

# THANKS TO YOU...

the NPC had a phenomenal year of growth and impact. Listing you all here reminds us that our community is rich in human capital. Your engagement with the nonprofit sector is so valuable. And your generosity so appreciated. Best wishes for a thriving 2019. --Liana Toscanini, Executive Director

## MEMBERS

1Berkshire, Aston Magna Foundation, Austen Riggs Center, AYJ Fund, Bard College at Simon's Rock, The Barrington Institute, Baseball in the Berkshires, Inc., Berkshares, Berkshire Agricultural Ventures, Berkshire AHEC, Berkshire Art Museum, Berkshire Baby Box, Berkshire Center for Justice, Berkshire Children & Families, Berkshire Community Action Council, Berkshire Community Diaper Project, Berkshire Community Land Trust, Berkshire County Arc, Berkshire County Historical Society, Berkshire County Kids' Place, Berkshire County Regional Employment Board, Berkshire Dream Center, Berkshire Film and Media Collaborative, Berkshire Food Project, Berkshire Gateway Preservation, Berkshire Grown, Berkshire Horseworks, Berkshire Humane Society, Berkshire Immigrant Center, Berkshire Interfaith Organizing, Berkshire Museum, Berkshire Music School, Berkshire Natural Resources Council, Berkshire Opera Festival, Berkshire Place, Berkshire Playwrights Lab, Berkshire Pulse, Berkshire South Regional Community Center, Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, Berkshire United Way, Berkshires Jazz, Berkshires Tomorrow, BFAIR, The Bidwell House Museum, Blue Rider Stables, Brien Center, Cantilena Chamber Choir, Center for Peace Through Culture, Central Berkshire Habitat for Humanity, Christian Center of Pittsfield, Clinton Church Restoration, Close Encounters with Music, Community Access to the Arts - CATA, Community Development Corporation of South Berkshire, Community Health Programs - CHP, Construct

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Jean Atwater-Williams, Penny Brierley-Bowers, Joseph Collins, John Gillespie, Jennifer Gordon, Jenni Haley, Rob Horner, Carol Leibinger-Healey, Mary McGurn, Mary Nash, Susan Nicholl, Mary Vasquez Slack, Dawn Stanyon, John Toole, Hannah Van Sickle, Bob Voss, Laurie Werner

## VOLUNTEERS

Barbara Campbell, Abbie Emeigh, Jo Grossman, Patricia Hubbard, Laura Katz, Angela Lomanto, Rachel Louchen, Mary McGurn, Richard Migot, Alexa Quartararo, Bill Tighe, Mary Vasquez Slack

## SPECIAL THANKS TO

Rep. William "Smitty" Pignatelli for always being there for the NPC

# NPC NONPROFIT CENTER OF THE BERKSHIRES WINTER 2018 Newsletter



## Workin' the Workshops!

We presented a record 18 workshops attended by over 200 people from 100 nonprofit organizations. Subjects ranged from peer-to-peer fundraising, social media hacks and leading transformational change to program evaluation, telling your story and even a nonprofit BOOT CAMP! (Pictured above).

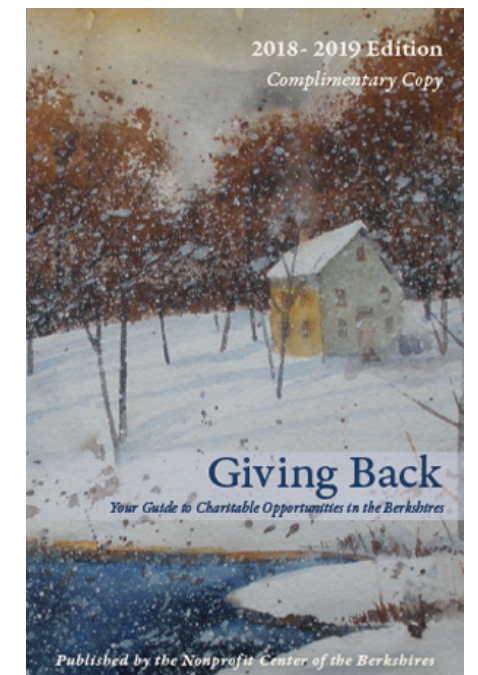
Thank you to the following organizations for hosting the NPC:

1BERKSHIRE  
BERKSHIRE ATHENAEUM  
BERKSHIRE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BERKSHIRE TACONIC COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
BERKSHIRE UNITED WAY  
HOTEL ON NORTH  
MCLA  
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## Who Doesn't Love Free Publications?

Thanks to our local business advertisers, the Nonprofit Center can distribute thousands of complimentary *Giving Back* guides and *Connections Magazines* throughout the county. Pick up your copy of the 3rd annual *Giving Back* guide at 100 locations including your favorite coffee shop and Guido's.

Special thanks to Qualprint, Mary Vasquez Slack (distribution), our proofreaders, and our sponsors including the Dr. Robert C. & Tina Sohn Foundation and Feigenbaum Foundation.



## Need a Referral?

It's our job (and the best feeling) to find you the information you need just when you need it. Maybe you need a strategic planning facilitator, executive director salary information, or a board job description. Perhaps you need fundraising training, press contacts or advice on how

to increase your audience. Or maybe you just need to know where to post a job or a gala event! **We thank our supporters** who make it possible for any one of our 1,000 nonprofits to call and get the information they need quickly and easily.



@npcberkshires

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INFO@NPCBERKSHIRES.ORG

## What's New

- NPC members can take advantage of our **free grant review service** thanks to a group of volunteers who proofread and offer suggestions to make your application or report the best it can be.
- You can get **affordable PR assistance** through the NPC including press releases, pitches, social media support and outreach ideas.
- Look for our new **Nonprofit Resource Guide**, a directory designed to save nonprofits time and money.
- Over 50 people participated in our first **Roundtable** discussion on organizational partnering at the Berkshire Athenaeum, sponsored by Friends of the Library.
- The **NPC web site** will soon have a new look by Mungy Studios.
- The Berkshire Film & Media Collaborative has launched a new **Community Film Fund** to provide support to nonprofit organizations who want to create video for their marketing, fundraising and branding efforts.



Organizational Partnering Roundtable at the Berkshire Athenaeum

## Thanks to All of Our NPC Partners for Making 2018 An Award-Winning Year

We're grateful for our success this year launching programs such as the **Berkshire Nonprofit Awards**, and meeting so many amazing nonprofits, volunteers and consultants. It is a privilege to spend our time connecting nonprofits to resources and a delight to be recognized for this work.

We are thrilled and honored to receive the **Berkshire 25 Award** from *Berkshire Magazine* and the "Newcomer of the Year" **Trendsetter Award** from 1Berkshire, as well as a "Top Rated" designation on **Greatnonprofits.org** and Platinum status on **GuideStar**.



**Save the Date**  
for the 2nd Annual  
**Berkshire Nonprofit Awards**  
Tuesday, May 21, 2019 8-10 AM  
**Berkshire Hills Country Club**

Help us celebrate the PEOPLE who work tirelessly in the nonprofit sector to improve the quality of life for everyone in the Berkshires!

Our inaugural breakfast was a sold-out event with 250 in attendance, made possible by an enthusiastic team of sponsors.

### AWARDS SPONSORS:

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## Dynamic Duo

**Elizabeth Stone**, NPC's Marketing Manager, has been with the organization for just over a year and has made a demonstrable impact on our capacity building efforts. When not at the NPC, she enjoys working at Berkshire Humane Society's Catwalk Boutique.

Meet **Olivia Nacht** (right), our first intern! A senior at Monument Mountain Regional High School, Olivia is interested in studying environmental sustainability in college. She is enjoying her work archiving, researching and learning about the behind-the-scenes work at a nonprofit.



We are pleased to announce the addition of the dynamic **Erika Allison** to the NPC board.

**Erika** is an engineer, educator and entrepreneur. She left the Fortune 100 corporate world in Chicago to teach physics and math at a NYC public high school in Harlem with the goal of broadening access for girls and minorities in STEM fields. She then became the founding NYC director

of a STEM education nonprofit startup, leading the launch of east coast operations and programming. In 2011, she moved to Maine to explore the differences between rural and urban STEM education as project director for a 5-year, \$12M National Science Foundation research & implementation program to improve rural STEM education and STEM teacher preparation. Since moving to the Berkshires, which she considers to be the perfect blend of Maine & NYC, Erika is eagerly learning more about this region and the stakeholders, challenges and opportunities through her role as Director of Member Services at 1Berkshire.

## Recent Reviews...

We were very fortunate to connect with the Nonprofit Center of the Berkshires early on. The guidance they provided was invaluable, as were the introductions, workshops and support. As a member, we have been alerted to grant opportunities and potential awards. They have helped promote our cause in Berkshire County, and facilitated some major recognition. We are a small non-profit with no previous experience in this realm, and their support was key in expediting our learning curve! --*Hinda Bodinger/Berkshire Baby Box*

Liana Toscanini has a deep understanding of how nonprofit organizations work and what their common challenges are. She is an agile and attentive listener. One hour of consultation with her saved my board a fair amount of time and research. She also gave us some crucial referrals to individuals in the community who might be interested in helping us with our work. When we met for an initial consultation, she had already done her homework about our organization. We had an efficient email exchange beforehand, so that we could focus our discussion. She continues to send us information, ideas, and referrals. In my book, this is what one wants: a skilled diagnosis accompanied by ample information and education. The nonprofit doctor is in! --*Client Served*

As a nonprofit consultant, I've had the good fortune to connect with Liana and to teach professional development workshops through her organization. Her vision for Berkshire nonprofits, and her awareness of how to best support them, is so impressive. Liana has a talent for elevating nonprofit work

and making these organizations even more visible in the community. It has been a pleasure to work with her. --*Jenni Haley/Consultant*

As a music organization approaching our 50th year, we faced issues of succession planning, Board expansion, and audience development for a new generation, among other issues. Liana Toscanini of NPC Berkshires organized a strategic planning session at which she helped us lay out options for future sustainability. Liana has met with us more than once to help implement some of our goals. She is knowledgeable and approachable, and cares deeply about the issues facing nonprofits. --*Susan Obel/Aston Magna*

As a small but important nonprofit with life changing work, the Berkshire Immigrant Center has often put clients before our own well-being and then struggled to maintain capacity and expand. I am proud to say that over the last 2 years we have managed to take better care of ourselves while serving the amazing immigrants in the county and could not do so without partners like the NPC! Liana has personally spoken with me numerous times to trouble shoot everything from board development to hiring consultants. She is always sending trainings, grant ideas and articles she thinks may be of interest to members and is such an amazing cheerleader when a member wins an award or gets new funding etc. The Center also proofread a grant for me and Liana spent an hour and a half with our board chair advising us on growth as a nonprofit in the Berkshires. I know I have only experienced a fraction of what it does and can offer. --*Brooke Meade/Berkshire Immigrant Center*

Read more and write your own review of the NPC at [Greatnonprofits.org](http://Greatnonprofits.org).