A Culture of Creativity

There is no other way to describe 2008 than extraordinary! Our long-standing programs thrived and supported new work for hundreds of composers, while seeds were sown for new initiatives in 2009. Importantly, we finished the year in strong financial health. We also completed a significant new three-year plan that pays great attention to the changing landscape of music – both its creation and distribution – and outlines exciting new directions for the organization. In our turbulent times, these are wonderful marks of success.

What is not recorded in these pages is our partnership with the American Music Center this past year to develop and launch the first research study in many years of composers and their careers. Over 1,300 people responded to a national survey facilitated by the Research Center for Arts and Culture at Columbia University, and over 100 interviews in eight major cities were conducted as part of the intensive field work.

The preliminary results were presented at the 2008 National Performing Arts Convention in Denver, and the full study will be released in late fall 2008. It is called “Taking Note: A Study of Composers in the United States,” and forms an important baseline of information that can be used in future years for subsequent studies.

What did we learn?

While some needs – time and money – have been the same for hundreds of years, what is also clear is that the virtual world we all live in has offered exciting new opportunities for composers to create, connect with new audiences and make a living. No doubt that will only continue exponentially.

What has not changed is the need for composers to find people who value their work, and the Forum continues to see its mission as a critically important link in that process. Clearly there are many who agree with us because our membership continues to grow.

We are also deeply grateful for the support of our loyal donors, without whom we could not do what we do! We look forward to doing even more in the years ahead for creating an environment of creativity in our culture.
On the evening of October 26, 2007, Osmo Vänskä conducted The Minnesota Orchestra in a concert of seven new works selected for the Forum’s 2007 Composer Institute. This annual program is presented in partnership with the Orchestra, the American Music Center, and the University of Minnesota School of Music. Beth Cowart, Minnesota Orchestra’s Artistic Planning Associate, and composer Aaron Jay Kernis, the Orchestra’s new music advisor, served as co-directors of the Institute. An audience of over 1200 people responded enthusiastically to the new pieces by Daniel Bradshaw (Laie, Hawaii), Jacob Cooper (New Haven, Conn.), Trevor Gureckis (Astoria, N.Y.), Wes Matthews (Jamaica Plain, Mass.), Elliott Miles McKinley (Minneapolis, Minn.), Xi Wang (Ithaca, N.Y.), and Stephen Wilcox (Bethlehem, Pa.). In addition to the Future Classics! concert, the activities of the Institute span an entire week and encompass a variety of workshops that cover such topics as self-publishing, score preparation, grant-writing, copyrights and licensing, marketing and promotion, as well as instrumental seminars led by many of the Orchestra’s principal players.

The goal of the Forum’s First Nations Composer Initiative (FNCI) is to provide leadership in support of American Indian composers and performers. FNCI’s Composer Apprentice National Outreach Endeavor (CANOE) teaches composition skills to Native students. For three semesters during the 2007/2008 school year, CANOE placed Native composers in classrooms in Minnesota and California: Brent Michael Davids (Mohican), Elizabeth Jaakola (Anishinaabe), and Raven Chacon (Dine) worked with students in Minneapolis and at the Fond du Lac reservation (Cloquet, Minn.) and at a venue shared with Native Voices at the Gene Autry Theater in Orange County, Los Angeles.

While music classrooms skillfully teach performing and listening, many lack the tools to teach students how to create music. In keeping with its mission of supporting new music and composers, the Forum actively works to support composition and new music in the K-12 classroom. The Forum has partnered with the software company MakeMusic, Inc. to produce a technology-based composition curriculum called Music by Kids for Kids®. For this project, composer and educator Janika Vandervelde wrote a five-unit curriculum with Finale® templates that ease students into composing and provide assessment documents for teachers. Music by Kids for Kids is now being distributed nationally.

A new wind band composition by Dana Wilson entitled “Odysseus and the Sirens” was premiered in May of 2008 by the Boynton Middle School Concert Band in Ithaca, New York. This new band work was commissioned by the Forum as part of the successful BandQuest® series of scores distributed by Hal Leonard.

Now in its 16th season, the Forum’s Faith Partners program continues to invigorate sacred music and reintroduce composers into settings in which they have historically flourished. The participating congregations are chosen on the basis of their interest in and commitment to performing new music, their diversity, and their potential congruence. Participating composers gain multiple performances and develop new audiences.

Curtis Bryant, a composer from Union City, Ga., was chosen as the Composer-in-Residence for a Faith Partners project with three churches in Atlanta. In Minnesota, three composers were chosen for Faith Partners residencies with two congregations each: Victor Zupanc in Minneapolis, Ronald Nelson in Hutchinson, and Thomas Porter, in Saint Cloud.
A Continental Harmony residency was completed with Gabriela Lena Frank in Modesto, California. Ongoing Continental Harmony residency projects include Larry Siegel’s “Kaddish,” previewed in Keene, New Hampshire, with a premiere in Minneapolis on November 15, 2008, with VocalEssence; and Jerod Tate’s “The Journey Continues” scheduled for a Fall 2009 premiere in Ada, Oklahoma, with the Oklahoma Youth Orchestra and other performers.

Composer Shawn Crouch was announced as the first recipient of the Forum’s Dale Warland Singers Choral Commission during the June 2007 Chorus America conference. Crouch will write a new work for the San Francisco-based Chanticleer vocal ensemble. The Dale Warland Singers Fund for New Choral Music will support one new choral commission each year through a partnership with Chorus America. The Forum partnered with GALA Choruses Inc. (an international organization serving the GLBT choral movement) to launch a pilot Community Partners program, resulting in grants of $6,000 to the Boston Gay Men’s Chorus and Una Voce to commission a new work for each of them.

McKnight Fellowships were awarded to four Minnesota-based composers, and McKnight Visiting Composer residencies were awarded to two non-Minnesotan composers for Minnesota-based projects: New York composer Billy Fox will teach improvisation at the MacPhail Center in Minneapolis; and Philadelphia composer Evan Solot will work with the Mankato Symphony. The Forum annually provides direct support to emerging composers through the Jerome Composers Commissioning Program (JCCP). Begun in 1980, JCCP has awarded grants to 252 recipients, including 16 new grants announced last October.

Encore provides rehearsal and performance funding for repeat performances of recent works. Performers and composers who have not worked together before are eligible to apply. This year, 18 grants were awarded to performers across the United States.

The Forum collaborates with VocalEssence on several professional development and commissioning programs. The Essentially Choral reading sessions bring composers from across the country to Minnesota to hear their untested works for chorus, and the Welcome Christmas! Carol Contest culminates each year in the performance of two new carols at VocalEssence’s Welcome Christmas! concerts.

Tuesday Salons – casual evenings open to composers on a first-come, first-served basis — were often “standing room only.” Many evenings are “BYOP” (Bring/Be Your Own Performer). Zeitgeist generously offers their downtown St. Paul studio space.

Composers Datebook, launched in March 2000 and co-produced with Minnesota Public Radio, celebrates contemporary composers and their historical counterparts. The two-minute, daily radio show can be heard on 280 stations nationwide. A daily email newsletter is delivered to over 12,000 inboxes. The Forum’s innova® Recordings label continues to release approximately 25 recordings annually, all available both as traditional CDs and also as MP3 downloads direct from the internet. The label has also partnered with the Independent Online Distributors Alliance (IODA). A major grant from the New York State Music Fund has resulted in the release of innova CDs by nearly 30 New York artists.

Professional membership in the Forum rose to 1700 as of June 2008, a 15% gain over 2007.

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The Forum’s regional chapters continued to provide programs and services tailored to their local communities, with financial support from local donors. Here’s a summary of their activities over the past year.

In Northern and Southern California:
The popular, quick-turnaround *subito* grant program in California enabled ACF’s San Francisco-Bay Area and Los Angeles Chapters to assist dozens of local composers and performers in realizing a variety of career-advancing projects. In Northern California, the Bay Area Chapter’s popular *Composer in the Schools* (CITS) program celebrated its 12th Anniversary with end-of-the-school-year concerts highlighting the creative accomplishments of this year’s participating students at Lowell (San Francisco) and Berkeley High School.

The Bay Area Chapter’s *Northern California Composers Commissioning Program* (NCCP) places a premium on new collaborations, awarding grants that are split between the applicant performer or presenter and the composer they are commissioning. The Chapter’s *Community Partners* connects composers with local presenters and performance venues, and its *21st Century Music for People* program seeks to reconnect contemporary composers with talented but non-professional performers.

The Philadelphia Orchestra and ACF Philadelphia held a *Composer to Composer* session with Jennifer Higdon on January 10, 2008, at the Kimmel Center. The Chapter organized its own series of four free concerts at the Kimmel Center’s Commonwealth Plaza, all showcasing the work of local composers.

The Chapter also operates its own internet radio station, www.newmusicphiladelphia.com, broadcasting the work of Philadelphia composers and the performers who play their music – 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

In Washington D.C.:
ACF’s DC Chapter produced regular *New Music Salons* at the Patricia M. Sitar Center for the Arts, showcasing both local composers and performers as well as visiting ensembles. The Chapter also launched its own *subito* quick advancement grant program for regional composers and performers of new music.

The 7th edition of DC Sonic Circuits own *Sonic Circuits* festival of electronic music took place October 5 - 8, 2007, at the Warehouse Theater, offering five concerts over four days, plus three lecture/demonstrations. It promises more genre-bending sounds and world-class performances of music, film and video at additional venues in the DC Metro area. Featured performers include around 60 local, national, and international artists from the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Germany, The Netherlands, Belgium, Sweden, Norway, Spain, and Lithuania.

In New England:
In collaboration with Northeastern University, ACF’s New England Chapter (ACFNE) hosted a reading session presented by *Brave New Works*, a 10-musician new music chamber ensemble. Works by seven regional composers were performed. The Chapter has received an Argosy Foundation grant to commission new music to be presented by the *Boston Modern Orchestra Project* (BMOP) in the upcoming Ditson Festival of New Music in Boston.

The Brave New Works ensemble read works by seven New England composers in November of 2007.
Class of 2008

Over the past year, the Forum served more than 475 talented artists and ensembles through its programs, grants, fellowships and other opportunities. Congratulations to all!

BandQuest
Chen Yi (Mo.)
Michael Colgrass (Ont., Canada)
Michael Daugherty (Mich.)
Brent Michael Davids (Minn.)
Thomas C. Duffy (Conn.)
Adolphus Hailstork (Va.)
Jennifer Higdon (Pa.)
Libby Larsen (Minn.)
Tania Leon (N.J.)
Stephen Paulus (Minn.)
Robert Xavier Rodriguez (Texas)
Gunther Schuller (Mass.)
Alvin Singleton (Ga.)
Dana Wilson (N.Y.)
Judith Zaimont (Ariz.)

Composers Datebook
Mark Adamo (N.Y.)
John Adams (Calif.)
Laurie Anderson (N.Y.)
Dominick Argento (Minn.)
William Bolcom (Mich.)
Dave Brubeck (Calif.)
Gavin Bryars (Engl.)
Wendy Carlos (N.Y.)
Paul Chihara (Calif.)
John Corigliano (N.Y.)
Bill Frizell (Utah)
John Williams (Calif.)

Continental Harmony
Philip Bimstein (Utah)
Lisa DeSpain (N.Y.)
Gabriela Lena Frank (Calif.)
Larry Siegel (N.H.)
Roy Whelden (Calif.)
John Williams (Calif.)

Encore
by composer/performer(s):
David Bithell (Texas) with Hunter-Gatherer (N.Y.)
Kirsten Broberg (Ill.) with The Renegade Ensemble (Minn.)
Patricia Da Silva (Calif.) with pianist Lei Weng (Colo.)
Christopher Gable (Minn.) with Two Sides Sounding (Calif.)
Lori Laitman (Md.) with Janelle McCoy Chamber Group (Fla.)
David Schober (N.Y.) with violinist Maria Sampen (Wash.)
Joseph Trapanese (Calif.) with East Coast Composers Ensemble (N.Y.)
Peter Michael von der Nahmer (Calif.) with percussionist Erik Barness (Minn.)

Essentially Choral
Elizabeth Kelly (Fla.)
Jonathon Kolm (Texas)
David Mercer (Minn.)
Scott Sandersfield (Minn.)
Matthew Van Brink (N.Y.)

Faith Partners
Curtis Bryant (Ga.)
Ronald Nelson (Minn.)
Thomas Porter (N.D.)
Victor Zupanc (Minn.)

FNCI
Dawn Avery, Mohawk (Mo.)
Asayap Youth Program (S.D.)
Raven Chacon, Diné (Calif.)
Brent Michael Davids, Mohican (Minn.)
Chenoa Egawa, Lummi (Wash.)
Wade Fernandez, Menominee (Wisc.)
Joy Harjo,
Mvkoke/Creek (N.M.)
Lyz Jaakola, Anishinabe (Minn.)
Mr. Rushmore National Memorial “Saturdays in the Park” Music Series (S.D.)
George Quincy, Choctaw (N.Y.)
South Dakota Symphony Orchestra (S.D.)
Jerod Impichaachaaha Tate,
Chicksaw (Colo.)

innova Recordings
Christopher Adler (Calif.)
Mark Applebaum (Calif.)
Paul Austerlitz (Pa.)
Jeremy Beck (Ky.)
+Henry Brant (Calif.)
Todd Brunel (Mass.)
Sidiki Conde (N.Y.)
Douglas J. Cuomo (N.Y.)
Ron George (Calif.)
Glass Farm Ensemble (N.Y.)

JCCP
Abbie Betinis (Minn.)
with Anoka High School Band
Howard Collins (Minn.)
with trumpeter Kiku Collins
Nathan Davis (N.Y.)
with the International Contemporary Ensemble
Paul Elwood (N.C.)
with Zeitgeist
Ryan Francis (N.Y.)
with Fredrik Ulleen and the Metropolis Ensemble.
Douglas Geers (Minn.)
with La MaMa
Margaret Griebling-Haigh (Ohio) with the Vecchione/Endal Duo
Joel Harrison (N.Y.)
with the Mosaic ensemble
Huck Hodge (N.Y.)
with the Afaia String Quartet
Kristin Kuster (N.Y.)
for flutist Jennifer Nitchman
Art Lee (Japan) with Ragma Dance
Missy Mazzoli (N.Y.)
with filmmaker Stephen Taylor and the NOW Ensemble.
J. David Moore (Minn.)
with the Venere Lute Quartet
Tamar Muskal (N.Y.)
with Carnegie Hall
Peter O’Gorman (Minn.)
with choreographer
Wynne Fricke

JCCP (continued)
Aaron Siegel (N.Y.)
with the Flux Quartet
Peter Michael von der Nahmer
(Calif.) with Janus Percussion

McKnight Composer Fellowships
John E. Bower (Minn.)
Brent Michael Davids (Minn.)
Philip Fried (Minn.)
Noah Keeseecker (Minn.)

McKnight Visiting Composers
Billy Fox (New York, N.Y.)
Evan Solot (Philadelphia, Pa.)

Minnesota Orchestra Composer Institute
Daniel Bradshaw (Hawaii)
Jacob Cooper (Conn.)
Trevor Gureckis (N.Y.)
Wes Matthews (Mass.)
Elliott Miles McKinley (Minn.)
Stephen Wilcox (Pa.)
Wang Xi (N.Y.)

Welcome Christmas! Carol Contest
Matthew Brown (Calif.)
Stephen Main (Calif.)

Regional Chapters

D.C. Chapter
Sonic Circuits Festival
Txema Agiriano
Alexis
All Violet
AM Salad
Animental
Thomas Ankersmit
Gilles Aubry
Baseline
BLK w/ BEAR
Josh Bonnetta
Naila Borenzstein
Brown Wing Overdrive
Buck Gooter
Arturas Bumšteinas
Cash Slave Clique
Caustic Castle
Tony Conrad & Violent Raid
Caution Curves
Cheapmachines
Ramon Churrucua
Constant Mauk
Corridors
The Cutest Puppy in the World
Frans de Waard
Nick Didkovsky & Sirius String Quartet
Element Kuuda
Mariana Ellenberg
Ergo
Ober Etxeberria
Exploding Star Orchestra
Thorsten Fleisch
Iris Garreiffs
Gunung Sari
Christoph Heemann
Zan Hoffman
Koen Holtkamp
Humocrush
Insect Factory
Iorning
Michael Thomas Jackson & Brian Osbourne
Janel and Anthony
Antanas Jasenka
Kakerlak
Kohoutek Percussion Ensemble
Kuschiy Rye Ergot
Gunter Krüger
Lamathilde
Nick Lopata
Janel Leppin
Ida Lundén
Sarah Lundén
Hal McGee
Moljebka Pvise
Murmer
Mind Over Matter Music Over Mind
Myo
Northern Machine
Noveller
oblast (Keiko Uenishi)
Ben Owen
People
Piasa
Pinko Communiods
Doug Poplin
Promute
Radio Shock
RDK
Safe
James June Schneider
Scraping Teeth
Shell Life
Spaceships Panic Orbit
Martijn Tellinga
36
This Bag is Not a Toy
TL0741
Esther Venrooy
VJ Poppins
Andy Wilson
Jack Wright & Michael Johnsen
Xedh)

Los Angeles Chapter
Composers Salon
Bei Bei He
Randy Newman
Michael Roth
Drew Schnurr
Gernot Wolfgang

subito in Southern California
Ellen Burr
Madelyn Byrne
Jessica Catron
Nicholas Chase
Phil Curtis
Adam Greene
Sean Griffin
Sean Heim
Aaron Helgeson
Alison Adah Johnson
Daniel Kessner
Ronit Kirchman
Michael Kudirka
Anne LeBaron
Steve Lockwood
Pamela Madsen
Varoujan Nalbandian
Adam Overton
Andrew Pask
Michael Pitaro
Jeffrey Roden
Barry Schrader
John Schneider
Chris Granias
Will Hale
Helen Hall
Todd Harper
Colin Holter
Marienne Kreitlow
Sherry Wohlers Ladig
Ellen Lease
Pat Moriarty
Mike Olson
Julianne Rabens
Ryan Rapps
Greg Schaffner
Edward Schneider
Matthew Smith
Sandy Waterman
Adam Vernick
Stanley Woolner
Eric Votava

Performances, Tuesday Salons and Readings
Tom Allen
bryce beverlin
Paul Cantrell
Colin Corner
Viv Corrington
Michael Coyle
Cathy Dalton
Michael Davis
Jeffrey Drayton
Aniruddha Dutta
Mark Eden
William Frank
Phil Fried
Douglas Geers
Chris Granias
Will Hale
Helen Hall
Todd Harper
Colin Holter
Marienne Kreitlow
Sherry Wohlers Ladig
Ellen Lease
Pat Moriarty
Mike Olson
Julianne Rabens
Ryan Rapps
Greg Schaffner
Edward Schneider
Matthew Smith
Sandy Waterman
Adam Vernick
Stanley Woolner
Eric Votava

Saint Paul Listens
Doug Little
Gao Hong
Michael Croswell
Zeiggeist

Minnesota Chapter listings continued on next page
Regional Chapters continued

### Minnesota (continued)
- **Schubert Club Songbook**
  - Carol Barnett
  - Libby Larsen
  - Monte Mason
  - Stephen Paulus

### subito in Minnesota
- Erik Barsness
- Janus Percussion
- Abbie Betinis
- John Bower
- Linda Chatterton
- Mina Fischer, Bakken Trio
- Jan Gilbert
- Jocelyn Hagen
- Nathan Hanson
- Linda Tutas Haugen
- Asako Hirabayashi
- Gao Hong
- Noah Keesecker
- Michelle Kinney, Jelloslave
- Edward Marcus
- Elliot Miles McKinley
- Scott Miller
- Pat Moriarty
- Kelly Rossum
- Timothy Takach
- David Evan Thomas

### New England
- **Brave New Works Readings**
  - Brian Dixon
  - Jean Y. Foo
  - Karl Hemming
  - David Patterson
  - Rob Seaback
  - Lee. C. Smith

- **Festival Commissions**
  - Julie Rohwein
  - Andrew Vores
  - Dalit Warshaw

- **New England Orchestral Consortium Commissions**
  - David Kechley
  - Michael Weinstein

### Sonic Circuits CD
- Jonathan Chen
- Beth Denisch
- Ido Govrin
- Neil Leonard
- Kiki Keren-Huss
- Yossi Mar-Chaim
- Keren Rosenbaum
- Aric Shapiro
- Amnon Wolman

### Philadelphia Community Partners
- Andrew Blecner
- Daniel Dorff
- Susie Barra
- Allen Krantz
- Kile Smith
- David Bennett Thomas

### Commissions
- Ranaan Meyer
- Time for Three

### Kimmel Center Plaza Concerts
- Kevin Clark
- Francis D’Amico
- Matt Davis
- Daniel Dorff
- Matthew Greenbaum
- Joseph Hallman
- Jan Kryzwicki
- Robert Maggio
- Michael McGrath
- Clive Muncaster
- Ed Nawrocki
- Ryan Olivier
- James Primosch
- Maurice Wright

### New Music Philadelphia
- Charles Abramovic
- Curt Cacioppo
- Kevin Clark
- George Crumb
- David Ludwig
- Anthony Mosakowski
- Ned Rorem
- Robert AM Ross
- David Bennett Thomas
- William Thompson

### New Voices
- Kevin Clark
- David Ludwig
- Anthony Mosakowski
- Robert AM Ross
- David Bennett Thomas
- William Thompson

### subito in Philadelphia
- Andrea Clearfield
- Francis D’Amico
- Joseph Hallman
- Gregg Mervine
- Dan Scofield

### San Francisco Bay Area Community Partners
- Ryan Brown
- with The Left Coast Ensemble
- Lara Bruckmann
- with ChamberBridge
- Jay Cloyd
- with ODC/San Francisco
- Peter Josheff
- with Harvest of Song
- San Francisco Electronic Music Festival

### Composer in the Schools
- Christopher Jones (Lowell High)
  - with student composers:
    - Michael Beebe
    - Natalie Ha
    - Maria Hong
    - Kailin Koch
- Katrina Wrede (Berkeley High)
  - with student composers:
    - Devon Brinner
    - Ian Faquini
    - Ben Hannilton
    - Chase Jackson
    - Scott Johnston
    - Dylan Mattingly
    - Gabriela Smith
    - Mackenzie Sowers
    - Eli Wirtschafter

### Continental Harmony
- George Brooks
  - with Opera Piccola

### subito in Northern California
- Chus Alonso
- Brian Belet
- Benjamin Boone
- Linda Bouchard
- Ryan Brown
- Lenny Carlson
- Robert J. Coburn
- Philip Collins
- Michael Cooke
- David B. Doty
- Richard Festinger
- Corey Fogel
- Cristiano Forster
- Guillermo Galindo
- Ben Goldberg
- David Graves
- Todd Harris
- Howard Hersh
- John Ingle
- Mindia Devi Klein
- Hugh Livingston
- Patricia Martinez
- Lisa Sangita Moskow
- Don Myers
- Hyo-shin Na
- Jack Perla
- Wendy Reid
- Belinda R. Reynolds
- Jess Rowland
- Laurie San Martin
- Brenda Schuman-Post
- Matt Small

### Northern California Composers Commissioning Program (NCCCP)
- Ryan Brown
  - with Sqwonk
  - Kurt Erickson
  - with Marnie Breckenridge
  - Fred Frith
  - with Galax Quartet
  - Jack Perla
  - with The Paul Dresher Ensemble

### 21st Century Music For The People
- Carolyn O’Brien
- Vicki Trimbach
Corporate, Foundation, and Government Support

$200,000+
- The Ford Foundation
- The McKnight Foundation
- The New York State Music Fund, established by the New York State Attorney General at Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors

$100,000 - $199,999
- The Bush Foundation
- The Jerome Foundation

$50,000 - $99,999
- Minnesota State Arts Board
- National Endowment for the Arts
- Target

$25,000 - $49,999
- Argosy Foundation
- Contemporary Music Fund
- Otto Bremer Foundation

$10,000 - $24,999
- Aaron Copland Fund For Music, Inc.
- General Mills Foundation
- Green Foundation
- Dwight Stuart Youth Foundation

$5,000 - $9,999
- Athwín Foundation
- Ecolab Foundation
- MAHADH Fund of HRK Foundation
- Minnesota Sesquicentennial Commission
- RBC Dain Rauscher Foundation
- Valspar Foundation
- Wenger Foundation

$1,000 - $4,999
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- BMI Foundation
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- Wells Fargo Foundation

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- Gloria and Fred Sewell

Patron ($1,000 - $2,499)
- Arts Federation
- Meredith Alden
- J. Peter Brull Fund of The Minneapolis Foundation by Harry Brull and Myra Barrett
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- Hans W. Courant
- Kay Dawson
- Lois DeWitt
- Glenna Dibrell and David Cummings
- Kevin Duggins
- Sylvia Moe Dyrhaug
- Kent and Katherine Eklund
- Jake and Laura Endres
- Cary John Franklin
- Steve Heitzeg and Gwen Pappas
- Kelli & Geoff Hirsch
- Beth Hoger and Lisa Swem
- Donald and Lois Hoger
- Laura J. Barton-Holding
- Lila Jacob
- Don and Joann Leavenworth
- Chen Yi and Zhou Long
- Robert T. Lund
- Marianella Machado
- John Michel
- Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Nadeau IV
- Ronald Nelson
- Barbara A. Petersen
- Lawrence M. Redmond
- Irene Regener

Many thanks!

continued on next page
Our Donors

American Composers Forum • Our Donors

Enthusiast ($100 - $249)  
Annual Report 2008  
continued from previous page  
July 2007 - June 2008

Nancy and Everett Rotenberry  
Dr. Joseph Rubin  
David Rupp  
Michael and Shirley Santoro  
Paul and Lynn Schoenfield  
Tom Schunn  
Estelle and Donald Sell  
Roger Towler  
Janika Vandervelde  
Joanne and Phillip Von Bion  
Shirley Warren  
Arlene Williams  
David Wolff and Jennifer Ross  
Luna Pearl Woolf

Contributor ($50 - $99)

Robert Applebaum  
Joanna and Richard Corright  
Michael Edwards  
Charles Fitts  
Nancy Fushan  
J. Robert Hanson  
Dr. Jacob and Anne Harney  
Edie Hill  
Richard Horner  
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Our Mission

The American Composers Forum enriches lives by nurturing the creative spirit of composers and communities. We provide new opportunities for composers and their music to flourish, and engage communities in the creation, performance and enjoyment of new music.

The American Composers Forum is committed to supporting composers and developing new markets for their music. Through granting, commissioning, and performance programs, the Forum provides composers at all stages of their careers with valuable resources for professional and artistic development. By linking communities with composers and performers, the Forum fosters a demand for new music, enriches communities, and helps develop the next generation of composers, musicians, and music patrons.

Founded in 1973 as the Minnesota Composers Forum, the organization has grown from an innovative regional initiative into one of the nation’s premier composer service organizations. Forum programming reaches composers and communities in all 50 states.

The Forum helps composers engage communities with music as a source of inspiration, self-reflection and delight. This engagement takes the form of groundbreaking composer residencies, designed to engage communities in the creative process and broaden the contexts in which new music is written, performed and heard. It means innovative approaches to teaching music while nurturing the next generation of composers, performers and audiences.

The Forum supports composers’ artistic and professional growth through a rich variety of programs and services, including commissions, performances, readings and fellowships.

The Forum’s 1,700 members include composers and performers, presenters and organizations that share the Forum’s goals, and individuals and institutions with an interest in supporting new music. Forum members come from both urban and rural areas; they work in virtually every musical genre, including orchestral and chamber music, “world” music, opera and music theater, jazz and improvisational music, electronic and electro-acoustic music, and sound art.

In addition to the tangible benefits of membership (including newsletters, invitations to chapter events, and eligibility for grant, fellowship, and residency programs), members are part of a national community of artists who share common concerns, aspirations, and goals.
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New Board Members for FY 2009
The Forum welcomes these eight new directors

Dawn Avery is a Mohawk composer, cellist, vocalist, educator and Grammy-nominated performer. She specializes in the performance of Native American music.

Carol Barnett is a charter composer-member of the Forum and longtime presence on the Minnesota music scene. She teaches at Augsburg College in Minneapolis.

Karen Brooks is a bassoonist and contrabassoonist who teaches at the St. Paul Conservatory and Mr. Olivet School of Music in Minneapolis.

Mary Ellen Childs is a composer creating instrumental works and kinetic compositions that integrate music, dance and theater.

David O’Fallon is president of MacPhail Center for Music in Minneapolis, and serves at the NEA and the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

Steven Ovitsky is the Executive Director of the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival. He is an active conductor, French Horn player, and teacher.

Kathleen van Bergen is the Executive Director of The Schubert Club in St. Paul. She previously served as a V.P. with the St. Louis and Philadelphia Orchestras.

James Wafler serves on the Board of Directors of the Minnesota Orchestra and the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system and Minnesota Citizens for the Arts.