Dear Friends,

2018 was an incredible year for youth-led activism. Students organized walkouts and rallies, utilizing tools of the digital age to invigorate social movements. They spoke truth to power, challenging politicians to address difficult and pressing issues. They turned out in record numbers to vote in the midterm elections, influencing races that had long been considered noncompetitive. Time and again, we were reminded that there is no force stronger, or more potent, than a critical mass of young people who believe in the power of their own voices.

At Discovering Justice, 2018 has been a year for reflection and innovation as we continue to lead in the field of civics education. It is more important than ever to impart the importance of government, civics, and electoral politics on our young people. Together with a community of teachers, district leaders, donors, and volunteers, we have accomplished a great deal:

- **We’re raising the bar for civic learning in Massachusetts.** Associate Director Ann Gogol served on the Massachusetts History and Social Science Review Panel, which revised the State’s curriculum frameworks to incorporate civics at every grade level. We also advocated for Massachusetts Bill S. 2631, *An Act to Promote and Enhance Civic Engagement*, which was signed by the Governor.

- **We’re reaching more students.** At a time when our programs are urgently needed, we’re expanding our reach to new schools and districts. In the 2017-18 school year, we worked with more than 200 new teachers and 5,000 students.

- **We’re measuring impact and building capacity.** We worked with Impact Academy to launch an evaluation of our impact, the results of which are included in this report. We’re also taking steps to strengthen our organizational capacity—including hiring three new staff and launching our first full-time internship program—so that we can meet the growing demand for our programs without sacrificing quality.

As we look to 2019, it is hard to overstate the urgency of our mission. In the coming year, we will continue the important work of preparing young people to be good stewards of democracy and fierce advocates for a government that is just, transparent, and responsive to the needs of the people. On behalf of our staff, students, teachers, board members, and volunteers—we are so grateful for your partnership. Together, we can support the young people who are changing our world.

In hope and solidarity,

Tony Jordan
Board Chair

Jon Spack
Executive Director
Just as socioeconomic status largely determines the educational opportunities a student will receive, it also predicts a student’s opportunity for civic learning and engagement, as well as the likelihood of participation in civic life.

“Civic Deserts”—defined in the Civic Health Index as communities without opportunities for civic engagement—are increasingly common in the United States, with nearly 60% of rural young Americans and nearly a third of urban and suburban young Americans living in communities where opportunities for civic learning and participation are scarce.

A study by the Jonathan M. Tisch College for Civic Life at Tufts University found that young people in civic deserts are alienated from their roles in civil society: only 25.7% of students living in civic deserts believed they had a legitimate voice (compared to 34-38% of students living in communities with moderate to high civic access), only 26% had an interest in politics (compared to 34-43% of students with moderate to high access), and only 36.3% believed organized citizens can affect public policies (compared to 57-58% of students with moderate to high access). Without educational systems that support civic learning, students fail to develop the skills and confidence they need to participate fully in civic life.

“High-quality civic education prepares students to help the nation solve difficult, challenging, complex issues and makes it a better, more equitable place to live with genuine opportunity for all.”

- John King, Former U.S. Secretary of Education
WHAT WE DO

614
ORGANIZATION VOLUNTEERS

80
LEGAL & CORPORATE PARTNERS

1,200
ACTIVE TEACHERS

146
SCHOOLS & ORGANIZATIONS

DISCOVERING JUSTICE OFFERS THREE STUDENT-CENTERED PROGRAMS:

• **Children Discovering Justice (CDJ)** is a literacy-based, experiential, K-8 civics and social studies curriculum. Through the use of children’s literature, informational texts, primary source documents, and engaging projects and activities, Children Discovering Justice provides students with the tools to explore the principles of our democracy and understand their role in participatory government.

• **Courthouse Field Trips** are a crucial curriculum element for each grade, providing students with the opportunity to apply what they’ve learned in the classroom and witness democracy “in action.” Students participate in mock trials during which they develop arguments, consider opposing sides, and build on their knowledge of government and the justice system, all with the help of more than 500 community volunteers.

• **After School Mock Trial & Appellate Programs** offer middle school students an in-depth introduction to the justice system. Over the course of a semester, students travel to law firms to meet with attorneys and legal staff, who teach them to engage in legal analysis. Students build their self-confidence and skills as critical thinkers, writers, public speakers, and advocates.

OUR APPROACH

The **mission** of Discovering Justice is to prepare young people to value the justice system, realize the power of their own voices, and embrace civic responsibility by connecting courtrooms and classrooms. Our **theory of change** is this: by providing students with an enriching, experiential civics education that emphasizes critical thinking, compassion, and self-discernment—values that underpin our democracy—we can prepare young people for the complex challenges of democratic citizenship, cultivate empathy across social and cultural barriers, and empower voices that might otherwise go unheard. By working with students from a young age, we ensure that by the time students reach adolescence, they view democratic citizenship as an important part of their identity.
3,485 students and 165 teachers gained access to our Children Discovering Justice curriculum.

3485

3.485 students and 165 teachers gained access to our Children Discovering Justice curriculum.

77% of students participating in our Children Discovering Justice curriculum demonstrated moderate to strong gains in civic knowledge.

75%

75% of teachers utilizing our curriculum feel better equipped to teach civics to their students.

SCALING UP BEST PRACTICES FOR ALL STUDENTS

We believe that civics education shouldn’t be an add-on, but rather an essential component of a well-rounded curriculum. Children Discovering Justice—our literacy-based civics curriculum—provides students with a framework to understand their role as participants and co-creators of a thriving democracy. Discovering Justice offers training, professional development, and intensive ongoing support to teachers, helping them to hone best practices for effective civic learning in K-8 classrooms.

Discovering Justice is continuing to innovate in the field of civic learning. This year, we launched our Culturally Responsive Teaching Summer Institute, an opportunity for educators to examine their assumptions about race, class, gender, and culture and reflect on their teaching practice in order to create classrooms that empower students intellectually, socially, emotionally, and politically.

“Everybody listened to what other people had to say, which made it feel safe, and made me want to participate.”

- 3rd grade student, Josiah Quincy School
“I was surprised by how some students came out of their shell and really spoke well in the courtroom. I refer back to that moment to remind them of their potential.”

- Third Grade Teacher, Somerville Public Schools

COURTHOUSE FIELD TRIPS

CONNECTING CLASSROOMS AND COURTSROOMS

Through our Courthouse field trips, Discovering Justice is moving school districts beyond content-based civics in order to foster active citizenship outside of the classroom. In real courtrooms, students have the opportunity to grapple with legal and social issues by litigating real and imagined court cases. From assigning accountability in the case of Goldilocks and the Three Bears, to defining the constitutional rights of students via the landmark Supreme Court case *Tinker v. Des Moines*, students gain a deeper understanding of how our judicial system functions and learn how to think critically, consider alternate points of view, and move past biases to build empathy for others.

With the support of more than 500 volunteers, Discovering Justice facilitates field trips at District Courthouses in Boston, Worcester, and Springfield, transforming public spaces into hubs of civic learning and activity for thousands of students across Massachusetts.
Discovering Justice provides opportunities for students to delve deeper into our nation’s political and judicial systems through our after school programs. During Mock Trial, teams of students partner with volunteer attorneys to litigate real Supreme Court cases, engaging in legal analysis as they develop arguments, grapple with constitutional questions, and prepare to make their case in front of a real judge and jury. During Stand Up For Your Rights, students have the opportunity to follow their case through the appeals process, preparing detailed arguments to be presented before a judicial panel. Both programs focus on the first and fourth amendments, and deal directly with the rights of students in schools.

Under the mentorship of practicing attorneys, students become critical thinkers, persuasive speakers, and skilled advocates, developing skills that help them to become college, career, and civic ready.

“It was very encouraging for me to have a Massachusetts Justice telling me that they truly believed that I could be a lawyer. I wouldn’t have thought about taking my LSATs if it wasn’t for Discovering Justice.”

- Former Participant, Stand Up For Your Rights

MOCK TRIAL & STAND UP FOR YOUR RIGHTS

JUSTICE FOR ALL

464 students from Boston, Chelsea, Lawrence, Lowell, New Bedford, Springfield, and Worcester participated in our Mock Trial and Stand Up For Your Rights after school programs.

67% of students demonstrated gains in civic dispositions (i.e. political attentiveness, understanding of participatory citizenship, social justice literacy, and connection to the community).

78% of students developed an improved understanding of the role and importance of impartial jurors.

75% of participating students develop a strong interest in pursuing a career in law.
"It teaches students that their voice is important and valuable. That they have rights, and the ability to stand up for those rights."

- Middle School Teacher, Brooke Charter School
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

TOTAL REVENUES FOR JULY 1, 2017 TO JUNE 30, 2018

- Foundations: $369,334
- Law Firms & Corporations: $314,598
- Individuals: $258,407
- In-Kind: $600,598
- Program Revenue: $41,581
- Investment Income: $80,970

TOTAL REVENUE: $1,665,488
OUR STAFF & BOARD

STAFF
Jon Spack
Executive Director
Ann Gogol
Associate Director
Julie McNulty
Development Director
Yves Singletary
Program Director
Jan Shafer
Education Director
Dakotah Kennedy
Legal Programs Manager
Johnny Sadoff
Senior Program Associate
Ashleandra Opoku
Program & Operations Associate
Gaby Watson
Development & Communications Associate

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:
Tony Jordan, Board Chair
Partner, Ernst & Young LLP
Joshua Levy, Vice Chair
Partner, Ropes & Gray
Cynthia Malm, Vice Chair
Historic Preservation Advocate
Jeremy Eismann, Treasurer
AVP & Legislative Counsel, Liberty Mutual
Abim Thomas, Clerk
Head of Global Litigation Vertex Pharmaceuticals
Deborah S. Birnbach
Partner, Goodwin Procter
Thaddeus Beal
Painter, Former Partner, Nixon Peabody
John Chu
Managing Partner, Chu, Ring, & Hazel
Richard Henken
President, Schochet Companies
Peter Levine,
Professor of Citizenship & Public Affairs,
Jonathan M. Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service, Tufts University
Joseph J. Mueller
Partner, WilmerHale
Carmen Ortiz
Former U.S. Attorney
Counsel, Anderson & Krieger
Michael Parini
Executive Vice President and Chief Legal and Administrative Officer, Vertex Pharmaceuticals
Jonathan Spack
Former CEO, TSNE MissionWorks
Gary A. Spiess
Former Executive Vice President and General Counsel, FleetBoston Financial Company

DISCOVERING JUSTICE 2018
Our donors make this critical work possible. Thank you for supporting Discovering Justice.

$50,000+
Attorney Admissions Fund
Goodwin Procter LLP
Ropes & Gray LLP
Vertex Pharmaceuticals
WilmerHale

$25,000+
Deborah & Norman Birnbach
Amy & Joshua Boger
The Boston Foundation
Nonnie & Richard Burnes
Cabot Family Charitable Trust
Cummings Foundation
Lincoln and Therese Filene Foundation, Inc.
Wellington Management Foundation

$10,000+
Sarah Holt & Thaddeus Beal
Nicole and David Chang
Chu, Ring & Hazel LLP
Dina & John Chu
Clinton H. & Wilma T. Shattuck Charitable Trust
Cogan Family Foundation
Cossette Charitable Fund
Amy & Nate Dalton
Eastern Bank
Ernst & Young LLP
Fidelity Investments
General Electric Company
Haug Partners LLP
Highland Street Foundation
Hogan Lovells US LLP
Rachel Rock & Joshua Levy
Liberty Mutual Foundation
Liberty Mutual Insurance

$5,000+
Allison & Joseph Mueller
Michael Parini
Pearson Foundation Fund
Pfizer
Sanofi Genzyme
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP
Kate and Benjamin Taylor
Vila B. Webber Charitable Trust

Anonymous
Brown Rudnick LLP
Catherine & John Bueker
Butters, Brazilian LLP
Cambridge Community Foundation
Cambridge Trust Company
Casner & Edwards LLP
CeTrulo LLP
Conn Kavanaugh Rosenthal Peisch & Ford, LLP
Cornerstone Research
Laura Cutler

Charles River Associates
Zachary Cloyd
Davis Malm & D’Agostine P.C.
Donoghue Barrett & Singal, P.C.
Betsy & Mark Gabrielson
Goulston & Storrs
Ernest Haddad
Hirsch Roberts Weinstein
Kristine & Tony Jordan
Lando & Anastasi LLP
Emiley & Keith Lockhart
Massachusetts Business Association
Terence McGinnis
Melick & Porter, LLP
Mintz
Nutter McClennen & Fish, LLP
Lisa Pirozzolo
Seyfarth Shaw LLP
Sunstein Kann Murphy & Timbers LLP
The Lynch Foundation
The Rogers Family Foundation
The Schochet Companies
Wolf Greenfield

$1,000+
Anonymous
Brown Rudnick LLP
Catherine & John Bueker
Butters, Brazilian LLP
Cambridge Community Foundation
Cambridge Trust Company
Casner & Edwards LLP
CeTrulo LLP
Conn Kavanaugh Rosenthal Peisch & Ford, LLP
Cornerstone Research
Laura Cutler
UP TO $1,000

Dawn Aiello
James Andersen
Valerie Anderson
Janet Anderson
Anonymous
David Apfel
Judith Ashton
Jason Babb
Kathleen Baird
Jessica Ball
Jahna Barbar
Enid Beal
Tyler Bean
Sara Berkson
Dhara Bhatt
Sarah Blankstein
Brianna Boggs
David Borden
Boston Educational Development Foundation
Gregory Boucher
William Brady
Walter Brassert
Samuel Brenner
Michelle Briggs
Maryann Brody
David & Lora Brody
Richard Brunell
Ariane Buchholz
Caroline Bullerjahn
Carleton-Willard Village Offsite Program Committee
Davida Carvin
Patrick Clendenen
Kevin Cloherty
Joan & Henry Cobb
Kristine Colarossi
Nancy & Lawrence Coolidge
Brendan Cullen
Gene Dahmen
Trisha & Adam Davis
Laurie Berlin & Edward Deicke
Anuradha Desai
Tucker DeVoe
Rebecca Duda

Maria Durant
Suzanne Durrell
Kelly Dwyer
Bruce Edmands
Allison Eggers
Christyanna Egun
Jessica Ekhomu
Seth Evans
Katherine Fahey
Robert Farrell
Addie Fiske
Deanna FitzGerald
Robert Flaherty
Mark Fleming
Mark Gaioni
Thomas Gallitano
Judy Gelles
Robert Gittens
Anastasia Gogol
Jodi & Nathaniel Gorton
Joan Gorton
Gary Grassey
Greater Boston Concierge
Association
John Griffin
Elizabeth & Jason Harris
Beverly Hector-Smith
John F. Hodgman
Daniel Janis
Jenna Judge
Lauren Kale
Gary Katzmann
Joanne Kazis
Francis Kelleher
Ryan Kenny
Hae-In Kim
Henry King
Karin Kugel
Nancy Kurtz
Meira Levinson
George Lewis
Cheryl Lindsay
M. L. McDonald
Sales Company, LLC
Betsy & James Madison
Lisa Malley
Samantha Malm
Gary Matsko
Matthew McGinnis
James McGrath
Julie McNulty
Laura McNulty
Elisabeth J. Medvedow
Charlotte Menna
Cathrina Mili
Ann Moritz
Cecily Morse
National Grid
Andrea Newsome
Nancy O’Loughlin
Carmen Ortiz
Steven Peltzman
Diane Power
Sharon Reilly
Tara Rendon
Erica Rice
Ian Roffman
Steven Rothstein
Lisa Round
David Rountree
Patti Saris
F. Dennis Saylor
Helen Schlichte
Mimi & Jim Segal
Jennifer Segel
Amy Sennett
Bruce Singal
Emily Smith
Arthur Sneider
Ruth Spack
Jonathan Spack
Hagar Berlin & Jon Spack
Leon Specchrie
Scott Squilace
Andrew Stich
Rob Straus
Indira Talwani
Tin Yat Tao
E. Abim Thomas
Robert Turner
Emily Unger
United Way of
Massachusetts Bay
Mary Lou Wakimura Knowles
Willis Wang
Christine Wichers
Katherine Winter
Adam Wolfsdorf
Judith Yogman
Pamela Young
Matt Zamaloff

IN-KIND DONATIONS
The Boston Globe
Gil Fishman Associates
John & Linda Henry and
the Boston Red Sox
The Kraft family and the
New England Patriots
Foundation
La Segreta
Cheryl and Bill Swanson
Cynthia and Michael Malm
Nancy Batista-Caswell,
Caswell Restaurant Group
Discovering Justice is a nonprofit leader in K-8 civic education that prepares young people to value the justice system, realize the power of their own voices, and embrace civic responsibility by connecting classrooms and courtrooms.