

# What can I give?

The answer to that question is almost limitless. Licking County Foundation will work with you to create the most effective and meaningful vehicle that fits your interest and life. We've had donors choose to give us houses, land, stocks, IRA distributions, life insurance, and even an exotic luxury car! If you want to make a lasting legacy to the community, Licking County Foundation is the perfect starting point. And we do almost all of the work for you.

## The Foundation will help you:

- Name a fund for you, your family, to honor a loved one or remain anonymous.
- Provide current and/or permanent support for your favorite charities.
- Receive prompt gift acknowledgment and grant processing.
- Prepare timely grant research and due diligence.
- Provide annual gift planning and/or fund management consultation.
- Give you a comprehensive review of your giving and grant strategies.

## Here are some of the most popular vehicles for giving:

- **A bequest in your will** is a simple way to leave a lasting legacy.
- **A life insurance policy** can be changed to designate the Foundation as the owner and/or beneficiary for a policy.
- **Retirement fund accounts.** You can give all or part of these assets to the Foundation, both during your lifetime and/or after death.
- **Real estate** (land, primary residences, vacation homes, farmland, etc.) can be donated. The Foundation typically sells the real estate and the net proceeds capitalize a new fund or are added to an existing fund.
- **A Charitable Remainder Trust** allows you (or other named beneficiaries) to receive lifetime income. Upon your death the remaining principal creates a fund at the Foundation. You receive an immediate charitable deduction for a portion of the gift and avoid capital gains tax.
- **A Charitable Lead Trust** creates income for the Foundation for a specified period, after which the remaining principal is distributed to named beneficiaries. Gift and estate taxes are reduced with this type of gift.
- **Transfer of a private foundation** offers many advantages, including lower overhead, staff to assist with your charitable goals, and a higher tax deduction for any future gift, to name only a few.

## Let us help you create your legacy today.

Contact Connie Hawk at 740.349.3863 x105  
or [connie@thelcfoundation.org](mailto:connie@thelcfoundation.org)

*You are encouraged to work with your estate planning professional or tax advisor to determine the type of gift that is right for you and your family.*

## LICKING COUNTY FOUNDATION

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## Connect with us.



## CREATIVITY IN THE CLASSROOM

# Thank you from the 150 students of Room 116!



2012 Leaders for Learning Award honoree, Kimberly Garee, recently received a Leaders for Learning grant to purchase chair-shaped bean bags to add some variety to the seating in her classroom and offset the traditional desks. Kimberly teaches English at Northridge High School, and the school district is working toward a specific professional development goal this year regarding classroom design and learning space, based on leading educational research.

"The students used to claim that nothing about the way classrooms are set up mirrors the way they actually work when they're being productive... I was eager to shake things up for Generation Z and test how true studies really are about the work habits of young adults and real productivity," Mrs. Garee said. Feedback from the students has been positive:

*"This is how I write at home." "Wow. Someone finally listened." "I'm comfortable and feel at home. Now I just want to stay here and write."*

"Though it might seem like bean bag chairs are just a 'nice idea,' the difference in my students' attitudes about their work and their learning community in this room is amazing," Mrs. Garee shared. "Thank you for making my students (and, therefore, me) even happier every day in our teaching and learning endeavors."

## LICKING COUNTY FOUNDATION

# News

## OUR FUNDS... IMPROVING LIVES

# Are you looking for a way to make a difference?

We're inspired by the many caring donors—individuals, families, businesses and organizations—that have put their compassion into action and created 240 charitable funds to help Licking County residents of all ages live happy, healthy and hopeful lives. Here are some recently established funds which will leave a lasting legacy to the community and improve the lives of the people in our own backyard.



**RONALD B. ALFORD FUND** A community charitable fund established by Ron Alford for the purpose of pursuing the philanthropic goals and benefiting the charitable causes and organizations he cares about most.

**DON EDWARDS PARK/WORLD SERIES FUND** A project fund established for the purpose of hosting the Babe Ruth World Series tournament at Don Edwards Park in August 2019, and making improvements to the park which is owned by The City of Newark and operated by the Licking County Family YMCA. Built in 1963, Don Edwards Park is a four-field baseball complex located in Newark. It has served as the host site for nine Babe Ruth World Series events. The park is currently home to the Licking County Settlers, as well as 16 teams featuring players ages 13 to 15 and Newark High School's varsity team. Additionally, several Licking County high school teams play games at the park; the OHSAA plays at least one of their district tournaments there; and several other independent tournaments are held which feature out-of-town teams.

**SHIRLEY A. JOHNSON FUND** An unrestricted fund established through a bequest from the estate of Shirley A. Johnson to address the community's most urgent needs and emerging opportunities. Shirley A. Johnson passed away on January 16, 2017. She was born in Herrick, Illinois (which is 90 miles from St. Louis) and came to Newark in 1954 to join her brother who married a Newark native. As the owner and partner of Guanciale and Johnson Real Estate for 20 years, Shirley loved her career in real estate and helping generations of clients find and sell their homes. She was known for assisting clients personally with making down payments to afford their homes, reducing her commissions, and even paying for radon remediation. Shirley will be remembered for her generosity, fairness, work ethic, community involvement, sense of humor, and dedication to her family.



YOUNG  
**LEADERS**  
OF LICKING COUNTY

**YOUNG LEADERS OF LICKING COUNTY GIVING FUND** A community charitable fund established by the Young Leaders of Licking County for the purpose of pursuing the philanthropic goals and benefiting the charitable causes and organizations these emerging civic leaders care about most. Young Leaders of Licking County, an affiliate of the Licking County Chamber of Commerce, focuses on the development of the county's 21-40 year-old workforce who live or work in Licking County to enhance the workplace, economy and overall quality of life for all residents of Licking County. The organization fosters this next generation of leaders by offering meaningful experiences and opportunities for networking, mentorship, education, philanthropy, and leadership development.



# THE BILLBOARD PROJECT: DISRUPTING OUR NORMAL VIEWING EXPERIENCE

## Q&A with Sheilah Wilson

A 2017 Community Grant was awarded to the Denison University Studio Art Department to support The Billboard Project, aimed at engaging with the Newark and larger community to place art in non-traditional locations; namely by using six existing billboards to display contemporary art. *Untitled (1991)* by Felix Gonzales-Torres was on display to the public from February through the beginning of April. We sat down with Sheilah Wilson, Assistant Professor of Studio Art at Denison University, who is leading the project, to learn more.

### What inspired you to bring this project to Licking County?

For many years I had my studio in Newark. During the drive over I would pass a lot of billboards, and it made me think about occupying the billboards with art... I mentioned it to my colleague and friend, Tommy White, who introduced me to Connie Hawk who introduced me to others in the community... and then, eventually... years later... a Yoko Ono billboard appeared!

I grew up in a rural community, and the idea of art being accessible to a larger audience, and available through non-gallery venues is something that I have long been interested in. Partly because it allows for it to be seen by more people, and partly because it provides such an interesting disruptive potential in the fabric of the everyday. These moments where you have to stop, re-consider and re-think yourself in relation to the world.

### What role does art have in a community/society?

Art makes us think about how to imagine the world in new ways. It also has an ability to let the specific speak to the universal, and this I also find inspiring and powerful. It seems like a particularly relevant mode of address in public space, where messages are usually aimed at advertising, and idealized versions of humanity. Into this space the Gonzales-Torres image seems like a beautiful reminder of the potential for the individual to speak and be felt. The image on the billboard is for Ross, whom he dedicates all of his work to, after Ross' death from AIDS-related illness. The indents on the pillows speak more generally though to the potential for partnership, the potential for loneliness, and the constant journey between these two states all while they are being made as a specific memorial to Ross.

Art has such an important role in our society; it allows for people to express themselves and try to reach an audience. It fosters communication, dialogue and understanding of other perspectives. It refuses to remain static and is always challenging us to allow in the new. It demands failure in order to become better and teaches people to creatively problem solve and be self-critical. It is only good when the person who made it allowed themselves to be vulnerable in some way, and there needs to be more opportunities for this kind of risk-taking as a maker and a viewer in our world.

### Please share some of your background.

I grew up in Canada, and moved to the states in the early 2000s. I lived in New Mexico for six years, and then moved to Ohio to teach at Denison. Much of my own work is about proposing new ways of making narratives. I see the billboard project as a service to the community, but also another way in which to inject a different kind of narrative—this time into public space. In my own work, over the past year and a half, I have been collaborating with my partner, Dani Leventhal, on a video piece called *SOTD (Strangely Ordinary This Devotion)*, which premiered at the Whitney Biennial in April.

Photos by Jonathan Vega



# SULLIVAN BUILDING RESTORATION UPDATE

Remarkably, the overarching community benefits of restoring the Louis Sullivan Building of Newark today echo those when it was being built. As in 1914, there is a concerted effort to revitalize and rebrand the downtown as an inviting and thriving destination. The adaptive reuse of the Sullivan Building will celebrate the building's historic architecture and create a community resource that will bring new life to the building, downtown Newark, and Licking County. The new use of the building will include a visitors center on the first floor, public restrooms and exhibits in the basement, and offices for the Explore Licking County staff on the second floor. Given the unique artistic quality of this building, exceptional care has been taken in designing a renovation that returns the building to a state of usefulness while protecting its distinct character. There will be minimal alteration of surviving historic elements, and much of the project work will consist of restoration of character-defining original elements such as the mosaic tile, terra cotta, opalescent glass, leaded glass, marble and murals.

## Key Community Benefits

### Supports Downtown Revitalization, Draws Visitors & Expands Tourism Impact

The renovation of the Sullivan Building will be another tool in Newark's tool box of architectural assets and community resources. Explore Licking County is a key organization for advocating Licking County as both a tourism and residential destination. They encourage people to visit, eat, stay, and shop here. In 2015, Licking County tourism generated \$390.4 million in business activity, an increase of \$34 million since 2013. Tourism also employs 5,500: 1 in every 12 residents are working in an industry that is either a direct result of visitation (like retail, food & beverage or lodging) or are working in an industry that is the indirect beneficiary of the tourism economy (like agriculture, manufacturing or transportation).

### Amplifies Cultural Assets, Promotes Distinctive Brand & Boosts Cultural Tourism Spending

We live in a community that honors and preserves its past. This project will amplify other meticulously-restored (or being carefully-renovated currently) historic buildings which flourish in downtown Newark, such as: the Midland Theatre, The Works, the Licking County Courthouse, the Pennsylvania Station, the Old Newark Jail, a growing inventory of loft apartments, Thirty One West music venue, NEWork business incubator, and the Denison University Art Space. In addition to creating enjoyable experiences for residents and visitors alike, arts and cultural tourism also drives the economy by generating income for local businesses. According to the Americans for the Arts, local arts attendees spend an average of \$17.42 in addition to admission fees. Out-of-town residents spend twice as much—an average of \$39.96 more while they're visiting!



Images: Rogers Krajnak Architects



Past travel grant recipients (standing, left to right) Paula Ball, Melody Frey, Gayle Waite and Dana Decker share their experiences with current recipients (seated, left to right) Leigh Anne Fickes, Jane Ludwig, Yvonne-Marie Mokam and Ken Fehrman, before their trips this summer.



Yvonne-Marie Mokam, Assistant professor of French and Francophone studies in the Department of Modern Languages at Denison University, will travel to Fort-de-France, Martinique and Pointe-à-Pitre, Guadeloupe this summer to broaden her understanding of the French influence from the perspective of slavery in the Caribbean.



On April 10th, a small gathering of current and past Tibbie Leslie grant recipients came together to share travel stories and tips. Past 'Tibbie' recipients also offered ways they integrated their travel experiences into the classroom as inspiration for our newest cohort of travelers!

# Tibbie Leslie TRAVEL GRANTS

Elizabeth Randolph Leslie, known as Tibbie, was a Newark native who traveled the world throughout her 30-year teaching career. Her learning experiences on these trips were so meaningful that she decided to help other teachers travel by establishing the Tibbie Leslie Fund at the Licking County Foundation through her will. Since 1999, the Tibbie Leslie Fund has provided over \$170,000 in travel grants to 87 area educators. This year, five area educators will travel across Europe and the Caribbean with support from the Tibbie Leslie Fund.

- Ken Fehrman, C-TEC – Travel to Sweden, Norway, Germany and the Netherlands
- Leigh Anne Fickes, Licking Valley Middle School – Travel to Iceland
- Ann Hinkle, Wilson Middle School (Newark) – Travel to Scotland
- Jane Ludwig, Granville Elementary School – Travel to Italy, Switzerland and Spain
- Yvonne-Marie Mokam, Denison University – Travel to Martinique and Guadeloupe

## 2017 Community Grants

Each year, the Licking County Foundation accepts proposals from area nonprofit organizations as part of a competitive grantmaking process to respond to new programs, emerging needs, and innovative services that might not be started or continue were it not for the Foundation's support.

\$579,781 in grants were awarded to 27 local nonprofit organizations through unrestricted and field of interest funds. These funds were established by compassionate donors to allow the Foundation flexibility in responding to the community's most pressing needs and taking advantage of the best opportunities.

The 2017 Community Grant Program will support programs and projects in these categories:



## We ♥ our volunteers!

On April 25th, during Volunteer Appreciation Month, we happily celebrated the 117 volunteers who help us carry out all aspects of the Foundation's work with a gathering at the Carriage House of the Bryn Du Mansion.

Whether it be sharing their development and marketing expertise, guiding our investment strategy or reviewing the hundreds of scholarship applications, our volunteers give invaluable time and energy to the Licking County Foundation. **For that, we cannot thank them enough!**

