

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



THE CENTER FOR
WOODEN
BOATS



A message from the Executive Director

2021 was a year of positive growth for The Center for Wooden Boats. Despite persistent challenges posed by the ongoing pandemic, our community coalesced around one another to keep moving the organization forward. The passion and dedication shown by volunteers, supporters, program patrons, visitors, and staff for CWB's mission powers the organization. We've been taking that energy and investing it into the infrastructure needed to sustainably support the organization – operationally, financially, and physically.

Over the past year, we focused on core programming that could be safely delivered within the scope of pandemic-related precautions. We saw growth across the board, especially in learn-to-sail classes for both youth and adults. While tourism-related activity was down, interest from an increasingly diverse local population is at an all-time high. Between the visibility of Lake Union Park and increasing density in the South Lake Union neighborhood, more and more people are finding CWB and discovering the rich programs we have to offer. In my opinion, operating during the pandemic has helped strengthen bonds across the nonprofit sector, as well as in public-private partnerships with government agencies. We've developed strong partnerships these last few years with organizations focused on youth and underserved populations that are advancing CWB's long history of providing boating access to everyone.

Financially, the organization is on significantly firmer footing than it has been in recent history. After initial pandemic-induced contractions, CWB is growing at a healthy rate again. Specifically, we've worked on developing a cash position to withstand future economic downturns while balancing needed investment for growth. We've especially focused on expanding CWB's staffing, building a stable and cohesive team to carry out the organization's mission in the long run.

A major accomplishment of the last year was formally designating CWB's floating buildings and pavilion as historic landmarks with the City of Seattle. This designation will help preserve the physical structures for future generations while highlighting CWB's story and all the work that has happened within our walls. 2021 was the organization's 45th anniversary, and it is truly remarkable how much the organization has grown from the back pond of the Wagner's floating home to our beautiful South Lake Union campus standing alongside global tech giants. In all that time, the vision that Dick and Colleen developed in their living room has not changed a bit. The community drawn together by CWB's maritime heritage mission certainly carried us through the pandemic and numerous other challenges over the decades. Because of that strength, I am confident as ever in the bright future The Center for Wooden Boats will have over the next 45 years.

Josh Anderson
Executive Director

A message from the President of the Board

2021 was another year of perseverance. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I want to celebrate how proud we are of the staff, volunteers, members and donors for continuing to weather the storm with courage, commitment and creativity.

CWB's founder, Dick Wagner, used to say that the strength of CWB is in its many friends. Those words seem more true today than ever and it is clear that CWB is here to stay. That's a special feeling to me because my father first brought me down to the boathouse in 1984 and just weeks ago I was able to take my newborn son to CWB for the first time. I know that together we will continue to grow stronger in 2022, increase access to programs on the water and maintain our historic fleet for the next generation. In the words of our late Vern Velez, "Happy Sailing!"

Clay Gustaves
President of the Board



Key Facts

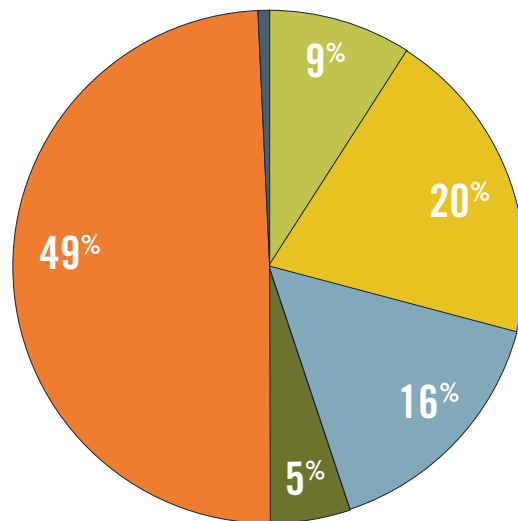
- 1,306 Adults participated in a program
- 526 Youth attended a camp or class
- 2,463 people rowed a Peapod for free
- 2,185 boats were rented between Cama Beach and South Lake Union
- 5,265 Volunteer Shifts worked
- 1,023 people took part in sailing instruction
- 3,060 Toy Boat Building participants at Cama Beach State Park
- 29 scholarships given for youth programs
- 6,463 attended free CWB programs

Financials

Operating Revenue

Approximately \$1.8M

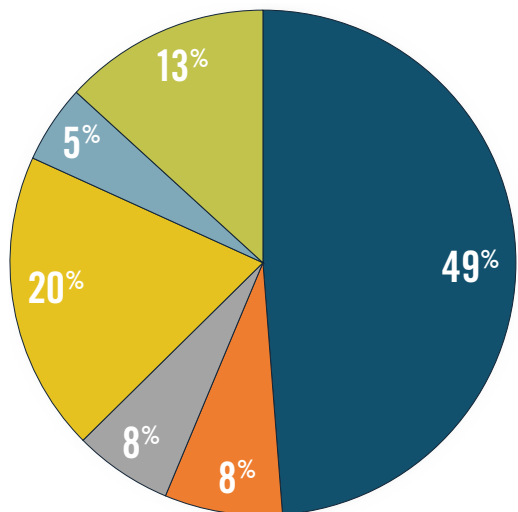
- Grants
- Events
- Programs
- Other
- In Kind
- Contributions



Operating Expense

Approximately \$1.7M

- Payroll
- Professional Services
- Materials & Supplies
- Utilities & Rent
- Banking & Admin
- Depreciation



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