

impossible | possibilities



2015 Year in Review

“Be an Element of Change”

Letter from the Board

Dear Supporters,

Impossible Possibilities (IP) is growing, and the number of students participating in its programs is expanding. In 2015, IP added a fourth school to its Maven's Milestones reading achievement program and now services more than 1,500 elementary students in the Fort Worth ISD. The expansion was made possible through the development of a centralized reading database that allows IP to efficiently track reading performance and comprehension amongst its participating students.

IP's identity and mission "to inspire students through education" remains the same, but in 2015 the organization received a much-needed makeover in the form of a new website (www.ipdfw.org). The website provides viewers with a tailored look at IP's programs, and the revamped online presence has allowed the organization to reach a larger audience.

The proof is in the numbers. In 2015, IP received its largest number of student scholarship applications in any given year and will be announcing its newest class in April 2016. Additionally, the organization's 5th Annual Sik'lik Youth Poetry Slam garnered its highest participation rate to date, so much so that IP transitioned venues to the Kimbell Art Museum's Renzo Piano Pavilion to support the continued growth.

Thank you for your continued support and generous contributions in helping local students make the impossible possible!

Warm Regards,
IP Board of Directors

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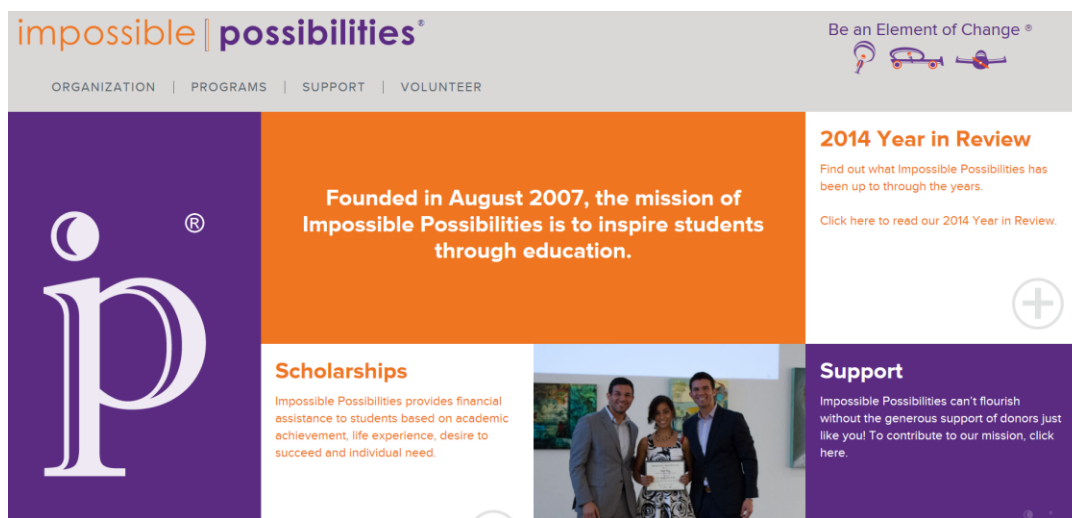
Front Page Photo Caption:

IP cofounder Joshua (back left), Telemundo's Teresa Gonzalez and cofounder Justin Hernandez with students from Woodway Elementary School in Fort Worth on Friday, May 22, 2015, for the end-of-year Maven's Milestones Awards Ceremony. Gonzalez reported on the event.

2015 Capital Projects

New Website Rollout (www.ipdfw.org)

- The goal of the new website is to clearly convey the organization's mission, highlight its three primary programs and allow for streamlined backend navigation
- Increased productivity and functionality
- Central hub for Maven's Milestones reading database



Maven's Milestones Reading Database

- Replaces the existing Excel-based model and streamlines the data-collection process between IP and its participating schools
- Provides a real time macro-view of reading performance and comprehension by grade, gender and ethnicity
- Reduces the time required to produce reports to administrators by 90%

"I could not be happier to have had the support of Impossible Possibilities over the years. I have seen such excitement for reading within the school, and the ability to earn prizes ensures that the students are working hard to be successful. The new program database has simplified my job of inputting the students' book levels and points, and the helpful data it provides now comes to us sooner. Thank you for all you do to motivate our students and teachers."

Margaret Simpson - Washington Heights Librarian

Scholarships

IP hosted its Annual Advisory Board (AB) Meeting and Scholarship Presentation on Thursday, April 16, 2015, at the Fort Worth Community Arts Center. Co-founders Joshua and Justin Hernandez shared the organization's goals for 2015 to the AB and community members in attendance.

The evening concluded with the announcement of the organization's 2015 Scholarship Class. Since 2009, IP has awarded 44 scholarships to local students, totaling more than \$75,000.

2015 Scholarship Recipients

1. Michael Chau—Green B. Trimble Technical High School in Fort Worth
2. Madison Lane—Birdville High School in North Richland Hills
3. Cody May—Crowley High School in Crowley
4. Kenneth Nash—Southwest High School in Fort Worth
5. Alisha Quintanilla—Diamond Hill-Jarvis High School in Fort Worth
6. Cameron Wicks – School for the Talented and Gifted in Dallas
7. Alice Zhou—Arlington High School in Arlington



From left to right (front): Madison Lane, Alice Zhou, Alisha Quintanilla and Michael Chau. From left to right (back): co-founder Joshua Hernandez, Cody May, Kenneth Nash, Cameron Wicks and co-founder Justin Hernandez.

Maven's Milestones Reading Program

IP is currently in its sixth year hosting its Maven's Milestones reading achievement program. In 2015, the program expanded into a fourth Fort Worth ISD school—Van Zandt-Guinn Elementary—and now services more than 1,500 students across four elementary school campuses. Students at the existing three schools, which include Cesar Chavez, Washington Heights and Woodway, continue to excel in the program, as their reading statistics indicate below.

Maven's Milestones is an incentivized program that rewards students for reaching each of "Maven the Raven's Milestones:" Ascent, Afterburner, Approach and Call Sign Maven. Each milestone represents a specific number of points that the students earn by reading books and passing online quizzes.

Visit our website at <http://www.ipdfw.org/mavens-milestones/> to watch a highlight video of the program!

2014–2015 Maven's Milestones Program Results

- Washington Heights recorded the highest average reading total of all three schools during the 2014-2015 academic school years, continuing its trend of increased reading growth since the program was originally introduced in 2001.
- Students at Cesar Chavez increased their average reading point totals by approximately 50%, while students at Woodway increased by 20% year over year.
- More than 35% of all participating students reached the coveted "Call Sign Maven" level, the highest percentage in the program's history.

"This year's results were the most competitive we have seen since we first implemented the program," said Justin Hernandez, cofounder of Impossible Possibilities. "The students continue to progress in their reading totals and, more importantly, in their overall reading comprehension."

Students Take Field Trip to the Rainforest

IP co-founder Joshua Hernandez took students on a visual field trip to the Costa Rican rainforest on Oct. 23, 2015, through the organization's Maven's Milestones Program.



Fourth and fifth graders at Cesar Chavez, Washington Heights, Woodway and Van Zandt-Guinn Elementary schools in Fort Worth went along for the ride as Hernandez told stories and presented pictures of the various species of animals he encountered on his 24-day excursion to the Osa Peninsula, including scarlet macaws, crocodiles, tapirs, monkeys and snakes.

"It was really special to share my experiences with these students," Hernandez said. "I hope it inspires them to keep reading and to keep pursuing their education so they can have similar opportunities."

The Osa Peninsula is located on Costa Rica's southern Pacific edge near the Panama border. Hernandez took the trip to complete his first fiction novel, entitled, *Maven the Raven: Tree of Life*, which features the main character for which the reading program was named. His field research included a 30-mile round trip hike and overnight stay inside Corcovado National Park, which the *National Geographic* once described as the "most biologically intense place on earth."

Sik'lik Youth Poetry Slam



2015 Sik'lik Top Eight Performers

IP hosted its 5th Annual Sik'lik Youth Poetry Slam at the Kimbell Art Museum's Renzo Piano Pavilion on Nov. 21, 2015.

The Sik'lik program enhances writing, presentation skills and overall self-esteem by giving students an opportunity to perform original poetry in front of an audience of their peers. Approximately 65 middle and high-school students participated in the writing and performance workshop hosted by national-award winning poet Mike Guinn. Twenty-seven students later competed in a two-round poetry slam competition.

"We had our largest attendance to date with more than 125 students and guests," Joshua Hernandez said. "This program continues to attract new participants every year, and we're proud to host an event where students are free to express themselves in a friendly and encouraging environment."

Visit <http://www.ipdfw.org/siklik/> to watch this year's slam!

Top High School Performers

1. Dillion Youngblood (Junior, Chisholm Trail High School)
2. Brandon Sanders (Freshman, Marine Creek Collegiate High School)
3. Clara Tollesen (Sophomore, Weatherford High School)
4. Alison Villasana (Junior, Western Hills High School)
5. Tia Crooks (Sophomore, Lighthouse Preparatory)

Top Middle School Performers

1. Conor Jennings (Seventh Grade, TKG Academy)
2. Caroline Bennett (Sixth Grade, Smith Middle School)
3. Ryan Leseberg (Fifth Grade, Stephenville)

Advisory Board – Speaker Series

28 CURRENT MEMBERS ACROSS MULTIPLE INDUSTRIES
SUPPORTS 1/3 OF ALL PROGRAM OPERATIONS
PROGRAM COMMITTEES & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
SEMI-ANNUAL SPEAKER SERIES & NETWORKING EVENTS

SPRING SPEAKER: GARY PATTERSON

IP hosted its spring Speaker Series on Thursday, April 30, 2015, featuring TCU Head Football Coach Gary Patterson, at the Petroleum Club in downtown Fort Worth. Since taking over the helm of the Horned Frogs in December 2000, Patterson has become synonymous with TCU football and Fort Worth.



FALL SPEAKER: SARAH CASTILLO

IP hosted its fall Speaker Series on Thursday, Nov. 5, 2015, featuring Sarah Castillo, founder of Taco Heads “Damn. Fine. Tacos.” A pioneer in the Fort Worth food-truck scene, Castillo quickly amassed a loyal following and is set to open her first brick-and-mortar restaurant located at 1812 Montgomery Street.



*Advisory Board outing at the Texas Rangers game on
Aug. 28, 2015.*

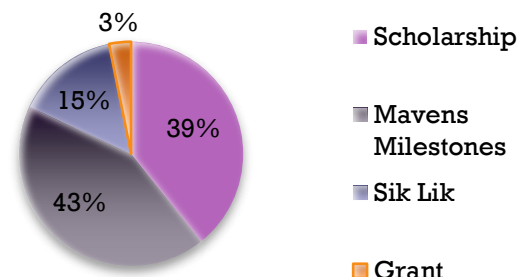
Financial Overview

Revenues and Expenses

Total Revenue:	\$41,698
Total Expense:	<u>(\$41,458)</u>
Total Income:	\$240
Beginning cash	\$29,958
Ending cash	\$30,198

* Total expense includes \$7,750 of capital associated with the Mavens Milestone database and new website

Expenses by Program

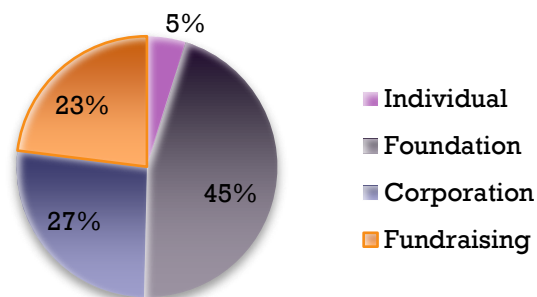


Grants Received

Texas Capital Bank: \$5,000
 Orr Family Foundation: \$4,000
 Ryan Foundation: \$5,000
 LM Aero Club: \$5,000
 Amon G Carter Foundation: \$5,000

*Texas Capital Bank grant included in Corporation.
 All other included as Foundation.

Contributions by Donor



Please email Contact@ipdfw.org if you are interested in being part of the Advisory Board. IP is able to impact students in the local community because of the support of individual donors just like you! If you would like to make a financial contribution that will benefit student education, you can do so by logging on directly to www.ipdfw.org. All donations are tax deductible.

Advisory Board Members

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Brandon Brinkman - CapRock Wealth Advisors, LLC, Wealth Advisor

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Names in **orange** indicate Board of Directors.
Names in **purple** indicate senior level Advisory Board members.