



NPC YEAR IN REVIEW 2023



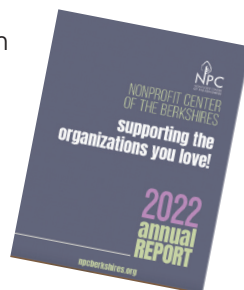
A standing ovation for Kids 4 Harmony at the 6th Annual Berkshire Nonprofit Awards! Photo: iBerkshires

Now in its seventh year, the Nonprofit Center of the Berkshires continues to experience steady and manageable growth.

A big shout out to our funders and advocates, including **Rep. Smitty Pignatelli** and our legislative team for increased support from the Commonwealth in the form of an earmark. The return of in-person meetings, workshops and events is refreshing but requires more time, increased travel and rising costs for things like venues and catering. Still, we have managed to keep costs down overall while increasing revenue.

JANUARY

- Our comprehensive **annual report** has been a great tool to capture NPC's essence and impact, and help make others aware of our work (including the new administration in Boston)
- Nonprofits were appreciative of our *Berkshire Business Journal* article, "Slimming down in the New Year" which offered money-saving tips
- Two new "members only" benefits have been enthusiastically received — **Berkshire Media Directory** and **Berkshire Funders Directory**



FEBRUARY

- Our **Board Composition Survey** presentation via Zoom was well attended
- We partnered with Berkshire United Way and Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation to host a **Legislative Town Hall** via Zoom



MARCH

- NPC welcomed **Cassey Santos-China** (President of Berkshire Pride) to the board
- Fiscally sponsored projects **Berkshire Busk** and **Du Bois Sculpture Project** are very active
- Received **64 Berkshire Nonprofit Awards nominations** including the most ever for the youth award
- The **March 30 Nonprofit Boot Camp at Red Lion Inn** ranked **9.4 out of 10** in a satisfaction survey. Plus it's always really fun and chock full of information

Congratulations on a great event! Not only a sell-out, but an inspiring, heartfelt, meaningful morning that reminded all who were there of the importance of community.

Maria Nation/Awards Judge

MAY

- Hosted **6th annual Berkshire Nonprofit Awards** in person for the first time since 2019. 200 people attended.
- Contracted by **City of Pittsfield** to assist **ARPA-funded nonprofits** with training and technical assistance

“You bring together the best people! (For Revenue Diversification Webinar) What a delightful group they were! We had tons of fun and hopefully pushed thinking forward a bit.

Sarah Glatt/Faculty

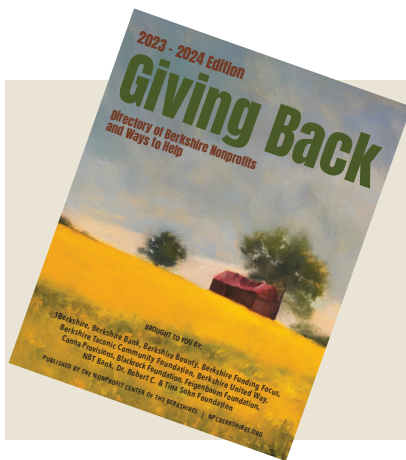
APRIL

- The **April 21 Volunteer Fair at Crissey Farm** resulted in some new collaborations and a feature on Spectrum TV

“We are so pleased with the event (Volunteer event at Crissey Farm) and want to thank you! It was so well done—the venue, the set up inside, making it easy to maneuver, and how well you got the word out in advance. Looking forward to the next one!

*Sinead O'Brien/
Racial Fairness Berkshires*

- **NPC hosted 10 workshops this spring** via partnerships with GrantStation and Berkshire Regional Planning Commission
- We provided Board Training to the **first Blackshires Leadership Cohort**
- We offered a webinar on **Fundraising for Faith-based Organizations** attended by many food pantries



JUNE

- Work begins on the annual **Giving Back Guide**. Adding a **special section for food pantries and meal sites** and an article about what types of foods to donate



Photo credit: Devin Shea

“Thank you so much for the (Board Training) session this past Friday. The cohort loved you and the presentation.

John Lewis/Blackshires

You are such an incredible resource. We all count on you!

*Nicki Wilson/
Save the Triplex*

JULY

- We partnered with Berkshire United Way for a **Volunteer Fair** at the **Berkshire Innovation Center** (one of three fairs countywide!)
- 40 people signed up for our **summer webinar series** from **GrantStation**. Six webinars delved into the grant application process with topics such as "Building Credibility in your Background Section" and "Writing a Compelling Statement of Need."
- We welcomed the **MA Nonprofit Network** to the Berkshires for their annual policy update.



Photo: Karrie Buratto

AUGUST

- Our **Philanthropy curriculum** has been retooled to meet post-COVID needs, with a new pilot at Reid Middle School in Pittsfield taught by Julie Haagenson. Julie has a Master of Education in Integrative Learning, and has trained with the Institute for Professional Excellence in Coaching and the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence.

Thanks for the power 45 minute meeting with you. Unbelievable amount of info in a short period of time, greatly appreciated.

Pat Hollenbeck/New England Musician's Resource Fund

“ This (GrantStation Webinar Series) has been INCREDIBLE! Even though I'd never written a grant before, the support of these webinars, and your personal feedback allowed me to write the grant that has now gotten \$150,000. Yahoo! Thanks so much for all of your help. This experience has allowed me to support an organization I truly believe in, and now I'm going to take this new skill to help other nonprofits.

Cecilia Turner



We participated in an excellent **Professional Development Day for teachers**, with keynote speaker **Michael Bobbitt, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Cultural Council**. L to R: Mary Nash (Consultant), Liana Toscanini of NPC, Michael Bobbitt, Leslie Appleget (District Arts Integration Specialist) and Dr. Lisa Donovan of MCLA, at the Linde Center for Music & Learning at Tanglewood.

SEPTEMBER

- NPC welcomed two new fiscally-sponsored projects—**Berkshire Pond Hockey Classic** and **Adams Theater Presents**
- **Three new board members bring a wealth of experience to NPC:** Kimberly Baker of Toole Insurance, Julia Dixon (a creative economy consultant), and Brian Berkel (a community volunteer who serves on multiple nonprofit boards).
- We were honored to assist Rep. Smitty Pignatelli's team with the **Food and Housing Insecurity Summit** in Lenox.

I am the coordinator for the Newtown (CT) Nonprofit Council. We've been really inspired by the work that the NPC Berkshires does and are setting up an event this November inspired by the legislative town halls that you have done. If you have any pointers about running a successful event like this we would really appreciate your expertise.

Lily Mac Hugh

OCTOBER

- NPC held its first north county **Volunteer Fair at Adams Theater**, a great space for community events.
- Our **Nonprofit Resource Fair** brought local and regional vendors to the Berkshire Innovation Center for networking with nonprofits and each other!



Nelson Fernandez, who moved to the Berkshires during COVID, contacted me in February to chat about where he could use his Spanish to give back to our community. In November, he appeared at our Volunteer Fair in Adams, representing Volunteers in Medicine, manning their table and telling others about his volunteer experience there. It was a great, full-circle reunion!

NOVEMBER

- It's an honor to be involved in the teachers' Professional Development Day for arts integration at the Linde Center where we shared information about NPC resources including a **directory of arts & education funders** created especially for teachers.
- **Meet the Donors** at Barrington Stage's Wolfson Center was a sold-out event with 9 panelists and over 80 attendees. Super informative and a bubbly networking time.



Meet the Donors is a fun event! Funders with big smiles include from left: Lori Kiely (Berkshire Bank), Kelly Sweet (Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation), Alison Brigham (Lee Bank), Meg Sanders (Canna Provisions), Jen Shumsky (Greylock Federal Credit Union), and Maureen Baran (Adams Community Bank).

Not shown: Jennifer Meehan (MountainOne), Anne Singleton (Williamstown Community Chest), Andy Wrba (Milltown Foundation)

DECEMBER

- We are proud to have earned **3 badges for nonprofit excellence and transparency**: GreatNonProfits Top Rated, 4-star Charity Navigator, and Platinum Guidestar.
- We acknowledged some important benchmarks including over **1000 referrals** since tracking began in 2018, **182 nonprofit members**, and 50 Business members.

Brava! Liana, you earned a perfect score from Charity Navigator. Congratulations. Well deserved.

Anne Pinkston
(The Coolidge Hill Foundation)



Use the QR code to link to GiveButter, our online giving platform.

Thank you!

2023 was a very full and successful year thanks to our supporters. If you are inspired by our work, you can help us do more in 2024!

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npcberkshires.org