CRS

COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR SCIENCE

practical support for great science teaching

2014 Annual Report

Inspiring science learning!

1611 San Pablo Ave., Suite 10 B
Berkeley, CA 94702
www.crscience.org

While not all students will grow up to be rocket scientists or civil engineers, we do hope today's students will become tomorrow's scientifically literate citizens who make decisions based on reasoning and evidence, and who are good stewards of our environment. Meaningful science learning experiences provide young students with important opportunities to develop critical thinking and problem solving skills while exploring the world around them. The mission of Community Resources for Science is to foster the connections between teachers and scientists in order to make high quality science learning experiences a reality for thousands of 5 to 12 year old children each year.

For CRS, 2014 was a year of significant milestones. We reached a record number of teachers, schools and students; achieved a record level of individual donor support; received a comprehensive external program evaluation which rated our work as highly effective; and built new organizational and programmatic partnerships which will sustain our work over the coming years.

Through our Bay Area Scientists in Schools (BASIS) program, Community Resources for Science brought over 500 diverse, enthusiastic scientists and engineers into hundreds of local Kindergarten through middle school classrooms. Together, these STEM professionals engaged in exciting learning experiences with over 11,000 students. In addition, CRS extended more professional development workshops, individual planning support, and customized reports to over 1,400 educators, impacting learning for more than 25,000 students.

We are particularly appreciative of the thoughtful, action-oriented participation of our Advisory Council members in helping to identify and effectively address K-6 science education issues.

Sparked by the inspirational major gift from Robert and Wendy Bergman, generous individual donors provided a record-setting level of support for CRS in 2014. We are pleased and honored to have a strong and growing network of foundation, corporate, and individual donors who share their belief in the importance of the work we do.

We look forward to another year of connecting, informing, inspiring, and celebrating science learning!

Phoebe White, President

Teresa Barnett, Executive Director

2014 CRS Program Highlights

By the Numbers: CRS Program Accomplishments over the course of 2014

1,488 teachers served
127 schools reached
30,000+ students' science learning impacted
553 diverse, enthusiastic scientist volunteers placed in classrooms
453 exciting, standards-based, hands-on lessons presented
12,500+ students experienced hands-on science activities with visiting scientists

- CRS provided over 1,400 teachers with timely information, resource guides, online resources, and on-call support, resulting in more science for thousands of students.
- We introduced teachers to regional science support programs at Field Trip for Teachers events, held at The Exploratorium and the Lawrence Hall of Science.
- CRS recognized, rewarded, and celebrated Science Super Stars – over 100 teachers and several whole schools who successfully met our Challenge to incorporate more science learning throughout the year and across the curriculum.
- Advisory Council members helped us develop new professional development and resources addressing new education standards involving the practices of science and engineering.
- CRS worked with environmental education programs to align programs and curriculum with new standards.

- Private industry volunteers from Clorox and Bayer, and other firms, continued to volunteer in classrooms and at outreach events such as the Bay Area Science Festival – sharing the joy of science discoveries with enthusiastic students.
- CRS connected hundreds of talented, diverse, dynamic scientists to elementary and middle schools, afterschool programs, science fairs, Family Science nights, and more.
- As a partner in the 4nd Annual Bay Area Science Festival, we joined with many partners to bring fun experiences to the festival and to unexpected places like farmers markets.
- CRS continued professional development support for Berkeley Unified School District science specialist teachers, as well as for teachers in Oakland and West Contra Costa school districts.
- Through the Gateways partnership, CRS presented workshops for teachers in afterschool programs.
- CRS shared best practices in workshops at national, state, and local science education conventions and conferences.

"THIS MORNING WAS ABSOLUTELY WONDERFUL!! THE SCIENTISTS WERE AMAZING!!! WHEN ARE THEY COMING BACK...PLEASE TELL ME THEY'RE COMING BACK!!!

Every single one of my kids were completely engaged in every activity...!

I would love to know if there are any resources that will give me center ideas so that I can implement this form of science inquiry on a regular basis!

THANK YOU SOOOOOO MUCH..."

-TK teacher, Oakland

Highlights of CRS 2014 Impact & Outcomes

Assessment and accountability are watchwords in education. Even when we "know in our hearts" that our approach to connecting scientists with young students and their teachers makes a real difference, it's important to back that claim with evidence. Throughout the year we gather narrative and survey data, documenting the impact of our programs. And, with generous funding from the RGK Foundation, CRS was fortunate to engage Rockman et. al. to conduct an external research evaluation of our impact during the 2013-14 school year.

According to Rockman study author Scott Burg:
(emphasis added for readability):

- Our study findings strongly indicate that CRS has filled critical gaps in, and has had an **appreciable impact on, the quality and quantity of science instruction** amongst participating CRS member teachers and their schools.
- Teachers in our study overwhelmingly confirmed that participation in **CRS has positively impacted their comfort and confidence** levels in teaching science.
- By observing BASIS instructors, **teachers developed a better understanding of how scientists work** in the real world and **became more motivated to involve their students in scientific practices** such as questioning and hands-on activities.

- CRS support has translated into a **level of enthusiasm amongst teachers** for continuing to promote and 'push' the amount of science instruction in both lower and upper elementary grades.
- Teachers credited CRS staff and volunteers with **keeping them informed and up-to-date** on the most current science information, materials and teaching methods.
- Teachers and administrators believed that participation in CRS' Science Superstars program helped to **promote their schools' commitment to science** with students, parents and other members of their school's broader community.
- Teachers and school administrators remarked that through **BASIS lessons, professional development workshops, and other resource support, CRS has provided clarity and invaluable assistance** to their schools with Common Core and NGSS training and implementation.
- As a result of exposure to (BASIS) scientists and introduction of hands-on activities to support science content in these classrooms, participating **students demonstrated behaviors and skills important to science and other content learning** such as critical thinking, problem solving, application of research strategies, collaboration, and visual and written interpretation of data.

To see the full Executive Summary, and other CRS program and annual reports, please visit:
www.crscience.org/about/annualreports

Celebrating Science SuperStars!

Learning, and a job well done, may indeed be their own rewards. Yet, a little recognition (and perhaps a prize) are nice sweeteners! That's the idea behind the CRS Science Super Star Challenge, a set of best practices developed to encourage, recognize, and reward excellence in elementary science teaching. From a dozen teachers in 2012, the program in 2014 recognized **112 teachers** for completing the "best practices" challenge, documenting their efforts to incorporate hands on science lessons, reading and writing projects connected with science, professional development, and more. These teachers earned Science Super Star recognition for their Excellence in Science Teaching.

Over **3,000 students** received prizes including science-related books for each student to take home and have for their very own!
In addition, one dozen whole schools were honored for their commitment to bringing science learning experiences to their students throughout the year.

The full list of Science Super Star Whole Schools and Classroom Honorees is listed on the CRS website:
http://www.crscience.org/educator/SSS2014

Students were delighted to get their very own science books!

Thank you to our publisher and prize donors:

Publisher Donations for SSS
Arbordale Publishing
Flowerpot Press
Nomad Communications/Nomad Press
National Geographic Learning
Fulcrum Publishing
Bearport Publishing
Macmillan Children's Publishing Group
Start Engineering
Lisa Gamboa
Candlewick Press
North Atlantic Books
Naomi Shelan
The Creative Company
Kids Can Press
Purple House Press
Crabtree Publishing
Highlights
Bellwether Media
Workman Publishing Co.
Dawn Publications
Sleeping Bear Press
Corwin
Owlkids Books
East Bay Regional Parks
Rock Steady Juggling with StopWaste.org
Aquarium of the Bay
The Clorox Company
UC Botanical Gardens
Marine Science Institute
Cal Academy
The Marine Mammal Center
The Exploratorium

2014 CRS Board of Directors and Major Funders

Phoebe White, President
Business Consultant

Susan Kattchee, Vice President
Assistant Director,
Dep't. of Facilities & Environment
City of Oakland

Lauren Luke, Secretary
Recruitment Manager, Pocket Gems

Adela Pang, Treasurer
Managing Director, Financial Planning & Analysis
Kaiser Permanente

Robert Bergman
Gerald E.K. Branch Distinguished Professor of Chemistry
University of California, Berkeley

Justin Curley
Attorney, Seyfarth Shaw LLP

Maureen Dunne
Founder and CEO, UQ Life

Anne Jennings
Director of Extended Learning, Exploratorium

Nicki Norman
Consultant; CalTeach Instructor, UC Berkeley

Diana Velez
Professional Development Specialist,
Lawrence Hall of Science, FOSS

We are pleased to acknowledge the generous support of the following funding partners whose grants supported our work in 2014.

S. D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation
RGK Foundation
Thomas J. Long Foundation
Joseph and Vera Long Foundation
Genentech, Inc.
Dean Witter Foundation
Walter & Elise Haas Fund
Bayer Health Care
Cisco Systems Foundation
Irene S. Scully Foundation
East Bay Community Foundation
Bayer Health Care
Berkeley Public Schools Fund
Callison Foundation
Clif Bar Family Foundation
SanDisk
Amgen Foundation
Clorox Company Foundation
Joseph and Mercedes McMicking Foundation
Goggio Family Foundation
The Lowell Berry Foundation
Bernard E. and Alba Witkin Charitable Foundation
100Kin10
In Dulci Jubilo, Inc.
Seyfarth Shaw Charitable Foundation
Lawrence Berkeley Lab Retirees Association
Berkeley Association of Realtors
Associated Students University of California

Business in-kind donors are listed on our website at:
www.crscience.org/about/funderspartners

2014 CRS Advisory Council Members

Betsy Mitchell, *Advisory Council Chair*
GK-12 Coordinator, Berkeley Natural History Museums
University of California, Berkeley

Sylvia Algire
Field Trip Manager, Exploratorium

Susan Bellone
Science Educator, Retired

Nancy Blachman
Founder, MathDelights.org and the Julia Robinson Mathematics Festival

Beth Burnside
Vice Chancellor of Research, Emeritus & Professor of Cell and Developmental Biology, Emeritus
University of California, Berkeley

Jose Castillo
Quality Control Analyst
Bayer Corporation

Caleb Cheung
Science Program Manager
Oakland Unified School District

Elizabeth Donald
Research and Development
The Clorox Company

Sarah Dozier
Science Coordinator
Alameda Co. Office of Ed.

Anthony Fu
Graduate Student,
University of California, Berkeley

Nikita Gibbs
Classroom Teacher
Markham Elementary, OUSD

Wally Gutierrez
Instruction Technologist, K-8
Berkeley Unified School District

Eric Havel
Education Manager
Chabot Space and Science Center

Sherry Johnson
Science Educator, Retired Teacher

Jack Kirsch
Professor of the Graduate School of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
University of California, Berkeley

Annie Kohut-Frankel
Educator, Public Education Program
California Coastal Commission

Allison Krasnow
Instruction Technologist
Berkeley Unified School District

Ben Lavender
Sr. Manager, Teacher PD
California Academy of Sciences

William A. Lester, Jr.
Professor Emeritus, UC Berkeley

Katherine Nielsen
Co-Director, Science and Health Education Partnership, UCSF

Christiane Parry
Director of Public Programs
California Coastal Commission

Alan Poon
Group Leader, Nuclear Science Division
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Erin Rhoades
Executive Director
Berkeley Public Education Foundation

Anne Richardson
Exploratorium, Helix

Allison Schwartz
Graduate Student, Plant & Microbial Biology
University of California, Berkeley

Eddie Scruggs-Smith
Principal, Lafayette Elementary, OUSD

Bruce Simon
Associate Director, Gateways East Bay STEM Network, CSUEB

Arunan Skandarajah
Graduate Student, Bioengineering
University of California, Berkeley

Paulette Smith
Principal, Joaquin Miller, OUSD

Rebecca Smith
Co-Director, Science and Health Education Partnership
UC San Francisco

Sarah Soule
Manager of Teacher Education
California Academy of Sciences

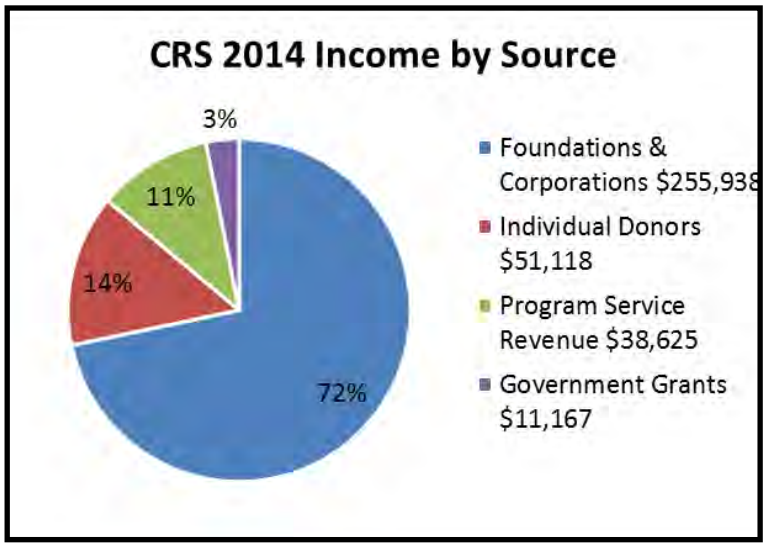
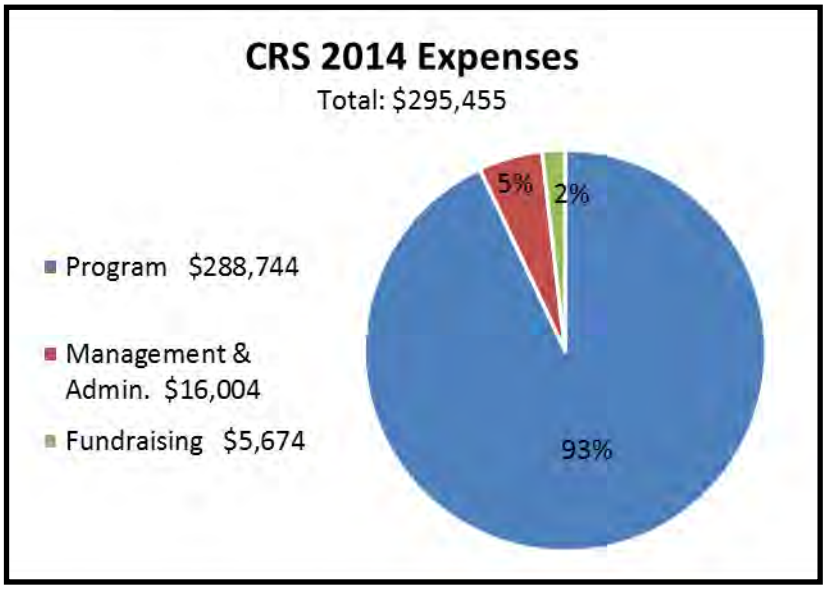
Joanna Totino
FOSS Professional Development, Bay Area Science Project, Co-Director, Lawrence Hall of Science

Claudio Vargas
Coordinator, Elementary Science, OUSD

Diana Vélez
BASP Professional Developer/FOSS K-5 Specialist, Lawrence Hall of Science

Margena Wade
Director, Science Horizons

Lisa White
Assistant Director of Education and Public Programs
UC Museum of Paleontology

Statement of Financial Position, December 31, 2014

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	$183,902
Accounts Receivable	$0
Other current assets	$2,289
TOTAL ASSETS	$186,191
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	$4,528
Other Current Liabilities	$5,548
Total Equity	$174,975
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	$186,191