



LEXINGTON

School and Center for the Deaf

A Tradition of Service...



to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Communities.

Annual Report 2011/2012

Hard to believe that yet another year has gone by. As with the previous year, the number of challenges facing us has not subsided. No sooner do we overcome one challenge, another one presents itself. Fortunately, our Lexington staff is up to the challenge! While any organization can do well during good times, it is the truly the outstanding organization that survives the challenges of a difficult economy and the ever-changing regulatory environment in which we operate.

As Lexington approaches its 150th year anniversary, I am happy to report that while we continue to evolve, our commitment to the deaf and hard of hearing remains the same. It is Lexington's ability to not only anticipate and change with the times, but also it is the resilience of our employees and board members that allow us to be more innovative in meeting a never ending constituency in need of our services. While we take great pride in Lexington's past accomplishments, we all look forward to writing the next chapters of Lexington's history.

Sincerely,
Manuel Mosquera, CEO

LEXINGTON CHEERLEADERS BRING HOME THE TITLE

Congratulations are in order to the Lexington School for the Deaf High School Cheerleading team for their February 11 victory! This is their second time to hold the championship title at the Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association Tournament. Lexington stormed over five opposing teams at the Learning Center in Framingham, Massachusetts. Kathy Nieves and Isatou Sankanu, fellow teammates, sweetened the victory as they were named to the All Tournament Cheerleading Squad.

Head Coach Maria Micioni stated, "The students worked extremely hard this season. They practiced almost every day after school and on Saturdays in the weeks leading up to the competition to perform at a championship level." Both Coach Micioni and Tara Ciccone, Assistant Coach, motivated the team to tap their potential and it paid off well. "The highlight of the cheerleading competition is the team dance. It's just like something you would see on ESPN with stunts, lifts and flying cheerleaders. They were awesome!"

Moved by the team's performance, Lexington's Athletic Director Bob Sheiner stated, "I am very proud of our team this year. Our coach has a no cut policy. Many of those who join have little or no cheerleading experience. They remain on the team as long as they pass their classes and follow team rules. The team came a long way and overcame many challenges this year, so winning the championship is especially gratifying."



Lexington cheerleaders have the winning spirit!

Lexington School and Center for the Deaf seeks to be an exemplary education, service, and research institution for the deaf and hard-of-hearing in metropolitan New York City and the nation. We seek to collaborate with the deaf and hard-of-hearing to realize their full potential in both the deaf and hard-of-hearing worlds; and take a leading position in concert with the deaf and hard-of-hearing communities in articulating the multi-faceted challenges, opportunities, and needs for service of the deaf and hard-of-hearing.

STUDENTS COMPETE TO DESIGN SORENSON nTOUCH VP BOOTH

This year, our students had the unique opportunity to design a new Sorenson nTouch Video Phone booth to be on permanent display in Lexington's main lobby. The contest was generously sponsored by Sorenson Communications. High school students submitted their best designs that represented both their pride in Lexington and in New York City to the high school Student Council, who then chose one finalist from each grade, and one overall winner from the five finalists. The lucky finalists were Ryan McNamara (Grade 9), Jackie Lalescu (Grade 10), Shannon Williams (Grade 11A), Artavia Goode (Grade 11B), and Stephanie Talavera (Grade 12). Each finalist won a Kindle Fire, donated by Sorenson Communications.



Stephanie Talavera stands proudly by her design.

The overall winner, Stephanie Talavera not only won an iPad, donated by Sorenson Communications,



On the phone with Queens Borough President Helen Marshall

but also won the honor of making the first two calls on the new videophone. She first phoned Queens Borough President Helen Marshall, who spoke with Stephanie through an interpreter on screen. "I congratulate Stephanie on her winning art design and wish her every success following her upcoming graduation from Lexington School for the Deaf. She is a very bright young lady with a promising future ahead of her," the Queens Borough President said.



Chatting with Russell Harvard

After Stephanie and Queens Borough President Marshall said their goodbyes, Stephanie was back on the videophone with deaf actor Russell Harvard, star of the off-Broadway hit Tribes and winner of the 2012 Theater World Award for his performance. "Stephanie and her fellow graduates at Lexington have the whole world at their fingertips.

I hope they all go on to achieve their dreams." Mr. Harvard said.

"It is very rewarding to be able to demonstrate that deaf people and hearing people can communicate with each other using technology. It was a great experience being able to speak with Borough President Marshall and Mr. Harvard – they are both fantastic role models!" Stephanie said.



The winner and finalists with Jody Kulchinsky

Jody Kulchinsky, district manager for Sorenson Communications presented the awards to Stephanie and her classmates, and echoed her sentiment. "Sorenson Communications is focused on breaking down communication barriers with innovative solutions and high-quality products. We are very proud to support Lexington School for the Deaf, which does extraordinary work in preparing its students for full lives as engaged members of the community."

10TH GRADE STUDENT PLACES IN NATIONAL SCIENCE FAIR

We are extremely proud of 10th grader Jackie Lalescu for winning 3rd place for Lexington School for the Deaf in the Rochester Institute for Technology's Science Fair for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Students. A total of 74 students from 20 states competed. Jackie placed with her project, Healthiest Ground Meat: Which One?, in which she correctly hypothesized that ground turkey would contain the lowest percentage of fat, compared to ground beef and ground pork.

In 2011, Jackie won 1st place in the Lexington Science Fair with Healthiest Ground Meat: Which One?, and under the guidance of science teacher Grace Ann Ashley, she worked hard this school year to revise and refine her project to ensure it would be competitive on the national stage. "Jackie really delved into the scientific process to explore deeper scientific principles. She developed a fine understanding of the science behind the experiment," said Ms. Ashley, Jackie's science teacher at Lexington. Ms. Ashley also helped Jackie incorporate math, grammar, logic, and presentation and public speaking skills into her project.

All of their hard work paid off at the Rochester Institute for Technology's Science Fair, as Jackie also was voted Most Passionate, which is judged in the panel presentation of the project and is given to the student who exhibits the most enthusiasm for their project. All eight judges were highly impressed with Jackie's presentation skills, her spirit, and her passion for her project.

"I was extremely excited to go to the Rochester science fair and I am very proud of myself. I think it would be very interesting to be a scientist or a researcher, especially someone who knows a lot about the environment," Jackie said after the competition.

All 9th and 10th graders are required to participate in the Lexington Science Fair, and national science fair participants are picked from the Lexington projects, based on originality, creativity, and sound science. They start working on their projects early in the school year. Participating students have a wide range of abilities, and our Foreign Language Transition program also submits projects in the fair. During the science fair, students present their projects to everyone from the judges, teachers, and adults to the younger students in elementary and middle school. Students look forward to the fair all year long, and everyone at Lexington is excited to see next year's projects!



Jackie is all smiles

"I am very proud of myself. I think it would be very interesting to be a scientist or a researcher, especially someone who knows a lot about the environment."

DEAF CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL 2011



In September of 2011, Lexington presented our first Deaf Creative Arts Festival as part of Deaf Awareness Week, a week-long celebration of Deaf culture. We celebrated Deaf artists of all genres and featured works by Lexington's own student body and staff, alongside select works by professional Deaf artists to showcase the accomplishments of all artists in the Deaf community. Works on display included paintings by Stephen Mulhauser and Nancy Rourke, prints by Kurt Stoskopf, and short films by Storm Smith. Refreshments were provided by the Lex Voc Café, Lexington's own in-house café staffed entirely by Deaf individuals.

Left: Edwin Valdez, student at Lexington, poses with his art exhibition at the Deaf Creative Arts Festival

MOBILE HEARING TESTING UNIT HITS THE ROAD

Lexington Hearing and Speech Center's Mobile Testing Unit has been busy this year making the rounds to industrial sites, senior centers and residences all over Queens and Brooklyn, and even made a stop by Borough Hall in Queens. As part of our Hearing Healthcare for the Elderly program, we visited senior communities to provide seniors free hearing screenings, information on hearing loss prevention and hearing healthcare, and follow up services and referrals in the comfort of their own living community.

Most recently, Borough President of Queens Helen Marshall hosted free hearing screenings in front of Borough Hall in May 2012 to celebrate Better Hearing and Speech Month. President Marshall was the first to receive her free hearing screening. Our audiologists screened approximately 45 people at Borough Hall, and passed out brochures on hearing protections and conservation tips.



Visiting Boro Hall for Better Hearing & Speech Month.

For more information about Hearing Healthcare for the Elderly, or other Hearing and Speech programs, please contact us at (718) 350-3171.

LARGEST AUDIO SUITE IN NY UNVEILED AT LEXINGTON



The Lexington Hearing and Speech Center kicked off National Protect Your Hearing month with the unveiling of the largest audio hearing testing booth in the New York area. We are proud to have the newest cutting-edge technology aimed to address America's increasing public health concern: hearing loss.

Adele I. Agin, Lexington Hearing and Speech Center's Executive Director stated, "Lexington is now equipped to accommodate all members of the community, from parents with young children to seniors assisted by their aides. In the new testing suites, individuals receive in-depth evaluations including a complete diagnostic analysis and follow-up aural rehabilitation."

The center was honored to have among other distinguished guests the Administrative Director of Ambulatory Care at New York Hospital Queens, Maria A. D'Urso, and New York State Assemblyman Michael DenDekker present at the ceremonial ribbon cutting.

HEARING AND SPEECH WELCOMES NEW DOCTOR



Lexington Hearing & Speech Center has named Michael Ditkoff, MD its new Medical Director. "I am honored to be joining this outstanding team. I look forward to contributing to Lexington's continuing legacy in the prevention and treatment of hearing loss," Dr. Ditkoff said.

Dr. Ditkoff is a Board Certified Otolaryngologist and Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. He received his specialty training in otolaryngology at Tufts-New England Medical Center in Boston, Harvard University Boston Children's Hospital, Tufts University Pediatric Floating Hospital and Brown University Hasbro Children's Hospital.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS HELP LEXINGTON VOCATIONAL SERVICES

TEACH IMPORTANT LIFE SKILLS

This year, Lexington Vocational Services teamed up with both the New York Fire Department and Bethex Federal Credit Union to offer important safety and financial education workshops to supplement our Community Programs that assist our deaf clients with life skills, provide hands-on work opportunities, and deaf awareness training for employers.

In February, the FDNY hosted a free workshop at Lexington for the deaf and hard of hearing community that explained fire prevention tips and how to safely escape a building in the case of fire. Over 120 people attended and received free Lifetone HL Bedside Fire Alarm and Clocks, specially designed to alert deaf and hard of hearing individuals by combining a high frequency alarm, a visual signal and a physical vibration all in one device. Laura Squassoni, the Chief Inspector that conducted the workshop, is profoundly deaf in her left ear.

“Being a part of this initiative is extremely rewarding for me. I truly understand how crucial it is that deaf New Yorkers are taking proper safety precautions, including the use of appropriate fire alarms,” said Squassoni.

From February through April, we offered free tax preparation to our clients and the deaf community with the help of Bethex Federal Credit Union. Through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, two professional tax preparers came to Lexington to help the deaf community complete their tax filings, assisted by an ASL interpreter to facilitate communications. “We are gratified to work with Lexington in helping deaf New Yorkers benefit from our professional tax preparation service. Sharing our expertise in this way aligns with Bethex’s founding principles and our long history of service to the community,” said Jorge Flores, Site Coordinator and Quality Reviewer for Bethex.

LEXINGTON’S 2012 EMPLOYER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

Each year Lexington is honored to host its Employer Luncheon as a thank you to the local companies and organizations that aid its career development program. Our valued supporters have worked with clients and students for over 35 years providing opportunities for summer internships, employment, and community service.

This year’s employers are: Alley Pond Environmental Center, Applebee’s, GAP, Baby GAP, GAP Kids, Gotte’s Cafe, LaGuardia Marriott Hotel, New York LaGuardia Airport, LaGuardia Plaza Hotel, National Park Service (Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island), New York Hospital Queens, Northeast Program Center, Jamaica, NYC Department of Education, PS811Q The Marathon School, Port Authority of NY/NJ (LaGuardia Airport), Queens Botanical Garden, Queens Library, Queens High School of Teaching, Regal Heights Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center, Social Security Administration, Sunnyside Community Services, and the United Spinal Association. Each company was presented with certificates and skits of appreciation from junior and senior students, and we are truly grateful for everything our employers do for our students.

“The opportunity to intern or volunteer is a vital learning experience that gives our students a real-world glimpse of life in the workforce. It is often an equally impactful experience for the employers, who gain as much from learning to interact with deaf and hard-of-hearing workers as the students gain from the job experience,” said Tony Massa, Supervisor of Lexington’s Career Education & Guidance Department.

“Lexington’s student interns fit in seamlessly with workers who have been with us for many years. All tasks they were assigned were completed above and beyond what was asked of them, no matter how big or small. I wish we had more time with them because they are certainly capable of learning and performing much more than we could cover this year. They will all be excellent workers in their future jobs – I wish I could hire them all!” said Andy Schoenholtz, Director of Food Services for Regal Heights Rehabilitation Center, which employed six Lexington students.



Lexington students with their employers

VOC CLIENTS SPREAD THE HOLIDAY CHEER

Our Vocational Services clients got a chance to practice their customer service skills and build up their work experience while spreading goodwill for the holidays at the Barnes & Noble in Bayside, Queens. Women in our Deaf Women for Economic Independence (DeafWEI) program worked hard in December wrapping gifts bought in the store for customers. The gift-wrapping service was free to customers, and many donated to Lexington Vocational Services to help support DeafWEI and other programs that provide job support services and supported employment to deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals.

Our DeafWEI clients were something new for Barnes & Noble as well – it's not often they get deaf workers to help with their holiday gift-wrapping. "The Barnes & Noble Holiday Gift Wrap program is an excellent way for Lexington to create awareness of its programs and services, while helping us out during the hectic holiday season. We are very excited to work with them and hope to continue this collaboration in the future," said Anna Avalone, Barnes & Noble's store manager.



DeafWEI clients are ready to wrap!



Hard at work wrapping gifts

Women in the Workplace workshop series to educate our clients in job-related and work-life balance skills; and Coffeehouse Sessions, a monthly networking event for deaf women. DeafWEI provides the tools and support that are essential to the deaf woman's continued success in the workplace, as well as her ability to provide for herself and her family's future.

Lexington Vocational Services also provided a job coach and an ASL interpreter to assist our clients with customer relations. The job coach was on hand for our clients, and guided our clients through the details of the job, answering any questions they had along the way. The ASL interpreter facilitated communication between our clients and the Barnes & Noble customer, to help ensure the gifts were wrapped as the customer wished. It was a fun experience for our clients, who enjoyed working with the public and in some instances, were able to overcome communication barriers on their own.

Funded by a generous grant from the New York Women's Foundation, DeafWEI provides free job support services to deaf women, including pre-employment services, job placement, and post-employment services. The program also includes a Deaf

DEAF AWARENESS TRAINING FOR EMPLOYERS



Deaf Awareness Training for Employers provides businesses who employ our clients with the tools and knowledge needed to help sustain a healthy working relationship with their deaf employee, to create a deaf-friendly work environment, and to create a wider variety of employment opportunities for our clients.

Through the Deaf Awareness Training for Employers program, we are able to develop and distribute training materials efficiently, provide comprehensive training for our employers, conduct a wider range of outreach and advocacy activities, and ultimately create a more accepting work environment for deaf individuals.

We are thankful to all our supporters, public and private, who help make possible the full range of our programs and services.

GOVERNMENTAL SUPPORT

Federal

U.S. Department of Education

State of New Jersey

Division of Vocational
Rehabilitation Services

State of New York

Department of Health
Dormitory Authority
Education Department
Metropolitan Transit Authority
(Bridge & Tunnel Authority)
Office of Mental Retardation &
Development Disabilities
Port Authority of New York &
New Jersey
Office of Mental Health
Vocational & Educational
Services for Individuals
with Disabilities

New York City

Department of Education
Department of Health
& Mental Hygiene

FOUNDATIONS, CORPORATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS

\$25,000 and above

The Ambrose Monell Foundation
Estate Of Ruby Fleming
Oppenheimer and Haas Foundation
New York Women's Foundation
Paul L. Berfond Living Trust
Victor Margolis Living Trust

\$10,000-\$24,999

The Hyde and Watson Foundation
Toshiba Business Solutions
Viola Bernard Foundation
Moses L. Parshelsky Foundation

\$5,000-\$9,999

Alice Shaver Foundation
Phonak LLC
Knights of Pythias
Linda and Stuart Schlesinger
Sidney and Judith Kranes
Charitable Trust
W.P. Owners Corp. Charity Fund
TD Bank

\$1,000-\$4,999

Brinker Capital Holdings, Inc.
Linda and Arthur Carter
Jerry Lauren
Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Alan Mansfield, Esq.
Susan and Morris Mark
Carole Addabbo and
Laurence Moskowitz
Sydell and Ira Smith
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The Solow Foundation
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Institute Inc
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Stephan Coles
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Sorenson Communications
Len Camber Charitable Trust
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Marshall and Marilyn Butler
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Loeb & Troper
Phyllis and Billy Mack
Pure Logic Computers
Fred and Ruth Schwalbe
John and Diana Simonetti
St. Joan of Arc Youth Council
Jerry and Michele Wolkoff
North Queens Home Owners
Civic Association
AJ Squared Security
Gerard Buckley, Ed.D.
Joseph V. Dorsa
Michael Den Dekker
FJC Security Services, Inc
LJM Enterprises
Randolph Ghisone

\$100-\$499

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International School
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Adele Agin
Husayn Al-Husayni
Janet Anderson Pyers
Anonymous
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Al Baer
William and Barbara Boss

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\$5-\$99

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 Philip and Peggy Tempesta
 Richard and Nancy Tenure
 Jack and Susan Tolin
 Diane Tortu
 Melissa van Wijk
 Abby Waldman
 Beatrice Weingast
 Bram David Weiser
 Oni Wilson
 Ann Winston

We would like to thank the vendors who participated in our 2nd Annual Craft Fair

Anjali Creations
 BeeCee Quilts
 Bistro Truck
 Briohcrafts
 Class of 2012
 C'mon
 Crystals by Janine
 Cutiepie Company
 DITH 7
 Dorina Pet Boutique
 Faces by Risi
 Geraldine Benfante
 Hands for Henna
 JB's
 Jianetto's Pizza
 Junior NAD
 Kambri Crews
 KatieBelle Design
 Kismet Pottery
 Knotted Ram
 La Chic Treats
 Lauren Delucia
 Lexington Drama Club
 Lexington Year Book
 Lines & Shapes Jewelry Shop
 Lizzmonade
 MOCKFROGjewelry
 Nakpunar
 Naomi's Designs
 Pearle Vision
 Plovgh
 Riddick Creative Crafts
 Samara Links
 Sandy Sweet Delights
 Skin Care by Janice
 Stelkids
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 The Crafty Foxes of Queens
 Trendsetter Jewelry and Apparel
 Who Is Charley
 Yamerra
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In-Kind Donations

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 Arvin Pasricha
 BeeCee Quilts
 Bender Insurance
 Ben's Deli
 Blue Marble Ice Cream
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 Callaway Golf

Cannelle Patisserie
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 Dixon Golf
 Dr. Michael Belfiore
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 Gimme! Coffee
 Golf Galaxy
 Gotte's Café
 Green Mountain Coffee
 H&R Block
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 Harrison Leifer and DiMarco
 JB's
 Jim Vlavianos
 Kambri Crews
 Katiebelle Designs
 Kismet Pottery
 Knotted Ram
 La Chic Treats
 Lex Voc Café
 Lexington Drama Club
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 Talisman Jewelers
 TD Bank
 The Bead Beauty
 The Chocolate Swirl
 VitaminWater Zero
 Waldbaum's
 Who Is Charley
 Wine Enthusiast
 Yelp Queens

Lexington School for the Deaf and Related Entities

Audited Combined Balance Sheet

Years Ended June 30, 2011 and 2010

	2011	2010
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 538,171	\$ 636,307
Investments	9,088,674	7,555,711
Accounts Receivable		
New York State - aidable budget	1,930,871	2,136,063
Title 1	92,842	19,676
Other (less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$154,070 and \$123,085 in 2011 and 2010, respectively)	860,967	934,402
Fixed Assets - net	9,953,885	10,448,604
Prepaid Expenses	18,873	
Deposits with the bond trustee	1,602,411	1,604,904
Total assets	\$ 24,086,694	\$ 23,335,667
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Cash overdraft		\$ 8,540
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	3,483,659	3,902,081
Line of credit	1,152,021	573,381
Due to government agencies	138,241	149,550
Mortgage payable	5,075,000	5,575,000
Total liabilities	9,848,921	10,208,552
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	13,071,212	11,971,972
Temporarily Unrestricted	749,930	739,512
Permanently Unrestricted	416,631	415,631
Total net assets	14,237,773	13,127,115
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 24,086,694	\$ 23,335,667

Audited Combined Statement of Activities

Years Ended June 30, 2011 and 2010

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	TOTAL 2011	TOTAL 2010
Revenue, Gains, Losses and Other Support					
Government grants					
Tuition and maintenance of pupils - aidable budget	20,999,337			20,999,337	21,308,707
Title 1 - Improvement of Communication Arts	593,091			593,091	
Government grants and contracts	844,484			844,484	1,631,706
Fees for services and other revenue	2,281,568			2,281,568	2,483,641
Contributions	130,725	71,555	1,000	203,280	230,069
Special Events	36,173			36,173	30,335
Less Direct Costs	(16,649)			(16,649)	(8,703)
Dormitory Authority state aid	530,000			530,000	500,000
Investment income (loss)	1,740,297			1,740,297	951,628
Net assets released from restrictions	61,137	(61,137)		-	-
Total revenue, gains, losses, and other support	27,200,163	10,418	1,000	27,211,581	27,127,383
Expenses (Schedule 1)					
Program services					
New York State educational services	18,447,964			18,447,964	18,858,500
Private and Ellis Island	986,190			986,190	982,061
Title 1	466,914			466,914	452,881
Vocational services	1,455,642			1,455,642	1,474,299
Hearing and speech	1,067,991			1,067,991	947,699
Mental health	741,406			741,406	756,697
Universal pre-K	9,575			9,575	294,680
Day care				-	9,919
Community program	23,968			23,968	20,896
Total program services	23,199,650	-	-	23,199,650	23,797,632
Supporting services					
Management and general	2,837,263			2,837,263	2,835,412
Fund-raising	64,010			64,010	54,689
Total support services	2,901,273	-	-	2,901,273	2,890,101
Total expenses (including interest expense of \$294,763 and \$320,895 in 2011 and 2010, respectively)	26,100,923			26,100,923	26,687,733
Change in net assets	1,099,240	10,418	1,000	1,110,658	439,650
Net assets - beginning of year	11,971,972	739,512	415,631	13,127,115	12,687,465
Net assets - end of year	13,071,212	749,930	416,631	14,237,773	13,127,115

L E X I N G T O N
SCHOOL | CENTER FOR THE DEAF

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718-350-3056 TTY
718-899-9846 Fax

www.lexnyc.org

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Newsletter

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