



# Home of Grace Art Camps

**CREATING AWARENESS THROUGH ART, CULTURE & STORY**

## ANNUAL REPORT 2019

**Grace Institute's mission** is to nurture the human spirit through the arts, fostering intercultural appreciation and understanding in an open and inclusive community. Our signature program, Grace Art Camp, currently serves over 1,200 children, ages 4½-12 years, and employs over 120 seasonal youth and leadership counselors, professional artists, and volunteers. Grace Art Camp is dedicated to encouraging awareness of the world through art, culture, and story in a joyful and process-oriented environment. Our core values of Respect, Responsibility, Resourcefulness, and Receptivity continue to shape camp operations, policies, and programming.

**2019 Highlights** include the May hiring of former Camp Director (1999 to mid-2000s), Registrar and most recently a Board Member, Sharon Loomis-Malin, as Executive Director. Sharon joins the year-round team of Operations Manager & Registrar Mariann Koop-McMahon and Business Manager Annie Rimmer-Weeks. Sharon will be Camp Director this coming summer and we are excited to explore the cultures, art, and **STORIES FROM MÉXICO VIEJO Y NUEVO!**

The year continues the collaboration between Grace Institute, PHAME, and Grace Memorial Episcopal Church (GMEC) and how these three organizations partner in an envisioned space as part of GMEC's campus redevelopment project *Grace Commons*. This proposed vision provides a unique opportunity for Grace Institute to strategize a sustainable framework for its future operations; this includes the growth of year-round art programming for a variety of people in the Grace Community as well as the Portland Metro community.

**Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion** – Grace Institute is committed to the task of cultivating attitudes, perspectives, behaviors and policies that continuously promote equity, diversity, inclusion and cultural responsiveness within all aspects of the organization. After several years of Equity Committee hard work, Grace Institute now has an Equity Statement. Check out our website for all the details: [www.grace-institute.org/about-us/equity-statement/](http://www.grace-institute.org/about-us/equity-statement/). Below is a table showing data Grace Institute has collected as one way of tracking how our efforts may impact the ethnic and racial makeup of the campers. This is just one small aspect of our continuing work.

Total GAC (Summer with 3-Day Camp) Ethnic/Racial Identities

GAC Ethnic/Racial Identities	2019		2018		2017	
	Total Enrolled	%	Total Enrolled	%	Total Enrolled	%
American Indian & Alaskan Native	5	0.39%	8	0.66%	8	0.66%
Asian	52	4.02%	69	5.73%	58	4.81%
Black or African American	29	2.24%	13	1.08%	16	1.33%
Chose Not to Participate	43	3.32%	73	6.06%	650	53.85%
Hispanic or Latino	23	1.78%	59	4.90%	18	1.49%
Multi-racial (2018)	160	12.36%	121	10.05%		0.00%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	2	0.15%	1	0.08%	10	0.83%
North African or Middle Eastern	1	0.08%	3	0.25%		0.00%
Other (2017)	4	0.31%		0.00%	31	2.57%
White, not of Hispanic Origin*	938	72.49%	621	51.58%	416	34.47%
White, of Hispanic Origin (2018)*	37	2.86%	236	19.60%		0.00%
Total	1294		1204		1207	

In 2019, 4 blanks not counted by database.

\* In 2018, these questions were asked in a way that resulted in ~200 incorrect "White, not of Hispanic Origin" choices.

**Art Camp Scholarships** Grace Institute is immensely appreciative of the many GMEC parish members, Art Camp families, the Women of Grace, and individuals who contribute to our scholarship fund. The need for camp scholarships continues to rise as Grace Institute partners with agencies who identify children for full tuition subsidies. Grace Art Camp continues to be generously supported by the Kate Bennison Art Camp Scholarship Fund and the GMEC Foundation. New for 2020...Grace Institute is pleased to announce a substantial matching fund grant from the GMEC Foundation for scholarship donations at the \$500 or above level. This past summer over 8% of our campers received a scholarship award. We continue our commitment with a goal of 10% scholarship awards for this year. Thank you very much for your ongoing and unwavering support!

Scholarships Awarded						
Summer Camp with Agency Partners	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Dream Oregon (Alder School)	3	0	4	3	0	0
Human Solutions	4	3	10	0	0	0
Lincoln Park School	3	11	9	0	0	0
DHS	13	5				
JOIN	1					
Kairos-PDX	4	0				
OR Dept Employment/DHS	1	0				
All other scholarships	68	61	48	34	34	41
<b>Total</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Total Art Camp Summer enrollees</b>	<b>1207</b>	<b>1204</b>	<b>1207</b>	<b>1204</b>	<b>1253</b>	<b>1254</b>
<b>% Enrolled with scholarship</b>	<b>8.0%</b>	<b>6.6%</b>	<b>5.9%</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>3.6%</b>
Full Scholarships	69	48	43	24	24	16
Partial Scholarships	28	32	28	13	13	29
<b>Full GAC scholarships as % of Total</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>36%</b>

**The Art of Recycling Festival**, – honoring November's National Recycling Day, this fun festival was held on Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup> in the GMEC Community Hall following Coffee Hour, welcoming over 200 visitors. This Festival offered a creative space for attendees of all ages, providing a place for the Art Camp community, families across Portland, and parish members to come together around art and recycling. The festival featured music played on instruments made from recycled materials, a recycling- and environmentally themed puppet show, and fabulous art projects featuring recycled/ upcycled materials led by Art Camp and Parish artists. In 2019 we began a partnership with Agilyx, a polystyrene recycling facility in Tigard, to collect #6 plastics. We collected over 650 cubic feet of polystyrene! The Art of Recycling Festival was made possible by a grant from the GMEC Foundation.

**Spring Break Camp 2019** – Welcoming a full house of 79 campers in Kindergarten through Grade 6, we explored *The Blossom Tree*. The story is a traditional Indian tale of the interconnection between trees and those who depend on them, compassion vs greed, and how the smallest one can save everyone. Art studios, featuring up-cycled and reclaimed supplies, included fibre, glass, storytelling/theatre, culinary arts (they baked blossom-shaped tarts!), and a variety of visual art projects, including little books.

**Grace Art Camp 2019 – Krik? Krak! Stories from Haiti** marked Grace Institute's 23rd consecutive summer of camp! We mostly hear about Haiti due to natural disasters, poverty and protests in sensational headlines. However, informed by Grace Institute's Equity work, Grace Art Camp took a different path, giving more than 1,200 campers a chance to see Haiti and hear from its people about its flora and fauna, its stories, folktales, art, music, songs, and dance. It was joyful and bright, and altogether wonder-filled!

Grace Art Camp ran for seven full weeks from late June through mid-August; plus, we added a 3-day camp during the week leading up to July 4th.

A grant from the GMEC Foundation contributed to Art Camp's cultural guest artist Elys Danvil, a local Portland Haitian cook sharing her Haitian experiences within a cooking studio and various all-camp assemblies throughout the summer.

**Looking forward to 2020:** planning is in full swing and registration open for Spring Break Camp March 23-25<sup>th</sup>. Story selection is finalized for Art Camp 2020 and summer hiring has begun this month. We're excited to launch a scholarship fundraising campaign this February... be on the lookout for information about the **Kindness Circle**.

Our continuing success is in no small way due to the talented and dedicated artists, leadership and counselor staff, and volunteers who infuse the Grace Art Camp community with their enthusiasm, joy and integrity. The Grace Institute staff would also like to thank the Board of Directors for their time, guidance, talent and support.

**The Grace Institute Board Officers and Members 2019:**

Stephen Weeks, Presidential Team  
Susan Germundson, Presidential Team  
Evelyn Prater, Presidential Team & Secretary  
Leslie Mills, Treasurer  
Alicia Cash, Past President  
Cathy Gibson  
Tracy Suzuki  
The Rev. Martin Elfert  
Elyssa de la Cruz, Vestry Liaison

Two multiple-term board members have now finished their terms of service as of last month: Susan Germundson and Tracy Suzuki. Our long-serving President of the Board Becky Wong retired in April and Elyssa de la Cruz concludes her Vestry term this month and subsequently as Liaison to the Grace Institute Board. We are very thankful for **all** their service and leadership! If you are interested in serving on the Grace Institute Board, please speak with any board member, Executive Director or year-round staff member.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon Loomis-Malin, Executive Director & Art Camp Director  
Mariann Koop-McMahon, Operations Manager & Registrar  
Annie Rimmer-Weeks, Business Manager

January 20, 2020