Jahcoreyi Briscoerae, one of 39 participants in the 2016 Hip-Hop Artist Residency
This year, I was honored to join more than 40 of my foundation colleagues in signing on to a national campaign to promote dialogue during this time of heightened divisiveness, and find “a path toward our ideals of dignity, equality and justice.” (see inside front cover)

Our country’s long struggle to address racial inequality presents immense challenges, yet this campaign called on us to lift up the innumerable reasons for hope both here locally and across the country. We all also realize that manifesting the principles of this message, through effective strategies and programs, is vitally important.

At Seattle Foundation, we are steeped in stories of hope and determination to solve complex problems facing our region. I come back to them frequently as my north star and a reminder of why the “community for all” aspect of our mission is so critical.

In this issue of Heart & Science, we bring you a few of our reasons for hope. We hear from young people of color who are taking the mic and using poetry, music and hip-hop to tell their stories of grit and resilience.

We also highlight emerging and innovative local responses to climate change. As I’ve explored climate change and the impact on our region, I’ve had to reconcile where this massive global challenge falls within our priorities as a community foundation, especially those priorities pointed at ending human suffering here and now. What I have learned is that addressing climate change, and its resulting inequities, is absolutely aligned with our place-based work and is just as urgent.

Although the challenges we face are great, I am confident our community’s determination, hope and fearlessness is greater.

Stay in touch and join the conversation on our blog at seattlefoundation.org/blog and Twitter @SeaFdn.

In partnership,

Tony Mestres, President & CEO

#REASONSFORHOPE

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To subscribe, email heartandscience@seattlefoundation.org or visit: seattlefoundation.org/heartandscience
STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

King County

Seattle Foundation and King County Elections launched an effort to support voter education and culturally relevant technical assistance within limited-English-speaking communities.

seattlefoundation.org/Blog/Increasing-Voter-Participation

KEXP

KEXP and Seattle Foundation have joined forces to elevate the great work of King County nonprofits via signature concert events, brand awareness and on-air fundraising.

seattlefoundation.org/Blog/KEXP-Partners-With-Seattle-Foundation

A NEW HOME

Seattle Foundation has moved to new headquarters. The new space is a tremendous opportunity for our team, trustees, philanthropists and partners to work, gather and drive social impact together.

Seattle Foundation
Westlake Tower
1601 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1900
Seattle, WA 98101
P - 206 622 2294
F - 206 622 7673

GET SOCIAL

Seattle Foundation grantee Northwest SEED has reason to celebrate on Facebook.

Seattle Foundation grantee Northwest SEED has reason to celebrate on Facebook.

BRIGHT IDEAS

Arts funding for small to mid-sized dance and theatre organizations can be hard to come by. This fall, a $150,000 investment in local organizations was made possible by the Founders of The Morgan Fund, a Family Foundation at Seattle Foundation.

The development of a new South King County park preserves precious land and expands recreational opportunities thanks to a well-planned and thoughtful gift left in the will of a Seattle Foundation philanthropist.

Read about these Bright Ideas and more at seattlefoundation.org/blog

FROM THE HEART

“I wish there had been a program like this when I was in high school. There are so many talented young artists in this city, and it was amazing to see them come together and create a community. We need programs like this. If we want this generation to be healthy, happy, fulfilled, and to make progress, we all need a way to express ourselves.” - Ben Haggerty (Macklemore) on Hip-Hop Artist Residency Program, see page 6

CLOSE LOOK

Arts Impact in King County

Source: An Economic Impact Study of Arts, Cultural, and Scientific Organizations in King County 2014, ArtsFund, released November 2015.

$2 BILLION AGGREGATE SALES IMPACT

11.4 MILLION ADMISSIONS TO ARTS, CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZATIONS

1.1 MILLION VISITS BY K-12 STUDENTS AT FREE OR REDUCED RATE

24,800 VOLUNTEERS SERVING ARTS, CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZATIONS
Alice Ito leads Seattle Foundation’s Center for Community Partnerships. Ito’s experience spans more than 25 years working in community-based nonprofits and philanthropic organizations. She has served as Distinguished Fellow at the Center for Community Change, a national nonprofit building people’s capacity to improve their communities and public policies, particularly low-income and communities of color. She also has co-founded several organizations including the Asian Women’s Shelter in San Francisco and Nonprofit Assistance Center in Seattle. Ito has served on various philanthropic boards and is currently a board member of Social Justice Fund Northwest.

Q. What personally motivates you to do this work?
A. I believe that we can all do a much better job of living up to our country’s ideals. Carrying out Seattle Foundation’s commitment to equity and opportunity is one way I can help do this.

In my office is a photo of my dad from 1943 who’s about 21 at the time, and his extended family. Almost every person in the photo is of Japanese ancestry and born in Bellevue, Washington — they’re U.S. citizens. They were all incarcerated by our U.S. government as part of a mass incarceration on the basis of ancestry. They were never charged with any wrongdoing, and there wasn’t any due process of law. This treatment of my own family, my own community, and more than 110,000 others is only one small example of terrible injustices in our country’s history.

This isn’t all in the past. People are still losing their lives, their homes and communities. Here in our region, entire Native nations were forced from their lands, and families torn apart, with traumas continuing into the present. The Black Lives Matter movement has increased people’s awareness of ongoing injustice. I feel a great responsibility to be a part of changing patterns of negative policies and conditions, which help create a truly fair, inclusive society.

Q. What role does art and culture play in building the democracy you see as so critical?
A. I really believe that arts and culture are the key to almost everything. In some ways art and culture-based work is one of the only activities that can reach people at such a deep level that they can see and experience their community in new ways. Around the world, we can see where there are very oppressive governments, which actively suppress dissent and civic activity. This suppression of expression usually begins with artists and restrictions on cultural expression.

We know how important arts and culture are to individual, spiritual and family life, as well as community growth and development. They are just essential.
The chorus of “Blue Moon” dives deeply into the immense challenges facing its teen artists: mainly the difficulty of being a young black man in America, justifiably indignant about the growing disparities facing many of their communities, aware that if they lead with emotion the world will quickly dismiss their words and the messengers.

The song ultimately offers a positive message: stay focused on one’s goals no matter what obstacles may present themselves. “Blue Moon” is the first track on the mixtape produced by the Hip-Hop Artist Residency, launched during the summer of 2015. The

The Hip-Hop Artist Residency was born out of a conversation between Ben Secord, director for philanthropy and community engagement for Macklemore and Ryan Lewis, and Jonathan Cunningham, manager of youth programs and community outreach at the EMP Museum.

“[Ben] said, if you were to shoot for the sky, budget excluded, what would you do? I thought about my time here, my bucket list as a youth manager [and said] I would really like to see a program that is exclusively for youth that are low income,” Cunningham says.

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EMP offers a number of creative summer camps for youth including Rain City Rock Camp, a musical program for female-identified youth; Scribes Creative Writing Workshops, in partnership with Hugo House; and Sound Design for Games, in partnership with Digipen, where students compose music and sound effects for games and animation.

While every summer camp program at EMP offers scholarships for students with financial need, they don’t always draw the diversity that program managers desire, Cunningham says. In visualizing a program targeted towards youth that are low income, he emphasized that it should not only be free, but eliminate all barriers to access that might prevent a young person from attending: transportation, food and even a stipend to compensate students who might otherwise need to work during summers.

Also very important is the creation of a safe space for youth who have never attended a summer camp or even entered a venue like EMP. What are the requirements for creating such a safe space? “Predominantly youth of color. Predominantly teaching artists of color. And a medium that speaks to them, which is hip-hop or poetry,” Cunningham says.

Cunningham approached Arts Corps to ask for their partnership for the Artist Residency. “Arts Corps is the perfect partner for this. They are already working with this population on a more consistent basis than we are. Arts Corps’ programming is always free.”

“I wish there had been a program like this when I was in high school,” said Ben Haggerty (Macklemore). “There are so many talented young artists in this city, and it was amazing to see them come together and create a community. We need programs like this. If we want this generation to be healthy, happy, fulfilled, and to make progress, we all need a way to express ourselves.”

Arts Corps offers a host of creative programs for students K-12 that include dance, music, spoken word, theatre and visual arts. The programs are often offered as in-school residencies or as after-school programs, hosted in schools, community centers and sometimes even within neighborhoods.

Arts Corps serves approximately 2,500 students annually throughout King County. The organization emphasizes justice, collaboration and inspiration as values that imbue every program they offer. Arts Corps was a 2015 grantee of Seattle Foundation’s Equitable Access to Arts GiveTogether program.

Towards the end of the 2014-15 school year, Arts Corps and EMP sent out a call for youth to apply to the pilot summer of the Hip-Hop Artist Residency. More than 70 students applied for 20 spots. The selection criteria for spots in the program included financial considerations, previous experience as hip-hop artists or experience recording original music, and an interview with the program managers and teaching artists.

“There are so many talented young artists in this city, and it was amazing to see them come together and create a community.”

- Ben Haggerty (Macklemore)
Students consistently involved in orchestra or band during their middle and high school years performed better in math at grade 12. The results were even more pronounced when comparing students from low-income families. Those who were involved in orchestra or band were more than twice as likely to perform at the highest levels in math as their peers who were not involved in music.

Multiple independent studies have shown increased years of enrollment in arts courses are positively correlated with higher SAT verbal and math scores. Studies have identified six major types of benefits associated with study of arts and student achievement.

1. **Reading and Language Skills**
2. **Mathematics Skills**
3. **Thinking Skills**
4. **Social Skills**
5. **Motivation to Learn**
6. **Positive School Environment**

Students consistently involved in orchestra or band during their middle and high school years performed better in math at grade 12. The results were even more pronounced when comparing students from low-income families. Those who were involved in orchestra or band were more than twice as likely to perform at the highest levels in math as their peers who were not involved in music.
The Creative Advantage

A basic education that includes the arts is mandatory in Washington state, but many schools are not able to provide the necessary class time. The result is that while there are award-winning programs in some Seattle public schools, many students do not have consistent access to the arts as they move through their school careers. The Creative Advantage is a city-wide initiative to establish equitable access to arts education for each and every student in Seattle Public Schools. Already launched in all schools in the Washington Middle School area, The Creative Advantage program will broaden its reach into the city in the next several years. Seattle Foundation is a founding partner of The Creative Advantage, along with the City of Seattle’s Office of Arts & Culture and Seattle Public Schools. The effort embodies the Foundation’s belief that the arts are a crucial component of a strong and vibrant community.

To learn more visit: www.creativeadvantageseattle.org or email f.mcginn@seattlefoundation.org.

Access to rich artistic and cultural experiences for people of all ages has the power to bring about important change in our community. Many committed organizations lead this diverse and growing work. To learn more about Seattle Foundation’s work with these organizations visit: seattlefoundation.org/communityimpact

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In response, Arts Corps and EMP set up ongoing professional development opportunities for young artists called Monthly Ciphers, lasting through December 2016. They have also doubled the number of residency participants for 2016 and lengthened the camp to three weeks. The number of teaching artists have increased to accommodate the larger group, and two interns were hired from last year’s cohort to serve as student mentors, granting continued participation, leadership and professional development experience.

The focus on building capacity among youth and creating pathways for previous participants to take on leadership positions is highlighted across Arts Corps’ teen programs. After the Artist Residency, O’Cain entered Arts Corps’ nine-month Teen Leadership Program. Participants in the program are involved in organizing a series of Poetry Slams that culminate in a Grand Slam competition. More than 650 people attended the Grand Slam in 2016. The teen leaders, with support from Arts Corps’ staff, are expected to produce the events from conceptualization to implementation – developing programs and marketing, conducting outreach and hosting events. ‘It’s really led by the young people and throughout the year they learn how to do those different aspects of production and management,’ Omani says.

The programs are geared toward supporting young people to see themselves as change makers who use their art in service of social justice, as well as providing the tangible professional experience they could use to develop a career in the creative industries.

O’Cain’s maturity and eloquence comes through clearly in her art and in her presence. In her group’s song, “Be Mine,” the feeling of longing is palpable. This intensity of emotion is present throughout the music produced in the Artist Residency; deeply held, complex emotions find an outlet in creative expression.

O’Cain is committed now to pursuing music professionally and demonstrates the ethos of giving back to community in her work. She is hoping to return to the Artist Residency in 2016 as a mentor and is continuing on in her work with Arts Corps’ leadership program. Reflecting on an end-of-year event she helped organize at Youngstown, O’Cain recalls wanting to thank supporters for their work and demonstrate that when one gives to Arts Corps, one receives priceless value in return in the form of music, dance and poetry.

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“ Asking you for the biggest thing I know – your heart is a sacred thing – I just want us to shine together.”

- lyrics to “Be Mine” by laurayce O’Cain

The quality and depth of work accomplished by a group of teens, who had not known each other or even worked collaboratively prior to the camp, was impressive. Imani describes a visit to the camp at the beginning of the second week, “I walked in on one group’s session and they were offering really thoughtful feedback to each other. They were very neutral, but very specific and concrete, and their delivery was amazing… if adults could give feedback in this way, we’d be in a much better place.”

When the camp concluded, the youth participants expressed a desire to continue on with the program. Cunningham compared not offering an ongoing creative outlet to youth as “taking them halfway across the river and leaving them there. And the kids are looking at the other shore…”
With programs to reduce pollution, improve transit and cut energy consumption, Seattle ranks highly in its commitment to environmental progress. In fact, STAR Communities, a framework and certification program for local sustainability, named Seattle the most sustainable city in the U.S. in 2014.

Good news, right? Not completely. Despite the five-star overall rating, the full report revealed that the city scored low in “equity and empowerment,” citing deficiencies in public health outcomes, environmental justice outcomes and civic engagement. Indeed, Seattle struggles much like other cities to engage marginalized communities in its otherwise excellent environmental programs.

Thanks to a new era in environmentalism, that tide is changing. Local leaders like Got Green and Puget Sound Sage are redefining environmental priorities and leadership. Their work instead follows in the footsteps of environmental justice leaders before them by prioritizing the people and communities most impacted by environmental harm. “To do climate work, we must take the lead from those who are most directly impacted by climate change – communities of color and indigenous communities – as they know best how to improve the conditions of their environment,” says Jill Mangaliman, Executive Director of Got Green.

“We must take the lead from those in communities most impacted by climate change – communities of color and indigenous communities.”

Jill Mangaliman, Executive Director of Got Green
Sound Sage’s most recent collaboration, “Our People, Our Planet, Our Power,” a survey of the concerns of communities in South Seattle around climate change. With the goal of a climate resilient future, Got Green and Sage used a community-driven process to identify the survey’s priorities and placed racial and social equity at the center of their analysis.

Their approach also improves upon typical top-down community engagement models that are often standard in the nonprofit sector. To lead the survey project, the two organizations assembled a committee of South Seattle community members, all people of color, and all ages 23-45. The committee collected research and stories from peers, neighbors and grassroots community groups and used them to create community-focused environmental solutions.

“Without active engagement with communities of color, the environmental movement as it stands will become irrelevant,” says Lylianna Allala, a Got Green board member. “The time is now to strategize on how we can support youth from communities of color and low-income communities to become the leaders that will take us into a new era.”

In order to increase community participation, both on the committee and from survey respondents, Got Green and Sage offered food and transportation as well as making sure they conducted the survey in places where people already gather. These efforts helped foster authentic relationships, creating an important foundation for further collaboration and leadership development.

This intentional process of listening to and taking leadership from South Seattle community members resulted in findings relevant to philanthropy, local government and peer environmental organizations. Community members’ chief climate concerns were rising food costs, increased diseases and other health issues. The survey also found many residents are already facing serious exposure to environmental hazards in their neighborhoods, such as living near polluted industry, infestation of pests, insects and rodents; and exposure to toxic chemicals.

Lack of affordable housing was also identified as a critical climate issue – linking the housing affordability crisis to growing patterns of urban displacement. “Interviewees made the case that any local efforts to build climate resilience for our communities will be undermined if low-income people and people of color continue to be displaced to suburban cities, particularly if those suburbs are under-resourced and unable to conduct rigorous climate resiliency planning,” states the report.

With the results of the survey in hand, the committee worked with community members to develop a set of actionable recommendations. Throughout this planning process, the committee kept its focus on self-determination and increased democracy. They also identified a number of policy solutions including access to green jobs and leadership pathways, funding for community-led projects, development of community land rights and culturally appropriate environmental education. They also highlighted the importance of accountability measures in order to ensure that programs and policies truly benefit marginalized communities.

Some of these recommended steps are already underway. This Climate Justice Steering Committee will soon release the first issue of an ongoing publication discussing environmental issues from the perspective of people of color.

N2N supports grassroots efforts that increase engagement, power and influence of community members affected by poverty and racial disparities.

Founded in 1991, N2N is a grant and technical assistance program and a key strategy of Seattle Foundation’s Center for Community Partnerships. Working to build capacity of small grassroots organizations based in South Seattle, White Center and Kent, N2N plays a crucial role in supporting the Foundation’s mission: to ignite powerful and rewarding philanthropy to make Greater Seattle a stronger, more vibrant community for all.

N2N was an early funder of Got Green and supported Puget Sound Sage in partnering with smaller community led organizations to address transit policy change in the Rainier Valley. Since those investments, Seattle Foundation has continued to support the work of both organizations through programs such as Communities of Opportunity.

N2N awards grants on a quarterly basis and is managed by an advisory board of community members, foundations and philanthropists.

To learn more about N2N, contact Alice Ito at 206-515-2129 or a.ito@seattlefoundation.org

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**Climate impacts of most concern to residents**

- **Rising Food Costs**
- **Increased Disease & Health Concerns**
- **Extreme Storms and Weather**
- **Drought and Less Snow on the Mountains**
- **Costs to Heat, Cool, or Light your Home**

- Extremely Concerned
- Highly Concerned
- Somewhat Concerned
- Least Concerned
Environment is a core element of Seattle Foundation’s Healthy Community Framework. We support organizations that cultivate and conserve a healthy environment that benefits all.

To learn more about our work, visit seattlefoundation.org/communityimpact/environment

A Community Zine will offer culturally relevant peer education and be used as an outreach tool to connect with community members who could be developed as future leaders. Peer-to-peer education is an important next step in empowering communities to truly be part of, not simply affected by, the growing environmental movement.

Got Green and Sage are confident in the power of their communities and clear about their hope for the future. “To be resilient in the face of climate change, we must know our history and learn the lessons of the past. While resilience is a response to a looming threat, we also see it as an incredible opportunity to (re)imagine a more just future for all.”

Do these issues impact you in your neighborhood?

- Lack of Affordable Housing 89% Impacted
- Living Near Major Highways 74% Impacted
- Lack of Public Transportation 73% Impacted
- Lack of Affordable Food 72% Impacted
- Living Near Polluting Industries 71% Impacted
On average in the Northwest, the amount of rain failing on the wettest days of the year is projected to increase by 22% by the 2080s. Increases in heavy rainfall and flooding may exacerbate problems with water quality and mold.

Changes in the frequency, intensity and duration of extreme weather — and related environmental impacts — can directly affect health outcomes.

**HEAVY RAIN & FLOODING**

On average in the Northwest, the amount of rain falling on the wettest days of the year is projected to increase by 22% by the 2080s. Increases in heavy rainfall and flooding may exacerbate problems with water quality and mold.

**EXTREME HEAT**

Heat waves will become more frequent.

**HEAT STRESS INCREASES POOR HEALTH OUTCOMES**

People with inadequate access to health care or other resources like transportation, air conditioning or disaster insurance will face disproportionate health impacts. People with greater exposure to the elements or impacted areas also face greater risk. Some of these communities include:

- Children
- People over 65
- People with existing health conditions
- Low-income people
- Communities of color

**INDIRECT IMPACTS**

Climate change is expected to significantly increase the risk of large destructive fires, exacerbate urban air quality, and increase mental health-related deaths.

Smoke from the 2012 wildfires in Kittitas and Chelan Counties resulted in 350 additional hospitalizations for respiratory conditions and 3,400 student absences from school.

Deaths due to poor air quality are expected to increase from 69 per year in 2006 to 139 per year by 2050.

In King County, mental health-related mortality increased by 43% on extreme heat days for people over 65.

**HEALTH BURDENS WILL NOT BE EQUALLY FELT**

People with inadequate access to health care or other resources like transportation, air conditioning or disaster insurance will face disproportionate health impacts. People with greater exposure to the elements or impacted areas also face greater risk. Some of these communities include:

- Children
- People over 65
- People with existing health conditions
- Low-income people
- Communities of color

**IT DOESN’T HAVE TO BE THIS WAY.**

Our communities are responding to and preparing for climate change. Learn more at seattlefoundation.org/blog/climatechange

Based on material from the University of Washington Climate Impacts Group’s 2015 State of Knowledge Report: Climate Change in Puget Sound.
For Kathy Washienko, climate change is an issue with two lenses. One is a bird’s-eye lens — the reality that climate change threatens and can impact all of us — and the other lens focuses a bit closer to home — the importance of confronting climate change on behalf of children growing up today and the generations to come.

“To me, it’s just such a profound problem facing society that has the potential and the likelihood of impacting so many facets of our lives. It just has to rise to the top,” Washienko says.

“We need to get more people to understand the intense urgency of the climate problem and that there really is hope. There’s a lot we can do that can have a big impact on how climate change plays out.”

Motivated by her ethic of service and professional training in public health, Washienko doesn’t shy away from big problems. Her optimism cuts across complexity and as a philanthropist, she values the multiple and reinforcing strategies in the environmental movement.

“It’s really important that we broaden the tent and help more people see their role in the climate fight, find their voice in the climate fight,” says Washienko. “Ultimately, we win by a whole bunch of progress in a lot of different areas. Every solar panel that goes up on someone’s roof, every mass transit line we build so people are in their cars less, or [every person who] chooses to buy an electric vehicle instead of a gas-powered car — all of those are steps in the fight. We all need to live on a planet that is stable.”

Washienko’s approach demonstrates that in the face of complex problems like climate change, philanthropists can benefit from investing in multiple strategies. Knowing the scale and systemic nature of the problem, Washienko significantly invests in ambitious, multi-year policy and systems change efforts led by local organizations like Climate Solutions. She also focuses some of her resources on immediate carbon reduction strategies, like Northwest SEED’s solar panel program.

Closer to home, Washienko’s sense of urgency can be seen through her ties with family and community. Family is a tether that unites people across geographic and economic borders, and for Washienko, one that made an already personal issue that much more urgent. “I would be concerned and active whether or not I’d ever had children. But, to have kids, have them be aware of what’s happening and look to their parents for some sort of reassurance and be like, ‘okay, this is looking bad’. .. I feel a strong moral obligation to say, I’ve done everything I can.”

These beliefs, coupled with a thorough knowledge of the issue’s time sensitivity, led Washienko a few years ago to rethink her philanthropic strategy. Working with her advisors at Seattle Foundation and the Northwest Conservation Fellowship at Seattle Venture Partners, she decided to “frontload” her giving in the climate space and give significantly over a five-year period rather than parse it out evenly over a longer term.

By nature, partnering with a community foundation complements Washienko’s approach to advocacy, which comes from a desire to affect change that strengthens people’s sense of connectedness. “Climate change can feel like a somewhat overwhelming problem to try to address. But when there are ways that a group of people each doing something relatively small can add up to something much bigger, we demonstrate and give people hope that we can tackle things more at the scale of the problem. I’m happy to see that Seattle Foundation is talking about climate change more directly and having it as a focus of some of their grantmaking efforts.”

Kathy Washienko is a philanthropist at Seattle Foundation and is a board member of Climate Solutions. Currently, she serves as a senior partner for climate strategies with Breakthrough Strategies and Solutions and is a long-time member of the National Advisory Board of the Union of Concerned Scientists.
Sisters Darkfeather and Bibianna Ancheta, and Eckos Chartraw-Ancheta of the Tulalip Tribes in front of Tulalip Bay.

"Maintaining our culture and traditions roots us in our ways that we will always know who we are. When we know who we are, we are protected by our teachings. Our teachings guide us; they carry us through hardships; they give us intuition."
- Bibiana Ancheta

Photographer Matika Wilbur directs Project 562, focused on photographing people from every federally recognized indigenous nation in the United States.

Visit seattlefoundation.org/heartandscience for #truestories

#TRUESTORIES

Put family at the heart of your giving.

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CONTACT KIM WRIGHT, DIRECTOR OF FAMILY PHILANTHROPY, 206.615.2136 OR EMAIL K.WRIGHT@SEATTLEFOUNDATION.ORG.