

# HAWTHORN

LEADERSHIP SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Missouri's First All - Girls Public School  
College Prep - STEM Focus - Emphasis on Leadership



ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT  
JULY 1, 2017 - JUNE 30, 2018



**"AT HAWTHORN, I CAN SEE  
A FUTURE FOR MYSELF AND I  
AM EXCITED ABOUT IT"**

**MAGGIE T., STUDENT**





# HAWTHORN

## LEADERSHIP SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Hawthorn Leadership School for Girls provides a safe, nurturing and stimulating environment that enables young women from diverse backgrounds to achieve academic success in a college preparatory program and to become leaders in their communities and professions.

Hawthorn Leadership School for Girls, the only all-girls public charter school in Missouri, opened in 2015 with 125 6th and 7th-grade students. The school plans to add a grade each year until fully enrolled in 2020 with 6th-12th grades. In the 2017-2018 school year, Hawthorn opened the doors to its high school with 44 9th grade students. In total, Hawthorn educated 209 students in grades 6-9.

**"GOING TO AN ALL-GIRLS SCHOOL WE LEARN MORE ABOUT OURSELVES AS WOMEN, AND WE ARE ABLE TO BECOME STRONGER AND BETTER LEADERS"**

**ALLAYNA S., STUDENT**



## Dear Friends,

Education means gaining knowledge and understanding through academics. It also means developing leadership skills, character, ability to advocate, and it is the key to developing our future workforce. This is a tall order, but quality educators understand their responsibilities. At Hawthorn, we do this with a 100% commitment to the young women of St. Louis who choose to attend our school.

The 2017-18 school year was a giant step forward for Hawthorn as we opened the high school. Forty-four girls entered our first class of freshmen – the Hawthorn class of 2021! We renovated the third floor of the building to house our high schoolers. We added biology, geometry, Spanish, Microsoft TEALS coding, homecoming, choir, a makerspace, and college counseling. At the end of the school year, we hired Dr. Sheri Miller as Hawthorn's new Executive Director as I transitioned to work full time with the Hawthorn Foundation.

Hawthorn students are making important and impressive gains in academics. They are taking on leadership roles of every type. They exercise their voices by advocating

for themselves, others, and ideas. They are learning the essential skills of a 21st-century workforce including the soft skills that help them to shine.

We are moving forward in our mission of educating young women. We do this with the talent and commitment of our faculty, staff, and administrators. We do it in partnership with families, social service providers, mentors, tutors, coaches. We do it with the support of the St. Louis philanthropic community.

Education is expensive. As a charter public school, Hawthorn receives public funding that accounts for 75% of our revenue. The support of the St. Louis philanthropic community provides the remaining 25% which enables us to do the work we must do to fulfill our mission. Thank you for investing in Hawthorn and for saying, with your gifts, that you believe in the school and our girls and in the power of education to transform lives. We look forward to sharing the impact that Hawthorn students will have on their community for years to come, and so appreciate your support of our present and our future.

Thank you for sharing in Hawthorn's vision, supporting our program, celebrating our milestones and sticking with us as we learn and grow.

With Gratitude,

**Mary Stillman**  
Founder





**Dear Friends,**

It is an exciting time to step into the role of Executive Director for the Hawthorn Leadership School for Girls. I am in awe of the progress the school has made the past three years and look forward to working with all stakeholders to lead the school through its next phase of growth and progress.

Going into its fourth year of operation, Hawthorn retains its laser-like focus on preparing our students for college and career readiness through a high-quality, STEM-focused education while also teaching our students the academic behaviors and “habits of mind” necessary to successfully matriculate to and through college or career programming. Through the work of a deeply committed and highly skilled faculty, we have broadened our academic programming model to include AP courses at the high school level, extended our middle and high school TEALS program, and integrated a one-to-one technology model with each student accessing a personal Chromebook as an extension of the high-yield instructional delivery taking place in classrooms.

With the help of our gracious supporters, Hawthorn completed a full renovation of the third floor of our building, which houses our high school. The high school floor includes a makerspace suite where students can design, create, and bring their ideas to life in real time. There is also a state-of-the-art “Hawk’s Nest” which is a customized, independent workspace for high school students equipped with the latest technology for student-led

meetings, presentations, and independent study groups.

The blueprint for Hawthorn is being fully realized for students, families, and faculty as we now pivot towards honing our instructional program design to include more STEM-focused courses, deepening our wrap-around supports for students, expanding our partnerships, and maximizing the use of resources to ensure that our students are set up for success. Hawthorn’s customized program offerings, unique partnerships, and student supports allow us to live into our mission. Your support has allowed us to broaden partnerships inclusive of mentorships, off-site experiences, and college access programming and tours.

As Hawthorn continues to grow over the next two years to become a 6-12 institution, your continued support is vital to our quest to go from great to outstanding as we work towards becoming the most sought-after all-girls school in the region.

**Dr. Sheri L. Miller**  
Executive Director



# 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR BY THE NUMBERS



**100%**

Receive Free Breakfast and Lunch

**92%**

Attendance Rate

**78%**

Middle School Retention Rate

**12%**

Receive Outside Counseling Services

**10%**

Receive Special Education Services



**74**

Students Secured  
Summer Opportunities

**30**

Tutors through  
Washington University's  
Investigirls Program

**20**

Extracurricular  
Activity Offerings

**"I SENT MY DAUGHTER TO HAWTHORN  
SO SHE WOULD RECEIVE A FREE  
EDUCATION IN HER NEIGHBORHOOD  
AT A SCHOOL THAT WOULD HELP HER  
EXCEL. I WANTED HER TO SEE PEOPLE  
OF THE SAME COLOR AND GENDER  
THAT HAVE THE SAME EXPECTATIONS  
OF HER THAT I HAVE."**

**JUANITA TAYLOR, PARENT**



## **STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS BY RACE**



**1%**

Hispanic

**95%**

Black

**4%**

White



## PBL DANCE CONCERT

As a part of Hawthorn's curriculum, teachers incorporate project-based learning (PBL) to provide hands-on learning with real-world application. Through PBL projects, students gain academic proficiency while learning the importance of collaboration and practicing their presentation skills. The Dance PBL is a school-wide favorite. Twice yearly, our dance teacher Ms. Charlie Johnson produces a dance concert for students to showcase what they have learned that semester. Students may elect to participate in the backstage crew where they learn what is required behind the scenes to run a show. Last school year, over 425 people attended the fall *Transcend* and spring *School Daze* concerts.



**"I'M PROUD TO WORK WITH A GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT OUR STUDENTS AND OUR WORK. I'M INSPIRED TO BE A BETTER EDUCATOR EVERY DAY BECAUSE OF THEM."**

**LAURA SPARKS-BOYCE, TEACHER**



## MICROSOFT TEALS PARTNERSHIP

In Fall 2017, Hawthorn was the first school in Missouri to participate in the Microsoft TEALS (Technology Education and Literacy in Schools) computer science program. This partnership, funded by Microsoft Philanthropies, is designed to build a sustainable computer science (CS) program by pairing trained CS industry professionals with a Hawthorn teacher. Over two years, the classroom teacher gradually takes over the responsibilities of teaching the course without volunteer support. Hawthorn relied on six community volunteers who used their skills and talents to transform the education of Hawthorn students. In its first year, 12 students participated in the class.



## WORLD WIDE TECHNOLOGY CAPSTONE MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Hawthorn partners with World Wide Technology (WWT) for its 8th-grade mentorship program. Women from WWT volunteer at Hawthorn to coach and support students as they complete their middle school capstone project. In the capstone project, students identify a problem in their community and create a solution to address it. Students met with their mentors twice a month. At the end of the school year, the 8th-grade class presented their projects to students, parents, and community partner members.

In 2017-2018 49 WWT mentors guided 12 capstone groups. Capstone projects included:

- **Safety on Kingshighway** - Because of excessive speeding and car accidents in front of the school, students felt their safety was at risk. Students met with engineers and Alderwoman Sharon Tyus to develop a safety plan around reducing speed.
- **The Blessing Box** - With the help of Tarlton Construction, students led efforts to build a "Blessing Box" for the surrounding Hawthorn community. Students organized a canned food drive to stock the Blessing Box and neighbors are welcome to take/leave canned goods.
- **Hawthorn Helpers** - Students organized the 8th-grade day of service, volunteered with their mentors at Operation Food Search, and helped pick up trash around Hawthorn's neighborhood.
- **Bullying Prevention** - This capstone group created and led presentations for 6th-grade students on ways to prevent bullying and the importance of supportive sisterhood.
- **School Beautification** - Guided by Liz Buchman, students painted a mural in the stairwell to depict the diversity of our students and staff.

**"IN ADDITION TO HAVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO POUR INTO THE NEXT GENERATION OF STEM LEADERS, THE WWT MENTORS NOT ONLY BUILD RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE STUDENTS BUT LEARN AND GAIN INSIGHT FROM THEM AS WELL."**

**ASHLEY HARRIS, COMMUNITY PARTNER**

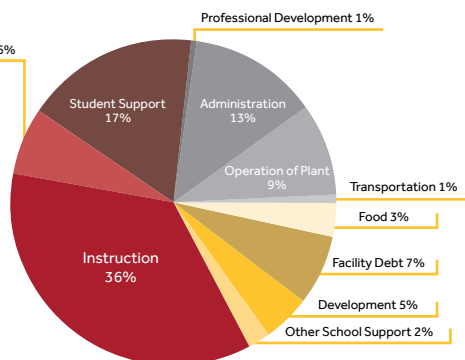
# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF REVENUES & EXPENSES

## HAWTHORN LEADERSHIP SCHOOL FOR GIRLS & HAWTHORN LEADERSHIP SCHOOL FOUNDATION

### EXPENSES

Instruction	\$1,201,227.00
Special Education	\$221,267.00
Student Support	\$575,748.00
Professional Development	\$22,902.00
Administration	\$432,638.00
Operation of Plant	\$303,770.00
Transportation	\$31,680.00
Food	\$105,985.00
Facility Debt	\$240,475.00
Development	\$156,284.00
Other school support	\$68,392.00

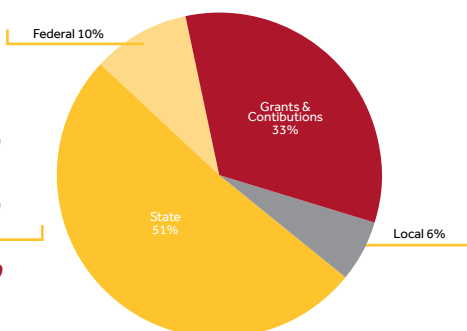
**TOTAL** **\$3,360,368.00**



### REVENUE

Federal	\$314,785.00
State	\$1,649,008.00
Local	\$199,763.00
Grants & Contributions	\$1,077,883.00

**TOTAL** **\$3,421,439.00**





# THANK YOU

TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!  
JULY 2017 - JUNE 2018

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## CAMP MINIWANCA PROGRAM

*Special thanks to donors who provided scholarship support to the Camp Miniwanca Hawthorn Scholars Program through the American Youth Foundation, making the camp experience possible for several students.*

Katie and Charlie Claggett  
 Beth Danforth





Meredith and Jim Holbrook  
Susan Murray  
Mary and Tom Stillman  
Andi and Peter Van Cleve

## VOLUNTEERS

*Over the course of the 2017-2018 school year, volunteers collectively donated over 1,000 hours of time to support the Hawthorn program.*

### HAWTHORN VOLUNTEERS

Claire Bliss  
Marguerite Bliss  
Peg Blyth  
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Paula Winkle

### MICROSOFT TEALS VOLUNTEERS

Yun-Ho Sikora  
Blake Mills  
Kurt Glastetter

*Thank you to Captiva Marketing for designing our annual report and bringing our ideas to life.*

*In preparation of this Annual Report, every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of these listings. If any errors or misspellings are found, please report them to our Development department at [djackson@hawthornschool.org](mailto:djackson@hawthornschool.org) or (314)328-2024 with the corrected information.*



**"THE SISTERHOOD AT  
HAWTHORN IS AMAZING,  
AND I WOULDN'T CHANGE IT  
FOR THE WORLD."**

**HANNAH G., STUDENT**

## **2017-2018 SCHOOL BOARD**

### **Kathryn Love - Board Chair**

Nikki Doughty  
Edes Gilbert  
Sara Goellner  
Jason Hall

Chris Motley  
Jessica Portis  
Arvetta Powell  
John Ross  
Tim Rowbottom

## **SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS ADDED FOR 2018-2019**

Rachana Creeth  
Angell Farley  
Mary Stillman

## **2017-2018 FOUNDATION BOARD**

### **Mary Stillman - Board Chair**

Megan Clinton  
Stacy Cooper  
Rachana Creeth

Nikki Doughty  
Kathryn Love  
John Ross

# HAWTHORN

LEADERSHIP SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

1901 N. Kingshighway Blvd St. Louis, MO 63113  
(314) 361-5323 • [www.hawthornschool.org](http://www.hawthornschool.org)

## SCHOOL AFFILIATIONS

**Washington University** serves as the sponsor for Hawthorn, holding the school accountable for meeting its performance goals and complying with all federal and state laws. In addition, the university is committed to supporting student academic achievement by connecting Hawthorn with university resources such as the Institute for School Partnership and the Gephardt Institute for Civic and Community Engagement.

Hawthorn is a proud affiliate of the **Student Leadership Network (SLN)** which supports five highly successful all-girls' public schools in New York City and fifteen affiliate all-girls' secondary schools around the country. Hawthorn's affiliation with SLN provides us guidance and feedback to continuously strengthen the school's programs through access to best practices and a professional development community.

*Hawthorn does not discriminate in its educational programs or activities on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, disability, income level, religious affiliation, proficiency in English language or athletic ability, religion, sex, or national origin.*