



Alice Ferguson Foundation
2018 ANNUAL REPORT

OUR MISSION

To connect people to the natural world, sustainable agricultural practices, and the cultural heritage of their local watershed through education, stewardship, and advocacy.

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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIRMAN



Dear Friends,

Another successful year is in the books. This year we celebrated a few milestones within our programs and facilities - Bridging The Watershed, Annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup, and Hard Bargain Amphitheater. Also in 2018, our iconic Farmhouse received some much needed renovations and a fresh coat of paint. With that, the landscape of our beautiful Farmhouse is whole again.

We refined our strategic plan, positioning ourselves for the next chapter of our beloved Alice Ferguson Foundation. With refreshed educational programming and new community events, we hope to strengthen our presence in the region.

It has been a privilege to serve as your Board Chairman for the last two years, and I am pleased to share that the Foundation is in its best financial position in some time. I thank our dutiful staff for their steadfast diligence and passion for living our mission of serving the community, especially children, here on the farm.

On behalf of the Board, I extend a warm welcome to all to come visit with us once again.

With gratitude,

Fredric T. Walls, II
Chairman, Board of Directors





Hands-on Learning

Alice Ferguson Foundation's education programs emphasize the scientific, environmental, and agricultural concepts students learn in their classrooms. We work with schools in Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia to provide students a variety of engaging and hands-on outdoor educational experiences through our three flagship programs.



Hard Bargain Farm Environmental Education Center

2,033 students, 82 programs

All the students who came to the farm this year learned scientific skills, explored the barnyard and shoreline, and had a whirlwind of an adventure. More than 700 5th grade students came from DC to be a part of a 3-day immersive learning experience.

Bridging The Watershed

5,600 students, 120 field studies

This year, we celebrated more than 20 years of programs in National and state parks across Maryland, DC, Virginia and West Virginia. We also continued to expand our programs, and ran 24 in-school programs with Charles County Schools, bringing field studies right into the classroom.



Trash Free Schools

1,200 students served

In 2018, we also began a program in Prince George's County high schools to train students to be Watershed Leaders, with a focus on civic leadership and an awareness of human impact on the world around them.



Milestones & Celebrations

For the Alice Ferguson Foundation, 2018 was a year of milestones. Not only did we celebrate our 20th Anniversary of our outreach program, Bridging The Watershed, but we also marked our 30th Potomac River Watershed Cleanup and 80 years of art and theater in our beloved outdoor amphitheater. Even as we celebrate these milestones, we look forward to sharing and celebrating future decades of education, inspiration, and innovation with our students and community.

20 years of Bridging The Watershed



Founding members Julia Washburn, Kay Powell, Maggie Zadorozny and Nancy Smaroff. Not pictured: Karen Miles.

For more than two decades now, the Alice Ferguson Foundation has partnered with the National Park Service and area schools, to promote student learning, personal connections with the natural world, lifelong civic engagement, and environmental stewardship through its Bridging The Watershed program. Since its inception in 1998, this program has engaged more than 70,000 students through science in the great outdoors

at 19 participating parks in the District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia.

A special celebration was held at Rock Creek Park to honor the program's 20th anniversary. The event recognized the founding members of the program for their outstanding contributions and featured Julia Washburn, superintendent of Rock Creek Park; Tom Medema, Acting Associate Director of Interpretation, Education &

Volunteers with the National Park Service; local school officials and program alumni.

At the conclusion of the celebration, students from Theodore Roosevelt High School and Gonzaga College High School participated in two school-favorite program activities: *Water Canaries*, in which they investigated macro-invertebrates from the creek, and *Watershed Watchdogs*, a hands-on water-quality assessment. Adults joined in to watch and participate too.



30 *years of the* Potomac River Cleanup

The Alice Ferguson Foundation has spearheaded the annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup since 1989. The Cleanup has grown from a small shoreline cleanup at Piscataway National Park to a watershed wide network spanning Maryland, Virginia, the District of Columbia, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania. One of the largest regional events of its kind, the Potomac Cleanup

provides a transforming experience that engages residents and community leaders and generates a momentum for change.

Since 1989 the Potomac River Watershed Cleanup has engaged 150,000+ volunteers, collaborated with 500+ community partners, and most importantly, prevented more than 7 million pounds of trash from entering the Potomac River.



80 *years of the* Hard Bargain Amphitheater

In the early 1930s, Henry and Alice Ferguson built an amphitheater in a natural ravine at Hard Bargain Farm. The original stage was merely a half circle of concrete laid in what used to be a gravel pit.

The Fergusons used this place to gather with friends, dressing up in elaborate costumes and putting on a spontaneous play for their own amusement. Henry Ferguson leased the theater to the Alice Ferguson Foundation in 1956.

In 1966, a loose group of theater-loving amateurs started the Hard Bargain Players. They built a full-length wooden stage in 1967.

The Players remained a strong performing group until the early nineties, ultimately deciding to end performances. However, in 1996 Bob Bartlett revived the energy of the Hard Bargain Players, evolving into a very successful troupe, reaping many awards within Community

Theater of the greater Washington area.

The Amphitheater received a few renovations in 2018 including an improved drainage system and new signage. Today, the Amphitheater hosts theater and concert performances, children's summer camps, and other arts mediums.



2018 TOTALS

 300+
Cleanups

 9,744
Volunteers

 346,444
Pounds of Trash





Farmhouse Restoration

In 2018, the Ferguson Farmhouse received much needed repairs and a fresh coat of paint. We restored rotted window frames, replaced sill rot along the foundation and roofline of the farmhouse and outbuildings, repaired the chimney and replaced bricks damaged in the 2011 earthquake. Some much needed repairs to the stormwater drainage system. This work helps preserve our historic buildings for future generations.

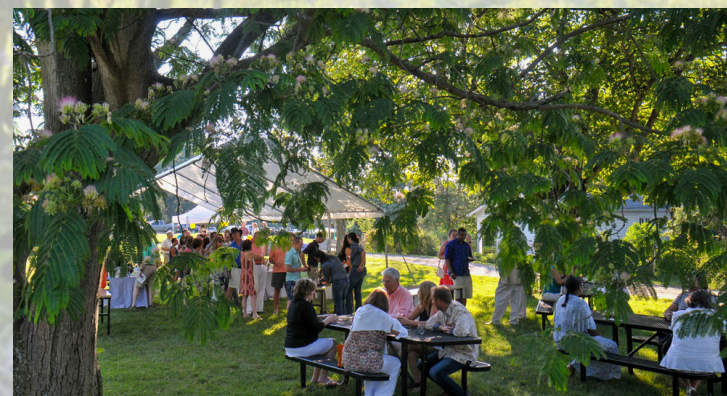
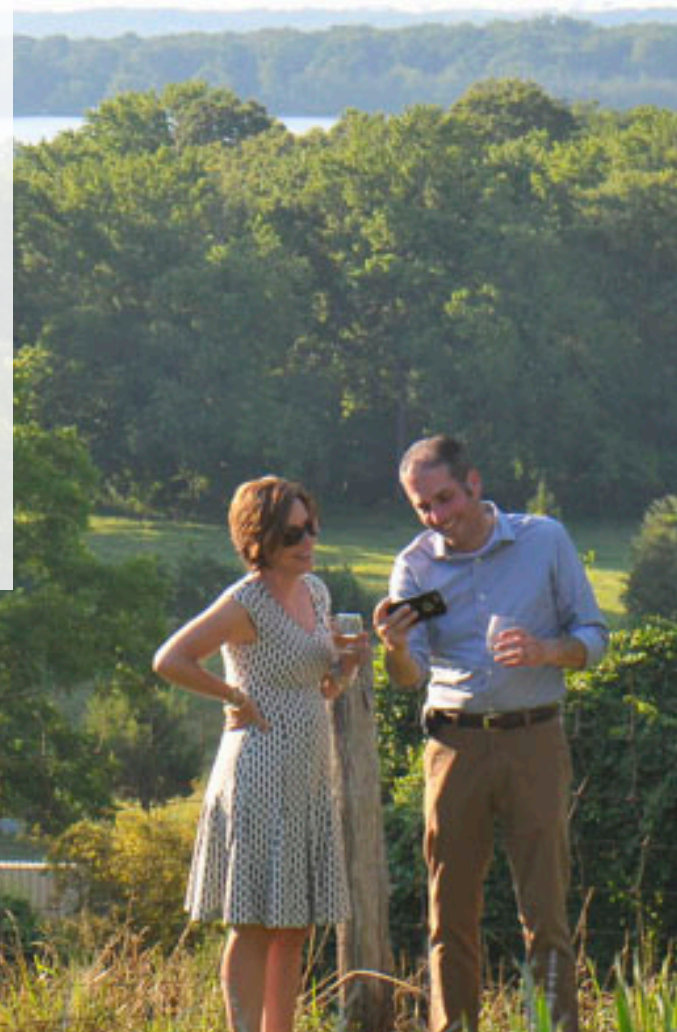
BEFORE



AFTER

Bring your special day to the Farm

Starting in 2018, we've expanded our rental options to include weddings, corporate retreats, and family events. The perfect historic space is just a few miles south of DC, nestled along the shores Potomac River in Maryland's Prince George's County.



Connect With Us!

DAYS OF SERVICE & VOLUNTEERING



Volunteer at the Farm

Donations of time, talent and materials are always welcome and help defray the cost of our programming. Volunteering is a rewarding way to connect with the local community, give back and support life-changing programs.



Corporate Days of Service

Local organizations and companies can enjoy a day of team-building and employee engagement, all while supporting a great cause and engaging in a variety of volunteering and educational activities.



Community Cleanups

Each year, we support more than 300 cleanup events and 10,000 volunteers across the region. Be part of the movement. Take action for clean land, safe water, and healthy lives with us.

BIG THANKS TO OUR CORPORATE CHAMPIONS

MGM National Harbor
MOM's Organic Market

Old Line Bank

SA Tech

United Ministers Coalition
of Southern Maryland

TATA Global Beverages

Eight O'Clock Coffee

Buck Distributing

Greater Prince George's County
Business Roundtable

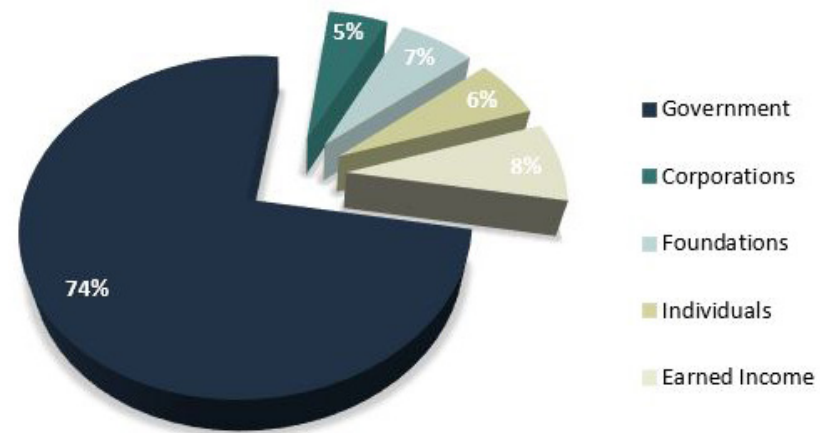
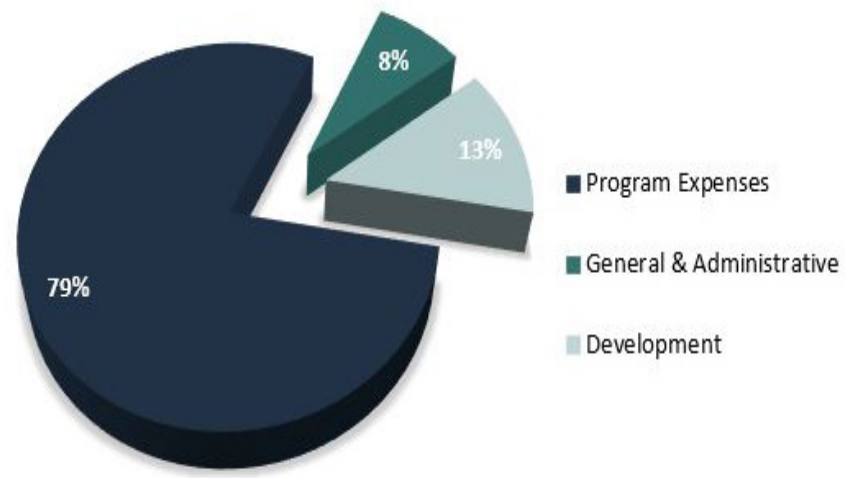
G.S. Proctor & Associates
Pepco Holdings

Prince George's Community College
Rodgers Consulting
Washington Gas

Follow Us



EXPENSES



REVENUE

2018 Financials



Does your company participate in workplace giving? Our Combined Federal Campaign (EarthShare) number is 62564.



Support Hands-on Programs

Support from donors like you allow us to keep a large part of our programs free for the public school students who might not otherwise be able to afford field trip fees. Help keep our programs within reach with a gift today.



Giving for the Future

A legacy gift is a meaningful way to show your appreciation and support for the Foundation and its mission while accommodating your own personal, financial, and philanthropic goals.



Community of Support

Join our community of friends. Become a sustaining donor and make a lasting impact on the Foundation and the programs that, over the last six decades, have inspired generations.



SUPPORT & MEMBERSHIP



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