



Educate. Participate. Empower.





Christopher H. Paskach *Chair*



Marshall Croddy President

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.

2017 Annual Report

From the Chair and President

Since 1962, Constitutional Rights Foundation (CRF) has educated and empowered young people for college, career, and civic life. Through direct programming, teacher professional development and online delivery of its high-quality curricular resources and programs, CRF affects tens of thousands of teachers and millions of students each year. In 2017 alone, CRF's award-winning main website and other websites, including Civic Action Project and Educating About Immigration, received more than three million unique visitors.

We are pleased that in December 2017, we received a grant from the W.M. Keck Foundation for a new project titled *Educational Resources for Teachers in the Common Core*. This project will bring new materials using CRF's signature deliberative discussion models in the social studies to teachers across the state and nation.

In 2017, CRF's highly regarded programming continued to have a national impact:

- Building on the success of its previous funding from the **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation**, CRF is now one of only six national organizations to have received a second grant to become part of the Gates Foundationfunded Center for the Future of Teaching & Learning's Teacher Practice Network. Through this new initiative, CRF launched the **Teacher-to-Teacher Collaboration** (T2T Collab), a project designed to enhance the instructional practices of social studies teachers in developing students' critical thinking and essential reading, writing, and discussion skills. CRF has recruited a talented cadre of teacher-leaders in California, North Carolina, and Florida for the T2T Collab. These teacher-leaders are working with CRF staff to create and provide online and face-to-face professional development to reach 15,000 teachers.
- With generous funding from the Morrison & Foerster Foundation, CRF has partnered with the Los Angeles Police Department to launch the Cops & Kids: Working Together for Peace on the Streets program. Cops & Kids, first created over 25 years ago in response to the Los Angeles civil unrest, is designed for middle-school classrooms to improve police-community relations. In a series of simulation models and role play, students have an opportunity to experience law enforcement from the point of view of police, suspects, and witnesses. By giving a realistic picture of the challenges faced by officers, the simulation helps students better understand the daily demands of police work. By using actual law enforcement officers as resources, young people and police interact in a positive learning environment. Through an innovative blend of standards-based curriculum and interactive classroom activities that educate students about the history of law enforcement, the scope and limits of police authority, and the responsibility of citizens to engage in efforts to improve public safety and police-community relations in their own communities. On April 28, 2017, CRF and the LAPD co-hosted a Cops & Kids conference at the LAPD Academy in Elysian Park, which featured the participation of four L.A.-area

middle schools, 400 students, and 40 LAPD officers. Pre- and post-surveys of youth and officers demonstrated the program's potential to increase positive police-community relations and to educate youth about the scope and limits of police authority. CRF is working closely with the LAPD's Community Relationship Division to expand adoption of Cops & Kids activities in local middle schools and to establish a website that will facilitate adoption of Cops & Kids materials and activities in school-communities nationwide.

- CRF's **Civic Action Project** (CAP), an online, civic-learning program for high school government courses continues to expand. In 2017, CAP expanded to 3,500 teachers nationwide, helping us actively engage tens of thousands of students in 49 states. Perhaps one story best illustrates the urgency and importance of CAP. Leonardo graduated in May 2017 from Los Angeles Global Studies High School, a Title 1 charter school-within-a-school in downtown Los Angeles. Leo's CAP team chose to work on homelessness, and Leo himself is one of the thousands of homeless youth in Los Angeles. Leo's team focused on modifying part of a city policy qualifying youth for shelter services. The students worked with the different branches of local government and community agencies and presented a briefing before the Los Angeles City Council that earned the applause and the support of every council member. In summer 2017, Leo was selected to speak at a national meeting on civic education in Philadel-phia. He shared how CAP changed his life and the lives of others in his community by "empowering us with the ability" to understand how to solve real-world problems by working with government to impact public policy.
- Our flagship curricular publication, *Bill of Rights in Action*, with motivating and interactive lessons for U.S. government, U.S. history, and world history classrooms has over 41,000 print and electronic subscribers throughout the country.
- In California and Los Angeles, our range of high impact, hands-on programs Mock Trial, Expanding Horizons Internships, Project LEAD offer life-changing educational opportunities to youth, particularly from underserved communities.
- CRF's **Mock Trial** is an educational competition that teaches young people about law, the Constitution, and the trial process in a realistic simulation. Young people develop analytical, critical-thinking, and presentation skills that promote their success on 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 the 2017 statewide competition, and an all-time high of 156 middle and high school teams took part in the Los Angeles County competition.
- For over 20 years, our Expanding Horizons Internships program has provided intensive civic learning and college preparation seminars and work experience in professional settings to over 1,750 of Los Angeles's most deserving and underserved youth. Each summer, 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**, our collaborative program with the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, reaches elementary school children in some 50 local classrooms and is available online to make it accessible to students and their teachers nationwide. 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.

All of this is possible only because of the critical support of our donors, the commitment of our Board of Directors, the energy and talent of our staff, and the dedication of our volunteer judges, lawyers, and business professionals. We gratefully thank them all.

By working together we can continue to educate and empower each new generation of America's young people.

Sincerely,

Christopher H. Paskach Board Chair

Janboll Coddy

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 area:

Civic Action Project. In 2017, CRF continued to expand Civic Action Project (CAP), an innovative program that provides a dynamic, civic-education experience for students by preparing them to explore the connection between social issues, government, and public policy beyond the four walls of the classroom. Through CAP, students choose an issue that matters to them and take "civic actions" to address the issue, engaging peers, policymakers, and other community stakeholders to initiate positive change. CAP features a 15-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. On the CAP website, 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 projects.

During 2017, CRF staff presented a variety of professional development sessions for social studies teachers resulting in the biggest annual increase yet of teachers registering online for the CAP program, now totaling over 3,700 registrants across 49 states and in five continents, including Africa, Asia, Europe, and South America. Evaluation data of CAP activities this year once again demonstrated high levels of teacher satisfaction and improved civic capacities among students who participated in the CAP program.

Cops & Kids: Working Together for Peace on the Streets. In 2017, and with generous funding from the Morrison & Foerster Foundation, CRF partnered with the LAPD to launch its Cops & Kids program for middle schools. Cops & Kids is designed to improve police-community relations through an innovative blend of standards-based curriculum and interactive classroom activities that educate students about the history of law enforcement, the scope and limits of police authority, and the responsibility of citizens to engage in efforts to improve public safety and policecommunity relations in their own communities. On April 28, 2017, CRF and the LAPD co-hosted a Cops & Kids conference at the LAPD Academy in Elysian Park, which featured the participation of four L.A.-area middle schools, 400 students, and 40 LAPD officers. Preand post-surveys of youth and officers demonstrated the program's potential to increase positive police-community relations and to educate youth about the scope



and limits of police authority. CRF is working closely with the LAPD's Community Relationship Division to expand adoption of Cops & Kids activities in local middle schools and to establish a website that will facilitate adoption of Cops & Kids materials and activities in school-communities nationwide.

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 Los Angeles County Mock Trial competition. School districts in 36 California counties participated in the 2017 California Mock Trial competition, involving more than 8,000 students and 3,000 judge, lawyer, and teacher volunteers. CRF began the statewide competition in 1981 and still administers that competition in addition to the Los Angeles County competition.

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 been translated into French and expanded into schools in Québec, Canada.

Expanding Horizons Internships. This CRF program places qualified urban students in law firms, businesses, government offices, and nonprofit organizations. The program empowers young people to serve as school and community leaders while they gain valuable paid work experience and college preparation. Since 1995, more than 1,800 students have participated in the program. In 2017, the program placed 59 local students in Los Angeles area offices.

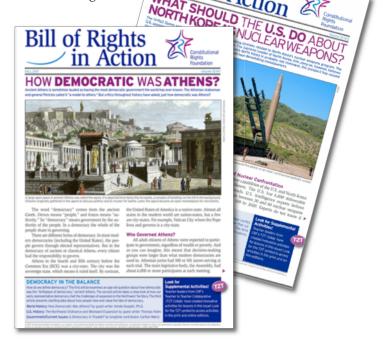
Teacher-to-Teacher Collaboration. In 2017, CRF is in the second year of a two year grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation through its initiative of The Center for the Future of Teaching & Learning's Teacher Practice Network. CRF is one of six national organizations funded in 2016 on this project, which is designed to facilitate and scale teacher-leader support for Common Core-aligned instruction. CRF is working with a cadre of skilled teacher-leaders to helm Teacher-to-Teacher Collaboration (T2T Collab), a program to develop lessons and deliver professional development to instill civil conversation and deliberative discussion in social-studies classrooms.



Publications. CRF's data-collection instruments estimate that CRF materials and publications reach nearly 2.5 million students annually. CRF's signature periodical, *Bill of Rights in Action*, reached over 40,000 educators with four new issues to help teachers and students with content-rich, standards-based curriculum on U.S. history, world history, U.S. government, and current issues. The themes for 2017 were Economic Crisis, Challenging Ideas, Democracy in the Balance, and Flashpoints.

In 2017, CRF's websites attracted more than three million visitors to access programs, buy materials from our catalog, and download free lesson plans and classroom materials. Educators access our websites for Civic Action Project, Educating About Immigration, Educating About Intellectual Property, The California Three Rs Project, and Project LEAD, among others, for online resources for the social studies and civic education. CRF continued adding lessons to our latest website feature Civics on Call, a one-stop page for classroom-ready lessons

on issues of the day. Among the lessons added in 2017 were "Understanding 'Fake /



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News'," "How Should We Judge Our Nation's Founders?," "The Emoluments Clause and the President," and "What Should the U.S. Do About North Korea's Nuclear Weapons?."

CRF continues to raise its profile on social media, with a steady growth of page likes and followers on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

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 classroom and home, the website provides lessons, information, and a place for everyone to share their personal or family immigration story. In 2017, CRF updated lessons on current issues for the Educating About Immigration website on controversial subjects, including immigration enforcement raids, and added a new lesson "Immigration Enforcement and Policy" developed in partnership with Public Counsel. The website includes ongoing featured news about immigration policies. Constructive lessons on current issues are a hallmark of Educating About Immigration's online resources.

Judges, Courts, and the Law. Since 2010, CRF has part-

nered 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.

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.

California Three Rs Project. CRF administers this project to educate California's teachers and administrators about fostering rights, responsibility, and respect in teaching about religion in our public schools with the First Amendment as a guide. In 2017, CRF staff worked with the Los Angeles County Office of Education to produce two videos, for teachers and school administrators, respectively, on the implementation and impact of the FAIR Education Act in California. We published the California Three Rs Bulletin featuring "Religion in California's New History-Social Science Framework." CRF presented professional-development trainings for educators at several "rollout conferences" for the new History-Social Science Framework, as well. CRF hosted the annual meeting at the California Department of Education in Sacramento for the project's advisory council and planning committee, comprised of partners from county offices of education, religious freedom nonprofit groups, and religious studies scholars.

In 2017, CRF's 17 staff members were able to plan, develop, and deliver new and ongoing materials and programs, guided by a 63-member board of directors and underwritten by an approximately \$2.7 million operation.



Constitutional Rights Foundation

Statement of Unrestriced Activities

For the Year Ending December 31, 2017

Revenues

	GRANTS		
	Government	154,459	5%
	Private	546,138	16%
	CONTRIBUTIONS		
	General	184,097	6%
	Events (net of expenses) Donated materials, services	662,820	20%
	and facilities	546,834	17%
	INVESTMENT INCOME/(LOSS)	671,727	20%
	MATERIAL SALES	49,869	1%
	PROGRAM FEES	410,784	13%
	OTHER SOURCES	22,784	1%
		\$ 3,245.511	100%
Expenses			
	PROGRAM SERVICES	2,331,217	84%
	ADMINISTRATION	255,074	9%
	FUND RAISING	191,084	7%
		\$ 2,777,375	100%

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

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Constitutional Rights Foundation

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Securing the Future for Generations to Come

Endowment Builders

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.



Lloyd M. and Edith Smith*





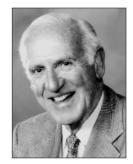
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We acknowledge with enormous gratitude those who have pledge to include CRF in their estate planning.

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