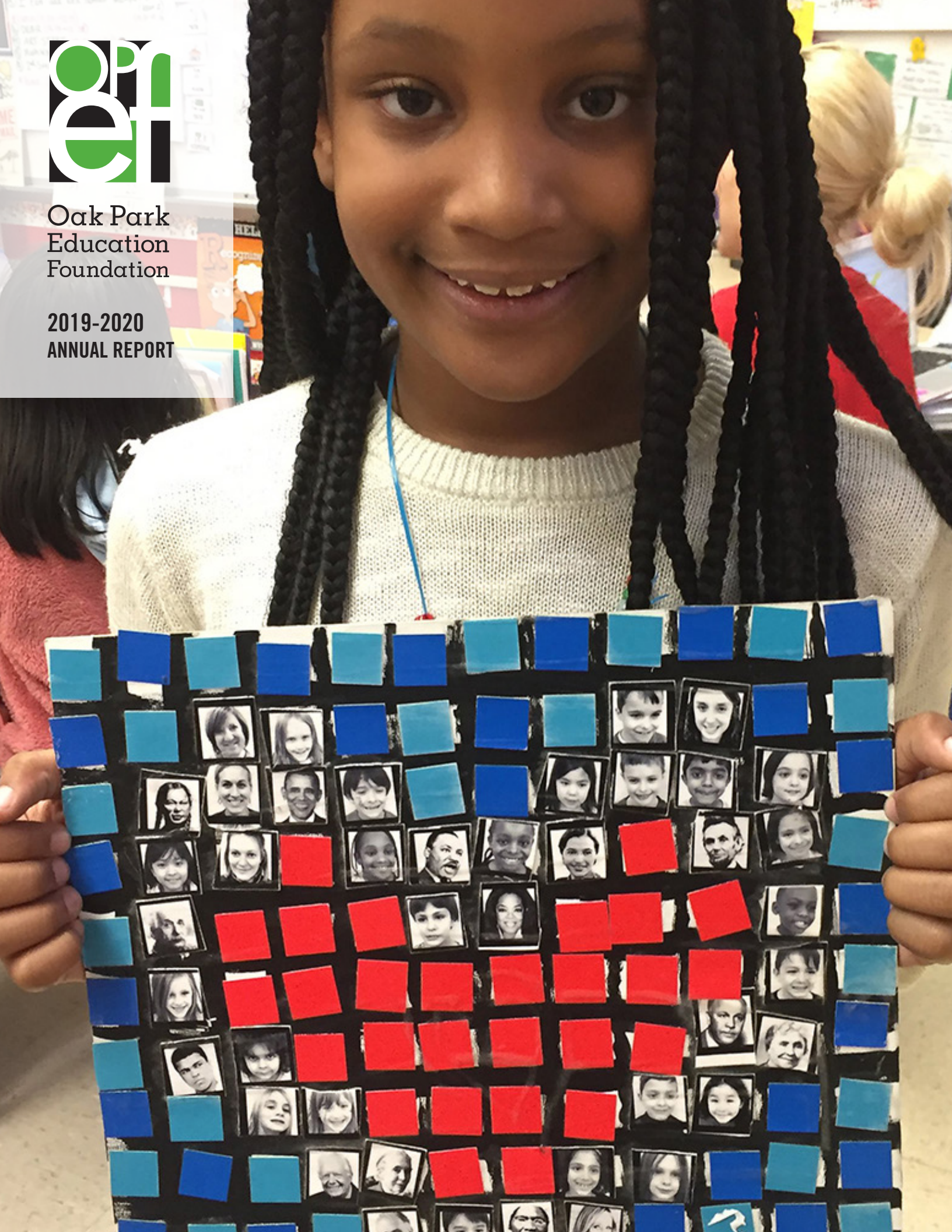




Oak Park
Education
Foundation

2019-2020
ANNUAL REPORT



Dear Friends,

Even in this extraordinary year of loss and hardship, we want to take a moment to celebrate our students' resilience and accomplishments. When schools were still open, our programs allowed students from kindergarteners to 8th grade to ...

...unlock the mysteries of cellular structure under a microscope during a scientist visit.

...cheer on classmates' Spoken Word performances in packed auditoriums and publish their poems in their [first-ever Chapbook](#).

... master the intricacies of a new VEX Robotics technology and capture the top prize at our regional tournament.

...hand craft and perform on drums inspired by Yoruba traditions,

...teach robots to run mazes through the stacks of their school libraries.

Then, of course, everything in our world changed. We had to cancel our annual Bingo Bash fundraiser and BASE Camp, two of our primary sources of income. We were gratified at the number of families who rose to the occasion and donated a portion of their fees back to us. Even with restrictions, we served over 200 families with take-home BASE Camp kits and a reimagined version of our popular Urban Biker camp, giving 90 students an opportunity to learn new skills and connect with classmates in safe, joyful ways.

Looking ahead, we know it's going to take a while before we can do what we do best – bring hands-on, cross-cultural learning to classrooms year round. But we are doing what we can to help our children and our community during this extraordinary crisis. We are working hard, even with limited resources and closed schools, to find new ways to reach students in this moment and into the future.

Given our new circumstances, we opted to publish a condensed version of our annual report online instead of in print. But, we couldn't let the year go by without thanking all of our generous supporters, who sustained us during our toughest year. Please reach out to us with any questions or suggestions.



TRACY DELL'ANGELA BARBER
OPEF Executive Director



CARRIE COTTER
OPEF Board President



Ode to the World

by Jillian Louie, Sixth grader @ Julian Middle

and how the seasons change
just like the emotions we all feel day after day
or like how the stars shine so bright
like the twinkle in our eyes to the people we love
or like how the weather changes
like the thoughts in our minds as I am citing this to you
right now but world
you're so beautiful
Just like when it snowed so much I spent one and a half
hours just playing in it begging and begging my brother
to come out and play with me but he never did
World
you're beautiful
you're one of a kind
thank you

For more examples of our Spoken Word program please download
[The Middle: Spoken Word Poems from Middle School Students](#)

FINANCIALS

Fiscal year audited 2019 and 2020

	FY2020	FY2019
Revenue		
Contributions and Grants	\$180,181	\$167,102
Special Events (net)	\$19,733	\$54,960
Summer Program Income	\$20,585	\$424,572
Other Program Income	\$38,901	\$40,449
In-Kind Goods and Services	\$40,665	\$220,383
Interest Income	\$2,134	\$1,326
Total Revenue and Support	\$302,199	\$908,792
Expenses		
Program	\$307,619	\$740,495
Management and General	\$65,262	\$91,742
Fundraising	\$47,876	\$66,303
Total Expenses	\$420,757	\$898,540
Net Income	-\$118,558	\$10,252
Scholarship Spending	\$0	\$71,505
Income	-\$118,558	\$81,757

with BASE Camp Scholarship spending

5

GRANTORS

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 Community Foundation

80


**"BASE CAMP IN A BOX"
 KITS WERE DONATED TO
 COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

10

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A photograph of three young girls in a classroom setting, smiling and working with LEGO Mindstorms bricks. The girl on the left is wearing a teal jacket and a pink headband with a bow. The girl in the middle is wearing a grey t-shirt with a pink heart graphic. The girl on the right is wearing a pink jacket and glasses. They are surrounded by blue bins filled with LEGO bricks and a table with a LEGO Mindstorms robot kit. The number '552' is overlaid in large white text on the left side of the image.

552

**5TH GRADERS LEARNED HOW TO
CODE ROBOTS DURING LIRARY
LEGO MINDSTORMS LESSONS**

**"I loved LEGO Mindstorms
during library because I always
loved working with my team
and I was always excited to go."**

**BEYE 5TH GRADER
LEGO MINDSTORMS**

19

LANGUAGE TEACHERS
PARTNERED WITH OPEF ON
SPOKEN WORD RESIDENCIES



"I felt great talking
about a subject that
was important to me."

JULIAN 7TH GRADER
SPOKEN WORD RESIDENCIES

"Overall, I really loved this experience.
I definitely learned something new
about my friends and classmates and I
even saw a new side to some of them."

BROOKS 6TH GRADER
SPOKEN WORD RESIDENCIES

"Spoken Word Week
was AWESOMESAUCE!"

BROOKS 6TH GRADER
SPOKEN WORD RESIDENCIES

30 BUSINESS AND NON-PROFIT SUPPORTERS

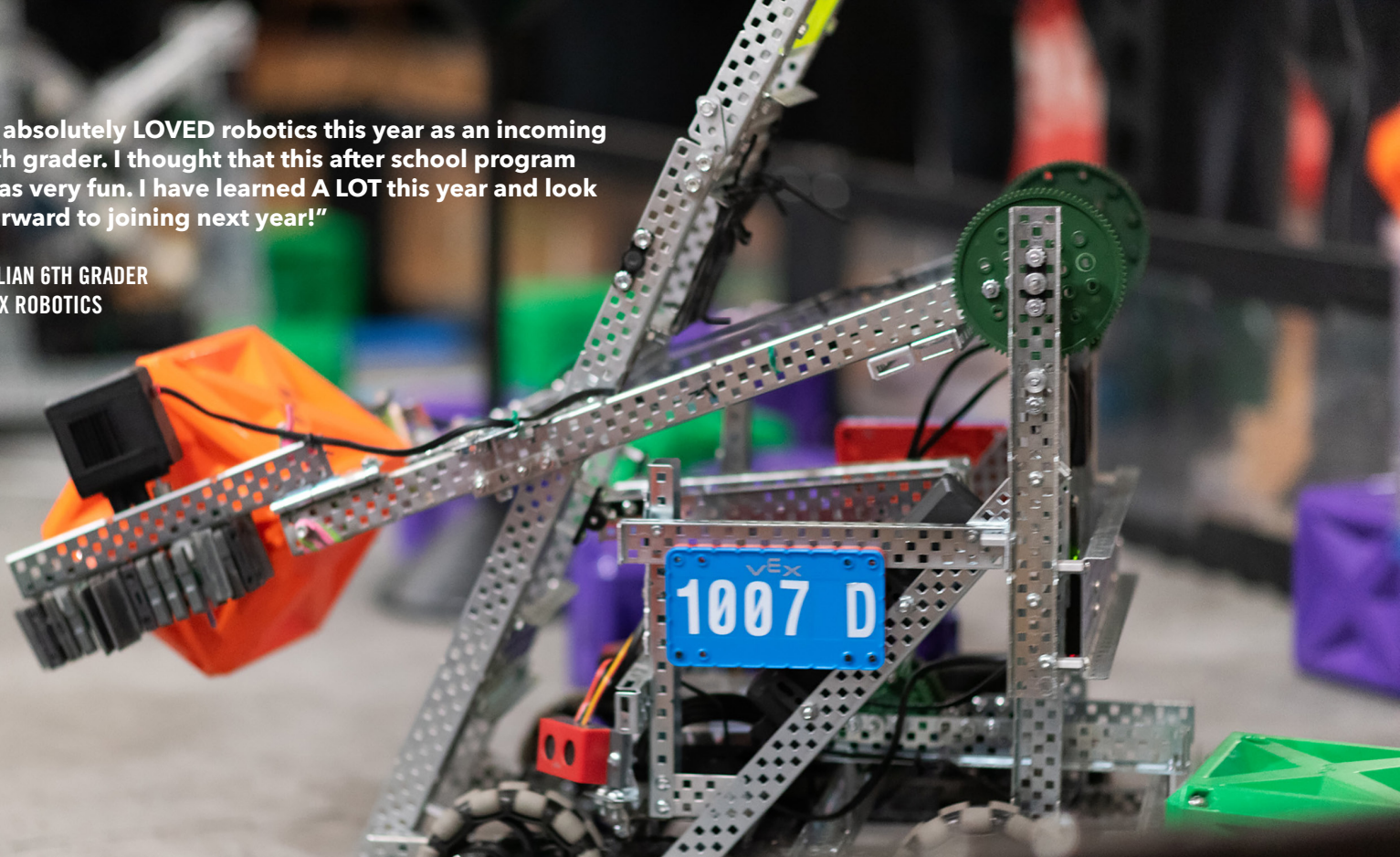
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"I absolutely LOVED robotics this year as an incoming 6th grader. I thought that this after school program was very fun. I have learned A LOT this year and look forward to joining next year!"

**JULIAN 6TH GRADER
VEX ROBOTICS**



"I think that Vex is a wonderful experience that everyone should partake in, at least once. It is creative, hands-on problem solving, which is just a lot of fun and it teaches so much."

**JULIAN 8TH GRADER
VEX ROBOTICS**

"I learned how to cooperate with others and I learned how to sketch an idea and pursue it."

**BROOKS STUDENT
VEX ROBOTICS**

"My kids were so excited to still have some BASE camp this summer. And Mrs. Buckley's zoom call with the NASA doctor had our whole family riveted."

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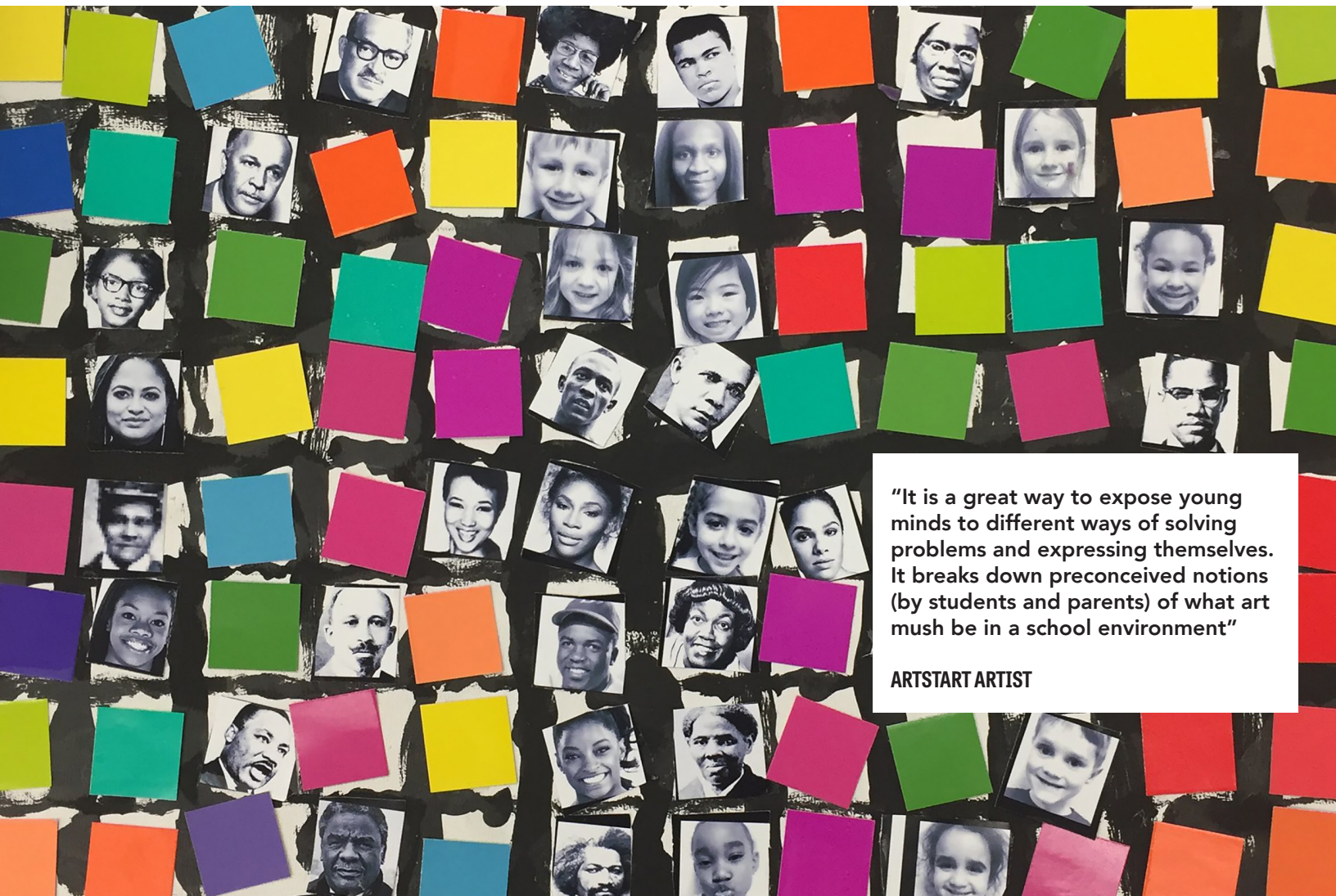
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"It is a great way to expose young minds to different ways of solving problems and expressing themselves. It breaks down preconceived notions (by students and parents) of what art must be in a school environment"

ARTSTART ARTIST

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"I learned how to have patience with the robot because programming takes time."

LEGO MINDSTORMS PARTICIPANT

"It was probably my first time coding, so I enjoyed figuring out how to get the robot to go, stop, say words etc."

LEGO MINDSTORMS PARTICIPANT



"This was great. Our daughter definitely spent more time constructively problem-solving and learning this summer thanks to the instruction and kits."

1ST GRADE PARENT



"I learned that sometimes it will take a long time to get it right."

LEGO MINDSTORMS PARTICIPANT



"Thanks for making an adaptation of BASE camp! We look forward to the day we can be together safely again, but this gave the kids joy to feel like it "wasn't totally cancelled" and get some new ideas for tinkering and creating."

3RD GRADE PARENT



"I learned so much this year in VEX, and made a bunch of new friendships. The team was a really positive community, and the emphasis on learning and growing was obvious."

JULIAN 8TH GRADER
VEX ROBOTICS

42

TEAMS COMPLETED AT OUR
ANNUAL BATTLE OF THE BOTS
ROBOTICS TOURNAMENT



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180

MILES WERE COVERED DURING THREE
WEEKS OF URBAN BIKER REIMAGINED



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