

ISSUE 2 2022

INSIDE



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This issue of h magazine begins with a special section that contains stories describing the challenges faced by children, youth and families as COVID-19 remains a concern even as restrictions are relaxed, and violence in schools and communities dominates news reports. Such conditions can be draining, but organizations and agencies in Pittsburgh and beyond are still fighting for a brighter future.

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The Heinz Endowments was formed from the Howard Heinz Endowment, established in 1941, and the Vira I. Heinz Endowment, established in 1986. It is the product of a deep family commitment to community and the common good that began with H.J. Heinz, and that continues to this day.

The Endowments is based in Pittsburgh, where we use our region as a laboratory for the development of solutions to challenges that are national in scope. Although the majority of our giving is concentrated within southwestern Pennsylvania, we work wherever necessary, including statewide and nationally, to fulfill our mission.

That mission is to help our region become a just and equitable community in which all of its citizens thrive economically, ecologically, educationally, socially and culturally. We also seek to advance knowledge and practice in the field of philanthropy through strategies that focus on our priorities of Creativity, Learning and Sustainability.

In life, Howard Heinz and Vira I. Heinz set high expectations for their philanthropy. Today, the Endowments is committed to doing the same. Our charge is to be diligent, thoughtful and creative in continually working to set new standards of philanthropic excellence. Recognizing that none of our work would be possible without a sound financial base, we also are committed to preserving and enhancing the Endowments' assets through prudent investment management.

h magazine is a publication of The Heinz Endowments. At the Endowments, we are committed to promoting learning in philanthropy and in the specific fields represented by our grantmaking programs. As an expression of that commitment, this publication is intended to share information about significant lessons and insights we are deriving from our work.

Editorial team Becky Brindle, John Ellis, Donna Evans Sebastian, Carmen Lee, Scott Roller, Courtney Tolmer. Design: Landesberg Design

About the cover The illustration by Egle Plytnikaite of a student facing different doors — some closed, some with indistinguishable individuals in the doorway — reflects the uncertainty many schoolchildren and their families are experiencing as the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic lingers and other societal problems, such as school and community violence, also are prevalent.

Correction In the "Celebrating Art & Culture" story published in the print edition of Issue 1, 2022, the headline for the caption to a photograph of actors performing in a New Horizon Theater production of "The Green Book" incorrectly identified the organization as Pittsburgh Playwrights.

WEARINESS



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In response to violent incidents in the Pittsburgh region, local officials and nonprofit organizations are trying new initiatives to keep children safe.

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As schools reopened in southwestern Pennsylvania and across the country this fall, administrators and teachers were still grappling with the lingering impact of the pandemic and how to help students recover from personal and academic losses.

14 NEIGHBORLY ADVICE IN TROUBLED TIMES

Fred Rogers Productions and the Fred Rogers Institute, both named for the iconic children's television host, have been using their expertise to help families and children navigate the challenges posed by a worldwide pandemic.

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The well-regarded PA Serves veterans assistance program has received federal funding to provide even more support to service members after they leave the military.

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While the 3-year-old Restoration Project has seen improvements in some aspects of the justice system in the Pittsburgh region, the needs and the work continue.

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2022 was another critical year for Pennsylvania nonprofits committed to helping to ensure that all citizens have access to voting, and they geared up to meet the challenge.

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A relatively new crop of media outlets is trying to fill the void created by the decline of independent journalism and to keep public officials and institutions accountable.

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Phase 2 of the Pittsburgh's Cultural Treasures Initiative has begun and includes providing support to additional Black-led cultural organizations in Western Pennsylvania.

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