Dear Friends:

2020 will remain in our memories as a year when our health and our youth’s education took center stage. As we schooled our children in our homes, our own jobs changed amid an extraordinary economic downturn leading to increased automation and digital disruption.

In response, last March Touchstones undertook transformative work to bring digital content, training, and learning to over 200 teachers and professionals, more than 4500 students, women’s prison program volunteers, and more than 150 adults participating in new community initiatives. This enabled various schools and communities to continue learning, listening to each other, respecting others’ voices, and sharing responsibility for developing skills and improving lives. And it brought adults together in a new form of community. During a year of growing inequality, Touchstones worked tirelessly to offset that imbalance.

We made book sales to nearly a dozen new schools and districts, adding to tens of thousands of schools and organizations worldwide already using Touchstones. We raised $30,000 for teacher training scholarships and free and discounted school materials, thanks to a generous challenge gift from a former board member, the Board’s responsive match, and special support from donors. And notwithstanding the constrained finances of many Americans, we raised more than $235,000 in total contributions.

Such accomplishments are possible only through your generosity and commitment and the unceasing efforts and hard work of a dedicated staff and volunteers. I thank you and hope to thank many of you again in person—soon.

As you think about ways to strengthen our social fabric and improve our abilities to be responsible citizens, please remember Touchstones in your giving this year. Touchstones, with a boost from you, will give many a voice to be better learners and leaders—creating more tolerant and inclusive communities for all.

With warmest regards,
Debra Valentine
Vice-Chair
2021 Board of Directors

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**2020 Income and Expenses**

![Pie chart showing income and expenses categories]

**INCOME**

- **Fundraising**: 58%
- **K-12 Schools and Enrichment**: 18%
- **COVID**: 4%
- **Executive Programs**: 8%
- **Prison (MCIW & Volunteer Training)**: 8%
- **Executive Programs and New Business Development**: 14%
- **US School and Afterschool Programs**: 15%
- **International Schools**: 4%
- **Digital Books**: 5%
- **G&A - General**: 9%
- **Newsletter, Website, and Marketing**: 4%
- **Art (Sales, Exhibitions, Raffles, Programming)**: 6%
- **Adult Programs - Veterans Books & Community (Online)**: 8%
- **Executive Programs and New Business Development**: 14%
- **Art Programs**: 2%
- **K-12 Workshops**: 4%
- **Fundraising**: 14%
- **COVID**: 7%

**EXPENSES**

- **US School and Afterschool Programs**: 15%
- **K-12 Workshops**: 4%
- **Prison (MCIW & Volunteer Training)**: 8%
- **Executive Programs and New Business Development**: 14%
- **COVID**: 7%
- **Fundraising**: 14%
- **G&A - General**: 9%
- **Newsletter, Website, and Marketing**: 4%
- **Art (Sales, Exhibitions, Raffles, Programming)**: 6%

**Note**: Touchstones uses an accrual accounting method. These figures are not audited.

*Does not include pandemic relief loans received*

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**2020 Board of Directors**

- Kurt Redfield, *Chairman*
- Howard Zeiderman, *Vice Chair*
- Nicholas Maistrellis, *Secretary*
- Debra Valentine, *Treasurer*
- Laurie de Grazia, Garreth Heidt, Rachel Lewis, Ford Rowan, Gregg Steinberg

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**2020 in Review**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$235,000</th>
<th>$74,000</th>
<th>36</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Raised in Contributions &amp; Planned Gifts</td>
<td>Earned Income from Goods &amp; Services</td>
<td>Digital Volumes Produced</td>
<td>Year We’ll Never Forget</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As a newcomer serving incarcerated populations, the volunteer training, with its thoughtful dialogues and understanding of the trends and experiences of female inmates, was an excellent gateway to become more knowledgeable about the women I will meet and the importance of creating a safe, respectful community where such spaces are not guaranteed. —Eliza Poffenberger

18 free Saturday programs for 44+ adults
6 free art-discussion programs

In 2020, Completing the Odyssey, the veteran-led Touchstones program that explores issues in homecoming, was produced as a Leader’s and Participant’s Guide. Now, veterans everywhere have access to these books. We are looking forward to meeting in person, as virtual sessions have been difficult to impossible for many veterans. —Joe Smith

Completing the Odyssey: A Journey Home converted to print-on-demand Leader’s and Participant’s Guides for wide-scale replication

The Touchstones program will get you thinking about the ‘why’ when reading and learning new things. We often take a person or textbook point of view and never explore the ‘WHY.’ After completing this program, I started to ask more questions to gain a better understanding. —Noah H., 6th grader in MD

2 free summer camps
1 after school program
22 youth served from CA, MD, Ontario, NY, IL

As a newcomer serving incarcerated populations, the volunteer training, with its thoughtful dialogues and understanding of the trends and experiences of female inmates, was an excellent gateway to become more knowledgeable about the women I will meet and the importance of creating a safe, respectful community where such spaces are not guaranteed. —Eliza Poffenberger

10 volunteers trained
50 incarcerated women attended 14 classes

Participating in the Touchstones workshop a few weeks ago felt life changing and life affirming. The principles guiding and underlying the Touchstones program reflect my philosophy of teaching and learning. They are principles that I believe will change lives. —Patty Stark

129 participants attending
8 trainings
30 scholarship seats provided
4500+ students and
263 teachers accessing Touchstones digital materials online

Touchstones has made a meaningful difference among my managers. It was a pleasure to work with the Touchstones staff and we continue to use the tools they taught us to become better collaborators and to make sure all voices at the table are heard. I have and will continue to recommend them to my colleagues. —Patty Favreau

4 custom programs run with policy experts professionals, emergency & crisis managers, and professional executives
62 participants

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The Mount Desert Island Regional School System was looking for exactly what Touchstones provides: a structured way to teach and coach students to gain the skills for civic discourse. Despite the pandemic closing schools just as we were to have our first Touchstones workshop, we’ve engaged 50% of our middle and high school Social Studies teachers in training. Our teachers are continuing their coaching by Touchstones staff, whose flexibility and expertise helps us maintain momentum—despite masks, hybrid classrooms, and virtual coaching.

—Julie Meltzer

**What’s on Tap in 2021**

- Digitizing 7 Touchstones volumes in French
- Submitting a proposal to the NEH for a 2022 Summer Institute for social studies, history and civics teachers
- Launching a new executive program on modern poetry and 3 additional programs on modern fiction
- Using technology so teachers can observe Touchstones classes and Touchstones coaching sessions in larger groups
- Developing digital on-demand training modules so teachers everywhere have access to training
- Hosting another exciting art raffle
- Continuing our free community programming
- Getting back to programming with incarcerated adults

**Special Acknowledgments**

**Individuals**

- Jonathan Adams
- Anonymous (several)
- Geoffrey Comber, Jr.
- Donlin and Harriett Long Family Charitable Gift Fund
- Laurie de Grazia *
- Margreta de Grazia
- Garreth Heidt *
- Mary Pat Justice
- Rachel Lewis *
- Nicholas Maistrellis *
- Alpa Patel
- Ron Plante and Dan Hammond
- Kurt Redfield *

- Noelle and Philip Richmond
- Ford Rowan *
- Lisa Simeone and Timothy Munn
- Joan and Joe Smith
- Gregg Steinberg *
- Beth Stewart and Mikael Salovaara
- Sharon L Thomas and Randall S Cover Charitable Fund
- Linnea and George Takacs
- Stefanie Takacs
- The Alice Ericsson Fund
- Touchstones Advisory Board
- Debra Valentine *
- Joanne Valli-Meredith and Glen Meredith
- Jill Wilkinson
- Howard Zeiderman *

**Foundations**

- Anne Arundel Women Giving Together
- Greene-Milstein Family Foundation
- Jim and Patty Rouse Family Foundation
- Laurie Michaels Donor Fund at the Aspen Community Foundation

**In-Kind Donations**

- Nancy Ewert
- Neil Harpe
- B. Brett Heavner, Finnegan Law
- Sean Hutzell
- KRM BCR, LLC.
- Howard Zeiderman

Thank you to everyone who supports Touchstones!