Theresa Alessandra Russo Foundation

2021 Annual Report
**Vision**

The Theresa Foundation has a vision of the world where artistic expression and physical recreation are just as important to adults as they are to children. We believe in a world where every child, regardless of ability or challenging conditions, is free to communicate through and participate in every art or recreational activity.

A society without art is a society without soul. Art enables us to express our inner thoughts, fears, joys, and sadness. Our artistic expression—whether written, danced, painted, or sculpted—tells us who we are, what is important to us, and how we relate to the world.

Likewise, physical recreation, in all its forms—from individual and team sports, to dance, and yoga—is good for the mind and the body, forming an essential component of health and wellness.

Because children are our future, we believe in nurturing each child, and the inalienable rights of artistic expression and physical recreation for all.

**Mission**

The Foundation honors the memory of Theresa Alessandra Russo by touching the lives of children with special needs and their families.

The Foundation fosters each child’s unique abilities by supporting programs focusing on art, music, dance, drama and recreation.

*Cover art: Richard M. Brodsky graciously presented The Theresa Foundation with a 4’ x 6’ painting by African artist Sam Olu, the lead artist of the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation’s art workshop.*
The 2021 grant from the Theresa Foundation provided support for the ongoing music therapy program at St. Mary’s Hospital for Children.
Dear Friends,

As the Theresa Foundation marks its 29th year, I am continually thankful for the commitment we collectively share to the children whom we serve.

This year, as life continues to get back to some sense of normalcy—or at least a “new normal”—I have seen a renewed pledge to our mission and philosophy, set in motion 29 years ago. Together, we remain committed to the belief that all children should be treated with love and respect, and that arts and recreation programs should be accessible to all, regardless of ability.

The programs that we support share our belief that children learn and play best in a comfortable and supportive setting. To that end, we have assisted in providing safe, sufficient and innovative programing for children with special needs.

In 2021, we received more requests for funding than ever before. The need is real as so many programs are now relying, even more heavily, on the generosity of community support given the additional expenses incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In this Annual Report you will learn about several of our ongoing fundraising projects:

• Our biggest and most successful fundraiser: The Swingin’ Fore Theresa Golf Outing, which is a relaxed day of golf and sunshine that brings both golfers and non-golfers together for the Gala dinner reception, silent auctions, and raffle donations.

• For the second consecutive year the Theresa Foundation participated in “Giving Tuesday”, beating our 2020 benchmark.

• “Team Theresa” also joined CP-Nassau’s “Walk, Run, Stroll” Event, raising money earmarked for renovations and maintenance of “Theresa’s Fun Place” on the campus of the Children’s Learning Center where Theresa went to school. Over 250 students use this fully adaptive playground every day.
You will also learn about the many programs we support across the United States and around the world. The most significant and joyful change for us in 2021 was the ability to actually visit one of our grant recipients in-person! We were ecstatic to once again witness the amazing work that our grant recipients do every day.

In April we visited the first GIGI’S Playhouse to open on Long Island. With over 55 (and counting) locations, GiGi’s Playhouse is a place where people can see “the other side of Down Syndrome.” The Patchogue location is a bright, colorful, and well-organized facility with five program levels, ranging from fitness to literacy and math tutorial programs, as well as art, music, dance, and yoga. At GiGi’s, it’s all about the families. All educational and therapeutic programming is free, and the focus is on acceptance and accomplishment. We were happy and excited to welcome GiGi’s to Long Island, and we know that there are hundreds of local families who now have a “bridge” between family life, school life and a wonderful social life full of love and acknowledgement.

We also had the opportunity to make a virtual visit to St. Mary’s Hospital in Bayside, Queens. The Theresa Foundation has supported their music therapy program for many years, and had been invited to tour the hospital and sit in on some of the music classes back in 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic hit the U.S., and we all went into lockdown. Of course, protecting the lives of the very vulnerable patients at St. Mary’s became a top priority for the doctors and caregivers. Two and a half years later, we finally got to virtually visit a music class led by teacher Christine Pederson. These classes provide great joy to the children at St. Mary’s and are a beautiful means of self-expression of the children, many of whom are non-verbal. Watching the children respond to the songs, and play the different instruments, brought happy tears to my eyes as I saw a bit of Theresa in the face of each child.

These visits in 2021 reminded me how valuable and needed our work is at the Theresa Foundation. We are truly grateful for the dedication of our supporters who enable opportunities for all the little Theresas out there. We hope that you will enjoy reading this Annual Report, which highlights even more of the brilliant, innovative, and much-needed arts and recreation programs that are made possible by your support.

From my family to yours, I am wishing you all the best.

Susan S. Russo
President
MEET THERESA

Theresa Alessandra Russo was born on May 5th, 1986. She was a “surprise baby” in more than one way: not only did we not know the sex of our third child, but we had no idea that she would be born with a severe handicapping condition known as microcephaly. She was a beautiful miracle.

The hospital staff, social workers and neo-natal doctors all told us that she would be a “burden” and that we should place her in an orphanage, or a home for disabled children, but we did not, and so her legacy began.

Theresa loved music, movement, and art. Her eyes lit up when playing on the playground! Next to home it was her favorite place to be. Theresa was quickly incorporated into all the activities and travels of our close-knit family, wrapped in the love of her two older siblings, her younger brother, and extended family.

Theresa passed away on December 23rd, 1991—outliving every doctor’s prediction and enriching our lives in untold ways. Theresa was an inspiration to all that knew her, and her legacy lives on through the Theresa Foundation, which was formed a year after her passing.

The Theresa Foundation provides grants to support classes and recreation programs that focus on music, dance, art, and drama for children with special needs locally, around the country, and internationally. Our family felt a need to assist in bringing the same activities in the arts and recreation that Theresa enjoyed to all other children like her.

Thank you for all of the support that you give to the Theresas of the world. Without you, none of what we do would be possible.

SIGNATURE PROGRAM:

Gift of Love

Established shortly after the Foundation’s creation, our Gift of Love program enables individuals and entities to make a donation in honor and/or in memory of an individual. Following the donation, a card from the Theresa Foundation is sent to the family or friends of the individual, recognizing the donation and sharing the Foundation’s mission.

At the celebration of a particular event, such as a birthday, anniversary, bar mitzvah, or sweet sixteen, a donation to help others in honor of your loved one is a special and unique gift, and upon the passing of a loved one, it is a meaningful way to celebrate a life well-lived. The Gift of Love provides comfort, hope, and positive inspiration.
Richard M. Brodsky Foundation

Not only has Richard M. Brodsky lived with HIV for over 20 years, he is also a brain cancer survivor who has dedicated his life to raising awareness that an HIV or cancer diagnosis does not mean you have to stop living life. He created the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation in 2006 to raise awareness and money for research to find a cure or vaccine for AIDS and to offer aid to those already afflicted with AIDS and brain cancer in Africa, the United States, and beyond. On the ground in Kenya, his foundation provides food, shelter, and shoes for orphans. Since its founding, it has sponsored 45 orphan dinner dances for 11,816 orphans while providing medical care for 2,914 others. To date, philanthropy efforts by Richard and his foundation have directly saved the lives of over 900 orphans in Africa.

The Theresa Foundation was a proud sponsor of the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation’s art workshop for orphans in Kenya in 2021. In addition to his work helping those living with HIV/AIDS and cancer, Richard is also passionate about enriching the lives of special needs children in Africa by expanding access to music, creative movement, and art education. He made a promise that if his life was spared, he would use his resources and life to help those living with the effects of cancer and HIV, along with children with special needs. Richard graciously presented the Theresa Foundation with a 4’ x 6’ painting (featured on the cover) by African artist Sam Olu, the lead artist of the art workshop.

After founding the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation, Richard was inspired to write his book, Richard Brodsky’s Journey of Hope, which offers a deeper look into his personal journey of hope while sharing photos and stories of the work that his foundation has accomplished. Richard’s book is available to read for free by visiting www.worldaidsmarathon.com, and his love for Kenya and its artists, musicians, dancers, singers, orphans, runners, and animals is also shared in his YouTube video “World AIDS Marathoners Love Affair with Kenya”.

Beyond their efforts in supporting research and global AIDS projects, the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation also has a strong commitment to living aid organizations. He and his wife, Jody’s beliefs stretch beyond awareness into the education of the many complex issues involved living with the HIV illness. One hundred percent of the proceeds from the Foundation’s World AIDS Marathon in Kisumu, Kenya goes towards research and living aid.

To learn more about volunteering your professional skills or getting involved with the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation, you can visit www.richardmbrodsky.org. To view the story of the past 15 World AIDS Marathons, orphan dinner dances, medical care provided, and how they are able to help special needs kids, visit www.worldaidsmarathon.com.
ANNUAL EVENTS

CP Nassau 5K Walk, Run, Roll, Stroll

TEAM THERESA joined the “Walk, Run, Roll, Stroll” event held by CP-Nassau, which is where Theresa attended school.
Swingin’ Fore Theresa Golf Outing

The Swingin’ Fore Theresa Golf Outing, typically held the last Thursday in June, is an annual fundraising event.
THERESA POOLED TRUSTS

The Theresa Foundation Pooled Trust of New York

This is a special type of trust that allows a beneficiary of any age to become financially eligible for public assistance benefits, such as Medicaid home care which allows the beneficiary to protect their monthly income for living expenses and supplemental needs. The Center for Special Needs Trust Administration, Inc. (The Center) and KeyBank National Association are trustees that administer The Theresa Pooled Trust (Trust).

Upon the beneficiary’s death, any remaining assets in the pooled trust sub-account may be used to support people with disabilities. As part of their charitable mission, the Theresa Foundation and The Center have partnered to support programs for children with special needs in the arts and recreation.

Please visit www.theresafoundation.org/pooled-trust or scan here to watch a one-minute video and learn more about how you can protect your assets and support our Foundation.

ANNUAL EVENTS

The Theresa Foundation 2021 Comedy Fundraiser Night was a virtual event featuring Derrick Tennant and his younger sister Julie Tennant of 14Sleeves.

Derrick, who lost access to one side of his body after having an aneurysm and brain surgery, talked candidly about his abilities. Instead of dwelling on his disability, he poked fun of it, and focused on the bright side of life.

When his sister, Julie, who has down syndrome, was introduced later in his act, she talked about her extra chromosome. The stories that they both told were funny, honest and raw. You couldn't help but love them both!
Our grant program supports organizations that focus on art, music, dance, drama, and recreation. It is our privilege to help these worthy organizations and programs improve the lives of individuals with special needs through direct service.
2021 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Art Programs

Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc. (CP Nassau)
Roosevelt, NY
CP Nassau is a not-for-profit health agency serving over 1,800 children and adults with cerebral palsy, developmental and other disabilities. The 2021 TAPA@ grant from the Theresa Foundation ($8,800) provided art classes for young adults with special needs enrolled in CP Nassau’s Adult Day Habilitation programs. This comprehensive grant included TAPA@ teaching instructor and materials.

GiGi’s Playhouse - Long Island Chapter
Patchogue, NY
GiGi’s Playhouse Long Island is one of fifty-five Down Syndrome Achievement Centers across the United States. The mission and purpose of GiGi’s Playhouse is to change the way the world views Down Syndrome and to send a global message of acceptance to all. The 2021 grant from the Theresa Foundation ($5,300) provided 12 art classes and 12 music classes at no charge to participants.

GiGi’s Playhouse - New York City Chapter
GiGi’s Playhouse NYC is one of fifty-five Down Syndrome Achievement Centers across the United States. The mission and purpose of GiGi’s Playhouse is to change the way the world views Down Syndrome and to send a global message of acceptance to all. The 2021 grant from the Theresa Foundation ($5,000) was used to support the Gratitude Art Committee.

Long Beach High School
Long Beach, NY
The Long Beach High School Life Skills program prepares students to be independent and contributing members of society to the best of their abilities. The 2021 TAPA@ grant from the Theresa Foundation ($2,250) provided 8 art classes, once a week for 8 weeks. This comprehensive grant included TAPA@ teaching instructors and materials.
Michigan Arts Access
Detroit, MI
Michigan Arts Access is a non-profit organization that promotes creativity, education, and accessibility to the arts for people with disabilities by creating an inclusive society where they may participate in, learn through, excel in and enjoy the arts. The 2021 grant from the Theresa Foundation ($5,000) was used to support the Club Create program.

Richard M. Brodsky Foundation
Atlantic Beach, NY
The Richard M. Brodsky Foundation exists to raise money for an AIDS cure or vaccine, research, and to benefit those already living with HIV/AIDS and brain cancer. The 2021 grant from the Theresa Foundation ($4,000) provided four art workshops for orphans with special needs in Kenya.
Music Programs

Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc. (CP Nassau)
Roosevelt, NY
CP Nassau is a not-for-profit health agency serving over 1,800 children and adults with cerebral palsy, developmental, and other disabilities. The 2021 TAPA@ grant from the Theresa Foundation ($8,000) provided music classes, with the specific focus of a drumming curriculum, to children and young adults with special needs enrolled in the Adult Day Habilitations program. This comprehensive grant included TAPA@ teaching instructor and materials.

GiGi’s Playhouse - Long Island Chapter
Patchogue, NY
GiGi’s Playhouse Long Island is one of fifty-five Down Syndrome Achievement Centers across the United States. The mission and purpose of GiGi’s Playhouse is to change the way the world views Down Syndrome and to send a global message of acceptance to all. The 2021 grant from the Theresa Foundation ($5,300) was used to support 12 art classes and 12 music classes at no charge to participants.

St. Mary’s Foundation for Children
Bayside, NY
St. Mary’s Healthcare System for Children is committed to improving the health and quality of life for children and families with special needs. The team of pediatric specialists at St. Mary’s Hospital for Children provides specialized, interdisciplinary care to hundreds of children with complex medical conditions. The 2021 grant from the Theresa Foundation ($5,000) provided support for the ongoing music therapy program for medically fragile children who are receiving long-term nursing care and therapies at St. Mary’s Hospital for Children to help manage their conditions.
The New York City Department of Education is committed to creating and supporting learning environments that reflect the diversity of New York City, with a belief that all students benefit from diverse and inclusive classrooms. The Ronald McNair School received two TAPA@ grants in 2021 from the Theresa Foundation (totaling $12,288) used to provide music classes, with the specific focus of a drumming curriculum, to students in the special education program at the school. This comprehensive grant included TAPA@ teaching instructor and materials.

Located on the grounds of CP Nassau, established in 1948, the Children’s Learning Center (CLC) has a well-earned reputation for outstanding education, evaluation, and treatment for children from early childhood to adulthood with a broad range of mild to severe disabilities. CLC has a strong commitment to serving the entire family, and services are designed to support the family network. The 2021 TAPA@ grant from the Theresa Foundation ($9,390) provided music classes, with the specific focus of a drumming curriculum, to children and young adults with special needs enrolled in CP Nassau’s Children’s Learning Center. This comprehensive grant included TAPA@ teaching instructor and materials.
Dance Programs

Aspiring Attitudes
Oklahoma City, OK
Aspiring Attitudes is a non-profit dance studio where special needs and typical students take classes and perform side-by-side. The 2021 TAPA@ grant from the Theresa Foundation ($7,425) provided two one-week dance camps for children of all abilities where students with special needs are accepted for who they are as people and not excluded because of limitations.

Joyce Theater Foundation
New York, NY
For over three decades The Joyce Theater Foundation has advanced its mission to serve the art of dance and choreography, promote the richness and variety of the art form, enhance the public interest in, and appreciation of, dance and the allied art of music, design, and theater. Comprehensive educational programs for schools and families enhance the public’s appreciation of dance and serve more than 1,500 local students annually. The 2021 grant from the Theresa Foundation ($3,500) provided The Joyce Theater Foundation, in partnership with Parsons Dance and NYC’s District 75, with the opportunity to deliver a modified dance education curriculum through workshops for students with special needs culminating in a sensory-friendly matinee performance of Parsons Dance.

National Dance Institute
New York, NY
National Dance Institute (NDI) is a non-profit arts education organization that brings children together through inclusive dance and music programs. The NDI DREAM project is an inclusive dance program that provides children with disabilities the opportunity to perform. The 2021 grant from the Theresa Foundation ($5,000) was used to support the DREAM Project.

Attack Theatre, Inc.
Pittsburg, PA
Attack Theatre builds community with artist and audiences through the process and production of personal, accessible dance-based performance. Through inherently collaborative and deliberatively inter-dependent artistic and educational programs, Attack Theatre demonstrates its uniquely integrated approach to art and living to connect communities, artists, and audiences in Pittsburg and around the world. The 2021 grant from the Theresa Foundation ($5,000) was used to provide a virtual weekend of free dance workshops to children and young adults with varied abilities in partnership with ComMotion and Yes, You Can Dance!

Feel the Beat
Englewood, CO
Feel The Beat is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to making the experience of music possible to those who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and with special needs. They use bone-conduction dance floors that allow students to feel sound through vibrational energy. The 2021 grant from the Theresa Foundation ($2,500) assisted in covering the cost of construction and operational funds for re-opening a new studio space.

Dancing Classrooms, Inc.
New York, NY
For over 26 years Dancing Classrooms has partnered with schools and community-based organizations to cultivate essential life skills in children through the joyful art and practice of social dance. Their vision is schools and communities where every child is connected, respected, and given an environment in which to thrive. The 2021 grant from the Theresa Foundation ($5,000) provided twenty sessions of Ballroom and Latin Dance to students grades 4-8 using an integrated teaching model.
Drama Programs

Drama Interaction
Chaska, MN

Drama interaction is a creative and performing arts program dedicated to fostering expression and empowerment of individuals with special needs. They are committed to finding the talents and strengths of each individual participant through performing arts experience in theater, music, dance, storytelling, and puppetry. The 2021 grant from the Theresa Foundation ($7,850) supported a ten week “Parent and Me” drama workshop.

Long Beach Theatre Guild
Long Beach, NY

Long Beach Theatre Guild was formed in 1972 with the goal of fostering cultural arts in the community through the dramatic, comedic, and musical interpretation of plays and musicals. The 2021 grant from the Theresa Foundation ($3,000) was used to provide materials and support of a virtual, sensory friendly performance of an original show, “Long Beach Theatre Guild’s Musical Road Trip!”
Recreation Programs

AIM Services Inc.
Saratoga Springs, NY
Formed in 1979, AIM Services, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization providing residential and community-based services to people with disabilities including those with traumatic brain injuries and those who are looking for nursing home transition or diversion. The 2021 grant from the Theresa Foundation ($5,000) was used to support the cost of educational, recreational, and sensory materials for enhanced respite programs.

Camp Abilities
Brockport, NY
The mission of Camp Abilities Brockport is to empower children and teens with visual impairments to be physically active and productive members of their schools, towns, cities, and communities, as well as to improve the health and well-being of people with sensory impairments. The 2021 grant from the Theresa Foundation ($3,840) was used to support the 2021 summer camp season as well as purchase sneakers and hiking poles to enable the new hiking program.

Southampton Fresh Air Home (SFAH)
Southampton, NY
SFAH is a not-for-profit residential camp that has been offering summer sessions and year round programs and opportunities for youth with physical disabilities for over 119 years. The mission of SFAH is to provide an enriching, recreational camping experience. The 2021 grant from the Theresa Foundation ($5,000) was used to aid in the creation of an outdoor sensory garden for all participants of their programs.

Kids Enjoy Exercise Now (KEEN) Chicago
Chicago, IL
KEEN’s mission is to empower youth with disabilities by providing free, non-competitive, and unstructured one-to-one programs of exercise, fitness, and fun led by volunteer coaches. The 2021 grant from the Theresa Foundation ($7,500) supported Hybrid Camp KEEN, which provided virtual and socially-distanced in-person summer camp programming.

Long Beach High School
Long Beach, NY
The Long Beach High School Life Skills program prepares students to be independent and contributing members of society who are prepared to live independently to the best of their abilities. The 2021 TAPA@ grant from the Theresa Foundation ($960) provided eight yoga classes, once a week for eight weeks. This comprehensive grant included TAPA@ teaching instructor.
Adapt Ability
Brooklyn, NY

Created in 2017, Adapt Ability helps families with children with special needs to increase mobility, exercise, and to enjoy the pleasure of riding a bicycle together with their families. Adapt Ability provides free, custom, adaptive bicycles to children with special needs, with each one tailored to each child’s specific needs and goals. The 2021 grant from the Theresa Foundation ($10,000) provided funds for adaptive bicycles, parts, accessories, and private learning sessions.

Pal-O-Mine Equestrian
Islandia, NY

Founded in 1995, the mission of Pal-O-Mine Equestrian is to provide a comprehensive therapeutic equine program using horses to facilitate growth, learning, and healing. The 2021 grant from the Theresa Foundation ($3,900) provided 60 individual adaptive horseback riding lessons to children with a variety of disabilities.

Share the Voice, Inc.
Nesconset, NY

Share the Voice, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization providing adaptive tricycles and miles of smiles to children with special needs at no cost. The purpose of Share the Voice, Inc. is to provide a physically active outlet and increase social skills and self-esteem in a home and neighborhood environment through the use of mobility equipment. The 2021 grant from the Theresa Foundation ($5,000) provided two adaptive tricycles tailored to meet the specific needs of each recipient.

Love Serving Autism, Inc.
North Palm Beach, Fla.

Love Serving Autism’s (LSA) mission is to expand life skills, especially communication, through specialized therapeutic tennis instruction to increase community inclusion and independence of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Developmental Challenges. The 2021 grant from the Theresa Foundation ($5,000) supported adaptive summer tennis camps.

NAELA Theresa Award Grant Recipient

Advocates
Framingham, MA

Advocates provides a broad range of services for people facing life challenges such as addiction, aging, autism, brain injury, intellectual disabilities, and mental health challenges. Advocates partners with individuals, families, and communities to shape creative solutions to even the greatest life challenges. The 2021 Theresa Award Grant ($5,000) was made in honor of Annette M. Hines.
The Theresa Foundation presents an annual NAELA (National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys) Theresa Award honoring a NAELA attorney in recognition of his or her outstanding efforts and advocacy for individuals with special needs. Theresa Award Honorees are given a grant allocation for which they can chose the recipients.

Sponsored by:

Annette M. Hines
2021 Theresa Award Recipient

Upon learning that she was the recipient of the 2021 Theresa Award, Annette Hines was honored, of course, and characteristically modest.

“I looked at the list of past Theresa Award recipients and thought to myself these people are legends. I’m not even in the same league,” said Annette.

However, Annette is not just in the same league, she is an all-star. She shares something else with many Theresa Award winners: the compassion, empathy, and commitment born of personal experience. One of Annette’s daughters, Elizabeth, passed away from Mitochondrial disease at the age of 17. Annette’s first-hand knowledge of the challenges they faced fuels her passion for comprehensive special needs planning and her drive to advocate for the special needs community in any and every way that she can.

Annette decided early on in her career that she wanted to focus her practice on helping elders and people with disabilities. She is the founding partner of Special Needs Law Group of Massachusetts, PC, and has been practicing in the areas of Special Needs Planning, Elder Law, and Estate Planning for over 20 years. Annette’s commitment to the special needs community goes far beyond the practice of law. She created Special Families, Special Care (now known as Shriver Clinical Services) to provide nursing care for children with special needs, and she has been recognized as a Distinguished Citizen by ARC Massachusetts. She has been cited for public service by both the Massachusetts State Senate and House of Representatives.

When asked what she considers the greatest honor she has ever received, Annette did not hesitate: being the mother of two daughters and the time she was able to share with Elizabeth.

All of us at the Theresa Foundation thank Annette for her tireless and passionate advocacy on behalf of people with special needs. Naming her the 2021 winner of the Theresa Award is the least that we can do in return.
OUR SUSTAINING DONORS

This group of sustaining donors and supporters are individuals and organizations that have provided a comprehensive level of support, financial and otherwise, over many years, allowing the Theresa Foundation to grow from a small, local family foundation to one with a nationwide and international reach, along the way ensuring our long term financial stability.

- Lisa & Randy Brodwin
- Anthony & Millicent Caporrino
- Harley Gordon
- Leo J. Govoni
- Grodsky, Caporrino & Kauffman, P.C.
- David L. and Lynda Hungerford
- Fred Klein
- John and Anita LaSpina
- Joseph M. Liana
- Rebecca Morgan
- Kelly Piacenti
- Marie Elena Puma & Michael Re
- Joan & Charlie Robert
- Russo Law Group, P.C.
- Stephen & Robin Silverberg

Marie L. Mettler Charitable Remainder Trust

The Theresa Foundation was selected to receive a generous donation of $105,238 upon the closing of the Marie L. Mettler Charitable Remainder Trust. A Charitable Trust allows individuals to leave money or assets to a non-profit organization. Co-trustee, Ray Mignone, selected the Theresa Foundation as a worthy organization to receive these funds and “put them to good use.” Put them to good use we most definitely will.

Marie L. Mettler passed away in March 2020. An avid bridge player and a fine craft artist, Marie always greeted family and friends with a beautiful, warm smile and will be remembered as a kind, gentle and loving woman.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, and all of the programs and children that we support, we extend our sincerest thanks and appreciation to Ray Mignone and the Marie L. Mettler Charitable Remainder Trust for the recent grant to the Theresa Foundation. These funds will go far in supporting programs in the arts and recreation for children with special needs.
2021 DONORS

PLATINUM $5,000–above
Anonymous

GOLD $2,500–4,999
Hungerford Family Charitable Giving Fund
MassMutual
Marie Elena Puma and Michael Re

SILVER $500–2,499
All City Switchboard Corporation
Anca Enterprises LP
Thomas Begley
Anthony and Millicent Caporrino
Ralph Caselnova
Center for Special Needs Trust
Connie Frank Foundation
Frank Caporaso
David and Lynda Hungerford
Eucalyptus Foundation, Inc.
Mark Facchin
Joseph Ferrara
Robert Freedman and Frances Pantaleo
Michael Glasser
Joan Gallivan Nominee Trust
Susan and Robert Koweek
Joseph Liana
Brian Lindberg
Patricia McCabe
Thomas R. Mullen
Paul L. Martin Charitable Trust
Irene Piscopo
James and Irene Rodgers
Michael and Melinda Sims
Rebecca Stalek
Stuart & Carolyn Gruber Family Foundation
TAP One
Regina Marie Vaccaro
Anthony and Margaret Veziris
Peter Wacht
**BRONZE $100–499**

Jonathan and Dana Acquafredda  
Albert Weiss Air Conditioning Products  
Paula Almgren  
Jason Altman  
American Endowment Foundation  
Ruth Barker  
Robert Becker  
Peter and Theresa Belmonte  
Joshua and Melanie Berzak  
Blackbaud Giving Fund  
Richard Brodsky  
Janet and David Cohen  
Helen Cohn Needham  
Ann and William Conway  
Crystal Clear Water Systems, Inc.  
Danielle Whalen Memorial Foundation  
Danna & Associates, PC  
Patty Dapontes  
Mark Deal  
Barbara and Joseph DeClementi  
Frank DiFazio  
Deanna Eble  
Elizabeth and Eric Einhart  
Marlene Einhart  
Anthony Giordano PA  
Harley Gordon  
Susan Gordon  
Joel M. and Leslie Greenberg  
Robert Hanes  
Judy and Wayne Jackson  
Steven Kaplan  
Marilyn Kneller-Rimsky  
Landry and Meilus LLP  
Holly Lewis  
Long Beach Theatre Guild  
Grant Machan  
Susan and Murray Malise  
Letha McDowell  
Isabell and Robert McGuire  
Cathryn Musk and Peter Nelson  
Charles and Joan Nicoletti  
Kathleen O’Connor  
Howard Parker  
Joseph Pedone  
Pegalis Law Group LLC  
Kelly and Frank Piacenti  
Property Professionals NE  
Adeline A. Quinn  
Judith R. Rabinor  
Stefanie Robbins  
Dante V. and Barbara Russo  
Dante and Josephine Russo  
Anthony Russo  
Joseph and Dana Russo  
Russo Law Group, PC  
Mary T. Schmitt Smith  
Richard and Claire Shonter  
Philip Simone  
Richard and Beryl Smith  
Dana Lynn Spencer  
Leah Stevens  
Derrick Tennant  
Sabrina Washburn  
Gerald Wein  
Carol and Stuart Zimring

**FRIENDS $1–99**

Danielle Adler  
Alert Shirt Company  
America’s Charities  
Sreelekha and Michael Amoruso  
Stephanie Ancell  
Vicki and Bennett Bagley  
James and Deborah Barnett  
Gina Barry  
Jacqueline Bergeron  
Lisa Bistakis  
Lainie Bontzolakes  
Frank and Geralyn Buquicchio  
Thomas Caffrey  
Mary Ellen and Kevin Caggiano  
Thomas and Elizabeth Cali  
Sarah Campbell  
Mary Ann Canapi  
Michael and Marilyn Cantore  
Louis Cappelli  
Norene and David Chin  
Vincent Chirico  
Richard and Ann Cogliandro  
Thomas Connolly  
Laura Correa  
Barbara and Richard Creegan  
Maureen Crowe  
Christopher and Lauren DeGaetano  
Stephanie DeMarco  
Lisa Dennett  
Sheila Durkin Mulvey  
Ayesha Edwards  
Angela and Walter Einhart  
Walter and Carol Einhart
In addition, thank you to all who have supported our fundraising events.
Theresa Foundation Balance Sheet  
(as of 12/31/21)  

**ASSETS**  
Cash $153,516.00  
Investments $2,947,858.00  
Fixed Assets, net $16,201.00  
Total Assets $3,117,575.00  

**LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**  
Liabilities:  
Accrued TAPA payroll $87,469.00  
Accrued payroll $23,500.00  
Total Liabilities $110,969.00  

NET ASSETS $3,006,606.00  
Net Assets, restricted $150,000.00  
Net Assets, non-restricted $2,856,606.00  
Total Liabilities and Net Assets $3,117,575.00  

**Income**  
- Theresa Pooled Trust $285,308.00 (57.56 %)  
- Fundraising Events $97,834.00 (19.74 %)  
- General Donations $20,063.00 (4.05 %)  
- Grants* $0 (0%)  
- Interest Income $92,490.00 (18.65 %)  
Total Income $495,695.00  

**Expenditures**  
- Grants $163,494.00 (47.59 %)  
- Program and Fundraising Expenses $140,304.00 (40.84 %)  
- Management & General Expenses $39,759.00 (11.57 %)  
Total Expenditures $343,557.00  

*Note: A grant was received In December 2021 by the Marie L. Mettler Charitable Remainder Trust in the amount of $105,238 which was deposited in January 2022.  
**Note: The above financials as reported are unaudited.
BOARD AND COMMITTEES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Susan Russo *(President)*
Vincent J. Russo *(Treasurer)*
Elizabeth Einhart *(Executive Director/Vice President)*
Judy Murdaugh-Jackson *(Secretary)*
Laury Gelardi
Jane James
Beth Meyers
Dante Russo
Robert Russo

COMMITTEES

**Finance**
Paula Arrington
Steve Biggane
Anthony Caporrino
Vincent J. Russo
Shawn Young

**Swingin’ Fore Theresa Golf Outing**
Joseph M. Liana and Vincent J. Russo
_Co-Chairs_
Julie Allegretti
Anthony Caporrino
Melanie Castillo
Elizabeth Einhart
Kirrelle Freeman
David L. Hungerford
George Orefici
Vincent J. Russo
Rick Shonter
Stephen J. Silverberg

**Fundraising**
Melanie Castillo
Elizabeth Einhart
Judy Murdaugh-Jackson
Susan Russo
Vincent J. Russo

**Grants**
Elizabeth Einhart
Beth Meyers
Susan Russo

**Annual Report**
Melanie Castillo
Elizabeth Einhart
Robert Russo
Vincent J. Russo
The 2021 grant from the Theresa Foundation provided 60 individual adaptive horseback riding lessons to children with a variety of disabilities.
Connect with us on social media for the most current news on the Theresa Foundation and the programs we support.

@Theresa_Fund
@theresafoundation
theresa-foundation
Theresa_Fund