

The School for Ethical Education Annual Report

September 1, 2012 – August 31, 2013



Ethics in Action Creates Character®

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The School for Ethical Education is grateful to the organizations and individuals that have funded our mission to advance *ethics in action* in 2012-2013.

2012-13 GRANT FUNDERS AND DONORS

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History

John Winthrop Wright founded The School for Ethical Education in 1995. As a nonprofit organization recognized as tax-exempt by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, SEE provides courses and programs for teachers, parents and students to advance ethical behavior in schools and communities. Mr. Wright's vision for school improvement focused on expanding opportunities for teachers and students to learn how ethics in action creates character. This phrase became the school's motto and recognizes the power of positive ethics in the creation of character. The core ethical concepts or virtues Mr. Wright desired to promote included respect, responsibility, caring, justice, honesty, truthfulness, courtesy, citizenship and the principles of the Golden Rule. The goal of positive character development is integrated into all programs offered by SEE. With the passing of Mr. Wright in 1996 and his wife Mildred in 2002, SEE continues to receive meaningful administrative

support from Wright Investors' Service, a private investment management and financial advisory firm headquartered in Milford, Connecticut.

Vision

The School for Ethical Education (SEE) teaches strategies to (K-16) educators to put ethics in action for the positive character formation of students.

Mission

The School for Ethical Education (SEE) recognizes the need for an increased focus on ethical behavior within human interactions. We also affirm the contribution of sound ethical reasoning in the advancement of ethical behavior. To promote our vision, SEE uses a variety of methods to provide educators strategies to support positive character formation in their students.

Year-End Summary

The eighteenth year for The School for Ethical Education (SEE) included an important milestone. While SEE continued to implement programs to advance ethics in action to create character, there were other business related events that lead to SEE's liquidation of its stock ownership in Wright Investors' Service. With the change of this meaningful financial linkage between SEE and Wright Investors', an agreement has been put in place for Wright



Laws of Life essayists with SEE Project Assistant Cristen Heavens (far left) during May 2 Character Celebration in New Haven, CT.

Investors' to continue to host SEE's offices for five years along with other generous support functions while SEE investigates a permanent home. The future home of SEE is hoped to be a secondary or post-secondary independent school campus. SEE's mission and continued program administration owes a great debt of gratitude to its Founder, John Winthrop Wright, Wright Investors' and the leadership of Peter Donovan, the Chairmen of Wright Investors' since 1996.

Regarding the core programs that SEE continues to administer-- Integrity Works!, focused on advancing strategies for academic integrity in secondary schools; the Laws of Life essay writing program invited Connecticut students (grades 5-12) to complete a writing assignment

that helps students reflect on positive values; the John Winthrop Wright *Ethics in Action* award recognized Mickey Herbert for leadership that models positive character; the Youth: Ethics in Service (YES) program offered schools strategies to teach through the process of service-learning and our teaching and consulting programs included contracts with schools, the University of Bridgeport, the Character Education Partnership and other agencies.

SEE administered Integrity Works! for a sixth year with a new grant from the John Templeton Foundation to study lessons to promote academic integrity in high schools. High school teams in Connecticut and New Jersey designed and taught lessons in social studies, science or English that support student ethical decision making with a goal to resist cheating. In collaboration with Dr. Jason Stephens, SEE piloted professional development for teachers to create their own lessons and piloted the student measurement instruments to assess lesson effectiveness. If funding is approved in 2014, SEE will continue this project and move from the piloting phase to an effectiveness study. SEE also continued to reach out to schools via an electronic newsletter and market Creating a Culture of Academic Integrity, AMIS (Academic Motivation and Integrity Survey) and an E-Lesson via SEE's E-store. The E-Lesson is written for secondary students to complete as a homework assignment to help them resist plagiarism.

This spring, SEE completed its 13th year hosting Connecticut's Laws of Life Essay Program. Approximately 2,250 participants wrote essays that provided students in grades 5 to 12 the opportunity to reflect and write about the values they believe would help them live productive lives. SEE recruited and supported local schools where their top essays were submitted to SEE for entry in its statewide competition. Ten essayists were invited to be recognized as the state's top Laws of Life essay writers during an awards celebration on May 1. The awards ceremony was combined with SEE's seventh-annual Character Celebration. Mickey Herbert, a visionary businessman with expertise in healthcare, was recognized for his many contributions to the Connecticut business and nonprofit community with SEE's 2013 John Winthrop Wright *Ethics in Action* award.

The following report summarizes SEE's year-end financial report.

SEE Financials

SEE continues to receive meaningful operational support in terms of office space, technology and administrative assistance from Wright Investors' Service (WIS). SEE's overall income (from cash, non-cash and accruals) for the year was \$244,221 and all expenditures for the year were \$207,457. SEE will thus carry over the modest amount of \$36,764 into the 2013-14 program year.

Integrity Works! was meaningfully funded through a 12 month (two financial years) grant of \$96,000 from the John Templeton Foundation. Laws of Life (LOL) received donations of \$9,694 to administer a statewide LOL writing program and had cash expenditures of \$10,148, which resulted in a modest deficit for this program to be adjusted by other fundraising. Donations came from Wright Investors', Eaton Vance, D'Addario Family Foundation along with other private donors helped SEE to fund this excellent initiative.

Teaching and Consulting income of \$13,788 represented fees for contracted services paid to SEE and includes course instruction at the University of Bridgeport and the sale of SEE publications. Donations to SEE came in response to requests solicited for SEE's annual Celebration and totaled \$12,683. Wright Investors' added an additional \$30,000 in cash donations.

SEE continues to work to develop its base of individual and corporate funders to help establish a broader foundation of support for its mission. SEE welcomes the support of those who believe in the critical need to build positive character in support of the family, local schools, their communities and our nation. SEE's vision is a progressive work and is moving forward with the positive expectation to advance ethics in action to create character.

To join us and make a donation to advance a vision of positive character, you may contact SEE through our website – www.ethicsed.org.

The School for Ethical Education

Program-Related Profit and Loss Statement 2012 – 2013 Summary

	Development	Integrity Works	Laws Of Life	Teaching	General & Admin.	Fiscal YTD
						TOTALS
OPERATING REVENUE						
Teaching, Consulting & Book Sales	0	0	0	13,788	0	13,788
Donations	0	0	9,694	0	0	9,694
Wright Investors' Service	8,612	1,250	1,734	15,404	3,000	30,000
Grants		57,641		1,700		59,341
Celebration Dinner	12,683	0	0	0	0	12,683
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE (Cash Basis)	21,295	58,891	11,428	30,892	3,000	\$125,506
Non-Cash Donation (Facilities)	3,880	25,297	1,940	6,596	776	38,489
Previous period revenue released from restriction	0	0	0	0	0	0
Current period revenue restricted for future use	0	0	0	0	0	0
Budget Surplus/(Deficit) from prior fiscal year	1,429	0	3,158			4,587
SEE Endowment - Current year Usage		75,053				75,053
Interest Income					586	586
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE (Accrual Basis)	26,604	159,241	16,526	37,488	4,362	244,221
Percent of Income	10.9%	65.2%	6.8%	15.4%	1.8%	100%
OPERATING EXPENSES						
Employee Expenses	11,549	82,023	9,820	19,631	2,309	125,332
Office Expenses	1,118	612	103	316	786	2,935
Travel Expenses	99	1,770	59	1,534	147	3,609
Outside Services	5,132	24,004	166	1,326	2,203	32,831
Class Resources	0	3,294	0	473	494	4,261
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES (Cash Basis)	17,898	111,703	10,148	23,280	5,939	\$168,968
Non-Cash item (Facilities Expense)	3,880	25,297	1,940	6,596	776	38,489
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES (Accrual Basis)	21,778	137,000	12,088	29,876	6,715	\$207,457
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) – (Cash Basis)	3,397	(52,812)	1,280	7,612	(2,353)	(43,462)
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) – (Accrual Basis)	4,826	22,241	4,438	7,612	(2,353)	\$36,764

All Figures Pending Audit