



Scattergood
FRIENDS SCHOOL & FARM
2016-17 ANNUAL REPORT

BRINGING OUR TRUEST SELVES TO THIS COMMUNITY IS THE RESPONSIBILITY AND PRIVILEGE OF EVERY MEMBER.

At Scattergood, we support students in the endeavor to be and remain authentic. Giving students opportunities to grow and learn in a safe and supportive environment takes many forms. Time in nature, away from the intrusion of media may offer some the chance to contemplate their own particular journey. Some will cherish time at the farm, experiencing the change of seasons and the good work of tending and harvesting. For others, experiencing a gender transition in a safe and loving atmosphere may give them confidence to become the people that they need to be. Being of service to others on campus and in the wider world may point to callings for a life's work.

Because every student who comes to Scattergood makes a unique contribution to this diverse and beloved community, we meet students where they are to encourage growth.

Our Farm Immersion Program offers students progressive and multi-disciplinary opportunities. Our inclusionary housing program has been implemented, allowing students to live in spaces that feel right to them. On several occasions students actively led and participated in conversations about privilege, identity, and giving voice to those amongst us who are marginalized. We continue to offer trip experiences knowing that these enrich our lives and provide us with other examples of living in community.

We dream of a new classroom space that can be utilized for learning and farming. Our dorms need major fixes to truly provide all students with comfort and privacy. There are new places to see, lots to learn, and new partnerships to forge. **Our students are eager to find their place in the world, and I am committed to making Scattergood the best possible jumping off point for each of them.** I am grateful for the continued commitment of all of you: students, families, alumni, staff, and friends who make this work possible.



Thomas Weber

Thomas Weber
Head of School





Isaac Chen '17 harvesting bok choy



Isaac came to Scattergood as an eighth grader, one of the first students we accepted so young. He joined Farm Project that first autumn and mostly practiced samurai moves and watched as two older students built a trebuchet, ostensibly to launch pumpkins out of the gardens and into the hog lot.

Over the years, Isaac continued to spend as much time as possible on the farm, as well as the prairie where he took part in numerous prescribed burns and certainly cut more invasive autumn olive than any other student. Isaac also taught himself to recognize the ripe autumn olive berries, so he could bake them into pies, which were, by his own admission, not very good.

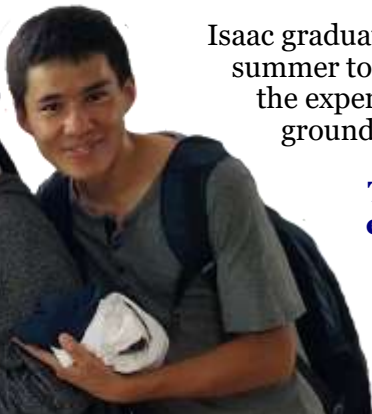
In Agricultural Research class, Isaac collected soil samples from around the Scattergood campus. He taught himself to recognize soil-borne microbiology and spent hours staring into a microscope, taking a census of good critters and bad, and learning how land use influences soil life.

The Scattergood Farm is small by Iowa standards, but it is large enough to allow our students to pursue many personal interests: organic food production, restoring prairies, livestock husbandry, carbon sequestration, vermicomposting, soldierfly larva propagation, biochar production, or simply a watermelon picked fresh and broken open and enjoyed in the field.

Isaac graduated from Scattergood last June but returned this summer to work on the farm. He is at college now, richer for the experiences he had here, and likely seeking the grounding that he found on the Scattergood Farm.

Thank you to all who helped make Isaac's experience possible.

Mark Quee
Farm Manager





Scattergood CLASS of 2017

NOW ATTENDING



DID YOU KNOW?

Acceptance to a four-year accredited college or university is a graduation requirement at Scattergood.

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES:

- Augustana College
- Beloit College
- Calvin College
- Central College
- Cornell College
- Earlham College (3)
- Graceland University
- Iowa State University
- Kalamazoo College (2)
- Luther College
- Macalaster College
- Mills College
- Purdue University Fort Wayne
- Reed College
- Sarah Lawrence College
- Trinity College
- University of Iowa (3)
- Warren Wilson College (2)

THE ANTHROPOLOGY OF SCATTERGOOD

The first class that I took after leaving Scattergood and entering college was a course in Anthropology. One of the basic tenets of the class was that there is more genetic variation **within groups than between them**. That means that if you look at the population of England, for example, you'll find all sorts of differences: young and old; people with brown or red hair; people with talents in math or music. But compare them with the population of Peru, although they're on opposite sides of the globe, you'll find that there's not many characteristics in one group that you couldn't also find in the other group.

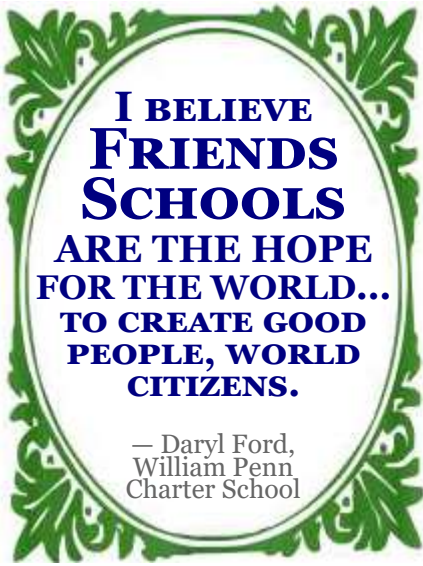
At the time, I thought that seemed pretty straightforward. What I didn't understand was how society needs variation within its people to properly function- it needs people with different strengths and weaknesses, different functions, careers, and ideals.

Scattergood may not be as large as England or Peru, but it still has a lot of variation. **Scattergood attracts people from all areas with all sorts of interests, who have different strengths and weaknesses.** That's what makes Scattergood a working community. I think that individual differences make Scattergood improve as a community. It's what prompts students to protest in Iowa City, what caused the renaming of the dorms and the inclusive housing policy. Individual differences push people and places to become more inclusive, more accepting, and ultimately better than before. I think Scattergood has done a great job of celebrating variation and in seeking to improve policy and community whenever those differences highlight areas that need improvement.

**I AM, AND ALWAYS WILL BE,
PROUD TO BE
A SCATTERGOODIAN.**



**Rachael Lightstone
Scattergood Class of '14
Bryn Mawr College '18**



As 2017's graduating class ventures out into the world in this uneasy year, I feel such gratitude for this school, **a strong learning community and sanctuary that has become more relevant and important than ever.** This year we witnessed the miracles that unfold when these students are allowed to truly be themselves and how the inner growth of individuals affects others around them. The School Committee appreciates the dedication, creativity, and hard work of staff and students to create and maintain this manifestation of Love that we call a school.

Throughout the year Thomas and I enjoyed meeting with alumni across the country to hear their stories about the school and plant the seeds for a self-directed alumni association. We hope to share more about this alumni venture in the future.

Internally the school is healthy and viable in its academic and spiritual life and is blessed with strong leadership. This past year, our enrollment remained low, so outreach has become more important than ever. We are working with a new marketing plan from Kelsh-Wilson to let the world know we are here. But we pose this question to you: **How can you help spread the word?** Individuals of the broader Scattergood community can have great impact on the school and the world - **we can talk with others about the school and share the gem that is Scattergood!**



What a gift we have, right here in our midst, one of the places that is helping to create world citizens and individuals who want to make a difference in their communities. What a gift to have the privilege of being able to nurture it, and by doing so nurture ourselves. Let us rejoice in supporting this endeavor.

For the School Committee,

Ruth Hampton

Ruth Hampton '85, clerk



2016-17 SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Back Row: Karen Greenler, Gail Nelson, Phil Henderson, Shana Wagner, Laël Gatewood, George Bergus, Bob Winchell, Roy Helm, Lucy Hansen, Dan Schlitt. **Front Row:** Ginny Winsor, Lucy Marsh, Russ Leckband, Ruth Hampton (clerk), Katherine Young, Rebecca Bergus, Bob Winkleblack. **Not pictured:** Kent Tjossem.

2016-17 STAFF

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- Thomas Weber
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- Shumpei Yamaki





THANK YOU FOR GIVING **\$292,000**
YOUR SUPPORT

\$10 - a new **mop head** for crew

\$40 - 88 **oranges** for the kitchen

\$58 - **fuel** to attend the
Des Moines Women's March

\$77 - six copies of a **novel** for the
Prairie Lights humanities class

\$110 - seeds for the farm's **beet crop**

\$200 - a **laptop** for the
1:1 student laptop program

\$380 - a **kayak** for the
three-week May Term trip



999 IN OUR 2016-17 FISCAL YEAR!
WHAT PROVIDED...

\$500 - a merit **scholarship**

for an outstanding student

\$1,048 - clay and **supplies**

for the ceramics studio

\$3,715 - retired the school **vehicle** loan

\$9,187 - staff **health insurance**

for one month

\$24,675 - **tuition assistance**

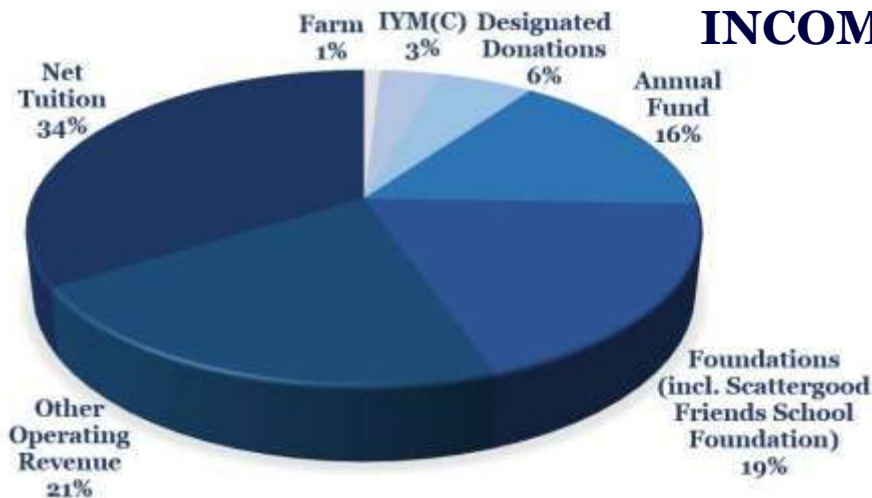
for one of many students in need

...AND SO MUCH MORE.

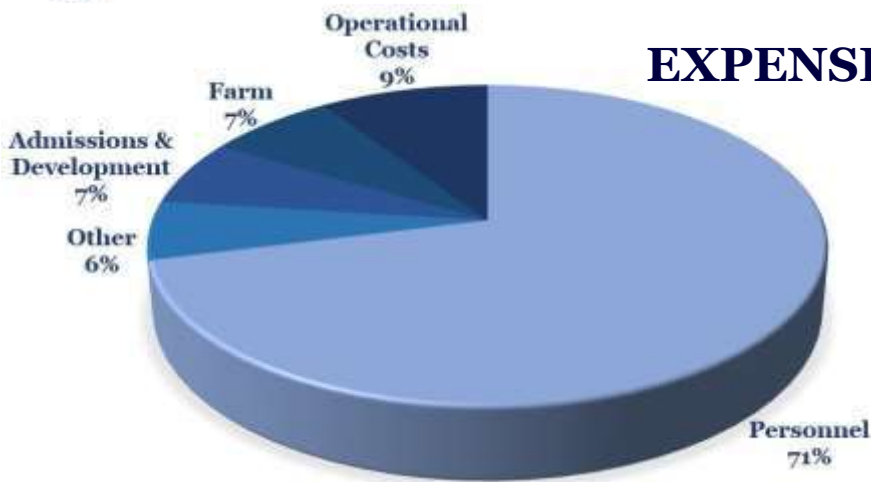
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for 2016-17

INCOME



EXPENSES



For most independent schools in the U.S., tuition revenues trend downward as basic operating costs increase. Schools like Scattergood rely on non-tuition income, especially from donors like you who believe in our mission.

Because you recognize Scattergood's value as a unique force for good in the world and as a sanctuary of personal development through progressive education, you continue to sustain us year after year. For that, you have our utmost gratitude.

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For more info, contact

Miranda Nielson, Development Coordinator

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Or contact:
Miranda Nielson,
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***Scattergood Friends School
challenges students with a
college preparatory curriculum,
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in the spirit of Quaker faith.***

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