

raft[®]

RESOURCE AREA
FOR TEACHING

Annual Report
2021-2022

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Areas We Serve

Contra
Costa

Alameda

San
Mateo

RAFT

Santa Clara

Santa
Cruz

While RAFT serves our members and students throughout the Bay Area with our San Jose facility, professional development, and events, we have also made our materials and services available online to reach educators and students throughout the nation and around the world.

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Donor List

San Benito

Monterey

Dear Friends,

As we reflect on 2022 and look back on the past fiscal year, we are grateful for the community support and philanthropic spirit that continue to help RAFT make such an impact for so many thousands of educators and students. The challenges facing the education community continue to evolve, making the resources RAFT provides even more important than ever before.

Schools, teachers and parents are doing everything they can to help students catch up and regain the classroom learning that was lost or paused since the pandemic began. We at RAFT are proud that our programs, products and services are part of the solution and make such a difference.

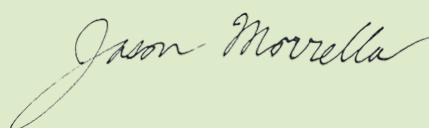
I am so inspired by our dedicated staff who work with unwavering resolve to continuously evolve and improve the resources we provide the education community. I am equally grateful for all the volunteers and donors who give their time and resources, as we could not make the impact we do without your generous support.

Thanks to all the effort and support, RAFT was able to achieve great things in 2022.

- Teachers were able to use our low cost (and primarily recycled) hands-on activity kits with over 129,000 students.
- We made wonderful improvements to our store and educator workroom to provide an even better shopping experience for teachers and parents.
- We were able to bring our Mobile Maker Van to schools throughout the Bay Area, essentially bringing fun, engaging STEAM based field trips to the school.
- We launched a new summer camp program for hundreds of students, providing fun educational activities led by credentialed teachers.

While we know the challenges facing nonprofits and the education community will continue to evolve in 2023, we also carry a great deal of optimism and momentum into the new year. We are resolute in our commitment to provide high quality and affordable solutions for schools, teachers, and parents to support their students. We thank you for your continued support of our mission - we have a big year ahead of us, and together we will achieve great things for our schools, teachers and students.

Warmly,



Jason Morrella
CEO

Our Mission

RAFT's mission is to help educators transform a child's learning experience through hands-on education to one that inspires the joy and discovery of learning.

Our Vision

RAFT's vision is to inspire the next generation of innovators, problem solvers, and creators, by providing educators with STEAM learning resources.

RAFT by the Numbers



28 years of serving the education community



61,353 educators served since 1994



6,000 educators served annually



450 STEAM Project Kits developed since 1994



654 Classroom Idea Sheets



Over 56,500 volunteers since 1994



200 corporate and community partners

IMPACT STATEMENT

RAFT's mission is to help parents and educators transform a child's learning experience through hands-on education. We help bridge the education gap for students and communities by offering engaging STEAM resources to encourage the next generation of innovators, problem solvers, and creators. RAFT does this by providing STEAM Project Kits, Maker Mobile van visits and Makerspace builds, STEAM summer camps, tailored educator workshops, and free, online, learning activity sheets. RAFT's unique process, called *Found Engineering**, repurposes donated materials that would have otherwise been sent to the landfill into accessible, low-cost, STEAM Project Kits and assembled by volunteers. Educators, and now parents, can become RAFT members and shop at the warehouse store facility for affordable items devoted to hands-on learning.

*Found Engineering is the process of discovering or inventing new ways to repurpose "found" items into hands-on learning activities. This concept was inspired by the variety of materials donated to RAFT which could be combined and repurposed to enhance student learning and engagement.

RAFT AWARDS



Platinum
Transparency
2022

Candid.

Maker Mobile

RAFT's Maker Mobile brings a STEAM Lab to schools and communities across the Bay Area. It comes loaded with all the tools, materials, and staff support needed to deliver fun design challenge activities that can have a lasting impact.

Over 50 visits throughout the community

Over 5,800 students engaged

STEAM Engagement

In addition to educator professional development, RAFT works with schools and districts to reach beyond the classroom, fostering a community of engaged, active learners. Through community Maker and STEAM nights, STEAM showcase support, Makerspace design and build support, and a catalog of hands-on STEAM activities, RAFT provides integrated support to boost STEAM outcomes and interest.

3 Makerspaces built and supported





STEAM Kits

RAFT provides STEAM Project Kits that address Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) concepts while aligning to Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards. Each kit includes required materials, assembly instructions, and suggested activities. The kits serve students from grades K-8.

**7 new
STEAM
Project
Kits**

In FY22, RAFT officially released 7 new STEAM Project Kits: Rolling Maze, Paper Sunflowers, Moon Mobile, Spice Cap Maracas, Bug Vac, Cap & Foam Painting, and Sun Measurer. All of RAFT's STEAM Project Kits are affordable because they are largely made from repurposed, upcycled, and donated materials. The kits are also packed by RAFT volunteers, keeping production cost low. They are available for purchase in the RAFT store and online.

STEAM Dream Camp

94% of students found the camp activities fun and interesting

RAFT launched the STEAM Dream Camp in June 2022. The four week-long summer camp was designed for students in grades K-8 to explore science phenomena, conduct experiments using STEAM Project Kits, and design their own solutions in response to design challenge scenarios.

What I liked the most about the camp was that I got to create and think of things to make out of different materials.
– Student Camper

As inventors-in-training, campers use their imagination, creativity, and engineering to prototype, build, and solve real-world problems. Based on camper, parent, and teacher feedback, our STEAM Dream Camp achieved its goal of bringing joy to STEAM learning using found materials.

100% of parents would re-enroll their children to the camp

RAFT Store

RAFT provides valuable resources for people involved in education. They have a great collection of activity ideas plus the materials needed for them.
– RAFT Member



The RAFT store is a member-based shopping and resource environment where educators of all varieties come to shop, collaborate, and learn. Our low-cost education supplies and unique offerings help our members stretch their dollar and maximize the impact for their students.



317.6 tons of material diverted from landfill

Shopping at RAFT has allowed me to be the most creative and innovative teacher that I could ever be.
– RAFT Member

Aside from providing access to the RAFT store, RAFT members receive other benefits such as discounts on STEAM Project Kits, access to the Educator Workroom and Educator Lab, and professional development training.

Volunteering

3,106 volunteers
in FY22

35,638 STEAM
Project Kits
assembled

129,157 students
served

RAFT volunteers are a critical part of making our resources available and affordable to the education community. This past fiscal year we were happy to partner with groups to host both virtual and in-person volunteer events that gave back to the education community in a big way.

I believe in the transformative power of education. RAFT's focus on providing innovative hands-on learning materials that are affordable, impactful, and environmentally friendly aligns perfectly with my philanthropic goals. I gain immense pleasure from observing students as they grow intellectually while engaged in RAFT-provided activities.

– Jeff Fox, long-term RAFT volunteer

Educator Workroom Refresh



With help from Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley and DPR Construction, RAFT's Educator Workroom has a fresh look. Thank you to the volunteers for revamping our Educator Workroom and providing an inviting space for our educators and staff.

RAFT's Growing Volunteer Community



This past fiscal year saw the return of long-time RAFT volunteer supporters such as KPMG, Atlassian, Western Digital, and Cisco. Along with seeing our faithful volunteer supporters, we were happy to welcome new partners such as Snowflake. RAFT partnered with Snowflake for a volunteer onsite event at their company headquarters. Employees helped RAFT package 100 STEAM Project Kits that would serve 1,000 students.

Genentech Gives Back Week 2022

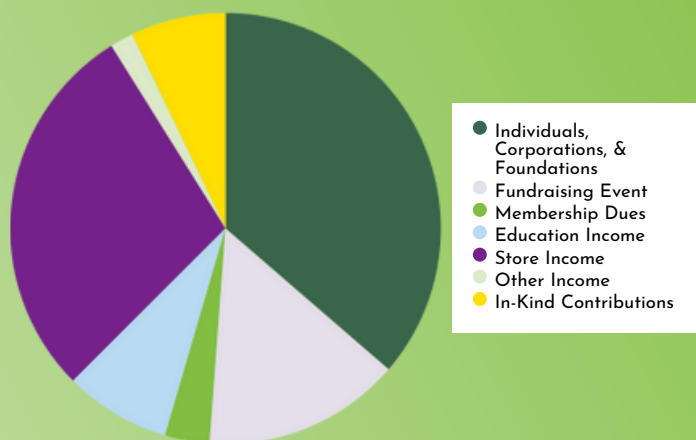


In June 2022, RAFT participated in Genentech's Give Back Week. During this week, employees give back to the community through various organizations and RAFT was one of the organizations selected to participate. During the event, 249 employees helped pack 863 STEAM Project Kits which will help RAFT serve 8,630 students.

Financials

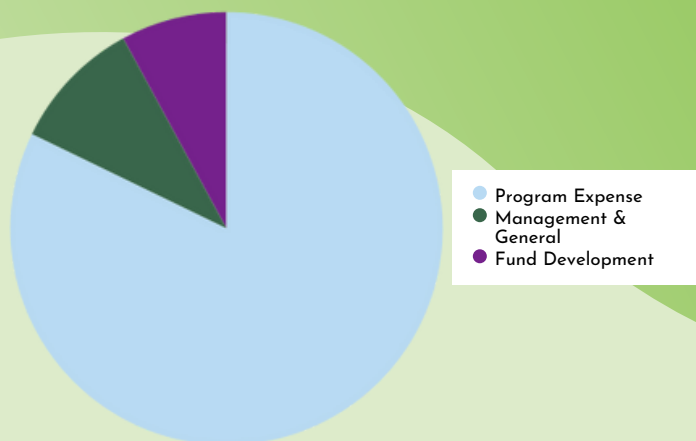
Total RAFT Revenue & Support FY22

Individuals, Corporations, & Foundations	\$ 698,630
Fundraising Event	\$ 285,367
Membership Dues	\$ 64,470
Education Income	\$ 153,478
Store Income	\$ 549,663
Other Income	\$ 33,674
In-Kind Contributions	\$ 137,397
Total Revenue & Support	\$ 1,922,679



Total RAFT Expense Allocation FY22

Program Expense	\$ 2,843,011
Management & General	\$ 342,256
Fund Development	\$ 274,288
Total Expenses	\$ 3,459,555



RAFT also holds an investment reserve fund as a result of selling our second building in 2019. While not used as part of our operating budget, these investments will continue to support RAFT's capital and programmatic improvements over the coming years, with an anticipated average income of \$400-500k annually.

Planned Giving

Plan today to leave a legacy for the future! By making RAFT part of your future plans you are helping to inspire the next generation of innovators, problem solvers, and creators.

There are a number of ways to support our efforts through planned giving, such as:

1. Wills and Trusts.
2. Life Insurance or Retirement Plan.
3. Real Estate

If you are considering a legacy gift or have included RAFT in your estate plans, we would love to hear from you. Please contact us at development@raft.net.

Board & Staff

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Senior Leadership

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RAFT Staff

Josefa Arruiza, Katherine Ball, Vanessa Bembo, Jacky Castaneda, Ruben Chavez, Caroline Evans, Shawna Follett, Jeff Fox, Shannon Fu, Andrew Gonzalez, Nari Kim, Melissa Liggins, Sylvia Lodge, Monique Lovelace-Narvaez, Lily Mata Vazquez, Mariel Milo, Daniel Muilenburg, Bao Pham, Mike Pollock, Martina Ramirez, Mikey Ramot, Steve Rummell, Jamie Sandoval, Sandy Suttora, Siang Tai, Anwar Tamiz, Eric Welker



\$360,000 raised through the annual fundraiser

120 attendees in person and online

On September 21, 2022 RAFT hosted its annual fundraiser event. This year's event, CSI:RAFT, highlighted what resources are needed to have an engaging classroom.

RAFT honored 10 inductees into RAFT STEAM Hall of Fame, including our RAFT Heroes, STEAM Teachers of the Year, and Volunteers of the Year.

Save the date for next year's event on September 20, 2023.



RAFT Making Wizard, Mike Pollock, shows Synopsis Outreach Foundation CEO, Lauren Foote, RAFT STEAM Project Kit Demos



Sharon Hutchins, Intuit VP & Chief of Operations and RAFT Board Member, presents the 2022 RAFT Hero Award to Donna Whitney alongside Ann Danner, 2021 RAFT Hero Award recipient.



RAFT welcomed 100 attendees to our San Jose resource center for our first in-person event in 3 years.

Thank you to our sponsors and donors!

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Event Committee:

- Gayle Dilley
- John Ebner
- Jillian Forusz
- Sharon Hutchins
- Sri Narasimhan
- Donna Whitney
- Andrea Whittaker

Scan the QR code to learn more about the event.



During our annual fundraiser event, we honored the people and organizations that have made a profound impact on the education community. Thank you and congratulations to our RAFT Hall of Fame Class of 2022 awardees! Thank you for all you do for our educators, students, our community, and RAFT!

RAFT Hall of Fame Class of 2022

TEACHERS



KIM BROWN



TOM CARVEY



LAURIN LAROCCA



BRYAN WILLIAMS



MARGIE WYSOCKI

HEROES



DONNA WHITNEY



RANDY POND

VOLUNTEERS



LAKSHMI AVANASIAPPAN
& ARAVIND SAMINATHAN



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Douglas Spreng
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Chegg.org Impact Fund



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vmware



*Bolded names and logos reflect donors who have given \$20,000 and above.

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