extreme kids & crew
A SPACE TO BE
2016 annual report
We love Extreme Kids and its crew and the environment of tolerance and respect of our diversities, it's what keeps bringing us here every Saturday. Avril's extra friendly personality is cherished, understood and appreciated by our community, and we get the chance to share with other families the satisfactions and challenges of the beautiful path our children trace for us.

Carolina Amaya, Queens member since 2016
I recently looked through our first annual report from 2012, looking for words to add to this annual report. I was feeling downtrodden, discouraged by governmental movements to repeal the Affordable Care Act and de-fund Title I, which provides financial assistance to schools that serve poverty-stricken neighborhoods. These programs are particularly helpful to people with disabilities, and their dismantling will cause much suffering. As I had hoped, those pictures of the early days of Extreme Kids & Crew, did inspire me, for I remembered the love and acceptance my family found here when we were going through an early time of confusion and struggle.

Extreme Kids & Crew provided and continues to provide something so simple but rarely available to families feeling isolated, under pressure, and in despair: a warm and welcoming environment that celebrates children with disabilities as they are. There is a quote from a mother in that first report that could have been written by me or many of the thousands of caregivers that visited since: “The energy of acceptance in your space is like oxygen we didn’t even know that we needed.”

Now in our sixth year, we have grown immensely in space and programming, and that acceptance I felt when I first entered Space No. 1 remains an integral part of everything we do. In the coming years we are incredibly excited to begin in-school programming and expansion into the Bronx! And while we find immense joy in meeting new parents and young children every week, we remain committed to our first members, now growing into pre-teens, teens and young adults. In the years ahead, we will continue to create inclusive arts and play-based programming for the entire family while listening to and learning from the disability community to make sure we are allies in the collective mission of equal rights, understanding and acceptance.

Sincerely,
Caitlin Cassaro, Executive Director
Particularly striking, is the comparison of poverty rates. When looking at the difference in poverty rates between people with and without disabilities, the poverty gap is considerably wider in New York City than the rest of the state and in the United States.

Center for Independence of the Disabled, New York

60,889—number of persons under age 18 with at least one disability in NYC

38.1%—poverty rate for persons under age 18 with a disability in NYC

$14,880—mean household income for persons under age 18 with a disability in NYC

NYC People with Disabilities Statistics, updated 2016

Extreme Kids & Crew remains resolute in providing affordable programming for all, regardless of income or disability.
Our commute from the Bronx ranges anywhere from one and a half to two hours, give or take the MTA's weekend schedule.

We keep coming back because we feel this space offers enough activities to help keep our son engaged for hours. The staff and volunteers just get our son, and his excitement while at the facility is a constant reminder that we are in the right place!

Carolyn Castro, Queens member since 2016
FIRST TIME VISITS

- 500 (2014)
- 345 (2015)
- 343 (2016)

TOTAL VISITS

- 3,800 (2014)
- 4,300 (2015)
- 5,450 (2016)

18,550 VISITS SINCE 2011

5,000 VISITS PER YEAR BY P.S. 15 AND P.S. 71 STUDENTS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

265 ACTIVE MEMBER FAMILIES IN 2016
In 2016 there were...

127 days of CAMP AND AFTER-SCHOOL

155 OPEN PLAY sessions

162 hours of ARTS AND MOVEMENT classes and monthly events
Extreme Kids & Crew provides the P.S. 15 community, and the broader community, with vital services for our children with disabilities. Their sensory gym is open to our therapists and students during the school day, providing them with essential space and equipment they wouldn’t otherwise have access to.

Extreme Kids’ free after-school program, which two of my students attend four days per week, is an innovative, magical place where children are accepted and honored for their differences and where they are empowered to develop their voice and agency.

One student, who is on the spectrum, has brought his love of music from Extreme Kids’ music program, and now takes on the role of class conductor and drummer whenever the need arises, including everyday during our end-of-day song. He leads, he laughs and makes others laugh, he is engaged and happy and he is connecting with his peers meaningfully and responsively. My other student, who has an intellectual disability, has struggled with expressive language and though she has a lot to say and is very social, she has largely spoken in single word statements. Since being a part of Extreme Kids programming, she speaks more in phrases and short sentences, and has developed more conversational and social language and that has extended into academics.

The Extreme Kids community is play and art-based and meets kids where they are and sees them for who they are. From Open Play, to structured programming, to parent workshops and support, the services they provide to families of children with disabilities are essential and unparalleled. In a world that often either ignores or tries to make typical children with disabilities, Extreme Kids forges another path; acceptance, celebration, and simply giving space to discover gifts, potential and joy. It is truly a space to be!

Julie Cavangh, P.S. 15 Assistant Principal and Extreme Kids & Crew Advisor
The world is screwed up in so many ways and when you come in here (Extreme Kids) you have a relationship, you're safe, you can talk about your issues and it's just... free.

Antwanette Garner, Brooklyn member since 2014

More than 75% of families report they can't find after-school care, non-institutional community services, summer care and other services. The Arc, 2011

In collaboration with the Department of Education, we have been able to reach even more families and their children with Individualized Education Programs (I.E.P.) by expanding within Title I public schools in predominately-disenfranchised neighborhoods in New York City. The two schools we are currently operating in are P.S. 15 in Red Hook, Brooklyn and P.S. 71 in Ridgewood, Queens. We build sensory play-spaces in each location that the school's therapists use during the school day and Extreme Kids & Crew uses after school and on the weekends. Next stop, the Bronx!
# Statement of Financial Activities

## Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants and Contributions</td>
<td>$272,264</td>
<td>$301,065</td>
<td>$371,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Income</td>
<td>12,633</td>
<td>15,602</td>
<td>29,720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Kind Services/Donated Goods</td>
<td>7,135</td>
<td>30,007</td>
<td>9,779</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Event Income</td>
<td>5,370</td>
<td>20,154</td>
<td>10,552</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Income</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$297,413</td>
<td>$366,857</td>
<td>$421,790</td>
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</table>

## Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Expenses</td>
<td>$223,674</td>
<td>$248,714</td>
<td>$338,276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and General</td>
<td>29,213</td>
<td>35,380</td>
<td>47,233</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising Expenses</td>
<td>17,417</td>
<td>20,573</td>
<td>24,796</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$270,304</td>
<td>$304,667</td>
<td>$410,305</td>
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</table>

## Change in Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Change in Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>+$27,109</td>
<td>+$62,190</td>
<td>+$11,485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets Beginning of Year</strong></td>
<td>$11,113</td>
<td>$38,231</td>
<td>$100,421</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets End of Year</strong></td>
<td>$38,231</td>
<td>$100,421</td>
<td>$111,906</td>
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</table>
### Statement of Financial Position

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and Cash Equivalents</td>
<td>$38,586</td>
<td>$79,341</td>
<td>$105,712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid Expenses</td>
<td>1,691</td>
<td>6,794</td>
<td>6,937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants Receivable</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>9,661</td>
<td>1,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property and Equipment, Net</td>
<td>10,962</td>
<td>8,359</td>
<td>19,009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>$51,239</td>
<td>$104,155</td>
<td>$132,953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses</td>
<td>$3,008</td>
<td>$3,734</td>
<td>$21,047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans from Related Parties</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted Funds</td>
<td>38,231</td>
<td>90,722</td>
<td>110,207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily Restricted Funds</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>9,699</td>
<td>1,699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>$51,239</td>
<td>$104,155</td>
<td>$132,953</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Percentage Breakdown for 2016**

- Program Services: 82%
- Management & General: 12%
- Fundraising: 6%
Board of Directors
Eliza Factor,  
Founder and President
Micaela Walker,  
Vice President
Patricia Wolff,  
Board Treasurer
Jen Sellar,  
Secretary
Kamari Alexander
Vanessa Connelly
Jamie Luft
Melissa Morgenlander
Eric Nicklas
Claire Nitze
Nat Rubin
Ghita Schwarz
Elizabeth Wollman

Staff
Caitlin Mia Cassaro,  
Executive Director
Diana Baron-Moore,  
Program Manager
Leigh Reid,  
Communications Manager
Jolene Festa,  
Staff Teacher
Emily Antoniades  
Grant Writer
Melanie Flaxer  
Program Evaluation and Research Assistant
Janet Olguin  
Bookkeeper
Dana Behan, Cyn Morgan and Jillian Street  
Program Facilitators

Justin Ortiz and Jared Sumpter,  
Program Assistants
Elias Eason,  
Security

Advisors
Amy Weber, LCSW
Julie Cavanagh, P.S. 15 Vice Principal
Michelle Ballon, MSW, PhD

Grants and Funders
American Chai Trust
Bernheim Foundation, Inc.
Butler Family Foundation
Frank & Ruth E. Caruso Foundation
City Council Member Carlos Menchaca
Stephen Colbert Americone Dream Fund
Department of Youth and Community Development
The FAR Fund
The Flom Family Foundation
Howard Gilman Foundation
Huber-Resor Charitable Fund
Magic Pebble Foundation
Mary Duke Biddle Foundation
Meringoff Family Foundation
New York Women’s Foundation
The O’Connell Organization Family Foundation
William J. and Dorothy K. O’Neill Foundation
Pine River Capital
Ronald McDonald House Charities
TerraCRG
Laura B. Vogler Foundation
The Joseph Leroy and Ann C. Warner Fund

Professional Partners
501 Union
Atelier Roquette
The Black Cake Company
Dry Dock Wine & Spirits
Greene Grape Wine & Spirits
Movers, Not Shakers!
NY Printing & Graphics
Saipua
Van Brunt Stillhouse

Partners, Teaching Artists and Supporting Organizations
Amelia Robinson
The Art Farm in the City
ArtshackBrooklyn
Audra Rox and Jennifer Milich
Brooklyn Academy of Music
Brooklyn Botanic Garden
Brooklyn Brazilian Jiu Jitsu
Cleaning with Meaning
DJ Reborn
DreamStreet Theatre Company
Freddy’s Bar
GallopNYC
Gary Shulman
GiGi’s Playhouse New York
INCLUDEny
Jalopy Theatre and School of Music
Jessica Zippin, Dance/Movement Therapist
Jordan Shapiro
KEEN New York
Kentler International Drawing Space
Mark Morris Dance Group
David Marquis
MoMA
MusicWorks
My Circle of Girls
Neha Jiwrajka

New York Transit Museum
NYC Department of Education
NYC Department of Parks and Recreation
Red Hook Boaters
South Brooklyn Children’s Garden
Speak, Learn, & Play
The Stomping Ground
Youth Inc.

A Very Special Thank You To
Brooklyn Friends School
Victor Calise, Commissioner of the Mayor’s Office for People with Disabilities
Cecelia Clarke
Carmen Fariña, Chancellor of the NYC Department of Education
Jim Cassaro
Nina Collins
Jason Factor
The Fuqua Family
Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP
Jerron Herman and Heidi Latsky Dance (2016 Felix Award presenter)
Zack Hochkeppel
Linda Kocieniewski, My Circle of Girls
Lawyers Alliance for New York
Bobye List
Rebecca Alson Milkman (2016 Felix Award recipient in Performing Arts)
Peggy Madison and the P.S. 15 Family
Indiana Soto and the P. S. 71 Family
Amelia Wilson

And finally, thank you to all of the volunteers who spend their free time playing with our extreme kids!
Extreme Kids & Crew is a 501(c)(3) organization incorporated in 2010. We celebrate children with disabilities, promoting socialization and confidence-building through arts and play-based programming. Our organization believes in creating an inclusive community for the whole family to feel seen, heard, accepted and respected. There are many ways to make this community of disability thrive:

* Volunteer to be a “Play Partner” to the many children visiting our spaces
* Donate and financially support the programs the organization offers
* Write for the blog, Broken and Woken, and help change the perception of disability: brokenandwoken.blogspot.com
* Join a committee and lend your specific talents
* Join the board and be a leader to this growing organization

Photos: page 2 by Micaela Walker; page 5, 7, 8 and 13 by Extreme Kids staff; page 14 by MVS Studio; all other photos by Filip Wolak. Original design by Rob Kimmel robkimmeldesign.com

All photos taken at Extreme Kids & Crew locations and events.

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