

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

A photograph of two women at an event. The woman in the foreground is wearing a blue top and has her mouth wide open in a joyful expression, holding a microphone. The woman behind her is wearing a white and red top and has her arm raised in a celebratory gesture. The background is dark with some white text, including a large 'C'.

LAYING
THE
FOUNDATION
FOR
IMPACT



As 2019 began, we at Civic Hall had our sights on three goals.

First, to dive into the design and engineering planning needed to turn our vision for Civic Hall @ Union Square into working construction and financing plans, while the physical construction of our new home on 14th Street got underway. Second, to focus internally on defining our values and policies centering Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA), to ensure that the cultural foundation of Civic Hall would match our aspirations for its role as a community hub. And third, to continue to do our best to engage our current community of civic-minded entrepreneurs and organizations with great events, useful training workshops, helpful research and timely forums.

By those measures, 2019 was a very productive year. With the help of key partners like MASS Design, Turett Collaborative Architects, DalyGonzalez, DBI Projects, BJH Consultants and Senior Planner Sarah Holloway, we spent hundreds of hours in deep engagement with local community representatives. By year's end, we produced a detailed design for the Digital Learning Center, conference and events center, and collaborative community space envisioned for the six floors we would be occupying at Union Square. We were also far along in fleshing the details for its actual construction, pricing materials and fine-tuning budgets. Working in tandem with CCS, an industry-leading fundraising consultancy, we engaged dozens of potential donors and stakeholders, determining the contours of the capital campaign plan needed to achieve that vision.

At the same time, with the help of Promise54, a diversity and inclusion consultancy, and our Diversity Fellow Eboné Bishop, we worked closely with Civic Hall's Diversity, Equity Inclusion, and Accessibility Committee on a year-long process of internal reflection, benchmarking and self-study. This culminated in two day-long retreats where we collaboratively developed and finalized a set of value statements and policies aimed at strengthening how Civic Hall works to make its values real. While we know this is an ongoing journey that can never be fully completed, we are gratified that by the end of the year, we had collectively made measurable improvements on a number of key aspects of DEIA, as reflected in assessments and feedback from our team.

Last and not least, 2019 was another solid year of community engagement at Civic Hall. Thanks to our redesigned membership program and sliding-scale fee structure, our community space was filled with the daily buzz of dozens of regular members and teams working together.

More than 250 people from nonprofit community organizations and public agencies benefited from training courses offered by our Digital Learning Center, learning everything from human-centered design to ethical data collection practices and cyber-security. With the support of the Cognizant U.S. Foundation, we also partnered with Per Scholas, FedCap, Code to Work, and CUNY to build New York's capacity to train the un- and under-employed to be job ready in the 21st century economy, and produced a detailed report on the city's workforce development ecosystem, spotlighting key gaps and barriers that need to be addressed in order to make high-paying tech jobs available to all. Our Forums @ Civic Hall series curated four major events with more than 600 leaders from NYC's tech, advocacy, media, academic and philanthropic communities in attendance, while more than 15,000 people attended the wide array of member-driven and community-generated events and workshops that happen weekly at Civic Hall. Our research team doubled the size of the Civic Tech Field Guide to more than 3,800 entries, and saw usage of the Guide rise to 15,000-30,000 unique visitors per month. We also produced new cutting-edge studies on how the field of civic tech has evolved and diversified over the last 25 years, and began offering a "Civic Tech 101" workshop to introduce more people to the field's history.

We believe that the work that Civic Hall and its community did in 2019 was not only valuable in its own right, but stands us in good stead as the events of 2020 shake much of our society. Our mission—to build the power and capacity of civic-minded people and organizations—is relevant to whatever circumstances we may face.

Much about the future may be uncertain, but while there are some forces beyond our control, we remain committed to the work and we will carry on.



Andrew Rasiej
Founder &
CEO



Micah Sifry
Founder &
President



Jessica Quinn
Executive
Director



Civic Hall Envisions

a society that is more fair, just,
and democratic.

Our Mission

is to build the power & capacity
of civic-minded people and
organizations.

We are a nonprofit center for learning, collaboration, and technology for the public good. At Civic Hall, entrepreneurs, nonprofit leaders, government staff, community organizers, philanthropists, software developers, data scientists and media makers come together to share knowledge and solve pressing public interest problems.

Whether working with our members, partners, or with each other, we are committed to embodying our values in everything we do.

Our Values

- Diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in all aspects of our work.
- Transparency, integrity, and accountability in our processes and decision-making; we value conscientiousness and taking responsibility for the full range of impact of our behavior and work.
- Curiosity, continual learning, and a growth mindset.
- Being impact-driven and data-informed.
- Collaboration and “building with, not for.”
- The wellbeing and sustainability of our team, community, and environment.
- Honest, productive, and thoughtful discourse.

We believe that diversity of experiences and identities is key to building a better society. Civic Hall honors all gender identities, races, ethnicities, sexualities, body types, economic backgrounds, abilities, immigration statuses, religious beliefs, overall ways of human being, and how these identities intersect.

Civic Hall aims to reflect the broad makeup of NYC and recognizes the historical imbalance of power and unequal starting points of some groups. In doing so, we are working to create a place that fosters a sense of belonging and provides options and pathways that enable all members of our community to fully engage and benefit from all that Civic Hall has to offer.

We are committed to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA) in the following ways:

Diversity



We strive to reflect the broad makeup of New York City’s population, at all levels of our organization, with the goal of being a model for the tech sector and acting as a counterforce to the industry’s past patterns of exclusion.

Equity



Taking into account the historically unequal starting points of some groups, we strive to create access and remove barriers to opportunity for our team and community through clear and transparent processes and systems.

Inclusion



We strive to create an organization and space that enables a sense of belonging for diverse groups of people who share our vision and abide by our code of conduct.

Accessibility



Recognizing that some members of our community face significant barriers to entry into spaces and opportunities, Civic Hall strives to provide options and pathways that enable all members of our community to fully engage in and benefit from Civic Hall’s offerings.

We recognize that achieving our goals for DEIA at Civic Hall is an ongoing process, which includes responding to community-driven ideas and suggestions on how we can better live up to and embody our commitment.



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For our members, 2019 started with great news. Leading up to the new year, we listened to members' reflections on membership affordability and value, and similarly, we reflected on our own Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA) values as an organization. As a result, we significantly revamped our membership offerings and we're proud to share some of the changes we made as well as some new members we invited into our community.

Individual Memberships

Network
\$20
/month

Part-Time
\$100
/month

Full-Time
\$250
/month

- We simplified our membership structure by reducing the number of plans offered while maintaining the same values members had come to expect.
- For a few of our plans we significantly reduced the cost, thereby making membership more accessible.

Organizational Memberships

We created a new model for organizational memberships to be more inclusive of nonprofit, volunteer organizations and small social enterprises. We welcomed some amazing organizations to our community. They include:

Pivot for Humanity

Professionalizing the social technology industry

InSight Public Affairs

A public affairs firm that represents non-profits, coalitions, and public interest causes

Hacks/Hackers

Grassroots journalism focusing on issues at the intersection of journalism and technology

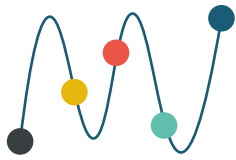
The Participatory Budgeting Project

Creating and supporting participatory budgeting processes that make public budgets more equitable and effective

Narrative Initiative

Explores opportunities where narrative can align with movements to support narrative change practitioners, researchers, and trainers.

Sliding Scale Membership



A new sliding scale membership—made available to individual and organizational members—was introduced last year as a way to make Civic Hall’s community and resources more accessible.

A member may pay for membership at a rate affordable to them, which includes contributing more to offset the cost of membership for others.

Nearly 30% of our Full-Time or Part-Time members now take advantage of our sliding scale pricing, enabling them to be a part of our community where it may not have been possible before.

Highlights

As a collaborative workspace, it is not unusual to experience members entering and leaving our community. Though we bid farewell in 2019 to a number of members due to their changing team size and needs, organizational relocation or pivot, or funding constraints, we also saw a great influx of new members into our space, creating a fresh buzz, renewed energy, and building new relationships at Civic Hall.

Danny Rogers,
The Global Disinformation Index



Danny is a physicist, technologist, and the Co-founder and CTO of the Global Disinformation Index, an international nonprofit organization that aims to disrupt, defund and down-rank online disinformation.

James proudly served our country in the U.S. Army and the Obama administration working with First Lady Michelle Obama’s Joining Forces initiative. He brings all his experience and knowledge to his current position as Deputy Director of NYC Veterans Alliance, a member-driven, grassroots advocacy organization promoting veterans and military families as civic leaders in NYC.



James Fitzgerald,
NYC Veteran’s Alliance

Rev. Paul Brandeis Raushenbush,
Interfaith Youth Core



Paul is a writer, editor, and religious activist who currently serves as Senior Advisor for Public Affairs and Innovation at the Interfaith Youth Core, a national nonprofit working to bridge differences and find common values across different faiths, worldviews, and traditions.

Shana is a writer, filmmaker and Director of Operations at Analyst Institute, an organization that collaborates with progressive and civic engagement organizations and campaigns around the country to measure and increase the impact of their programs.



Shana Holmes,
Analyst Institute

Kristina Klein,
United Nations General Assembly



Kristina Klein is a Senior Advisor to the President of the 74th Session of the UN General Assembly and a Board Member of the Open Knowledge Foundation Germany. She believes that bringing the worlds of tech and politics together can create opportunities for collaborations that reinforces equality and non-discrimination in technology.

Despite the increasingly central role technology plays in society, many nonprofits and government agencies are not able to optimize their internal technology capacities. To rectify this, our Digital Learning Center (DLC) piloted a series of new professional development opportunities aimed at upskilling the digital and data literacy of employees at these two sectors.

DLC Pilots included workshops on:

- Artificial Intelligence 101
- Civic Tech 101: Civic Tech History & Ecosystem
- Civic Tech 201: Design Principles of Civic Tech
- Data-Driven Marketing 101 & 102
- Data Visualization
- Digital Fundraising for Nonprofits
- Ethical Data Collection 101 & 102
- Human-Centered Design
- Understanding and Improving Cybersecurity

Civic Hall also built partnerships with New York City’s most successful workforce development providers, including Per Scholas, FedCap, Code to Work, and CUNY, to strengthen their capacity to train the un- and under-employed to be job ready in the 21st century economy.

Pilot Technology Training Program with Per Scholas



Civic Hall, Per Scholas, and Cognizant U.S. Foundation launched a new partnership and pilot technology training program at Civic Hall in June 2019. The pilot program trains individuals in technology skills aimed to help them secure one of the NYC’s 161,000 high-tech jobs. The pilot program is intended as a pathway towards broader collaboration and programming.



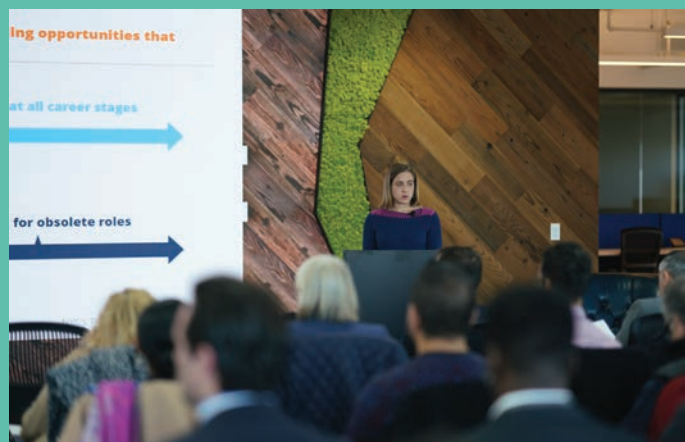


Tech Opportunity Gap Report

In November 2019, Civic Hall and Cognizant U.S. Foundation released a report on NYC's tech opportunity gap. The report, titled *NYC's Tech Opportunity Gap: Strengthening Pathways and Collaboration Within High-Tech Workforce Development*, was developed in partnership with HR&A Advisors and released at a press event on November 6. The event featured Cognizant U.S. Foundation Board member Allen Shaheen; Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer; and President and CEO of the NYC Economic Development Corporation James Patchett.

NYC's Tech Opportunity Gap was the result of a nearly year-long study of the local technology workforce ecosystem and included:

1. A detailed analysis of national and local labor market and economic data;
2. Interviews with more than 90 employers, training providers, city agencies, and nonprofits.



Results of the study revealed the rapid growth of jobs that require high-tech skills, and how the NYC workforce ecosystem can better prepare New Yorkers to gain those skills, thereby enabling them to realize the economic opportunities associated with technology jobs. The study also highlighted that while the tech sector is robust, NYC's current tech workforce is far less diverse than the city's workforce overall: Black and Latinx New Yorkers make up only 18% of the NYC high-tech workforce, while women comprise only 24%. The report found critical disconnects in information, data collection, and ecosystem collaboration that must be addressed to ensure all New Yorkers can benefit from today's and future technology opportunities.

These findings are being used to help inform the planning of Civic Hall's DLC and will, simultaneously, support the City and local training providers as they shift to best meet the needs of the ever-evolving labor market.



Civic Hall hosted almost 300 events in 2019,

all of which facilitated community engagement, highlighted diverse representation, and/or shared resources to increase cross-sector collaboration and transparency around evolving technology.

We donated event and conference room space to more than 80 members and mission-aligned organizations and nonprofits. Civic Hall-sponsored events made up 73% of all experiences hosted at Civic Hall throughout 2019.

We practiced our commitment to accessibility by live-streaming many of our events and broadening our audience to include members, the civically engaged public, and partner organizations. In our final quarter, we hosted many events that successfully engaged younger audiences, held by partner organizations including AmplifyHer, Impact NYC, and Be Heard on the Third.

Event Highlights



Women’s March Global + Equality Now: Workshop on Ending Gender-Based Violence

Women’s March Global (WMC) unites women worldwide to lead in their local mission to advance Women’s Human Rights. On International Women’s Day, WMC hosted a mini-course at Civic Hall on The Law and Sexual Violence: Identifying Failings in the Law and Mobilising for Change. Attendees learned about sexual violence laws and practices in Eurasia from Antonia Kirkland, Equality Now’s Global Lead on Legal Equality and Access to Justice.

IBM thinkLeaders Podcast: How Can We Build AI for Everyone?

IBM thinkLeaders recorded a live podcast at Civic Hall with two of their AI experts, Pamela Pavliscak, Emotional AI researcher and futurist, and Mitu Khandaker, game designer, CEO and co-founder of Glow Up Games about trust, bias, ethics and transparency in artificial intelligence.

Blockchain Week NYC 2019: Black in Blockchain and Blockchain Crypto Summit

In celebration of Blockchain Week NYC, Black in Blockchain NYC hosted an event on May 13th, which featured a moderated panel of four blockchain experts, as well as a fireside chat with Bitmex CEO Arthur Hayes. In addition, we held the Blockchain Crypto Summit, where subject matter experts spoke about their respective entry points into blockchain careers, the potential impact of this emerging industry, and the potential for positive impact as they relate to the black community.



All Eyes on Us: Youth Perspectives on Social Media, Privacy, & Surveillance

The Youth Justice Board, a program of the Center for Court Innovation, researched what happens when young people's digital activities result in real-life consequences with law enforcement, the justice system, or their schools. Their findings resulted in proposed policy recommendations to improve justice and school disciplinary consequences for online activities and to ensure youth and their families understand their rights and responsibilities. Attendees at this event learned about this work in great detail.

Congolese Diaspora Impact Summit Conference

The Congolese Diaspora Impact Summit was created to identify practical steps the Congolese diaspora can take to maximize its human and financial capital, and make an impact in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The summit brought together professionals of Congolese descent and individuals interested in the DRC to network and learn from leaders who are making an impact in the country in their respective fields.

Workplace Mental Health: What Tech Employers Can Do

In November, Civic Hall partnered with ThriveNYC to offer workplace mental health strategies for civic tech workers. As part of our Lunch & Learn series, this event provided attendees with insights into burnout in the tech industry and offered strategies employers can use to increase workplace-based mental health support.

Civic Discourse in the Age of Digital Media & Its Impact on Young Civic Leaders

Impact NYC is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to understanding today's most pressing social and political issues, and promoting viable actions for positive change. In this event, attendees explored how media and a polarized political climate has impacted the outlook of young people in their chosen sources of information, their willingness to engage in debate with those who have different views than their own, and their approaches to communicating with people in power.

We look forward to continuing to strengthen our existing partnerships, and expanding into new ones to curate even more diverse, relevant, and educational events that mirror the diversity and dynamism of the Civic Hall community.

One of the key ways Civic Hall works to grow and strengthen the field of civic tech is through our Knowledge Hub and its three interlocking activities: the Civic Tech Field Guide, our global repository of civic tech projects, tools and practices; Civicist, our site for news and analysis of civic tech developments; and Forums @ Civic Hall, a new series of curated events on the intersection of tech and democracy that we launched in 2019.

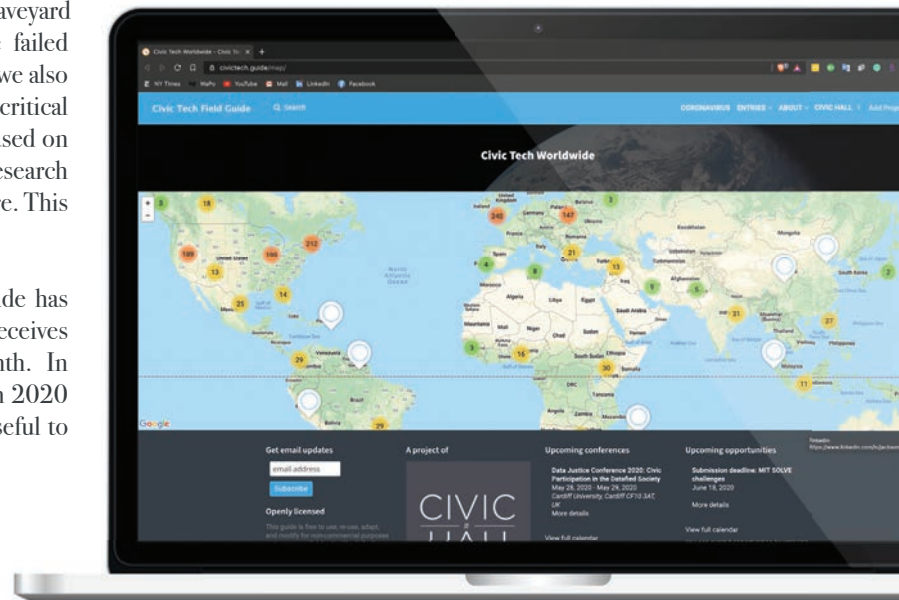
Civic Tech Field Guide

In 2019, we made a big push to add a huge amount of content to the Field Guide in the first half of the year, and then shifted toward gleaning more knowledge from the data. We added more than 1,300 new entities and, with the help of research assistant Aliya Bhatia and Sruti Modekurty, we added the start dates of 2,100 organizations.

We used that data, sorted by functional categories, to build the Civic Tech Timeline, an interactive tool showing the expansion and evolution of the field from 1994-2019, which we launched at the 2019 TICTeC conference in Paris. In the second half of the year, the Field Guide research team continued to recruit page curators, adding 10 country curators, two city curators and five top curators. We also revamped the main category pages (Engagement Tech, Govtech, Advocacy Tech, Civic Data, Media Tech, and High-tech Civic Tech) with more descriptive tables of content.

While we expanded the Guide's Civic Tech Graveyard to cover more than 170 projects that have failed despite having substantial funding and usage, we also laid the groundwork for a new study of the critical factors explaining longevity in civic tech, focused on the roughly 80 organizations in our timeline research who have been in existence for ten years or more. This study will be finished in 2020.

We are proud that the Civic Tech Field Guide has seen a steady increase in usage, which now receives upwards of 30,000 unique visitors a month. In addition, we hope to launch a new initiative in 2020 to make the Field Guide dramatically more useful to community organizations and nonprofits.



Civicist

Civicist produced a series of articles on how different types of civic tech further social justice goals, in addition to producing First Post, our twice-a-week newsletter on current developments in civic tech. These included an in-depth profile of JustFix-.nyc's work on housing justice; the civic stack of tools used by Hong Kong democracy protesters; a close look at Color of Change's shift from textathons to building face-to-face circles; a long reflective essay on Code for America at 10 years; a comparison of the social networks growing around #civictech, #publicinteresttech and #responsibletech; a look at how community health organizers in the Bronx are using AI to help vulnerable women through their pregnancies; and a thought-piece about how machine learning could open up the two-party political process, a critical review of France's "le grand débat" effort at mass online engagement in the wake of the Yellow Vests protest movement. All of these reports illustrated the ongoing opportunities and challenges at the cutting edge of using tech for the public good.

Forums @ Civic Hall

Forums @ Civic Hall kicked off in February 2019. This is a new curated event and content series about timely subjects at the intersection of technology and democracy with the aim of building thematic communities of practice at Civic Hall. Each Forum brings together community partners to share knowledge through large-format public events, as well as small group convenings for multi-disciplinary stakeholders to collaborate.



Forum partners have included Facebook, Glitch, Revision Path Podcast, THE CITY, the Participatory Budgeting Project, Narrative Initiative, and Personal Democracy Forum, each of whom offer expertise, financial support, and/or marketing. Topics discussed ranged from tech development in New York City after the Amazon HQ2 deal, narrative change in the digital age, narrative change technologies, digital platform regulation, technology's role in participatory democracy, the future of the Internet, and speculative fiction for technology development. In 2019, Forums @ Civic Hall hosted seven public events, with six private convenings, working groups, and brainstorming sessions, with over 750 people attending from myriad sectors, including nonprofit, government, for-profit tech, academia, foundations, and journalism.

“

The discussion Civic Hall organized around the Amazon HQ2 was the most thoughtful and informative of the many such events known to me. The expert perspectives were passionately presented, the conversation thought-provoking, and the speakers demonstrated the power of women's voices in public policy debates today.”

- Professor John Mollenkopf, City University of New York

We hear regularly from long-time civic tech practitioners as well as new entrants to the field, telling us how they use our analytical research to inform their own decisions about what to build and how. We hope to continue to grow our Knowledge Hub in 2020, when we will roll out a major research study on the prospects of artificial intelligence and other emerging technologies being used productively by public interest organizations.

In 2019, thanks in part to generous funding from Luminate, Civic Hall was able to set aside significant resources to deeply and thoughtfully invest in practices of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA). Our two main areas of work related to:

1. Landing on mission-centered definitions and understandings of DEIA concepts.
2. Operationalizing these definitions and frameworks within important organization-wide processes, systems, and tools.



Diversity



Equity



Inclusion



Accessibility

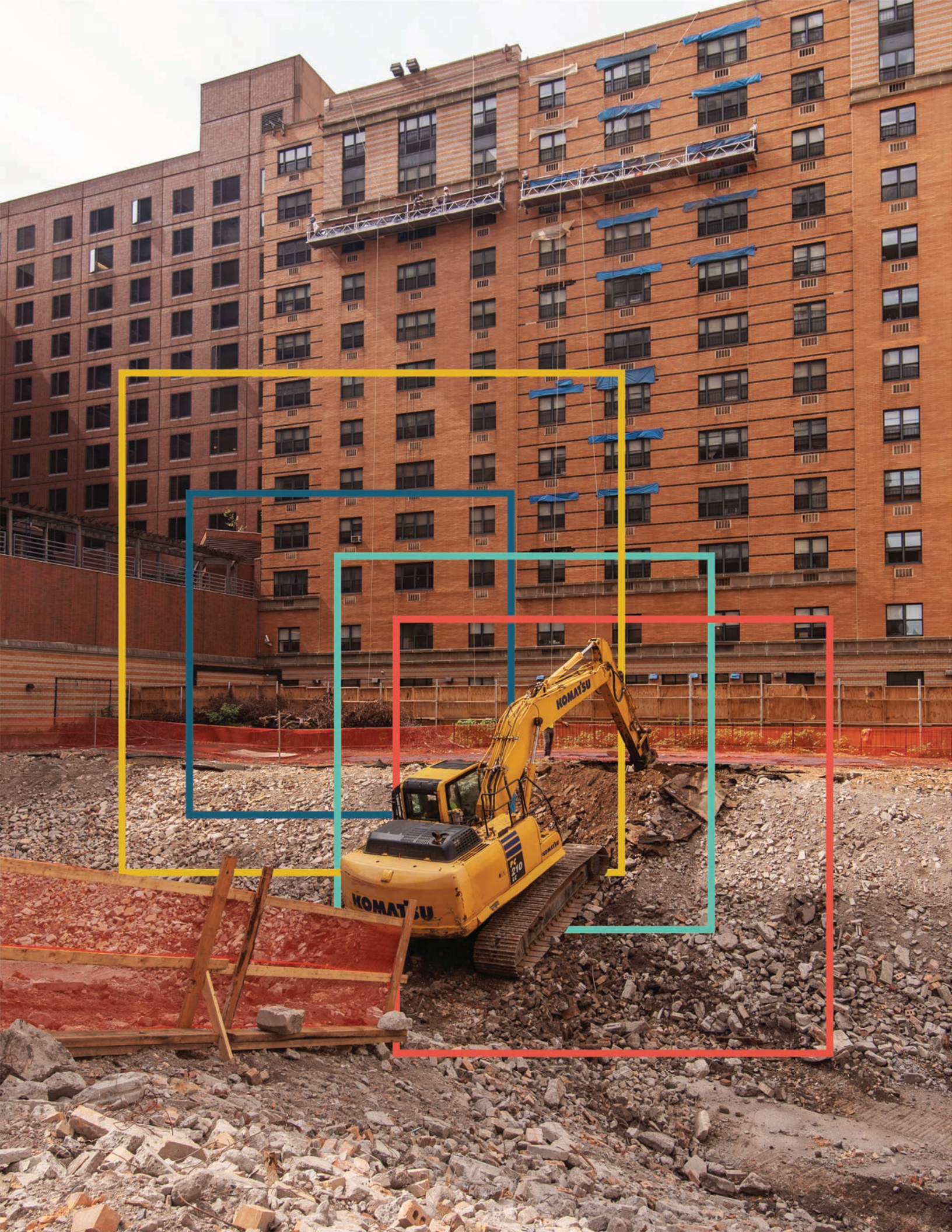
Through a DEIA Accelerator Program administered by Promise54, Civic Hall participated in an 8-month engagement which brought together 132 leaders from 43 organizations to understand their current state around DEIA. We learned that an absence of concrete and operational definitions can lead to derailment of DEIA efforts, so we developed a plan to ensure that everyone in the organization shared a collective understanding of important concepts. This led to a two-day staff-wide training on identifying our own definitions as well as industry-standard definitions of DEIA. Later in the year, we participated in training on how to set the conditions for collective and individual psychological safety, and how to start identifying and removing white dominant cultural norms from our internal practices.

In addition to setting a conceptual framework for DEIA, Civic Hall also hired a DEIA Fellow to focus on building out standardized, equitable, and inclusive internal processes, especially those related to people operations. This led to the standardization of hiring and onboarding processes, a new and improved employee handbook, a clear professional development policy, and a provisional performance management and evaluation system.

The DEIA Committee, made up of staff at all levels of the organization, remained an active agent in stewarding this work. The group met twice a month to offer high-level project management support on DEIA related initiatives. It saw the work we accomplished last year as an important stepping stone toward expanded engagement with our member community.

We are proud of the DEIA work we accomplished in 2019, and we know the journey has only begun. We are collectively committed to operationalizing and deepening our embodiment of an all-encompassing DEIA framework at Civic Hall.







Perhaps one of the biggest highlights of 2019 was the groundbreaking ceremony for Civic Hall's planned future home at Union Square. On a sunny day in early August, we joined with community leaders and local elected officials to plant our shovels in the ground and mark the kick-off of construction, a civic ritual of birth that is always infectious with its sense of optimism and possibility.

While that was the most tangible development of the year for Civic Hall @ Union Square, much critical work was accomplished behind the scenes all year long. With the help of the Mass Design Group, we kicked off a human-centered design process aiming to ensure that Union Square would be designed in close collaboration with the local community. A series of design and brainstorming sessions, as well as interviews with stakeholders, took place over the summer.

Along with MASS Design, our team worked intensively with Turett Collaborative Architects, DalyGonzalez, DBI Projects, BJH Consultants and Senior Planner Sarah Holloway, producing a detailed design for the digital learning center, conference and events center, and collaborative community space envisioned for the six floors of Civic Hall @ Union Square. We also expanded on many of the details for its actual construction, sourcing and pricing materials and carefully calibrating budgets. At the same time, we partnered with CCS, a top fundraising consultancy, engaging dozens of potential donors and stakeholders, determining the contours of the capital campaign plan needed to achieve that vision.

As the year concluded, we were finalizing the architectural designs and finishing detailed discussions with RAL, the building developer and landlord, and NYC's Economic Development Corporation, about our lease to the space. The foundation for the building had been laid, the core and shell of the first floors started to rise from the ground, and the design and planning work we had done was falling into place. Things were on their way.

The idea is to create a fully integrated new community center at the crossroads of New York City's technology district that will allow all New Yorkers regardless of background to develop digital skills and thrive in the 21st century economy of New York and beyond.

**- Andrew Rasiej
Civic Hall Founder & CEO**

Assets	2019	2018
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	\$2,547,893	\$142,480
Unconditional promises to give	\$520,359	\$1,000,000
Accounts receivable	\$26,035	\$5,815
Prepaid expenses	\$55,049	\$20,157
Total current assets	\$3,149,336	\$1,168,452
OTHER ASSETS		
Intangible assets purchased from Civic Hall, LLC - net	\$654,232	\$774,660
Goodwill - net	\$144,321	\$161,903
Total Assets	\$3,947,889	\$2,105,015
Liabilities & Net Assets		
Total Liabilities	\$1,495,671	\$1,490,875
NET ASSETS		
Without donor restrictions	\$525,886	\$1,385,860
With donor restrictions	\$1,926,332	\$2,000,000
Total net assets	\$2,452,218	\$614,140
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$3,947,889	\$2,105,015

Revenue & Support	2019	2018
Grants and contributions from individuals, foundations, and corporations	\$6,664,700	\$3,325,696
Government grants	-	\$243,592
Membership fees	\$251,431	\$167,930
In-kind donations	\$64,912	\$113,027
Other revenue	\$124,792	\$11,695
Total Revenue	\$7,105,835	\$3,861,939

Expenses	2019	2018
Program services	\$3,666,628	\$2,650,138
Management and general	\$1,092,624	\$991,474
Development	\$508,505	\$303,481
Total Expenses	\$5,267,757	\$3,945,093

Change in net assets	\$1,838,078	\$83,153
Net assets—beginning of year	\$614,140	\$697,293
Net assets (deficit) —end of year	\$2,452,218	\$614,140

Civic Hall’s organizational identity was a central focus of 2019. We tested and refined crucial elements of who we are as a capacity-building nonprofit and as a collaborative community. We could not have done this and we could not be who we are without the talents, passions, and insights from every member of our team. Thank you for being an integral part of our team.

Funders

Anonymous Donor



Jim Gilliam, 1977-2018

Our friend Jim Gilliam, the founder of NationBuilder, passed away in 2018. A year later, we were surprised and honored to discover that he had left a substantial bequest to Civic Hall in his will. Jim made the most of his years on Earth. With his 2011 biographical talk at Personal Democracy Forum, titled, “The Internet is My Religion,” he shared his deep belief in the value of building community. “God is what happens when humanity is connected,” he declared. We were thrilled when he made a special trip to New York to speak, with many other dignitaries, at Civic Hall’s opening night in 2015; he has been part of our DNA from the beginning. We plan to name a conference room at Civic Hall in his honor in recognition of this bequest.

Partners

501TechNYC
AmplifyHer
Be Heard on the Third
Brunchworks
Building A New America Podcast
City University of New York (CUNY)
Creative Mornings
DataKind
Defy Ventures
Education Alliance
Fedcap
Funny As Tech Podcast
Glitch
HR&A Advisors
Impact NYC
Lower East Side Employment Network (LESEN)
Mayor's Office of Data Analytics
Mayor's Office of the CTO
Narrative Initiative
New York City Employment and Training Coalition (NYCETC)
Nonprofit Technology Network (NTEN)
NYC Veteran's Alliance
Participatory Budgeting Project
Per Scholas
Revision Path Podcast
Seachange Collective
ShapeUp NYC
Team Human Podcast
TechFest Club
THE CITY
Workforce Professionals Training Institute (WPTI)

To our members, we learned a lot from you in 2019. We are a strong, dynamic, and collaborative community because of you. A heartfelt thank you from all of us at Civic Hall. We hope to continue building with you.

