



YOUTH
JOURNALISM
INTERNATIONAL

2023 Annual Report



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



For a small educational non-profit, Youth Journalism International makes a big impact.

I'm excited to present the organization's first formal Annual Report, which offers an overview of YJI's programs, achievements from the year, its history, introduces its Board of Directors and presents details about its finances, including a complete copy of its 990 tax form.



At the center of YJI are its dedicated and hardworking students, who come to YJI from countries all over the globe, eager to learn about journalism and get their work published. They range in age from 12 to 24 and represent a rich tapestry of nationalities, cultures, races, religions, socio-economic groups, gender identities and sexualities.

Together, they learn reporting and writing. From their home communities, they cover issues that matter, tackling tough topics like terrorism and war, climate change, sexual assault, school violence and more. They work individually and in groups, and along the way, develop deep and lasting friendships with peers they never would have met without YJI.

They learn about the world and each other, the importance of democracy and a free press. Many of them call YJI a family, describing their experience in the organization as "life changing."

With constant demand from young people hoping to participate - two potential students apply each day - YJI is dedicated to expanding its reach and providing this invaluable experience to as many as possible. But as a small organization with limited resources, YJI can currently accept only a small percentage of these talented applicants.

With committed team members, YJI is well-positioned to embrace this challenge and continue its mission of empowering young voices through journalism. YJI recognizes the need to expand its capacity, increase its audience, and strengthen its organizational structure to sustain growth for decades to come.

Thank you for your interest in Youth Journalism International and its incredible students. I'm always happy to discuss any aspect of YJI with its supporters. I welcome emails, phone calls and messages.

Warmly,

Jackie Majerus, Executive Director and Master Teaching Editor
jmajerus@youthjournalism.org
+1 860 655 8188 (direct line or via WhatsApp)



Who We Are

Youth Journalism International (YJI) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating young people around the globe about journalism, fostering cross-cultural understanding and promoting a free youth press. Founded in 1994, YJI provides a platform for students aged 12-22 to share their stories, gain journalistic skills, and engage with peers worldwide. With guidance from professional editors, students report on diverse topics, bridging cultural, religious, and national divides. YJI is committed to empowering youth through truthful, ethical journalism, helping them become thoughtful world citizens and advocates of a free press.

YJI MISSION STATEMENT

Youth Journalism International connects student writers, artists, and photographers with peers around the globe, teaches journalism, fosters cross-cultural understanding, and promotes and defends a free youth press.



YJI Values Statement

Youth Journalism International treats every participant with respect in a safe, non-discriminatory, and diverse environment that nurtures lifelong friendships and community while it teaches, without charging participation fees to students, the skills and values that make good journalists and global leaders, including truth, accuracy, fairness, and courage.



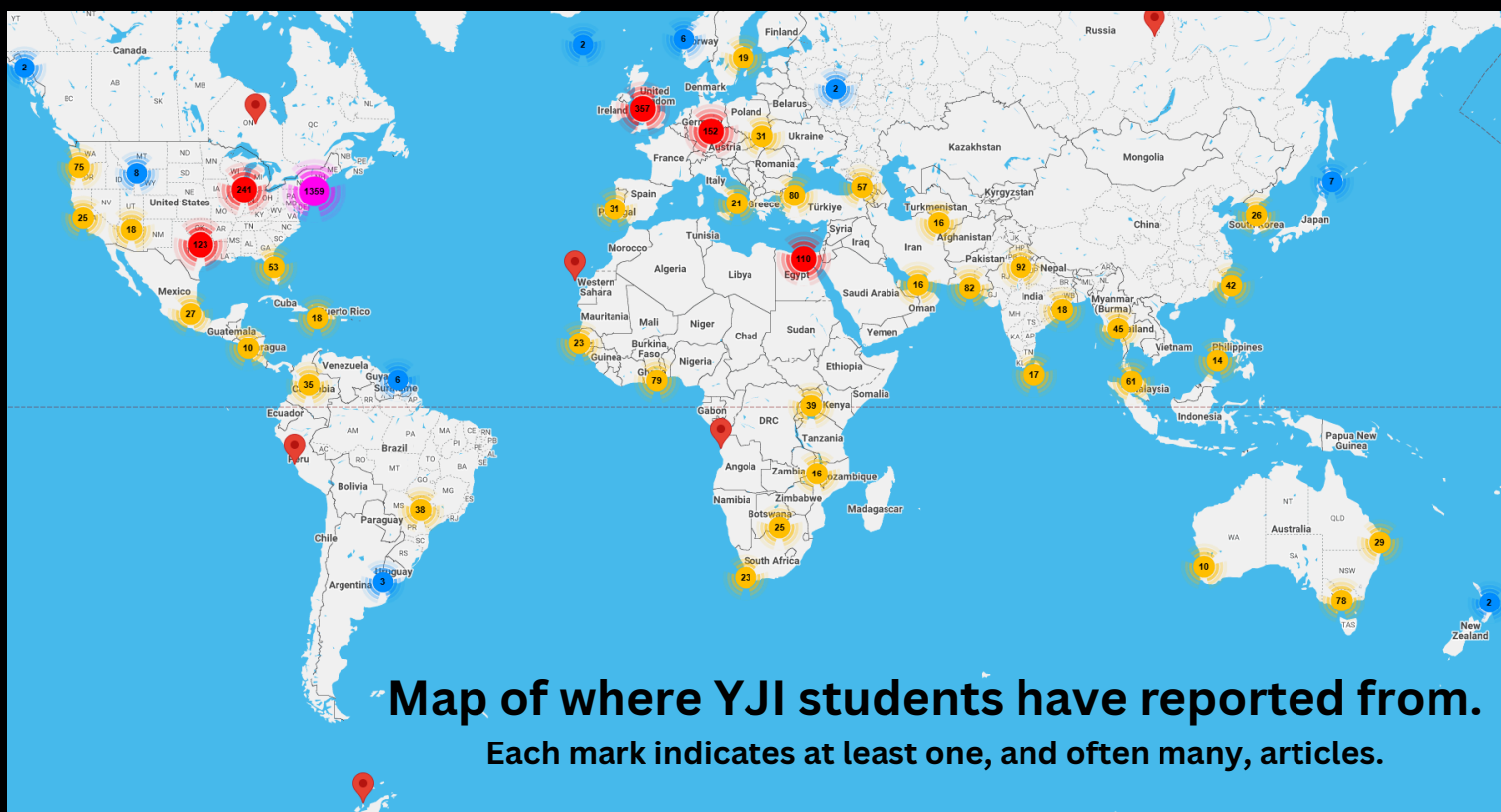
A Year's Overview

WHERE WE ARE NOW



At the core of YJI's programming is its commitment to ethical journalism and nurturing global citizenship. YJI allows students to work with experienced editors, who provide mentorship and guidance in journalistic practices. The curriculum emphasizes truth, accuracy, fairness, and courage, supporting students to report with integrity and responsibility. With a focus on real-world issues, students engage in media literacy and are given the tools to express their voices on a global stage. The organization operates without charging participation fees, ensuring

accessibility to young people regardless of their financial background. YJI students come from all over the world, representing a wide range of racial, ethnic, cultural, and religious identities, as well as differing abilities, gender identities, and sexual orientations. This diversity enriches the YJI community, making it a vibrant space for cross-cultural dialogue and understanding. Many students are first-generation immigrants or have lived in multiple countries, giving them a unique global perspective that fuels their curiosity and passion for journalism.



PROGRAMS



YJI Together

The global pandemic brought to the forefront the necessity of finding ways to strengthen ties between students that occur most easily and naturally when they are together, not just online in their homes around the globe.

YJI holds an annual global conference and as many regional events as possible so students can get to know each other in person and to learn directly from instructors. To the degree possible, YJI helps low-income students attend. Our hope is that face-to-face meetings, which inherently make cross-cultural understanding better, will encourage students to seek more education and to use their growing skills to help build a better world.



YJI Global Classroom

YJI provides, for free, daily one-on-one and group instruction in journalism, ethics, media literacy and the nature of news. It holds regular meetings online where a diverse group of students, hailing from scores of countries, discuss stories and projects while learning from instructors and each other about journalism. In the process, students also develop cross-cultural understanding as friendships between them grow. Their work is published on YJI's website and elsewhere, empowering the young writers and artists.



YJI Contest

YJI holds an annual journalism contest that recognizes some of the best work by students 19 and under writing in English anywhere in the world. Among the major prizes are ones for Youth Journalist of the Year, Journalism Educator of the Year and awards for best commentary, best news story, for exhibiting courage in journalism and the First Amendment Award. There are also about two dozen other categories for young writers, artists and photographers. A panel of nearly 30 judges evaluate the hundreds of entries each year. A ceremony celebrating the winners takes place the first Saturday in May that is closest to World Press Freedom Day.

The contest not only provides recognition but also encourages ethical, courageous and impactful journalism by teens. Through this competition, YJI fosters a sense of achievement while promoting journalistic values among the next generation of global leaders.

FRANK KEEGAN AWARD FOR NEWS
VANESSA MORENO
MCHENRY HIGH SCHOOL
MCHENRY, ILLINOIS, U.S.



Also of note:

In the coming year, YJI is adding a fourth program called *Showcasing Student Work*, which will highlight student writing, photography and art and have it seen by more people worldwide .

Last Year's

ACHIEVEMENTS

First Amendment Museum Partners with YJI to Introduce New Journalism Award

Youth Journalism International and the First Amendment Museum partnered to introduce a new First Amendment Award as part of YJI's annual Excellence in Journalism contest. This award recognizes student journalists, educators, or groups that use their First Amendment rights to bring positive change. The winner receives a crystal trophy, and finalists get custom certificates. Hundreds of entries were reviewed by over two dozen judges from around the world.



Three Women. Three Countries. One Goal: Freedom, YJI Forum in Washington DC

YJI students and alums spoke powerfully at a forum at the National Union Building in Washington, D.C. The event featured inspiring talks from YJI students Tanya Tkachenko (Ukraine), Frida Zeinali (Iran), and Arooj Khalid (Pakistan), who shared their powerful journeys of courage and freedom, navigating various challenges and sharing the role YJI played in their lives.

**Three women. Three countries.
One goal: Freedom.**

"Silence Will Not Save Us"



Tanya Tkachenko
Ukraine



Arooj Khalid
Pakistan



Frida Zeinali
Iran

Hear these young journalists tell their stories.

March 16 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
National Union Building
918 F Street NW, Washington
No charge to attend.

*A public forum
presented by*



MORE 2023 SUCCESSES

YJI Students Engage in the International Symposium for Online Journalism

Youth Journalism International (YJI) students from Brazil, the UK, The Gambia, and the U.S. participated in this conference organized by the University of Texas, held both online and in person. YJI students attended virtually, discussed the panels in their Global Classroom Zoom sessions, and wrote insightful news stories summarizing the speakers' key points and discussions.



YJI Student speaks at 'Justice for Women'

Senior Reporter Lyat Melese was a featured panelist at the University of Maine School of Law's annual "Justice for Women" events. Executive Director Jackie Majerus also represented the organization at the events and took part in a panel discussion about journalism. Lyat is at right with Brazilian journalist Patricia Campos Mello.



YJI Executive Director Jackie Majerus Wins Global Media Literacy Award

Jackie Majerus, Executive Director of YJI, was awarded a gold prize by the French nonprofit Global Youth & News Media for her exceptional work in advancing news and media literacy education globally, recognizing her impact as a leading educator.



YJI Leaders Inspire at National High School Journalism Convention in Boston

At the National High School Journalism Convention in Boston, Arooj Khalid, a YJI alum and board member from Pakistan, was a featured speaker for the convention contest, offering insights to student journalists. In addition, YJI's Executive Director Jackie Majerus served on the local organizing committee and participated in the "Break with a Pro" event, where she met with students from the U.S. and abroad to discuss life as a reporter.



Youth Journalism International's Global Conferences bring students together

Yearning for connection is part of being human. While YJI students are all part of a supportive global network of fellow students and involved alumni, most of their interaction is online. Zoom meetings help students strike up friendships because they can see each other's faces and hear each other's voices.

Nothing quite compares, though, to the magic of meeting in person. Though YJI had held regional gatherings for small groups of students and alumni, the organization took a giant leap forward with its first Global Conference, held in Istanbul in 2022.

A group of 22 gathered in this ancient, vibrant city, traveling to Turkey from Pakistan, Ukraine, Iran, Wales, Cyprus, Mexico, Colombia, Sweden, Scotland, and the U.S.A. They visited cultural and historic sites and produced thoughtful stories and commentary.

That initial group bonded like Super Glue and no one could imagine not doing it again.

In 2023, YJI held its second Global Conference in Prague, Czechia brought together another 22 people, this time from Columbia, the U.S.A., Czechia, Hong Kong, England, the Netherlands, Wales, Mexico, Turkey, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Cyprus and Scotland.



YJI student Lyat Melese of Virginia said, "I got to make new friends from all over the world, experience a new country and culture and learn more about journalism. This was truly the best experience I could have ever asked for. I had so much fun. I enjoyed every second of the conference, made friends that I feel like I have known for a lifetime and learned so much."

Conference leader and YJI alum Arooj Khalid of Pakistan said, "YJI provided me a home away from home, helped me develop my voice and stand up for my beliefs, and made me meet so many people from around the world. I don't think people realize what YJI has done. Never in the history of the world have I seen anything like this."

Coming from Hong Kong, YJI student Joanne Yau said, "It is genuinely so amazing to meet people passionate about journalism from all over the world and of such diverse backgrounds. The friendships and valuable experiences we've gained from this trip would not have been possible without YJI."

Usraat Fahmidah, a YJI student from Bangladesh said, "This conference exposed me to diverse perspectives and valuable

(Continued on the next page)



(Continued from the previous page)

knowledge. It bolstered my confidence, ignited inspiration and cultivated connections with others from different backgrounds. I enjoyed sharing about my culture and country with others.”

“These conferences are so much more than what they appear on the surface,” explained Holly Hostettler-Davies, a YJI student from Wales. “The most valuable part of the experience for me was the cultural exchange. It is incredible and a huge privilege to become more culturally and globally aware. The YJI conferences have shaped me into a better global citizen. My role as a group leader helped me learn to better communicate and feel confident in having responsibility. That was a big step for me!”

American YJI student Norah Springborn said, “I have never met a group so inclusive and accepting of students when first meeting. Wow. I’m forever grateful to have found a second family. This conference reminded me how much of my identity is built from YJI. Words cannot express my gratitude.”

The 2024 Global Conference took place in Mexico City, but that’s a story for next year’s report.



**YJI consistently gets
high ratings on
Candid.org and
GreatNonprofits.org**



Candid.

GuideStar



**Youth Journalism
International, Inc.**

On the front lines for youth and truth since 1994.

aka Youth Journalism International | Auburn, ME | www.youthjournalism.org

From the President

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS



I'm happy to report that Youth Journalism International had its best year yet from a financial perspective, thanks in large part to a \$168,000 grant from the Scripps Family Impact Fund.

We ended the year with \$326,498 in our reserves, with \$200,000 of it held in a prudent reserve account meant to cover our operations for at least 18 months in a crisis and to cover any emergency needs or one-time opportunities.

Taken together, that's more than five times our current annual spending rate. We do have plans, though, to move ahead with several initiatives that will increase yearly expenditures so we can accomplish more. Fortunately, our budgetary situation is such that these endeavors are not risky. Years of keeping close tabs on spending are paying off.

We projected in 2023 that we would need to spend \$55,775 to cover anticipated expenses. Our actual expenses? \$55,460. It's pretty hard to get more accurate than that!

In addition to the one-time Scripps Family Impact Fund grant, we also received \$10,000 from a supportive family foundation based in Massachusetts to help pay for the Prague conference. Two other institutions, the International Women's Club of New England and the Sanders Foundation in the nation's capital, each gave YJI \$3,000 to help cover our costs. We are so grateful that our work is getting some recognition.

We continue to rely heavily on a large base of individual donors, many of whom have given for years. They provide the bulk of the approximately \$56,000 that YJI spends annually, with contest fees and interest filling out most of the rest. It is safe to rely on these sources for future years, with the hope they will continue to grow. But it is comforting to know that if

we ever have a bad fundraising year, we can cope without hardship.

Most of our spending comes from our two major programs: YJI Together and YJI Global Classroom. The former is our growing effort to bring students together in-person, particularly at summertime global conferences. In 2023, we held one in Prague that proved successful in every way. We also brought a handful of students together in Washington, DC for a 'Silence Will Not Save Us' forum with three YJI women students talking about their experiences in their native lands of Ukraine, Pakistan and Iran. Other, smaller initiatives also took place. The tab for all of them, including covering the travel costs of many students, came to \$32,828. Our Global Classroom program, which is the bread and butter of YJI's educational efforts cost \$17,251 in 2023 to pay for a range of items, including mailing t-shirts and press passes to students around the world, an increasingly costly venture as postal fees keep going up. But it's worth every penny.

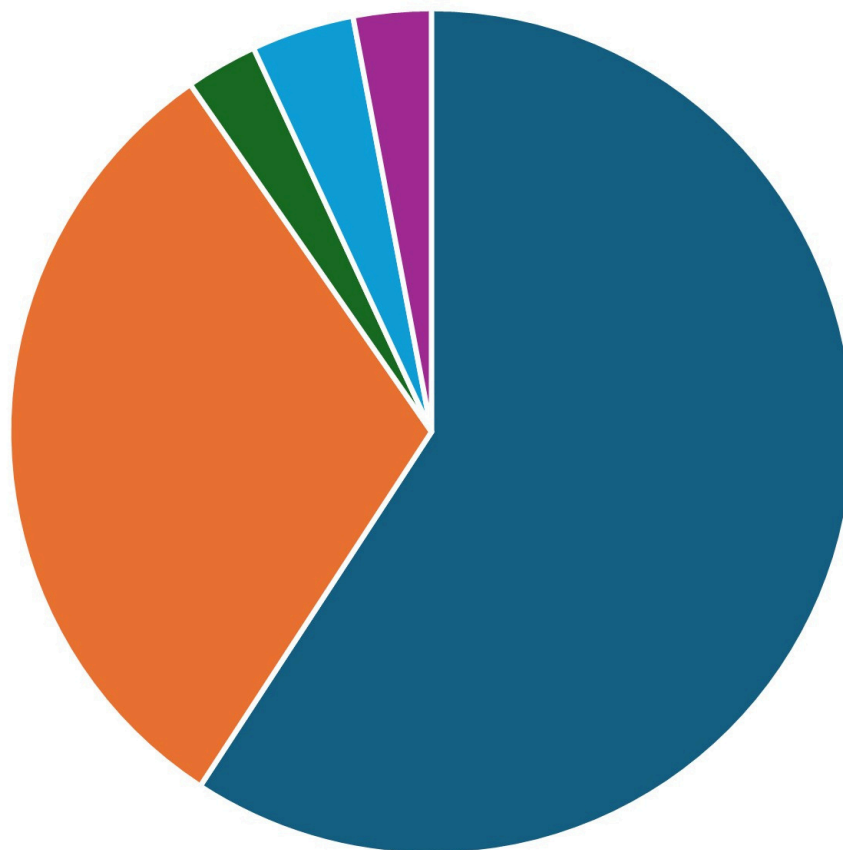
YJI spent \$1,525 on its 2023 contest, mostly for postage but also to buy the trophies and awards sent to winning entries worldwide. The contest, held annually since 2010, makes about \$3 for every \$1 spent. Our fundraising costs, mostly postage, came to \$1,652 and our office expenses ran to \$2,184.

Looking ahead, we intend to continue to budget conservatively, as we always have. But we are also eyeing long-term plans to make YJI more sustainable and able to work with more students in more places. With our long track record of financial stability and our growing base of support, we have faith our plans will come to fruition.

Steve Collins

Board President

YJI SPENDING DURING 2023



■ YJI Together ■ YJI Global Classroom ■ YJI Contest ■ YJI office expenses ■ YJI fundraising

2023 FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

REVENUE FOR 2023 - \$237,397

INCLUDES \$168,000 GRANT FROM SCRIPPS FAMILY IMPACT FUND



Scripps Family Impact Fund

CASH ON HAND AT YEAR'S END - \$326,498

CASH ON HAND INCLUDES \$200,000 PRUDENT RESERVE

Youth Journalism International's Board of Directors

Linus Unah, Nigeria

Linus Unah is a journalist, producer, and documentary filmmaker with a passion for crafting powerful stories that foster a deep appreciation for wildlife and the environment.

His work has been featured on several media platforms, including Mongabay, *Al Jazeera*, *The Guardian*, National Public Radio, the *Los Angeles Times* and Devex, among others.

Linus currently works with Wild Africa where he leads public awareness campaigns aimed at reducing demand for illegal wildlife products and promoting local support for conservation efforts.

Linus is a graduate of the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism where he co-directed the short documentary, "Split Jury," for his master's thesis.



Cassie Lloyd Perrin, UK

Cassie Lloyd Perrin is a Youth Journalism International alum and Cambridge University graduate who lives in London. She leads industry change strategy, research, advocacy and outreach for Level 20, a primarily European non-profit focused on diversity and inclusion in financial services – specifically gender equity in private equity and venture capital firms.

Before Level 20, she started her career in government and startups HR (via archaeology, theatre, and lifeguarding), before spending a decade in finance working on the people-related issues arising in mergers and acquisitions.

She is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD), and active with the Industrial Law Society, of which she was previously a Trustee, and the National Governance Association, with whom she has qualified in board governance. She enjoys hiking, reading and theater, and is learning Hungarian.



Mike Soltys, U.S.A.

Mike Soltys was hired in the summer of 1980 as a college intern by ESPN's founder, Bill Rasmussen, and served 43 years in ESPN's corporate communications department, the last 20 as a vice president. Today his work for ESPN sees him guiding a documentary about Rasmussen and the company's earliest years.

Soltys was responsible for strategic planning for publicity and issue management for ESPN, ESPN2, ESPN on ABC, ESPN's college networks, ESPNEWS, ESPN Radio and its news and social operations. He was instrumental in building ESPNPR's content creation including its social media fees, corporate blog ESPNFrontRow and media website ESPNPressRoom. Soltys served on ESPN's Editorial Board for 20 years, longer than anyone. Soltys lives in Connecticut, where he is heavily involved in his community and church, in addition to his longtime service to Youth Journalism International.



(Continued on next page)

Arooj Khalid, Pakistan

Arooj Khalid is a climate and girls' education activist from Lahore, Pakistan. She is a 2024 graduate of the Harvard Graduate School of Education as a Fulbright Scholar in Education Policy. She is an Acumen and Malala Fund Girl Activist Fellow. Previously she has worked to design programs and learning experiences related to climate change, digital skills, and teacher training. She has also advocated for research backed policies with Malala Fund and advised them as an activist.

She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Education and Sociology from Forman Christian College (FCCU). She completed the American Semester Program at Michigan State University through the UGRAD program where she served as a cultural ambassador of Pakistan to the U.S. Department of State.



Steve Collins, U.S.A., Board President

A journalist since 1987, Steve Collins has worked for daily newspapers in New York, Connecticut and Maine. He has served as the State House reporter for the Sun Journal in Lewiston, Maine since 2016. He was the Maine Press Association's Journalist of the Year in 2022. Among his awards are the New England Newspaper & Press Association's Bob Wallack Community Journalism Award and its history-writing prize in 2022 and 2023, the Society of Professional Journalists' 2016 Ethics in Journalism Award, the I.F. Stone Whistle-Blower Award in 2015 and scores of state awards in Maine, Connecticut and New York.

Collins is a founder and board president of Youth Journalism International, a charity that teaches students around the globe about news writing, media literacy and issues of the day.

Born in Massachusetts, he grew up in a military family that took him to Norway, Ohio and Virginia, where he earned a degree in history from the University of Virginia.



Regina López, México

Regina López is a communications major in Iberoamericana University in Mexico City. She is specializing in film and journalism. She has been part of Youth Journalism International for four years as a reporter and photographer and is a Senior Correspondent.

She has also collaborated with other publications in México such as Ibero 90.9 and *el Heraldo*. Regina has also been part of film and documentary projects.

In the future she hopes to be a journalist, a film and documentary creative director and producer. She lives in Mexico City, a place especially close to her heart.



(Continued on next page)

Shaina Zurlin, U.S.A.

Shaina Zurlin is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Doctor of Clinical Psychology who has dedicated her career to community behavioral health and wellness for the Medicaid population through collaborative leadership, dynamic problem-solving and trauma-informed approaches. She is also an alumna of YJI. A Lean Six Sigma Green Belt and graduate of the California Health Care Foundation Health Care Leadership Program, Shaina has held leadership positions with the California Department of Health Care Services, the Central California Alliance for Health and Health RIGHT 360.

A trusted educator and academic, Shaina has served as a research partner with the University of California San Francisco and brought vibrant, engaging presentations to a variety of venues including San Diego State University.

In addition to her seat on the YJI Board of Directors, Shaina serves on the California Health Care Foundation Alumni Board, and is a member of the State of California Health and Human Services Agency Behavioral Health Task Force.

**Jackie Majerus, U.S.A.**

As YJI's Executive Director and Master Teaching Editor, Jackie works with student reporters, artists and photographers. She guides young journalists as they tackle serious societal issues such as teen suicide, school violence, politics, war and terrorism through gripping newswriting, gut-wrenching personal commentary and artwork. She also works with students writing about popular culture, entertainment and everyday teenage life.

Before dedicating her professional work completely to YJI in 2011, Jackie enjoyed a successful career as a newspaper reporter at daily papers in Connecticut, New York and Illinois. She also worked as a freelance reporter for *The National Law Journal* and United Press International.

In 2023, Jackie received a gold laureate Global Youth & News Media Prize for news/media literacy, from the French organization Global Youth and News Media. In 2024, the Journalism Education Association named Jackie one of four recipients of its "Friend of Scholastic Journalism" honor.

Jackie, who is a co-founder of YJI, is a member of the Journalism Educators Association and a graduate of The University of Iowa. She grew up in Iowa and Wisconsin, and also lived in Illinois, New York and Connecticut before moving to Auburn, Maine.

**Sreehitha Gandluri, U.S.A.**

Sreehitha (Sarah) Gandluri is a first-year Honors Carolina Scholar at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, majoring in Political Science and Global Studies.

She has been a student reporter of Youth Journalism International since 2020, working on several collaborative projects, including the *No one is safe* global investigation into the trauma of sexual assault. Through her work, she's risen to the rank of Senior Correspondent.

Sarah, who is from Maryland, U.S., has taken part in YJI global conferences in Istanbul and Mexico City. She has published work in local and national newspapers in the United States, including *USA Today* and the *Washington Blade*.

Looking back: A history of YJI

Youth Journalism International began in 1994 as a small, informal group in Bristol, Connecticut whose work was printed in the local daily newspaper. From the start, students and their volunteer editors embraced the idea their work should take teens seriously. One of their first projects focused on teen pregnancy, a hot issue at the time.

By 1996, when students finished an award-winning series on teen suicide, its reporting was available online as well, one of the first teen-written newspapers online and the only one from that era that still exists.

It's just kept growing.



It's just kept growing. YJI encourages youngsters between 12 and 22 to develop friendships with one another and to acquire the skills that will help them flourish wherever they are and whatever they wind up doing. Our alumni include doctors, lawyers, social workers, journalists and many, many more leaders of a rising generation that promises a better world. The stories, pictures and videos that students produce under the guidance of professional editors and educators have reached well over a million people of all ages, from every nation.

Rich in diversity, YJI focuses on journalism, but also builds bridges across cultures and helps students grow into thoughtful world citizens. Working with editors one-on-one and in groups, online and in person, students learn about writing, press responsibility and ethics. Reporting from their hometowns, students tackle tough topics such as terrorism, school violence and sexual harassment in addition to writing about music, movies, politics, sports and more.

The key to a better world lies with global understanding and truthful, effective



What Youth Journalism International does, in a nutshell, is provide a free education for young people in any country who are interested in journalism, current events and getting to know their peers across the globe. With students in scores of countries, the New England-based nonprofit provides a powerful platform for young people to tell their stories — to hand them a megaphone to speak to the world. It is empowering. It is uplifting. And it is building bridges that span the world, crossing cultural, religious and national divides to create a far-flung family that includes students and alumni reaching all the way back to the organization's roots.

Over the years, YJI has had more than 700 students, who have written stories from every conti-

History, continued

communication. YJI's students, telling important stories from their own neighborhoods and nations, represent every major religion and many cultures. By bringing these dedicated and idealistic young people together and giving their voices a powerful platform, YJI paves the way toward a brighter future for all. We think of YJI as a sort of peace factory.

Filled with the youthful idealism constantly flooding in from newcomers who want their chance to be heard, YJI makes it possible for students to have their voices added to the global conversation and to be taken seriously. Every year, scores of them jump at the opportunity after finding us online. We don't search them out. They come to us – in numbers that far exceed our ability to accept them all.

When YJI's founders, longtime journalists Jackie Majerus and Steve Collins, started teaching young people, they never imagined what it would become, that it would open doors not just across town but across seas. Now, with the help of generous donors who see its value, YJI has become one of the most respected jour-

nalism organizations anywhere. Its students' work has appeared in a National Geographic textbook, on PBS Newshour Extra, on public radio and in a number of



newspapers. Its annual contest, started in 2010, was the first to take entries from students in every country and has sent trophies to students on five continents. It is constantly growing and, we trust, always improving.

After holding some regional events from Texas to Toronto, YJI looked further afield starting in 2022 when it held its first global conference in Istanbul.



We brought together two dozen students from around the world for eight glorious days that cemented friendships and fostered the family feeling that YJI seeks.

A second global conference in 2023, in Prague, followed the same template to build connections with a healthy dose of idealism and journalism education to create memories that will last a lifetime. Four of YJI's nine board members are alumni who got their start as students years ago. Two others are current students who make sure decisions stay focused on serving the young people who treasure what YJI offers. Many other former students continue to serve as contest judges, advisors, donors and mentors whose bonds with one another and YJI remain strong as the years go by.

None of this would be possible without the aid of generous donors. The organization operates on a shoestring. It always has. We have been committed from the start to devote everything we have to our mission. It is our calling but it only succeeds if those who share our vision are ready to lend a hand financially or in whatever way they can. We are proud that we have never charged a student to participate.

That's one reason we have students in poor Third World villages who have the drive, ambition and talent to take a step onto the world stage. This is one place where it doesn't matter whether a student comes from great wealth or dire poverty. With the help of many supporters, YJI shatters the divisions that threaten our collective future.

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

OMB No. 1545-0047

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)

2023

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public.

Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.Open to Public
Inspection

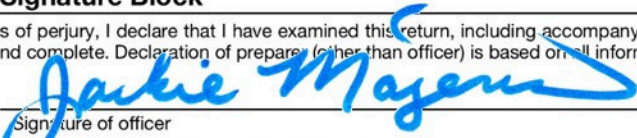
A For the 2023 calendar year, or tax year beginning , 2023, and ending , 20		
B Check if applicable: <input type="checkbox"/> Address change <input type="checkbox"/> Name change <input type="checkbox"/> Initial return <input type="checkbox"/> Final return/terminated <input type="checkbox"/> Amended return <input type="checkbox"/> Application pending	C Name of organization Youth Journalism International Doing business as Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite 30 Taylor St. City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code Auburn, ME 04210 F Name and address of principal officer: Jackie Majerus/ 30 Taylor St./ Auburn ME 04210	D Employer identification number 26-1522174 E Telephone number 8606558188 G Gross receipts \$ 237,397 H(a) Is this a group return for subordinates? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No H(b) Are all subordinates included? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If "No," attach a list. See instructions. H(c) Group exemption number
I Tax-exempt status: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 501(c)(3) <input type="checkbox"/> 501(c) () (insert no.) <input type="checkbox"/> 4947(a)(1) or <input type="checkbox"/> 527		
J Website: www.YouthJournalism.org		
K Form of organization: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Trust <input type="checkbox"/> Association <input type="checkbox"/> Other		L Year of formation: 2007 M State of legal domicile: CT

Part I Summary

Activities & Governance	1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities: Youth Journalism International educates young people about journalism, publishes their work and fosters cross-cultural understanding.		
	2 Check this box <input type="checkbox"/> if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets.		
	3 Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)	3	7
	4 Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	4	7
	5 Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2023 (Part V, line 2a)	5	0
	6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	6	30
	7a Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	7a	0
b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, Part I, line 11	7b	0	
Revenue	8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	Prior Year 53801	Current Year 216612
	9 Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	3029	16390
	10 Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	0	4395
	11 Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	56830	237397
	12 Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	0	0
	13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1–3)	0	0
Expenses	14 Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)	0	0
	15 Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5–10)	0	0
	16a Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)	00	0
	b Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25)		
	17 Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a–11d, 11f–24e)	42948	55460
	18 Total expenses. Add lines 13–17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	42948	55460
19 Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 18 from line 12	13882	181937	
Net Assets or Fund Balances	20 Total assets (Part X, line 16)	Beginning of Current Year 144561	End of Year 326498
	21 Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	0	0
	22 Net assets or fund balances. Subtract line 21 from line 20	144561	326498

Part II Signature Block

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here		May 14, 2024
	Signature of officer	Date
	Jackie Majerus, Executive Director	
Type or print name and title		

Paid Preparer Use Only	Print/Type preparer's name	Preparer's signature	Date	Check <input type="checkbox"/> if self-employed	PTIN
	Firm's name	Firm's EIN			
	Firm's address	Phone no.			

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions ☐ Yes ☐ No

Part III Statement of Program Service AccomplishmentsCheck if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part III ☐ ☒

- 1** Briefly describe the organization's mission:
Youth Journalism International connects student writers, artists and photographers with peers around the globe, teaches journalism, fosters cross-cultural understanding, and promotes and defends a free youth press. Since 1994, it has offered a free education to students in two-thirds of the world's nations, including many in the United States.
- 2** Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ? ☐ Yes ☒ No
 If "Yes," describe these new services on Schedule O.
- 3** Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services? ☐ Yes ☒ No
 If "Yes," describe these changes on Schedule O.
- 4** Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations are required to report the amount of grants and allocations to others, the total expenses, and revenue, if any, for each program service reported.

4a (Code:) (Expenses \$ 17251 including grants of \$ 0) (Revenue \$ 0)

GLOBAL CLASSROOM FOR JOURNALISM EDUCATION

YJI provides, for free, daily one-on-one and group instruction in journalism, professional ethics, media literacy and the nature of news. It holds regular meetings online where a diverse group of students, hailing from scores of countries, discuss stories and projects while learning from instructors and each other about journalism. In the process, students also develop cross-cultural understanding. Their work is published on YJI's website, empowering young people in the process.

4b (Code:) (Expenses \$ 32828 including grants of \$ 10000) (Revenue \$ 8870)

YJI TOGETHER

YJI holds annual global conferences and as many regional events as possible so that students get to know each other in-person and learn directly from instructors. To the degree possible, YJI helps low-income income students attend. YJI also encourages students to seek more education and to use their skills to help build a better world.

4c (Code:) (Expenses \$ 1525 including grants of \$ 2500) (Revenue \$ 5020)

YJI CONTEST

YJI holds an annual journalism contest for young people that recognizes some of the best work by students 19 and under. Among the major prizes are ones for Youth Journalist of the Year and Educator of the Year, along with awards for both the best feature and news story. With more than three dozen categories, the contest aims to foster a strong youth journalism community worldwide, beyond YJI's own program.

4d Other program services (Describe on Schedule O.)

(Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4e Total program service expenses 51604

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules

	Yes	No
1 Is the organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 4947(a)(1) (other than a private foundation)? If "Yes," complete Schedule A	1 ✓	
2 Is the organization required to complete Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors? See instructions	2 ✓	
3 Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I	3	✓
4 Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization engage in lobbying activities, or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II	4	
5 Is the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization that receives membership dues, assessments, or similar amounts as defined in Rev. Proc. 98-19? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III	5	✓
6 Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds or any similar funds or accounts for which donors have the right to provide advice on the distribution or investment of amounts in such funds or accounts? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I	6	✓
7 Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space, the environment, historic land areas, or historic structures? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II	7	✓
8 Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III	8	✓
9 Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21, for escrow or custodial account liability; serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X; or provide credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV	9	✓
10 Did the organization, directly or through a related organization, hold assets in donor-restricted endowments or in quasi-endowments? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V	10	✓
11 If the organization's answer to any of the following questions is "Yes," then complete Schedule D, Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, or X, as applicable.		
a Did the organization report an amount for land, buildings, and equipment in Part X, line 10? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VI	11a	✓
b Did the organization report an amount for investments—other securities in Part X, line 12, that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VII	11b	✓
c Did the organization report an amount for investments—program related in Part X, line 13, that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VIII	11c	✓
d Did the organization report an amount for other assets in Part X, line 15, that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IX	11d	✓
e Did the organization report an amount for other liabilities in Part X, line 25? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X	11e	✓
f Did the organization's separate or consolidated financial statements for the tax year include a footnote that addresses the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740)? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X	11f	✓
12a Did the organization obtain separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI and XII	12a	✓
b Was the organization included in consolidated, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? If "Yes," and if the organization answered "No" to line 12a, then completing Schedule D, Parts XI and XII is optional	12b	✓
13 Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E	13	✓
14a Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the United States?	14a	✓
b Did the organization have aggregate revenues or expenses of more than \$10,000 from grantmaking, fundraising, business, investment, and program service activities outside the United States, or aggregate foreign investments valued at \$100,000 or more? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts I and IV	14b	✓
15 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for any foreign organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts II and IV	15	✓
16 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of aggregate grants or other assistance to or for foreign individuals? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts III and IV	16	✓
17 Did the organization report a total of more than \$15,000 of expenses for professional fundraising services on Part IX, column (A), lines 6 and 11e? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I. See instructions	17	✓
18 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 total of fundraising event gross income and contributions on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II	18	✓
19 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 of gross income from gaming activities on Part VIII, line 9a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III	19	✓
20a Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities? If "Yes," complete Schedule H	20a	✓
b If "Yes" to line 20a, did the organization attach a copy of its audited financial statements to this return?	20b	
21 Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to any domestic organization or domestic government on Part IX, column (A), line 1? If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II	21	✓

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules (continued)

	Yes	No
22 Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for domestic individuals on Part IX, column (A), line 2? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III</i>	22	✓
23 Did the organization answer "Yes" to Part VII, Section A, line 3, 4, or 5, about compensation of the organization's current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J</i>	23	✓
24a Did the organization have a tax-exempt bond issue with an outstanding principal amount of more than \$100,000 as of the last day of the year, that was issued after December 31, 2002? <i>If "Yes," answer lines 24b through 24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to line 25a</i>	24a	✓
b Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception?	24b	✓
c Did the organization maintain an escrow account other than a refunding escrow at any time during the year to defease any tax-exempt bonds?	24c	✓
d Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year?	24d	✓
25a Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I</i>	25a	✓
b Is the organization aware that it engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person in a prior year, and that the transaction has not been reported on any of the organization's prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I</i>	25b	✓
26 Did the organization report any amount on Part X, line 5 or 22, for receivables from or payables to any current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, creator or founder, substantial contributor, or 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II</i>	26	✓
27 Did the organization provide a grant or other assistance to any current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, creator or founder, substantial contributor or employee thereof, a grant selection committee member, or to a 35% controlled entity (including an employee thereof) or family member of any of these persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III</i>	27	✓
28 Was the organization a party to a business transaction with one of the following parties? (See the Schedule L, Part IV, instructions for applicable filing thresholds, conditions, and exceptions).		
a A current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, creator or founder, or substantial contributor? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>	28a	✓
b A family member of any individual described in line 28a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>	28b	✓
c A 35% controlled entity of one or more individuals and/or organizations described in line 28a or 28b? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>	28c	✓
29 Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in noncash contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M</i>	29	✓
30 Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M</i>	30	✓
31 Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I</i>	31	✓
32 Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II</i>	32	✓
33 Did the organization own 100% of an entity disregarded as separate from the organization under Regulations sections 301.7701-2 and 301.7701-3? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part I</i>	33	✓
34 Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part II, III, or IV, and Part V, line 1</i>	34	✓
35a Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?	35a	✓
b If "Yes" to line 35a, did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2</i>	35b	
36 Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2</i>	36	✓
37 Did the organization conduct more than 5% of its activities through an entity that is not a related organization and that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part VI</i>	37	✓
38 Did the organization complete Schedule O and provide explanations on Schedule O for Part VI, lines 11b and 19? Note: All Form 990 filers are required to complete Schedule O	38	✓

Part V Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax ComplianceCheck if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part V ☐

	Yes	No
1a Enter the number reported in box 3 of Form 1096. Enter -0- if not applicable	1a	0
b Enter the number of Forms W-2G included on line 1a. Enter -0- if not applicable	1b	0
c Did the organization comply with backup withholding rules for reportable payments to vendors and reportable gaming (gambling) winnings to prize winners?	1c	

Part V Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance <i>(continued)</i>		Yes	No
2a	Enter the number of employees reported on Form W-3, Transmittal of Wage and Tax Statements, filed for the calendar year ending with or within the year covered by this return	2a	0
b	If at least one is reported on line 2a, did the organization file all required federal employment tax returns?	2b	✓
3a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year?	3a	✓
b	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 990-T for this year? <i>If "No" to line 3b, provide an explanation on Schedule O</i>	3b	
4a	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in, or a signature or other authority over, a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)?	4a	✓
b	If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country _____ See instructions for filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR).		
5a	Was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction at any time during the tax year?	5a	✓
b	Did any taxable party notify the organization that it was or is a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction?	5b	✓
c	If "Yes" to line 5a or 5b, did the organization file Form 8886-T?	5c	
6a	Does the organization have annual gross receipts that are normally greater than \$100,000, and did the organization solicit any contributions that were not tax deductible as charitable contributions?	6a	✓
b	If "Yes," did the organization include with every solicitation an express statement that such contributions or gifts were not tax deductible?	6b	
7	Organizations that may receive deductible contributions under section 170(c).		
a	Did the organization receive a payment in excess of \$75 made partly as a contribution and partly for goods and services provided to the payor?	7a	✓
b	If "Yes," did the organization notify the donor of the value of the goods or services provided?	7b	
c	Did the organization sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of tangible personal property for which it was required to file Form 8282?	7c	✓
d	If "Yes," indicate the number of Forms 8282 filed during the year	7d	
e	Did the organization receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract?	7e	✓
f	Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?	7f	✓
g	If the organization received a contribution of qualified intellectual property, did the organization file Form 8899 as required?	7g	
h	If the organization received a contribution of cars, boats, airplanes, or other vehicles, did the organization file a Form 1098-C?	7h	
8	Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds. Did a donor advised fund maintained by the sponsoring organization have excess business holdings at any time during the year?	8	✓
9	Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds.		
a	Did the sponsoring organization make any taxable distributions under section 4966?	9a	✓
b	Did the sponsoring organization make a distribution to a donor, donor advisor, or related person?	9b	✓
10	Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:		
a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on Part VIII, line 12	10a	
b	Gross receipts, included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, for public use of club facilities	10b	
11	Section 501(c)(12) organizations. Enter:		
a	Gross income from members or shareholders	11a	
b	Gross income from other sources. (Do not net amounts due or paid to other sources against amounts due or received from them.)	11b	
12a	Section 4947(a)(1) non-exempt charitable trusts. Is the organization filing Form 990 in lieu of Form 1041?	12a	✓
b	If "Yes," enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year	12b	
13	Section 501(c)(29) qualified nonprofit health insurance issuers.		
a	Is the organization licensed to issue qualified health plans in more than one state?	13a	✓
	Note: See the instructions for additional information the organization must report on Schedule O.		
b	Enter the amount of reserves the organization is required to maintain by the states in which the organization is licensed to issue qualified health plans	13b	
c	Enter the amount of reserves on hand	13c	
14a	Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the tax year?	14a	✓
b	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 720 to report these payments? <i>If "No," provide an explanation on Schedule O</i>	14b	
15	Is the organization subject to the section 4960 tax on payment(s) of more than \$1,000,000 in remuneration or excess parachute payment(s) during the year?	15	✓
	If "Yes," see the instructions and file Form 4720, Schedule N.		
16	Is the organization an educational institution subject to the section 4968 excise tax on net investment income?	16	✓
	If "Yes," complete Form 4720, Schedule O.		
17	Section 501(c)(21) organizations. Did the trust, or any disqualified or other person, engage in any activities that would result in the imposition of an excise tax under section 4951, 4952, or 4953?	17	
	If "Yes," complete Form 6069.		

Part VI Governance, Management, and Disclosure. For each "Yes" response to lines 2 through 7b below, and for a "No" response to line 8a, 8b, or 10b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes on Schedule O. See instructions. Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VI ☐

Section A. Governing Body and Management

		Yes	No
1a Enter the number of voting members of the governing body at the end of the tax year	1a 7		
If there are material differences in voting rights among members of the governing body, or if the governing body delegated broad authority to an executive committee or similar committee, explain on Schedule O.			
b Enter the number of voting members included on line 1a, above, who are independent	1b 7		
2 Did any officer, director, trustee, or key employee have a family relationship or a business relationship with any other officer, director, trustee, or key employee?	2	✓	
3 Did the organization delegate control over management duties customarily performed by or under the direct supervision of officers, directors, trustees, or key employees to a management company or other person?	3		✓
4 Did the organization make any significant changes to its governing documents since the prior Form 990 was filed?	4		✓
5 Did the organization become aware during the year of a significant diversion of the organization's assets?	5		✓
6 Did the organization have members or stockholders?	6		✓
7a Did the organization have members, stockholders, or other persons who had the power to elect or appoint one or more members of the governing body?	7a		✓
b Are any governance decisions of the organization reserved to (or subject to approval by) members, stockholders, or persons other than the governing body?	7b		✓
8 Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following:			
a The governing body?	8a	✓	
b Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body?	8b	✓	
9 Is there any officer, director, trustee, or key employee listed in Part VII, Section A, who cannot be reached at the organization's mailing address? If "Yes," provide the names and addresses on Schedule O	9		✓

Section B. Policies (This Section B requests information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)

	Yes	No
10a Did the organization have local chapters, branches, or affiliates?	10a	✓
b If "Yes," did the organization have written policies and procedures governing the activities of such chapters, affiliates, and branches to ensure their operations are consistent with the organization's exempt purposes?	10b	
11a Has the organization provided a complete copy of this Form 990 to all members of its governing body before filing the form?	11a ✓	
b Describe on Schedule O the process, if any, used by the organization to review this Form 990.		
12a Did the organization have a written conflict of interest policy? If "No," go to line 13	12a ✓	
b Were officers, directors, or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts?	12b	✓
c Did the organization regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with the policy? If "Yes," describe on Schedule O how this was done	12c ✓	
13 Did the organization have a written whistleblower policy?	13 ✓	
14 Did the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy?	14 ✓	
15 Did the process for determining compensation of the following persons include a review and approval by independent persons, comparability data, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision?		
a The organization's CEO, Executive Director, or top management official	15a	
b Other officers or key employees of the organization	15b	
If "Yes" to line 15a or 15b, describe the process on Schedule O. See instructions.		
16a Did the organization invest in, contribute assets to, or participate in a joint venture or similar arrangement with a taxable entity during the year?	16a	✓
b If "Yes," did the organization follow a written policy or procedure requiring the organization to evaluate its participation in joint venture arrangements under applicable federal tax law, and take steps to safeguard the organization's exempt status with respect to such arrangements?	16b	

Section C. Disclosure

17 List the states with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed

18 Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Forms 1023 (1024 or 1024-A, if applicable), 990, and 990-T (section 501(c)(3)s only) available for public inspection. Indicate how you made these available. Check all that apply.

☒ Own website ☐ Another's website ☒ Upon request ☐ Other (explain on Schedule O)

19 Describe on Schedule O whether (and if so, how) the organization made its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available to the public during the tax year.

20 State the name, address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the organization's books and records.

Jackie Majerus, Executive Director, 30 Taylor St., Auburn ME 04210 (860) 655-8188

Part VII Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent ContractorsCheck if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VII ☒**Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees****1a** Complete this table for all persons required to be listed. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.

- List all of the organization's **current** officers, directors, trustees (whether individuals or organizations), regardless of amount of compensation. Enter -0- in columns (D), (E), and (F) if no compensation was paid.

- List all of the organization's **current** key employees, if any. See the instructions for definition of "key employee."

- List the organization's five **current** highest compensated employees (other than an officer, director, trustee, or key employee) who received reportable compensation (box 5 of Form W-2, box 6 of Form 1099-MISC, and/or box 1 of Form 1099-NEC) of more than \$100,000 from the organization and any related organizations.

- List all of the organization's **former** officers, key employees, and highest compensated employees who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.

- List all of the organization's **former directors or trustees** that received, in the capacity as a former director or trustee of the organization, more than \$10,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.

See the instructions for the order in which to list the persons above.

☒ Check this box if neither the organization nor any related organization compensated any current officer, director, or trustee.

(A) Name and title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC/1099-NEC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC/1099-NEC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
(1) Jackie Majerus Executive Director	65	✓		✓				0	0	0
(2) Steve Collins President, Board of Directors	30	✓						0	0	0
(3) Arooj Khalid Member, Board of Directors	8	✓						0	0	0
(4) Mike Soltys Member, Board of Directors	2	✓						0	0	0
(5) Shaina Zurlin Member, Board of Directors	2	✓						0	0	0
(6) Cassie Lloyd Perrin Member, Board of Directors	2	✓						0	0	0
(7) Regina Lopez Member, Board of Directors	8	✓						0	0	0
(8)										
(9)										
(10) Note: YJI has no employees or contractors. It is an all-volunteer organization.										
(11)										
(12)										
(13)										
(14)										

Part VII Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees (continued)

(A) Name and title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC/1099-NEC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC/1099-NEC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
(15)										
(16)										
(17)										
(18)										
(19)										
(20)										
(21)										
(22)										
(23)										
(24)										
(25)										
1b Subtotal								0	0	0
c Total from continuation sheets to Part VII, Section A								0	0	0
d Total (add lines 1b and 1c)								0	0	0

2 Total number of individuals (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization **0**

- 3** Did the organization list any **former** officer, director, trustee, key employee, or highest compensated employee on line 1a? *If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual*
- 4** For any individual listed on line 1a, is the sum of reportable compensation and other compensation from the organization and related organizations greater than \$150,000? *If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual*
- 5** Did any person listed on line 1a receive or accrue compensation from any unrelated organization or individual for services rendered to the organization? *If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such person*

	Yes	No
3		✓
4		
5		✓

Section B. Independent Contractors

1 Complete this table for your five highest compensated independent contractors that received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.

(A) Name and business address	(B) Description of services	(C) Compensation
None.		
2 Total number of independent contractors (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization	0	

Part VIII Statement of RevenueCheck if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VIII ☐

				(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512-514
Contributions, Gifts, Grants, and Other Similar Amounts	1a	Federated campaigns	1a	0			
	b	Membership dues	1b	0			
	c	Fundraising events	1c	0			
	d	Related organizations	1d	0			
	e	Government grants (contributions)	1e	0			
	f	All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above	1f	216612			
	g	Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f	1g	\$ 0			
	h	Total. Add lines 1a-1f		216612			
Program Service Revenue	2a	YJI Contest	Business Code	7520	0	0	0
	b	YJI Together		8870	0	0	0
	c						
	d						
	e						
	f	All other program service revenue . .					
	g	Total. Add lines 2a-2f		16390			
Other Revenue	3	Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts)		4395	0	0	0
	4	Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds		0	0	0	0
	5	Royalties		0	0	0	0
	6a	Gross rents	6a	0	0	0	0
	b	Less: rental expenses	6b	0	0	0	0
	c	Rental income or (loss)	6c	0	0	0	0
	d	Net rental income or (loss)		0	0	0	0
	7a	Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	7a	0	0	0	0
	b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses	7b	0	0	0	0
	c	Gain or (loss)	7c	0	0	0	0
	d	Net gain or (loss)		0	0	0	0
	8a	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ _____ of contributions reported on line 1c). See Part IV, line 18	8a	0	0	0	0
	b	Less: direct expenses	8b	0	0	0	0
	c	Net income or (loss) from fundraising events		0	0	0	0
	9a	Gross income from gaming activities. See Part IV, line 19	9a	0	0	0	0
	b	Less: direct expenses	9b	0	0	0	0
	c	Net income or (loss) from gaming activities		0	0	0	0
10a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	10a	0	0	0	0	
b	Less: cost of goods sold	10b	0	0	0	0	
c	Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory		0	0	0	0	
Miscellaneous Revenue	11a		Business Code				
	b						
	c						
	d	All other revenue					
	e	Total. Add lines 11a-11d		0	0	0	0
12	Total revenue. See instructions		237397	0	0	0	

Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns. All other organizations must complete column (A).

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX ☐**Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.**

	(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	(D) Fundraising expenses
1 Grants and other assistance to domestic organizations and domestic governments. See Part IV, line 21	0	0		
2 Grants and other assistance to domestic individuals. See Part IV, line 22	0	0		
3 Grants and other assistance to foreign organizations, foreign governments, and foreign individuals. See Part IV, lines 15 and 16	0	0		
4 Benefits paid to or for members	0	0		
5 Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	0	0	0	0
6 Compensation not included above to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)	0	0	0	0
7 Other salaries and wages	0	0	0	0
8 Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions)	0	0	0	0
9 Other employee benefits	0	0	0	0
10 Payroll taxes	0	0	0	0
11 Fees for services (nonemployees):				
a Management	0		0	0
b Legal	0	0	0	0
c Accounting	0	0	0	0
d Lobbying	0	0	0	0
e Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17	0			0
f Investment management fees	0	0	0	0
g Other. (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A), amount, list line 11g expenses on Schedule O.)	0	0	0	0
12 Advertising and promotion	1503	951	0	552
13 Office expenses	2184		2184	
14 Information technology	10396	8350	2046	0
15 Royalties	0	0	0	0
16 Occupancy	0	0	0	0
17 Travel	7341	7341	0	0
18 Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials	0	0	0	0
19 Conferences, conventions, and meetings	31099	31099	0	0
20 Interest	0	0	0	0
21 Payments to affiliates	0	0	0	0
22 Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	0	0	0	0
23 Insurance	1225	0	1225	0
24 Other expenses. Itemize expenses not covered above. (List miscellaneous expenses on line 24e. If line 24e amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A), amount, list line 24e expenses on Schedule O.)				
a Van repairs	1712	0	1712	0
b				
c				
d				
e All other expenses				
25 Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e	55460	47741	7167	552
26 Joint costs. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720)				

Part X Balance SheetCheck if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part X ☒

		(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
Assets	1 Cash—non-interest-bearing	144561	1	47293
	2 Savings and temporary cash investments	0	2	279205
	3 Pledges and grants receivable, net	0	3	0
	4 Accounts receivable, net	0	4	0
	5 Loans and other receivables from any current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, creator or founder, substantial contributor, or 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons	0	5	0
	6 Loans and other receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)), and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)	0	6	0
	7 Notes and loans receivable, net	0	7	0
	8 Inventories for sale or use	0	8	0
	9 Prepaid expenses and deferred charges	0	9	0
	10a Land, buildings, and equipment: cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D	0		
	b Less: accumulated depreciation	0	10c	0
	11 Investments—publicly traded securities	0	11	0
	12 Investments—other securities. See Part IV, line 11	0	12	0
	13 Investments—program-related. See Part IV, line 11	0	13	0
	14 Intangible assets	0	14	0
	15 Other assets. See Part IV, line 11	0	15	0
16 Total assets. Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 33)	144561	16	326498	
Liabilities	17 Accounts payable and accrued expenses	0	17	0
	18 Grants payable	0	18	0
	19 Deferred revenue	0	19	0
	20 Tax-exempt bond liabilities	0	20	0
	21 Escrow or custodial account liability. Complete Part IV of Schedule D	0	21	0
	22 Loans and other payables to any current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, creator or founder, substantial contributor, or 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons	0	22	0
	23 Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties	0	23	0
	24 Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties	0	24	0
	25 Other liabilities (including federal income tax, payables to related third parties, and other liabilities not included on lines 17–24). Complete Part X of Schedule D	0	25	0
	26 Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25	0	26	0
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow FASB ASC 958, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27, 28, 32, and 33.			
	27 Net assets without donor restrictions		27	
	28 Net assets with donor restrictions	0	28	0
	Organizations that do not follow FASB ASC 958, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 29 through 33.			
	29 Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds	0	29	0
	30 Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building, or equipment fund	0	30	0
	31 Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds	0	31	0
	32 Total net assets or fund balances	144561	32	326498
33 Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances	144561	33	326498	

Part XI Reconciliation of Net AssetsCheck if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XI ☐

1	Total revenue (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1	237397
2	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	55460
3	Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 2 from line 1	3	181937
4	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 32, column (A))	4	144561
5	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	5	0
6	Donated services and use of facilities	6	0
7	Investment expenses	7	0
8	Prior period adjustments	8	0
9	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain on Schedule O)	9	0
10	Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 32, column (B))	10	326498

Part XII Financial Statements and ReportingCheck if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XII ☐

		Yes	No
1	Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Accrual <input type="checkbox"/> Other If the organization changed its method of accounting from a prior year or checked "Other," explain on Schedule O.		
2a	Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant? . . . If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were compiled or reviewed on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both. <input type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b	Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant? If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were audited on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both. <input type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c	If "Yes" to line 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant? . If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain on Schedule O.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3a	As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Uniform Guidance, 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart F?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b	If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits? If the organization did not undergo the required audit or audits, explain why on Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits .		