

**Dear Friends and Supporters of Sunflower Mission:**

2006 proved to be a year of both challenges and celebration. Sunflower Mission met the challenges by the Board of Directors by focusing our effort to improve the lives of the children in rural areas of Vietnam. These classrooms were built to accommodate over 100 students. Also, Sunflower Mission continued the De-La Scholarship Program to help elementary, high school and college students to continue school. At all times, all educational levels have been supported.

With the support of many, Sunflower Mission has built a strong foundation and will continue to grow and provide more classrooms and scholarships to the underserved children of Vietnam. Sunflower Mission's focus has been, and will continue to be, in the rural areas of Vietnam. Poverty in Vietnam is highly concentrated with about 70 percent of the poor living in rural areas. The Midland, Dallas and Houston offices are now 20 percent of Vietnam's poor. There are many villages of poverty, most notably a low level of education. Education is fundamental to development and is critical for the eradication of poverty—a goal, unambiguously, by millions of research.

Sunflower Mission's goal is to bring education to a rural area. In the coming year, we will assess the positive benefits of an education to a rural area.

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- General Scholarships (1-12 grades) 395
- General Scholarships (1-12 grades) 44
- College and University 41

The College and University scholarship was given to individual students as a part of a new program named "Midland & Dallas." In this program, a donor is matched with a needy college or university student in Vietnam, and 100% of the cost is refunded funds go to the students directly.

2005 also marked the third year of experience for Sunflower Mission. Over the course of three short years, Sunflower Mission has built a total of 25 classrooms to give a place to over 1,000 students.

We want to recognize the commitment and effort of our members (aged 18 and over) who have our strategy, vision and the lives of thousands of students in Vietnam.

Board of Directors	\$11,000
De-La Scholarship	26
Construction	1,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,026</b>

**INSIDE**

Our Mission & Plan 2  
 2006 School Construction 3  
 Financial Summary 4  
 SM Workshop 4.6  
 Scholarship News 7  
 2007 Friends 8  
 Progress Summary for 2006 9  
 A Sunflower Brochure 10  
 A Sunflower 10  
 Disclosure 11  
 Financial Support 12  
 Board of Directors 13  
 Board of Advisors 14

**Dear Sunflower Mission Friends and Supporters,**

What a significant year 2006 was for Sunflower Mission. Many of the projects began in the previous three years completed and enhanced SM's capacity to improve the lives of the children in rural areas of Vietnam, specifically the Mekong Delta region.

Financial resources raised improved in 2006 as SM continued to support initiatives in the domain of improving quality through education and community empowerment. SM's production of building with love of renewed confidence and optimism. Given the situation of children in Vietnam, what do we really have to feel optimistic about?

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From within SM, our optimism springs from the belief that our charges are not only possible but inevitable. It stems from our supporters, from our communities coming together to take charge to make a difference. From the commitment of children, neighbors and friends to provide support to SM's mission. It also came from volunteers who walked, ran, cycled, donated, and campaigned to help the children of Vietnam. And the greatest financial support came from corporate supporters who helped SM to reach thousands of children with the message that poverty can be defeated and these children will have a bright future.

You all were more than a witness to causal optimism. You acted with compassion, with generosity, and with faith.

Each of you gave us reasons to believe that it is possible to help the children of Vietnam. On behalf of every child and community where life is increasingly changing—a deep and profound thank you.

Sincerely,  
 Elaine Foss  
 Sunflower Mission President

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 Sunflower Mission President



# Sunflower Mission

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**Sunflower Mission**

Annual Report 2012

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

- 2012 Progress Report
- A Look Back at the 10 Year Gala
- Scholarships
- Upcoming Events
- How You Can Help

P.O. Box 1385 • STAFFORD, TX 77477  
 TEL: 713.927.6235  
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**SUNFLOWER MISSION**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

CREATING A PATH FOR A BETTER FUTURE

**2014**

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**SUNFLOWER MISSION**

**2015 ANNUAL REPORT**

**Working Together TO GROW OUR CAUSE**

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**SUNFLOWER MISSION**

**2016 ANNUAL REPORT**

**Working Together TO GROW OUR CAUSE**

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**SUNFLOWER MISSION**

**Annual Report**

**Believe**

**2017**

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**Sunflower Mission**

2018 Annual Report

Education: Hope for the Future

**STEP RIGHT UP**

**Sunflower Mission**

2019 Annual Report

**LE KHANH THANH**

**20th Anniversary**

**Annual Report & Retrospective**

published April 2023

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**2020**

**SUNFLOWER MISSION**

2021 Annual Report

values

We are a non-governmental, non-religious, and non-political organization. We support students only on the basis of academic potential and financial need. We comply with U.S. and Vietnam laws and regulations. *We treat people with respect.*

vision

We aspire for our *students* in Vietnam to become successful teachers, engineers, and professionals; and for our *volunteers* to learn the skill sets required of effective leaders, including compassion, gratitude, confidence, and global perspectives.

mission

Sunflower Mission is a 501(c)3 organization committed to *improving the lives of the people in Vietnam*, mainly through educational assistance programs. We bring school facilities, teaching and learning materials, and scholarships to teachers and students in the most remote areas of the country.



A Message From Our President

Dear Sunflower Mission Family,

I am proud to present Sunflower Mission's (SM) special 20th Anniversary annual report, dedicated to our committed volunteers without whom Sunflower Mission could not operate. I hope you'll enjoy reminiscing as much as I did as this special edition takes us back through the years to revisit SM's accomplishments, milestone events, and the people who have made it all possible. It was a joy to relive some of my most incredible work camp experiences like seeing the eyes of our elementary students light up when they realize the power of a computer or the pride and sense of accomplishment on the faces of our work camp volunteers at our school completion ceremonies.

As I look back to our humble beginnings in 2002, I'm proud of what we have accomplished and how our organization has evolved while remaining committed to our original mission of providing educational resources. Together with your support, we are constantly striving for opportunities to help better prepare our students for the competitive global economy.

We are deeply grateful to our generous supporters, committed past and present board members,

SEEDS, Vietnam (VN) team, and our selfless volunteers. Your contributions and engagement have enabled our students' dreams to become reality. Your impact is vividly reflected in their success.

As we embark on the next 20 years, our mission remains unchanged and our commitment to education is unwavering. With 20 years of experience, our work is ever more focused, streamlined, and effective. However, for SM to be sustainable, we need fresh perspectives and capable leadership. Our SEEDS are taking on more responsibilities and transitioning to become leaders within our day-to-day operations. Our former scholarship recipients are becoming an integral part of our operations team in VN, helping to lead the next generation of students. The future is bright for SM with young, motivated leaders both here and there.

The past 20 years have shown that dreams can come true. We are committed to our goal of being a 100-year-operation organization and I hope you will continue to support us on our journey towards a million dreams.

Warmest Regards,  
**Mrs. Kim Oanh Nguyen**  
President

board of directors

- Chairman Tuan Dao
- President Kim Oanh Nguyen
- Vice President Thanh Bui
- Treasurer Hoa Ta
- Secretary Linh Truc Ngo
- Director Quyen Ma
- Director Dinh Ngo
- Director Cindy Au
- Director Dr. Thai Dinh Nguyen

board of advisors

- Mr. Quynh Bui
- Dr. Nam Hoang
- Ms. Duy-Loan Le
- Dr. Tito Phuc Nguyen
- Dr. Hoang Phi
- Ms. Kim Smith
- Ms. Shaunna Black
- Mr. Khanh Phan
- Dr. Giao Duong

SEEDS

- President Ethan Bui
- Vice President Kobe Ngo
- Secretary Hayley Vu
- Advisor Dalton Bui
- Advisor Jacqueline Hoang

**volunteer staff**  
For a comprehensive list of our wonderful volunteers visit our website. We have many individuals whose names are not listed but we appreciate them all the same!  
<https://www.sunflowermission.org/volunteers>

The cover for this 20 year anniversary annual report is a collection of almost all the past annual report covers. For each of the past 8 reports I have had the honor of designing, I always try to capture the many facets of Sunflower Mission. This will be my last annual report and I hope that I have done justice to the work, impact, and people of this great organization. It has been a privilege and joy serving Sunflower Mission! - **Quyen Ma**



contents

- 3 Letter from our President
- 4 20th Anniversary Gala review
- 6 Our Founding & 1st Year of Operation
- 8 Organizational Milestones
- 10 20 Years of School Building: Advancements & Partners
- 14 20 Years of Scholarships: Graduation & Beyond
- 18 20 Years of Work Camp
- 20 20 Years of Service: HHEI, LEGO®, & Volunteerism
- 24 The Growth of SEEDS
- 26 Future Philanthropists
- 28 20 Years of Community: Outreach & Grassroots Events
- 30 Our Brand's Future and Financials
- 32 Recognition of Our Donors

# A Million Dreams

On Friday, September 30th, 2022, we celebrated Sunflower Mission's 20th anniversary with "A Million Dreams"—our organization's largest gala to date. In attendance were many of our devoted supporters and members, we also welcomed five former scholarship recipients to the event. They are among the many students who have come back to serve on SM's Leadership Team in Vietnam.

As we reflected on what our organization has accomplished in the last 20 years, we also paused to acknowledge our supporters and share our vision for the future: to evolve and scale our impact through our youth members. In this spirit, our young SEEDS leaders stepped up and assumed many important responsibilities, from event planning to onstage performances. We also unveiled Sunflower Mission's new logo, designed by our talented SEEDS Secretary, Ms. Hayley Vu.

*Left (top - bottom): presentation with Mona Foundation, Sunny Band, our beautiful audience, and Lotus whiskey auction item*  
*Below: table setting and program*

For over 20 years, Sunflower Mission has enabled many students to realize their dreams and we aspire to continue doing so for many more years. "A Million Dreams" was a celebration of those 20 years of turning dreams into reality.

Equally important is how the occasion provided us with the opportunity to reconnect with our supporters after a long pandemic and to allow them to meet some of the students who have benefited from their generosity.

We are beyond grateful for our generous donors and supporters who enabled us to fundraise more than \$621K for the event.

**Mr. Thanh Bui**  
 Vice President



20th Anniversary Gala



*Above: Past scholarship recipients Kha Doan and Phung Tran share their stories on stage*



*Below: Our board members, long-time supporters, and volunteers gather to commemorate the evening*



**Building Vietnam's Future Meeting**  
**June 27, 2002**  
**Meeting began at 7:45 P.M.**

**Attendees:** Duy-Loan Le, Linda Vu, John Hung Nguyen, Kirsten Hong Hoang, My Chuong Tran, AnhLan Nguyen, Truong Nong, Hoang Duc, Ai Chi Tran, Duc Tran, Hung Le, Dr. Thuan Tran, Tung Tran, Elena Thuy Tran, and Bao Nguyen

**Initial four members of the Board of Directors (BOD) who will file the necessary paperwork:**  
 John Nguyen, Truong Nong, Linda Vu, and Elena Thuy Tran

**Four Pillars Established:** service, scholarships, work camp, and school building

**Mission Statement Established:** Sunflower Mission is a 501(c)3 organization committed to improving the lives of the people in Vietnam, mainly through educational assistance programs.

**Truong Nong** served as a member of our Board of Advisors (BOA) in the early days. He gave us our name and we will never forget that.

The original logo, which has served us for 20 years, was designed by **Hung Nguyen**.



*"Has anyone asked you why we are called Sunflower Mission?"*

*The sunflower is resilient, bright, and it grows toward the sun. Like a child reaching for the future, it is our hope. Hope, growth, and the future are the mission and purpose of Sunflower Mission."*

- **Elena Tran** e-mail newsletter to Sunflower Mission's early supporters



First Board of Directors		First Board of Advisors
Tuan Dao	Tung Tran	Duy-Loan Le
Dr. Nam Hoang	Jay Rousel	Bao Nguyen
Ai Chi Lomeli	Stacey Rousel	Truong Nong
Elena Tran	Kevin Southwick	Thuan Tran M.D.



*"This is the beginning of a happy journey together...I would like to take the opportunity to thank you, the members and the BOD, especially Elena, for taking on the leadership and moving forward with this mission.*

*I firmly believe that education is the number one important thing we can do for Vietnam. Child by child, we hope to transform Vietnam. A mountain is not built overnight but it can be built. Let's build this mountain of hope not only with our hearts but also with our heads, little by little...dollar by dollar...school by school... TOGETHER."*

- **Duy-Loan Le** in a message to 1edu, Sunflower Mission's first e-mail list

Service

Scholarships

Work Camp

School Building

In our first year of operation we held 3 fundraising events. We are so grateful to those who coordinated them: Jack Hardison's Fun Run (center column of photos), a community yard sale, and a free flu-shot clinic. We joined YMCA International to hold a fundraising concert. The proceeds went to the first school we built in Ben Tre.

In 2004 we established our Dao-Le Scholarship (now K-12 Scholarship) and Sponsor-a-Student Scholarship. We quickly followed with the E&T Scholarship in 2005.

While we did not hold a work camp in our first year of operation, subsequent volunteers would travel to our school sites and meet the students and local faculty.

Our first classrooms included the construction of 5 classrooms: (2) in Thanh Thoi B, Ben Tre, built in collaboration with YMCA International; and (3) in Phuoc Hau, Phu Yen, built in collaboration with SAP-VN.

In reaching a significant milestone, such as 20 years as an organization, planning for your future also requires a good amount of reflection. The following pages will be a walk down memory lane but should also serve as a map for what lies ahead.

**We hope you will enjoy the ride with us!**

### 1st Work Camp

Our first work camp set out in the summer of 2004 with 13 volunteers. They arrived in Dong Thap on June 3rd and spent 7 days working alongside local volunteers to complete the 2 classroom Phu My elementary school.



### 5th Anniversary

**Education: Bridge to the Future** served as reinforcement of our commitment to meet our 10 year goals set forth in our 1st year by Duy-Loan Le:

- Build 100 classrooms
- Raise \$1,000,000 USD
- Award 10,000 scholarships
- Keep G&A at < 3%



### 10th Anniversary

**Lighting the Path to A Brighter Future** was held in celebration of our 10 years of operation. This was also an event looking toward the future and placing emphasis on the next generation's contributions to our organization.



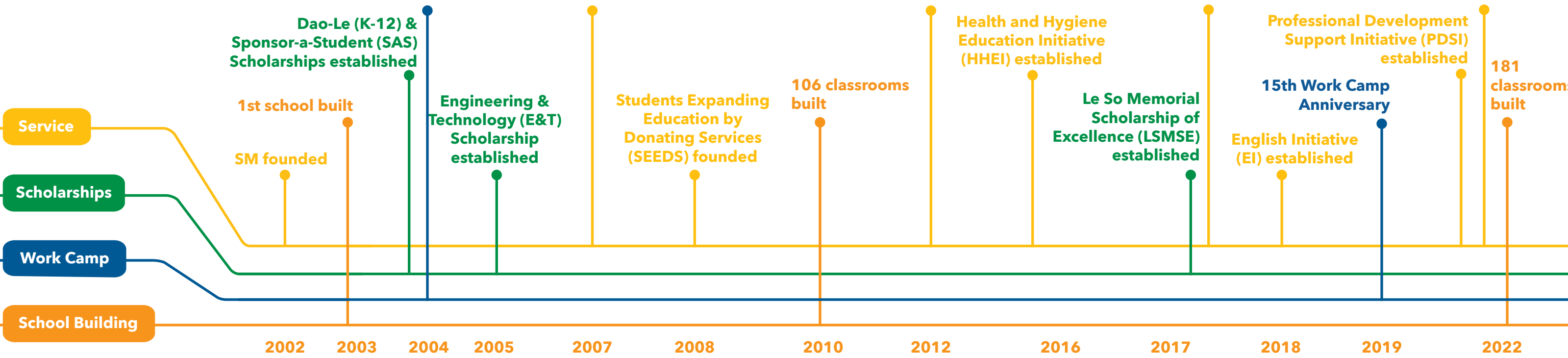
### 15th Anniversary

**When You Believe** marked 15 years of operation and emphasized gratitude for our supporters' generosity and belief in our goals, which served to encourage and motivate our students to work hard to change their lives.



### 20th Anniversary

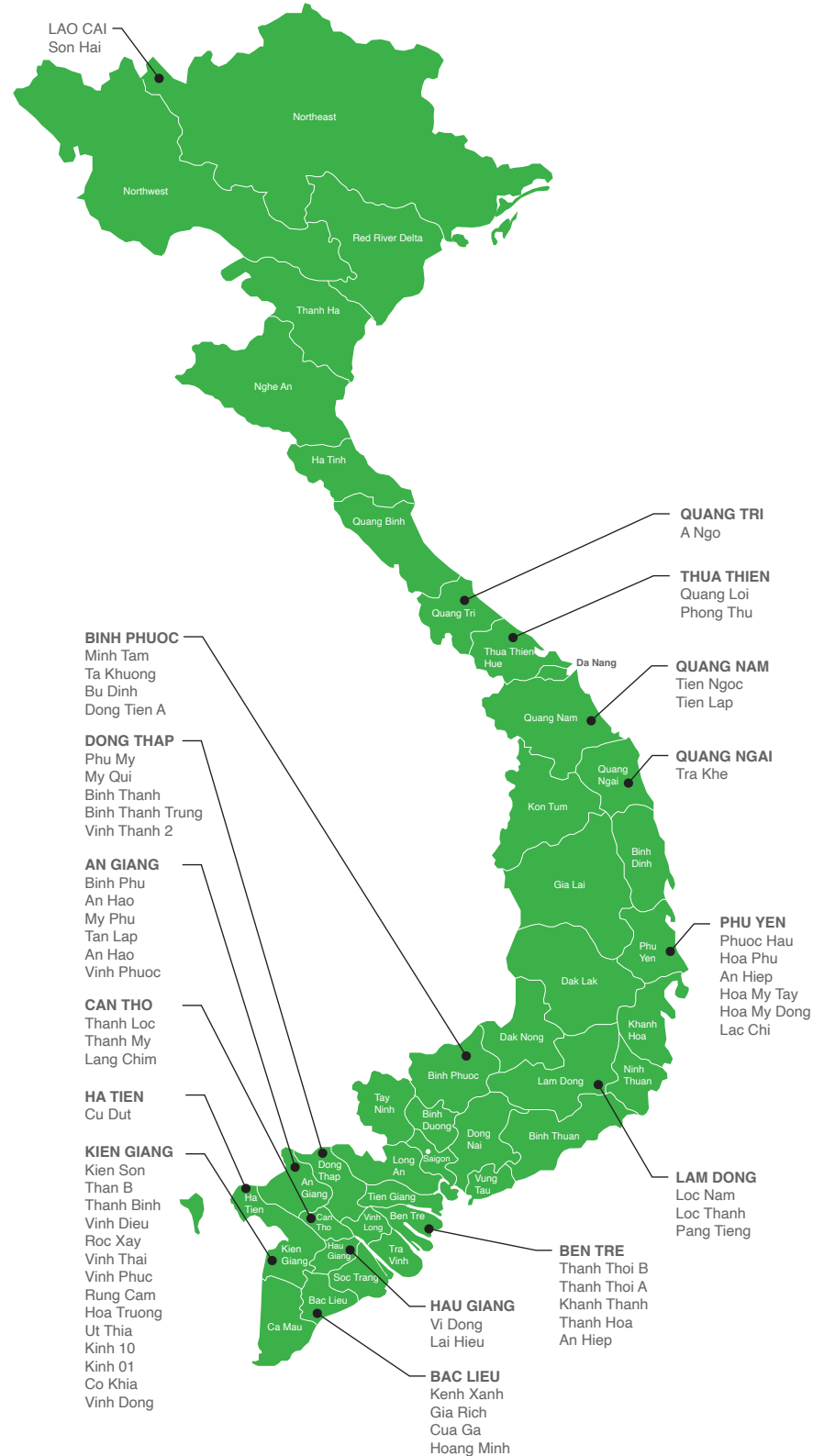
**A Million Dreams** helped to celebrate our 20 years of operation. It was an event to showcase our students' successes, salute our supporters, and solidify our commitment to the leaders of tomorrow.



**63** schools with  
**181** classrooms built

**174** classrooms repaired  
and maintained  
**18** classrooms renovated

by the  
numbers



The school construction team led by our chairman, Tuan Dao (in the U.S.), and numerous individuals in Vietnam have been coordinating efforts from thousands of miles away for over 2 decades.

Their diligence and oversight has made our school building program a success. We would like to recognize the team of:

- Hop Tac Tre
- Nguyen Dang Hoang
- Nguyen Ngoc Lang
- Jane Trinh and Golden Keys

Thank you for 20+ years of work and collaboration!

This collection of photos offers a small sample of the schools and classrooms we have built each year since our inception.

School construction has evolved to meet the changing needs of the students and communities.

In recent years we have focused our school building program on areas with a high concentration of ethnic minorities in the mountainous regions of central Vietnam.

Our new schools provide grade-specific classrooms, computer rooms, libraries, modern restrooms, and playgrounds—a significant improvement in these communities. Due to the remoteness of some of the schools, teachers' quarters are also provided.

Additionally, we maximize the value of our investment by maintaining contact and supporting our schools through yearly scholarships and periodic maintenance.

We are proud to report that over 90% of the schools we have built since 2003 are still operational!



2020



2012



2017



2016



2017



2020



2020



2017



2020



2018



2019



2019



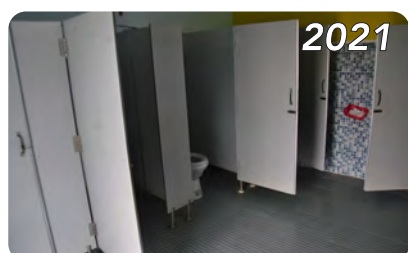
2020



2007



2019



2021



2022



2017

We are proud of the advancements made to our school construction program and grateful to the organizations who help us bring them to the students.

Special appreciation and recognition to:

- The Mona Foundation
- Frees Foundation
- National Instruments
- Texas Instruments
- Journey Foundation
- Dolsoft

And all of our donors who supported individual classrooms or an entire school.

**partners**

**eSilicon Corp.**

**Mona Foundation**

**National Instruments Corp.**

**Texas Instruments Inc.**

**The Frees Foundation**

*We are deeply grateful to our Distinguished Partner Circle for their enduring support*

**by the numbers**

**24,647**  
total scholarships awarded

**22,644**  
K-12 scholarships awarded

**649**  
students graduated from college

**2,003**  
college scholarships awarded

**1,380**  
SAS scholarships awarded

**514**  
E&T scholarships awarded

**109**  
LSMSE scholarships awarded

***"Scholarship made me believe more in myself, it taught me that no matter who you are, no matter where you come from, if you work hard to meet your responsibilities, you can get ahead. Moreover...it also reminds me to put more effort to continue contributing to social activities."***

**- NGUYỄN KỲ TRÍ** former E&T Scholarship Recipient



Sunflower Mission's first academic scholarship is the Dao-Le program for K-12 students.

Sister Nguyen Thi Ngoc Hoa leads the arduous journey twice a year to get the money directly delivered to our students and receives their signatures in return.

She leads the program with dedication and continues the work today with additional help from others.



Above: Photos of sister Nguyen Thi Ngoc Hoa



**K-12 Scholarship - est. 2004**  
Enable students to graduate from high school

**Sponsor-A-Student (SAS) - est. 2004**  
College scholarship to elevate communities out of poverty and create an alumni mentor network

**Engineering & Technology (E&T) Scholarship - est. 2005**  
College scholarship for those pursuing a STEM major

**Le So Memorial Scholarship of Excellence (LSMSE) - est. 2017**  
College scholarship to foster a sense of social responsibility and civic leadership



## The impact of scholarships

As one of the four main pillars of our organization, the hope with our scholarship program has always been to provide the skills, inspiration, and opportunity to as many students as possible.

What we could never anticipate is the full-circle moment when a past scholar or student who has attended our schools returns and gives back. Their way of paying it forward may be through donations, mentoring, or volunteering with us to ensure the legacy of scholarships keeps going.

Highlighting some of our very special and unique scholars' stories brings us so much pride. Not only have these individuals exemplified what we hope our scholarship program does, their continued engagement with our organization is also invaluable.



### Trong's Continued Impact

Trong Ba Le is among the earliest students to receive the SAS Scholarship. He would eventually go on to attend the University of Natural Sciences majoring in Software Technology/Computer Science. Currently, Trong is a Director at Ayobas Solutions Co. Ltd and also an I.T. advisor for Buon Me Thuot Medical University Hospital.

While Trong's academic success & professional achievements are inspiring, it is his altruistic nature that motivated SM's principal founder to establish "Le So Memorial Scholarship of Excellence" (LSMSE) in 2017, in honor of his grand father, Mr. Le So, (top left photo). LSMSE is our most exclusive program, accepting no more than 10 students per year.

Since 2009, Trong has served as the leader of our Sponsor-A-Student (SAS) scholarship program. Many former scholarship recipients have returned to lend Trong a hand.



### Phung's Model Achievements

Phung Tran is a model student in that her story showcases Sunflower Mission's long-term impact on one student.

Phung was a 4th grader at Phuoc Hau elementary school that was rebuilt by Sunflower Mission in 2003. In 8th grade, Phung received the Dao-Le scholarship. Subsequently, she was awarded SM's college scholarship (SAS) to attend the University of Technology in Saigon, majoring in Automation & Control Engineering.

Phung is currently working as an Engineering Manager at Intel Corp. She now volunteers with the SAS program as one of the Team Leaders and has done so since 2015.

For our 20th anniversary gala, Phung traveled to the U.S. to be a featured speaker!



### Zenda's Energy

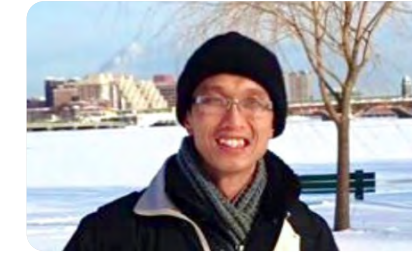
I remember the first time I met her (Zenda Nguyen) in Hanoi before the LSMSE scholarship ceremony. She greeted us with a smile...that dispelled any invisible barriers that might have existed in our first encounter. With the endearing nickname "Zenda", [she] has deeply ingrained herself in the hearts of every student in the LSMSE family—like a source of strength.



### Obama Foundation

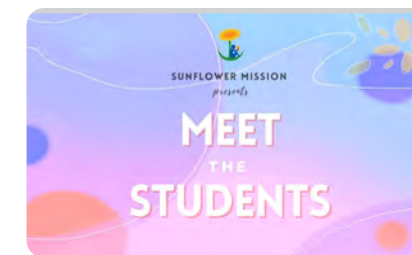
In 2018 SM was contacted by the Obama Foundation and asked to participate in a round-table discussion with other non-profits in Vietnam. Zenda served as our representative and had the opportunity to discuss our work with former First Lady Michelle Obama. We could not have selected a better spokesperson!

Photo above: Zenda front row, far right



### Quoc's Influence

For members of the LSMSE family, getting to know and bond with Mr. Quoc Nguyen is perhaps one of the most precious things that we have in this life! Mr. Quoc not only is a mentor of the LSMSE scholarship, who inspires us with the mission of helping others, but also is a brother whom we always love, admire and respect!



### Meet The Students

In November of 2021 we held our first virtual gala led by our SEEDS and scholarship recipients in Vietnam. Working as a team, our young leaders showcased their capabilities by stepping up as speakers and organizers to execute this technically complex event.

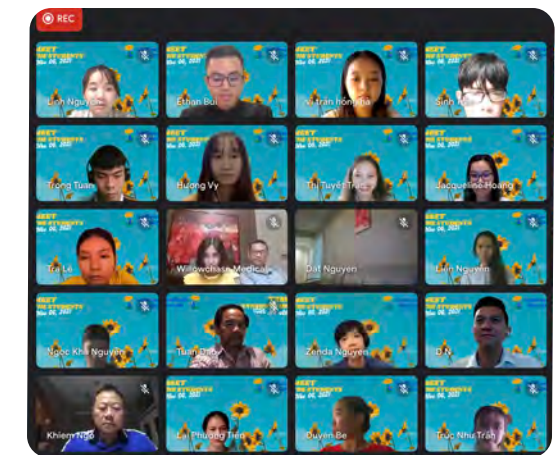
SM strives to equip students with professional and leadership skills. This aim has proven to be

Vietnam scholarship team (left - right):  
Thieu Trinh  
Quoc Nguyen  
Zenda Nguyen  
Phung Tran  
Thu Tran To  
Khanh Tran  
Trong Le



### Kha's State-side Success

Kha C. Doan is among the first group of students to receive the prestigious LSMSE scholarship. Kha completed his undergraduate studies in Mathematics Education at HCMC Pedagogical University with high honors. Currently, Kha is pursuing his Ph.D. in Mathematics at Auburn University (Alabama, USA) on a full scholarship.



impactful for not only our scholarship recipients but also our young leaders in the U.S.!

The future of Sunflower Mission hinges on our young volunteers working close together on passion projects, such as *Meet the Students*.

Every summer since 2004 (exceptions: 2013, 2016, 2020, & 2021) a team of volunteers travel together to see the work we do first hand.

The impact that this trip has lasts a lifetime and creates life-long friendships bonded by this unique experience.

In addition to helping with finish construction of school buildings, volunteers get the opportunity to meet with students, teachers, and scholarship recipients. They get to play games with the locals, try local fare, explore cities, hike the natural wonders of Vietnam, visit historic sites, enjoy the beach, and really get an authentic experience.

Having experienced the workcamp in Vietnam, our participants acquire global perspectives as they travel outside the U.S., build confidence when they see the visible impact of their work on the local communities, gain a sense of gratitude for the lives they have and in the process nurture their own capacity for compassion. These are essential elements of leadership.



*"...the trip far surpassed my expectations, leaving me with an ineffable sense of gratification and greater appreciation for the value of education. Seeing the smiles of the children [who] were so thankful just to receive an education...it made for an unforgettable experience."*

*- Gabby Phi 2011 & 2012 work camp participant*



In addition to the labor involved with work camp, volunteers are treated to cultural exchanges and get to enjoy the richness of Vietnam's culture. The group bonding time these activities afford is equally important to the work camp experience.



2013 & 2016 photos of school events from those years



*"I can never forget how one week in Vietnam will impact my American life forever. Sunflower Mission gave me a glimpse of where my parents came from and reminded me of how lucky I've been. There will always be family members and friends who were left behind, but we can always remember them by never forgetting. I reached my own mission—I opened my eyes to the culture that made me, and this made me open my heart."*

*- Anh Duong 2007 work camp participant*

In 2016 we added the Health and Hygiene Education Initiative (HHEI) as a program inside our Service Pillar.

This was an important step for many reasons—one's personal health and wellness contributes to success and happiness. These factors can mean the difference between being able to attend school or missing out on critical instructional time. The program consists of two parts:

1. Build hand basins equipped with hand-washing soap, hand towels, toilet paper, a guide to hand hygiene, and a competition amongst students to keep their personal desks tidy, classrooms clean, and schools in good shape.

2. Offer a hot breakfast (bread, protein, and milk) once a month to the students.

We are grateful for the team of volunteers who do the hands-on work month after month to make this program a reality:

Doan Quoc Hoc  
 Ho Thanh Dung  
 Ho Thi Kim Thoa, MD  
 Nguyen Cung Tao  
 Nguyen Dang Hoang  
 Tran Duy Chuong  
 Tran Thi Hieu Hanh  
 Trinh Kim Loan  
 Vo Thi Hoai Phuong



**6**  
*schools participating in the HHEI program*



*With the support from National Instruments, LEGO® Robotics has become an integral part of our annual work camp since 2011.*



As part of the Service Platform we held the LEGO® Build competition across 10 different schools in the Kien Giang province, in 2012.

This was made possible with the generous donation of 200 LEGO® boxes (5,000 lbs) valued at over \$60,000 USD by the LEGO® Foundation in Denmark. 50 employees from three companies participated in this event.

*"I achieved many critical lessons on this 2 day trip. My Sunflower Mission scholarship is not just about material values; It provides lessons in leadership skills, responsibility to community, and love to the country."*

*- Nguyen Trong Nhan  
 E&T scholarship recipient and  
 LEGO® Build participant*



In addition to the past and present members of the Board of Directors and Board of Advisors, Sunflower Mission is grateful for the following individuals and families who show up year after year and put in countless hours to ensure all functions of the organization are well managed, events are elegant, financial records are accurate, and work camps are memorable.

We are truly grateful for their selfless service, hard work, and unwavering support.

For a full and current list of our volunteers, visit: [www.sunflowermission.org/volunteers](http://www.sunflowermission.org/volunteers)

Khanh Van Bui  
Mai Huong Bui  
Ha Dao  
Hau Hoang  
Danh Le  
Huyen Thanh Luu  
Tram Mai  
Quynh Pham Ngo  
Duc Nguyen  
Huy Pham  
Khanh Pham  
Nguyen Pham  
Amina Tang  
Kim Tuyen Tran  
Terry Tran  
Tung Tran  
Vincent Tran



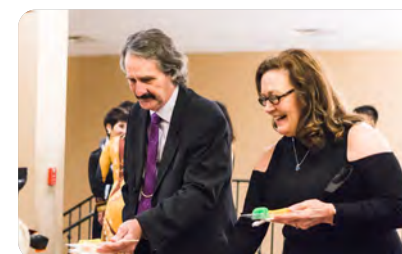
We specifically would like to recognize Kim Tuyen Tran who has been supporting Sunflower Mission since its inception and as our work camp coordinator for the last 11 years.

Her duties include coordinating U.S. and V.N. volunteers, planning day-to-day activities, ensuring proper arrangements for travel, board, and meals in Vietnam for all the volunteers, and more.

She accomplishes her task with a smile, grace, and a whole lot of patience.

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Elena Tran  
Thuan Tran  
Jeff Watkins

Service: Volunteers



**English Initiative (EI)** was started in 2018 as part of the Service Pillar to help Sunflower Mission’s scholarship recipients improve their English skills and enable SEEDS to serve students in Vietnam beyond work camp.

Over the past several years, we have watched EI grow in many ways—not just in size but also impact.

EI has enabled English-speaking Mentors and Vietnamese Mentees to share their cultures and build lasting friendships despite the thousands of miles between them.

As Sunflower Mission embarks on its next decade, we hope English Initiative continues to serve as an invaluable tool to educate and strengthen the bonds between students in Vietnam and the United States.



Sunflower Mission’s youth organization of volunteers (SEEDS - Students Expanding Education by Donating Services) started in 2008 as an idea and need “to bridge the gap between the adults and kids who volunteered” says founding member Vi-An Nguyen.

“We wanted to help...and provide a different perspective on how the younger generation could contribute.”

The three founding members, Dan Q. Dao, Nanhi Hodge, and Vi-An Nguyen have grown a lot since then and gone on to lead fulfilling and successful lives but

it’s clear that who they were 15 years ago and the character they showed has not changed and only grown stronger.

Carrying fond memories from her teen years, Nanhi remembers “interacting with the current SEEDS members back then. To see that they grew up to be the leaders and role models that they are now it makes me feel like SEEDS helped with their molding.”

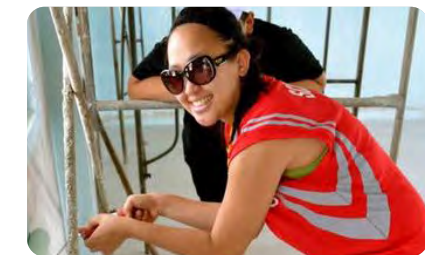
The future of SEEDS is in good hands, Dan believes. “Residing in Vietnam now, I have been able to participate in local Sunflower Mission events and see that our

work goes beyond fundraising for school-building—it extends to real, lasting relationships with local students. I believe that some of SEEDS’ most significant roles within Sunflower Mission is meeting, mentoring, and simply interacting through programs like “Meet the Students” and English Initiative.

Today there is hardly any aspect of Sunflower Mission that SEEDS have not been involved in. They bring a fresh perspective and youthful energy to our organization. We are so grateful for our SEEDS!



Dan Q. Dao



Nanhi Hodge



Vi-An Nguyen



**SEEDS OFFICERS PAST and PRESENT**

**Ethan Bui**  
Dalton Bui  
Dan Q. Dao  
Don Q. Dao  
Jacqueline Hoang  
**Kobe Ngo**  
Kody Ngo  
Vi-An Nguyen  
Nikky Phi  
Nanhi Hodge  
Oscar Truong  
**Hayley Vu**

College-level and young professional engagement

One of Sunflower Mission's operational pillars is to provide leadership development for young people to instill global perspectives, confidence, empathy, and service.

Encouraging philanthropy at the onset of one's professional career is an important precedence. We strive to make our programs and events welcoming to this group of supporters.

The meaning of the word **philanthropy** is of Greek origins and means "love of humanity."

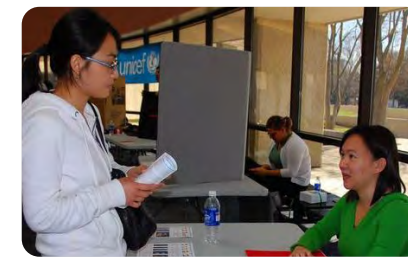
Empowerment comes from the gift of education.

Knowledge is power.

Sunflower Mission's engagement of future young leaders from universities around the United States brings philanthropy and the gift of education together.



Photos, this page, University of Houston events: fashion show, cultural showcase, date night auction, and informational non-profit open house



Since 2007, the University of Oklahoma's Tau Kappa Omega has supported Sunflower Mission through event fundraisers at their school. Known as Philanthropy Week, students are encouraged to creatively think of ways to fundraise for non-profits they support. Raffle ticket sales, t-shirt sales, live-auctions, and other fun events are planned.

TKO has performed at our Halloween Carnival and attended our milestone galas.

In total they have raised over \$28,000. This coming year they are pledging to raise \$6,000 more.

TKO photos through the years, left column, top two rows



Below: New York University's cultural showcase



Below: Southern Methodist University's pho night



**Grass-roots Fundraising and Outreach**

Our humble early years, while not very glamorous, consisted of quite a few family-oriented hands-on events connecting us to our community. From yard sales to bowl-a-thons, we relied heavily on the talents of our many volunteers and their network to get the word out.

Young students such as Mahtab, who along with the support of her school Librarian Allison Vaughan, collected library books for students in Vietnam (opposite page, bottom left).

There was Blaise who hosted a cookie and lemonade stand with 2 of her friends at the age of 9 to raise money for our organization and eventually join us for work camp! Carissa Nguyen collected "Beanies for the Children" and Catherine Nguyen got creative and helped raise awareness and funds with her school project "Plates with Purpose"!

Our supporters have proven to be a true inspiration to us all.



David's Legacy Memorial Event



David's Legacy Memorial Event



Le Hoang Nguyen & family



David's Legacy Memorial Walk, Chess Tournament, and Video Game Event was held in 2011 to help fulfill the Eagle Scout project of David Manusov. He endeavored to help build a school in Vietnam, however, before he could realize the project he passed away at the age of 16.

Sunflower Mission gathered with his family and friends to ensure his legacy was complete. Photos top row.

Le Hoang Nguyen has fundraised continuously using his professional network to spread the word about Sunflower Mission. His passion for sports and philanthropy brings refreshing energy to non-profit work! Photo of Le Hoang Nguyen and family, second row left.



Blaise's Lemonade Stand



Mahtab, Allison Vaughan, & Dinh Ngo





At our 20th anniversary gala we revealed our new logo. This concept was selected by the board for multiple reasons but mainly because it would best carry SM into the future. The designer is Hayley Vu.

Hayley has attended work camp and volunteered with Sunflower Mission since 2019 and we are so grateful for her talents.

Her inspiration for the design stemmed from multiple facets. She wanted it to be representative of our purpose, education. She wanted to respect the past and drew inspiration from our name sake, the sunflower!

***"The sunflower...is not only a beautiful flower but also represents the resilience of our students."***

***Even in harsh conditions you will still see a sunflower standing tall and proud in the middle of a field.***

***I ended up on this image of an open book with a sunflower coming out of the pages. I felt that represented Sunflower Mission very well because the organization really does feel like an open book."***

*Hayley Vu Sunflower Mission graphic designer and SEEDS Secretary*

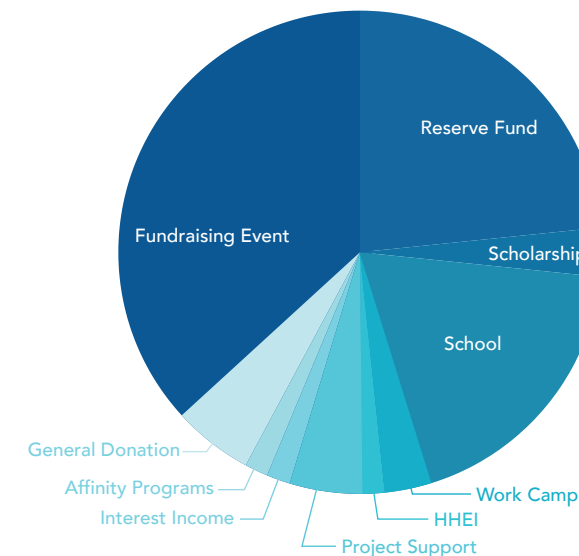


Hayley Vu (top row, second right) attended work camp 2019

**Year Ending Dec 31, 2022 (Unaudited)**

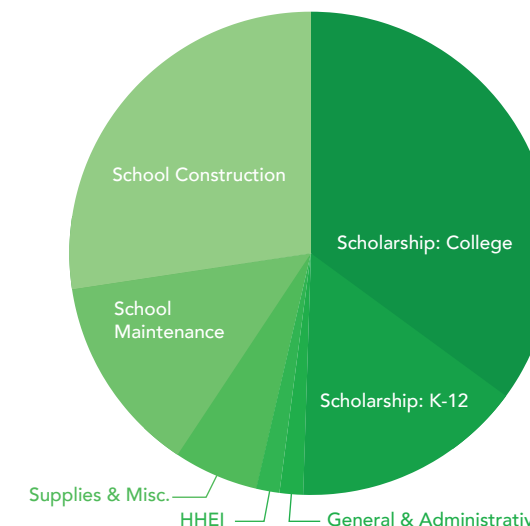
**INCOME**

<b>Reserve Fund</b>	<b>\$104,175.66</b>
<b>Temporarily Restricted Fund</b>	<b>\$165,100.10</b>
Scholarship	\$30,850.00
School	\$104,000.00
Work Camp	\$750.10
HHEI <sup>1</sup>	\$0.00
Project Support	\$29,500.00
<b>Unrestricted Fund</b>	<b>\$233,134.67</b>
Fundraising Event <sup>2</sup>	\$408,185.35
General Donation	\$41,303.63
Corporate Affinity Programs <sup>3</sup>	\$480.55
Interest income	\$1,754.94
Investment gain (loss)	-\$218,589.80
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$502,410.43</b>



**EXPENSE**

<b>Scholarship</b>	<b>\$193,777.64</b>
Dao-Le (K-12)	\$51,000.00
College	\$142,777.64
<b>School</b>	<b>\$178,212.00</b>
Construction	\$116,002.00
Maintenance	\$43,000.00
Supplies & Misc	\$19,210.00
<b>Work Camp<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>HHEI<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>\$6,672.36</b>
<b>General &amp; Administrative<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>\$1,924.02</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$380,586.02</b>



Notes:

- Sunflower Mission's operating principle requires funds on hand in year "n" for year "n+1" operation
- (1) HHEI = Health & Hygiene Education Initiative
- (2) Fundraising amount is net, including both public events & individual pro-bono affinity programs
- (3) Amazon Smile
- (4) Work camp 2022 canceled due to pandemic
- (5) G&A averages 0.88% in the first decade of operation & 0.41% in the second decade  
G&A averages over 20 years is 0.57% (<1% of income for 2002-2022)

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

- 1. Sunflower Mission complies with all applicable state and federal laws governing tax-exempt organizations. This annual report is available on line at [www.sunflowermission.org](http://www.sunflowermission.org).
- 2. Sunflower Mission's financial statements conform to generally accepted accounting principles as required by law and are available for public view upon request.
- 3. Sunflower Mission's operating principles restrict the organization's overhead expenses to <3% of annual income. Overhead expenses is also known as General & Administrative or G&A.



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In honor of lifetime contribution & invaluable advice

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SM received \$11,468 from American Online Giving & \$18,501.70 from Benevity. We acknowledge individuals when we can identify them by name. In many cases, we regret that we are unable to. We are deeply grateful for all donations.

### SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SM expresses heartfelt gratitude for pro-bono support from the following:

1. Mr. Danh Quang Le & Mrs. Huyen Thanh Luu for all printing services
2. National Instruments Inc. for LEGO® Robotics
3. Dr. AnhThu Nguyen for partnership on STEAMEd
4. Quyen Ma for annual report design
5. Dan Q. Dao & District One Studios for website design