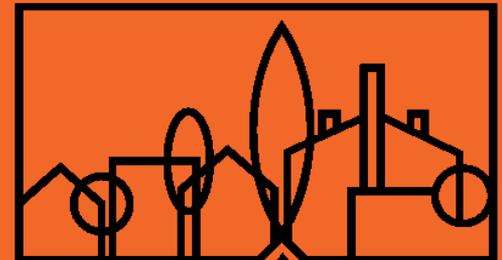


2017 ANNUAL REPORT



DELRI
GE
NEIGHBORHOODS
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

MISSION

INTEGRATING

ART

NATURE &

NEIGHBORHOOD

TO BUILD AND SUSTAIN A DYNAMIC DELRIDGE

PROGRAMS OVERVIEW

DNDA collaborates with local creatives and organizers to develop projects that engage young and diverse communities. Many of these programs are held at DNDA's historic Youngstown Cultural Arts Center, which houses an alternative high school, nonprofit offices, affordable room rental rates, and 36 affordable live-work spaces for artists of all disciplines. DNDA also supports integrative art programming through the EcoArts Program, Arts In Nature Festival, and Creative Advantage.

ART

DNDA is committed to restoring, preserving, and protecting our natural habitat by developing community stewards. Our Urban Forest Restoration Program engages volunteers to work at 8 Seattle parks in W. Seattle, and our Wetlands Restoration and Stewardship Project works to expand local permaculture and access to affordable healthy food, while providing a children's teaching garden for youth environmental science lessons.

NATURE

DNDA provides affordable housing for local artists and low-income families at 7 properties in the Delridge corridor. All of our housing options are less expensive than for-profit buildings so that families with lower incomes can always live in Delridge.

NEIGHBORHOOD



Arts in Nature Festival: durational art



Delridge Wetlands Project Banner



Holden Manor, one of our affordable housing properties



"We really appreciate the work that YCAC does and feel very lucky to have you in our neighborhood, and were pleased that we could offer our support through rental. Also - wanted to let you know that about half of our guests remarked that they had been to an event at YCAC and they enjoyed these events as well."

- Youngstown Renter



2017 in ART

- 45,000** Youngstown visitors
- 19** Art events
- 138** Recording sessions with youth
- 22** Film shoots & screenings
- 104** Performances & rehearsals
- 47** Nonprofits rented space
- 742** Hours of space donated to Youngstown community
- 580** Youth served by EcoArts
- 2,500** Arts in Nature Festival goers

Top left - Live painting at the Arts in Nature Festival

Bottom left - Zoë Roberts performance at Youngstown

Next Page: Top right - Youngstown Cultural Arts Center, 2017

Middle right - Youth produced art project in our EcoArts Program 2017
Bottom right - Performance by Clinton Fearon at the Arts in Nature Festival



Youngstown Cultural Arts Center

Youngstown Cultural Arts Center is an inclusive contemporary multi-arts hub in the Delridge Neighborhood of Southwest Seattle that incubates the arts, art-makers, and organizations from our multicultural, inter-generational communities in order to engage in civic dialogue and meaningful community transformation.

A school for 80 years, and a cultural arts center for the past 11 years, Youngstown has been at the heart of the neighborhood, and a symbol of community, education and the power of art for generations. Today, the Historic Cooper School is the Youngstown Cultural Arts Center and is a vibrant community focused on the arts, youth and sustainable initiatives.

EcoArts

Our year-round EcoArts environmental and art education program, provides artistic, cultural and environmental programming in SW Seattle. EcoArts programming includes summer and school break camp classes, after-school classes and outdoor classes. EcoArts is a unique model for arts-based environmental education; classes take place both indoors in art lessons and outdoors in the forest. Lessons are inspired by, made from, or created in nature. Our curriculum is designed to increase students' artistic skill, advance environmental awareness, foster positive identity, and increase social competence. EcoArts helps youth explore and connect to their natural environment and their creativity.



Arts in Nature Festival

The Arts in Nature Festival is a celebration of the arts and nature, and showcases the amazing diversity of our community. As DNDA's signature event for our Nature Consortium programs, the Festival offers the community an engaging arts and performance experience in the woods of Seattle's only campground, Camp Long. The festival features four intimate performance stages, a "Museum of Sound" of art installations contained in 8 rustic cabins, and hands-on art and nature activities, designed for children and adults alike, throughout the grounds of beautiful Camp Long. Since the first Arts in Nature Festival in 1998, the event has become a community favorite that attracts attendance from all across Seattle.



Youngstown turned 100!

Youngstown 100 was definitely the party of the century!

Around 200 people came to celebrate the beautiful **100-year-old Historic Cooper School**, now Youngstown Cultural Arts Center on Sunday, December 3rd. It was a "back to school" experience for **20 Cooper Alumni**, and a first-time visit for about 15 party-goers. All were excited to learn about this vibrant arts and cultural space committed to youth and the community, as well as the affordable housing provided for the individuals who do the work of uplifting Art in our world.

In the spotlight of Youngstown's **Thelma Dewitty Theatre** were groups that regularly use Youngstown space for classes and events. The lively program began with a hallway parade of bells and scarves by Leslie Rosen's belly dance students, **Sirens of Serpentine**. They were followed by young singer-songwriter and Totem Star artist **Zoë Roberts**, whose crystal clear vocals and acoustic guitar filled the theatre and our hearts. **Grupo Candeias Seattle** was a hit, with a capoeira performance combining youth and adults in a game of dance. One very young student confidently led the group in a chant, and the crowd cheered at amazingly-executed kicks and flips at the height of the presentation.



"It's a wonderful space, and we all loved seeing the art in the halls, which stood as evidence of the commitment to community Youngstown provides."

- Youngstown Visitor



Top - Cooper alumni reunion 2017

Bottom - Grupo Candeias Seattle performance at Youngstown 100



Wetlands Restoration and Stewardship Project

The Delridge Wetlands, located on 23rd Ave SW and SW Findlay St, is a project spearheaded by DNDA to protect, restore, preserve and expand the existing wetland to improve water quality in Longfellow Creek, meanwhile developing the space as a public park for all to enjoy. Beside wetland restoration, other plans for the park include the creation of an urban garden, community orchard, as well as developing the space as an outdoor classroom for local students and the community to learn hands-on environmental science and wetland stewardship.

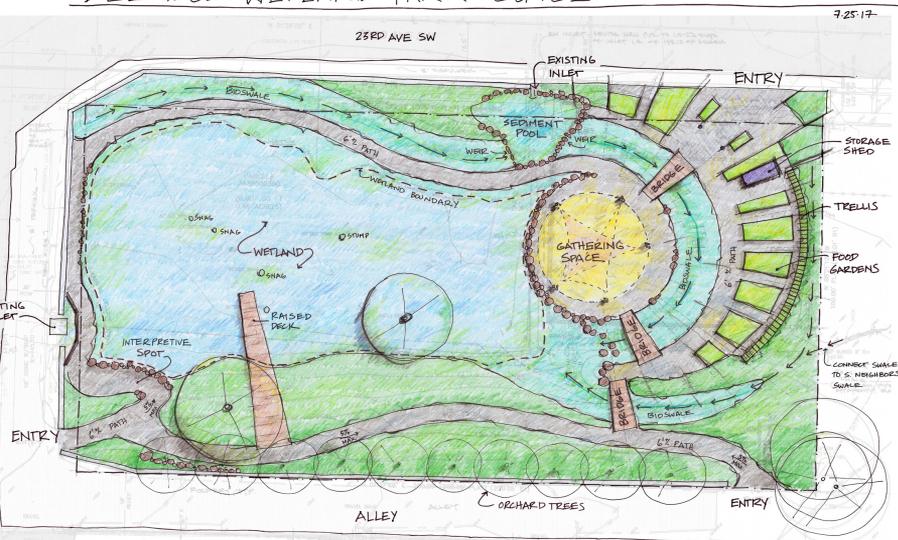


2017 in NATURE

- 87** Restoration events
- 2,500** Restoration volunteers
- 842** Youth volunteers
- 8,481** Volunteer hours
- 4,721** Native plants installed
- 1.7** Acres cleared of invasive species
- 10** Parks expanded
- 324** School children involved in the Wetlands Project
- 8** Wetlands project partners
- 69** Acres of Parks land maintained

Top - Earth Day 2017 volunteers at Pigeon Point, one of our restoration sites
Bottom - K-8 STEM students sheet mulching at one work party at the Delridge Wetlands

DELRIDGE WETLAND PARK - CONCEPT PLAN



What's new at the Delridge Wetlands?

As we strive to make our collective dream of the Delridge Wetlands a reality, first steps were to gather community feedback and create a design master plan combining our many visions.

Kicking off the design process, our partners at Pomegranate Center began developing the first draft of their master plan in May. This process relied heavily on input from the project's partners and included two day-long design forums as well as a third forum with local educators.

The plan (top left) was produced by Pomegranate Center after gathering input from the greater community, project partners, educators and of course, DNDA.

We are excited by the design, as it incorporates so many elements that were proposed by our young students at K-8 STEM school and by educators, who wanted to ensure that elements included in the design would aid them in developing curriculum for their 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th grade classrooms. Now that we have a conceptual plan, we can begin to have detailed discussions with the City departments who will issue permits to lay the groundwork for eventual construction in 2018 and beyond.

"Thanks for all of your time, ideas, projects, and support for our school. Our partnership with DNDA has been by far my favorite and a huge benefit for our students' learning. It is already inspiring to see how much students know about the neighborhood, wetlands, and creek. Your projects are creating kids that care about their communities."

- Sara Waldron - K-8 STEM Teacher at Louisa Boren



Top - Delridge Wetlands Park conceptual plan

Bottom - A K-8 STEM student observing the environmental makeup of the wetlands with instructor Jason Medeiros



DNDA Restoration Program Growth in 2017

We kicked off 2017 by hosting our annual **MLK Day of Service** volunteer event. We had almost 200 participants out in the **West Duwamish Greenbelt**, planting and removing invasive species. This well-attended event set the tone for a successful year of restoring local parks throughout Delridge.

"My kindergarten students LOVED the eco-art project of building fairy houses. This was the perfect project for them and the next weekend a huge number of them had gone to parks or in their own yards to build more fairy houses. I loved that they were so excited about spending time in nature."

— Teacher of participating classroom

This year, our program added **four additional restoration sites**, most of which are located in the **Longfellow Creek watershed**. This expansion of work sites allowed us to engage with more volunteers and increased our program's accessibility, as all the new sites are near bus lines and located within walking distance of local schools.

To end the year, we hosted our annual **Green Seattle Day** volunteer event. We had a great experience holding it at Camp Long for the first time ever, with a great group of volunteers putting in a day of planting. In just a few hours, volunteers installed over **540 native trees and shrubs** in the Camp Long forest. Events like these greatly contributed to restoring the health of the urban forests in our neighborhood.



Top - MLK Day of Service 2017 restoration work party
Bottom - Youth collaborative work at Green Seattle Day

2017 in NEIGHBORHOOD

7 Affordable housing properties

144 Affordable housing units

328 Low-income residents

18 New families housed

13 Tenant organizations

36 Families participated in Camp Long CampOuts

360 Low-income youth participated in SHA Summer Youth Program

25 Classes taught by DNDA and partners in the SHA Summer Youth Program

175 Students participated in peacemaking circles



"The thing that stood out with us is that you guys didn't just tell us you were concerned and you worried about us, you actually showed us. When you're homeless and searching for housing, you get people who will tell you they're concerned, but they never show you, you know, and that you guys' main concern was to make sure we were okay, and we, you know, got that stability, and you showed us by doing what you had to do to help us get housing, and you made sure you kept in contact, made sure we were okay. The communication and everything was great coming from you guys."

- DNDA Low-Income Resident



Top - DNDA's community investment: Delridge Heights Apartments

Bottom - Boys participating in a swimming class in DNDA's Summer Youth Program



"When we talk about our justice system as a whole, we have to change it. Our justice system now is based upon implicit bias and institutional racism, and it doesn't take into account historical trauma that has existed and that our youth suffer from it. We have to take into account realistically the issues of adverse childhood experiences. So we have to do something different than the status quo as we create a new today."

- Judge Wesley Saint Clair, King County Superior Court



Restorative Justice Programming at DNDA

It is important to note that DNDA properties, especially our Youngstown Cultural Arts Center, are safe spaces for ALL people. In our society today, that is not true of all gathering spaces. Communities of color, immigrant communities, and other marginalized groups face opposition and can be frightened to speak openly about their opinions in public forums. Although policies have been progressive locally, the landscape of federal policy agenda has been openly oppressive, especially to the immigrant and refugee communities that call the Southwest corridor of Seattle their home.

DNDA strives to incorporate the ideals of equity and social justice into all of the work that we engage in and collaborate on daily. On MLK Day in 2017, DNDA and partners steered a community conversation around restorative and alternative justice practices to raise awareness about racial inequity present in the conventional juvenile justice system. In the fall of 2017, planning began for the 2018 "Let's Talk Race" Series, which aims to create a safe place for communities to come together and dialogue about issues that are at the forefront of our society today. These opportunities in 2017 catalyzed DNDA's Restorative Justice Programs in 2018 and beyond.

Top - A youth sharing restorative justice strategies
Bottom - Judge J. Wesley Saint Clair sharing restorative strategies and community partnerships

SHA Summer Youth Program

In 2017, DNDA offered an eclectic summer curriculum in conjunction with partners at SHA's High Point and NewHolly communities, building arts skills and athletic ability while supporting environmental education and bringing youth together to create a positive environment.

We hosted the summer's first soccer tournament during the Family Fun Fest between High Point and NewHolly and it was a major success! The Summer Youth Program provides soccer opportunities for families and players to share a sport that is enjoyed around the world— and bringing our communities together on the Van Asselt field is always a pleasure and great fun for everyone!

NewHolly and High Point teams were led by amazing coaches from each community, who created a positive and encouraging atmosphere for all kids involved, which was reflected in each game. We're proud of all the young athletes who participated in this year's event, showing active listening skills, leadership, constructive communication, and most of all teamwork.

The partnership in NewHolly and High Point continues in 2018.



"Being part of City Wide Athletics Tournament program, which was funded by DNDA-Nature Consortium really molded me to be a competitor. I don't think twice about playing with the boys, because now I know what's it like to have that type of push in my life. I have built thick skin. Basketball has taught me discipline. Without the funding some of my aspirations wouldn't have flourished into reality, and the beginning fulfillment of my dreams."

- New Holly Summer Youth Participant



Top - A team of girls participating in a soccer tournament in our Summer Youth Program

Bottom - Youth participating in a cooking class in our Summer Youth Program

"Our Voices" Summer Music Program

In the summer of 2017, two very talented local hip-hop artists came together to organize a 6-part curriculum for the youth of the High Point and NewHolly neighborhoods: *Our Voices Music Class*. With a focus on the history of music and a goal of understanding hip-hop music of today, teaching artists Yohanna E. and Yirim Seck exposed our young learners to various art forms, and shared from their individual experiences as musicians, opening the door to the arts in a way that might not have been otherwise possible.

Throughout the course, students engaged in discussion, activities, and performance exercises centered on identifying their own unique stories. Each were given a notebook to record their verses and ideas along the way. At the end, Yohanna's students went to visit a professional music studio in Tacoma, where they got a chance to produce a collaborative song.

"The program was amazing for the parents and kids. The program gave kids fun activities to do in the summer without the parents having to spend a ton of money since summer camps can be very expensive. There were countless activities we offered, including art, swimming, soccer, basketball and more. The kids loved these activities because a lot of them have never been in summer programs like this, they had so much fun doing things they loved. Overall, the summer program was amazing and I developed many skills over July and August."

- Summer Youth Program Volunteer



Top - "Our Voices" youth participant at NewHolly with teaching artist Yirim Seck
Bottom - SHA Summer Youth Program participants at High Point



Summer CampOuts at Camp Long

In both July and August, DNDA along with program partners Camp Long and the National Wildlife Federation, ran two CampOut programs. The CampOut program provides families living in Affordable Housing the opportunity to spend the night in cabins at Camp Long and provides a weekend camping experience to these families who might not otherwise have this experience due to economic or cultural barriers. Over these two weekends, we served over 36 families and 190 individuals total, most living at either High Point or in one of DNDA's Affordable Housing properties.



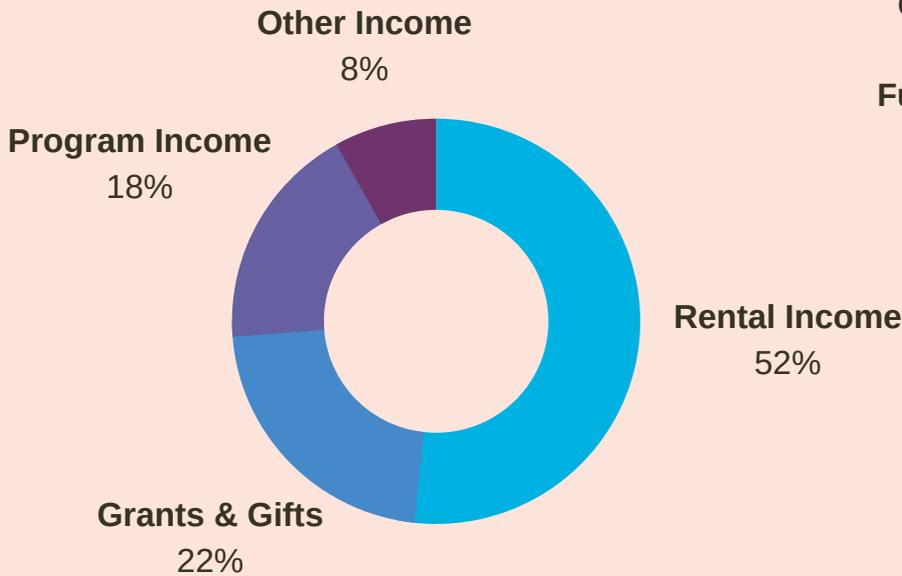
Through this immersive nature connection program, participants experience the power of placemaking and gain a sense of belonging in the natural world around them and within a community of their peers. Youth learned about the natural world from Parks Naturalists, did art projects with DNDA's EcoArt Staff, played games, engaged in team building exercises and went rock climbing with Camp Long Challenge Course Staff! Both CampOuts were a huge success with many families really enjoying their experience with this program.



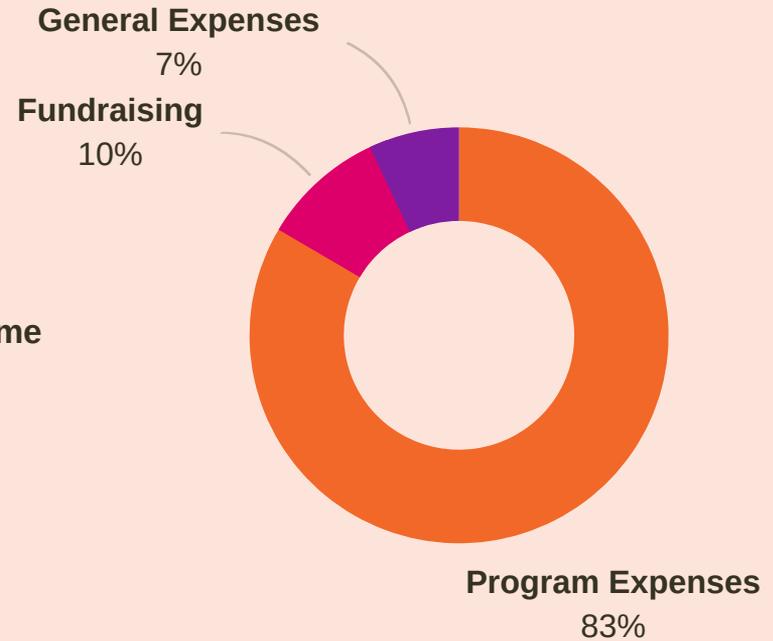
Top - Father and daughter experiencing camping for the first time
Middle - Forest hike activities with kids at Camp Long
Bottom - Campfire activities with Native Storyteller Roger Fernandez

FINANCIALS

INCOME: \$1,670,527



EXPENSES: \$1,511,136



	2017	2016
Rental Income	863,395	668,052
Grants & Gifts	369,114	269,904
Program Income	302,386	44,980
Other Income	135,632	95,685
	1,670,527	1,078,621

	2017	2016
Program Expenses	1,262,473	909,103
General Expenses	104,858	174,513
Fundraising	143,805	79,806
	1,511,136	1,163,422

CORPORATE AND NONPROFIT SUPPORTERS

ANDREW WILL WINERY • ARTS CORPS • ARTSWEST • BLACK ROCK SPIRITS
BLUE DANUBE PRODUCTIONS • BOEING • CHIHULY STUDIO • COMMUNITEA KOMBUCHA
DIWAS PHOTOGRAPHY • ENDOLYNE JOE'S • FAUNTLEROY CHIROPRACTIC
GEORGETOWN BREWING COMPANY • HALE LAW ENTERPRISES • HERBAN FEAST
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METROPOLIST • NEW CITY CHURCH • NORTHWEST FOLKLIFE • **NUCOR** • PEDERSEN'S RENTALS
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KING COUNTY WATERWORKS • PORT OF SEATTLE
ROSE FOUNDATION • SEATTLE CITY LIGHT • SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS
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Maryanne Tagney and David Jones

\$2,500 - \$9,999

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A statement from David Bestock, DNDA Executive Director

I am excited to report on another year of partnerships, growth and evolution at DNDA. In 2017, we nurtured and grew our Nature programming while enhancing and sustaining our work in the areas of Arts and Neighborhood. We continue to explore what the "integration" looks like in our mission to "Integrate Art, Nature, and Neighborhood to build and sustain a dynamic Delridge." We deeply understand that living out our mission means our integrated, holistic programs and services must be accessible to all of our neighbors.

We are proud of our collective efforts and accomplishments, reflected in our surrounding community. The Arts In Nature Festival serves as a platform for local artists to showcase their talent in the cabins, woods, and meadows of Camp Long; our EcoArts program gives youth an opportunity to participate in arts-enhanced environmental education, and our Youngstown Cultural Arts Center is a gathering place and neighborhood hub, visited by over 45,000 people each year.

In 2017, DNDA expanded our work with Seattle Housing Authority, building on existing programming at High Point in West Seattle, and re-engaging with the NewHolly community in SE Seattle. The remarkable scope of programs offered to youth living at both of these communities displays the hard work of our own staff and interns, as well as the expertise of our many partners. All classes were free-of-charge and included the visual arts, cooking, music, basketball, soccer, swimming, sewing, environmental education and much more. We are thrilled to continue providing these services in partnership with SHA, and it has inspired us to elevate the services we provide to residents in DNDA's own affordable housing properties.

Further, we took strides this past year to make needed upgrades at 4 of our 7 affordable housing properties, which will improve the quality of life for our residents, and stabilize our infrastructure for years to come. As we move forward with these improvements in 2018-19, we are also setting the table for more resident engagement and programming, and looking to potential development of new housing and mixed-use properties in Delridge.

Seattle is changing rapidly, and amidst the escalating cost of living locally, we see increasingly divisive politics on a national and even international level. DNDA's integrated, holistic work is more needed, and impactful, than ever. We have always sought to address real community need, and we are seeing and hearing from you, our community, that there is an increasing need for healing and for connection. Our Cultural Events Series, and Let's Talk Race Series, have brought together hundreds of people locally to celebrate diverse cultures, to elevate our points of human connection, and to identify and dismantle oppressive institutional and structural systems.

Looking ahead, we are building Restorative Justice programming for local youth, in partnership with King County and Seattle Public Schools, to interrupt and erode the school-to-prison pipeline that stratifies and disproportionately punishes our youth of color, and to provide alternatives for youth incarceration. While we continue to lean into challenging work, we also work to maintain a culture of celebration, joy, and inclusion.

We are grateful to all of our supporters and partners, as none of us can do this work alone. I am personally grateful and incredibly blessed to work alongside a group of truly heart-driven innovators here at DNDA. You, our community, are in good company. I hope to see you at one of our events or programs soon.

In community,
David Bestock



PHOTOGRAPHY BY:

Paul Bestock, Amber Cortez, Tanisha Frazier
 Stephanie Ingram, Zennia Pakker, Amy Pinon
 Patrick Robinson, Mandesia Sibya, John Theroux
 Rick Turnbaugh, Greg Westhoff
 DIWAS Photography, Moments Captured Photography
 Nature Consortium Volunteers

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