

2020 – 2021 ANNUAL REPORT



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“With the largest youth population in history, there is an unprecedented opportunity for young people to take an active role in shaping the future. This generation has inherited enormous global challenges, but has the ability to confront the status quo and offer youth-led solutions for change”

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2011, the World Economic Forum¹ (an independent international organization committed to improving the state of the world) created the Global Shapers Community to empower and provide **young people** the tools to self-organize to have a positive impact in their communities. “In each city, teams of Shapers self-organize to create projects that address the needs of their community. Projects are wide-ranging – from responding to disasters and combating poverty, to fighting climate change and building inclusive communities. Shapers are diverse in expertise, education, income and race, but are united by their desire to bring about change”².

The Global Shapers Community is made up of more than 10,000 young people ages 18-30 in 400+ city-based hubs representing 100+ countries. We are part of a truly global network with a common purpose to build a better world now.

In 2013, the Cleveland Global Shapers Hub³ was founded and since then, has experienced rapid growth. From its start supporting member initiatives such as voter registration drives, Data Days CLE, and networking events, the Cleveland Hub has become a launch platform for local social impact projects, including the NEO Youth Climate Future Forum, Fair Housing for All, and Culture.CLE.

Our hub's goal is to create local change with a global lens by sparking critical conversations, addressing the needs of our community through projects, and approaching problems with the lens of human-centered design.

The past year has been tough to say the least. We continued to work throughout an ongoing pandemic and a reckoning with racial injustice from police. We had to pivot in our projects and how we operated as a hub. It was a time to pause and reflect on what we had done, where we were going, and what our community truly needed. We are proud to have persevered and continued as a hub to have impact in and around the city of Cleveland. We are excited to share with you who we are and what we were able to accomplish in the past year.

¹ <https://www.weforum.org/>

² <https://www.globalshapers.org/story>

³ <https://www.globalshaperscle.com/>

WHO WE ARE (Leadership Team)



Julianne is passionate about startups and impact investing. She has worked for both non-profits and for-profits on fundraising, business development, strategy, and early-stage investments. She once studied French and has travel to 28 countries around the world.

Julianne Roseman
Curator

Elena is a polymer science engineer by trade, but now a budding ecological engineer, designer and biomimicry practitioner. After working in the mining and manufacturing industry in engineering, research and corporate sustainable development, Elena is pursuing a PhD in Integrated Biosciences and Biomimicry to incorporate a more holistic and ecological approach to engineering and our built environment.



Elena Stachew
Vice Curator



Ben worked at a govtech startup, CHAMPtitles, as a Product Analyst for the past two years as part of his Venture for America fellowship. He is excited to take his product skills to the next level and is looking to advance the impact of social entrepreneurs at the systems level through strategic partnerships and cross-sector collaboration.

Ben Walton
Impact Officer

A graduate of Maine Maritime Academy with a Bachelors of Science in Marine Systems Engineering, Jonathan is personally interested in housing, public transit policy and advocacy, and creating equitable communities.



Jonathan Steirer
Outgoing Curator

WHO WE ARE (Chairs)



Being at the forefront of strategic project planning, deployment and management is Luciana's passion. Combining her experience in manufacturing, operations, research & development, and continuous excellence (lean & six sigma), with the problem solving and technical skills from my B.S. in chemical engineering, Luciana welcomes workplaces and teams into the modern solutions-thinking era.

Luciana Salles
Communications Chair

Daoning is a digital transformation focused management consultant with experience in automation, analytics, and digital strategy. He works with clients across multiple industries, including manufacturing, distribution, non-profits, and private equity. With a strong understanding of IT applications, implementation methodologies, as well as the business function processes, Daoning serves as the IT-Business liaison.



Daoning Zhou
Development Chair

WHO WE ARE (Members)



**Kwame
Botchway**



**Marissa
Jones**



**Ashley
Wilson**



**Rachel
Waitzman**



**Thiraj
Dhanushan
Mohankumar**



**Caroline
Schuerger**



**Siddhartha
Sen**



**Andreea
Procopan**



**Ajay
Krishnan**



**Allosious
Snodgrass**



**Kayode
Omoyosi**



**Amy
Young**



**Linda
Perla**



**Smit
Patel**

PROJECTS

Completed

1 Northeast Ohio Youth Climate Future Forum

Started

2 Northeast Ohio Youth Climate Action Fund

3 Reducing Health Disparities

4 Columbus Hub

5 Culture.CLE

6 Shaping the Future

1

PROJECTS

(Northeast Ohio Youth Climate Future Forum)

Vision

Youth are given opportunity and space to speak and take action on the pressing issue of climate change in Northeast Ohio.

Overview

We aimed to facilitate the creation of a Northeast Ohio regional youth climate network across 7 counties bordering Cleveland and generally representative of the Lake Erie watershed. Our approach was to develop trust, work with communities where they are, involve young people at the onset and ask for their ideas, input and leadership, and create avenues for positive feedback.

We committed to racial equity and inclusion throughout the entire forum timeline and adopted a racial equity lens to ensure that all youth who participated in the forum were treated with the utmost respect and care. We actively sought efforts to remove barriers that may have prevented some youth from participating in this forum.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the Forum's format changed from in-person to virtual and was reduced in scope to focus on Cuyahoga County (which contains the city of Cleveland)

1

PROJECTS

(Northeast Ohio Youth Climate Future Forum)

Goals

1. Establish a Northeast Ohio youth climate network across Cuyahoga County
2. Involve young people to create the forum
3. Remove barriers for youth to attend the forum
4. Partner with local organizations to further involve the community
5. Educate youth about local resources to take action to mitigate climate change

Output

- Held **3 in-person** (pre COVID) and **2 virtual youth town halls** to hear from **~60 youth** in total to co-create the forum's purpose and direction
- Established an online newsletter reaching **600+ youth, educators, and content experts**
- Held the forum on Friday Oct. 16, 2020 from 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM using a Zoom virtual format with **15+ students and 15+ community members** attendees and **18 speakers** (https://neoclimatefuture.org/files/Agenda_2020.pdf)
- Recorded **13/18 sessions** and hosted them on YouTube and our website (<https://neoclimatefuture.org/forum/>)

Impact

- Provided outlet for students and environmental groups to connect
- Built a network of students, partners, and educators to engage for the climate action fund
- Developed partnerships with local organizations/institutions including Black Environmental Leaders, Ohio Environmental Council, Case Western Reserve University, and Drink Local Drink Tap and promoted their brands
- Boosted hub's presence in the local environmental space

1

PROJECTS

(Northeast Ohio Youth Climate Future Forum)

Forum Agenda

	Track 1		Track 2		Track 3	Track 4
Time (EDT)	Environment and Climate Change		Racial and Environmental Justice		Food/Agriculture and Land Use	Youth Empowerment and Activism
10:00 - 10:55 am	Watershed Stewardship in a Changing Climate	Climate Change and How it Affects Us All	Environmentalism vs Environmental Justice: Future of the Climate Movement	E-Mobility and Electric Vehicles	Food Waste: The Biggest Problem We Can Solve	Green New Deal
11:00 - 11:55 am	Too Much Too Little Too Dirty- How Climate Change Expresses itself through Water	From Fore to Forest for Fins and Feathers: Transforming Acacia Country Club	Community Owned Solar		Environmental Health	n/a
1:00 - 1:55 pm	Technical Innovation for Water Equity		Reforesting the Forest City	How We Get Free: Ecological Knowledge in our Communities	Recreation	Career Horizons
2:00 - 2:55 pm	n/a		Racial Equity & Inclusion - Groundwater Analysis		Food Systems	Advocacy 101

Partners



2

PROJECTS

(Northeast Ohio Youth Climate Action Fund)

Vision

Youth are leading and directing local climate action initiatives in the Northeast Ohio region.

Overview

The goal of this Fund is to empower youth to start and execute climate and environmental resiliency projects within Northeast Ohio. We will collectively create a better world for future generations to come. To achieve that, we need to listen to our young voices and support them in making their ideas into a reality.

Projects will be led by teams of 2-5 youth ages 15 - 21 and are expected to last 4 - 6 months. Selected teams will be awarded with up-front funding and connected to mentors and advisors. The Fund's success will be tied directly to the impact of each completed project. The first year of the Fund will focus on projects related to circular systems.

The Fund team will manage the day to day operations of the Fund including evaluating applications, recruiting students teams and mentors, and progressing student projects.

2

PROJECTS

(Northeast Ohio Youth Climate Action Fund)

Goals

1. Fund 100% of the selected projects until completion
2. Empower at least 80% of the projects to continue beyond the scope of the program
3. Support at least 50% of the funded projects to become self-sustained initiatives

Partners



3

PROJECTS

(Reducing Health Disparities)

Vision

Racial disparities in health and healthcare are reduced within Cleveland communities.

Overview

Working with the Racial Equity Institute through ThirdSpace Action Lab on two potential projects:

1. Integrate the groundwater racial equity training into medical education training
2. Produce an analysis of the groundwater approach in the context of health in Cuyahoga County with community partners

Goal

Work with community organizers and leaders to address health disparities caused by systemic racism in Cleveland through educating medical trainees and providing context of health disparities in Cuyahoga County.

4

PROJECTS

(Columbus Hub)

Vision

More young people are taking action to shape the direction of their communities for the better.

Overview

The Cleveland Hub is facilitating the creation of a new Shaper Hub in Columbus, Ohio.

With approximately 900,000 residents, Columbus, Ohio, is the second most populous city in the Midwest. Moreover, the Central Ohio region is on track to reach 3 million people by 2050, where 15-20% of which are expected to fall in the age group of 18-30.

Columbus is home to the state capital, a 60,000+ student body at The Ohio State University along with a number of other higher education institutes, a growing entrepreneurial community, and 17 Fortune 1000 headquarters. The favorable business climate and abundance of young thinkers (the median age in Columbus is 32) makes it a fertile ground for innovation and social mobilization.

4

PROJECTS

(Columbus Hub)

Goals

1. To grow the Global Shaper network by establishing a new Global Shaper hub in Columbus, Ohio
2. To set up the new hub with a strong foundation for success

Partners



**Columbus Council
on World Affairs**

5

PROJECTS

(Culture.CLE)

Vision

A community that values diversity and appreciation for the small local immigrant and refugee population.

Overview

Culture CLE creates spaces that allow for open conversation and opportunity to comfortably experience other cultures and communities. It does this by promoting immigrant-owned small businesses, primarily restaurants.

Culture CLE is founded in the belief that food can be an impactful medium for celebrating cultural diversity. Sharing a meal often includes more than just the food itself – it includes the stories from all those at the table.

Culture CLE events create an authentic opportunity for attendees to interact with local chefs and view live food preparations. They also allow participants to build community by sharing stories and meals with people they might not normally interact with or even know are a part of the diverse community in Cleveland.

5

PROJECTS

(Culture.CLE)

Goals

1. Teach locals about different cultures through a culinary experience
2. Highlight local restaurants and the chefs that create these culturally diverse dishes
3. Encourage Clevelanders to support small immigrant owned/run businesses in their community
4. By the end of the year,
 - a. Have 100 unique guests
 - b. Partners with at least 3 local chefs
 - c. Host at least 6 events

PROJECTS

(Shaping the Future)

Vision

Local leaders are listening to the voices of the next generation as they consider how to address the problems we currently face in the region and the world.

Overview

Policymakers, civil society and the public sector, face their biggest test in generations. Rising income inequality, job displacement by technology-driven innovation in tandem with the coronavirus pandemic, growing socio-economic and racial inequalities, and global immigration crises are some of our era-defining moments. Responding poorly to the world's converging crises strengthens the growing calls globally to transform the future of politics and governance, and rebuild institutions from the ground up.

This series invites local political and civic leaders, thought leaders, youth, and activists to discuss how we can collectively transform the future of our region and reimagine our local government institutions to be more responsive to the challenges of our generation and the future.

6

PROJECTS

(Shaping the Future)

Goals

1. Raise awareness of the work of Global Shapers and the Cleveland Hub
2. Ensure that all interested citizens, especially youth, have the chance to participate
3. Inform and inspire participants to take action locally

Partners



LOOKING AHEAD

As we look forward to the next year of the Cleveland Global Shapers, we take a moment to step back and consider our strategy. Our hub will build upon the momentum that continues to carry us through this pandemic and focus on deepening the impact of our current projects.

We recognize the collaboration, dedication, and spirit we receive and continue to ask from our members to strengthen our hub and accomplish our goals. With that in mind, we plan to

- Increase the opportunities for leadership within the hub
- Open up recruiting to all year round to increase our capacity
- Continue to measure and improve the hub's goals for diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Take the time to check in to prioritize our members physical and mental health
- Have more fun to balance out the challenging work we are involved with
- Partner with more organizations to increase the scale and speed of our projects

With these goals in mind, we hope to set up the Cleveland Hub for success for this year and many years to come. If you are interested in joining our hub or partnering with us, please reach out at shapers.cleveland@gmail.com.

