



OMEGA
ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Our vision

We envision a world where all people can awaken their full human potential while caring for each other and the earth.



From here to everywhere

Dear Friends,

Omega is a nonprofit that helps people grow creatively in their relationship to themselves, each other, and the earth.

With deep roots in New York's Hudson Valley, our Rhinebeck campus is a place of natural beauty, where people can gain deep insights and develop fresh ideas. What's more, we are a global community of learners, educators, and leaders.

Every year, tens of thousands of our participants inspire meaningful change within themselves and around the world. For example, more than a dozen women from Omega's Juno Leadership Collective worked on a variety of social issues ranging from food justice to immigrant rights (see pages 8–9) and over 30 international holistic learning centers strengthened collaboration and knowledge sharing at a gathering on our campus (see page 10).

Yet, we need to go further in connecting the Omega community to change-making efforts across the globe. That's why we launched Omega membership (see page 5) in 2018. Our members, along with the support of generous philanthropists, help us elevate voices, ideas, and solutions.

Fundamentally, everything we do at Omega is working toward creating a climate for positive change by offering participants a place where they can envision a better future.

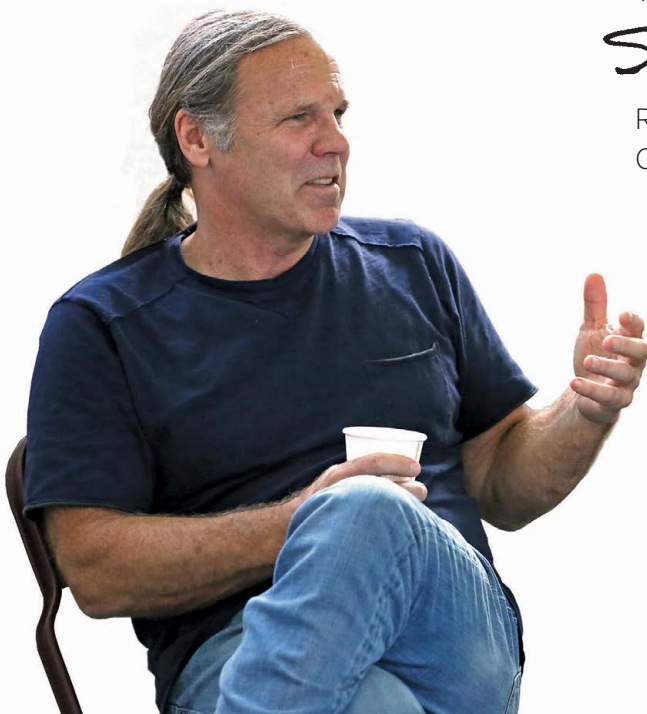
I can't wait to see what we create. Together, we can bring hope and healing from here to everywhere.

"We are a global community of learners, educators, and leaders."

With gratitude,

Skip Backus

Robert "Skip" Backus
Chief Executive Officer



Seeding possibilities at home and around the world

Annual impact by the numbers



23,000 visitors in person

5 learning locations, including Rhinebeck, New York City, Chicago, California, and Costa Rica

2,000,000 visitors online

200,000 social media followers

70,000 newsletter subscribers

130 countries reached





390 workshops, retreats, conferences, and professional trainings


1,025 daily open classes in meditation, yoga, and movement

600 teachers

\$1,000,000 in community engagement (scholarships, nonprofit retreat grants, and underwritten programs)



5,000,000 gallons of water reclaimed



"I visited campus and had the opportunity to meet people who were experiencing the transformative power of this place, as part of Omega's scholarship program. It personalized it for me that my member contribution is helping others who are so clearly grateful for the opportunity. Using your ability to help empower somebody else— it's a gift to Omega and a gift to yourself."

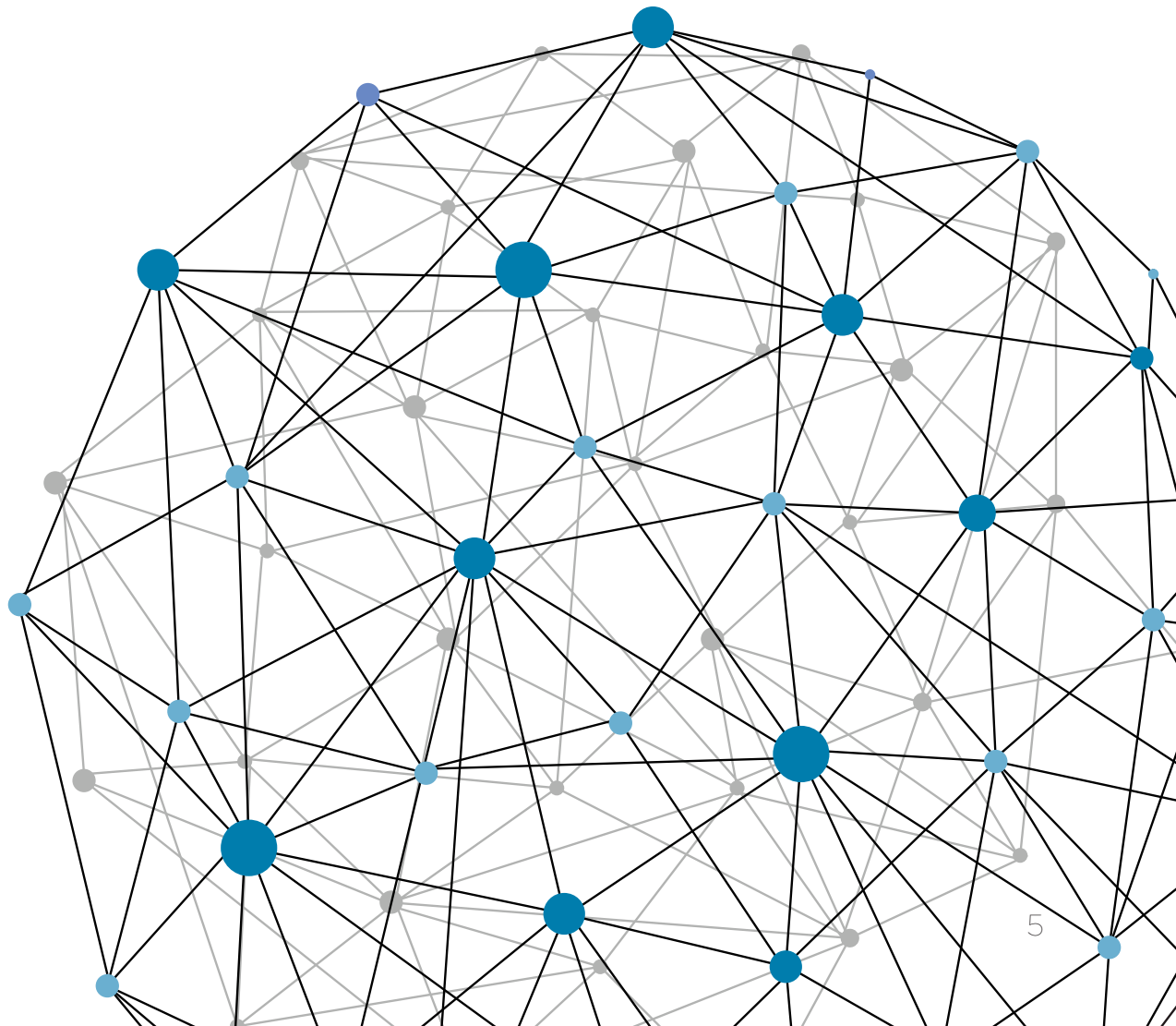
—STACIA ABEL, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

Building a more compassionate, sustainable, and peaceful future...together

Growing a global member community

Omega's Membership Program launched in 2018 to help our community connect, grow, and learn year-round. The program is inspiring more and more people to support Omega. Members help provide an increased number of scholarships and enhanced program offerings.

Omega's **2,000 members** come from across the United States and more than **40 countries** around the world to inspire positive change in their lives and the lives of those around them.



Inspiring meaningful action

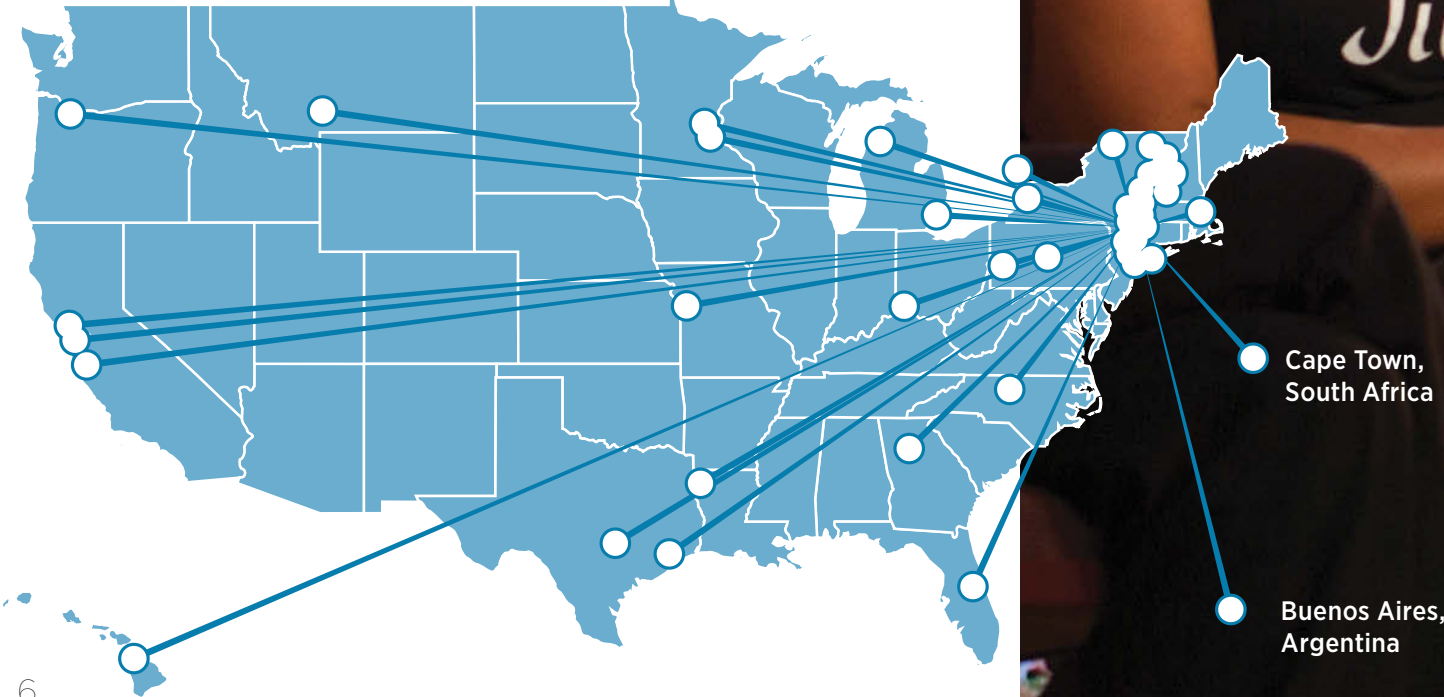
Teaching a solutions-based approach to climate change

Project Drawdown®, based on the work of 200 scientists and researchers, is one of the most hopeful developments in the effort to reverse global warming. The Drawdown team did the math to calculate what humanity can achieve with tools already in use around the globe.

In October 2018, the Omega Center for Sustainable Living (OCSL) convened with educators, curriculum developers, parents, students, librarians, community groups, researchers, and local officials for a groundbreaking 3-day collaborative gathering.

Hundreds of viewers from more than **50 satellite sites** tuned in to watch an online broadcast that opened the Drawdown Learn conference. Satellite viewings were held in 17 states and 3 countries.

DRAWDOWN LEARN





Youth panel from the 2018 Drawdown Learn Conference. From left to right: cofounder of the International Indigenous Youth Council Lauren TwoBraids Howland; International Indigenous Youth Council member Danita Ordaz; officer of the Youth Environmental Activists Club Leonardo Alonso (speaking); and member of the Youth Environmental Activists Club Gabriel Trevino.

Nurturing change agents



The Juno Leadership Collective, a yearlong immersive training program for women

The Juno Leadership Collective brings together women leaders who are on the frontline of social change. The Omega Women's Leadership Center (OWLC) launched this yearlong training and peer support immersion program for women who Do Power Differently®.

The **14 nonprofit leaders** in the 2018/2019 Juno Leadership Collective work on a variety of issues ranging from food justice, immigrant rights, community organizing, and youth justice. Through monthly digital communications, they engaged with one another to offer peer support.

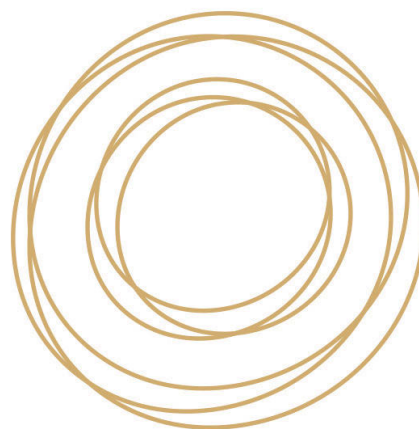


"This program is dedicated to lifting up issues, organizations, and individual leaders. The remarkable women selected to receive grants work to solve some of the most intransigent issues women face today. We are committed to moving the needle on these critical issues by advancing women's leadership and strengthening the organizations they spearhead."

—CARLA GOLDSTEIN, OMEGA PRESIDENT
AND COFOUNDER OF THE OWLC



Building relationships



Holistic
Centers
Network

in the spirit of collaboration

Connecting with our peers

Omega's impact is rippling throughout the world as we collaborate with our peers. As a longtime global leader in holistic education, we welcomed more than **60 attendees from 32 holistic centers** around the world for the annual International Holistic Centers Gathering, including participants from the United Kingdom, Europe, Canada, Mexico, Kenya, Sri Lanka, and China.

"At Omega we hold the belief that we all benefit when everyone is invited to the table. Having diverse perspectives enriches us all."

—CAROL DONAHOE,
DIRECTOR OF RHINEBECK PROGRAMS

This 5-day gathering explored the value of diversity and we were honored to play a role in strengthening collaboration and knowledge sharing among holistic centers on this important topic.

"My definition of love has gotten much more all-encompassing since the retreat. I thought love was the storybook kind where you fall in love and get swept off your feet, like how I felt about my wife. I've learned that I can make the definition more simple, and with that, maybe I'll learn to love myself."

—JOEL LAUFMAN, SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT
TO A RETREAT FOR VETERANS, 2018



Vietnam veterans who met in 1968, Joel Laufman (pictured on the left) and Dennis Connors (pictured on the right).



Suzi Edwards

Expanding arts at Omega

Omega has a long tradition of welcoming artists to celebrate creative expression with workshops, performances, and opportunities for painting, dancing, music, writing, and much more. As we look to expand our offerings, a committee of Omega donors who care deeply about the arts has provided important leadership in the creation of an Arts Building on campus. This facility will increase access to the arts at Omega—both inside and outside of workshops. Support from these donors helps ensure that the arts are a more deeply embedded part of the Omega experience.

"I want to see art and space for personal creativity offered as part of the everyday Omega experience for everyone who steps onto campus."

—SUZI EDWARDS, ARTIST AND DONOR

One of our visionaries and lead donors for this project is artist Suzi Edwards, who has brought her incredible mosaic works to campus as both an instructor and as a participant. Suzi is also a lead funder of the Omega Women's Leadership Center.

Thanking our donors

More than 3,100 individuals, foundations, and corporations made a gift to Omega in 2018, including 2,000 Omega Members. This list recognizes some of the generous contributors who supported Omega's programs and initiatives, including the Omega Center for Sustainable Living and the Omega Women's Leadership Center, between January 1 and December 31, 2018. We are deeply grateful for your gifts.

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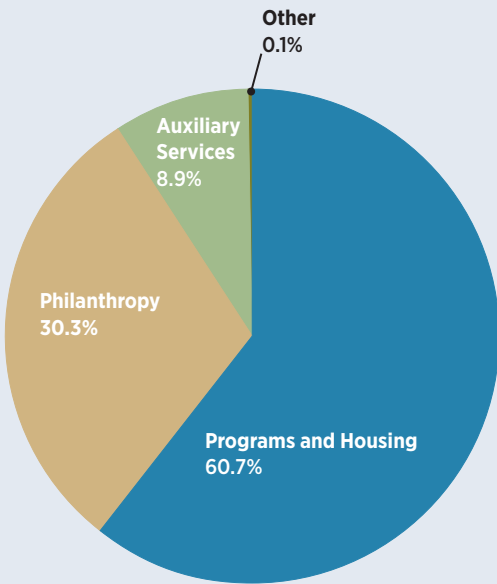
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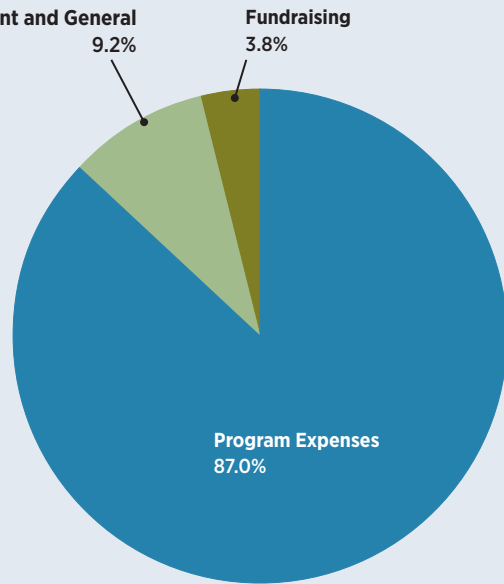
**Space constraints
prevent us from being
able to recognize all
funders in this report.**

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT 2018

Audited financial statements are available upon request.

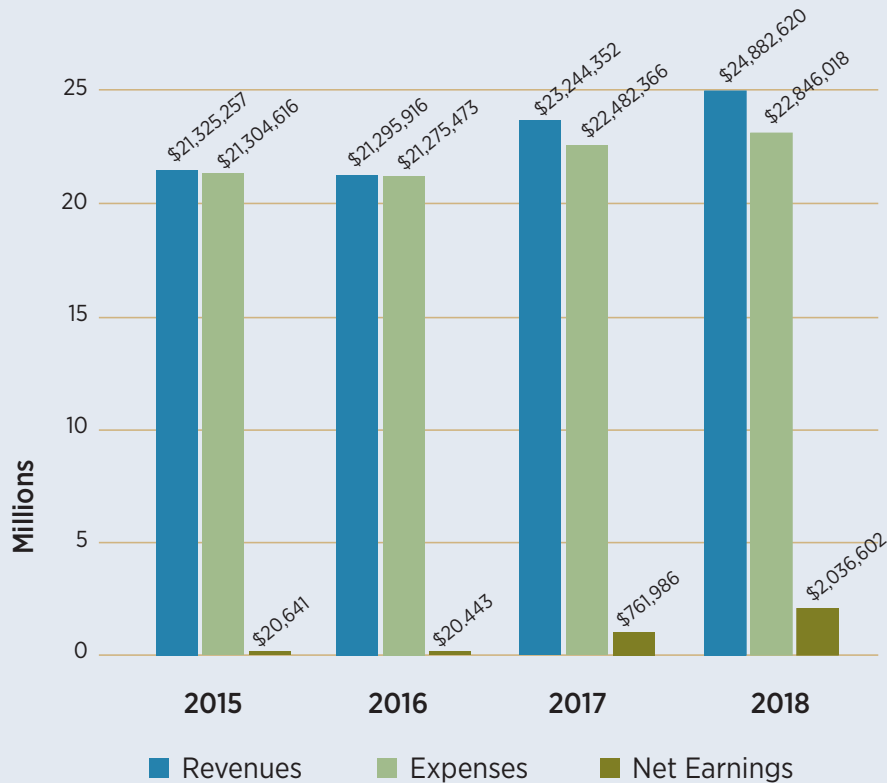


REVENUE CATEGORIES



EXPENSE CATEGORIES

Comparative Revenues, Expenses, and Net Earnings



Omega Institute for Holistic Studies, Inc. is qualified as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions are tax-deductible, as allowed by the law. The Statements of Financial Position and Activities is summarized here. A complete copy of the last annual report filed with the New York State Office of the Attorney General may be obtained upon request by writing to the New York State Office of the Attorney General, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271.

Thanking our sponsors

As a nonprofit organization, Omega is able to achieve its mission in part through the generous support of more than 4,875 individuals, foundations, and corporations. In 2018, donors gave \$7.5 million to support Omega initiatives, programs, scholarships, and infrastructure. Each and every gift strengthens our ability to awaken the best in the human spirit.

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What's next?

Working together to create a climate for positive change

There are so many ways to give to Omega—and every gift is welcome.

To discover a way to support that is right for you, including joining the Stewardship Council or Sanctuary Circle, planning an estate gift, employer matching, corporate sponsorship, becoming a member, and more, please contact Veronica Fitzgerald, Chief Development Officer, at VeronicaF@eOmega.org or 845.266.4444, ext. 402.

To learn about **Brilliant Ideals: The Campaign for Omega**, visit: ideals.eomega.org.





Omega is proud of our Gold Level rating from the GuideStar Exchange in recognition of our commitment to transparency and accountability.

Please share this report with others

For more information about major initiatives, sponsorship opportunities, and additional involvement, please contact the development office at 845.266.4444, ext. 409 or development@eOmega.org.

Omega Institute is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

OMEGA

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