



Accelerating  
Philanthropy  
through Women's  
Collective Giving

eNews

March 2020

Women of Philanos!

Okay, we'll hold that thought for a minute, and get to it at the end of this letter.

Our Seattle conference content was rich and chewy and challenging. We are so grateful to those who were instrumental in the planning. We will all be processing the learning for some time, and then, based on what I heard from attendees, we will launch ourselves into action. One woman I passed in a hallway, the leader of a newer affiliate, leaned over to me and said, "I don't know how we're going to do it, but we'll find a way." Based on the content of the breakout she had just attended, she was either referring to diversifying her membership, or creating a more participatory grantmaking model—either way, it's all good. If your affiliate was not able to attend, there will be options to listen to selected content—details to follow. Or connect with those who did attend and learn from them!

I sat with members of my own affiliate, Women's Giving Alliance, in the final "Taking It Home" session. It would have been pretty easy to chalk up some gains on our grantmaking process. Instead, they talked about taking on implicit bias, and how to go about educating the full membership. No surprise from this amazing group of women, but I was still very proud. If you attended, I bet you saw this kind of big thinking too.

We made news at the conference:

- We announced a \$100K operating grant from the Raikes Foundation.
- We announced that the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has made a \$2 million investment in the Co-Design project which we have been involved with from its inception. The Co- Design's Executive Director and the new organization name will be announced soon.
- **We announced our re-rebrand to Philanos.**

Despite months of wrangling, The US Patent & Trademark Office rejected our petition for the Catalist trademark. After gathering input from our most significant partners and several attorneys, we determined that we should have a name and brand we can protect and therefore had to choose a new name.

**By April 1, we will be transitioned on all platforms to reflect our Philanos identity ([www.philanos.org](http://www.philanos.org)) .** Our new name is based on Greek and Latin

roots—the same Greek root as "philanthropy", which as my sisters in the Co-Design team always remind me, means "the love of humans"; and the Latin root "nos" which means "us". And as Sarah Vaill, of Liberty Hill Foundation, the host of our newest affiliate, Los Angeles Giving Circle, likes to say, "Philanthropy without 'us' (the women) isn't democracy—it's hypocrisy."

We are excited about our new name as it reflects who we are and that it includes all of us. We look forward to strengthening the network and the brand with you!



*Paula*

Paula Liang  
Philanos Board Chair  
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## PowerUP! 2020 Wrap Up and Take Aways

Quite simply — Wow!

We want to extend our heartfelt appreciation for your time at PowerUP!

Your feedback and emails have been overwhelmingly positive and powerful, with so many of them starting with one word — "WOW!"

Read the PowerUP! 2020 conference reflections and takeaways, [here](#) along with photos.

We hope you came away committed to action as a leader. Please use the PowerUP! App and the Philanos Member-Member Discussion Forum to continue the connections and conversations. The learning, sharing and mentoring of each other never ends.

If you attended the conference and have not already filled out your [survey](#), please do so now, it's closing soon. Your response will inform our next host in Cincinnati — Impact 100 — as they plan another great conference. Your constructive feedback will only help our conferences become even more powerful and effective.

**Make sure you save the date September 19-21, 2021 in Cincinnati.**

Laura Midgley and Bo Lee  
Co-Chairs, PowerUP! 2020

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## Spotlight Awards

At each conference, we celebrate our affiliates' women-powered philanthropic efforts with Spotlight Awards. These awards highlight grants that demonstrate the multiplier effect of impact investing in community nonprofits. Recipients of the Spotlight Award satisfy one, two or all three of the award [requirements](#) and exemplify grants that have transformed their grantmaking organizations, a nonprofit organization, and/or their community. With this conference's theme of diversity and inclusion, grants with a lens in these areas and/or resulted in increased equity and inclusion were encouraged, but were not required.

### **Two affiliates were selected for the 2020 Spotlight Awards—the Women's Impact Fund of Charlotte, NC and Impact 100 Cincinnati, OH.**

Read [more](#) about the power of women's collective giving and its reverberation within the community and the affiliates too!

With these awards, we give a national voice to examples of high impact, transformational grantmaking.

Thank you to this committee for reviewing the submissions and working through the difficult task of selecting whom to award. For each conference, the Spotlight Awards Selection Committee is comprised of representatives from the host organization, Washington Women's Foundation and Catalist now Philanos board members. Thank you to this year's committee which consisted of board members, Dale Clifford from Women's Giving Alliance in Jacksonville, FL and Virginia Mills from Giving WoMN in Minneapolis, MN, Washington Women's Foundation members Toby Donner and Rosalie Gann, and Washington Women's Foundation staff member Aki Shibuya.

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## Philanos Creates Award Honoring Founder Colleen Willoughby

At the PowerUp! 2020 conference, The Board of Directors announced a new award named for Colleen Willoughby, the founder of the collective giving grantmaking movement.

The Colleen S. Willoughby Award will be presented at future Philanos conferences, to woman in our Network whose experience and affiliation with her collective giving organization has empowered her to become a visionary leader among women in philanthropy. Award winners will be recognized for taking philanthropy and leadership in new directions, challenging the status quo, to inspire more women to find and amplify their voices today, tomorrow and for the foreseeable future. Our vision at Philanos is that throughout the next 25 years, Colleen's visionary leadership continues to inspire new,

groundbreaking women leaders in philanthropy.

"I think all philanthropy is a venture. You can take risks. You can push the needle. You can't expect fast results. Philanthropy is looking for a transformation." Colleen S. Willoughby

[Read](#) about the history of the movement and Colleen Willoughby's efforts.

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### Better Know an Affiliate Impact Oklahoma, OK

2020 is the fifteenth anniversary of Impact Oklahoma, based in Oklahoma City, and for this growing affiliate some changes are in the works! Cassie Wilson, President, brought several members to our PowerUP! Seattle conference to network, engage and educate themselves on latest best practices. She shared that all she had learned in the previous conference in Philadelphia made her aware of the wide range of good ideas shared in our network. Read their [full story](#)

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### Coming to Your Inbox!

#### Your Bundle Administrator is Our Connection!

**Bundle Administrator alert!** Every affiliate has one—she is the connection point between Philanos and your organization. All correspondence from Philanos is directed to her. If your Bundle Administrator has changed, [email us](#), so we can send the following to the right woman.

- **Election ballots by March 24** for the Board of Directors nominations. The results will be shared at the Annual Meeting during the April 14 webinar.
  - **Dues renewal notices on May 1** for the annual affiliate membership dues, due on June 15.
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#### Thank You for Your Nominations!

Thank you to the women who self-nominated or were nominated for a national position. Thank you also to those who nominated them, or encouraged them to apply for the Board of Directors or the Governance committee.

The new board members, elected by all affiliates in late March as well as the new governance committee member will be announced April 14 during the

Annual Meeting which will take place before the April webinar. Their terms begin on July 1, 2020.

### Thinking About Joining a Philanos Committee?

There is no application process for joining the Marketing and Communications, Affiliate Engagement and Expansion (Membership), Education (including webinars and conferences), or Resource Development (including Sponsorship). It just requires your interest and a conversation with that chair. Join us! Share your skills with Philanos and help advance the collective giving movement across the country.

Let us answer the questions you might have-[email us](#).

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### Good Reads

[Tricia Raikes recent editorial](#) in the Seattle Times prior to the PowerUP! 2020 Conference. Tricia Raikes is the co-founder of the Raikes Foundation, member of Washington Women's Foundation and was the opening keynote for our PowerUP! conference.

["Funders, fund sabbaticals. NonProfits have a policy for sabbaticals."](#) Vu Le's Nonprofit AF March Newsletter—Philanos gets a mention with a link to our website.

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### Mark Your Calendar

Voting Ballot arrives March 24

Dues invoice arrives May 1

Dues are due June 15

Upcoming Webinars April 14 and May 12

Annual Meeting April 14