



# J3 FOUNDATION

Building Bold Readers for Bright Futures

**ANNUAL REPORT 2021**

# OUR MISSION

*J3 Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that provides after-school reading programs in partnership with high need schools that serve students of color.*

*Our mission is to equip 4th grade scholars with the reading skills, habits, confidence, and books they need for a lifetime of reading success.*



**“Today a reader,  
tomorrow a leader”**

**- Margaret Fuller**

*Why do we focus on literacy? Studies show that in Los Angeles, two -thirds of students not reading proficiently by the end of fourth grade will at some point be incarcerated or on welfare. More than 50% of students in LA are not meeting reading standards and the number is even more alarming for students of color. In order to*



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# LETTER FROM J3

Dear Friends,

At J3 Foundation we are working each and every day to make a difference in the reading lives of young people.

The many dreams and aspirations of students will emerge in the early years with proficient reading and a love of reading. J3 Foundation is working to support growth in the reading skills, habits, confidence, and book access for the most vulnerable 4<sup>th</sup> grade students across Los Angeles.

When Jamie, Jessica and I established the Cozy Reading Club, we set out with an initial goal to serve 1,000 students within a ten-year period. However, the impact of Covid-19 on students and the racial inequity that many are facing have inspired us to reach as many students as possible as quickly as we can. This year, we expanded our reach to 12 new schools in Compton Unified School District, all while adapting our program to fit the virtual classroom model. During this critical time for learners, our team found new ways of teaching, connecting with, and supporting students.

J3 Foundation is extremely appreciative and proud of its network of students, educators, employees, volunteers, and community supporters and sponsors.

We encourage each and every follower of J3 Foundation to get involved in any way possible to expand opportunities for children across Southern California.



**Joe Blackstone,**  
Co-Founder



# AT A GLANCE



	2020	2021	2022
Students Served	253	318	350
Partner Schools	16	14	17
Teachers	54	71	85
Full-Time Staff	3	4	5
Sponsors	35	40	211

# OUR IMPACT

During the 2021-2022 school year, **70% of students** in J3's afterschool reading programs saw improvements in their standardized test scores.

By District:

Compton Unified School District – **65% of students saw improvements** in their standardized test scores over the course of their participation in J3.

Glendale Unified School District – **84% of students saw improvements** in their standardized test scores over the course of their participation in J3.

Los Angeles Unified School District – **75% of students saw improvements** in their standardized test scores over the course of their participation in J3.

Surveys conducted anonymously have shown that across all schools and districts:

**100%** of parents felt that J3 positively impacted their student's reading skills, habits, and confidence.

**90%** of students said they read more during their enrollment in J3 than they would have otherwise.

**91%** of students said that J3 made them feel more confident in themselves and their reading abilities.

**91%** of students said that through J3 they were able to access more books than they did previously.

**100%** of students said that J3's library featured books that they were excited to read.

Additionally, this year alone, J3 Foundation donated over **1,500 books** directly to students!

# SUCCESS STORIES

## Notes from Parents:

*"My student is no longer intimidated by reading or reading in front of others. This is such a huge step for her!"*

*"Aaron was struggling before and did not like to read. J3 really changed that for him in a short time."*

*"My student became more confident because of her time in J3. She was more interested in trying to read and write as her vocabulary grew."*

## Notes from J3 Teachers:

*"Now, when I see students during the school day, they are excited to tell me about a book they've read."*

*"J3 doesn't feel like 'a job' it is fast paced and so much fun. The joy of watching the kids flourish and grow is worth every minute."*

*"One of the things I like about J3 is that it is run like a club. This is different from a class setting. This allows the students to relax a little and feel comfortable reading alone, with a buddy or a teacher. I enjoy this part the most and love to see children get comfortable with books."*

## Notes from Students:

*"I used to read super bad before but now I've been practicing and I'm really confident now."*

*"I like reading now. I used to not like it a lot. But because of this program I love reading now. It's fun for me."*

# OUR APPROACH

Our J3 approach is grounded in rigorous, evidence-based research and informed by a cycle of continuous evaluation. Our development team includes nationally recognized experts who are educational practitioners, nationally recognized researchers, and experts in the fields of psychology and social work. Our advisory board includes educational practitioners and researchers, parents, authors, entrepreneurs, and professionals in several fields.

Our J3 after-school reading program for students in grade 4 provides the skills, habits, confidence, and books kids need to succeed. Our evidence-based curriculum and highly-qualified teachers provide young scholars with the opportunity to practice word-attack skills, increase their vocabulary, and build their reading fluency. At J3, we teach young scholars how to use their voices, to speak up, to read out loud and to be public scholars in community spaces.



J3 is on a mission to create lifelong readers, and that starts with access to irresistible books from our culturally relevant collections. Our J3 classroom libraries and home collections have been carefully chosen and include high-interest, culturally relevant, fiction and non-fiction titles to encourage wide reading. In close partnership with local donors, we provide free and low-cost books so young scholars can choose books to grow their own collections.

J3 partners with schools and their teachers who play an active role in giving our young scholars new reasons and opportunities for reading all day long. Our school partners help young scholars apply their growing skills and newfound confidence with multiple opportunities for co-reading and partner reading with classmates, home reading activities, and community reading events. These essential partnerships help J3 scholars learn how to share their confidence and new habits with siblings, parents, and friends in the community.

# STRATEGIC PLAN

## Strategic Plan 2018 – 2022

Approved by unanimous vote of the J3 Board of Directors, February 25, 2018. Updated August 16, 2018.

<p><b>Our Vision</b></p>	<p>Promote accelerated reading growth and access to culturally relevant books for students of color in high need schools in Los Angeles through school and community partnerships.</p>
<p><b>Our Mission</b></p>	<p>J3 Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in Los Angeles that provides after-school reading programs in partnership with high need schools that serve students of color. Our mission is to equip 4<sup>th</sup> grade scholars with the skills, habits, confidence, and books they need for a lifetime of reading success.</p>
<p><b>Who We Serve</b></p>	<p>J3 serves students in 4<sup>th</sup> grade who are at least one year below reading level and are attending high need schools in Los Angeles.</p>
<p><b>Our Programs and Services</b></p>	<p>J3 accomplishes its mission through the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After-school reading programs for 4<sup>th</sup> graders</li> <li>• Culturally relevant, high-interest book collections</li> <li>• School &amp; community partnerships</li> </ul>



# STRATEGIC PLAN

## Our Goals: 2018-2022

1. With a goal of students reaching grade level proficiency, **promote measurable increases in reading ability** in four ways:
  - skills (fluency, vocabulary, and reading comprehension);
  - books (book access, number of books in home);
  - confidence (reading attitudes); and
  - habits (sustained reading growth and attitudes over time).
2. Create **after-school partnerships** with schools and communities that can be sustained, replicated, and scaled up over time.
3. Curate culturally relevant, high-interest J3 **book collections** to increase reading access to benefit students, families, schools and communities.
4. Create **mutually beneficial partnerships** with schools, families and communities to promote sustained reading achievement.
5. Develop **sustainable funding and strategic partnerships** through innovative events and other sources to enable growth in the number of kids and families reaching success in J3 programs.

# FINANCIAL REPORTING

December 31, 2022

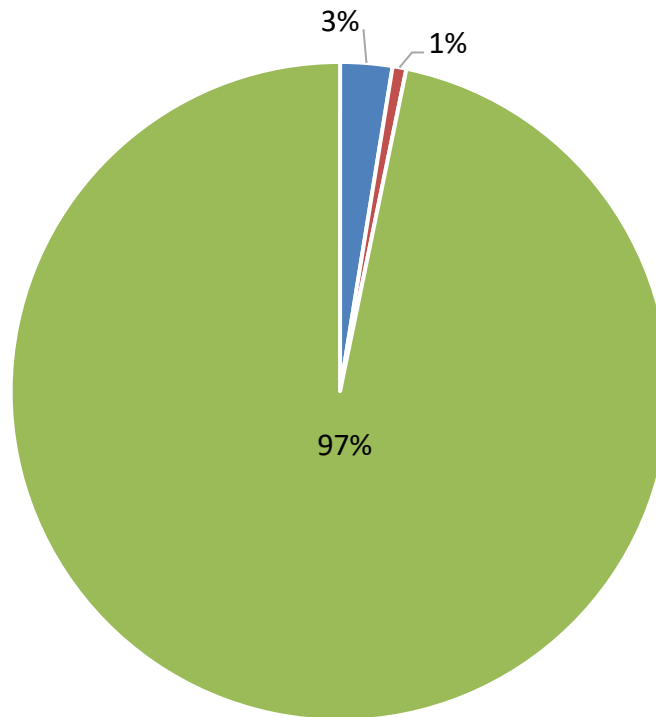
J3 Foundation

## Budget vs. Actual

12/31/2022		Budget				
	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance	Annual Budget	YTD Actual less Annual Budget	
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>						
<b>Income</b>						
Individual Contributions	\$ 1,204,567	\$ 720,000	\$ 484,567	\$ 720,000	\$ 484,567	
Corporate Contributions	\$ -	\$ 480,000	\$ (480,000)	\$ 480,000	\$ (480,000)	
Special Event Revenue	\$ 90,136	\$ -	\$ 90,136	\$ -	\$ 90,136	
Interest and Other Income	\$ 2	\$ -	\$ 2	\$ -	\$ 2	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 1,294,705</b>	<b>\$ 1,200,000</b>	<b>\$ 94,705</b>	<b>\$ 1,200,000</b>	<b>\$ 94,705</b>	
<b>Expense</b>						
Personnel	\$ 571,825	\$ 741,071	\$ (169,246)	\$ 741,071	\$ (169,246)	
Program	\$ 44,576	\$ 54,338	\$ (9,762)	\$ 54,338	\$ (9,762)	
Professional Fees	\$ 566,857	\$ 319,125	\$ 247,732	\$ 319,125	\$ 247,732	
Operations	\$ 20,645	\$ 24,120	\$ (3,475)	\$ 24,120	\$ (3,475)	
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$ 1,203,904</b>	<b>\$ 1,138,654</b>	<b>\$ 65,250</b>	<b>\$ 1,138,654</b>	<b>\$ 65,250</b>	
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>\$ 90,801</b>	<b>\$ 61,346</b>	<b>\$ 29,455</b>	<b>\$ 61,346</b>	<b>\$ 29,455</b>	
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>						
<b>Other Income</b>						
In-Kind Income	\$ 2,880	\$ -	\$ 2,880	\$ -	\$ -	
Restricted Funds Received	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Restricted Funds Released	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>Total Other income</b>	<b>\$ 2,880</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 2,880</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	
<b>Other Expense</b>						
In-Kind Expense	\$ 2,880	\$ -	\$ 2,880	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>\$ 2,880</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 2,880</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$ 90,801</b>	<b>\$ 61,346</b>	<b>\$ 29,455</b>	<b>\$ 61,346</b>	<b>\$ 29,455</b>	

# FINANCIAL REPORTING

## Expenses by Class Year-to-Date



■ Administration ■ Fundraising ■ Program

# OUR SUPPORTERS

ARMANINO LLP

BARRY FAMILY FOUNDATION

BOOK FOUNDATION

BROTHER INTERNATIONAL

CTBC BANK CORP

DAVID & ILYSIA PIERCE

DYLAN & SAPNA PROCTOR

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THE BRENTWOOD INN





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