

# LA's BEST: A LEGACY OF IMPACT



2024 Executive Summary



## Literacy & Academic Support

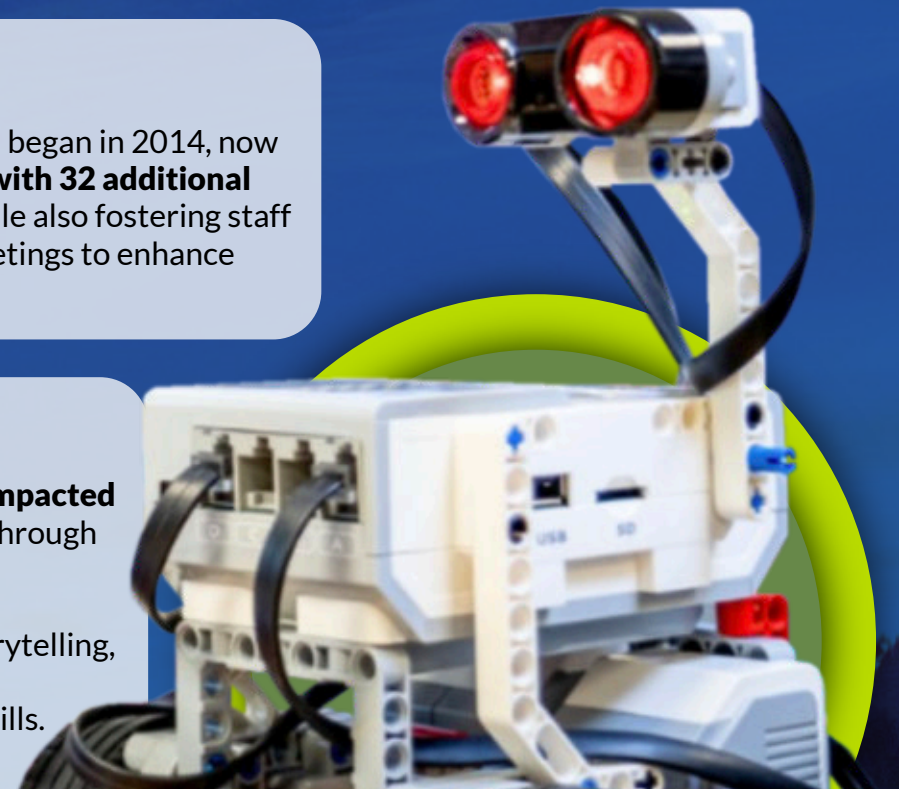
The LA's BEST Young Authors Program, implemented at over **190 sites**, empowers students in grades UTK–6th to develop self-efficacy, improve reading and writing skills, and foster a sense of agency, with **75.2% of students reporting enjoyment and 7 out of 10 feeling they learned more about themselves.**

## STEM & Digital Learning

The Droids Robotics Program, which began in 2014, now includes **18 sites and 208 students, with 32 additional sites** attending robotics trainings, while also fostering staff development through bi-monthly meetings to enhance technical skills and teamwork.

## Arts

The Theatre Phoenix Program has impacted over **600 students across 8 schools** through 10-week residencies and assemblies. The program is focused on theatre etiquette, improvisation, creative storytelling, fostering self-expression, confidence, collaboration, and problem-solving skills.



# ENRICHMENT THROUGH EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Experiential Learning – learning through action, experiences, and intentional reflection – has always been the foundation of our enrichment programming.

Here is a snapshot of LA's BEST enrichment during the 2023-2024 academic year.

## Nutrition & Wellness

The BEST Fit Department supported **328 staff from 186 schools with physical activity programs and 386 staff from 152 schools with nutrition workshops.** Offering trainings in fitness, teamwork, and nutrition through programs like Small Bites and A Yummy Curriculum to promote healthy habits among students and families.



## Seasonal Sports / Dance & Drill Team

Approximately **489 sites and 9,135 students** participated in LA's BEST seasonal sports program, which includes Kickball, Flag Football, Basketball, Soccer, and Dance & Drill Team. The program focuses on positive development, skill-building, team-building, and social-emotional learning through sports tournaments and professional development for coaches.

# WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

In its inaugural year, the Workforce Development Department made significant strides by **refining recruitment, developing staff resources, and launching the Student Worker Program**, which provided **over 200 high school students from 30+ LAUSD schools with real-world work experience** at 40+ LA's BEST sites.

## Staff Development

The Staff Development Department trained nearly 900 LA's BEST Program Workers through a 5-day in-person New Staff Orientation (NSO) covering program values, safety, self-care and more, emphasizing the importance of equipping staff to create positive learning environments.

## Leadership Development

The Leadership Department facilitated extensive training programs, including the LA's BEST in ME Mentor Cohort with 87 participants, 14 APS Meetings with 55-70 attendees per session, and specialized sessions on topics like incident reporting, anti-racism, and programming, reaching over 1,100 staff members across multiple events.



## ProDay (pictured above)

This year's **Professional Development Day (ProDay)** at Los Angeles Trade Technical College brought together nearly **1,000 staff members for over 35 workshops** on diverse topics, including STEM programming, mental health awareness, social-emotional learning, and resiliency.



# YEARLONG LEARNING ACROSS LOS ANGELES

ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-24

## 201 LA's BEST SITES

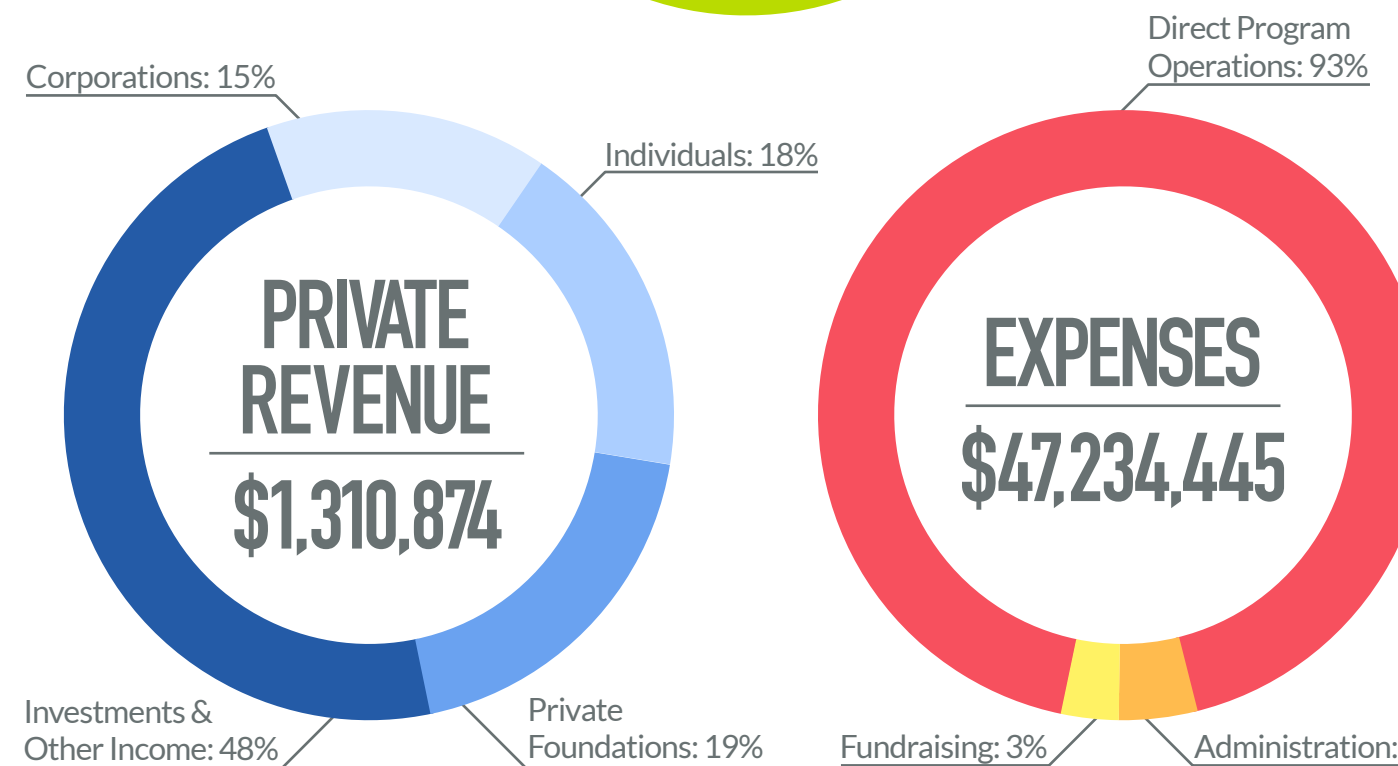
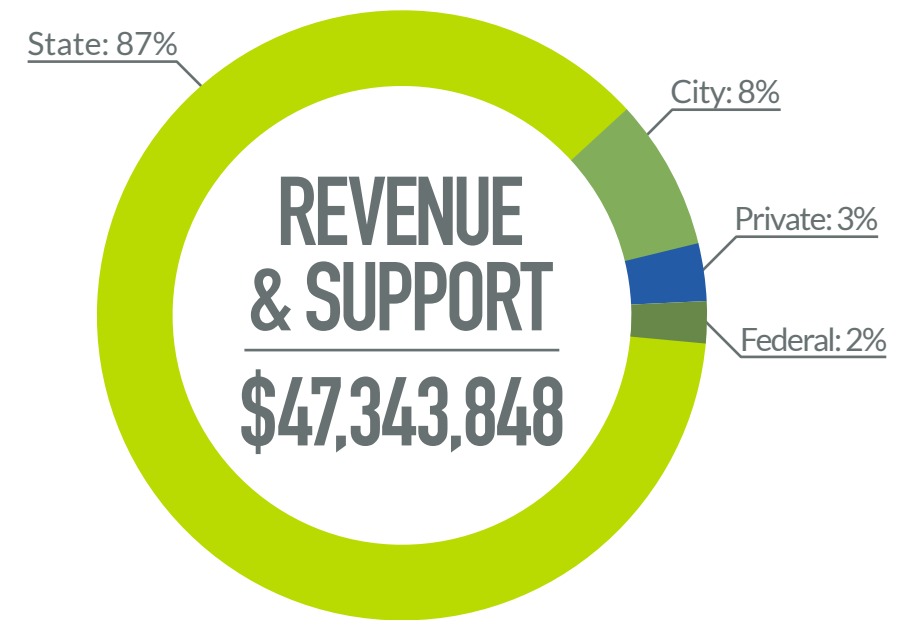
During the academic year, LA's BEST / Beyond the Bell provided enriching afterschool and morning programs in 201 schools across Los Angeles, positively impacting **16,200 students** from neighborhoods ranging from San Pedro to Sylmar and Venice to East LA.

SUMMER 2024

## 169 LA's BEST SITES

During Summer 2024, the LA's BEST Summer Learning Program served **6,800 students** at 169 schools, offering educational & recreational activities.

# FINANCIALS





## About LA's BEST

LA's BEST Afterschool Enrichment Program provides students with nutritious meals, academic support, and a variety of enrichment activities every school day and during summer, at no cost to families in Los Angeles' highest-need neighborhoods. Established in 1988, LA's BEST is a public-private partnership dedicated to keeping children safe and equipping them with resources to succeed in school and life, with a focus on staff training to foster students' social and emotional development. LA's BEST continues to expand equitable opportunities that benefit students, families, and its workforce across Los Angeles, now and for future generations.

Thank you to our donors and supporters.  
To read the full annual report, visit [lasbest.org/annual-report-2024](https://lasbest.org/annual-report-2024)

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