 2 Parents Night Out events, and a 2-Day summer camp in June.

Spotlight on Spencer

Resource Coordination looks different at every school and in every community. So let's zoom in on an example and take a look at what's going on at Spencer Educational Center, where ABC has placed an award winning RC, Karen Hordinski. Here are some of the game changers and difference makers she's responsible for at the school.

Student Ambassador Leadership Program at Spencer

Karen initiated a student ambassador program aimed at bolstering school-wide initiatives through the collaboration of student leaders. To join the program, students were required to complete an application, articulating the reasons behind their desire to be a part of this collective. Their duties include serving as hosts for prospective students to shadow, conducting school tours, spearheading student activities, and much more. The student ambassadors are known as leaders across the school's campus and are afforded additional opportunities to develop social and emotional skills.



Spencer students in the kitchen

Thanks to a partnership with La Soupe, students at Spencer are putting dinner on the table! Hordinski supported a partnership with La Soupe and led the coordination of getting the program in the school to teach Spencer students culinary skills that will support them their entire lives. "It's an incredible program," she commented, "the students are highly engaged." The most delicious part of the program is that it fights food insecurity; students not only learn how to cook in clean and efficient ways, but they also get to take their prepped food home to prepare dinner for their family.



Barking good time

Hordinski started a partnership with Canines 4 Christ, an international Christian-based nonprofit focused on training and sharing animal-assisted therapy ministry that uses ordinary people and their beloved dogs to share love, hope, kindness, and compassion to the community. The program also encourages volunteerism and kindness to animals. The organization brought dogs out to Spencer twice in May 2023, and are planned to bring the dogs out monthly next school year. "The therapy dogs were wildly successful in the building," Hordinski proudly shared, "kids and teachers loved it!"



Hartwell wins basketball championships

In February 2023, Hartwell School boys and girls basketball teams went undefeated and won their championship games. Coaches James Wilson, Greg Mason, and Chrishawna Stewart held students to high academic standards, requiring a minimum of a 3.0 GPA in order to be on the team. "This inspired many of the players who weren't on the honor roll before the season to study hard and get there when the season started. The players were trying to make sure they had the best GPA on the team, taking their competitive nature off the court and into their books," shared Cyril Martin, the ABC Resource Coordinator placed at Hartwell School. "It was powerful to see how our coaches, none of whom were teachers, could have such a tremendous impact on academic performance."



Alpha Delta Boule adopts Winton Hills

Alpha Delta Boule is a national non-profit organization with a local chapter that is heavily involved in helping students at Cincinnati Public Schools through various programs and opportunities. Alpha Delta Boule has been very active at Winton Hills Academy over the past few years, forming a strong relationship with Shelby Zimmer, ABC's Resource Coordinator. This partnership formalized in 2022 when Alpha Delta Boule adopted Winton Hills. This connection has created numerous opportunities for students at Winton Hills, such as Donuts With Dudes and Muffins With Mom events that promote parental and guardian engagement; the Achievement Behavior Consistency Awards Ceremony, which encourages safe and positive behavior in schools; the Men of Honor Ceremony, motivating boys to model high integrity and moral behaviors; a coat drive for students in need; and many more endeavors that benefit the students, families, and community of Winton Hills.

Che(ss)viot

ABC's Resource Coordinator at Cheviot Elementary, Onyango Collier, brought the Cris Collinsworth ProScan Fund to their school to offer enrichment to students in 2nd and 3rd grade. The program places trained chess instructors in elementary, middle, and high schools throughout Greater Cincinnati to teach the game to local students. Cheviot has had roughly 10 students participate in the club each year for the past few years.



Tea time at Roselawn with Rosie Red

Prior to pandemic-mandated social distancing, Roselawn Condon Elementary held an annual Mother and Daughter Tea Party for their students and families. In October 2023, with the help of ABC's Resource Coordinator, Darcus Anderson, Roselawn was finally able to bring this event back! Darcus worked with her local community council, LSDMC, and the Cincinnati Reds to provide food and drink for this tea party, which Rosie Red attended along with over 50 families.

Aiken's high tunnel project

As a part of Aiken High School's agriculture career pathway, and through the strategic work of ABC's Resource Coordinator placed at the school, Dana Bierman, the school was awarded a grant from the United States Department of Agriculture to support their High Tunnel Initiative. A High Tunnel System, also commonly called a "hoop house," is an increasingly popular conservation practice for farmers, which extends growing seasons, improves plant and soil quality, and reduces energy usage. Thanks to this program, students are able to learn about cutting edge agriculture technology in their high school's backyard; and can take home the yummy produce to help feed their families!



ALL STUDENTS DESERVE OPPORTUNITY AND ENRICHMENT

By the time they reach 6th grade, upper and middle class students spend 6,000 more hours learning [outside of formal classroom environments] than do kids born into poverty. This unequal access has immediate consequences for academic achievement and long-term consequences for success later in life.



**Activities Beyond the Classroom has spent
20 years serving students in Cincinnati.**

ABC IS READY TO HELP YOU...

AS A MEMBER

Do you have programs benefiting students, and you need support?

As a member of ABC's fiscal sponsorship program, ABC will be able to provide you with a number of services and benefits to help you deepen impact and serve more students in need.

All members of our fiscal sponsorship program receive a baseline toolkit of benefits to help raise money, maintain fiscal stability, and send/receive funds. Members also may be eligible for or request additional services that can elevate, expand, and evolve their programs.

ABC's fiscal sponsorship program supports over 200 member organizations, and they all make a profound impact on our Cincinnati youth.



AS A CLIENT

Do you have a group of students in need of enriching activities and services?

With a research-supported theory of change and a successful track record of twenty years, ABC can help! Our goal is to reach as many students as possible through our responsive, solutions-oriented, collaborative services. We'll work with you to design and implement a service plan that is catered to your students and needs.

For more information,
please reach out to:

Director of Advancement
513.281.9870 ext. 107

Members making a difference and teaming up with ABC

The Ben Carlson-Berne Scholarship Fund

The fund introduces economically disadvantaged youth to classical music through private music lessons with professional musicians. ABC assists the fund with budgeting management, paying their many teaching artists, and supporting fundraising.

Fourthwall Youth Studios

This digital media group empowers diverse youth to express their individuality through digital and performance arts, to change the trajectory of their lives and their community. Fourthwall students are regional award winners, and alumni have thriving careers in media! ABC supports Fourthwall's fundraising efforts and assisted in the creation of their \$100k+ mobile film studio that travels around the city.

Project Connect

Founded in 1996, Project Connect provides advocacy paired with specialized educational services and lifestyle enrichment opportunities for children who have neither a voice, nor a choice, in experiencing homelessness. ABC supports its fundraising efforts, summer camp experiences, and annual holiday toy drive.

THANK YOU

We are proud to partner with the following institutions and donating partners. Whether they provide program delivery, funding, program support, or donated services, we are grateful for their generosity in supporting our vision.

Partners

International Sister Cities Association
A Sound Mind Counseling
Abrakadoodle
Adopt a Class
American Legacy Theatre
Band in a Bus
Big Joe Duskin Music Education Foundation
Children's Theatre of Cincinnati
Cincinnati Academy of Performing Arts
Cincinnati Art Museum
Cincinnati Arts Association
Cincinnati Ballet
Cincinnati Bengals
Cincinnati Children's Hospital
Cincinnati Federation of Colored Women's Club
Cincinnati Flying Pig Marathon
Cincinnati Martial Arts Club
Cincinnati Music Accelerator

Cincinnati Opera
Cincinnati Police Department
Cincinnati Public Schools
Cincinnati Recreation Commission
Cincinnati Youth Collaborative
Cincy Shirts
City of Cincinnati
Clark Shafer Hackett
Cross Country For Youth
Dream Builders University
Educational Theatre Association
Elementz
Eye of the Artists
FC Cincinnati
Féwándé Cultural Programs
Five White Tigers
Flying Pig Marathon
Formidable Asset Management, Inc
Fourthwall Youth Studios
Goal Getters
Gotham Soccer League

Heroes Rise Forever
Hamilton County Job & Family Services
Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office
High Achievers Aim High
Honest Game
Joey Enfoque
Kennedy Heights Arts Center
Kingsbury Productions
LeagueApps
Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati
La Soupe
Let's Play
Literacy Network
Live a Language Foundation
Matt Witherspoon Photography
Mayerson Academy
Mayweather Boxing
Most Valuable Kids (MVK)
National Park Foundation

Northwest Local School District
Ollie's Trolley
Pones
Project Connect
Rothenberg Rooftop Garden
Scott's Driving Academy
Simpy's Playhouse and Learning Center
Skool Aid
Soul Palette
The Benjamin Carlson-Berne Scholarship Fund
The Julie Henderson Fund
The Ross X Factor
The School New Technology Initiative
Tusculum Street Festival
Underground Sports
University of Cincinnati
USA Swimming Foundation
USTA / Midwest
Word Play
YWCA

Donor/Supporter

5 Star Promotional Marketing
Arby's Foundation
ArtsWave
Charles and Lynn Schusterman Foundation
Cincinnati Bell/AltaFiber
Cincinnati Reds Community Fund
Cincinnati Women's Club Foundation
Danielle Riley
DHL
Design Mill
Dick's Sporting Goods
Elsa Heisel Sule Foundation
First Financial Bank
Flip & Sheila Cohen
Friends of Winton Hills Academy
GE Employees Community Service Fund

General Electric
Good Sports
Greater Cincinnati Foundation
Guardian Savings Bank
Gwen Trujillo
Haile Foundation
Hamilton County CARES Act
Heritage Hill
Keurig Dr Pepper
Knowlton Foundation
Macy's / Bloomingdale's
Magnified Giving
Marathon Petroleum
Marge & Charles J. Schott Foundation
Matinee Musicale
Endowment Fund
Mayerson Foundation

Midwest Tennis & Education Foundation
The Motz Group
Nellie Leaman Taft Foundation
Nelson Fund of GCF
NFL Foundation
Nick Lachey Foundation
Nordstrom
People's Bank
Pepsi Beverages Company
PNC Charitable Trusts
PNC Foundation
Qatar Foundation
Rita S. Metcalfe Foundation
School for the Creative and Performing Arts Fund
Sibcy Cline
Strauss Troy
Sutphin Foundation

Tennis For Charity, Inc.
The John A. Scroth Charitable Trust
The Lauer Family Foundation
The Manuel D & Rhoda Mayerson Foundation
TriHealth
Under Armour
Union Savings Bank
US Bank Foundation
Walnut Hills High School Alumni Foundation
Weinberg Foundation
Western Hills HS Foundation
Western & Southern Financial
Willis Music
Winona Landis
Withrow Alumni Association
Woodward Trust

HOW TO GIVE

Donate online

Through our website, abccincy.org, or via the QR code below, giving a donation to ABC is simple and easy. Give a gift in support of our mission, or pick your favorite program. And don't forget to check the box to make a monthly donation!

Make a gift of stock

Cash isn't always king. Do you have appreciated stock sitting around? It's easy to give a donation of stock! Reach out for simple instructions to work with your broker to make a highly impactful gift that doesn't impact your day to day liquidity.

IRA Rollovers

Need a tax break, and don't need all that money from your IRA this year? By making a gift of a qualified charitable distribution, you can meet your philanthropic goals without compromising your liquidity or retirement plan.

Plan a Gift

Are you interested in leaving a legacy supporting ABC's mission? Have you already included ABC in your will? Let us know, so we can thank you and work with you to turn your dreams of social impact into reality.

Mail a Check

Activities Beyond the Classroom
635 West 7th Street, Suite 301
Cincinnati, OH 45203

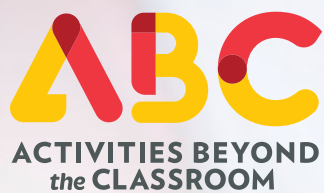


info@abccincy.org
513.281.9870



"Whether a child lives in poverty or not, they should have the opportunity to try different activities and find the ones that ignite their fire, instilling skills and a passion that will last throughout their life. ABC is here for you, for all of Cincinnati, to help meet those needs."

Sally Grimes
ABC Executive Director



www.abccincy.org

635 West 7th Street, Suite 301
Cincinnati, OH 45203

513.281.9870

info@abccincy.org