



**CINCINNATI
FIRE MUSEUM**

Annual Report 2022



Photo by Glenn Hartong

315 W Court Street | Downtown Cincinnati

This report is dedicated to the memory of longtime board member, museum volunteer, and Cincinnati Fire Department advocate, Ruby Miller.



Director's Statement

It is with great joy that I present the 2022 Cincinnati Fire Museum Annual Report. The CFM saw a lot of transformation and improvements over the past year. We installed new carpet in our lower level exhibition space, renovated our public restrooms, created the new exhibit, *Locker Zone*, and upgraded our security by adding surveillance cameras throughout our exhibits and a state-of-the-art key-card system at our entrance.

While I am extremely proud of the improvements the museum has achieved in 2022, I am equally, if not more-so excited, for the evolution we have in store. In 2023, we will unveil a brand new Fire Safe House exhibit, the completion of Cincinnati's first permanent immersive theater exhibit, and a completely new look to our first floor exhibit area as we are slated to install fresh carpet throughout the rest of the museum.

The Cincinnati Fire Museum remains a vital Cincinnati institution that not only preserves the rich fire history of the city - *Cincinnati was the first paid, professional department in the nation* - but also saves lives through fire safety education and prevention information.

I hope to see you at the Museum so I can personally show you the improvements we've made and explain the progress we have in store.

Sarah Strickland
Executive Director



“
The CFM saw a lot of transformation and improvements over the past year.

”
–Executive Director

Staff and Board

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Historian and Musician

Charles "Chuck" Klahm
Cincinnati Fire Department, Ret.

Mike Kruer
Cincinnati Fire Department, Ret.

Justin Peter
Cincinnati Fire Department Historian

Charles Riefle
Cincinnati Fire Department

Mission and Vision

The Cincinnati Fire Museum highlights the significant contributions that Cincinnati has made to the firefighting profession. Cincinnati is the birthplace of professional firefighting and we are proud to display its history.

Our mission is to share and celebrate the history of firefighting in Cincinnati while providing a unique fire-safety education experience. Our vision is to bring the traditions of firefighting to life—in a museum that helps save lives.



Mission

To share and celebrate the history of firefighting in Cincinnati, while providing a unique fire-safety experience.

Vision

To bring the traditions of firefighting to life in a museum that helps save lives.



The CFM Collection

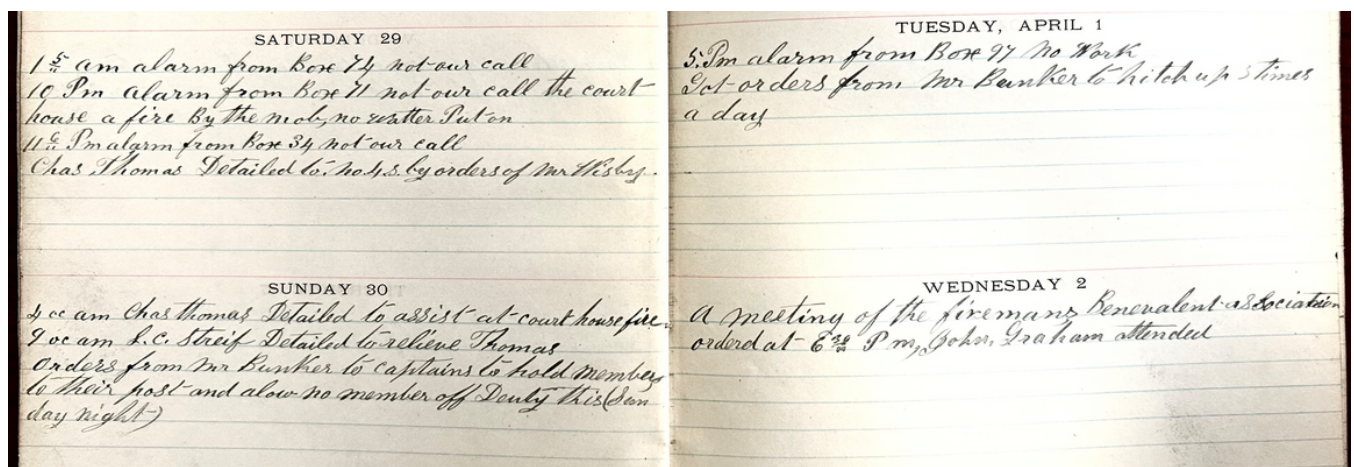
The Cincinnati Fire Museum's Collection is comprised of over 700 items plus a sizeable archive of photos, documents, and records. It represents the firefighting history of Cincinnati from the very first volunteer fire company formed in 1808. The fire alarm drum and brass key to the first fire house in 1808, along with parade hats, impressive hand pumped engines, and wooden water pipes have been displayed to illustrate the exciting bucket brigade years of the Cincinnati Fire Volunteers.

In 1852, Shawk and Latta of Cincinnati built the nation's first steam fire pumper. This invention paved the way for Cincinnati to establish the first professional fire department in the United States in 1853.

The exhibits highlighting this important period feature an impressive horse-drawn steam pumper, ladder wagons, helmets, badges, and many more fascinating items.

In 1917, Cincinnati became one of the nation's first fully-motorized fire companies, and the Ahrens-Fox Company of Cincinnati emerged as a leading builder of fire equipment. Two full-size Ahrens-Fox Engines in all their glory, are featured along with many other pieces of equipment. The outstanding collection of artifacts and graphics are the nucleus of the Cincinnati Fire Museum, making it a unique and prominent national attraction.

In 2022, the Cincinnati Fire Museum accessioned the diary of firefighter Nicholas Dragon of the Cincinnati Fire Department from 1884. This diary includes entries that mention the famous Cincinnati Riots of 1884, also known as the Cincinnati Courthouse Fire, one of the most destructive riots in our nation's history.



Fire Safety Education

Fire safety education is an important part of our mission, making the CFM a vital resource in our community.

The new face of our Safe House Exhibit

The Safe House exhibit is currently under renovation.



The rejuvenated exhibit will allow visitors who are not part of an organized tour to participate in a self-guided activity to identify safety hazards through the mock home.



The Cincinnati Fire Museum, in conjunction with the Cincinnati Fire Department, operates a world-class fire safety education program designed to teach participants how to prevent fires within the home and how to protect themselves and escape should a fire occur. The Museum presents information about fire safety in a mock home environment. Docents, mostly active duty firefighters who volunteer their time at the Museum, lead a tour and discussion through several rooms of the home. In each room, various fire and burn hazards are demonstrated and explanations are offered as to how each can cause a fire and what can be done to prevent it.

In order to ensure as many schools and families can participate in our program as possible, we keep the group rate at a minimum cost, only \$3 per student. We depend on gifts from donors and foundations to keep this cost affordable to the community.

The Cincinnati Fire Museum is currently the only museum in Cincinnati that saves lives through fire prevention.

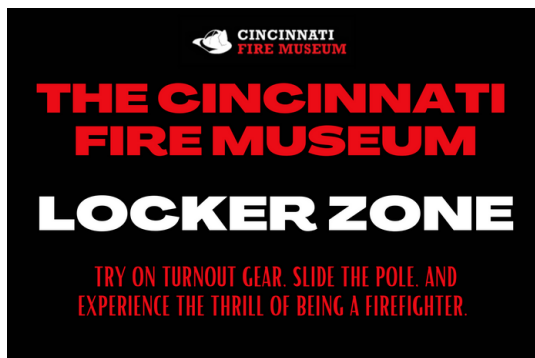
This is a vital role that the Museum plays and a significant part of our mission. Our program endeavors to make fire prevention everyone's responsibility and to reduce the number of fires and fire related deaths to help our city have a healthier and safer future.

Exhibits

While the museum has a finite amount of space, we strive to create new exhibits that are educational, interactive, and up to par with modern museum planning.

The Locker Zone

Last year we created a new exhibit, *The Locker Zone*, that emulates a gear locker in a fire station. The exhibit has faux brick walls, turnout coats and pants of all sizes, fire helmets, and boots that guests are invited to try on.



Immersive Theatre

Depicted on the front cover of this report is our new theatre, equipped with four high-technology LED projectors. The theatre is used to show fire safety and science education videos. It also plays special programs for months honoring black and women's history.

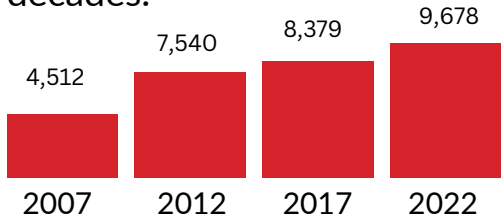
The ultimate goal is that the theater will house the exhibit, *In the Day of a Life of a Firefighter*, an immersive experience that will allow visitors to watch and feel what it's like to be a firefighter for a day - from entering burning buildings, to having lunch with the crew, to running medical aids - the 3D camera used to film real life firefighters will give the ultimate realistic appeal.

The total cost of this project to date is \$69K. Our gracious donors will be acknowledged on the exhibit wall.



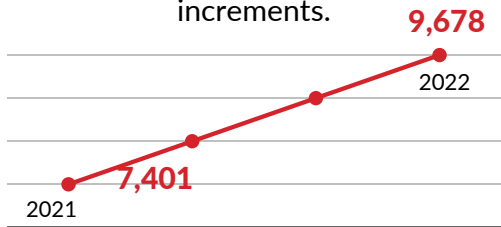
Visitorship

In 2022, the Cincinnati Fire Museum reached our highest attendance rate in the past two decades.



Steady growth for two decades

This chart demonstrates the attendance increases over five year increments.

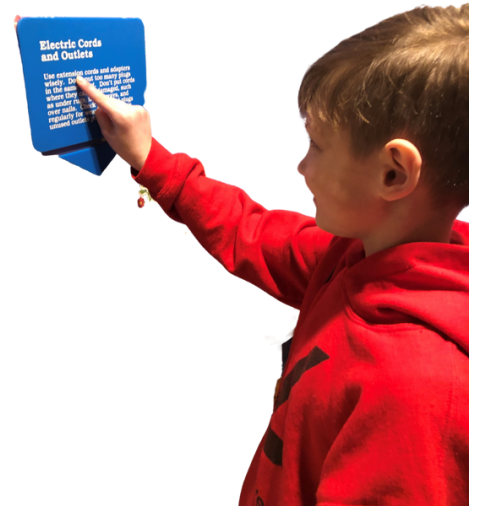


Metric: We saw a 31% increase in attendance from 2021 to 2022

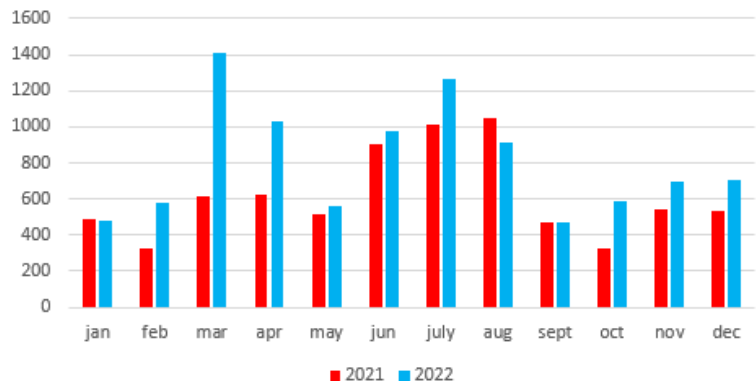


2023 Goal

Our goal is to continue increasing our programming, updating our exhibits, incorporating new artifacts, to continue seeing growth in visitorship and making an even more significant impact in our community.



2021/2022 Attendance Comparison



2022 CFM Happenings

EASTER EGG HUNT



Our second annual Easter Egg Hunt was a huge success. We sold out the event and welcomed 85 children and their parents into our firehouse before we opened at 9 a.m. to hunt for eggs amongst our two floors of exhibits. To our guests' delight, the Easter Bunny also made an appearance.



CFM SANTA RESCUE



2022 marked the third year for our annual Santa Rescue. We had a record amount of attendees lined up to visit with Santa inside the museum after he was bravely rescued by the members of Cincinnati Fire Department's Ladder 3.



2022 CFM Happenings

MEDIA COVERAGE



Channel 12

Channel 12 news anchor, Bob Herzog, and a film crew shot a special highlighting the museum and all of the robust history it preserves called "Get Fired Up at the Cincinnati Fire Museum."



FIRE SAFETY NEWS SEGMENT

In 2022, we secured a spot on the Channel 12 morning news to teach the public about fire safety. Cincinnati Fire Firefighter and museum volunteer, Gerald Belle, represented the museum and taught topics such as Christmas decoration safety, the dangers of space heaters, and tips for cold weather safety.




Programs

Introducing new seasonal programming

In addition to our *Leprechaun fact-finding hunt*, *Mother-May-I*, *Jack-o-Lantern hunt*, *Spot-that-Turkey*, last year we also added *Cincinnati has a lot of firsts!*, *Hot Summer Facts*, and *Find Joe Burrow at the CFM*. Our seasonal programming gives families a reason to revisit the museum and encourages young visitors to read exhibit signage and learn fire safety.


Cincinnati has a lot of firsts!



THE CINCINNATI FIRE DEPARTMENT WAS THE FIRST, PAID PROFESSIONAL FIRE DEPARTMENT IN THE NATION, FORMING IN 1855.

THE CINCINNATI REDS ARE ALSO THE FIRST PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL TEAM IN THE NATION, FORMING IN 1869

Look for 15 baseballs around the museum that highlight exhibits explaining "firsts" in the CFD.



CINCINNATI FIRE MUSEUM

HOT SUMMER FIRE FACTS



Ask for an activity sheet from the gift shop. Find all eight suns hidden within our exhibits to better help you fill in the blanks. Turn your completed activity sheet in at the gift shop to win a special prize!

OPEN TUES - SAT 10 - 4

315 W Court Street | Downtown Cincy













CINCINNATI FIRE MUSEUM

Find JOE BURROW AT THE CINCINNATI FIRE MUSEUM




Cincinnati Fire Museum Scavenger Hunt

Search throughout museum exhibits to find important fire related artifacts. Find all 12 artifacts to win a fun prize!

	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

Fundraising

In 2022, we carried out many fundraising events and campaigns. Fundraisers not only support operating costs, but also fund special projects and programs.

Summer Raffle

We invited supporters to participate in a fundraising campaign and raffle full of Cincinnati centric and fire department related items. All raffle tickets were \$10 and the winners were drawn live on Facebook by Cincinnati firefighter Kenyatta Smith. The raffle raised \$2,450.



EOY Letter Campaign

Every year we send our supporters an end of the year letter updating them on the improvements and successes the Museum enjoyed and the future challenges we anticipate,

inviting them to continue their support. This campaign raised \$20,305.

Immersive Theater



Most of our fundraising initiatives have focused on building our immersive theatre. We were successful in raising \$69,000 which paid for the construction of the room, the projectors and related technology.

Superbowl Squares

It is a CFM tradition to offer Super Bowl squares for purchase to help support museum operations. Thanks to our Events Coordinator, Gumby, we raised \$5,500 with this event in 2022.

Kitchen Campaign

Thanks to the support of retired and active firefighters alike, and with Gumby spearheading the initiative, we were able to raise \$7,000. This funded a new refrigerator, convection oven, and floating floor in our second floor kitchen.

CFM Firefighter Cook-Off and Fundraiser

The Second Annual CFM Firefighter Cook-Off and Fundraiser was a success. It was hosted by WEBN's Allie Martin and judged by a panel of local food experts and personalities that included WLWT's Megan Mitchell, Chef Bryan Young of Dear Restaurant and Butchery, and Chef and owner of Sago, Paul Liew. Attendees had the opportunity to taste the firefighter chefs' dishes and vote on their favorite. Additionally, guests enjoyed a bar of beer and wine, cupcakes by Ria Marayag Lapid, BBQ pork buns by Sago, live music by the talented Chaya Jones, and raffle prizes from popular Cincinnati institutions such as Goodfellas Pizzeria, Taste of Belgium, FC Cincinnati, and many more! The event successful raised \$18,375.

CFM 2022 FIREFIGHTER COOK-OFF FUNDRAISER
November 12 | 7 PM

Featuring

HOSTED BY
WEBN'S ALLIE MARTIN

MEGAN MITCHELL

CHEF BRIAN YOUNG

CHEF PAUL LIEW

OPEN BAR
RAFFLES
AUCTION

LIVE MUSIC

scan for tickets

CINCINNATI FIRE MUSEUM

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE CFM.

BY CHAYA JONES

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

2022 CFM FIREFIGHTER COOK -OFF
IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS

Logos for: Fire Iron, Kemba Credit Union, Gold Star, Unity Financial, Roehr, Biled Fire & Security, Manley Burke, Fire Foundation, Driehaus Insurance Group, KZF Design, Cincinnati Fire Museum.

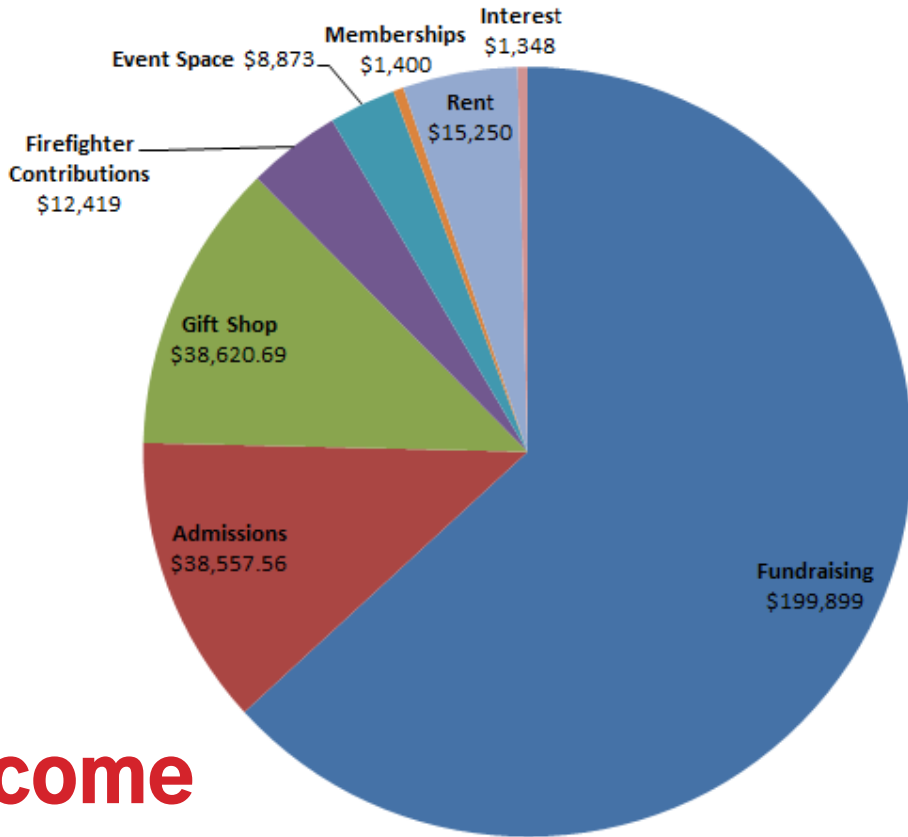
RAFFLE PRIZES FROM

Logos for: Cincinnati Fire Museum, Goodfellas Pizzeria, Reds, FC Cincinnati, Gold Star, Impossible, Cincinnati food tours, LALO Chino Latino Kitchen, Sago, Prism, CFM 2022 Firefighter Cook-Off Fundraiser, Thunder Dome, Tom Chee, Nation.

CFM 2022 FIREFIGHTER COOK-OFF FUNDRAISER
November 12 | 7 PM

Financial Year in Review

The Cincinnati Fire Museum relies heavily on donations for operating support. These donations come in the form of gifts from individual donors, foundations, grant awards, memorial gifts, and corporate support. We also receive support from the Cincinnati Fire Department members who opt into the payroll deduction program in which contributions are deducted automatically from their salaries.

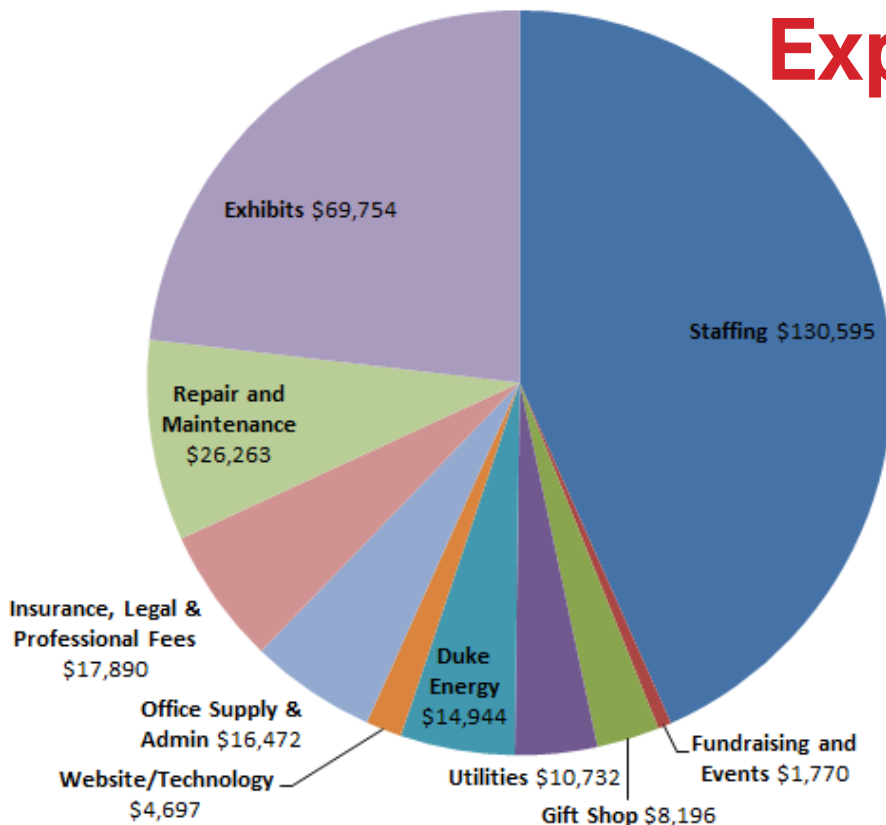


Income

2022 had a 34% increase in revenue from the previous year

As demonstrated in this chart, the largest expense to the Museum is staffing followed by exhibits, most notably the immersive theatre exhibit. The repair and maintenance section also accounts for some of the construction cost of the project, updating our lower level by renovating our public restrooms and laying new carpet.

Expenses

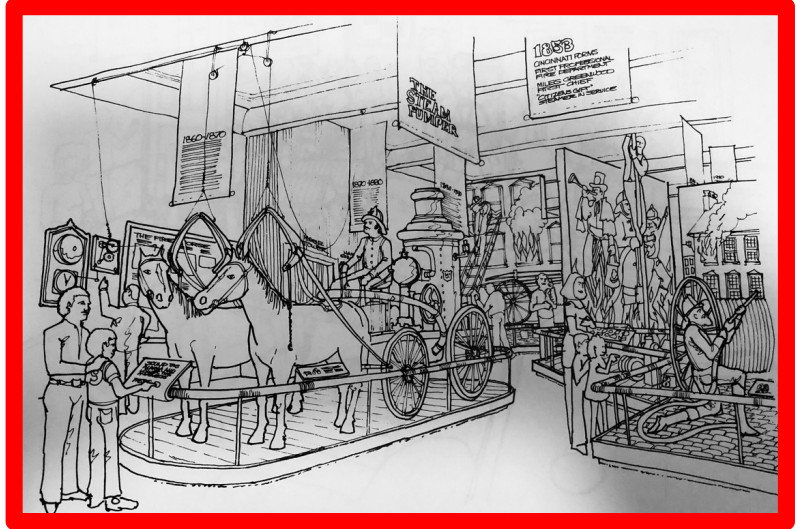


Contributions

The Cincinnati Fire Museum could not fulfill its mission without the generosity of the support it receives from donors and foundations. It is with enormous gratitude that we present the following list of 2022 supporters.

\$50,000

Great American Insurance Group & Financial Group



\$10,000 - \$15,000

Robert and Adele Schiff Family Foundation
Tom Hardy
Harold C. Schott Foundation

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Ahrens Family Foundation
Western & Southern Financial Group
Hellen E. Allen Charitable Foundation
Harry Goetz
Gary & Carolyn Miller
Ethan and Susan Pagliaro

\$2,000 - \$4,999

Peter Alpaugh
The Cincinnati Fire Foundation
Kemba
KZF Design
Roehr Insurance
Silco
Unity Financial

\$1,000 - \$1,999

Driehaus Insurance
Fire & Iron Motorcycle Club
Northern Row Brewery and Distillery
Queen City Mobile Food Truck Association
Gordon Rich

\$500 - \$999

Kimberley Abner
Chris and Judy Dalambakis
William and Rita Diss
Steve Hagy
Lynn and Donald Larson
David and Nancy Moore
Pallet Rack Supply
Steelcase Foundation

\$200 - \$499

Bill Brown
Budig Family Foundation
The Carmichael Family
Kenneth Kiefer
Louis Rauh
Miles Greenwood Society
Robert Morgan
Robert Kuhn
The Jones Family
Lynn Love
Tom and Pat Camp
Herm Wendell

\$100 - \$199

Jon Beyer
Robert Blasing
William Brewster
Terry Childs

Contributions

\$100 - \$199 cont.

Carmine DiLonardo
Cathy Duerler
Gary Gruber
The Huesman Family
Daniel and Barbara Kuhn
John and Phylis Landrum
William Long
Bob and Fran Marsh
Thomas Marzheuser
David Mullis
Bonnie and Denver Norris
James Powell
Justin Ragsdale
Katherine Rehn
James Richardson
Julie Ritter
David Robinson
Waldon Schaffer
William Schmithorst
David and Barbara Schneider
James Schulter
Terry Scott
Diana Skeabeck
Gail Suiter
Ronald Troger
James Wheeldon
Monfort Heights/White Oak Comm. Assoc.
Pledgeling Foundation

\$99 and under

Andy and Janet Andrea
John Backscheider
Terrance Baker
John Barret
Victor Barsan
Jerry Baumgartner
Walter Becker
Pamela Becker
Michael and Amy Bepler
Phillip Berninger

Leon Booth
Patricia Brunner
James Burke
Frank and Nicoletta Camarca
Barbara Clark
Ellen Collett
Rodger Crauder
Thomas Crowthers
Anastasia Daley
Eugene Dolan
William Donovan
Ted Enzweiler
Bonnie and Jerry Federle
Beverly Flender
Jerome Goodman
Stephen Hais
The Henry Family
Lois Hollingsworth
James Kennedy
Karen Klaene
Charles Klahnm
Roberta Klare
John and Pamela Korte
Jerome and Linda Kremer
Christopher Kroth
Thomas Kroth
William Lack
Bobby Lazenby
Harold Lucas
Ernst Macke
Louis Martini
Mark Maxwell
James Mitsch
Gerald Newman
Gerald Nieman
George and Donna Phillips
Deborah Poland
Russell Poland
Jerry Ransick
Richard and Deborah Ransick

Contributions

\$99 and under cont.

Greg and Kim Roth
William Ruch
Michele Schaft
Dustin Schermbeck
John Sibert
Robert Smith
Elizabeth and Carol Stelter
Mary Jo Storm
Tom and Jackie Wagner
Leroy Wilder
Barbara Wuest

Club 1853

This club is comprised of the Cincinnati Fire Department members who are enrolled as sustaining donors in the payroll deduction program. This year, we had a record amount of firefighters participate and received our largest contribution from Club 1853 yet, totaling \$16,459.



Joshua Abner
Drew Ahern
John Aisenbrey
Alex Anderson
Michael Anderson
Melissa Arnold
Antonio Axle
Ashley Ba
John Baer
Lawrence Baibak
Nykeba Banks
Jeffrey Bauman
Jason Becker
Joseph Becker
Scott Bepler

William Bland
John Bloomfield
Shawn Bogle
Daniel Boller Jr.
Shawn Bonner
Jared Boots
Casey Boyd
Richard Breitenstein
Christopher Brown
Damonte Brown
Jerrell Brown
Joel Brown
Keona Brown
Michael Harrison Brown
Rebecca Bryant
Brian Bucher
Darrell Bullock
James Bunner
Eric Burns
Ryan Burns
Thomas Campbell
Markis Carey
Lasha Cauthen
Kenneth Christo
Matthew Clark
Seth Clement
Jordan Cochrane
Zachary Cranfill
Ryan Curtis
Breana Dale
Ronald Dangerfield-Bracey
Megan Davidson
TreVaughn Davis
John Deal
Hunter Deaton
Jordan Dirr
Ashley Doyle
Eric Driver
Chad Duccilli
Jenna Duebber
Clevon Dukes II
Alan Eccard
Mark Edsall

Contributions

Club 1853 cont.

Kyle Egbert
Michael Engelkamp
Zachary Enterline
Dominic Faillace
Louis Faillace
Timothy Findley Jr.
Kyle Findley
Matthew Flagler
Ben Foote
Matthew Fornshil
Erin Kelsey Fox
Douglas Freeland
Ortiz Osvaldo Gallego
Brady Goins
Daniel Graham
Andrew Gramke
Anthony Greve
Jackson Griffin
Rick Guilkey
Michael Hafner
Chris Handley
Mark Hardin
Jonathan Hardman
Anthony Harris
David Harris
Jeffrey Hartman
John Hautz
Brian Hawkins
Ehmil Henderson
Perry Herbert
Jared Hicks
Alexander Hines
Richard Hines
Andrew Hines
Joseph Homan
Neil Houser
Omer Hurlburt
Damara Hunt
Chad Hunter

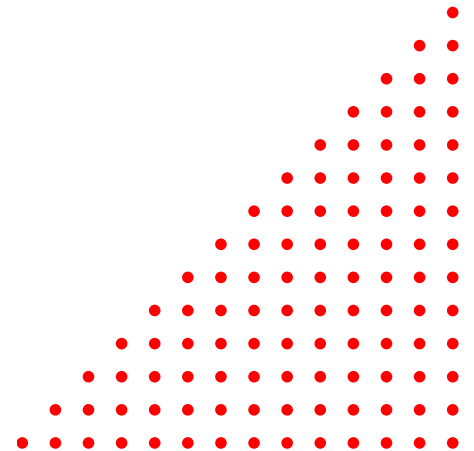
William Hursong Jr.
Mario Jackson
Cameron Jameson
Gregory Jeranek
Derek Riley Johnson
Matthew Johnson
David Johnson Jr.
Andrew Todd Jones
Michael Kappa
Robert Kastner
Michael Kilcoyne
Joshua Kim
Jeffrey Klug
Nathaniel Kroeger
Adam Lacefield
Thomas Lakamp
Anthony Molfetta
Michael Monahan
Bryan Moore
Tyler Morgan
Antonio Murphy
Stephen Myers
Abigail Nienaber
Joseph O'Shea
Briana Oakley
Mark Oliver
Tim Osner
Brian Otten
Benjamin Otto
Kenneth Peddicord
Justin Peter
Ronald Phelps
Ryan Pickering
Gabriel Pitzer
Jason Plogmann
Matthew Presnell
Andrew Raterman
Daniel Raterman
Scott Ray

Contributions

Club 1853 cont.

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Charles Riefle
James Robben
Janos Roper
Mike Rosiello
Jared Runyon
Cody Saffell
Jena Samelak
Brent Sanders
Jacob Savard
Martin Schickel
Garry Schloemer
Jeffrey Schott
Ryan Schumann
Stephen Schwettmann
Maya Sepulveda
David Shavers
Natasha Simmons
Brianna Singer
Edward Sipniewski
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Todd Stegmuller
Jason Stelter
Matthew Sticklely
Bryan Stockelman
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Robert Thomas Jr.
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Rick Tonnis
Anthony Traum
William Turley
James Turnage

Jamil Turner
Camela Turrin
Jeffrey Tyree
Joshua Volkerding
Corey Vollrath
Joshua Wagner
Bryan Washington
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