

MMEG
Annual Report
FY17

Empowering Women

MARGARET
MCNAMARA
EDUCATION GRANTS

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www.mmeg.org

Message from the President

Dear Volunteers, Donors, and Friends,

My two years as President of Margaret McNamara Education Grants (MMEG) and six years on the Board come to an end with this Annual Report. The time has flown so fast, amidst a whirlwind of work, activities and events! I want to acknowledge all the support, collaboration and encouragement received from you over these years.

Together, we achieved the re-branding of MMEG, new fundraising initiatives, a new partnership with Trinity Washington University in DC, and a dramatic increase in grants awarded to university women. Of course, all of the successes that we celebrate would not have been possible without the passionate contribution of our loyal donors and volunteers, mostly affiliated with the World Bank Family Network, the International Monetary Fund and the Inter-American Development Bank, who serve on the Board of Directors, the regional Selection Committees, and Arts & Crafts Fair Organization Committee. For this, and on behalf of the organization, I want to express my sincerest gratitude.

Let me use this opportunity to introduce the new MMEG President, Reiko Niimi. She has served on the executive team as Board Secretary for two years and on the US/Canada Selection Committee for several years prior to that. The organization is in very good hands with her.



I, myself, will continue to work at the World Bank on the shared goal of reducing poverty and achieving gender equality across the world. I feel that I will be better at doing this job, having grown so much through MMEG.

Thank you for your continued support!

Monica Vidili
President, 2015-2017

Supporting the Aspirations of Women from Developing Countries

Margaret McNamara Education Grants is a volunteer-led public charity, which awards education grants to exceptional women from developing countries. Grantees are at least 25 years old and enrolled at accredited universities in the US, Canada and selected universities in South Africa and Latin America, including the FLACSO network. (Application criteria are posted on our website <mmeg.org>). We believe that supporting the education of women from around the world is a critical investment that reaps immeasurable dividends. We also believe that an important way to repay the support that we have each received for our own education is to pay it forward for others.

MMEG is a 501(c)(3) public charity, founded to recognize Margaret McNamara for her tireless dedication to the education of women and children, before and while her husband, Robert McNamara, was president of the World Bank (1968-1981). US President Jimmy Carter awarded Margaret McNamara the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian distinction in the United States, for her work on women's empowerment and literacy (notably through her founding of Reading is FUNdamental).

Throughout the year, MMEG volunteers serve on regional Selection Committees to review applications and interview finalists for potential grants. Other volunteers work tirelessly for months to organize the annual Arts & Crafts Fair and direct mail fund-raising; some serve on the Board of Directors.

Since its inception in 1981 through this year, MMEG has disbursed \$3.1 million for 351 education grants. This year, we awarded a total of 33 grants, divided almost equally among three continents: North America, Africa and Latin America. The names of the grantees are provided in this report, as well as their respective nationalities and fields of study. These grants were made possible through the generosity of our loyal and new donors, as well as the success of the annual fair and other fundraising activities.

Supporting the Aspirations of Women from Developing Countries

Among our US/Canada grantees in 2017 is MIT student Riddhi Shah, who is obtaining her master's degree in city and regional planning. At the same time, she is leading the design of the "Kumej," portable chair-desks that young students in India can carry to create comfortable work surfaces, whether at a construction site where their parents work or in a rural or street school.



Twelve women studying at universities in South Africa were awarded MMEG grants. One is Tshabalala Thandeka from Swaziland, who is studying for her master's degree in sociology at the University of Cape Town. With her undergraduate degree in urban and regional planning, she showcases the ability of residents in informal settlements to peacefully and productively co-invest in their communities.

Within our Latin America program, Mariela Escobedo is a Mexican national studying for her doctorate in education at Universidad Iberoamericana. She is analyzing the programs and barriers to education and justice, particularly for indigenous women in her country. MMEG was honored to have her present some research findings at our offices in May 2017. (See <mmeg.org/news> for more in-depth coverage of her research.)



Three women from Trinity Washington University were awarded 2017 grants, including Fidelia Perez-Lopez from Guatemala, who is studying Early Childhood Education, and plans to become a teacher. She is an educational role model to the Latina community of the District of Columbia and to her five children, as she completes her college education after arriving as a teenager with only four years of formal education.

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MMEG Grantees in FY17

	Nationality	Degree	Field of Study
Africa Program			
Bhebehe, Sibongile	Zimbabwe	PhD	Cultural & Fine Arts
Darboe, Fatoumatta	Gambia	PhD	Clinical Immunology
Edwards, Amanda	S. Africa	Masters	Public Health
Ezekannagha, Oluchi	Nigeria	PhD	Nutrition
Agbagbla, Felicia	Ghana	PhD	Early Childhood Education
Kalweit, Kerry	S. Africa	BSc	Medicine and Surgery
Katangwe, Thembi	Malawi	Certificate	Pediatric Neurology
Marangu, Diana	Kenya	Masters	Pediatric Pulmonology
Mphutlane, Rethabile	Lesotho	BSc H	Applied Drama/Education
Tshabalala, Thandeka	Swaziland	Masters	Sociology
Tshangela, Khosi	S. Africa	Masters	Social Work
Yanclo, Loriane	Benin	Masters	Agriculture
Latin America Program			
Galvez, Jenny Lorena	Colombia	Masters	Social Anthropology
Montoya, Natalia	Bolivia	Masters	Public Policy
Macchi, Marina	Argentina	Masters	Bioethics
Gutkowski, Patricia	Argentina	Masters	Communications
Rodriguez, Viviana	Colombia	Masters	Sociology
Acevedo, Mirna	Mexico	Masters	Human Rights & Democracy
Escobedo, Mariela	Mexico	PhD	Education Policy
Ochoa, Yahaira	Mexico	Masters	Public Policy & Gender
Alfaro, Kely	Peru	Masters	Environmental Development
Dianderas, Karina	Peru	Masters	Community Psychology
USA/Canada Program			
Abdurahimova, Zulfiya	Azerbaijan	PhD	Public
Bvindi, Carol	Zimbabwe	PhD	Agriculture
Changamire, Nyaradzai	Zimbabwe	PhD	Education
Chatterji, Sangeeta	India	PhD	Social Work
Elaraby, Sarah	Egypt	PhD	Public Health
Navidi, Neda	Iran	PhD	Engineering
Shah, Riddhi	India	Masters	City & Regional Planning
Shimrah, Singmila	India	PhD	International Relations/ Diplomacy
Trinity Washington University			
Mendoza, Maira	USA	BSc	Medicine/Nursing
Perez Lopez, Fidelia	Guatemala	BSc	Education
Taylor, Veronique	USA	BSc	Medicine/Nursing

Grantees' Universities in FY17

Our congratulations to the universities that have our grantees as registered students this year!



HARVARD
UNIVERSITY



PURDUE
UNIVERSITY



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA



Universidad Austral de Chile
Conocimiento y Naturaleza

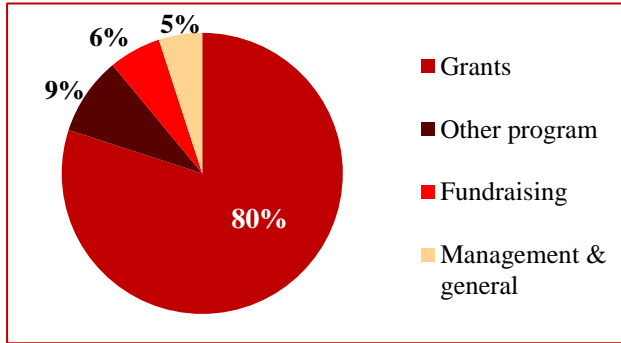


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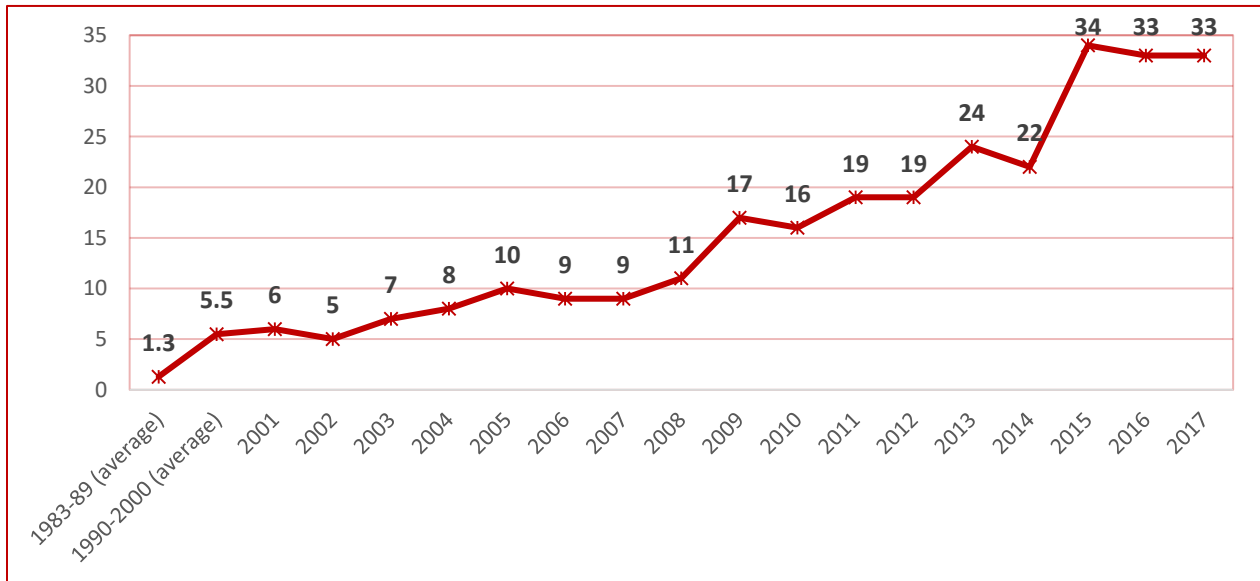
Facts and Figures

Programs	Amount (US\$)
US/Canada (8 grants)	120,000
South Africa (12 grants)	84,000
Latin America (10 grants)	70,000
Trinity (3 grants)	22,500
Recipients' expenses	3,363
Total	299,863

Grants and other recipient expenses



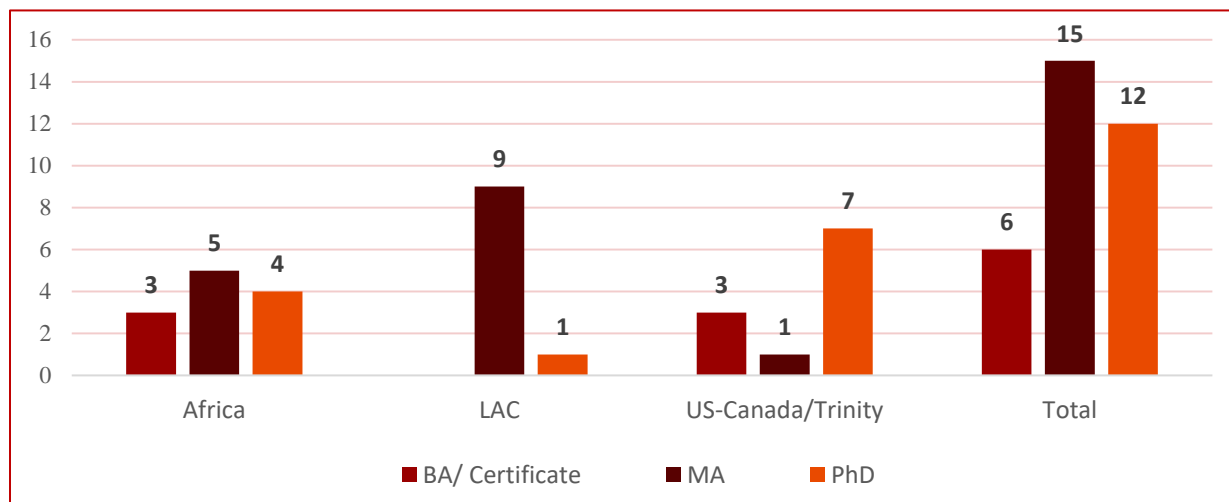
Distribution of cash expenses



Number of grantees by year*

* The first MMEG grant was awarded in 1983. From 1983 to 1989, 1 or 2 grants were awarded each year. From 1990 to 2000, 5 or 6 grants were awarded annually.

University Degrees Pursued by FY17 Grantees



Grantees by degrees

Of the FY17 cohort, fifteen MMEG grantees were studying for their master's degree, twelve were pursuing doctoral studies, and six were studying for their bachelor's degrees or a certification.

MMEG grantees are studying in diverse fields. Social Sciences tend to dominate in the Latin America program, while clinical sciences, law and education were foci in the South Africa program. The grantees in the US/Canada program span communications and journalism to criminal justice and nursing.

The MMEG partnership with Trinity Washington University addresses the financial needs of women students in the Washington DC neighborhood of the MMEG secretariat, and does not have nationality requirements. These grantees are also not expected to return to work in a developing country upon graduation. The most important criteria for selection remains their past, present and future commitment to working on behalf of women and children.

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MMEG Arts & Crafts Fair



The annual Arts & Crafts Fair showcases the wares of more than 50 curated vendors and donated goods. It provides shoppers with a unique holiday shopping venue and food from around the world.

The Arts & Crafts Fair took place in November 2016

On 28 October 2016, an auction fundraiser was held at the Ronald Reagan International Trade Center to publicize MMEG to a broader public in the Washington D.C. area, and to publicize the annual Arts & Crafts Fair at the World Bank in November.

The Arts & Crafts Fair is the single most important fundraising event for MMEG, mobilizing dozens of volunteers for months to collect, sort, and price donations as well as to identify vendors whose goods will appeal to the international tastes of shoppers. It is the only such event hosted within the World Bank. The Arts & Crafts Fair took place from November 7-10, 2016, and its proceeds this year constituted more than a third of our revenue.

The generous donations of many individual donors and some corporate sponsors are recognized at the end of this report.

Special Events



Thread of Life event took place in March 2017

In March 2017, MMEG hosted “The Thread of Life” in the atrium of the World Bank Main Complex. This event publicly showcased two grantees: Supreme Court Justice Esther Kisaakye of Uganda (a 2005 grantee) and Professor Laura Balbuena of Peru (a 2004 grantee). Esther wrote the landmark judgment in 2013, recognizing women’s rights to jointly own property acquired during marriage, on the basis of non-monetary contributions of housework and caring for children. Laura advances the education of adolescent girls at-risk through a community-level organization. Their stories reminded us of the event’s theme: that women are the warp and weave, indeed the very threads, of the fabric of our communities.

Maria del Huerto, a 2015 grantee, met with officials of the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank in May, when she was invited to attend the annual WBFN dinner. She is a specialized nurse in wound therapy, who works with young people in rural villages of Argentina. Fidelia Perez-Lopez and Maira Mendoza both 2017 grantees from Trinity Washington University also attended the dinner.

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MMEG Financing

\$ thousand	FY16*	FY17*
Contributions and other revenues		
Cash donations	78	114
Non-monetary (in-kind) contributions	60	72
Special fund-raising events	74	76
Less: direct expenses	(14)	(37)
Miscellaneous revenue	-	-
Total revenues	198	225
Expenses		
Grants and other recipient expenses	288	300
Other program expenses	44	66
Fundraising expenses	70	41
Management & general expenses	63	30
Total expenses	465	437
Decrease in net assets before net investment income	(267)	(212)
Net investment income	-80	240
Change in unrestricted net assets	(347)	28
Unrestricted net assets at beginning of year	2,469	2,123
Unrestricted net assets at end of year	2,123	2,151
Of which: operating reserve	430	400
development reserve	43	40

MMEG financing comes from a large base of individual donors, small family foundations, and corporate donors. In addition to the significant amount of time contributed by volunteers, MMEG received \$224,000 in cash donations, in-kind support, and revenue from the annual Arts & Crafts Fair and auction, a 10% increase compared to the fiscal year 2016.

A total of \$296,000 was awarded to 33 grantees, constituting 79 % of total cash expenditures compared to 66 % in 2016.

Unrestricted net assets stood at \$2.1 million at the end of the year of which \$440,000 comprises reserves.

Non-monetary (in-kind) contributions include pro-bono legal advice and, from the World Bank Group, office space, communications, printing and administrative/event support. MMEG also benefits from the significant amounts of time contributed by volunteers in managing and implementing its programs.

Full audited financial statements are available upon request.

*MMEG fiscal year begins on July 1 and ends on June 30.

Friends of MMEG FY17

In addition to the many volunteers whose contribution of time is invaluable, and the generous donors who choose to remain Anonymous, we would like to acknowledge and thank the following who supported MMEG with direct contributions:

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Stellenbosch visit and Board Meeting took place on June 2017

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Sukruye Karaosmanoglu (Turkey), Honorary President for Life
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Africa program: Gisele Youmbi (Cameroon) and Annumeet Rao (India)
Latin America program: Vivian Familiar (Mexico) and Charlotte Jones-Carroll (USA)

Program Coordinator:

Cecile Ferri (France)



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