



Detroit Community Sailing

2022 Annual Report



2022 Youth Learn to Sail (YLTS) Programs

- UofM/Inland Seas Schooner STEM Outing *(New in 2022)*
- Metro Detroit YMCA Water Safety *(New in 2022)*
- Beginning /Intermediate Session 1
- Beginning /Intermediate Session 2
- STEM in Sailing *(New in 2022)*
- After School Sailing *(New in 2022)*

2022 Adult Learn to Sail (ALTS) Programs

- Beginning Session 1
- Beginning Session 2 *(New in 2022)*
- Intermediate *(New in 2022)*
- Keelboat Race Crew Training *(New in 2022)*
- Crew/Skipper Networking Events *(New in 2022)*

2022 Highlights - Engaging and Retaining New Sailors

Above is a list of our 2022 Youth and Adult Learn to Sail programs. It highlights what was added in 2022. As you can see, we enjoyed considerable growth and diversity in our programming this season. In addition to reaching more new sailors with new programs, we focused on creating pathways for our new youth and adult sailors to stay engaged with sailing. The adult program expansion is helping to sustain our youth program's fee subsidy.

STEM and Water Safety are 2 priorities in which we made progress. Metro Detroit YMCA and U of M's Detroit River Story Lab were key to helping us expand these programs.

In partnership with the DRYA and the Lake St Claire Facebook group we held two Crew/Skipper networking events. The social events matched our new sailors with DRYA skippers looking for crew. Of course, Dragonmead's free beer helped make the events a success and encourage our new sailors to stay engaged.

I'm most pleased to acknowledge the impact our new director, Grace Pytell, had on our program. Grace's energy and sailing program expertise has been critical in us achieve these higher-level results.

However, it isn't all good news. Going forward, structural issues with the Boathouse building will make running a safe and effective program more difficult. Aging boats, equipment and deferred maintenance is still our reality. Our sustainability will depend on mitigating these issues. Our future growth will depend on us solving our triple capacity constraint of money, boats and instructors. Lastly, we lost the use of Premiere Sailing League's boats as they have been put up for sale.

I'll end with thanking our most important partners. Our results would not be possible without the support of our generous donors and supporters. With your continued support we are confident we will overcome the current challenges and enjoy continued growth.

Thank you,
Harry Jones
President, Detroit Community Sailing Center
Having Fun While Learning to Sail

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Detroit Community Sailing Youth Program

Expanding Engagement

Our mission continues. This season we engaged 91 youth participants between our sailing, STEM and swim programs. While our programs are open to everyone, our sailor's representation was 77% people of color (POC) and 50% female.

We expanded our STEM and Water Safety programs. These are 2 long standing priorities. We also promoted a path to Hampton University's (HBCU) sailing program as a new initiative



New Programs

Water Safety – Is a challenge with the demographics we serve. It's also an opportunity. Through the Metro Detroit YMCA we offered a 4-day Water Safety Course before our sailing programs began. It is focused on staying safe around water, basic swim strokes and deep-water life jacket training.

STEM in Sailing programs – Our base program includes emphasize on sailing's science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). This year we added two STEM programs. With the help of Doriene Thomas, DPS instructor, we developed and offered a one-week STEM in Sailing experience that included hands on experiments demonstrating sailing's math, physics, and marine environment appreciation. We also offered a half day outing on the Inland Seas schooner. The University of Michigan and the Inland Seas Educational Association in Sutton Bay MI made this wonderful program available to our participants. The program emphasized marine biology, the Detroit River's African American history, protecting our marine environment and tall ship seamanship while sailing on the Detroit River.

After School Sailing Practice to Stay Engaged – We extended the sailing season this year into the start of school. We were able to offer a very popular after school sailing practice for our 420 and Opti sailors.

Our Base Programs

Beginner and Intermediate Learn to Sail– Is a two-week learn-to-sail session taught by US Sailing certified instructors and volunteers with years of experience. We use US Sailing's standard curriculum. Every participant learns to sail. The course emphasizes teamwork and the physics of sailing. The sailors are exposed to our rich local marine environment. The Intermediate program runs concurrently to advance the skills of returning participants and complete their "Skipper" qualification.

Assistant Instructors - Returning sailors, with experience and sailing skill certifications, can assist in coaching in a paid position.



Club 420

About Our Boats

Optimist - (AKA Optis) are great 8' training boats for preteens and teens. With one sail, a solo sailor can easily learn the basics. They are designed to challenge sailors as they progress.

Club 420 - Experienced youth sailors move into our 14' Club 420 boats. These boats have two sails and are sailed by a crew of two.

Interlake and Flying Scot – are 18' and 19' boats with larger sails and can hold up to six crewmembers. These boats are used to train older teens and adults with an instructor onboard.



Optimist

Detroit Community Sailing Adult Program

Attracting New Adult Sailors and Keeping Them Engaged

This year we engaged 92 adult participants between our beginning, intermediate learn to sail and other engagement programs.

To stay true to our mission we continued recruiting families of our Challenge the Wind participants and younger people living or working downtown.



New Programs to Stay Engaged.

Our newly trained sailors ask "What's Next?" So, we've added the following opportunities.

Intermediate Sailing – The next step in learning a new range of sailing skills. This class covers techniques on the finer points of sailing, racing techniques and rules, as well as spinnaker sailing. It is designed to prepare our sailors to join the crews of race boats throughout Detroit and feel more confident with sail trim and heavy weather sailing.

Keelboat Race Crew Training – Designed for our sailors to learn how to crew on our Tartan10, 33-foot keelboat. Participants learn like a boat owner without the expenses of ownership, while learning all crew and skipper positions including maintenance issues, rules of racing, teamwork, and safety.

Crew Connection Events – These social events match boat owners looking to expand their crew roster with our new sailors. The events are put on in partnership with the Detroit Regional Yacht-racing Association and the Lake St Claire Facebook group.

Instructor Training – After achieving their "Skipper's Card" and additional sailing experience, we invite them to join our instructor team to share the passion with new sailors.

Our Base Program

Beginner Learn to Sail – These classes are designed for both the novice who has never been in a sailboat as well as for sailors with some experience who want to learn how to sail on their own. New sailors learn the parts of a sailboat, steering, setting sails, docking, wind awareness, etc. in a friendly, welcoming environment. At the end of the course the new sailors have the confidence to safely sail a boat as the skipper.



Detroit Community Sailing

2023 Challenges and Plans

Belle Isle Boat House Shut Down

This summer the state shut down the Belle Isle Boat House because of structural issues. Consequently, we lost access to our inside classroom, bathrooms etc. We were able to continue our season with temporary bathrooms and outdoor classrooms, but it's not a long-term solution. Over the winter we will be working on a satisfactory facility solution.

New revenue generating programs will help but it will not offset our increasing cost. We are updating the "Sustaining Fund" initiative to also address this facility issue. Feel free to contact us if you would like to know more about our plans or how you can help.

Help We Need in 2023

falls into these 3 categories

- 1) **Adding Boats** – Additional boats are critical to addressing the growing demand for our program. Models we specifically need are Opti, 420 or Flying Scots. We prefer complete boats in good condition. We do not have the resources to accept "project" boats.
- 2) **Repairing Boats, Equipment and Docks** - We need professional fiberglass and painting help to address the wear and tear experienced with training boats. We also have additional docks and equipment in need of professional repairs.
- 3) **Donations** – Donations at all levels are needed to keep sailing accessible. We are committed to maintaining the youth program's \$100 fee for a 2-week session. That is the same amount we have charged for the last 11 years. It is increasingly more difficult to maintain the fee level.



Detroit Community Sailing

Our Valued Sponsors, Partners and Volunteers

Many support us financially, with wise counsel and with their time. We would especially like to acknowledge the following for their contribution to the program's continuation and expansion:

- *Grosse Pointe Youth Nautical Education Foundation*
- *Sun Sport Marine*
- *Detroit Boat Club*
- *Friends of the Detroit Rowing, Inc.*
- *American Sailing Institute*



Detroit Community Sailing

How You Can Help

Donate or Volunteer

We are a 501(c)(3) Federal Non-Profit organization.
100% of your tax-deductible donation goes to the program.

“Give a young person an alternative this summer”

Our fund raising is focused on sustaining our youth program. You can provide a life-changing experience for a Detroit area young person. Your contribution will help a participant learn the skill of sailing and use math, physics, problem solving, teamwork and conflict management skills.



Donate

By Check

Made out to “Detroit Community Sailing Center” and it to:
Detroit Community Sailing Center
PO Box 15065
Detroit, MI 48215

By Credit Card or Paypal

(credit cards accepted at PayPal site with no extra fees)

PayPal site www.PayPal.com

email ID pay@challengethewind.org

Stock Donations

Contact us at info@sailingdetroit.org for instructions

For more Information on donating or volunteering

Visit: www.sailingdetroit.org

email: info@sailingdetroit.org



Detroit Community Sailing

About Us

Detroit Community Sailing Center, a 501(c)(3), was originally founded as Challenge the Wind Youth Sailing Program in 1994 by the Grayhaven Sail Club of Detroit. Its mission, then, as it is now, is to teach sailing to people who would not otherwise get exposure to the sport. In 2021 we changed the name to reflect our desire to broaden the community we serve and sustain our youth programs.

Board of Governors

Name	Board Position	Professional Positions
Cliff Papin	Chairman	Retired, Engineer, Ford Motor Co.
Harry Jones	President	Retired, Director, Human Resources, Asia Pacific and Africa, Ford Motor Co.
Larry Breskin	Treasure	Owner and Attorney at Breskin Law Firm, past Commodore, Detroit Boat Club
Deneen Garrett	Volunteers	Founder & CEO of Deneen L Garrett LLC, Talent & Leadership Development at AT&T, Podcast Host
Tanagra Weaver	Secretary	Retired, HR Manager, Province of St. Joseph of the Capuchin Order, Commodore, Grayhaven Sail Club
Graziano Galloway-Gooden	Member	Owner, Graziano Galloway-Gooden Design Team
Jon Aubuchon	Member	Owner and Attorney at Aubuchon Law Firm, Commodore Detroit Boat Club
Michael Dixon	Member	Retired, Commercial Banker, Author, past Commodore Detroit Boat Club
Gwen Gipson	Member	Owner, Chargwn Design
Ben Klatzka	Member	CEO, Premier Sailing League
Ellen Lewis	Member	President, Lewis Manor Homes, LTD, Regina Homes, Inc., Interlude, Inc.
Jim Neumann	Member	Youth boats and yachting equipment consultant, yacht manager and consultant, former Director of Membership and Marketing at Detroit Yacht Club
Tim Proffit	Member	President at Maren & Associates, Commodore Detroit Regional Yacht Racing Association, past Commodore Bayview Yacht Club
Dave Simon	Member	Chief Administrative Officer at Altair, past Commodore Crescent Sail Yacht Club



Having Fun While Learning to Sail



Sailing Detroit

To:

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