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February 15, 2023

Dear friends of Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom,

This Annual Report summarizes the activities of Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom, Inc. (MAC) for the calendar year January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

MAC's mission is to promote agricultural literacy among educators and to provide them with the skills and support to integrate agriculture into their classrooms. All of our programs reinforce this mission.

This past year has been exciting and hopeful as we progressed in the "new normal" ways to gather people and reach out to educators. During 2022, MAC has:

- Collaborated with the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) for the twenty-third year to produce the "Celebrating the Seasons of Massachusetts Agriculture Calendar 2023". MAC members researched the "Fun Facts" and "Teaching Tips" for each page. MAC mailed calendars to anyone who purchased them through our website and sent free calendars to every educator attending virtual workshops. State Legislators received a calendar courtesy of MDAR.
- Continued to collaborate with the Massachusetts Flower Growers Association to offer a limited amount of free planting kits to teachers.
- Received **21 Mini-Grant proposals in 2022**, funding **18** requests. Potentially over 2,013 students could participate in these agricultural projects within their school in 2022.
- Been awarded grants from the Massachusetts State Grange, and MDAR (AG-ED 2023). All prior grants were completed. Educator workshops, both in-person and remote, were offered as part of these grants.

We thank the Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation: Karen Schwalbe, Joan Monaco, and Tina Allen for providing administrative support this year.

MAC is grateful to all donors and volunteers for their generous support of our educational efforts. We deeply appreciate that 2022 continued to be financially stressful for so many people but donations did not reflect that fact. Many thanks to our loyal donors.

Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom depends on the continuing generosity of board members, volunteers, farm hosts, educators and donors who contribute ideas and suggestions to MAC and offer their support in many ways. We thank all of you.

Sincerely,
Roberta M. Oles
President, MAC Board of Directors

Program Overview:

Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom, Inc. (MAC) operates under the guidance of a volunteer Board of Directors

representing Massachusetts' agricultural commodities, associations, educators, and state and federal agencies involved in agriculture education and awareness. Our 2022 programs included:

Mini-Grant Program: MAC's Mini-Grant program is now in its twenty-eighth year. Since 1994, MAC has awarded over \$277,700.00 to 419 agricultural projects planned and carried out by educators across the state of Massachusetts.

Grants for the 2021-2022 school year:

April 2022 -13 schools received grants

September 2022 - 5 schools received grants

Maynard - Fowler Middle	Build raised bed	Newton, Zervas Elem.	Revitalize garden, tools, seeds
Boston - Hennigan School	Build raised beds	Dracut, Brookside Elem.	Tap maple trees, make syrup
Chelsea - Silber Early Lrning	Soil, compost, vermic.	Fall River, Deaconess	Fencing/tools for estab. Grdn
Paxton -Turn Back Time PS	Incubators/brooders	Billerica, Dutile Elem	Compost bin & Rain barrel
Wareham - Cooperative Sch.	Building small greenhouse	Brighton, Shaloh School	Build garden, soil, plants
Hingham - High School	Build raised beds, drip irrig.		
Milton, Milton Public Schools	Purchase indoor grow racks		
CapeCod Collaborative	Provide garden tools SPED		
Whitinsville Christian School	Raised beds(2) & heat mats		
Scituate - Inly School	Build raised bed, tools, cover		
Franklin High School	Adding more raised beds		
Dorchester - Lee Academy	Observation hive & stand		
Chelmsford-Integrated PS	Start school garden SPED		

Total Expenditures for 2022 = \$11,730.00

Workshops on the Farm for Teachers: Since 1996, MAC has offered more than 280 workshops on farms or at schools across the state bringing on-farm education experiences more than 3,629 educators. Each session provides an opportunity to meet a working farmer and receive an educational overview of one aspect of agriculture with related hands-on activities for teachers to take back to their classrooms. MAC continually researches ways to make workshops even more accessible to teachers, offering monthly evening virtual workshops as well as in-person Saturday and summer opportunities.

Funding is supported through grants from the Mass. State Grange, and the Mass. Department of Agricultural Resources. Workshops for the 2012-2022 school year covered such topics as Growing Cranberries, Raising Turkeys, Pruning apple trees, Using Fiber in the classroom, Maple Farming, Hugelkultur methods, and Simple machines on the farm.

Massachusetts Agriculture Calendar: MAC collaborated with the Mass. Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) to produce the 2023 "Celebrating the Seasons of Massachusetts Agriculture" calendar. The calendar is a daily reminder of Massachusetts agriculture for teachers, students, legislators and the general public. Photos are selected from contest submissions to MDAR. MAC provides a "Fun Fact" about agriculture and a "Teaching Tip" for each month. Sponsors from agricultural organizations help defray production costs and printing costs are reimbursed through the MDAR Ag-Ed grant. A calendar is distributed to every state legislator, winning photographer, sponsors, and photographed farms. Calendars are ordered through the MAC website at



www.aginclassroom.org and made available to educators.

Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom Web Site: More user-friendly features were added to the website and plans are in place to overhaul the entire site. Teachers can find how-to manuals for the school garden, free lessons on agricultural topics, videos, and continuing education workshop information. Go to www.aginclassroom.org to find resources, registration information, and opportunities.

Grants: MAC carefully manages the grants received to support workshops, lesson writing, promotion items for outreach to new educators, educator professional development presentations, and agricultural field trips for classrooms. The **Mass Department of Agricultural Resources AGR-ED grant** provides workshop opportunities as well as the design and production of the Celebrating the Seasons of Massachusetts Agriculture Calendar. **The Massachusetts State Grange Roots Education Initiative** generously supports workshops and the Mini-Grant program for worthy classroom agricultural projects.



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Agriculture Lessons Connected to the Curriculum Standards: MAC has been working for 40 years to provide resources and trainings for teachers to support classroom learning using agricultural examples. Free, downloadable lessons and manuals are connected to the curriculum standards for all grades. Educator reviewed garden-based lessons and manuals cover a variety of topics for educators using the school garden as a teaching tool. Many of these lessons are supported by grants from the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources and the Massachusetts State Grange Roots Education Initiative.



The MAC Teacher of the Year for 2022 was Michelle Cooke from Brookside Elementary in Dracut. Michelle and three other educators attended the National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference in Saratoga Springs, NY in June. Congratulations to Michelle for her outstanding interest in teaching agriculture to her class!

MDAR Booth at The Big E: Several members of MAC joined MDAR staff to assist with distribution agricultural information items and meet attendees in the Massachusetts Building at the Eastern States Exposition.



of

Agricultural Literacy

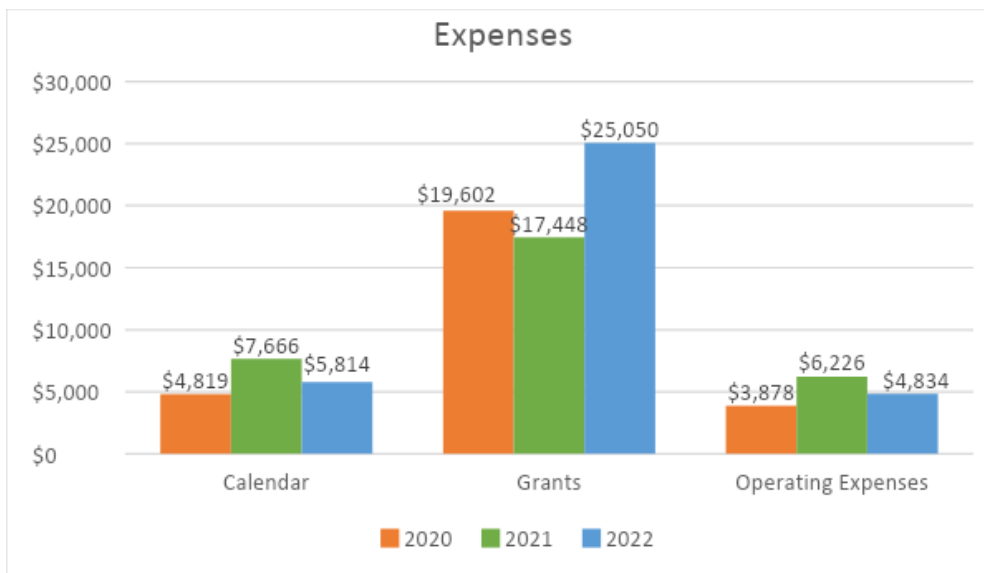


Mini-Grant Projects

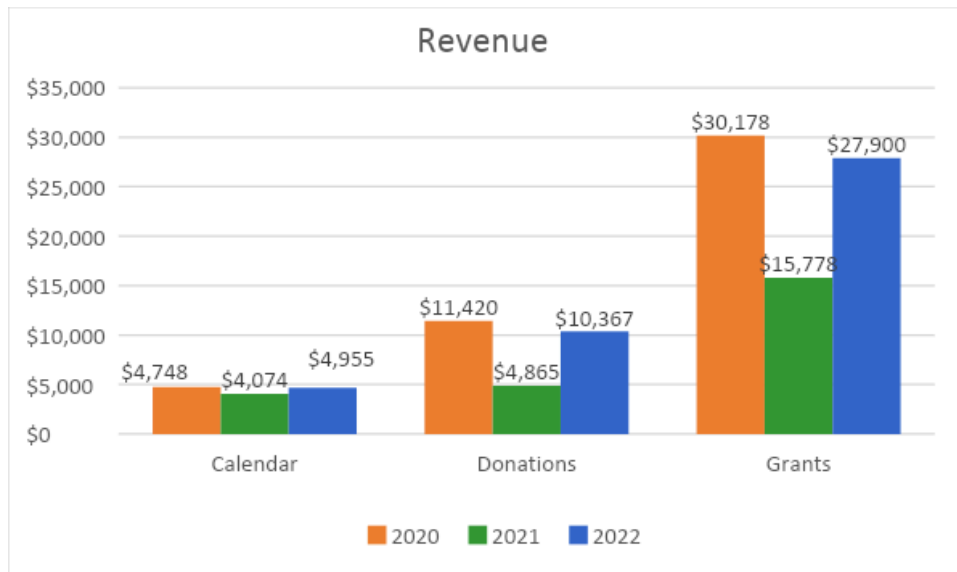


FINANCIAL COMPARISONS

ITEM	REVENUE		
	2020	2021	2022
Calendar	\$4,748	\$4,074	\$4,955
Donations	\$11,420	\$4,865	\$10,367
Grants	\$30,178	\$15,778	\$27,900
ITEM	EXPENSES		
	2020	2021	2022
Calendar	\$4,819	\$7,666	\$5,814
Grants	\$19,602	\$17,448	\$25,050
Operating Expenses	\$3,878	\$6,226	\$4,834



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2022 ended with cash of \$80,117.69, an increase of \$7,490.78 from 2021

Grants & Awards of \$10,000 or More
Massachusetts State Grange*

Grants: (\$3,000 - \$9,999)
Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources *

2022 DONORS &

Program Support: (Contributions of \$1,000 - \$2,999)
David and Carol Smith, Winchendon *

Patrons: (Donations of \$500 - \$999)
Christensen-Dunn Early Education Foundation, Milton *

Contributing Partners: (Donations of \$250 - \$499)

Cape Cod Cranberry Growers *
Massachusetts Agricultural Fairs Association*
Massachusetts Christmas Tree Growers Association *
Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation, Marlborough *
Massachusetts Flower Growers' Association *
Massachusetts Maple Producers Association *
Rita Brennan Olson *
Gordon and Barbara MacPhee, Holden*
Charles McCullough, Westford*
Wilson Farms, Lexington

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John Kinchla, Amherst Nurseries, Amherst
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Program Partners: (Donations of \$100 - \$149)

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Mr. & Mrs. Wheeler, Balance Rock Farm, Berlin*

Donations received as of 12/31/2022

**indicates donor who also donated in 2021.*

Donations in Memory of Marjorie A. Cooper

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Ann Marie Chaffee
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Franklin Agway, Franklin
Honey Dew Donuts, Plainville
Longhorn Steakhouse, Franklin
Lowe's, Plainville
Maple Corner Farm, Granville
Mass Farm Bureau Federation, Marlborough
Oak Knoll Farm, Foxborough
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Trader Joe's, Foxborough
Wachusett Mountain Ski, Princeton

*Thank
You*