



CATHERINE PROJECT

2021 Annual Report

Dear Readers and Friends,

For the Catherine Project, 2021 was the year in which we established ourselves as a publicly legible organization. We are overjoyed to say that, as of January 21st, 2022, that effort has culminated in our recognition by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization. The effective date of this exemption is our date of incorporation—July 26th, 2021—and all donations made on or after that date are tax-deductible in the United States. If you have questions about whether your donation is tax-deductible, we encourage you to write us at info@catherineproject.org. This development opens many new possibilities for funding and support, and we hope that it also serves to encourage and inspire confidence in potential donors.

2021: The Year in Review

With regard to the activities your donations support, we are delighted to share some numbers from the past year. In 2021:

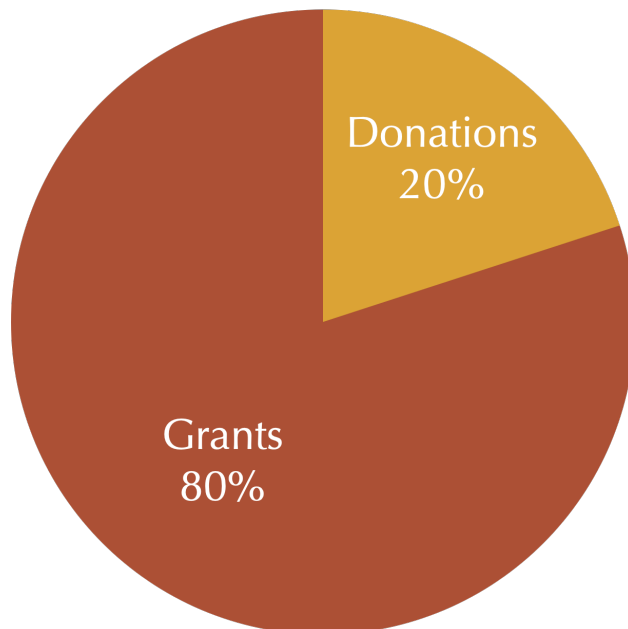
- ⊗ We served 272 readers in all
- ⊗ We offered 14 tutorials, which served 38 readers
- ⊗ We offered 23 reading groups, which served 197 readers
- ⊗ 70 readers participated on our one-off Fall Seminar on Genesis 1-5

Readers from Africa and Continental Europe, from the Middle East and Central America, from rural North America and Silicon Valley—all elected to study various texts of profound depth and value. Lawyers, homemakers, musicians, and gap-year students read Homer, Dante, George Eliot, and Euclid, among others. The only agenda: to learn for learning’s sake.

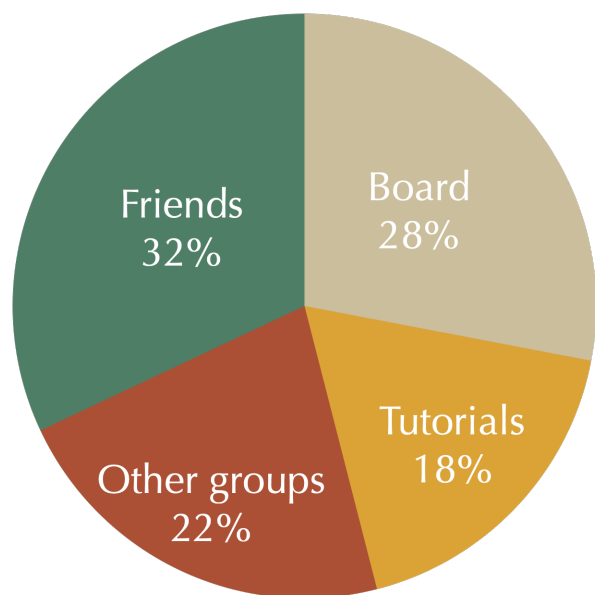
All of this was made possible thanks to the financial support of our community. In 2021 we asked the members and friends of our community to recognize the value of the Catherine Project by donating in accordance with their situation and means. These donations represent a real stake in our community and so we believe it to be just that we share where the Project’s funding comes from. In 2021:

- ⊗ Our total revenue was \$124,897
- ⊗ We received 1 grant of \$100,000 in unrestricted funds from Emergent Ventures
- ⊗ We received 97 individual donations of unrestricted funds, totaling \$24,897
 1. 40% of those funds were given by readers who participated in either a reading group or tutorial in 2021
 2. 32% of those funds were given by friends of the Catherine Project who have yet to participate in one of our groups
 3. 28% of those funds were given by members of our Board of Directors

Our total funding came from:



Our donations came from:



It must be said that, in addition to the financial support of our community, the Catherine Project owes its existence to the willingness of our volunteer tutors and reading group leaders to generously share their talents and time. The love of learning and communal study is inculcated best by example, and we owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to our volunteers who, beyond simply facilitating the conversation, model the life of the mind.

Furthermore, the Catherine Project has benefited tremendously from the careful tending of our stalwart Board of Directors. These individuals have graciously contributed their wisdom and resources to the Project's genesis. Our beautiful new website (www.catherineproject.org) was a gift of Anne Folan & Associates and our visual identity was created for us pro-bono by Poesis Creative Studio.

2022: Looking Forward

Thanks to the care of our entire community in setting the Catherine Project on a strong foundation, we look to expand our offerings without compromising the spirit of our offerings. This spring we are running:

- ⊗ 8 tutorials
- ⊗ 2 subject tutorials
- ⊗ 16 reading groups

All told, we have been to accommodate 260 readers, which represents a 271% increase in readers served compared with spring of 2021. We hope to afford further opportunities for readers in our summer and fall sessions—and, given the success of our Fall Seminar on Genesis 1-5, we look forward to offering a one-off Spring Seminar on a text to be announced.

In addition to the continued organization of our tutorials and reading groups, our initiatives for the immediate future include the offering of an in-person summer program either this year or next—depending on our funding situation—and the publication of a Catherine newsletter. The newsletter will serve not only as a digest of Project-related writing, but also as a tool for raising awareness of our community and its activities. **If you are interested in volunteering to help publish the newsletter, please email us: volunteer@catherineproject.org.**

Though the birth of the Catherine Project was made possible by a generous grant from Emergent Ventures, it needs the sustenance and nurture of our community. Your donations both hold us accountable for providing something of real value and demonstrate the stake you have in our community. If you feel you have benefited from participation in one of our groups, or if you simply wish to affirm the work we are doing, we humbly ask for your support and are deeply grateful for donations of any amount.

If you feel led to contribute, you may do so by visiting our donate page www.catherineproject.org/donate. You are also welcome to mail checks to:

Catherine Project, Inc.
2631 Housley Road, Box 1006
Annapolis, MD 21401

As always, we welcome any questions or reflections on the work of the Catherine Project, past or future.

With deepest thanksgiving and appreciation for all who make our community of learning possible,

Zena Hitz and Jordan Poyner
For all at the Catherine Project

www.catherineproject.org | info@catherineproject.org | 443.808.0881 |
2631 Housley Road, Box 1006, Annapolis, MD 21401



Testimonials

“[The Catherine Project] has really opened new doors/windows... it has been like discovering a new Mediterranean... indeed a great, very nourishing journey with peers in all parts of the world.”

“Honestly the Catherine Project has been one of the best things in my life of late.”

“[The Catherine Project] has participants from all walks of life, from professors to business owners, from scholars of classics to the first time readers. All these different participants bring the diverse relationships they have formed with the texts to the groups. Being a part of these discussions with the immense support of excellent tutors and group leaders has been one of the most intellectually enriching experiences of my life. The friendships formed in these groups have lasted beyond the scope of reading groups. The texts vary from the times of antiquity to modernity, from philosophy to literature. Reading these texts with amazing fellow readers has broadened my understanding of the classics in general and has brought me closer to the classics of my own culture.”