

CELEBRATING THIRTY-FIVE YEARS OF EXCELLENCE



Delaware AeroSpace Education Foundation 2023 Annual Report

PROGRESS TIMELINE



DASEF STRIVES TO OFFER ENGAGING STEAM PROGRAMS

ABOUT DASEF



Founded in 1989, the DASEF (Delaware Aerospace Education Foundation), an independent non-profit educational organization having 501(c)(3) status, functions to raise the visibility and value of K-12 STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education to meet intellectual and workplace needs of the future. DASEF implements successful programs using proven instructional strategies to motivate, engage, educate, and inspire people from diverse backgrounds and communities in Delaware.

The DASEF vision is driven by the belief that “Wisdom Begins with Wonder.” Capitalizing on natural curiosity through activities that include a problem solving component enriches the learning process for participants.

DASEF has established itself as an innovative and progressive organization with the vision and resources required to link contemporary Earth and space themes with traditional school subjects to increase interest in science and technology.



Wisdom Begins with Wonder

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Friends of DASEF,

The 2023 Academy at UD was a success. We graduated over 175 cadets from Delaware and the surrounding region with innovative applied learning challenges to increase their knowledge and competency in STEM and Life Skills. The staff, as they have every summer, enthusiastically provided current and enriching educational experiences.

Since 1990, over 8,500 cadets have graduated from our quality programs. Since 1994, DASEF has awarded over \$294,332 in Academy Scholarships to 1,480 Cadets! Additionally, we have reached over 678,000 children, teachers, and the public through other DASEF programs, field trips at the Outpost, events, and outreach activities.

Field Trip program curricula address Delaware's STEM Standards. Information and experiences are provided to give students, teachers, and the public opportunities for increased understanding of specific Earth and Space science topics and standards through participation in science experiments and design challenges. Our Accredited Staff, Board and Council are creating programs and events that will sustain DASEF for years to come!

With continued funding and support from the State of Delaware Legislature, Kent County Levy Court, and private donations, work continues at the Innovation Technology Exploration Center (ITEC). Our 40-acre site is centrally located and easily accessible to ALL in Delaware and the MidAtlantic region. We strive to provide a vibrant, safe, and positive learning environment conducive to success. ITEC will expand DASEF's imprint and impact implementing a community model for formal and informal education as a focal point for school programming, professional development, and public outreach. In addition to engendering STEM experiences, we value the importance of social infrastructure. DASEF is aspiring to assist various communities develop "a sense of belonging" by providing schools, the public, government and funders opportunities that provide a positive, all-inclusive community-centered approach. DASEF endeavors to partner with our state to build a more sustainable and equitable future for all our citizens.

Financial management of DASEF embraces disciplined, conservative financial stewardship. All construction has been funded without debt and completed on budget. Solicitation of grants and other efforts seeking capital funding for construction continue and remain necessary to enable continued progress toward the completion of ITEC.

DASEF is appreciative of the collaboration and program support of many partners that include, Delaware's Institutions of Higher Education, Delaware NASA Space Grant, DuPont, Agilent, IBM, 3M, SSS Clutch, Northrup Grumman, Delaware Electric Cooperative, Chesapeake Utilities, State of Delaware Libraries, Wilmington Flower Market, AAUW and many other non-profit and corporate sponsors. Through the efforts of our Board members, Advisory Council, our staff and many volunteers and corporate sponsors, 2023 has proven to be a stellar year! We look forward to expanding our programs and ask for your continued support as we return to serving the region in 2024. **At DASEF, we ALL believe Wisdom Begins with Wonder!**

***We are very proud to be celebrating 35th year of serving children and their families!!
The Earth and its Place in the Universe!!!***

Very sincerely,

Stephanie M. G. Wright
Stephanie M.G. Wright, Ed. D. • President & CEO

Charlie Michels
Charlie T. Michels • Chairman, Board of Directors



Group photo of Volunteers assisting with DASEF's Family Day!



Dave McGrath does a Mar's briefing for the 2023 Mar's Cadets.



Staff Member Mary Koster Hugs the Earth!

2022 - 2023 COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Educating and Inspiring

Following are comprehensive financial statements excerpted from DASEF’s Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023 (January 1 - December 31) audit performed by the accounting firm of BBD, LLP, Certified Public Accountants, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Complete audited statements are available from DASEF upon request.

Balance Sheets DECEMBER 31, 2022 and 2023

<u>Assets</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Cash and Restricted Cash	\$2,384,606	\$2,272,770
Investments	85,552	49,135
Property and Equipment (Net)	<u>13,879,469</u>	<u>15,946,332</u>
Total Assets	\$16,349,627	\$18,268,237
<u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u>		
Accounts Payable	\$187,061	\$272,556
Net Assets	<u>16,162,566</u>	<u>17,995,681</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$16,349,627	\$18,268,237



Since 1994, DASEF has awarded \$288,747 in Aerospace Academy Scholarships to 1,480 cadets!

STATEMENT OF REVENUE/EXPENSES - For the Years Ending DECEMBER 31, 2022 and 2023

<u>Revenues</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Contributions and Grants	\$2,252,016	\$2,073,872
Tuition and Programs	80,789	136,276
Other Revenue	<u>(9,705)</u>	<u>58,950</u>
Total Revenues	\$2,323,100	\$2,269,098
<u>Expenses</u>		
Program Expenses	\$317,705	\$371,014
General and Administrative Expenses	33,074	63,669
Fundraising	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>
Total Expenses	\$351,779	\$351,779
Increase in Net Assets	\$1,971,321	\$1,833,115

<p>MISSION:</p> <p>To inspire and educate the people of the Delaware Valley in learning about Earth’s environment, Earth and space science, technology, engineering and mathematics through the use of academies, presentations, symposiums, professional development, events, and activities and the resources of DASEF’s Environmental Outpost.</p>	<p>CORE VALUES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrity and compassion • Responsible decision making • Environmental stewardship • Innovation, exploration, and discovery
	<p>VISION:</p> <p>To create an exceptional learning environment that inspires children and their families with a sense of appreciation for Earth and its place in the universe.</p>

ITEC'S CURRENT CONSTRUCTION AT A GLANCE

ITEC Building Progress



1. DASEF Innovation Technology Exploration Center (ITEC)



2. Lobby Entrance



3. Second Floor View of the Lobby and Display Area



4. Second Floor Display Area and View of Lower Display Area and Theater



5. Left Side of Geothermal Room



6. Right Side of Geothermal Room



7. Polished Cement Walkways on all Hallways and Upper and Lower Display Areas



8. Solar Meters Located Off the Future Lounge and Sleeping Quarters on the 3rd Floor

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SPECIAL THANKS ARE EXTENDED TO THE FOLLOWING:

DASEF Honorary Board and Board of Directors
DASEF Advisory Council
The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
The Honorable Thomas R. Carper
The Honorable Christopher A. Coons
The Honorable John Carney
Kent County Commissioners and Levy Court
3M
Aerject Rocketdyne
Adams/Bloom Memorial Scholarship Fund
Advantech
Agilent Technologies
American Association of University Women, Newark
American Association of University Women, Western Sussex
American Association of University Women, Wilmington
Bancroft Construction Company
Bank of America
BBD, LLP
Blue Earl Brewing Company
Boeing Company, Boeing Advanced Rotorcraft Systems
Bruce L. Hudson, Attorney at Law
Center for Environmental Monitoring and Analysis (CEMA)
Central Economic Development Council
Charles Parks Studios
Chichester Foundation/Lydia Foundation
Christiana Care Life Net
Delaware Air National Guard
Delaware Division of Libraries
Delaware Electric Cooperative of Greenwood
Delaware Grant-in-Aid
Delaware NASA Space Grant Consortium
Delaware Air National Guard
Delaware Solid Waste Authority
Delaware State Police
Delmarva Power
Delaware State University
Division of Delaware Parks and Recreation

DuPont Company
Goddard Space Flight Center
IBM
ILC Dover, Inc.
Jean and Bruce Kraeuter
Joseph T. Farina, AIA
Kent County Chamber of Commerce
Kent County Tourism
Master Interiors
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NASA Summer of Innovation Mini-Grant Program
New Castle Insurance, LTD
Northrop Grumman
Painted Stave Distilling
Elmer and Betsy Read
Ronald McDonald House Charities of the
Philadelphia Region, Inc.
RPJ Waste Services
Seaford Lions Club
Sigma Data Systems, Inc.
Spitz, Inc.
SSS Clutch
State of Delaware Bond Committee
State of Delaware General Assembly
Sutton Bus Company
Town of Smyrna
University of Delaware
- Composite Center
- Engineering Department
- Physics Department
- Graphics
USDA Rural Development
Stephanie and Brian Wright
Wilmington Flower Market Foundation
Yeager Wright Brothers' Scholarship Fund

.....AND ALL THE MANY OTHER VOLUNTEERS WHO MADE ALL OF THIS POSSIBLE.



Jan Waldauer, DuPont Coordinator, Dr. Stephanie Wright, DASEF CEO, and the 3 DuPont Panel Presenter at DASEF's STEAM Symposium.



Destination Orbit cadets visit the Delaware Air National Guard for briefings and a base tour.

DASEF'S YEAR IN REVIEW: OUR STAFF MAKES THE DIFFERENCE

DASEF: Explore, Discover, and Learn.....

Programs reach public, parochial, private and home schools, youth groups, Girls and Boys Club, teachers, libraries, 4 H, pre-school, scouts and regional families. Approximately 36% of the school children come from "Low Income families" (U.S. DOE-defined). DASEF's educational participants encompass the full range of socioeconomic backgrounds.

DASEF strives to be all inclusive, serving all children at risk and those with disabilities are served. It is our goal to measurably contribute to enriching children, teachers and the public with educational interactive STEM experiences. We value and respect all children and their families and teachers and strive to instill a love of learning in each of them.

We have served over 643,000 students, teachers, and families in the Delaware Region. With the pandemic behind us, DASEF is moving forward!



Students from Odyssey Charter School learn about plants and animals.



Girl scout learn about the phases of the moon at an overnight at the Outpost.



Students from Forest Oak School learn about Motion and Design.



Orbit cadets drop and test their egg payloads in their constructed carriers.



Students from Mispillian Elementary designing and construction bridges.



Fernweh By The Coast Consortium children learn about gears.



Students at the STEM Symposium in March learn coding.



DASEF
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A family designs and builds a roller coaster during Exploration Roller Coaster.

This report is made possible through the contribution of Mary Pat Hrybyk-Keith and NASA Space Grant.

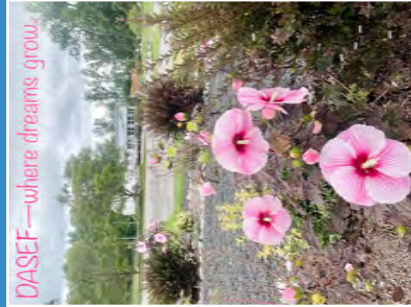


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DASEF strives to improve the quality of life through its advocacy of education, the environment, and strengthening the workforce.



ITEC is Coming in 2023!!!



The Outpost in Autumn.



The DASEF Team!

*Architect Joe Farina, President
& CEO, Dr. Stephanie Wright,
Board Chair, Charlie Michels, Site
Manager John Steller, and Kent
County Liaison Tom Pribanic*