FASHION FORWARD

Opportunities abound, thanks to organization’s vision

Yohannan Terrell uses one word often when talking about Columbus—opportunity. He sees our city as the perfect environment to grow fashion-based businesses and wants to make sure anyone who has the desire has the support needed to make their dream a reality.

AFTER PARTICIPATING in an exercise a few years back about how to reimagine our city, Terrell thought, “What do we authentically offer the rest of the world?” His mind immediately went to fashion, and the abundance of resources and talent that exists in central Ohio, thanks in part to Columbus-based businesses, such as Express, Abercrombie, Victoria’s Secret, UpWest, and others whose staff supply the city with creative design skills. The more he thought about it, the more he realized creating a hub for current and future designers and makers to connect and create could help Columbus thrive in that market—and the nonprofit Columbus Fashion Alliance (CFA) was born.

A marketer by trade (he founded Warhol & WALL ST., a consumer engagement agency, in 2011), Terrell recognized it would take a collaborative effort to get CFA off the ground. He spent 2019 researching and talking to students, retailers, and designers, confirming the idea that we should be leaning in on fashion.

High school friends establish Donor Advised Fund amidst pandemic to broaden philanthropy.

Ingram-White Castle Foundation announces special scholarships to honor historic anniversary.
We are here to help one another. But, given the isolation, rate of change, health and economic perils, loss, and so many other challenges and injustices of the last year, connection, meaning, and purpose—things folks need in their lives—have been harder than ever for many to find.

It is important to acknowledge the presence of trauma in our lives and throughout our society. How we understand and confront that trauma and its causes will determine how we emerge from these challenging times. As Dr. Diane E. Meier, longtime director of the Center to Advance Palliative Care at New York’s Mount Sinai Hospital, observed in March, “Trauma is widespread. In wealthy families and poor families; individual and family trauma; community trauma and societal trauma. We have so much of that here—just start with racism and go on.”

Author and host of On Being, Krista Tippett has written about our collective need for a new kind of wholeness as an aspiration that we can share across our country’s chasms and traumas. What divides us now does not have to define what can become possible between us.

We have a chance to grow an earned togetherness that, as we work to meet society’s challenges, can bring out the best in people and create enduring benefits for all. Our future is shared, and everyone deserves a chance to flourish. And, as we weave and heal our way to a more perfect union, there is honor, humanity, and reward to be found and built upon along the way.

To build back better—to achieve a truly inclusive recovery—will take honesty and courage, but also a humility and willingness to learn anew. And, even through our struggles, there is reason to retain hope. In the words of National Youth Poet Laureate Amanda Gorman, “For there is always light / If only we’re brave enough to see it / If only we’re brave enough to be it.”

The future will come in new forms, with new understandings and commitments. Across our community—our full community—we will need each other more than ever as we work our way to that earned togetherness and a shared future that is more just and equitable.

As Columbus artist Aminah Robinson once said, “My dream is to grow, to know, and to grow some more.” Here’s to your strength and good health during our shared journey of growth ahead.

Historic Funding Supports Arts and Culture In Central Ohio

Recognizing that the arts sector in central Ohio is still reeling from the effects of COVID-19, in April The Columbus Foundation announced its largest investment ever to support these organizations, with grants totaling more than $2.4 million. The grants will provide operational support for 65 organizations that currently receive annual funding through the Foundation, with most nonprofits receiving 50 percent more than they did in 2020. The total also includes one-time grants to eight additional arts organizations. For more info, and to see the full list of organizations, visit http://cbusfdn.org/arts.
as part of our city’s culture and brand. “I feel we are uniquely positioned to create a whole new economy in the city, which, in turn, creates jobs, opportunity, creativity, happiness, and innovation,” said Terrell. “We are one of the few cities constructed and uniquely positioned to do that.”

CFA’s mission is to “build a community and ecosystem that supports the launch and growth of fashion-based businesses.” It revolves around four pillars: learn, make, innovate, experience.

Originally scheduled to open its space at Columbus’ Idea Foundry in 2020, CFA’s plans were derailed by COVID-19. But the organization stayed hard at work, collaborating first with the City of Columbus and then with Franklin County to get masks into the hands of at-risk residents. In late 2020, CFA teamed up with Franklin County and Welcoming City, an organization that helps New Americans find employment in central Ohio, to design, construct, and distribute masks to underserved communities through its SLAY SAFE campaign. The effort’s agenda was twofold: to offer free masks to the community and provide income for local entrepreneurs. CFA contracted with six local minority fashion designers who each created a unique mask design. A $13,500 grant from The Columbus Foundation’s Emergency Response Fund provided funds to help with the campaign.

“We partnered with the designers and told them masks are fashion statements—let’s put some soul into them, make them creative, make them represent the original mission of CFA which is to use fashion to create opportunity,” Terrell said.

Terrell found a vendor out of North Carolina that could print multiple designs of fabric and located resources for elastic and thread. Once the custom printed fabric arrived, it, along with each designer’s mask pattern, was sent to a group of minority vendors to produce the masks. Some just did a few, while others made hundreds. Welcoming City assisted with finding the vendors.

“We knew there were barriers for solopreneurs and other small business vendors,” Terrell said. “They may not have the workforce, supplies, or dollars to buy things in advance—but they do have the skills. We focused on how to reduce those barriers.”

In total, 15,000 masks were created, with 12,000 distributed free to the community and the additional 3,000 offered for sale on CFA’s website to help support future programming.

The CFA space is now open and plans to offer both in-person and virtual classes in 2021. A large production area is equipped with sewing machines and other state-of-the-art equipment to help bring a designer’s idea to life, and a design lab features computers with the most up-to-date software to help young and experienced designers learn and create. CFA offers membership plans for students, makers, and designers, with a free digital membership that allows people to connect online.

“I’ve always been an advocate for the city,” Terrell explained. “As a strategist, I’m looking to solve problems. This is a really big opportunity to create something that can impact many lives beyond my time. I can see the potential. I’m passionate because I can see it helping so many people.”

“Our goal is to help make Columbus the best place to start and grow a fashion-based business, and make our city a resource for the global fashion market.”

— YOHANNAN TERRELL, FOUNDER OF COLUMBUS FASHION ALLIANCE
2 MINUTES WITH...

Nancy Kramer

Nancy Kramer grew up with an adventurous spirit that has guided her throughout her life, from fantasizing about faraway places as a young girl to setting off on her own for Africa after graduating from Ohio State. A trailblazer in the marketing field, Kramer also founded a cutting-edge start-up 40 years ago, with a first client that happened to grow into the most iconic company of this generation.

Serving on the Foundation’s Governing Committee since 2014, and as Vice Chairperson since 2017, this year Kramer leads the Committee, just one of the ways she offers her time and expertise to help the community she loves. We sat down with Kramer to learn more about her early career, and how she feels about the year that was 2020.

You are an accomplished businessperson who built a world-renowned company from the ground up here. What is it about Columbus that makes it a good city for emerging businesses and young leaders—how has it changed over the years?

I think the city, as a collective, believes its best days are ahead. Columbus is very future-focused as it relates to emerging leaders, start-ups, and entrepreneurs. That collaborative spirit is beneficial and sets Columbus apart from other Midwestern cities.

I’ve lived here my whole life. I went to Ohio State and started my business here in 1981. I spent a lot of time going back and forth between San Francisco and Columbus, really commuting in a lot of ways. The Bay Area and Silicon Valley is kind of my home away from home. As far as the difference over the last 35–40 years, Columbus is progressing, it’s moving forward. It continues to grow and evolve, and I think that that’s a good thing.

The startup you founded in 1981, Resource Interactive, focused on digital marketing long before it was the staple it is today. What did those early days having Apple as a client teach you, and how did it shape you as a professional?

What a gift to have an opportunity to build a business in Columbus, and yet to have Apple as my first client, when Apple itself was a start-up. I grew up, and Resource grew up, alongside one of the most iconic companies in the world. I learned so much. Apple had a renegade spirit at the time. This whole notion of a personal computer was unheard of. I think the spirit of Apple in some ways mirrors that of Columbus in terms of being future-focused, progressive, and always evolving.

I learned so much being part of Apple, from marketing and product excellence to corporate culture and having a purpose and articulating that purpose. There was a power of community. They were the young kids that had this new company up against the older, traditional computer companies. There was a comradery that existed, and to be a part of that was incredibly energizing. When I went to meetings, I always felt that I was bringing the point of view of the rest of the country, and then felt like I was bringing some of the spirit of Silicon Valley back into my work in Columbus.

In 2016, you sold then Resource/Ammirati to IBM, and you now serve as Chief Evangelist at IBM iX. What excites you about your current work?

When I was a little girl, I spent a lot of time in the library on Livingston Avenue. I would read about places all over the world and was really fascinated with geography and other cultures. I used to dream about traveling to all of those places I read about. After I graduated from Ohio State, I set off on my own to go to Africa. It was 1977, and girls didn’t do that.
A Class Above
High school friends establish fund amidst pandemic to broaden philanthropy

A PASSION FOR HELPING OTHERS and giving back is keeping a group of high school friends connected, though miles keep them apart.

Fifteen friends, most of whom are 2005 graduates of Westerville North High School, have experienced a lot together since they left high school behind, from weddings and babies to moving, travel, and now, a pandemic. The close-knit group decided it was time to formalize an idea they’d been thinking about: to pool their resources for giving, recognizing they could do more together than individually.

In 2020, they established the Cultivating Success Fund at the Foundation, a Donor Advised Fund that gives them the flexibility to support organizations both in central Ohio and in the communities where they live.

“We have a total of 15 advisors to the fund,” explained Laura Hazzard.

“Twelve of us met in high school and the remaining three advisors are spouses that have become friends with everyone in the group over the years.”

While seven advisors are local, six live in Los Angeles and two in Charlotte. Throughout the year, they are active in their respective communities, working to understand the greatest needs. They meet as a group four times a year to talk about what they have learned and discuss potential nonprofits that could benefit from a grant. Once they narrow down the nonprofits and projects, they put it to a vote.

“2020 was a hard year for everyone. It made us realize that nothing is guaranteed. We’ve always wanted to help others, so why wait?”

— JOANNA STUDEBAKER, ADVISOR, CULTIVATING SUCCESS FUND

“As a large group, when we meet online, specific officers handle specific subjects, which keeps the meetings quite organized,” said Meredith Casto. “The most exciting part about those meetings is that even if we all have different ideas for where the grants will go, we have been supportive of each other for decades already and there is a trust there that is so important.”

Hazzard says the types of nonprofits they plan to support include local, community-focused organizations that support basic needs (food, safe water, housing, etc.) or support personal and community growth (scholarships, financial literacy programs, etc.).

The fund’s first grant was awarded in October 2020 to support the Westerville Education Foundation’s (WEF) Many Voices Project, which “supplies teachers with books to expand their classroom libraries to promote discussions about racial and social diversity and provide students access to books representative of contemporary families and inclusive of culture, history, and diverse perspectives,” according to the WEF website. It was important to the group that the first grant reflect where it all started. The group feels the Many Voices Project is an important initiative that gives students an opportunity to understand diverse perspectives, cultures, and identities.

“Representation is incredibly important, especially when considering what stories are taught in our classrooms. I know personally that if I had seen more authentic stories about the LGBTQ community throughout my formative years, it would have had a huge impact on my journey of self-acceptance,” explained Joel Ehninger.

Currently, the fund awards two types of grants annually. One is smaller, around $1,000, and the other is a larger grant that is based on collective fundraising efforts, typically $3,000–5,000.

“While this is our humble beginning, we hope to continue to grow the fund and provide more grants with larger distributions,” said Hazzard.

While forming this group was the natural progression of the group’s friendships, it was meaningful that it was created during COVID-19 as well as “our generation’s civil rights movement,” according to Hazzard.

“We realized that we could do so much more and help so many more people when we teamed up and worked together,” she said.

ASPIN Institute releases youth sports report in central Ohio

State of Play Central Ohio shows that financial barriers impact sports participation for Black children more than White children

A report released in March by the Sports & Society Program at the Aspen Institute shows a divide based upon race and income in youth sports experiences for some children in central Ohio. State of Play Central Ohio analyzed the state of youth sports in the region and offered recommendations to grow quality access to sports, physical activity, and outdoor recreation for all children, regardless of race, gender, income, or ability.

Guided by an advisory group of local leaders, the report is the product of a 13-month analysis of the greater Columbus area centered on Franklin County. It will help organizations develop new strategies and partnerships that will especially be needed during the recovery from COVID-19.

A disparity was evident in central Ohio; 20 percent of youth surveyed said they do not play sports more often due to financial costs associated with participation.

Costs affected Black youth (28 percent) more than White youth (18 percent), and elementary school students (29 percent) more than those in middle school (19 percent) and high school (14 percent). Also, White youth (86 percent) reported feeling safer than Black youth (71 percent) in accessing play areas within their neighborhood.

The Aspen Institute identified 40 findings and made recommendations based on the unique characteristics of the region through youth and coach surveys, focus group discussions with youth, coaches, and parents, and analysis of central Ohio’s youth sports ecosystem.

“Central Ohio is well positioned to harness our collective expertise, collaborative spirit, and network of youth-serving organizations to ensure a more equitable sports, recreation, and playing experience for all our children,” said Dan A. Sharpe, Vice President for Community Research and Grants Management at The Columbus Foundation. “The findings and recommendations from the Aspen team give us a solid playbook to adapt—and improve upon—the strengths of our community, across all sporting disciplines.”

The full report is available to read at columbusfoundation.org/reports.
Books & Music that Inspired Me

with Steve Moore

COMMUNITY COUNSEL AND DIRECTOR FOR DONOR SERVICES, THE COLUMBUS FOUNDATION

F OR MORE THAN 20 YEARS, Steve Moore has been helping donors at The Columbus Foundation achieve their charitable goals. As Community Counsel and Director for Donor Services, Moore splits his time between the President’s Office and Donor Services working on a variety of projects. Outside of his normal duties, Moore serves as a trustee for Philanthropy Ohio, as an ex-officio board member for the Dublin Community Foundation, a member of the Leadership Committee for the Columbus Metropolitan Club, and a member of the Shumate Council of the Wexner Center for the Arts. We caught up with Moore, a jazz enthusiast, to find out more about the music and books that inspire him.

What are you currently reading?
I’m currently reading Raggin’ On: The Art of Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson’s House and Journals by Carole M. Genshaft. I had the chance to meet Aminah several times during her life and this book illustrates the depth of her genius and creativity. I’ve been reading it since December and keep coming back to it. I find something new each time I open it.

What are some of your favorite books?
Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption by Bryan Stevenson
Manchild in the Promised Land by Claude Brown
Tigerland: 1968–1969: A City Divided, a Nation Torn Apart, and a Magical Season of Healing by Wil Haygood
The Last Shot: City Streets, Basketball Dreams by Darcy Frey
A Little Devil in America: Notes in Praise of Black Performance by Hamid Abdurraqib

What’s next?
Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents by Isabel Wilkerson

What book has had the greatest impact on you and why?
There are many books that have had impact on my life. In my adult life, it’s been Music is My Mistress by Edward Kennedy Ellington (Duke Ellington). It’s an autobiography of one of the most important 20th century composers and my introduction to his phrase and principle of “beyond category.”

What are some recordings you’ve loved?
A Love Supreme by John Coltrane
Country Preacher by The Cannonball Adderley Quintet
A New Perspective by Donald Byrd Band & Voices
Live at the Lighthouse by Lee Morgan
Karma by Pharoah Sanders
Blues People and the Art of Sound by Mark Lomax, II

For more, visit our website at thecolumbusfoundation.org.

2 Minutes with… (continued from page 4) things like that. I have this adventurous spirit that is part of my DNA. IBM is a company that has nearly 400,000 people in 197 countries. I am part of a global team that is providing me with that global experience, perspective, and exposure to culture and people from all over the world. During COVID, our global team has become even closer. We went from seeing each other once or twice a year to meeting every day at first, and now every week. We’ve created this global community inside the organization. This last year has given us that gift. For me, my role with IBM IX meets this desire I’ve had since I was little—to be out experiencing the world and interacting with a lot of people from a lot of different places.

Providing philanthropic support has been something you and your family have done for many years, including through the Kramer-Celeste Family Fund at the Foundation. What causes and interests are particularly meaningful to you?
Causes around social justice are most meaningful to Christopher and me. We’ve been very involved in the Equal Justice Initiative, which is based in Montgomery, Alabama. The work that Bryan Stevenson has done in that space is especially important to us. We’re also passionate about the work we’ve done in Rwanda through the Columbus Zoo and its Partners in Conservation effort. There’s a community center near the Congo border that began assisting disabled children, and our family built a school that serves about 400 students there.

Certainly, anything around women’s rights is also very important to us, particularly with the work I’ve done setting up my social advocacy group around free menstrual support products. It is something I kicked off with my TEDx talk in 2013, and it really helped catalyze an entire movement. I’m part of a national and international conversation around that topic.

How do you think the events of 2020 will shape our community in the coming years? What do you see as the biggest opportunities and challenges?
I refer to 2020 as the “Great Teacher,” as it provided an opportunity to pause and reflect on what is important and meaningful in our lives. I am saddened by the tragic loss of life, which I believe was unnecessary, and am thankful that, through the events of the past year, many of us have had the chance to slow down and take stock of our lives—personally, professionally, intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually—and decide how to better focus on what is important, to us as individuals and as a society.

I very much want the spotlight on racial justice to continue. It’s been 400 years since the beginning of slavery, and our country still has much work to do before we reach a place where everyone has full and equal access to opportunity and success. That’s something I feel strongly about, and it’s incumbent upon all of us to help bring about the necessary changes to make it possible.

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Ingram-White Castle Foundation Awarding Special Scholarships to Celebrate White Castle’s 100th Birthday

White Castle founder E.W. “Billy” Ingram believed in not only supporting those who worked for him, but also in providing opportunities to them to make better lives for themselves and their families. He started his family-owned business in 1921, selling small square hamburgers for a nickel.

THE “CRAVE” CAUGHT ON, and White Castle became the first fast food hamburger chain in the world. An innovator at heart, Ingram led the pack in many ways, including the invention of restaurant “carry-out” in 1927, coining the phrase, “Selling them by the sack.”

In 1949, Ingram created The Edgar W. Ingram Foundation as a vehicle to give back to the community. That foundation became a Supporting Foundation at The Columbus Foundation in 1981 and was renamed the Ingram-White Castle Foundation in 1987.

Ingram’s legacy of lifting people up inspired his family more than 30 years ago to honor him by creating a scholarship program to celebrate his passion and dedication to learning and education.

“One of Billy’s missions was to help team members,” said Erin Shannon, Corporate Relations Manager of White Castle, and great-granddaughter of Billy Ingram. “White Castle was one of the first companies to offer healthcare to its employees, starting in 1924. He wanted to give team members opportunities to better themselves, and helping to make college a reality is one of the ways we honor him today.”

Since 1989, the Ingram-White Castle Foundation Scholarship Program has approved more than 1,000 scholarships totaling over $2 million to help team members and their families achieve their educational goals.

Traditional awards range up to $3,500, and can be used to defray the cost of any educational expenses for full- or part-time studies at any college, university, or career, technical, or vocational school in the United States. The scholarships are open not only to team members, but also spouses, children (including adopted children and stepchildren), and other dependents.

As White Castle celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2021, the foundation has added two special scholarships to recognize the historic event. These anniversary scholarships provide up to $40,000 each, paid as $10,000 per year for four years. The students selected are chosen from the applications received for the annual awards, and will be notified this starting in 1924. He wanted to give team members opportunities to better themselves, and helping to make college a reality is one of the ways we honor him today.”

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“From the beginning, we’ve wanted to lift up students who needed a boost to help them achieve their educational dreams,” Shannon said. “These scholarships are designed to do just that.”

White Castle currently has 10,000 team members throughout 10 regions across the country. Celebrating 100 years is a testament to the foundation built by Billy Ingram and the passionate family members who have followed in his footsteps.

“It’s the dedication of the team members, cravers, and family that has helped White Castle continue to grow and succeed,” Shannon said.

COLUMBUS AND OUR FOUNDATION BENEFIT GREATLY FROM EXTRAORDINARY LEADERS WHO GIVE GENEROUSLY OF THEIR RESOURCES AND COUNSEL AS PART OF OUR GOVERNING COMMITTEE. WE WELCOME MARCHELLE E. MOORE AND MATT SCANTLAND TO OUR ORGANIZATION AND SINCERELY THANK LISA HINSON AND DWIGHT SMITH FOR THEIR MANY YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE, AND THEIR DEDICATION TO AND STEADFAST LOVE OF OUR COMMUNITY.

—DOUGLAS F. KRIDLER, PRESIDENT AND CEO, THE COLUMBUS FOUNDATION

Previously, he was Co-founder and CEO of CoverMyMeds, one of the largest and fastest growing healthcare technology companies in the United States.

Scantland and the organizations he is involved with are known for their commitment to creating shared opportunity and prosperity. He supports a number of organizations through the Mott and Meara Scantland Family Fund at The Columbus Foundation, and through board service with the Columbus Partnership, Columbus Downtown Development Corporation, InnovateOhio, The Wellington School, Orange Barrel Media, and IKE Smart City.

Nancy Kramer, a member of the Committee since 2014, was elected to serve a one-year term as Chairperson of the Governing Committee. Kramer is Chief Evangelist of IBM iX, as well as the Founder of Resource/Ammirati. Michael P. Glimcher, President and CEO of Donahue Schriber Realty Group, was elected to serve as Vice Chairperson. Governing Committee members continuing to serve in 2021 are George S. Barrett, Joseph A. Chlapaty, Jeffrey W. Edwards, Clark Kellogg, and Katie Wolfe Lloyd.

Dwight E. Smith, President and CEO of Sophisticated Systems, Inc., completed nine years of service with the Committee, including a one-year term as Chairperson, and Lisa A. Hinson, President of Hinson LTD Public Relations, completed eight years of service at the end of 2020.

THE COLUMBUS FOUNDATION NAMES 2021 GOVERNING COMMITTEE

Marcella Moore and Matthew Scantland, respectively.

Erin Shannon

Photos courtesy of Marchelle Moore and Matthew Scantland, respectively.
On April 17, The Columbus Foundation announced Roshelle Pate, also known as the "Food Soldier," as the 2021 recipient of The Spirit of Columbus Award. Pate was selected as the honoree in recognition of the work she and thousands of volunteers do to feed food insecure neighbors, especially during the hardest days of the pandemic. Since 2015, she has organized and led free food giveaway events around the Columbus area, and has inspired others to join her in the cause, both in person and online. As the honoree, Pate received a $25,000 grant to designate to a nonprofit of her choice and a "Jerrie," a bronze miniature of the Jerrie Mock sculpture at John Glenn Columbus International Airport, created by local artist Renate Fackler.

The Spirit of Columbus Award was created in 2013 in honor of pilot Jerrie Mock, the first woman to fly solo around the world. The award recognizes those who exhibit bravery, determination, and boldness through their actions.

2021 Spirit of Columbus Award Honoree Roshelle Pate recently sat down with the Foundation to reflect on her passion for helping others and how she became The Food Soldier. Watch the interview above to learn more about her ongoing efforts.