

# GNOME Annual report 2012



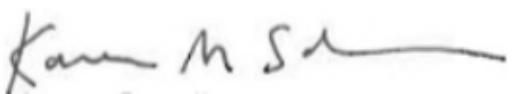
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# Letter from the GNOME Fundation Executive Director



needs text



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen M Sandler".

Karen Sandler, GNOME Executive Director





The GNOME Foundation had another very successful year of outreach programs in 2012. The GNOME Outreach Program for Women grew to 12 interns, sponsored by the GNOME Foundation, Google, Mozilla, in the third round, 11 of whom successfully completed the internship.



## Womens outreach program

### Student

Marta Maria Casetti  
Taryn Fox  
Monica Kochofar  
Radina Matic  
Barbara Muraus  
Fabiana Simões  
Elena Petrevska  
Ana Risteska  
Riko Yamada  
Anna Zacchi

### Project

Developer Documentation for Python  
Developer Documentation for Javascript  
Developer Documentation for C  
Documentation  
Grapic Design  
UX Design  
Web Development  
GNOME Shell  
GUPnP  
GNOME Documents



The GNOME Project also participated in Google Summer of Code for the once again. GNOME had a total of 29 participants, 6 of whom were women. Students worked on a variety of projects, and greatly improved GNOME in a variety of ways. Students added activities to Gcompris, overhauled the Applications View, added better synchronization to Epiphany, voice controls to Banshee and many others.

GNOME had a total of 29 participants in Google Summer of Code, 6 of whom were women

### Google Summer of Code

Student	Project
Pioneer Axon	Replace lex-bison based parser with handwritten parser in gcalctool
Baptiste Saleil	Integrate GTG to Gnome-Shell
Beth Hadley	Activity Development for GCompris, especially Music Education
Chris Baines	Completion of the Gnome Sudoku Vala Port
Emily Gonyer	GNOME Clocks implementation
Fabien Parent	Development of a graphical profiler for GNOME
Felipe Borges	Documents: Removable devices support
Fabiano Fidêncio	libosinfo-based express installation for major OSes in GNOME Boxes
Giovanni Campagna	GNOME Shell Lock Screen implementation
Gopal Krishnan	Proposal to upgrade the UI of Gcalctool
Izidor Matušov	Collaborative Getting Things GNOME!
Joost Verdoorn	Overhaul the Applications View in GNOME Shell
Jovanka Gulicoska	Ability to save and load virtual machines in GNOME Boxes
Laurent Contzen	Library providing models and widgets to display and choose contacts
Matilda Bernard	Integration of multiple theme based activities in the GCompris
Meg Ford	GNOME Documents UIs for Viewing and Editing of File Metadata
Moritz Lüdecke	Helping on anjuta makes everybody happy
Ngawi Fet	GNUCash Android Application
Richard Schwarting	GXml and GObject Serialisation
R dolf s Mazurs	Lockdown editor for GNOME
sscheel	Refactor and Rework the Task Editor of Getting Things Gnome
Stefano Candori	Revamp of the Activity Journal
Tanner Doshier	Smarter Searching in GNOME Shell
Timo Dörr	Improve overall Mac OS X port of Banshee
Udesh Liyanaarachchi	Voice Control For Banshee
Valentín Barros Puertas	Get an useful state to Shotwell Faces tool
Yann Soubeyrand	Anti malware and phishing daemon for the GNOME desktop
Žan Doberšek	Support for Gamepad API in WebKitGTK+ and general gamepad configuration options in System Settings

GUADEC featured 22 lightning talks from newcomers about their GSoC and OPW work



It's exciting that we've reached this milestone. Fifteen years ago, GNOME was created under the umbrella of the GNU project by Miguel de Icaza and Federico Mena Quintero, then two students at the National Autonomous University of Mexico. The first five years, GNOME was a young project with very young members between the ages of 14 and 22, writing code with passion and a vision to create a free desktop for GNU/Linux enthusiasts. A desktop by hackers for hackers.

At our ten year mark we had grown, our code base had grown and we had as a community matured. We realized that our current model of development was unsustainable, and we wanted to be more than just a desktop for hackers, we wanted to write a desktop for everyone regardless of ability. Great changes took place. Our culture changed as we moved to a six month release model, the exuberant wish to code in features were replaced with thoughtful reflection on making a desktop that "just worked." Initially we were on a rocky road. There were many who were disappointed in the direction we had taken. Some of them did not continue the journey with us, others persevered and newcomers enthusiastically joined us. We lost old friends and gained new ones. During this time our community grew, the popularity of our desktop grew, and we had achieved the reputation of having a successful user experience.

We were the default desktop for many of the most popular distributions. As we approached our ten year mark, the world had changed around us. Hardware changed. For many, tablets and smart phones became the primary computing device for reading books, watching videos, and for social networking. Our desktop was modeled after an older computing paradigm. It was time to change the game. To chart a path independent from the other desktops and create a new model that was flexible to adapt to any hardware platform, mobile and desktop. To build upon our successes that we have already achieved with assistive technologies and "just works" design. So after nine years, a new release of GNOME was released. The new release featured a brand new look, integrated focused special effects, and a new mentality of staying out of your way - a distraction free desktop to help manage the many distractions in our Internet integrated life.

## We wanted to write a desktop for everyone regardless of ability

GNOME 2.0 was a radical departure from GNOME 1.0 in code development. The breakages of ABI/API became a thing of the past. A new six month release model that continues to this day provides steady releases. An achievement that is unusual not only in free software but in commercial software shops as well. For GNOME 3, while we continued to build on those successes, we changed the game again by being the first Free Software project to take a design focused approach to the traditional free software model. GNOME 3 focuses on the user experience, by creating a new suite of GNOME 3 applications collaboratively designed by package maintainers and UX designers. In the years ahead, the GNOME Project will continue to focus on creating a better user experience. We know that the desktop experience isn't entirely contained at the user space level but at the kernel and distribution level too. To creating a user experience from power up to shutdown. We'll be partnering with distributions, kernel developers, and users to create the finest experience out there. We are also changing our culture, by expanding our outreach programs. Community involvement will be stepped up, with an increased presence on social networking sites. We're focused on better volunteer management, to increase number of volunteers to our project so that we will continue to have a new generation of contributors. We'll expand the Women's Outreach program and increase not only the number of women in our project, but gender diversification in Free Software overall. The first 15 years of GNOME was a period of fun, experimentation, and maturation. We expect the next 15 years to be even better!

A Happy 15 Years, GNOME!



## Early days

On August 15, 1997 the development of GNOME was announced with the following: "We want to develop a free and complete set of user friendly applications and desktop tools, similar to CDE and KDE but based entirely on free software." by Miguel de Icaza & Federico Mena Quintero.

## GNOME 1.0

On March 3, 1999 the first major release of GNOME occurred with the release of GNOME 1.0. The GIMP ToolKit (GTK+) was chosen as the base for GNOME, with major effort devoted to offering a friendly platform for developers, supporting many programming languages. There were 3 subsequent releases over the next two years in the GNOME 1.x series. GNOME's libraries have been available for use in any application, with freedom and without fees, under the terms of the GNU Lesser General Public License ever since and GNOME's applications have been made available under the GNU General Public License with a commitment to software freedom.

## GUADEC in Paris

The first GUADEC was held in Paris in 2000 as a one-off event, and attracted around 70 GNOME contributors. For many it was the first time they'd met in-person and was judged a success. GUADEC has been held annually since then in cities around Europe, organized by local volunteers, and has grown fivefold in size. GUADEC 2012 was held in A Coruña, Spain with more than 300 participants.

## The Foundation

The GNOME Foundation was announced at the Linux World Expo in San Jose, CA in August of 2000. The Foundation provides organizational, financial and legal support to the GNOME project. Partnerships with companies were also announced, including Red Hat, Compaq, Eazel, Helix Code, IBM, Sun Microsystems and VA Linux Systems. The Foundation was ultimately incorporated as a membership-based, not-for-profit corporation.

## GNOME 2.0

On June 26, 2002 GNOME 2.0 was released, the culmination of major efforts with the dual objective of enhancing the user experience and dramatically improving developer productivity. GNOME 2.0 was the first release in the 2.x series, which saw 16 more releases over the next 9 years. The introduction of the Human Interface Guidelines (HIG), allowed for a more predictable and consistent interface for users. GNOME 2 also had a host of advanced accessibility features for users with disabilities along with a built-in accessibility framework for developers to meet Section 508 requirements. GNOME 2.x was widely adopted over its many iterations, though many were unhappy upon its introduction. Said one critic upon the release of GNOME 2.0: "I found this default configuration, bone-headed, at best."

## GNOME 3.0

GNOME 3.0 was an exciting new desktop designed for today's users and which is suited to a range of modern computing devices. GNOME's developer technologies were substantially improved for 3.0. Modernised and streamlined, they enable developers to provide better user experiences with less time and effort. The most important goal of GNOME 3 was defined as the unification of the user experience. Many flaws were identified in the GNOME 2 desktop related to windows, workspaces and application launching, some of which were labor intensive and prone to errors. A much more holistic approach was needed to take it to the next level. GNOME 3 was met by some with very positive reactions. Said one detractor, "I forgot how beautiful and stable GNOME 2 was"

## Here's to the next 15 years!

The GNOME Project looks forward to many more years of development, with contributors old and new. We continue to be inspired by each other, and encourage you to join us in shaping the future of GNOME.



### User Observation Hackfest

In September, a group of GNOME hackers met in Florida for the User Observation Hackfest, which was held together with the 2012 OpenSUSE Summit. The central event of the hackfest was a visit to the city of Largo, home of a large GNOME deployment within its public sector. During the hackfest, the developers had the opportunity to talk to users that use GNOME in a day-to-day basis and hear about their goals, their tasks, their attitudes and about how they communicate with the software they use. Work was done on extracting user behavioral trends from the evidence collected during the visit to Largo. This material is one of the foundations that help shape our GNOME Pattern Language and the new version of the GNOME Human Interface Guidelines. Events like the User Observation Hackfest are crucial to GNOME in its mission: Design is part determining problems and part providing solutions, and the problems are out there to be observed. Good interface design starts with understanding people: who they are, why they use our software and how they communicate with it. The more we know about our users, the more effectively we can design for them. User observation is, among other tools, one of the ways we can understand our users' world.

### A Coruña UX Hackfest

With design taking a bigger role in the GNOME project, designers and developers decided to come together to refine what would become the GNOME 3.6 release at the UX Hackfest, just a few days before GUADEC. The event, kindly hosted by Igalia at their office in A Coruña, included the presence of some of our awesome Google Summer of Code and GNOME Outreach Program for Women interns, who contributed with a good deal of fresh ideas. Great collaboration came out of having core design contributors and hackers working together to ensure that our upcoming 3.6 release would be great. The group worked on several core pieces of the GNOME experience, including the lock screen, the new setup assistant, and the design updates for Nautilus, Documents and Contacts. Additionally, a set of design guidelines for search within GNOME applications was developed, drawing inspiration from a variety of previous search implementations in our project. The search pattern will be one of the pieces building up to new version of our Human Interface Guidelines. An impressive amount of progress was made during the event which helped make sure that our 3.6 release was a success!



## GNOME.Asia Conference

GNOME.Asia had in 2012 a quite varied type of attendees ranging from contributors and enthusiasts to students and other people who might want to participate in GNOME in the future. With help from hard working volunteers, the conference ran smoothly. There were over 175 registrants who attended across the two days of the conference. The conference was held in Hong Kong and there was strong local sponsorship of the event.

On the day before the event, the local team organized a Design Workshop and invited key GNOME designers to run it. Allan Day, Jakub Steiner and William Jon McCann explained the process they undertake to design for GNOME. The event was well attended by professionals and students alike.

## GNOME Boston Summit 2012

This year, the Boston Summit convened curious newcomers and experienced developers together to learn about GNOME and discuss the project's future. For the first time, organizers held a special event for newcomers and on Friday new faces were spotted everywhere while key contributors of GNOME provided lessons on how essential tools such as JHBuild, Bugzilla and Git can be used to participate in the GNOME Project. The new focus on introducing newcomers to GNOME at this year's Boston Summit was a big success and many aspiring contributors managed to fix their first bug in the "Fix-your-first-bug" mini-hackfest, which was held on Sunday. Meanwhile, developers gathered for useful discussions regarding future goals of GNOME and its many subsidiaries. Topics varied from being about methods in which you can maintain large amounts of code to how multi-monitor support could be implemented in an efficient way. Long lists of bugs and feature suggestions were created for libraries such as GTK+ and Glib and ideas for better communication were put on the table in a big marketing brainstorm. The Boston Summit lasted three days but the event left attendees with new insights, making new as well as experienced contributors ready to shape forthcoming GNOME releases.

## FOSDEM

The GNOME Project had a strong showing at FOSDEM 2012. The booth was well-staffed throughout the weekend, allowing everyone a chance to see at least some of the talks they wanted to. The GNOME devroom was well received with a variety of talks on GNOME and related technologies. Highlights included Allan Day's talk on "Every Detail Matters", the status update and roadmap for WebKitGTK+ given by Mario Sanchez Prada and David King's "Getting into GNOME: Impressions of a new Maintainer". A few other GNOME-related talks and round tables were held in various other devrooms as well, including a round table on legal issues co-chaired by Karen Sandler.

Saturday night saw the annual GNOME Beer event held at La Bécasse, which was a success and allowed GNOME developers, contributors and users alike to interact in a relaxed environment.

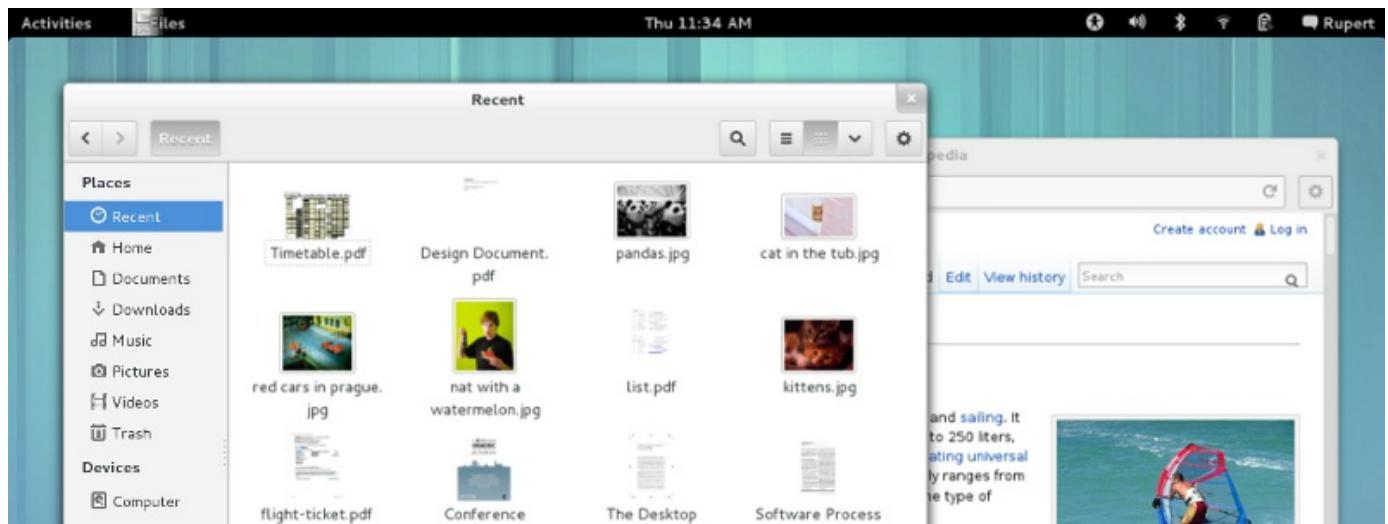
## Ohio Linux Fest

The 9th annual Ohio Linux Fest took place in Columbus OH, September 28-30th, 2012, and for the first time in several years GNOME had a presence there. Emily Gonyer ran a booth for the GNOME Project on Saturday, where she demo'd GNOME 3.2 and the just-released GNOME 3.6. On Sunday she also participated in the Diversity in Open Source Workshop, sharing her experiences with free and open source software. Ohio Linux Fest has a long standing policy of openness and diversity which was readily apparent in the diversity of the attendees.



Looking ahead to the future, GNOME will continue to deliver an effective and efficient workflow while keeping an eye on security. Planned features, refinements and usability enhancements will provide an even better user experience going forward.

## GNOME 3.4 and GNOME 3.6



Two thousand and twelve brought many significant changes to GNOME.

Building on the solid foundation of GNOME 3.2, the community worked together to unleash GNOME 3.4 in March and GNOME 3.6 in September, maintaining the six-month cadence previously set by earlier releases. Matthias Clasen oversaw the completion of GNOME 3.4 and described it as "a great leap forward for GNOME 3 ... we hope that our users enjoy it."

GNOME 3.4 introduced a wealth of new features and improvements, including but not limited to beautiful new designs and interfaces for GNOME applications such as Web, Documents, Epiphany, and Contacts. The Activities overview was enhanced to allow users to search for documents and quickly access content stored locally and online. New application menus located on the top bar were introduced as a means to access options and actions for various applications.

Other enhancements to GNOME 3.4 included refreshed interface components, such as a new color picker, redesigned scrollbars, spin buttons and title bars, and smooth scrolling support. New animated backgrounds brought a nice touch of style.

Better hardware support, topic-oriented documentation, better accessibility and many other improvements made for a very solid release.

GNOME 3.6 focused on improving the experience that was developed in 3.4, refining the overall user interface and adding polish. Andreas Nilsson, President of the GNOME Foundation, described GNOME 3.6 as "an important milestone in our mission to bring a free and open computing environment to everyone." New features and enhancements to the interface included a new applications button and improved layout in the Activities Overview, a new login and lock screen, a redesigned Message Tray, smarter Notifications, improved System Settings and much more.

Accessibility became an always on feature in GNOME 3.6, enabling universal access to assistive technologies and settings such as brightness, contrast, inversion and greyscale, improved web navigation, and the Orca screen reader. Braille support was also improved in Orca.

Two new applications were included in the release. Boxes allows access and management of remote systems and virtual machines, and a preview of the new Clocks application was showcased.

Many other smaller enhancements rounded out the release to help make GNOME 3.6 the best one yet. Looking ahead to the future, GNOME will continue to deliver an effective and efficient workflow while keeping an eye on security. Planned features, refinements and usability enhancements will provide an even better user experience going forward.



GNOME has held accessibility amongst its core values from the project's inception. With the advent of GNOME 3, we have started down an exciting new path in terms of usability, which includes users of all ages and abilities. This drive is not only necessary for those with disabilities but is also increasingly needed for our devices to work for any user.

The GNOME accessibility team is working hard, but its resources are more limited than in the past. For this reason, the GNOME Foundation started a Friend of GNOME campaign to get funds for supporting development in this important area.

A Friends of GNOME campaign is a fundraising campaign for a particular cause through the GNOME donation page. Money collected from this page when the campaign is running is targeted to the specified cause.

The goal for the campaign was set to US \$20,000 when the campaign was launched on the December 16. With the help of many Friends of GNOME, the goal was reached on June 7. The campaign was helped by two GNOME users who generously shared their experiences about how the accessibility features of GNOME 3 impacted them:

"I'm happy because I can now use the computer in my classroom without any assistance. I could not imagine that I would only use a computer on my own."

Diego Sánchez

"For me, GNU/Linux and GNOME equal freedom, and without all of the hard work which has been put into all of this wonderful software, I would truly be at a loss. This is why further development and maintenance of accessible software is so important to me."

Robert Cole

Following our fundraising campaign through Friends of GNOME, the always supportive Mozilla Corporation joined the cause to improve accessibility and assigned US \$10,000 extra to this endeavor. So finally the money available for the project is US \$30,000.

The GNOME Board of Directors, with the advice of the GNOME Accessibility Team, decided to spend the money in several tasks to enhance the accessibility of documents within GNOME, such as PDFs, word processing documents and HTML content.

The non-exhaustive list of modules and software projects that could be involved in enhancing accessibility for GNOME is:

Poppler (PDF rendering library) libxps (XPS rendering library) evince (PDF and XPS reader for GNOME) WebKitGTK (HTML rendering library used in Web, Yelp, and Evolution amongst others) GNOME Documents (document viewer for local and remote documents in GNOME)

The bid selection will be made by a group including professional consultants with GNOME-related experience and GNOME Foundation Board members and will be accomplished in 2013.



## Marina as winner of the pants award



The GNOME community gives the Thank You Pants as the annual award for outstanding service, to recognize a truly extraordinary contribution.

The tradition of the pants award is said to have originated with Jeff Waugh. Legend has it that when Jeff was the GNOME release manager he got a mysterious package in the mail. In it was a pair of pants and a letter that said "Hi Jeff and thank you for your amazing work on GNOME, here is a pair of pants." The Pants Award has since become an elite GNOME institution.

This year, the Pants were awarded to an extremely worth recipient: Marina Zhurakhinskaya.



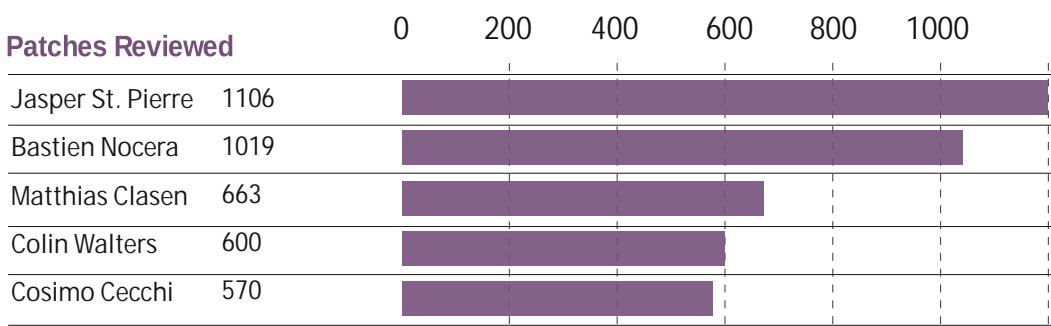
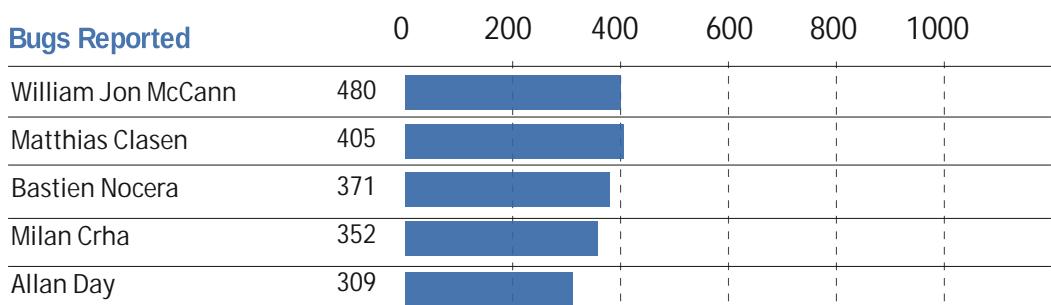
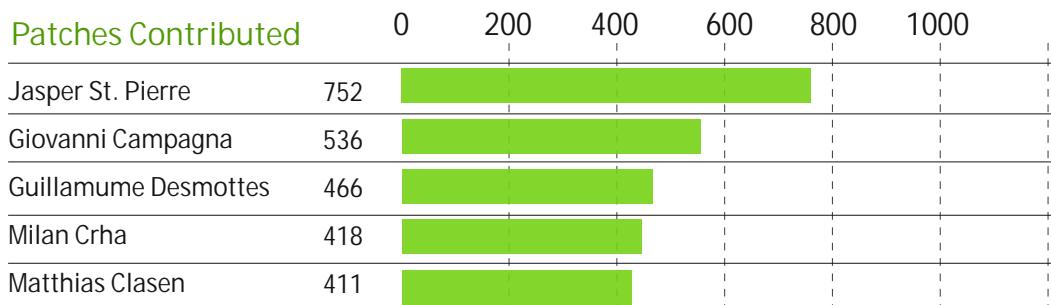
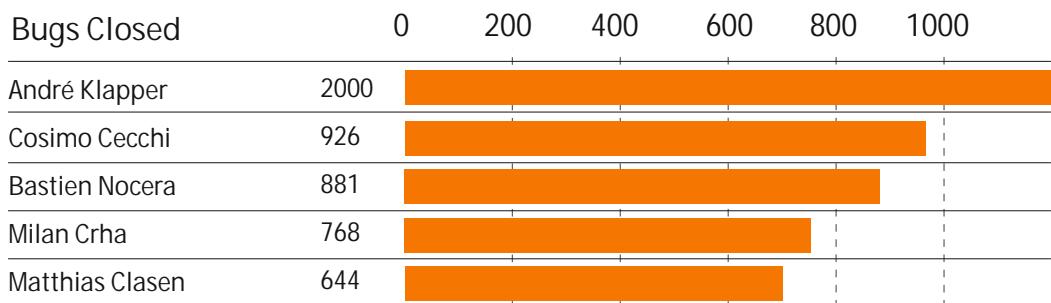
Marina is an essential member of the GNOME community. While a developer on the shell team at Red Hat, Marina has also made time to volunteer and develop GNOME's outreach programs. In particular, Marina picked up the work that was done from the 2006 Outreach Program for Women and made it into a groundbreaking program for free software. As you can read in another section of the report, the OPW gives women a chance to participate in our community who might not have otherwise been able to. In the course of the program thus far, the representation of talented women in the GNOME community has vastly improved. Marina has worked hard to understand the obstacles that might prevent women from participating and set up mechanisms to remove them. Always looking to improve how things are, Marina took many of those lessons from the OPW and helped improve our other outreach programs too, like GNOME's participation in Google's Summer of Code. For example, through Marina's work we learned that all new contributors can benefit from improved mentorship structures and support infrastructure.

Marina is the most exceptional type of contributor - the kind that inspires others to want to contribute. Because of Marina's talent, drive, advocacy and consideration for other points of view, the GNOME community is bigger, stronger and more diverse. Thank you, Marina!



Overall Statistics	2012	2011	2010
<b>Open Reports at the end</b>	43.298	44.003	42.828
<b>Opened in that year</b>	23.642	28.287	32.232
<b>Closed in that year</b>	24.093	27.552	30.534

(\*): Excludes reports marked as enhancements





The Sysadmin team worked hard on several fronts making sure several services were properly installed and configured for GNOME users. During this year the extensions.gnome.org website was launched, the sysadmins took care of it preparing a virtual machine which is currently hosted at the Phoenix's Red Hat datacenter.

The GNOME Infrastructure discussed and lately agreed on installing what will be the substitute of JHBuild, OSTree. The original proposal came from Colin Walters, who was given access to a virtual machine for starting his build tests.

A Piwik instance has been installed to track the statistics of multiple GNOME websites including www.gnome.org, planet.gnome.org, news.gnome.org and projects.gnome.org. Also the GNOME Sysadmin team received the Class 2 level SSL certificates from StartSSL, several GNOME services and websites were covered by SSL and the expired certificates were removed and replaced.

In regard to our Wiki, the machine that was hosting our MoinMoin instance became too old and many existing problems were found (including Out of Memory issues taking down the Wiki for several hours), live.gnome.org was then moved to its own virtual machine and assigned a good amount of CPU and RAM covering the present and future loads.

Two more virtual machines were created during this period: one (bugzilla-new) to start testing the latest Bugzilla 4.4 release and the other (restaurant) to replace our main Postfix host that was standing on a very old machine ready to be retired.

In addition to that the GNOME machines hosted by Canonical were moved to another datacenter and upgraded to the latest available Ubuntu's LTS release.

Lastly our main database host (drawable) had a RAID failure back in June 2012, the failed drive was replaced successfully and the databases were migrated back from the host where they were temporary hosted.





In the 2012 fiscal year, the GNOME Foundation raised approximately \$418,600 and spent approximately \$409,000. The previous year saw a substantial deficit. Our small surplus in 2012 reflects an increase in corporate sponsorship and personal donations, despite some increased expenses.

Corporate sponsorship accounted for \$121,600 of our income, up 41.6% from the previous year. This includes sponsorship money for outreach programs and for events excluding GUADEC. Personal donations through programs like Friends of GNOME rose by 45.4% to over \$53,600. Income from the annual advisory board fees, however, dropped by 21.1% to \$150,000.

The GNOME Foundation spent over \$201,900 on employees, a 55% increase from the previous year. We also increased spending on the Outreach Program for Women, although those expenses were balanced by sponsorship income. We have a year-after-year decreasing trend in hackfest expenses. Although we need to be conscious of our expenses, we encourage members to organize more hackfests.

The GNOME Foundation currently has approximately \$274,000 in cash.

The 2013 budget closely reflects the 2012 income and expenses. Our expenses all help further our free software mission. Our corporate sponsors are critical to our success as an organization. If your company benefits from the work we do, please consider joining our advisory board and sponsoring our many great programs and events.

	2010	2011	2012		
Advisory Board	\$160,000	\$190,000	18.8% <span style="color: green;">▲</span>	\$150,000	21.1% <span style="color: red;">▼</span>
Sponsorship	\$198,300	\$85,889	56.7% <span style="color: red;">▼</span>	\$121,584	41.6% <span style="color: green;">▲</span>
Donations	\$39,766	\$36,892	7.2% <span style="color: red;">▼</span>	\$53,649	45.4% <span style="color: green;">▲</span>
GUADEC	\$162,811	\$15,600	90.4% <span style="color: red;">▼</span>	\$84,269	440.2% <span style="color: green;">▲</span>
Royalties	\$1,904	\$12,347	548.5% <span style="color: green;">▲</span>	\$8,395	32.0% <span style="color: red;">▼</span>
Training	\$17,060	\$0		\$751	
Other	\$1,517	\$893	41.1% <span style="color: red;">▼</span>	\$418,648	15.9% <span style="color: red;">▼</span>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$581,358</b>	<b>\$341,621</b>	<b>41.2% <span style="color: red;">▼</span></b>		<b>22.5% <span style="color: green;">▲</span></b>

	2010	2011	2012		
Administration	\$10,037	\$26,664	165.7% <span style="color: green;">▲</span>	\$11,210	58.0% <span style="color: red;">▼</span>
Employees	\$158,510	\$130,279	17.8% <span style="color: red;">▼</span>	\$201,934	55.0% <span style="color: green;">▲</span>
GUADEC	\$65,439	\$50,897	22.2% <span style="color: red;">▼</span>	\$29,953	41.1% <span style="color: red;">▼</span>
Hackfests	\$82,681	\$51,661	37.5% <span style="color: red;">▼</span>	\$21,932	57.5% <span style="color: green;">▼</span>
Other Events	\$45,431	\$31,238	31.2% <span style="color: red;">▼</span>	\$34,587	10.7% <span style="color: green;">▲</span>
Marketing	\$3,657	\$18,064	394.0% <span style="color: green;">▲</span>	\$1,117	93.8% <span style="color: red;">▼</span>
Contracts	\$6,000	\$50,000	733.3% <span style="color: green;">▲</span>	\$1,530	96.9% <span style="color: red;">▼</span>
Women's Outreach	\$0	\$76,572		\$106,741	39.4% <span style="color: green;">▲</span>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$371,755</b>	<b>\$435,375</b>	<b>17.1% <span style="color: green;">▲</span></b>	<b>\$409,004</b>	<b>6.1% <span style="color: red;">▼</span></b>



Dave Neary: Hi Daniel, I would like to do a biography of the traveling GNOME for the annual report this year. I hear you know him better than anyone! I wonder if you could help me with some background information?

Daniel Siegel: Well, around the time of gnome 2.22, while preparing release notes for Cheese, I felt the gnome community had seen my handsome face on Cheese screenshots often enough. So, I asked around and, while getting some more or less useful hints, I had an unexpected guest visiting me in my apartment...

Dave: Where was the Traveling GNOME born?

Daniel: Unfortunately, little is known about that.

Dave: When did you discover his love of traveling?

Daniel: He always seemed to be very adventurous and, ultimately, isn't "traveling" in his name?

Dave: Which side is the front, and which is the back?

Daniel: As you can tell from the many photos, he seems to be fine showing both sides. But, to be honest, he tells more jokes and is funnier on his green side.

Dave: The GNOME disappeared for several months (years?) at one point. Has he ever told you what happened in that time? Was he kidnapped, or did he just need some space?

Daniel: All I got was a short note with the following:

we got him, give us lots of ice cream or you will regret it.

- love, the swedish conspiracy

Fortunately, Eric discovered his hideout and they spent some lovely days in San Francisco.

Dave: What's the most interesting place he's been so far?

Daniel: Well, he has been to several continents so far, but why don't you have a look for yourself?

<https://live.gnome.org/TravellingGnome>. But, if you ask me, he met a very special girl in Florence, Italy...

Dave: How does the GNOME decide the next place he wants to go?

Daniel: He seems to prefer the company of awesome gnome hackers and he usually does not visit the same hacker twice. Then, there is a ruleset he brings along on how to take care of the traveling gnome:

\* add a photo of the traveling gnome and yourself to <https://live.gnome.org/TravellingGnome>

\* get a present and put it into a box along with the traveling gnome and the instructions

\* send it to your favorite gnome hacker

Dave: Thanks Daniel! I have tried travelinggnome gnome org but it bounced - I don't think he ever asked for his foundation membership (we should change that!)

Daniel: I don't think this is a valid mail address, so far we only have that wiki page ;) But, yeah, he is definitely a good candidate for foundation membership. I even would vouch for him!



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