### 2020 Impact Report

**Celebrating Five Years of Amazing!** 



#### BE MORE THAN A LEADER. BE A DRAGON.



THE DRAGON KIM

## BE MORE THAN A LEADER BE A DRAGON

### A DRAGON...

knows life is a gift and lives it to the fullest believes life is what he makes it, and makes it amazing works hard to achieve what doesn't come naturally to her perseveres through adversity – even tragedy – to lift up others is quick to offer a hand and unafraid to ask for help inspires others to find the fire in their belly leads with head and heart empowers other dragons

What if every person in the world lived like a dragon? What if we helped everyone discover his inner dragon?

### TOGETHER WE CAN





### **OUR STORY**

In August 2015, while we were on a family camping trip in Yosemite, a massive tree branch fell on the tent in which our beloved son, Dragon, and his dear friend, Justin Lee, were sleeping. Dragon and Justin were instantly killed.

They say grief is love with nowhere to go. Our love for Dragon needed somewhere to land. We established The Dragon Kim Foundation in Dragon's honor to carry on his love of life and to make it possible for other young people to pursue their passions.

Dragon loved many things -- math, his dogs, hanging out with friends, guacamole. But most of all, Dragon loved music. As a freshman at the Orange County School of the Arts, Dragon and a few friends had gathered to discuss how they could provide musical instruments and instruction to underserved kids in Santa Ana, where their school is located. So as the first project of The Dragon Kim Foundation, we started a music program to bring Dragon's dream of helping kids learn and love music to life.

But the bigger thing was, we had always told our children that it was their job to find what they love to do. Unfortunately, not all children have those opportunities, so the mission of the Foundation has been to give children, regardless of socio-economic background, access to opportunities to pursue what they enjoy, and in the process, to make great changes in their communities.

Dragon was our shining star -- bright, warm, generous, and always beaming. He cared deeply not only for family but for his friends and those around him. The photo you see here is our last family photo, taken on the day we lost Dragon. We believe the best way to keep Dragon's spirit alive is by supporting the achievements of others. Thank you for joining us for 5 years of making an impact through the Dragon Kim Foundation.

Love, Grace, Daniel, and Hannah Kim

# OUR 3 PR

Sept 2015

May 2016-2020

Establishment - Dragon Kim Foundation



Jan 2016

#### **1. MUSIC PROGRAM**

Dragon loved music and wanted to share his passion with underserved children. In January 2016, the Foundation brought Dragon's dream to life by providing instruction and musical instruments free of charge to underserved children in Santa Ana. This program inspired the high school students and teachers to share their love of music and experience the joy of supporting an underserved community.

We give tribute to the Orange County School of the Arts (OCSA) and the California School of the Arts - San Gabriel Valley for their ongoing support, and especially recognize Teren Shaffer and Jeffrey de Seriere, who have shepherded the Music Program to what it is today.



2. SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

We've provided several \$5,000 college scholarships to talented and dedicated high school seniors to help them pursue their college educations.

We've also sponsored two talented junior high school students as part of the Artist-Scholar Program at the Orange County School of the Arts.

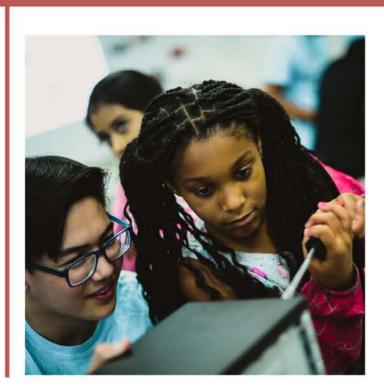
# RAMS

#### Summer 2017

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Sept 2018 Mar 2020



#### 3. FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

We launched the Fellowship Program with a simple question: "What would you do to change your corner of the world?" The first class of Dragon Fellows included five projects and 12 high school students; we now have over 50 Dragon Fellows each year running projects that impact their communities.



#### COVID-19 Response Projects

COVID-19 created numerous challenges, but the Dragons are resilient and continue their work, often differently than originally planned. We encourage our youth to make a difference, and the world needs them now more than ever!



#### The Dragon Challenge

The Dragon Challenge competition gives our Dragons a chance to present to business leaders, with one team receiving an additional \$5,000 to continue their projects. We launched the Dragon Challenge in 2018 and plan to run this event annually.

### FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

#### The Fellowship Program provides:



**Leadership Training** Three full weekends of training

### Fellowship Timeline





Mentorship Guidance throughout the process



**Funding** Up to \$5,000 grant per Fellowship

#### Fall:

We reach out to high schools all over Calilfornia. Applications open October 1.

#### Winter:

Students apply by the mid January deadline. Our Admissions Committee reviews all applications and interviews finalists to choose a class of Dragon Fellows.

#### Spring:

The Dragon Fellows participate in three weekends of leadership training, weekly team check-ins, and meetings with their mentors to develop their project.

#### Summer:

Dragon Fellows run their projects, helping others in their communities. They present their projects in early September, and the top projects compete in the Dragon Challenge to win continued funding and support.

#### **OUR MENTORS**



Mentors are central members of the DKF family. They guide our Dragon Fellows to develop and implement their projects, and perhaps even more importantly, provide critical feedback and encouragement along the way!

#### **Examples of Fellowship Projects**



Saving Senior's Stories



A Life in Tapestry



**Team STEAM** 

- Saving Senior's Stories Toby and Claire interview and film seniors in senior living facilities to create mini-documentary keepsakes for friends and family.
- Trudie Strobel: A Life in Tapestry Maya and Lila curate the first art exhibit of the tapestries of artist and Holocaust survivor, Trudie Strobel, to share the lessons of the Holocaust.
- Team STEAM Sophia creates free take-home STEAM education kits that marry science concepts with fun for underserved elementary school children to supplement online learning during COVID-19 quarantine.



#### STORIES OF GROWTH: RUBEN SANCHEZ AND BRYAN LE

Teammates Ruben and Bryan ran their Fellowship project, Computers for All, to expose children in a Los Angeles transitional shelter to technology by teaching them to build computers from components. First generation college students, Bryan is now majoring in aerospace engineering at Cal State Long Beach, and Ruben is studying computer science at Stanford University.

## **DRAGON CHALLENGE**

After the Fellowship graduation, three Dragon Fellowship teams are chosen to compete at the Dragon Challenge, where a group of distinguished judges conduct a "Shark Tank" type of interview to award \$5,000 to one team to continue their program. In 2019, we were joined by these amazing judges:

- Mohamed El-Erian, Chief Economic Adviser at Allianz, incoming president of Queens' College at University of Cambridge
- Sarah Kiani, Director of the Masimo Foundation for Ethics, Innovation and Competition in Healthcare
- Jonathan Levin, Dean of the Stanford Graduate School of Business



### STORIES OF GROWTH: ISABELLA AND SOPHIA MADRIGAL

Isabella and Sophia, sisters from the Cahuilla tribe of Indians, wanted to educate the world about the devastating murder/kidnapping rates of Native American women and girls. To tell that story, Isabella wrote a play, *Menil & Her Heart*, which the sisters produced and performed to audiences all over California, reaching over 1,000 people. Following her Fellowship, Isabella was invited to speak about this issue at the U.N. This Fall, Isabella will be attending Harvard University.



Our Dragons execute their projects in partnership with wonderful community partners. We've had the privilege of working with over 50 organizations, including:



#### **PARTNER SPOTLIGHT**



The OC Rescue Mission provides transitional and emergency housing for over 250 homeless men, women, and children. We've partnered with them for the last three summers to provide educational opportunities for their kids, such as the *Children Read Together* project, run by Alexies and Jessica to help teach reading and share their love for books.

#### **OCSA and CSArts-SGV**

Orange County School of the Arts and California School of the Arts - San Gabriel Valley are two organizations near and dear to our hearts. We've partnered with them for all three of our programs -the Music Program, the Scholarship Program, and the Fellowship Program. We share a common mission of encouraging and supporting students to pursue their passions, and for working to improve access to the arts in our communities.



## **OUR MUSIC PROGRAM**

We're Bringing Music to Life! Our Music Program's new vision statement continually reminds us to strive for musical excellence, prioritize arts for those in need, and carry on Dragon's spirit by honoring his commitment to service.



#### We started a choir!

We've sponsored a band, orchestra, and general music program. This year, we added a choir program! Choir Students are learning to sing and use Orff instruments.

We're proud & impressed by how well they sing!!





Our incredible high school teaching assistants never give up, even amidst the COVID-19 shut down. With The Mix Academy, we launched an online class teaching 29 students 1-1 guitar and violin lessons.



#### A LASTING IMPACT



We're doing more to bring music to life by inspiring our volunteers to pursue a career in music education. This past year, we developed a new format where our 50+ high school student teachers were mentored by master teachers. They developed best practices for teaching and received weekly feedback on their lessons. Many prospective educators do not receive this kind of student teaching experience until six years of post-secondary work! It is a one-of-a-kind program, and we've already seen the impact it has had, on both our 4-6th grade students and our high school student teachers.

## **Our People**

Meet our Staff

### Our team is small but MIGHTY

Grace Kim Executive Director



Arie Lugo Fellowship Program Manager



Aubree Roney Music Program Manager



Lisa Tang Foundation Intern



Isabella Madrigal Fellowship Intern



**Evan Kowal** Fellowship Intern



Daniel Zhu Fellowship Intern

### **Board of Directors**



Grace Kim Executive Director



**Daniel Kim** Chairman



**Thao Ngo** Treasurer



Stacy Handley Secretary



Bonnie Carlson Board Member



Teren Shaffer Board Member



Kerri Sonenshine Board Member



William Tate Board Member



Helen Yi Board Member





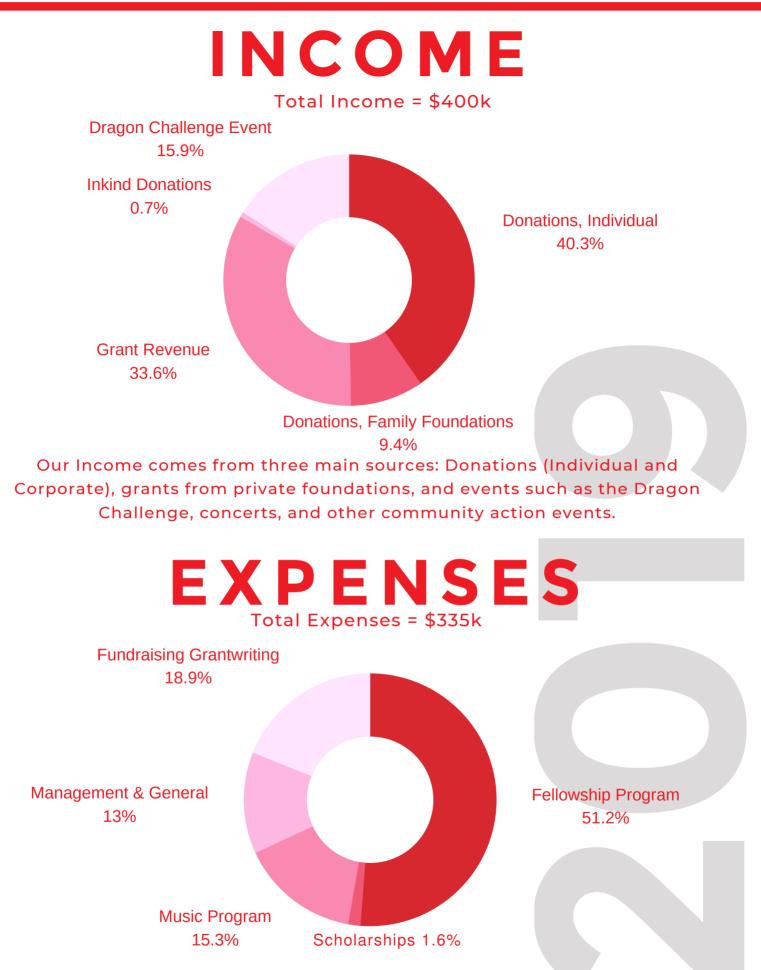
Our income has increased steadily over the last five years, starting with individual donations from friends and family in 2015, to over \$400,000 annually in 2019. These funds have allowed us to grow our programs and our impact, year over year. Thank you to our tried and true supporters as well as our first time donors for their gifts that are changing lives.

#### **THANK YOU DONORS**

We are thankful for each and every one of our donors, big and small, whose gifts have made such an impact.







We are fiscally responsible and thoughtful about managing expenses to maximize our ability to make a difference in our community. Primary expenses derive from funding to support Fellowship projects, staff compensation, and professional fees.

## **OUR IMPACT**

"The Foundation's work is incredibly multifaceted. Not only does it allow opportunities for growth for Dragon Fellows, it also allows participating professionals the opportunity to learn and grow through the mentorship program.".

-Kingston Technology Volunteer, 2020 Mentor Program

"You taught me so much about courage and not being afraid to put myself out there that I can say with all honesty you truly changed my life."

-Dragon Fellow, 2018 Fellowship Program

## **MEDIA COVERAGE**

Our programs and participants have received significant local and national media coverage. We're grateful for the chance to bring more awareness to our programs!





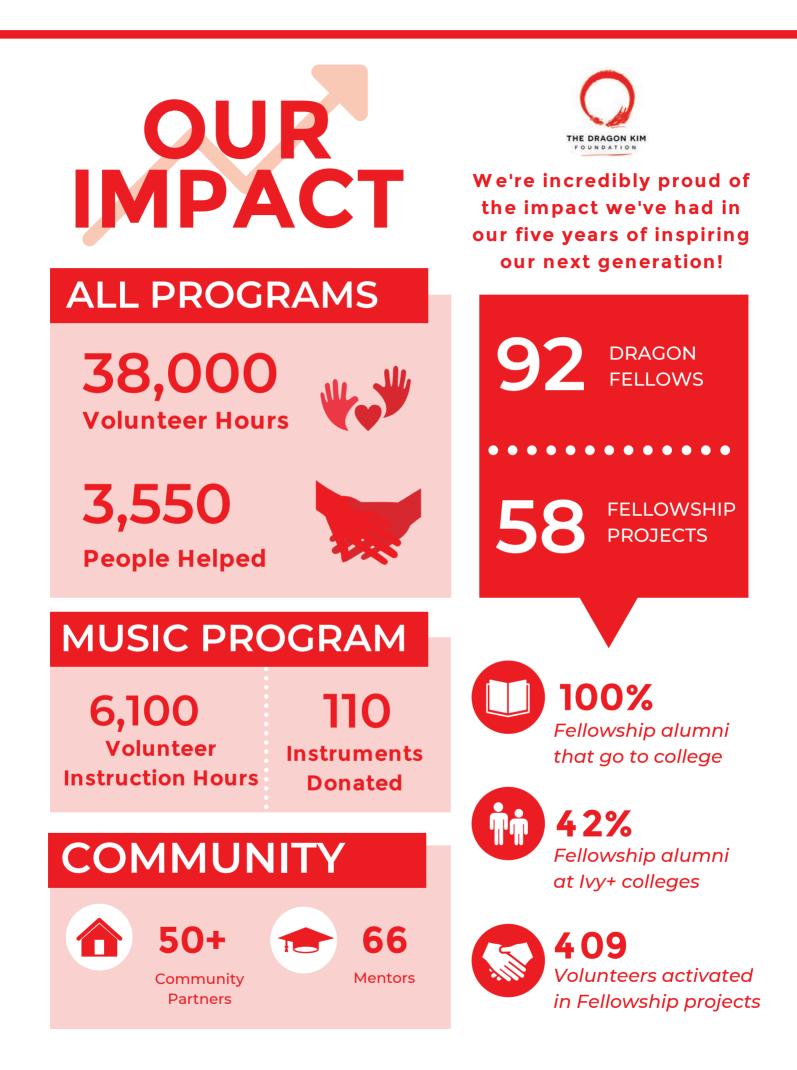
Youth Outdoor Science Education (NBC: August 11, 2019)

Daniel and Grace Kim (Spectrum News: August 28, 2019)



The San Diego Union-Tribune THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE











Our mission is to inspire our youth to impact their communities while discovering and pursuing their passions





