As I complete the first year of my two-year term as President of the Board of Trustees, I am optimistic about the future of the Architectural Foundation of Cincinnati and the direction we have set for the organization. This year has been marked by both financial and organizational challenges, and the work the Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees has done will help the AFC move forward in a stronger position, ever mindful of our purpose:

TO HELP PEOPLE DISCOVER
AND EXPERIENCE-
THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF DESIGN

Our first challenge was to stabilize the AFC's financial position by implementing new requirements for our Trustees and incorporating them into our Code of Regulations. Trustees now have a responsibility to give or get contributions to the AFC each year with recognition for volunteer and in-kind contributions. We took advantage of this change to update the Code of Regulations addressing today's technology and how we communicate.

While this was happening, we continued to grow our in-school education program: Design LAB: Learn And Build. Under the leadership of our Education Director, Christen Lubbers, the AFC was able to reach over 2,000 students in more than 100 classrooms throughout the Greater Cincinnati area with 80+ professional volunteers going into these classrooms and working directly with the students. We continue to refine this program to make a difference in these students' lives by teaching them “design thinking” and raising their awareness about the possibilities of careers in the design, architecture, and construction professions.

We also continued to offer our legacy programs that included the following:

- The Apple Award Gala honored Otto M. Budig, Jr., President of the Otto M. Budig Family Foundation and President of the Budco Group for his contributions to the community and leadership in the renovation of Music Hall as well as his support of numerous other arts organizations.
- We conducted construction tours of two projects at the Cincinnati Zoo and three new buildings on the University of Cincinnati Campus including the new College of Business designed by Henning Larson Architects, the Gardner Neuroscience Institute and the Health Sciences Building, both by Perkins + Will.
- We offered an architectural tour of Columbus, Indiana, the mecca for modern architecture created by its architectural patron, J. Irwin Miller, former President and Chairman of Cummins Engine.
- We conducted a roundtable on an important topic for the future of Cincinnati: affordable housing in transitional communities addressing the challenges posed by the significant renovations that have occurred in Over the Rhine.
- We expanded the content of our architectural walking tour app, ArchiTour Cincinnati, and grew it to include 8 self-guided walking tours.

One of the most significant accomplishments the Architectural Foundation of Cincinnati realized was to change our focus to attract a younger audience to the foundation’s activities. In 2018, we introduced a new program, SEEK CINCY. This program was an architectural scavenger hunt that was both informative and fun. Participating teams of 5 had 2 hours to identify as many buildings and places as they could from a list of 50 clues. Each team had to go to that location and document it by photographing the team at the location and posting it on Instagram. The event was truly enjoyable for the participants while reminding them of why Cincinnati is such a great place to live. We are also investigating other competition opportunities that will engage a younger professional demographic in different ways.

So as I begin my second year as President of the Board, I do so believing we are making a difference in the community and helping the public understand how architecture and design contribute to the quality of life in Greater Cincinnati. We can only do so with the financial support of our Corporate Partners, members, and the organizations that have provided us grants to carry out our mission. Thank you to all who made the past year successful, and I look forward to even greater things in 2019.

Sincerely,

Lauren Della Bella
FINANCIAL SUPPORT

GRANTS

The Architectural Foundation of Cincinnati was the recipient of financial support for one or more of its programs from the following foundations:

- The Spirit of Construction Foundation provided a grant to support Design LAB: Learn And Build in the amount of $14,000.
- The Johnson Charitable Trust provided a grant to support Design LAB: Learn And Build in the amount of $500.
- The George & Margaret McLane Foundation in the amount of $1,000.

CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS

The following organizations were Corporate Partners of the Architectural Foundation of Cincinnati in 2017:

- Platinum Level ($5,000)
  - GBBN Architects
  - Hixson Architecture Engineering Interiors
  - Western & Southern / Eagle Realty
- Gold Level ($2,500)
  - CMIA Consulting Engineers
  - First Financial Bank
  - FRCH Design Worldwide
  - HGC Construction
  - Messer Construction
  - Oswald Company
  - Pioneer Cladding & Glazing Systems
  - RCF Group
  - SHP Leading Design
  - Turner Construction
- Silver Level ($1,500)
  - Graydon
  - Neyer Properties

IN-KIND DONATIONS

The following organizations provided in-kind donations to support the Design LAB: Learn And Build program:

- Curbell
- Mayhew & Pepper
- Plaza Art Supplies
- Public Library of Cincinnati
- UC College of Design Architecture Art & Planning

The following organization provided the use of their space as the headquarters for the SEEK CINCY event:

- Western & Southern

ANNUAL REPORT

CONTRIBUTIONS

The following organizations provided contributions to specific programs or activities of the AFC:

- Design LAB: Learn And Build
  - Champlin Architects
  - Cincinnati Museum Center
  - Hixson Architecture Engineering Interior Design
  - Paul Shirley
- SEEK CINCY
  - A359 Architects
- The AFC through the Apple Awards Gala
  - Stuart Aitken
  - Trish & Rich Bryan
  - Hilltop Basic Resources
  - Carl Kalnow
  - Diane & David Rosenberg
  - Towne Properties
  - Sarah Zamary

The following organizations provided corporate support to the AFC:

- Member ($75)
  - Denis Back
  - Lee Krombholz
  - Michael Mauch
  - Bryan Morales
  - Barb Neyer
  - Steve & Mindy Rosen
- Supporter ($100)
  - Julie Back
  - John Bentley
  - Donald Beck
  - Jay & Janet Chatterjee
  - James Fitzgerald
- Enthusiast ($250)
  - Ronald Bates
  - Michael Koch
  - Mark McKillip & Amira Beer
  - Tom Williams
- Patron ($500)
  - Michael Kelley
  - Mark McKillip & Amira Beer
  - Tom Williams

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for year ending December 31, 2018

ACTIVITIES

SUPPORT AND REVENUES

Events/programs $ 91,940
Memberships $ 3,975
Corporate Partnerships $ 50,000
Grants/gifts $ 21,215
Miscellaneous $ 0
TOTAL S&R $167,130

EXPENSES

Events/programs $ 57,012
Education $ 5,769
Administration $120,844
Development $ 1,161
Operations $ 14,264
Communications $ 2,195
TOTAL EXPENSES $201,245

Other Income/Expense
Interest/dividends $ 722
Realized gain/loss $ 3,263
Unrealized gain/loss $ -1,834
Depreciation $ 1,791
TOTAL OTHER $ 361

FINANCIAL POSITION

Current assets $ 70,305
Current liabilities $ 40,150
Temp Restricted funds $ 30,901
Unrestricted funds $ 33,008
Net income $ (33,754)

Compiled from statements prepared by Loftus & Loftus, CPA.
Design LAB: Learn And Build

Design LAB: Learn And Build completed its 22nd year in operation and the fourth consecutive year under the leadership of the AFC. The 2018 program theme was Food for Thought, and over 2,000 students in more than 100 classrooms participated in the program. More than 80 volunteers presented the students with the challenge to design a place of their choice where food is produced, prepared, sold or served. The projects ranged from gardens to restaurants to integrated farm-to-table places!

The Design LAB Exhibit at the Public Library of Cincinnati was one of the most successful under the AFC’s leadership. Students and their families were more engaged, and they had the opportunity to present their projects to design professionals and experience a critique of their designs.

The 2018-19 Design LAB project is underway, and this year’s theme is PushPlay. Students are being challenged to design spaces where people play.

PROGRAMS, ROUNDTABLES & TOURS

The AFC offered 7 programs and tours in 2018 that addressed a wide range of issues.

- On February 21, the AFC hosted a Corporate Partner event at Messer’s new offices. In addition to tours of the new facility, attendees heard a presentation on the status of the Uptown Development area provided by Beth Robinson from the Uptown Consortium.

- On March 22, the AFC provided a Construction Tour of the Gorilla Exhibit and the Wings of the World Exhibit at the Cincinnati Zoo.

- On April 18, the AFC tackled the issue of Affordable Housing in Over-the-Rhine with a panel discussion held at People’s Liberty. Participants included Mary Burke Rivers from Over The Rhine Community Housing, Mona Jenkins from Walnut Hills, David Thompson from Model Group, Chris Hikel from OTR, and Councilman David Mann. The roundtable was moderated by Allen Woods of MORTAR.

- On July 19, AFC supporters were given the opportunity to tour the new College of Business at UC designed by Henning Larsen Architects and KZF Design.

- On October 16, the AFC held the first SEEK CINCY event, an architectural scavenger hunt designed to engage the community in learning about architecture while having fun.

- On November 3, the AFC offered a bus trip and tour of Columbus, Indiana. The daylong event allowed participants to see over 40 buildings on the bus tour and to do a walking tour of 2 churches designed by Eiel and Eero Saarinen. After lunch at an iconic ice cream parlor and restaurant, attendees did a walking tour of the downtown Columbus area on their own.

The AFC continued to expand its architectural walking tour app that now offers 8 tours of downtown, Over the Rhine, Covington and the University of Cincinnati campus. This app is free and available through the App Store and GooglePlay.

THE APPLE AWARD GALA

The AFC held the 25th Apple Award Gala on May 23 honoring Otto M. Budig, Jr. for his vision and leadership in the renovation of Music Hall. Otto is a noted philanthropist who supports the arts throughout the Cincinnati area. Organizations that have benefited from his leadership and support include the Cincinnati Shakespeare Company, the Ensemble Theater, the Carnegie Arts Center, the Cincinnati Arts Association, the Cincinnati Art Museum, the Contemporary Arts Center, Playhouse in the Park, the Cincinnati Zoo, the Cincinnati Parks Board, and other organizations. The event was held in the Ballroom at Music Hall, and 300 guests enjoyed performances from the Cincinnati Ballet, the Cincinnati Shakespeare Company, and the Ensemble Theater as they enjoyed dinner.
2019 Board of Trustees

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Lauren Della Bella, LEED AP
SHP Leading Design

Vice President
Nicholas Proffitt
Messer Construction

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First Financial Bank

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GBBN Architects
Timothy Sharp
Megan Construction
James Stapleton
FRCH Design Worldwide
Charlie Thomas
Eagle Realty Group
Gregory Tilsley, AIA Cincinnati Rep
Tilsley Associates

The AFC is planning the following events in 2019. Some dates are tentative.

January 12
Great House Tour of the Boulter House in Clifton designed by Frank Lloyd Wright

April 27 through May 4
Design LAB Exhibit at the Public Library of Cincinnati

June 12
Apple Award Gala at Union Terminal

July 12
Court & Walnut Development/downtown Kroger Construction Tour

September 21
SEEK CINCY event at the AIA Ohio Valley Region Convention

October 12-13
Doors Open Cincy

November 21
Why Architecture Matters - a discussion of the significance of the Terrace Plaza Hotel

December 12
Corporate Partner Appreciation Event

The Architectural Foundation of Cincinnati is a 501(c)(3) philanthropic organization. Contributions are tax deductible.

Memberships begin at $75. Corporate Sponsorships begin at $500. Corporate Partnerships begin at $1,500.

Present and planned gifts are welcome. Please remember the AFC in you annual giving and estate plans.

Make checks payable to the Architectural Foundation of Cincinnati and mail to:
659 Van Meter St.
Suite 540
Cincinnati, OH 45202

For additional information about the AFC, please contact:
Christen Lubbers, LEED Green Assoc.
Executive Director