

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF EARN A BIKE!



In the summer of 1995, 18 students stepped into a small bike shop in downtown Allentown and into a new youth development program called Earn a Bike. Working with adult mentors, these students learned how to fix a bike of their own, while also learning life skills including perseverance, teamwork, and hard work.

Twenty years later, 3,491 boys and girls have participated in Earn a Bike, and 2,835—more than 80% of all who began the program—have earned bicycles. In 2014-15 alone, we served a program-high 314 students in Earn a Bike, at our Allentown bike shop, in schools in Allentown and Bethlehem, and at the Orefield campus of KidsPeace.

But no matter how many young people we serve, Earn a Bike remains about each individual student. Michelle, 13, graduated from Earn a Bike in January, learning how to fix her bike and more. **“It’s all about the community at Community Bike Works. Everyone here is always caring for someone else,”** Michelle says. “Earn a Bike is awesome because I learned the different parts of a bike and

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Student Spotlight: Kyle

Kyle came to Bike Works at the age of 11, looking for a place in Allentown he could belong.

It soon became clear that Bike Works was a place where Kyle could develop talents he already knew he had, including mechanics, and learn new ones, including leadership. Over the years, Kyle taught Earn a Bike as both a youth volunteer and paid youth apprentice. His leadership carried over to high school, where he excelled in the cabinetmaking program.

Following high school graduation this spring, Kyle spent the summer as a paid staff member at Bike Works. One afternoon, Kyle’s mom arrived at Bike Works to let him know he’d been accepted to Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology in Lancaster to study cabinetmaking—on a full scholarship!



Back row, from left to right: Josh, Kyle, and Brittany pose with younger students before heading off to college.

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Learning through fun. From top: learning basic programming through Da Vinci Science Center’s SPOT program, cooking with Judy, and enjoying Halloween.

20 YEARS: Program Highlights 2014-2015

what to do if it breaks. At Earn a Bike graduation, I said 'I wish I could come here every day.' Staff talked to me about being a volunteer, and now I'm here all the time, helping others learn what I know."

Community Bike Works will be celebrating 20 years of Earn a Bike through 2015, culminating in a gala event at Coca-Cola Park on March 17, 2016. Please see page 5 for details!

Junior Earn a Bike

As we celebrate 20 years of Earn a Bike, we were thrilled to introduce a program for younger students that kicked off during the 2014-15 school year. Thanks to initial

funding from the United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley, Junior Earn a Bike introduces second- and third-grade students to afterschool activities, while they learn bike safety and earn a bike and helmet of their own!

Junior Earn a Bike draws on the Reading, Riding, and Wrenching skills taught across Bike Works' programs. In each of 12 classes, students and adults enjoy **reading** from a book that relates to that day's lesson, practice **riding** their bikes or play other games that get them moving, and participate in a **wrenching** activity to learn more about how bikes work.

In our first year of Junior Earn a Bike, 48 students

participated in a total of six classes at partner schools, including Central and McKinley elementary schools in Allentown and Fountain Hill and Donegan elementary schools in Bethlehem.

Students overwhelmingly expressed their enthusiasm for the program. As they turn 9, each Junior Earn a Bike student is encouraged to continue in Earn a Bike!

Earn a Book

Our reading & homework program continued to evolve in 2014-15, as we further developed the Earn a Book model and, for the first time, planned for summer literacy activities.

In Earn a Book, students are paired with tutors from Cedar

Crest College to build skills and develop an enthusiasm for reading. For each 18 hours spent with tutors, students earn a trip to a bookstore to pick books for their home libraries.

Two dozen students participated in Earn a Book in each of the fall and spring semesters, with 13 students earning a bookstore trip during the year.

"Earn a Book is wonderful," said Jem, 12. "I like the field trips to the bookstore the best. You get your own book! **Reading a story is like there are stars in your head.**"

Drop-In

Afterschool and summer Drop-in continued to be among our most popular programs, with students coming by afterschool for time with adults and friends. Each afternoon, students can choose between spending time working on their bikes or in the bike shop,



From the Director

Wow—20 years of Earn a Bike! I am honored to be a part of the Community Bike Works family as we celebrate two full decades of life lessons through bicycles.

What a ride it's been! From the 18 boys served that first summer, nearly 3,500 boys and girls have joined Earn a Bike. This year alone, more than 360 students participated in Earn a Bike and our new Junior Earn a Bike programs, learning hands-on skills while spending time with mentors.

This year, we continued to focus on making Earn a Bike as meaningful to students at 20 as it was the year it was developed by Stefan and volunteers.

We also took steps to engage with students more deeply. We introduced Shifting Gears to help students consider job skills and careers. We expanded Earn a Book to keep students reading over the summer, and added regular Saturday bike rides to encourage healthy weekend activities. AND we bought a van and renovated our upstairs!

Over 20 years, Bike Works has always been about the students we serve. We couldn't be here for them without the support of our volunteers, community partners, student families, and of course, the students themselves. Incredibly, volunteers Mike Klatchak and Gail McMakin have been with us since the start!

The celebration of our 20 years will culminate on Thursday, March 17, 2016, with an event at Coca-Cola Park that honors all of those who have shared the road with us.

We hope you will be able to join us to celebrate these 20 years—and all those to come!

Kim Schaffer



or participating in another enrichment activity, ranging from technology lessons with the Da Vinci Center, healthy cooking, or time playing at the park. Trips included visits to the Allentown Art Museum and the Velodrome.

No matter the activity, friendship and positive relationships are stressed. **“We have fun,”** said Thayri, 13. **“We talk about how our day went and if someone had a bad day we can help them solve it.”**

“I can be myself around here,” added Yangel, 13. **“I don’t have to pretend.”**

Saturday Bike Rides & Friday Game Nights

We consistently heard from students that they loved Earn a Bike, but wanted more time to ride their bikes. We also wanted to offer students opportunities to engage in healthy-living activities with mentors on weekends.

And so Saturday bike rides were launched in April. Students and adults rode together on 10 Saturdays, with students riding a total of 300 miles! Trey, 14, went on several rides. **“I loved them all,”** he said, adding that a favorite was a ride at Jordan Creek where he hung a birdhouse and saw his first deer. **“You’re missing out on life if you don’t go.”**



Several of our rides were sponsored by businesses or other friends, who rode with the students and provided healthy lunches for a post-ride treat.

We also kicked off Friday night game nights this year, to offer younger students the chance to hang out with staff, parents, and volunteers. Students enjoyed Pictionary, Connect 4 and other games over pizza and popcorn. Several evenings turned into impromptu dance parties!

Youth Leadership

The final new program launched in 2014-15 was Shifting Gears. Funded by the generous donations to our 2014 gala celebration, Shifting Gears provided our older students with the opportunity to participate in a semester-long program on job skills and career exploration. Students played a career planning role-play game, visited a range of Lehigh Valley employers (from UGI to Martin Guitar), and spent one-on-one time in mentoring sessions with two program mentors, human

relations professional Bob Snyder and retired school counselor Cheryl Gilbert.

As a capstone to the semester, each student interviewed a professional and gave a brief presentation on their career choice to their peers and members of the Bike Works’ board. In its first semester, 11 students participated in Shifting Gears, 10 of whom completed the program with more than 30 hours.

“I’ve wanted to be a kindergarten teacher for as long as I can remember,” said Brittany, 18. **“Getting to go out and interview one and learn about her life motivated me even more.”**

As always, students who complete Earn a Bike are eligible to become youth volunteers. These students serve as Earn a Bike instructors and peer role models. Volunteers may apply to become paid youth apprentices. In the past year, 13 students participated as youth volunteers, and 2 were on staff as youth apprentices.

THIS YEAR

Our Programs 362 students in Earn a Bike and Junior Earn a Bike. 78% earned their bikes.

Approximately 80 students attended Drop-in and Earn a Book each semester. 13 students served as youth volunteers.

Students made 5,550 visits to Bike Works and spent more than 11,000 hours with mentors.

Our Students 70% male; 30% female

55% are Hispanic. 25% are black/African-American, 31% are white, and 44% are mixed race or another race.

78% live in families at or below half of the area’s median income.

57% live in single-parent households.

20 YEARS

3,491 students in Earn a Bike. 81% —2,835— earned their bikes.

Students have spent 120,000 hours at Bike Works (the equivalent of 13.5 years!)

Volunteers have donated 44,400 hours — worth \$1,024,000!

Rotary Clubs, Rothrock help us get a van!

As Bike Works grows, we often find ourselves on the road—teaching Earn a Bike and Junior Earn a Bike classes in Bethlehem and across Allentown, and taking students on trips and weekend biking outings. To meet these needs, four local Rotary clubs and Rothrock Motors came together this year to help Community Bike Works purchase a van of our own!

Many thanks are due: The **Rotary Club of Bethlehem** was joined by the **Allentown, Morning Star** and **Allentown West Rotaries**, which each contributed funds generously matched by **Rotary International**. **Rothrock Motors** helped us find just the van we needed, and also contributed. **Liquid Interactive** designed the wrap. Give a wave if you see us on the road!



Our upstairs gets a makeover!

If you've visited Bike Works, you've probably seen our downstairs bike shop where our Earn a Bike classes take place. But there's lots of action upstairs, too, where students gather for Earn a Book, Youth Leadership, and other special classes.

Now, thanks to funding from an anonymous donor, our upstairs meeting room, library, computer lab, and game room have received a makeover. Rooms have been painted and new carpeting installed. Modern new furniture completes the scene, making the rooms warm and welcoming.

"I love it up there," says Michelle, 13. "It's so awesome. It's the most beautiful place for children to learn. Everything's new!" Thanks to our volunteer painters and the donor who made the project happen!



Staff, 2014-15 We are proud to have several Earn a Bike graduates on staff (*). Right: Haze (top) and Emelie (bottom) in 2006.

Kim Schaffer Executive Director
Stefan Goslawski Sr Program Advisor
James Williams Program Manager
Hannah Miller Student Engagement Manager
Jessica Webster Office Manager/Earn a Book
Emelie Aviles* Lead Program Aide
Haze Figueroa* Program Aide
Abraham Miesen* Program Aide
Fornando Robinson Program Aide
Dave Przekurat Program Specialist
Kyle Cunningham* Program Aide
Josh Ortiz* Program Aide
Jose Ortiz, Laquanda Thomas Youth Apprentices
Jessica Sperber Air Products Community Intern



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Laura Zaharakis

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Joining Kyle on staff this summer was former apprentice Josh Ortiz, who was home from Temple. Josh is entering his sophomore year as a strategic communications major. Josh took several students on a tour of Temple this summer!

Also, youth volunteer Brittany Smith heads to LCCC to major in early childhood education. Brittany will also teach Junior Earn a Bike this fall. Former student and current volunteer Abraham Miesen continues his studies at Penn State-Lehigh Valley.

Kyle's legacy will live on at Bike Works in many ways, but especially through his quote that so succinctly defines our mission: "**Community Bike Works is more than learning how bikes work. It's learning how life works.**"



Stay in touch!

Follow us on Facebook to see photos and stories throughout the year!

CELEBRATE 20 years of Earn a Bike!



SAVE THE DATE! Community Bike Works will cap off a year-long celebration of 20 years of Earn a Bike with **Gearing Up for the Future** at Coca-Cola Park on Thursday, March 17 from 6 to 8 pm.

Since 1995, nearly 3,500 students have participated in our flagship Earn a Bike program, and many have stayed on to connect with mentors in a wide range of other programs. Gearing Up will honor the volunteers and supporters who have shared the road with us all these years, with special recognition for those who have been with us since our earliest days.

You'll hear from students about what Community Bike Works means to them and see them demonstrate the skills they learn at Bike Works, all while enjoying an evening of camaraderie with friends.

All funds raised will support our youth leadership activities, including our youth volunteer and apprentice program and the new Shifting Gears.

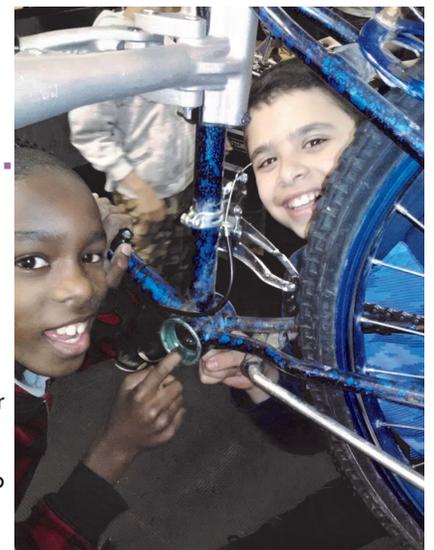
Sponsorship opportunities are available. Please contact kim@communitybikeworks.org for details.

Mark Thursday, March 17, 2016, on your calendar today!

JOIN US in serving students for the next 20 years!

Be a part of the Community Bike Works team and help a child grow!

- ⇒ **Be a mentor.** We seek dedicated adults to serve as volunteer mentors in Earn a Bike, Earn a Book, and afterschool Drop-in. Contact james@communitybikeworks.org
- ⇒ **Donate a bike.** We accept any bike in any condition! Arrange a drop-off: 610.434.1140
- ⇒ **Be a supporter.** Your generous gift will help us meet our mission! Return the form below or donate online at www.communitybikeworks.org (click the big red DONATE button at top). *If giving online, please consider a recurring monthly donation—it's the most effective way to ensure our programs have the ongoing support they need!*



Kindly return

YES! I want to support youth learning life lessons through bike mechanics.
Enclosed is my check to Community Bike Works.

NAME: _____ CONTRIBUTION: _____

ADDRESS: _____ EMAIL: _____

235 North Madison Street | Allentown PA 18102 | 610-434-1140
Thank you for your support!

THANK YOU! to our volunteers

It is thanks to the Bike Works team of volunteers that we can offer a low student-to-adult ratio and develop meaningful relationships with students. In 2014-2015, more than 70 volunteers served more than **2,460** hours, with a value of \$58,000. In 20 years, volunteers have donated 44,400 hours, worth a whopping \$1,024,000! Amazingly, Gail McMakin and Mike Klatchak have been Bike Works volunteers since 1995. Their contributions will be among those honored at the March 17 **Gearing Up for the Future** event (see page 5).

Claire Aylward
 Jeff Blinder
 Bob Boehret
 Julie Borden
 Lou Bottitta
 Josh Bushey
 Steve Campbell
 Mary Cancelliere
 Chuck Canfield
 Greg Canfield
 John Castaldo
 Karen Castaldo
 Jerry Collins
 Pat Farrell
 Jon Gabriel
 Cheryl Gilbert
 Jeff Goldberg
 Nirav Giri
 Gary Goodnuff
 Thomas Hanawalt
 Mark Heller
 Bobby Hissim
 Barry Hoffman
 Julie Hoffman
 Marlene Hoffman
 Bill Jones
 Emily Jones

Judy Jones
 Bill Keller
 Claire Klatchak
 Mike Klatchak
 Josh Kuhns
 Vince Lynott
 Annette Mattiuz
 Pete Mattiuz
 Dave McCleary
 Gail McMakin
 Yvette Miller
 Andy Munas
 Mike Nagle
 Bob Pandaleon
 Mike Peters
 Terry Reese
 Dan Royer
 Dan Sautter
 Maureen Sautter
 Linda Schaffer
 Ron Schaffer
 Joan Schork
 Sharon Skawski
 Bob Snyder
 Dennis Whitman
 Natasha Yancey
 Roger Yott

Muhlenberg College

Abby Hendrick
 Angela Grassi
 Jordan Labbe
 Gabi Eisler
 Hannah Bobker
 Hope Schwartz
 Louisa Omoregie
 Malcolm McClain

Cedar Crest College

Denasia Brown
 Hawa Diaby
 Noalani Hendricks
 Brittany Knauss
 Molly Koonz
 Katelyn Moeser
 Fatima Smith
 Da'Vida Teagle
 Shemeca Thompson

Community Partners

ASR Media
 Allentown Art Museum
 Allentown Police
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 Allentown Rotary

Allentown School District
 Baum School of Art
 Bethlehem Area School
 District
 Bethlehem Rotary
 Da Vinci Science Center
 Episcopal Church of the
 Mediator
 EZ Micro
 KidsPeace

Lehigh Valley Zoo
 Lehigh Wheelmen Assn
 Liquid Interactive
 The Literacy Center
 One Saturday Program
 PPL-Day of Caring
 National Penn-Day of Caring
 St. John's UCC - Allentown
 Valley Preferred Cycling Center
 Volunteer Center of the LV



Earn a Bike volunteer Gail McMakin was honored by the IronPigs as a Community Star, for 20 years of service!



In Memoriam

This year's annual report is dedicated to the memory of Chuck Weinmann, a Community Bike Works board member and Vice President at National Penn Bank.

Chuck was in every way a friend to Community Bike Works. He was a dedicated board member whose financial and leadership advice—always dispensed with a smile and a joke—still resonates. He regularly taught financial literacy classes at Bike Works, where he made sure students learned lessons about saving that resonated in and out of class. Chuck cared deeply about our students, and shared with them his own experiences as a young person in order to deepen connections.

We are grateful for the time we had with Chuck, and the other friends we lost this year.

Gifts were made during the year to honor the lives of these friends:

Matthew Ryan Dille Jean Krochmal

Rick Gavin Pamela Farina William Kleinberg Jeanne Shipe

Joel Guthrie Kathleen Guthrie

Ken Harvey Peg Harvey

Ed Matulevicius James Glasheen Mary Murray Parkland School District Student Services

Carl Schmeltzle Kathleen & Allen Clymer Shirley & Ulysses Conner, Jr Marian Derr Kenneth & Nancy Holland Donna & Carl Kistler David & Melissa LeVan Carol & Joe O'Connor JoAnn Oleksa Kim Schaffer & Josh Bushey Michael Schaffer Ronald & Linda Schaffer Dale & Shelley Schmeltzle Dana & Rick Snyder Julia Sterner

Chuck Weinmann Anonymous Kathryn Frazier Keystone Savings Foundation Kim Schaffer & Josh Bushey Judi Simmons Steven & Laura Zaharakis

THANK YOU! to our donors

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Community Bike Works revenues for 2014-15 totaled \$241,414, and expenditures totaled \$241,080. This unaudited list includes gifts & in-kind support received July 1, 2014—June 30, 2015. We regret any errors. Please send corrections to kim@communitybikeworks.org.





235 N. Madison Street
Allentown, PA 18102
www.communitybikeworks.org
610.434.1140
Life lessons through bicycles

20 years of Earn a Bike

"Now as a father myself, I can especially appreciate the life lessons that I learned as a student in Earn a Bike, including the importance of building strong relationships with caring adults. Today, as a board member of Community Bike Works, it means a lot to me to be able to see a new generation of students learn these same lessons, while also having fun on their bikes."

--Will Rivera board member | 1996 Earn a Bike graduate & multi-year youth apprentice

"To have seen how Earn a Bike has grown over the past 20 years—not only surviving but thriving—has been very special. Community Bike Works is now a real community institution, and Earn a Bike remains the core of what we do. To see the joy on students' faces when they learn how to fix a flat tire or ride with confidence means as much today as it did when we were first starting."

--Nick Mittica Air Products manager | board chair | began as Earn a Bike instructor in 1999

"I liked learning about bikes because it was so fantastic and fun."

--Randy, 9 2015 Earn a Bike graduate



Community Bike Works' audit is conducted by the certified public accounting firm of Campbell, Rappold & Yurasits LLP. Community Bike Works is recognized by the IRS as a charitable nonprofit 501c3 corporation and is registered with the Pennsylvania Department of State, Bureau of Charitable Organizations. Financial Information for CBW may be obtained from the Department of State at 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.