

STANDING TOGETHER 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

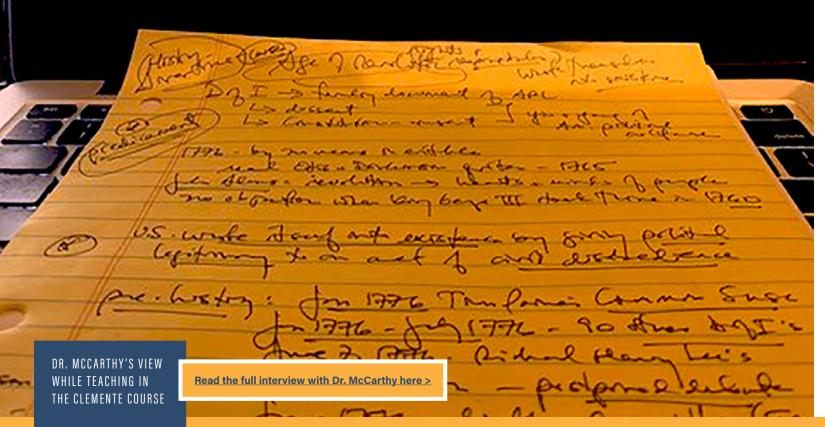


"NONE OF US WANTED 2020 TO BE THE END OF CLEMENTE. WE DIDN'T WANT TO STUMBLE TO THE FINISH LINE EVER AGAIN. THAT SUMMER WE SAID TO EACH OTHER, 'YOU KNOW WHAT? LET'S DO THIS. LET'S FIGURE THIS OUT, AND LET'S DO IT RIGHT! AND WE'VE BEEN ALL-IN EVER SINCE."

TIMOTHY PATRICK MCCARTHY, STANLEY PATERSON PROFESSOR OF AMERICAN HISTORY, BOSTON CLEMENTE COURSE IN THE HUMANITIES

"We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness..."







EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BRIAN BOYLES

CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELIZABETH DUCLOS-ORSELLO



Our nation confronted cascading crises in 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic claimed the lives of more than 500,000 Americans, including more than 16,000 Massachusetts residents. The murders of Black Americans forced a reckoning with systemic racism. At times, our democracy seemed to buckle as a divisive presidential election pushed us further apart.

The pandemic sent the cultural sector reeling, as museums, libraries and performance venues shuttered, taking with them thousands of jobs. Our allies in higher education faced budget cuts that imperiled humanities departments and students. Our colleagues at health and human services agencies and community centers endured long nights on the frontlines.

Yet in a time of social distance, the humanities created space for us to stand together. In our daily work, Mass Humanities stood by our partners through an unprecedented increase in our grant making, the development of public programs and grants that addressed threats to our democracy, and a digital pivot to sustain our operations and partnerships.

Funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, made possible by the CARES Act, allowed Mass Humanities to provide lifelines to organizations in every corner of Massachusetts. Support from NEH and our partners at Mass Cultural Council resulted in grants to more than 200 institutions, keeping the humanities alive in every region of the Commonwealth. We thank our allies in Congress and the legislature for their faith in our mission and the communities we serve.

Our greatest thanks goes to the people who made the humanities central to surviving in this trying year. When the Clemente Courses in Brockton, Dorchester, New Bedford, Springfield and Worcester shut down due to the pandemic, our donors rallied to provide laptops and internet service so that classes could resume. A grant from the Federation of State Humanities Councils and the Andrew Mellon Foundation led to the publication of We, Too, Are America, our anthology of writings by Clemente students. The voices of these residents inspired us: "Sweeping changes tend to happen only in times of turmoil," wrote Worcester Clemente graduate C.J. Posk, "when there is no other choice but to evolve."

We evolved through new digital connections. The communities who host Reading Frederick Douglass Together events refused to let the words of Douglass fall silent during the tumultuous summer of 2020. Instead, they create online events, including a gathering of 400 for our annual Boston reading. From our home offices, Mass Humanities brought audiences into conversation with authors, filmmakers, libraries and, through our MS+MA partnership with the Mississippi Humanities Council, our fellow Americans in the Deep South.

Our annual report provides but a glimpse of 2020 from the perspective of Mass Humanities. Behind every grant, every online event, and every donation is a story that tells us about the importance of the public humanities to our democracy, and the power the humanities hold to unite us. As we enter 2021 and prepare for the launch of a new strategic plan, we believe more strongly than ever that a more equitable future is possible. Thank you for walking this path with us. We hope to see you again in the year to come.

Sincerely,

Brian Boyles
Executive Director

Elizabeth Duclos-Orsello

Board Chair

mass HUMANITIES



HUMANITIES ORGANIZATIONS HAVE FACED EXTRAORDINARY CHALLENGES DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

Our partners worked tirelessly to keep their communities informed, inspired, and safe, even as they faced loss and financial hardship. With additional support from the CARES Act and major donations, Mass Humanities was able to respond by awarding an unprecedented number grants, more than doubling our annual funding.

Mass Humanities made 237 grants to 210 organizations in 92 towns and cities, totaling \$1,256,654.

Learn more about grants >

GRANT RECIPIENTS





Through the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Mass Humanities received \$572,500 expended directly in the form of general operating grants to 123 small and mid-sized organizations. Funding was distributed to state humanities councils through the National Endowment for the Humanities, which received \$75 million of the \$2 trillion included in the CARES Act that was signed into law in March 2020.



Boston Review, Cambridge **Brockton Public Library** Cape Ann Museum Center for Independent Documentary, Walpole

Recipients of grants through The Vote, a fund developed by private donors, had to regroup and go online because of the pandemic. They offered critical programming in a tumultuous election year. Created as a commemoration during the centennial of women's right to vote through the 19th Amendment, The Vote initiative reached thousands of people through grants totaling \$147,589 to 17 organizations around the Commonwealth:

Falmouth Historical Society Forbes Library, Northampton JFK Library Foundation, Boston North Shore Community Development Center, Salem North Shore Juneteenth Association, Lynn Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Berkshire Community College, Pittsfield

Cambridge Historical Society

Cathedral Church of St. Paul

Egleston Square Main Street

Gilbert Albert Community Center

Refugee and Immigrant Assistance Center

Fort Point Theatre Channel

Gibson House Museum

Hyde Square Task Force

Innovators for Purpose

Rian Immigrant Center

Save the Harbor/Save the Bay

Somali Development Center

Wellesley Historical Society

Women's Educational Center

The West End Museum

YWCA Of Cambridge

METROWEST BOSTON

Gore Place Society

Insight Productions

Temnest Productions

African Cultural Services

Lexington Historical Society

Talking Information Center

The Thoreau Society

Chelsea Collaborative

Dedham Historical Society

Mass Center for the Book

Natick Historical Society

The Robbins House

▶ UP TO \$4,999

Somerville Museum

Development

▶\$10,000+

▶\$5,000+

Shirley-Eustis House Association

Somerville Center for Adult Learning

Vietnamese American Initiative for

Communities for Restorative Justice

Louisa May Alcott's Orchard House

Charles River Museum of Industry and

Stonehurst, Robert Treat Paine Estate

Historic Newton

Jaara

The Jar

Mass Poetry

Castle of our Skins

Community Art Center

Company One

DEAFinitely

Primary Source, Watertown **Reading Public Library** Stonehurst, Robert Treat Paine Estate, Waltham Tempest Productions, Brookline **UMass Lowell Research Foundation** YWCA of Cambridge YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts, New Bedford

▶ \$10,000+

Barrington Stage Company Berkshire Museum Hancock Shaker Village Norman Rockwell Museum Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Berkshire Community College **WAM Theatre**

▶ \$5.000+

Lenox Library Association Stockbridge Library Association Ventfort Hall Association

▶ UP TO \$4,999

Susan B. Anthony Birthplace Museum The Artist Book Foundation Berkshire Community Radio Alliance Berkshire County Historical Society Berkshire Immigrant Center Clinton Church Restoration Tamarack Hollow Nature and Cultural

West Stockbridge Historical Society

CAPE AND ISLANDS

▶\$10.000+

Nantucket Historical Association Wellfleet Historical Society and Museum

▶\$5,000+

Aguinnah Cultural Center Centerville Public Library Association Falmouth Historical Society Provincetown Theater Foundation

▶ UP TO \$4,999

West Falmouth Library

Woods Hole Public Library

The Brewster Historical Society

Cape Cod Cape Verdean Museum and Cultural Center Chatham Historical Society **Cuttyhunk Historical Society** Historical Society of Old Yarmouth The Helene Johnson and Dorothy West Foundation for Artists in Need Osterville Historical Society Sassafras Earth Education

CENTRAI

▶\$10,000+ Old Sturbridge

Worcester Art Museum Worcester County Horticultural Society Worcester Historical Museum

▶ \$5,000+

Preservation Worcester Southeast Asian Coalition of Central Massachusetts ▶ UP TO \$4,999

Boylston Public Library Foundation Fitchburg Historical Society Fort Devens Museum Groton History Center Literacy Volunteers of Greater Worcester Townsend Historical Society Worcester Refugee Assistance Project Worcester Youth Center

GREATER BOSTON

▶\$10,000+

826 Boston **American Repertory Theater** Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center Center for Independent Documentary Central Square Theater **Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative** JFK Library Foundation Museum of African American History Primary Source Paul Revere Memorial Association/Paul

Revolutionary Spaces **USS Constitution Museum**

▶\$5,000+ Boston Book Festival

Revere House

Center for Arabic Culture **Everyday Boston** Generation Citizen Gibson Society The History Project: Documenting LGBTQ

Lesley University Newton Historical Society The Welcome Project

▶ UP TO \$4,999 Agencia ALPHA

Boston Review

Brain Arts Organization

Ágora Cultural Architects Arts Connect Internationa Asian Community Development Corporation Authentic Caribbean Foundation Inc BAMS Fest

▶ \$10.000+ Harbor Voices

NORTHEAST

The House of the Seven Gables Settlement Blues to Green Merrimack Repertory Theatre North Shore Community Development Chinese Historical Society of New England **▶**\$5,000+

Andover Historical Society **Danvers Historical Society** Flevated Thought Gloucester Maritime Heritage Center Historical Society of Old Newbury Lawrence History Center New England Quilt Museum Reading Public Library Swampscott Public Library

▶ UP TO \$4.999

UMass Lowell Research Foundation African Community Center of Lowell Amesbury Carriage Museum Angkor Dance Troupe Boys & Girls Club of Greater Lowell Cambodian Mutual Assistance Associati Cape Ann Museum Danvers Alarm List The Dream Network Friends of Andover Memorial Hall Library **LEAP for Education** Massachusetts Center for Native American Awareness North Andover Historical Society

North Shore Community Development North Shore Juneteenth Association Westford Museum

PIONEER VALLEY

▶ \$10.000+

Amherst Media **Bhutanese Society of Western** Massachusetts Double Edge Theatre Hampden County Sheriff's Department The Jones Library Karuna Center for Peacebuilding OneHolyoke Community Development

Corporation Springfield Museums University of Massachusetts Amherst

Westfield Athenaeum **▶**\$5,000+

Clapp Memorial Library

Emily Dickinson Museum The Drama Studio Lilly Library Association Pioneer Valley History Network

▶ UP TO \$4,999

Amherst Historical Society Art for the Soul Gallery

Center for New Americans **Eggtooth Productions Enchanted Circle Theater** Forbes Library Gaylord Memorial Library Historic Holyoke at Wistariahurst Holyoke Community Media Holyoke Volleyball Hall of Fame The Literacy Project Longmeadow Historical Society The Nolumbeka Project Ohketeau Cultural Center The Performance Project Piti Theatre Company Polish Center of Discovery and Learning Shaw Memorial Library Voices From Inside Young Men's Library Association

SOUTHEAST ▶\$10,000+

Brockton Public Library Center For Independent Documentary Forbes House Museum New Bedford Whaling Museum Plimoth Patuxet Museums YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts

▶ \$5,000+ **Duxbury Rural and Historical Society**

Hull Lifesaving Museum New Bedford Historical Society Pilarim Society Rotch-Jones-Duff House and Garden Museum

South Coast LGBTQ Network ▶ UP TO \$4,999

Alden Kindred of America **Cohasset Historical Society** Frederick Douglass Neighborhood

Association Massachusetts Archaeological Society New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center Old Bridgewater Historical Society Old Colony Historical Society Plymouth Antiquarian Society **Spinner Publications** Zeiterion Theatre

OTHER **▶**\$5,000+

Smithsonian Affiliations/Smithsonian

Institution

MASS HUMANITIES 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

CLEMENTE COURSE IN THE HUMANITIES

FORGING AHEAD, VIRTUALLY.

In March 2020, two months before graduation, the COVID-19 pandemic forced the Clemente Course sites Mass Humanities that operates — in Brockton, Dorchester, New Bedford, Springfield, and Worcester — to go online. This was a challenge for students, many of whom lacked the technology needed and experience with online learning, as well as the faculty. As a result, the programs were extended, but as a testament to their fortitude in challenging times, 74 graduated to receive 6 college credits.

The Clemente Course is a free, year-long college-accredited introduction to the humanities for low-income adults. The course offers students the opportunity to learn, reflect, and gain the insights and skills unique to the humanities.

Learn more about the Clemente Course:

"SWEEPING CHANGES TEND TO HAPPEN ONLY IN TIMES OF TURMOIL WHEN THERE IS NO OTHER CHOICE BUT TO EVOLVE."

C.J. POSK, WORCESTER
FROM HER ESSAY, "NEVER LET A CRISIS GO TO WASTE:
A CALL FOR A 21ST CENTURY NEW DEAL"

GOING ONLINE

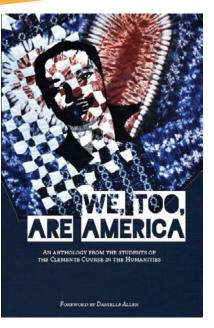
With the help of individuals like you who supported the Clemente Online Access Fund in the spring of 2020, Mass Humanities was able to provide more than 110 students in the Clemente Course for the Humanities with laptops and internet service, ensuring they could continue their studies remotely during the pandemic.

"EDUCATE YOURSELF ON HOW TO ADVOCATE FOR YOUR CHILDREN AND REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE THEIR BIGGEST SUPPORT."

MARITA GONZALEZ, NEW BEDFORD / FROM HER ESSAY<mark>, "I HAVE LUPU</mark>S, LUPU<mark>S DOESN'T HAVE ME"</mark>



CLEMENTE GRADUATES



Lesyslie Rackard, whose quilt is featured on the cover of the anthology, was featured in the Boston Globe >

WE, TOO, ARE AMERICA

The Federation of State Humanities Councils, in partnership with the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, provided funding for a summer writing program for Clemente alumni from Dorchester, New Bedford, Springfield, and Worcester. The program culminated in the publication of an anthology of student writing entitled *We, Too, Are America*, which featured 36 essays and was published by the Harvard Bookstore.

"AT THIS MOMENT IN TIME, NO AMERICAN CAN PLEAD IGNORANT TO THE EVERYDAY ABUSE AND RACIALLY CHARGED INDIGNATION THAT BLACK AND BROWN AMERICANS HAVE FACED FOR CENTURIES"

WHITMER CASTRO, DORCHESTER / FROM HIS ESSAY, "UNITY IN COLOR"

➤ Some of the contributors to We, Too, Are America



"FROM EARLY MARCH UNTIL MID-JUNE, I LEARNED FIRSTHAND WHAT DISTANCE LEARNING IS.
MY FIRST THOUGHT WAS 'I AM NOT CUT OUT FOR THIS LIFE! BUT WITH BOTH OF HIS PARENTS
WORKING, I WAS MY NEPHEW'S ONLY SUPPORT AT THAT MOMENT!"

RUBY POLK, SPRINGFIELD / FROM HER ESSAY, "THE EFFECTS OF DISTANCE LEARNING"

READING FREDERICK DOUGLASS TOGETHER Douglass ▲ Some of the participants in our Boston reading event

CROSSING BORDERS CONNECTING STORIES

The inaugural "MS+MA" online public event took place in December. This unique collaboration between Mass Humanities and the Mississippi Humanities Council gives residents the opportunity to learn about the cultures of two remarkably different states.



ENGAGING WITH EACH OTHER THROUGH VIRTUAL EVENTS

Taking advantage of the "Zoom boom" of online interaction that followed the pandemic lockdown, Mass Humanities launched a series of programs to highlight the public humanities around the state.

Reaching hundreds of residents who now found themselves stuck at home, these 28 events ranged in topic from film screening and discussions to interactive dialogues about democracy.

FEATURED ON "CBS SUNDAY MORNING"

DOUGLASS EVENTS

On July 5, a national audience learned about the Douglass program when CBS Sunday Morning featured an interview between writer Kelefa Sennah and Somerville discussion leader Keidrick Roy.

Watch the interview here >



THE PANDEMIC COULD NOT DETER FREDERICK DOUGLASS.

Mass Humanities provided grants, publicity materials, discussion guides, and virtual readings tips for organizers, and hosted its own virtual reading in partnership with Boston organizations, featuring over 400 participants. As people searched for ways to commemorate the nation's founding without ignoring the racial injustice that remains at its core, Mass Humanities was able to provide communities the opportunity to read Frederick Douglass together. Thousands of Bay Staters participated in 16 virtual public readings and discussions of Frederick Douglass's influential speech known as, "What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?"

CHAMPIONING THE CAUSE



GIVEN TO MASS HUMANITIES

THE MASS HUMANITIES GIVING CIRCLE

Recognizing our closest supporters, the Giving Circle is open to individuals, couples, and families who contribute \$1,000 or more to Mass Humanities in a 12 month period. Gifts of property (stock, artwork, real estate, etc.) may also qualify. A donation of \$25,000 or more qualifies the donor for lifetime membership.

2020 GIVING CIRCLE MEMBERS

Amy and David Abrams
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O'Connell
Guillermo Avila-Saavedra
Elizabeth and Ned Bacon
Brian Boyles
Anne C. Bromer
John A. Burgess and Nancy
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James and Laura Burke
Marcia Butzel
John J. Carroll, Jr.
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Frederick and Eva Fierst William M. Fowler, Jr. Lyell Franke Paul Gannon Elizabeth and Roberto Goizueta. Lifetime **Bruns and Perrin Grayson** Marjorie Greville Alfred and Sally Griggs **Bruce Grinnell** Bruce Herring Ronald B. Hertel Amos B. Hostetter, Jr. Stephen and Darcy Cole Johnson Seth and Beth Klarman Brian J. and Ryann Konish Barbara Lee Caroline Levine

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Make a Contribution >

THE 2020 MASSACHUSETTS GOVERNOR'S AWARDS IN THE HUMANITIES

On October 25, Mass Humanities hosted the award celebration online for the first time, due to social distancing restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. jessie little doe baird, Alfred Griggs, Lee Pelton and Fredericka Stevenson gave their acceptance speeches from their homes. The annual ceremony celebrates those whose public actions, grounded in an appreciation of the humanities, have enhanced civic life in the Commonwealth.

Watch the 2020 Governor's Awards in the Humanities Celebration >

Thanks to many generous donors and volunteers, Mass Humanities raised over half a million dollars from more than 350 individuals and organizations, including \$243,000 to honor the Governor's Awards recipients.

Alice DeLana

Dianne F. Doherty

Nancy Donahue, Lifetime

Elizabeth Duclos-Orsello

James and Nancy Edwards



In 2020, Mass Humanities established the Bridge Street Friends, a networking and support resource similar to a college alumni association made up of former board members, Giving Circle members and Governor's Award recipients.

MASS HUMANITIES 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

2020 CONTRIBUTORS



Brian Boyles Executive Director

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Deepika Fernandes Fiscal Officer

Jennifer Hall-Witt Program Officer

John Sieracki Director of Development

Katherine Stevens Director of Grants

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\$1,483,170

\$909,570 General Operating \$573,600 CARES Act



\$75,000+

Anonymous

Federation of State **Humanities Councils**

\$50,000+

The William and Lia G. Poorvu Family Foundation

Stevenson Family Charitable Trust, in honor of Fredericka Stevenson

\$25,000+

The Richard K. and Nancy L. Donahue Charitable Foundation

\$10,000+

The George I. Alden Trust

The Beveridge Family Foundation

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\$2,500+

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Jack and Beth Mever. in honor of Fredericka Stevenson

The Mohegan Tribe, in honor of jessie little doe baird

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\$1,000+

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\$500+

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in honor of Jeffrey

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Stevenson

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honor of Fredericka

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honor of Fredericka Stevenson

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State

22%

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UP TO \$99

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Maud and Adrian Ayson

Linda C. Black

Bruce S. Cohen Pat Costello

Karen Davis

Vive Griffith

Brenda Hill

Stevenson

Lynn Korza

Avi Lev

Edward and Judy Lund Beth Mahoney

Douglas Maitland Megan McDermott Theresa Melo, in

memory of Sue Ann Vancho Michael Meltsner

Christine Miller Patricia Monteith

Lee Mikeska

Nancy Moorehead and Keene Metzger Sonia and Angel Nieto

Lawrence O'Brien Bill Ouellette Marie Panik Debbie Papa

Robin Parker Anne Peirce, in memory of Drew Helene

Lucie Polk Ginnette Powell L.D. Rackard

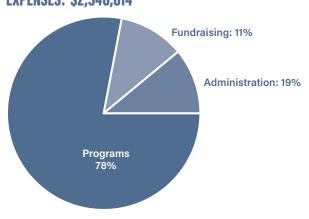
Jane Roiter Margaret Rolph Timothy J.R. Shotmeyer Nancy Sinsabaugh, in honor of Fredericka Stevenson

Krishnan Subrahmanian Virginia Van Wagner Glen Weisberg Michelle R. Wilson

Brita Zitin and Carolyn

Gibney

EXPENSES: \$2,340,014



ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash	1,438,855
Certificates of deposit	532,126
Grants receivable	361,298
Prepaid expenses	10,268
Pledges receivable - within one year	76,068

CHANGES IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS

Foundations: 2%

Other: 3%

Corporations: <1%

(including net assets released from restrictions)

Federal

54%

39% of Federal funding was received through

the CARES Act (equal to 21% of all revenue)

Individuals

19%

Total Current Assets

Total Capital Assets

TOTAL ASSETS

Cash – donor restricted

Capital Assets-At Cost	
Leasehold improvements	32,032
Equipment	11,430
Computer equipment and software	15,210
Less – accumulated depreciation	58,672 (55,022)
Less - accumulated depreciation	(33,022)

Other Assets Investments

Cash – board designated	
Total Other Assets	\$2,179,427

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities

Total Current Liabilities & Total Liabilities	\$157,052
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	130,105
Regrants payable	26,947

\$2,418,633

\$3,650

2,179,427

\$4,601,710

Net Assets	
Without donor restrictions Board designated endownment funds	1,673,189 121,097
Total Without Donor Restrictions	\$1,794,286
Purpose or time restricted In perpetuity	885,589 1,764,783
Total With Donor Restrictions	\$2,650,372

Total Net Assets \$4,444,658

TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS



\$4,601,710

2018 ANNUAL REPORT

