



## After Jacob's Ladder, then what?

To date Climbers have been awarded \$12+ million in scholarships to attend private preparatory high schools, colleges, and universities. A partial list shows where Climbers are currently attending or are graduates of:

- Virginia Commonwealth University
- Duke
- University of Texas
- Mary Washington University
- Christopher Newport University
- Smith College
- University of Richmond
- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- Stanford
- Yale
- Brown
- Dartmouth
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Chicago
- Boston University
- James Madison University
- Old Dominion University
- Georgetown University
- College of William & Mary
- University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill
- University of Virginia
- Virginia Tech
- Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern

## End of Year Charts

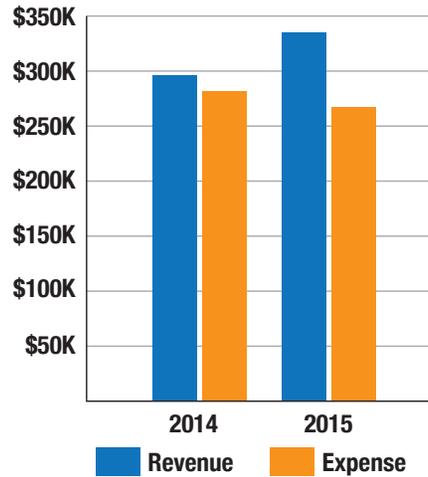
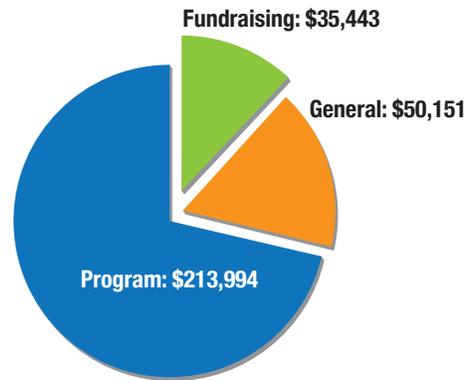


Chart of revenue vs expenses through end of 2015.



Program and other expenses, 2014-2015 reporting period.

Jacob's Ladder  
an enrichment program

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# Rising as We Climb

*Growth Comes with Change*



Artwork by a Climber from the "Stained Glass in Paper" class.  
Summer Enrichment Camp, 2016

## The Jacob's Ladder End of Year Report

## 25th Anniversary Celebration

In April 2016 Jacob's Ladder celebrated 25 years of encouraging growth and change among intellectually gifted, at-risk middle school students! Over 200 people came together at the Jepson Center of the University of Richmond to honor the founding work of Aubrey and Margie Hall. Greetings and shouts of happy recognition filled the air. Many reminisced in smaller friend groups, and before the larger crowd Climbers shared their stories about the enrichment program and the impact it has made on their lives. Calvin Smith, a 1997 Jacob's Ladder graduate, related in his address, "... I have been able to reflect on that time in my life and on my experience with Jacob's Ladder. What I do not want you to take from this message is I or any of my fellow Climbers



*Calvin Smith (left) celebrates the accomplishments of W. Aubrey Hall (seated), founder and Executive Director of Jacob's Ladder*

Photo by Stephen Clatterbuck

needed a savior. We needed a champion, we needed to have our gifts and talents acknowledged and developed."

Currently 325 Climbers have progressed through the program along with their parents, siblings, and extended families. Over the years, upwards of 21,336 contact and mentoring hours were provided during the summer residential enrichment camp alone. This does not include visitations, retreats, and cultural events spent with the program's advocacy arm.



The Jacob's Ladder Summer Residential Enrichment Camp 2016 was held on the campus of Richard Bland College of the College of William & Mary in Petersburg, VA. This move afforded Climbers the opportunity to live, learn, and play on a college campus. Life on dorm was suite-style living, complete with kitchenette and a commons space. Learning and creating took place in up-to-date classrooms, science labs, and a computer library. Large areas of grass, a full-size gymnasium, and access to a swimming pool made playtime engaging. An available full stage with lighting and sound filled out the performing arts to make the summer musical production another successful performance.



Living for four weeks on campus generated an added benefit: it broke down the walls of misinformation and apprehension about attending college held by many Climbers and their families.

## The Numbers for 2016

Sixty students from across Virginia attended the summer enrichment camp this year and are enrolled for the remainder of the advocacy year. Twenty-seven teachers brought expertise in gifted education. Fifteen returning and three new resident advisors mentored Climbers on dorm, at meals, afternoon activities, field trips, and during free time. Eight Climbers graduated the program to enter the 9th grade.

- Costs were \$2,880 for four weeks of residential camp; \$1,325 for year-round advocacy/follow-up, totaling \$4,205 per Climber for the year.
- Since the first graduating Class of 1995 to 2016, 94% of Climbers have entered college with the remaining entering a branch of the military or private business.

## The Impact

The mission of Jacob's Ladder is to aid and encourage at-risk, intellectually gifted middle school children to reach their full potential and become leaders equipped to help others in similar economic and social situations.

Climber stories give voice to the fulfillment of the mission statement: one alumna Climber from the early years relates that among other things, she learned to paddle a canoe at the summer camp. This experience, that she thought would never be possible, brought her much confidence and joy. It also made such an impression on her that it is reaching the next generation. This Climber has made sure her daughter learns how to paddle a canoe.

A 2016 graduate of Jacob's Ladder is attending the Collegiate School in Richmond, VA and is making her own impact. The young lady, new to the people and the culture of this school, decided to run for president of her freshman class. Rising above many naysayers she proceeded to rap a persuasive campaign speech and won the election! Her confidence and poise reflects the impact of Jacob's Ladder at its best - helping Climbers to reach their potential.