The summer of 2023 continues to host joyful celebrations marking the 275th anniversary of the founding of Frederick County. At Delaplaine Foundation, we join this milestone tribute and continue to be grateful to be a part of this caring, diverse, and incredibly beautiful County, so rich in history and opportunity.

What astounding changes we’ve witnessed in Frederick County! Moving forward, we acknowledge that planning for the future continues to afford opportunities for philanthropy to be a critical force in supporting lasting community change—one that requires vigilant assessment of needs and close reflection that includes collaborative conversations with intentional commitment to action. Our philanthropic work is deeply rooted in the cultural and economic evolution of the communities we serve through the embodiment of relationships with our nonprofit partners.

Over the summer, we are engaged in grantee site visits—"Listening Tours"—giving us the opportunity to see firsthand the impact and outcome of our grant dollars at work. These visits put people and purpose behind the performance metrics we employ to gauge the return on grant investment dollars. We continue to be both amazed and gratified to see the tireless work being done to meet community needs and enrich the lives of those being impacted.

As stewards of funds intended for public trust and benefit, we value the collaborations we have with all our stakeholders, including our highly respected Community Advisory Council whose input and diverse perspectives are vital in acknowledging our different lived experiences and identities and are keenly critical in our decision making to achieve enrichment for a Greater Good. Cheers to Frederick County’s 275 years and all that is to come!

**Nonprofit Summit Speakers Explore Workplace Collaboration**

Over 170 local nonprofit leaders and staff attended the annual Frederick Nonprofit Summit held May 11 at the New Spire Arts performing arts venue in downtown Frederick. The annual day long event, intended to energize and educate members of the nonprofit community, featured keynote speaker Garrison Wynn, various panel discussions and recognitions of outstanding local nonprofit contributors.

Following a morning networking session, keynote presenter Garrison Wynn delivered a high-energy comedic address that spoke to workplace dynamics, generational differences, and ways in which to motivate employees. Later, Rick Weldon, President and CEO of the Frederick County Chamber of Commerce announced the recipients of the “Touching Lives” awards, honoring individuals working in the nonprofit sector.

The afternoon featured a panel discussion led by Wendy Wolff, Director of Strategic Engagement at Maryland Nonprofits. Her presentation entitled “The Me I Engage at Work, Bringing My Best Self” focused on the concept of teamwork in the office and how employees can create a space for themselves to flourish in tandem with others. Additional speakers included Darryus Johnson and Patty Prasada-Rao of Maryland Nonprofits, and Nyah Vanterpool, an activist writer, who facilitated table discussions amongst audience members. The event concluded with a social hour and music by the Hood Jazz Ensemble.
Delaplaine Foundation’s selection of grant recipients during the 2022 grant cycle was enhanced with the contributions made by its newly-instituted Community Advisory Council (CAC). Delaplaine Foundation established the CAC last summer to better discern needs throughout Frederick County. Council members were selected based on their extensive depth of experience and expertise in one of Delaplaine Foundation’s six funding sectors. Last fall, the CAC joined Foundation trustees in the review of grant applications, providing their perspective and insight on selected funding requests. This helpful information aided trustees in their evaluation of funding decisions.

In February 2023, CAC members met with Blair Wilson, Delaplaine Foundation Council Chair, and Marlene Young, Foundation President, to discuss additional ways CAC members could assist the Board of Trustees in the upcoming 2023 grant cycle, as well as how they might help provide greater local outreach. Based on one CAC member suggestion, Delaplaine Foundation created a one-page summary of the grant process to educate eligible organizations of the Foundation’s support, and introduce the application process. We look forward to additional recommendations that can expand the Foundation’s community reach. The digital version of this newsletter includes a link to the one-page summary.

Delaplaine Foundation Sponsors Kinetic Sculpture

Underscoring a commitment to the arts and its impact on community enrichment, Delaplaine Foundation sponsored a kinetic sculpture called “We Rise By Lifting Others.” The sculpture was created by artist Kirk Seese, and is located on the Carroll Creek Kinetic Art Promenade, along with other recent installations managed by the Rotary Club of Carroll Creek.
Delaplaine Foundation conducts annual grantee site visits that help keep the Foundation staff and board members informed on new and ongoing needs in Frederick County. Visits provide grantees the opportunity to show how their funded program or project impacts the community. It also allows nonprofit leadership the opportunity to discuss anticipated future needs of the organization or its clients.

Mission of Mercy
Delaplaine Foundation has been a long time supporter of Mission of Mercy (MOM), the nonprofit that provides free medical and dental care utilizing volunteer health professionals and mobile treatment centers. Our most recent grant funding helped underwrite the hiring and training of new staff, and the purchase of a new mobile health clinic. MOM recently forged a partnership with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Frederick, where MOM utilizes its building and parking lot for its mobile treatment. The visit demonstrated the effectiveness of the partnership and the impressive mobile clinic.

Wm. F. Moran Jr. Museum and Foundation
The William F. Moran Jr. Museum and Foundation (WFMMF) in Middletown preserves and promotes the legacy of Moran, the renowned 20th century knifemaker who founded the American Bladesmith Society and reintroduced the process of making pattern welded steel to modern knife making. WFMMF received an initial $45,000 grant from Delaplaine Foundation that attracted additional funding to launch the construction of a teaching facility for artisan craft. Here, a wide variety of courses in different aspects of knife making are instructed by experts.

Hagerstown Aviation Museum
The Hagerstown Aviation Museum is dedicated to preserving aviation history and has the largest collection of historic aircraft built in Maryland. The museum recently acquired a permanent home in a historic World War II hangar – the 1943 Fairchild Aircraft Flight Test Hangar, known as the “Dome Hangar.” This 35,000 sq. ft. laminated wood arch flight test hangar is one of the few remaining structures of its type and was used for flight testing and production of military aircraft. The Hagerstown Fairchild facility was established in 1929. During World War II, Fairchild had major government contracts, employing more than 10,000 people. Still a work in progress, museum staff plan to open it to the public soon.

I Believe In Me
Monocacy Elementary, one of the current sites of the I Believe In Me (IBM) mentoring program welcomed us to witness its after-school program in which students receive educational assistance, one-on-one guidance, and nutritional snacks. Aje Hill, Executive Director, spoke with students about the importance of proper behavior, admitting mistakes, and being honest and respectful. Since IBM’s inception, Delaplaine Foundation has awarded grants in support of the mentoring program and anticipates its soon to open I Believe In Me Activity Center.
Student and Community Singers Observe D-Day in Normandy

Members of the Hood College Choir, along with 38 community singers from the Choral Arts Society of Frederick, recently traveled to Normandy, France to perform in the 79th anniversary observance of D-Day on June 6. Delaplaine Foundation was proud to support these outstanding student performers through grant funding as they were honored to participate in this historic event that paid tribute to the raw courage of the American soldiers who achieved victory against all odds. The students benefited by a powerful experience historically, artistically, and educationally.

Left to right: Dr. Andrea Chapdelaine, president of Hood College is seen with Lynn Staininger, Director of Choral Activities/Instructor of Music at Hood, Adjunct Faculty at FCC, and Artistic Director and Conductor of the Choral Arts Society, Marlene Young and student performers.

2023 Carson Scholars Named at Annual Event

Delaplaine Foundation provided funding for nine Frederick County high school recipients of Carson Scholars Fund scholarships. Carson Scholars are chosen through a rigorous nomination, application and interview process and selected based on academic excellence and dedication.

Left to right: Krisha Patel (Walkersville HS), Aidan McCrohan (Middletown HS), Marlene Young, Helen Xia (Catoctin High School), Mia McGuffin (Brunswick HS). Absent from photo: Brittany Barrera (Gov. Thomas Johnson HS), John Cabrera (Frederick HS), Zachary Davis (Linganore HS), Dhruv Girish (Urbana HS), and Pragna Yalamanchili (Oakdale HS).

If your organization would like to request a site visit by Delaplaine Foundation, contact Jessica Wareham, Administrative Assistant at jwareham@delplainefoundation.org.

The 2023 Frederick Nonprofit Summit was co-sponsored by Delaplaine Foundation and Ausherman Family Foundation with support by Venlu Cloud Consulting. Planning Committee members also included representatives of The Community Foundation of Frederick Co., United Way of Frederick Co., Helen J. Serini Foundation, Association of Fundraising Professionals of Western Maryland, and PNC Bank.

Event photos can be seen or purchased at https://anchorpictures.pixieset.com

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