For ORT, 2017 is characterized as a year of impact made by possible by our visionaries. By definition, a visionary is a person who thinks about and plans for the future with both imagination and wisdom. At ORT, visionaries come in many forms—all united by a shared goal of realizing change for students around the world. ORT visionaries are lifetime supporters, they are emerging leaders who have just begun their journey to effect change, they are teachers committed to transforming lives, and they are students who envision a brighter future.

ORT visionaries understand the power of education to transform lives, and generously step forward to ensure that underserved young people around the world have an opportunity to realize their full potential. Our focus on academic excellence through Jewish enrichment curricula, along with science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) instruction empowers students to expand knowledge, build autonomy, and strengthen Jewish identity. With generosity from our donors, ORT’s global educational network, schools, colleges, and international programs reach more than 300,000 people in 37 countries worldwide.

We are delighted to share our 2017 annual report. As you peruse its pages, we hope you will be inspired when you discover the impact our collective vision has made possible throughout the last year, and uncover the tangible transformation that we can continue to achieve together.

Thank you for your support.

Jeffrey Cooper
Chief Executive Officer

Larry Kadis
National President

Howard Lanzman
Chair, Executive

A New Generation of ORT Visionaries Draw Inspiration from Israel

In March, ORT America hosted a transformative Next Gen Mission to Israel for 16 young professionals from the U.S., between the ages of 25-45. Recognized as visionaries in their own right, mission participants were selected as a result of their demonstrated leadership in Jewish philanthropy and passion for raising the visibility of ORT’s work. As part of their Israel experience, Next Gen leaders visited World ORT Kadima Mada (Science Journey) schools and discovered firsthand how ORT education expands opportunity for thousands of students in Israel’s periphery, giving undererved youth and young adults the tools they need to develop careers.
The ORT America Mission to Israel May 16-24 brought leaders together from across the U.S. to experience the wonder of Israel, see the dynamic programs of World ORT Kadima Mada (Science Journey), and attend the World ORT General Assembly.

Led by ORT national President Larry Kadis, the group visited schools in the World ORT Kadima Mada educational network at Hodayot and Kfar Hassidim youth villages, where mission participants met students and learned how innovative programs enrich their educational process. Participants experienced YOUniversity in Nazeret, a popular after-school program with an interactive format; they toured Tel Hai College near the border with Lebanon and part of the World ORT Kadima Mada Technological Colleges network, where the practical engineering study tracks give young adults skills for the current job market; and they experienced Mada Park (Science Park) in Kiryat Yam, another World ORT Kadima Mada project that makes science, astronomy and oceanography accessible to students of all ages. World ORT Kadima Mada focuses on expanding access to high-quality education in under-resourced areas of Israel, and thousands of Israelis benefit from its programs.

The mission concluded with the World ORT General Assembly (GA) attended by supporters from around the world, with the election of Dr. Conrad Giles as President. At the GA, Reuven Rivlin, the President of Israel and Likud Knesset member (MK) Benny Begin were generous in their praise of ORT, and Labor MK Erel Margalit regarded World ORT work in Israel as “phenomenal.”
A SHARED VISION FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE: MEET ORT STUDENTS REALIZING THEIR VISION

Award Winning ORT Students in Moscow

For award-winning fifth graders Ruslan and Dmitry—students at the Moscow ORT Technology School—achieving recognition at the City Science and Research Technology conference is the embodiment of their hard work and commitment to learning. Their ORT teacher, Boris Bronstein, sums up the advantages of an ORT education, "Many of our students participate in conferences, sharing their developments. The ORT network provides everything for students in our school to develop their thinking and ingenuity."

Ruslan (top) won First Prize for his belt transmission project, and Dmitry (bottom) received mention for Most Meaningful Presentation for his mechanism and piston motor project.

Exploring the World of Physics After School

Yakir is a 14-year-old currently in his fourth year at the World ORT Kadima Mada YOUUniversity Center of Excellence, an after-school program in Nahariya, Israel, which provides him with an academic advantage at his regular school. "In my physics course at YOUUniversity, I learned about gravitational potential energy and kinetic energy in missiles and rockets. You will not see a teacher doing these types of demonstrations at school. We learn things in an experiential way at YOUUniversity," says Yakir.

“In the YOUUniversity physics course on combustion and material properties, one sees different processes that you don’t see at school.” –YAKIR
Improving Hebrew Fluency and Expanding Career Opportunities

As part of the World ORT Kadima Mada (Science Journey) educational network, the Yeshiva Abir Yaakov Religious High School in Nahariya, Israel, serves 300 students. Many students are olim (new immigrants to Israel), who come from economically challenged families. A new industrial literacy course for eleventh graders helps new olim advance in Hebrew.

"The program was interesting and very helpful, and it improved my Hebrew, which wasn’t good enough for studying in Israel. I’ll consider working in the industrial sector after army service," shared Joseph, who made Aliyah from India.

Fostering an Environment of Gratitude

Sagiv, 17, is a twelfth grader at Rabin High School in Kiryat Yam, Israel. As part of his school’s curriculum, Sagiv served as a volunteer paramedic for Magen David Adom. The experience was so transformational for Sagiv, he continued his volunteer work, even after he completed the requirement. Applying what he learned about partnership, teamwork, and creative thinking, Sagiv later organized a Rosh Hashanah food drive at school to help families in need.

Valuing Diversity in Kfar Silver

The diverse student body at Kfar Silver, part of the World ORT Kadima Mada (Science Journey) educational network, provides an opportunity to teach respect and build self-confidence. For Salah, a Kfar Silver tenth grader from Rahat, the largest Bedouin city in Israel, appreciation for diversity is part of his educational experience.

"Students come from various places. I learned about Jewish holidays here, and the other students learned about my holidays," shares Salah.

Improving Hebrew Fluency

Accelerating Artistic Ability

Maria Eliza, a sixth grader at Tekhiya ORT School in Moscow, is passionate about art and attributes her success to her ORT education.

"Last year my art exhibition was organized at school, and I appreciate the help of my school in developing my artistic ability. We have intelligent teachers, good security, beautiful walls and state-of-the-art technology."

Recently, Maria Eliza participated in the Assembly Art exhibition at the Russian Academy of Arts, taking Third Place in the Teen category.

Valuing Diversity in Kfar Silver

Getting to know Maria Eliza

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Eleventh and twelfth graders from Ulpanat Bikat HaYarden, part of the World ORT Kadima Mada educational network, participated on the Masa Israeli expedition, in which they explored different areas of Israel and learned about its communities, history and character. Adi, a twelfth grader, shares her experience, “I returned with a stronger love for my homeland and my people. No matter how different we all are, we are all one united nation.”

Being active in Jewish life is important to Bella, a tenth grader at the ORT Gesher School in Samara, Russia. Bella notes, “I’m fond of Hebrew, the history of the Jewish people and Jewish culture. My school gives me the spirit and understanding of my Jewish background community.” Bella joined 250 children from Russia and Belarus at a Grand Shabbaton in Moscow, where she addressed the group about her love of Jewish holidays. “The education I get at the Gesher School makes dreams come true,” says Bella.

“Forming the best Jewish school – whether in Samara, Moscow or St Petersburg – couldn’t happen without ORT’s support: Not just financial support – also learning support, pedagogical support, strategic support and mental support, like this seminar.”

ORT’s global networking programs like the LEAD Seminar (Leadership in Education, Administration and Development) increase opportunities for ORT educators to connect, exchange ideas and share best practices. As Principal of the ORT Samara School in Moscow, Julia Gengut manages 40 teachers and 20 technical staff, whose leadership continues to evolve because of LEAD. During her experience, Julia met educators from 13 countries, all of whom encountered similar experiences—sharing a common vision for a brighter future.
ORT operates training programs for teachers through its global educational network. Sonya Borodova, a Hebrew and Jewish Traditions Teacher at the Kazan ORT Mishpahteinu School in Russia, attended the World ORT Naomi Prawer Kadar Seminar on digital technology. Participants learned current digital technology skill-building, and cutting-edge pedagogical approaches. “We worked in a creative, informal atmosphere to learn technology,” noted Sonya.

Syuzanna Khachatryan, an Informatics and Technology teacher at Kiev ORT Educational Complex, is proud of the academic excellence that helps students thrive at ORT in Ukraine. Students in the Kiev school excel with access to comprehensive instruction, extra-curricular tutoring, and the opportunity to participate in local and international competitions. “ORT helps provide new programs and involves the best teachers in the region. Each student gets care and knowledge, but in ORT schools, we provide additional modern thinking and input,” said Syuzanna.

Participants observed first-hand what makes ORT exemplary in education

As part of an ORT Mission to Russia in September, steadfast ORT supporters visited ORT schools in St. Petersburg and Moscow to see ORT’s work in action. ORT schools in the former Soviet Union (FSU) provide a robust STEM curriculum paired with Jewish studies and Jewish celebrations, attended by students and their families. “It was a joy to be in a place where Judaism thrives and innovative education paves the way for independent, successful lives,” said Barbara Siegel, a participant on the ORT Mission.

The group learned how ORT enriches Jewish life in Russia through its community-building initiatives. “ORT schools weren’t functioning during the Soviet era. It’s been a relatively short time, but ORT schools have come a long way,” said Joyce Croft, an ORT Mission participant. Establishing a connection with Jewish traditions and helping revitalize the Jewish population, following decades when Jewish identity eroded under the Soviet regime. Gail Lanznar was enthusiastic about her experience, noting, “We saw how we’re bringing back Jewish communities. You put a goal together and it happens!”

The mission let ORT supporters see first-hand what’s been done, meet the students and have a tangible understanding of the good work ORT is doing in the former Soviet Union,” said Larry Kadis, ORT America National President. “We’re giving young people a real opportunity. The job market is strong for high-tech industries, and ORT is giving them that chance,” he shared.

“Visionaries in Russia: An ORT Mission to Visit Thriving Jewish Communities”

Photos by Howard Lanznar
A UNITED VISION DEFINES ORTS

Founded in St. Petersburg, Russia in 1880, ORT was established to help improve the situation of impoverished Jews by providing job training in a variety of disciplines. ORT evolved over the years, and since its inception, millions of individuals have benefited from an ORT education.

ORT is operational in 37 countries, serving over 300,000 people annually. ORT programs focus on STEM instruction, and Jewish enrichment while providing state-of-the-art facilities, resources and innovative pedagogical methods to enhance the operations of many partner and affiliated educational institutions. In addition, ORT offers training for teachers, infrastructure development and curriculum guidance. In many countries, ORT acts as a model from which governments shape their national educational systems; in others, ORT schools are known for their excellence, and for offering a comprehensive STEM curriculum paired with Jewish studies, driven by humanistic values.

The ORT mission of helping people become self-sufficient through education is based on Jewish humanitarian concepts and the principle of tikkun olam (– repairing the world) through acts of kindness and generosity. Our work ensures that the next generation will thrive in the 21st-century and make the world a better place.

RAISING FUNDS FOR PRIORITY PROJECTS

These operations rely on contributions to further their programs and are the focus of ORT America’s fundraising activities.

IN ISRAEL
World ORT Kadima Mada (Science Journey) enhances education for thousands in Israel’s peripheral communities through its programs in 200 affiliated schools and within 35 hospitals that emphasize STEM instruction and humanistic values.

The Educational Network encompasses Kfar Silver and Kfar Hassidim Youth Villages, the school in Hodayot Youth Village, Yeshiva Abir Yaakov, and the Levinson and Rabin schools in Kiryat Yam, where students from challenging backgrounds benefit from nurturing care and programs designed to improve their academic standing.

The Technical Colleges Network Colleges in Beersheva, Tel Hai and at Lake Kineret offer study tracks in practical engineering and other disciplines that give students knowledge and hands-on training for careers in high-tech industries.

YOUniversity Centers of Excellence: An after-school program for students of all ages, offers STEM courses and other subjects to supplement the standard academic program. Collaborative instruction, dynamic projects and competitions make YOUniversity an exciting learning venue.

Future Learning Spaces: ORT envisions the installation of 200 of these state-of-the-art settings across Israel, particularly in under-resourced areas. With large screens, computers, 3D printers and a flexible environment, students advance through collegial interaction and customized learning sequences.

Pedagogical Innovation through Research and Development: This division manages the implementation of innovative methods and curricula that change the educational landscape in Israel through educational opportunities in under-resourced areas designed to rival those in the thriving center of Israel.

IN THE FORMER SOVIET UNION
The ORT educational network serves more than 28,000 people. 16 ORT Jewish day schools provide top-level STEM and Jewish studies instruction, host Jewish cultural celebrations, and develop awareness of Jewish heritage and identity. ORT vocational training centers help thousands obtain competencies for meaningful careers.

The de Gunzburg School in St. Petersburg, Russia: This ORT flagship institution offers a comprehensive STEM curriculum paired with Jewish studies. Government funded, the de Gunzburg School and the other day schools in the ORT network rely on contributions to continue the ORT program that ensures their prestige in local communities.

ORT INTERNATIONAL NETWORKING PROGRAMS
The international networking segment expands education beyond borders, encourages connections between ORT schools, students and teachers, and offers high-level pedagogical training for educators.

For Students: ORT global networking programs include The Ecology Summer School in Panama for students from Latin America, the World ORT Digital Skills Academy Media Studies in Bulgaria for students from the former Soviet Union, Israel and Europe, and the Weizmann Institute Summer School in Israel, attended by students from around the world. ORT also offers scholarships.

For Teachers: ORT sponsors professional development seminars for educators with an in-depth immersion in selected topics such as leadership, management and implementing technology in teaching.
The generosity of donors fulfills crucial needs of World ORT priority projects. ORT America Major Gifts Society members have the opportunity to designate a gift at a specific ORT program or facility. Members receive invitations to ORT America events and briefings with top-level officials; are welcomed for an on-site tour if visiting their beneficiary program or project; can receive an update on the result of their contribution; can receive acknowledgement in any local ORT America event collateral where donors are mentioned; and receive recognition in the ORT America annual report.

MAJOR GIFT SOCIETY LEVELS

**VISIONARY**

$100,000+

Includes membership in the World ORT 1880 Society

Established in 2005 in honor of the 125th anniversary of ORT, and reflecting the year ORT was founded by Nikolai Bakst, Samuel Poliakov and Baron Horace Gunzburg, the World ORT 1880 Society is comprised of donors worldwide who have contributed a minimum of $100,000 to the organization.

**INNOVATOR**

$5,000 - $9,999

De Gunzburg Society

Named in memory of a founding family of ORT, this Society honors donors who have included ORT America in their legacy through charitable gift annuities, charitable trusts, pooled income funds and life insurance policies, or who have declared their intention to leave a bequest to ORT America.

Heritage Club

This is a segment of the de Gunzburg Society, for supporters with planned gift endowments of $50,000 or more.

The Guardian Society

In recognition of those who have been involved with ORT for 25 years or more, this Society includes a large number of members who have been active with ORT for over 50 years and who are proudly recognized at ORT America national and local events.

**IDEALIST**

$25,000 - $49,999

Named in honor of a founding family of World ORT, this Society recognizes donors who have provided a significant gift to further ORT’s mission.

**TRAILBLAZER**

$10,000 - $19,999

Named for its members’ contributions to the future of ORT’s work, this Society recognizes donors who have provided a significant gift to further ORT’s mission.

**PIONEER**

$7,500 - $9,999

Named in honor of a founding family of World ORT, this Society recognizes donors who have provided a significant gift to further ORT’s mission.

**BUILDER**

$5,000 - $6,999

Named in honor of a founding family of World ORT, this Society recognizes donors who have provided a significant gift to further ORT’s mission.

We gratefully recognize these donors, as well as the contributions of those who wish to remain anonymous.

### MAJOR GIFTS SOCIETY ($5,000 and above)

Henry and Etta Raye Hirsch

Heritage Foundation, Inc.

The Still and Perlmutter Families

Marilyn Thybin

The Panofka Family Fund

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Shirley Mosinger

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Suburban Motors Company, Inc.

Julian E. Yudelson

Anonymous

Andi and Lawrence A. Wolfs

$10,000 - $24,999

Sonia Appell

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Golsha and Nathaniel D. Berlin

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Cavaliers Operating Co., LLC

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Julie Cole-Crone and

Marvin Cole-Crone

Marvin and Betty Danto

Family Foundation

Ann and Jay M. Davis

Martin Elias

Mina and Irving Engelson

Judith S. and Philip Erdberg

Barbara and Roy Felder

Reese Feldman

Jody Forchheimer and Louis Kaplow

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| $250,000 | Amraai Construction | Deborah & Steve Rosenthal | Detroit Fine Art Appraisal | Four Corners Specialized Home Care | Golnick Pediatric Dentistry | David D. Kahn Philanthropic Fund | Reversible Co. | Somerset Collection | The Forbes Company | William & Audrey Farber | Family Foundation | Anonymous |
While this list reflects donors at the $500 level and above, we would like to thank all our donors for their ongoing support and a very successful year.

Although this list was carefully appraised, ORT America extends its regrets, in advance, for any oversight in its lists.

World ORT 1880 Society
De Gunzburg Society
Heritage Club

305 Fitness

Alamo Drafthouse
Amanda Tanaska Photography
B & May
Baked Baking Coach
Ben’s Deli
Blant’s Slate
Bradford Portraits
Breuckelen Distilling
Brick NY
Brooklyn Botanic Garden
Brooklyn Brinery
Brooklyn Brewery
Bungalow Hotel
Casa Pistoia
Capital Grille
Chaise Fitness
Coast Jacks
Coney Island Brewery
Core Pilates
Cyc Fitness
Detroit Lions
Disney
Donut Bar
Equinox
Elder Automotive
EVF Crossfit
Fabulous Events
Flywheel
Harbes Family Farm
Harrah’s Atlantic City
Herc or Wain
Joe Coffee
Joy Drafus Photography
Kore Fitness

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Li-Lac Chocolates
Martha Clara Vineyard
Modem Pinball
Monty’s Boat
Muray’s Cheese
Muse Paint Bar
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NY Jets
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Palmer Vineyards
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Rahne Method
Revolve
Robb Report
Saks Fifth Avenue
SoulCycle
South Street Seaport Museum
Star Trek Events
Sutton East Tennis Club
Swine Fitness
Sykes Internation

Tappers Diamonds & Fine Jewelry
Taste Buds Kitchen
Tavern on the Green
Tax Strategists
The Aris House
The Pita Post
The Vineyard
Tito’s Handmade Vodka
Tone House
Tone-E Films
Two Little Red Heads
Upright Citizens Brigade
Van Brunt Stillhouse
Via
Widow Jane
YoFlesh
Yoga 216
Yoga Room
YOUR SUPPORT IS INSTRUMENTAL TO ORT

Thanks to generous contributions, ORT initiatives enrich and empower more than 300,000 individuals worldwide. You can make a meaningful difference by contributing in a variety of ways:

Make an immediate donation via ORTamerica.org or by calling 800-590-7088 or by sending your check to ORT America, 75 Maiden Lane, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10038 or to your local ORT America office.

Set up a recurring gift on ORTamerica.org.

Make a pledge, allowing ORT America to plan for the future. Pledges are due December 31 and can be paid in full, monthly or quarterly.

Establishing Planned Gift Annuities, bequests, legacies, charitable trusts and life insurance policy designations are just some of the options for funding ORT America programs. For more information about Planned Gifts, please contact the Planned Giving Department at 212.547.9152 or plannedgiving@ORTamerica.org.

Explore a matching gift through your employer. Many companies offer a matching gift program for charitable giving; please inquire with your human resources department.

Become a corporate sponsor and receive recognition of your company at a local ORT event.

Get Involved! Serve on an event planning committee, take part in local chapter activities, and participate on an ORT America mission to see our programs in action.

We welcome all contributions and are grateful for our donors.

FINANCIAL REPORT
ORT America, Inc. Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUES

<table>
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<th>Description</th>
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<td>Membership dues</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legacies</td>
<td>11,785,407</td>
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<td>Investment gain</td>
<td>1,327,648</td>
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<tr>
<td>Income from real estate partnership</td>
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<tr>
<td>Change in value of split-interest agreements</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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EXPENSES

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<td>End of year</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Paul Borman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>141,715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets released from restrictions</td>
<td>(2,061,310)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total public support and revenues</strong></td>
<td><strong>24,436,378</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ORT schools and grants</td>
<td>8,629,206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National activities</td>
<td>4,247,061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications and marketing</td>
<td>479,031</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total program services</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,355,298</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and general</td>
<td>1,146,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>979,178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total support services</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,125,278</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total expenses before other items</td>
<td>15,480,576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Change in net assets before other items</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,955,802</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other items</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pension and other postretirement-related charges</td>
<td>(306,399)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in net assets</td>
<td>8,649,403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beginning of year</td>
<td>12,942,896</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of year</td>
<td>$21,592,299</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ORT provides educational programs relevant to the technology-driven 21st-century and a competitive employment market, enriching thousands of people on five continents.

Since 1880, ORT initiatives have taken individuals from education to vocation, providing youth with a solid academic foundation and young adults with practical training and knowledge to develop meaningful careers. Optimal teaching environments and quality instruction prepare ORT students for bright outcomes, and ORT shapes the world for a better future, facilitated by contributions from our generous donors.