

#### VOTING Histor RELATIONS Dustice CARTA IONS CITIZENSHIP AMERICA'S LEADERS REALITIES REPUBLIC DECLARATION EFE ER Disabedietice FOREIGN CRIMINAL TAXATION Society Uhigh STUDIES MUSLIM GLOBAL PUBLIC EQUALITY AGENDA SUF ROLE SOUTH NEW CRIMES **A**FFAIR U.S. CONTRAL OF SETTING OF TRUAL WAR FOLD GOLD ONSIBLE LEADERSHIP BLACK SETTING OCRATIC DREYFUS NATIONAL COURT ERA Native ΤY Saldiers SOCIAL P -FRONTIER PROCESS Deffersch Selecting PARTICIPATION KASHIGTH ERY ELECTION VCE OIL Dudiciary 2014 Annual Report



# **Our Mission**

Constitutional Rights Foundation seeks to instill in our nation's youth a deeper understanding of citizenship through values expressed in our Constitution and its Bill of Rights and to educate young people to become active and responsible participants in our society. CRF is dedicated to assuring our country's future by investing in our youth today.

# 2014 Annual Report

# Constitutional Rights Foundation Chair and President's Message

For over 50 years, Constitutional Rights Foundation has been a leading national nonprofit organization dedicated to engaging youth in their communities and expanding their career horizons by designing and promoting experiential civic education programs in the United States. Every year, CRF helps the next American generation to value and fulfill the principles upon which our democratic republic was founded. With an increasingly well-developed blend of in-person contact and online delivery of its curricular resources and programs, CRF is unique in the way it reaches out to both K-12 teachers and the students they teach every day from Los Angeles County to the State of California, and from coast to coast.

In Los Angeles, thanks to the participation of hundreds of law and business volunteers, we



Robert S. Stern *Chair* 



Marshall Croddy President

also conduct and support a range of hands-on programs — Mock Trial, Expanding Horizons Internships, Project LEAD — designed to educate and empower youth, particularly from underserved communities, to prepare for college, career, and civic life.

In 2014, our nationwide reach enabled us to obtain a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to better incorporate the Common Core State Standards into history/social studies instruction for middle and high school teachers. With this grant, CRF has assembled a talented cadre of educational professionals from California, Washington, Tennessee, and Michigan to assist our staff in enhancing existing programs and materials, such as History Experience and Civic Action Project, and in creating new materials, webinars, digital media, and professional development for teachers. With this grant, CRF is helping teachers use the Common Core to deepen students' learning in social studies classes across the country.

We are proud of the way CRF has always remained ahead of the curve, not only in creating effective and challenging civic-learning programs and publications, but also in using digital technology to make those programs and publications highly accessible to our constituencies. Through its online presence and innovative civic learning programs and publications, Constitutional Rights Foundation affects over 40,000 teachers and millions of students each year. Here are a few signature examples:

CRF's Mock Trial program is an educational competition and life-changing experience that teaches young people about law and the Constitution in a realistic trial simulation. Young people develop analytical, critical-thinking, and presentation skills that will transfer into any walk of life they choose in their college and career paths. Supported by hundreds of dedicated judge, lawyer, and teacher volunteers, over 8,000 students from 36 California counties participated in 2014's statewide competition, and a record of 136 middle and senior high schools participated in the Los Angeles County Mock Trial competition.

Over the years, our Expanding Horizons Internships program has provided intensive civic learning and college preparation seminars and work experience in professional settings to over 1,700 of Los Angeles' most deserving and underserved youth. Each summer, nearly 100 students are selected to experience this truly transformative and research-validated educational program that uniquely prepares them for civic life, college, and career.

Project LEAD, CRF's collaborative program with the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, reaches elementary school children in some 50 local classrooms. Conducted by teams of deputy district attorneys and other legal professionals each year, the program has been shown by research to help students resist delinquent behaviors, maintain positive attitudes about school, and increase respect for the law and the

legal profession. Now in an online format, the program is poised for adoption throughout the United States.

In addition, with funding from the S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation over the course of 2013 and 2014, CRF expanded and deepened the reach of Civic Action Project (CAP), CRF's project-based, civic-learning program for high school government courses. Called "the next major development in civic education" by one of the nation's leading civics researchers, the program educates young people about government and public policy as they take concrete civic actions to improve their communities and address issues and problems that the students themselves identify.

CAP is aligned to the Common Core State Standards, which call for an increased rigor in students' development of skills in English-language arts in the social studies curriculum, as well as in researching, supporting claims with textual evidence, and using critical thinking.

Highlights of CAP in 2014 include:

- CAP helped over 1,400 teachers more actively engage tens of thousands of students in 46 states in learning about government, public policy, and the role that citizens play in addressing important issues. CRF teamed with the California African American Museum to host a student-showcase of excellent CAP projects from throughout Southern California.
- We revised and updated the CAP website with new features, such as the teacher and student dashboards, to provide more effective access to the many resources available for a rewarding, civically engaged experience.
- We continued to recruit and develop student members of the nationwide CAP Youth Board, made up of exemplary students in CAP willing to coach other students in executing their civicaction projects. Youth Board members show an enthusiasm for helping others and sharing their knowledge, which are important dispositions of civically engaged citizens.

In 2014, Constitutional Rights Foundation celebrated 52 years of leadership on the path forward for millions of students toward a deeper understanding of and more active engagement in our democracy.

None of this would be possible without the countless hours of volunteer time provided by our volunteer judges, attorneys, teachers, and parents; the generosity of our donors; the guidance and dedication of our Board of Directors; and our talented staff. We thank them all.

Sincerely,

Bob Stern Chair

Manboll Ceoddy

Marshall Croddy President

# What is CRF?

Constitutional Rights Foundation is a non-profit, non-partisan educational organization dedicated to helping our nation's young people understand their rights and responsibilities as members of our democracy and helping them become well-informed, engaged, and active citizens. Established in 1962, CRF is guided by a dedicated board of directors drawn from the worlds of law, business, government, education, and the media.

CRF's professional staff includes teachers and educators, lawyers, writers and editors, and youth development specialists. Volunteers also provide vital support for many CRF programs and activities and serve as adult role models for youthful participants. To accomplish its goals and objectives, CRF applies its resources in the following areas:

Civic Action Project. In 2014, CRF continued to expand CAP, an innovative program that provides a dynamic civic education experience for students by preparing them to explore the connection between government and public policy beyond the four walls of the classroom. Through CAP, students choose an issue that matters to them and address the issue by taking "civic actions" to engage peers, policymakers, and other community stakeholders to initiate positive change. CAP features a 14-lesson curriculum linked to state standards; teacher professional development and support; and teacher and student project-planning tools. CAP also provides numerous opportunities for teachers to address Common Core State Standards through the use of updated CAP lessons and resources in their classrooms. Through the CAP website's new "Connect" feature, students from around the nation are able to discuss, publish, and share a variety of media describing their CAP issues and projects. The CAP Youth Board, which consists of CAP student alumni who act as peer coaches, continues to establish itself as an important resource for new CAP students currently engaged in developing their own CAP projects. During 2014, CRF staff developed and presented a variety of professional development sessions for social studies teachers resulting in the largest annual increase of teachers registering to





the CAP website for a total of 1,500 registrants across 47 states. Evaluation data of CAP's implementation this year once again demonstrated high levels of teacher satisfaction and improved civic competencies and capacities among students who participated in the CAP program.

**Mock Trial.** The Mock Trial program is designed to help California students learn about our judicial system. Each year since 1978, CRF has developed and distributed a new Mock Trial case and has administered the statewide Mock Trial competition. School districts in 36 California counties participated in the 2014 California Mock Trial competition, involving more than 8,000 students and 3,000 judge, lawyer, and teacher volunteers. CRF began the local competition in Los Angeles County in 1980 and still administers that competition in addition to the statewide competition.

**Expanding Horizons Internships.** This CRF program places qualified urban students in law firms, businesses, government offices, and nonprofit organizations. It empowers young people to serve as school and community leaders while they gain valuable paid work experience and college preparation. Since 1995, more than 1,720 students have participated in the program. In 2014, the program placed 70 local students in Los Angeles area offices.



**Professional Development for Teachers.** In 2014, CRF received a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to provide professional development and new curriculum resources for social studies teachers focused on new state standards, including Common Core. Over 1,200 teachers responded to CRF's pre-survey under this grant providing valuable data that we used to meet the needs of teachers nationwide. Working closely with talented educators from five states, we developed new lessons, webcasts, and webinars tightly aligned to Common Core. Along with online professional development, in 2014 we provided face-to-face sessions for teachers in California, Nebraska, and Tennessee.

Educating About Intellectual Property. With funding originally from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, CRF partnered with Street Law, Inc., to develop exciting web resources on intellectual property. The website has high-interest materials for teachers, librarians, media specialists, and students, including interactive online case studies on patents, trademarks, and copyright. The site also offers webcasts, classroom lessons, and links to current issues of intellectual property. In 2014, with continued funding from the International



Trademark Association, CRF and Street Law, Inc., facilitated classroom visits and student engagement events by local intellectual-property attorneys. Attorneys and teachers were recruited from around the nation with a focus on Los Angeles, San Francisco, Arizona, Florida, Washington D.C., Chicago, and New York.

**Educating About Immigration.** CRF developed this teacher-friendly set of lessons and web resources to spark students' knowledge and interest about this crucial topic. Designed for accessibility in the class-room and home, the website provides lessons, information, and a place for everyone to share their personal or family immigration story. In 2014, CRF updated the Educating About Immigration website for teachers with new polls, ongoing featured news about immigration policies, and the alignment of discussion materials with Common Core State Standards. Constructive lessons on current issues are a hallmark of Educating About Immigration website.

Lawyer in the Classroom. Two CRF programs provide students throughout Los Angeles County with a deeper understanding of the judicial system and its processes by connecting them with members of the legal community.

- *Courtroom to Classroom* brought judge and attorney teams to middle or high school classrooms where they engaged students with materials designed to support U.S. history and U.S. government courses.
- *The Appellate Court Experience* provided students with an opportunity to observe oral arguments in a criminal appeal, meet with presiding justices at the California State Court of Appeal, and engage in content-rich classroom activities.



Judges, Courts, and the Law. Since 2010, CRF has partnered with the Judicial Council of California to create Judges, Courts, and the Law, a website providing a rich set of resources to extend civics-based learning about the third branch of government to more and more classrooms. The site also features *Courts in the Classroom*, a lively, animated feature geared toward students and teachers alike.

**Project LEAD.** CRF has established this law-related education program in partnership with the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office to teach children that the choices they make today can affect their lives forever. The 20-week curriculum brings prosecutors into the classroom to teach lessons on social and legal consequences of juvenile crimes, such as truancy and illicit drug use, and includes lessons about conflict resolution, tolerance, and respect for diversity. The culminating mock trial gives students a hands-on experience of America's criminal justice system. The program is being implemented nationally and has recently been translated into French for a pilot program in Québec, Canada.

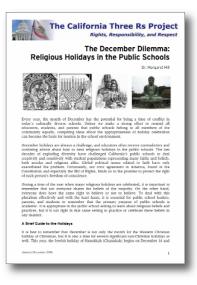


Publications. CRF's data-collection instruments estimate that CRF materials and publications reach nearly 2.4 million students annually. CRF's signature newsletter, *Bill of Rights in Action*, reached over 40,000 educators with four new issues to help teachers and students with content-rich, standardsbased curriculum on U.S. history, world history, U.S. government, and current issues. The themes for 2014 were Conflicts, War and the Military, War and Policy, and Leadership. In 2014, CRF increasingly aligned each article and classroom activity to Common Core State Standards.

In 2014, CRF's websites attracted more than 2 million unique visitors to buy materials from our publications catalog, access CRF programs, and download free online lesson plans and classroom materials.

California Three Rs Proj-

ect. CRF has long been a partner in this project to educate California's teachers about fostering rights, responsibility, and respect in teaching about religion and the First Amendment in our public schools. In 2014, we updated the format of the quarterly California Three Rs Bulletin, with timely news and articles contributed by leaders in the field of religious freedom in



schools. Every year, CRF organizes and hosts the annual meeting of the project's advisory board and planning committee comprised of partners from county offices of education, religious education nonprofits, and religious studies scholars to better provide vital information for school districts and the general public.

In 2014, CRF's 17 staff members were able to plan, develop, and deliver new and ongoing materials and programs, guided by a 59-member board of directors and underwritten by an approximately \$3.0 million budget.

# Constitutional Rights Foundation Statement of Unrestriced Activities

For the Year Ending December 31, 2014

#### **Revenues**

G	RANTS	
	Government	14,719
	Private	778,039
С	CONTRIBUTIONS	
	General	146,938
	Events (net of expenses)	985,732
	Donated materials,	
	services and facilities	302,758
11	NVESTMENT INCOME	260,045
Ν	1ATERIAL SALES	70,711
Р	ROGRAM FEES	371,410
0	THER SOURCES	25,786
		\$ 2,956,138
Expenses		1 711 774
	ROGRAM SERVICES	1,711,774
	DMINISTRATION	432,856
F	UND RAISING	207,376
		\$ 2,352,006

The above data has not yet been audited. A complete audited financial statement will be available upon request.

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# **Endowment Builders**

**Endowments make sure** that the future of CRF is secure. Since 1990, CRF has been fortunate to receive a number of endowments given by people who share our passion for civic education and support our mission, teaching young people how to be engaged citizens in our democracy.

CRF acknowledges with enormous gratitude past presidents who established endowments at CRF: Jerome C. Byrne, James A. Cobey, and Alan I. Rothenberg; to past board members, Jack Stutman and Robert Rosenstiel; and to our long-time supporters Phyllis and Robert Henigson for their continuing Life Income Gifts. We would also like to recognize Dr. Jama Laurent and the board of directors of the Creative Kids Foundation for establishing an endowment allowing CRF to place students as interns in arts organizations in Los Angeles. To all of you, a very special thank you. Most of all, we would like to send out a loud cheer and celebrate our champion of champions, Lloyd M. Smith, who throughout his life embodied the highest ideals of American democracy and believed in the importance that all young people be educated about their constitutional heritage. It was Lloyd who established the CRF Endowment Builders Program, ensuring that CRF's mission continue long into the future.

To all of our friends, supporters and donors, and to those people who have indicated that they will remember CRF in their will or by bequest: We thank you for your generosity and for the trust you have given us. Most important, we thank you on behalf of the students of tomorrow who will have opportunities to learn about and celebrate our Constitution and its Bill of Rights for generations to come. Thank you.

## Putting Stock in Our Future

# **Constitutional Rights Foundation** accepts stock donations.

Making a donation of stock today will provide an ongoing gift to educate children throughout the United States. The donation of stock is taxdeductible to the full extent of the law.

For more information on making a gift to Constitutional Rights Foundation, please contact us at (213) 316-2104.



Robert and Phyllis Henigson



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