In the key of now™

2012 Annual Report
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.

“I am deeply grateful for this opportunity to work with live musicians/performers in this experimental way. This was such a rich experience, where artists were continuously inspired by each other, challenged by each other, to rise to new heights of artistry, that it would be a pity to return to working with recorded music only.”

Ananya Dance Theatre
(Live Music for Dance Minnesota)

Photo: Jim Smith
Dear Friends,

Composers will tell you that creating something new is risky. Some pieces are riskier than others, but writing something new always exposes them to critique from their peers and their audience – not to mention themselves. And yet for many composers there is no real choice in the matter. They write because they must, because they know there is no reward without creative risk.

As a leading organization in the field of music composition, the American Composers Forum continuously takes risks of its own. There was no better example in 2012 than our ChoralConnections conference in partnership with Chorus America. With a special grant for innovative practice from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Forum took a financial leap of faith to build it, hoping they would come. I’m delighted to say it was successful, as measured by the comments we received from the 100 attendees who came from across the United States and Canada. It validated our assumption that composers welcome the chance to network within the context of a traditional, multi-day conference setting. The need for personal connections to build relationships and find opportunities has never been stronger.

Another risky venture in 2012 was the innova Recordings® showcase at the famed South by Southwest (SXSW) Music Festival in Austin, TX. Under the auspices of Naxos USA and co-presented with the Nonclassical label from the UK, it was our first attempt to share the great work of a half-dozen innova artists in the context of a more popular venue. Composers are constantly crossing boundaries, so we were excited about the possibilities of crossing the venue boundary at a rock-oriented music festival. The outcomes were worth the effort. While our label continues to expand its virtual fan base, the composer-performers at SXSW built lasting personal relationships. New work was created, hundreds of albums were sold and future joint shows were initiated.

As I do every year, I must thank the enormous generosity of the ACF board and the dedication of the ACF staff for their collective efforts in making the Forum such a vital place for living composers. As you will read in these pages, we’ve done much to shine the light on hundreds of composers and to create appreciation for their work in our culture. We look forward to continuing those efforts in ever expanding ways.

Sincerely,

John Nuechterlein
President and CEO
Clockwise from top left: Val-Inc. performs at South by Southwest • eighth blackbird receives the 2011 Champion of New Music Award from ACF for their extraordinary commitment to the work of living composers and the music of our time. L-R: Michael J. Maccaferri (clarinets), Tim Munro (flutes), Yvonne Lam (violin & viola), Matthew Duvall (percussion), Lisa Kaplan (piano), Nicholas Photinos (cello), John Nuechterlein (ACF President & CEO) • Winners of the 2012 Composers Institute share the stage with the Minnesota Orchestra following the Future Classics concert • Brooklyn-based JACK Quartet was selected as the performance partner for the 2012 Finale National Composition Contest • BandQuest® composer Kevin Puts works with band students at Scarsdale Middle School (Scarsdale, NY) • innova receives the 2012 Laurel Leaf Award. L-R: ACA president Beth Wiemann, innova’s Philip Blackburn and ACA Executive Director Gina Genova • Dale Warland conducts the ChoralConnections reading session at Augsburg College • Composers connect with conductors at the speed dating sessions during the ChoralConnections conference • ChoralQuest® composer Jerod Tate with choir students from Dickson Middle School (Dickson, OK)
Program Highlights
- Awarded more than $424,600 in grants to a diverse group of composers and performers of new music.
- In partnership with Chorus America, produced ChoralConnections, a national convening of choral composers that drew 100 composers from across the United States and Canada to Minneapolis, MN, for a full slate of workshops and concerts, a reading session of new choral works, and opportunities to network with many of the country’s most prominent choral conductors.
- Launched the second year of the Finale National Composition Contest, in partnership with MakeMusic, Inc. and the acclaimed Impichch series.
- Dickson, OK premiered the third piece in the series, and conductors at the North Central ACDA Convention and at Charles T. Menghini, Conductor (VanderCook College of Music Symphonic Band, Alex Shapiro (VanderCook College of Music Symphonic Band, and concertmasters at the Midwest Clinic International Band and Orchestra Conference in the exhibition hall and through performances of Paper Cut by Alex Shapiro (VanderCook College of Music Symphonic Band, Charles T. Menghini, Conductor) and Sweet like that by Christopher Theofanidis (Creekview High School Wind Symphony, Preston Hazzard, Conductor).
- Connected BandQuest® with hundreds of music educators at the Midwest Clinic International Band and Orchestra Conference in the exhibition hall and through performances of Paper Cut by Alex Shapiro (VanderCook College of Music Symphonic Band, Charles T. Menghini, Conductor) and Sweet like that by Christopher Theofanidis (Creekview High School Wind Symphony, Preston Hazzard, Conductor).
- Connected the ChoralQuest® series with hundreds of educators and conductors at the North Central ACDA Convention and at reading sessions in Iowa, Texas and Wisconsin.
- The middle school choir at Dickson Middle School in Dickson, OK premiered the third piece in the ChoralQuest® series, Talowa’ Chipota (Children’s Songs) by Jerod Impichchagaaha’ai Tate.

innova Recordings
- Released 36 titles, from immersive soundscape compositions to life-long retrospectives, new takes on iconic classics, and astonishingly precocious early-steps.
- Now counts 426 album titles in its burgeoning catalog, representing 995 diverse composers.
- Redesigned, overhauled, reconceived, and re-launched its website (www.innova.mu) that now pulls in live information from all its social cyber-tentacles.
- Received the distinguished 2012 Laurel Leaf Award from the American Composers Alliance in recognition of its “stellar reputation and steady support of the full range of contemporary American music.”
- Presented two ambitious live showcases at South by Southwest (Austin, TX) – in partnership with Naxos USA and Nonclassical – that forged new collaborative links with the ever-expanding innova family of artists.
- Hosted in-service wisdom-sharing meetings with innova artists (aka, the “innova lab”) at Spectrum and co-sponsored a show at Joe’s Pub, in New York City.
- Released Anthony de Mare’s Speak! which helped Judith Sherman win a Grammy for Producer of the Year, Classical.
- Produced a dozen content-rich YouTube interviews with innova artists for the series Alive and Composing.

Education
- Reached more than 576,330 students to date through the BandQuest® series.
- The 8th grade band at Scarsdale Middle School in Scarsdale, NY premiered the 19th BandQuest® piece, Charm by 2012 Pulitzer Prize winner Kevin Puts.
- Reached a weekly cumulative audience of nearly 1 million listeners on 154 public radio stations nationwide with Composers Datebook. With support from the College Band Directors National Association, ACF added 50 new installments devoted to wind band repertory to this daily 2-minute radio feature.

Membership
- Launched a dynamic new website with stronger brand identity and interactive functions for members and their audiences.
- Improved the career resources available to active members.
- Maintained an active membership base of nearly 2,000 composers, conductors, and performers, with members in all 50 states and 15 countries.
- Welcomed 576 former members of the American Music Center to ACF in July of 2011 when AMC ceased being a membership organization and merged with Meet The Composer.

Chapter Activity
- ACF-LA continued its Music in the Schools program with funding from the Sidney Stern Memorial Trust, and launched a new website: http://acfla.com.
- In partnership with Zeitgeist, ACF-Minnesota offered 9 performance Salons, serving 38 composers and 53 performers.
- ACF-Philadelphia awarded 23 grants (benefiting 26 composers) totaling $82,000 through its Subito and Community Partners programs. It also hosted four Composer to Composer events, and ten professional development workshops, including a series of Electro-Acoustic workshops that attracted many new participants.
- In November 2011 the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter held a symposium of major stakeholders to discuss future initiatives. Existing funding for the chapter has ended, but local composers and performers were eager to maintain a support system in the Bay Area.
2012 Program Winners

ChoralConnections Reading Session
Ben Houge (Somerville, MA)
Connie Moon (Kearney, NE)
Kala Pierson (Glenside, PA)
Dale Trumbore (Los Angeles, CA)

Essentially Choral
André Brégégère (Brooklyn, NY)
Timothy Brown (Denver, CO)
James Kallembach (Chicago, IL)
Elizabeth Lim (New York, NY)
Kala Pierson (Glenside, PA)
Jake Runestad (Minneapolis, MN)

2012 Finale National Composition Contest
Taylor Brook (New York, NY)
Michelle Lou (San Francisco, CA)
Nathan Shields (Brooklyn, NY)

First Nations Composer Initiative (FNCI)
Keith Knight (OR)
Richard Marshall (WA)
Native American Public Telecommunications (NE)
Kenneth Perkins (NY)
Ian Skorodin (CA)

Jerome Fund for New Music (JFund)
Olga Bell (Brooklyn, NY)
Daniel Blake (Brooklyn, NY)
Ryan Carter (New York, NY)
Christopher Cerrone (Brooklyn, NY)
Trevor Gureckis (New York, NY)
Noah Keesecker (Minneapolis, MN)
Mary Kouyoumdjian (New York, NY)
Joshua Musikantow (Minneapolis, MN)
Ruben Naeff (Brooklyn, NY)
Tiffany Skidmore (Saint Paul, MN)
Christopher Trapani (New York, NY)

Live Music for Dance Minnesota
Ananya Dance Theatre (Minneapolis, MN)
Marc Anderson (Saint Paul, MN)
Timothy Berry (Waconia, MN)
Greg Brosiak (Minneapolis, MN)
Carl Flink (Minneapolis, MN)
Wynn Fricke (Minneapolis, MN)
Mathew Janczewski’s ARENA Dances (Minneapolis, MN)
John Keston (Minneapolis, MN)
Ragamala Dance (Minneapolis, MN)
Marciano Silva dos Santos (Shoreview, MN)
Shapiro & Smith Dance (Minneapolis, MN)
Time Track Productions (Minneapolis, MN)
Pramila Vasudevan (Minneapolis, MN)

Magnificat Project
Zachary Wadsworth (Calgary, AB)

McKnight Composer Fellowships
Viv Corrington (Minneapolis, MN)
Christopher Danforth (Minneapolis, MN)
Douglas R. Ewart (Minneapolis, MN)
Steve Tibbetts (Mendota Heights, MN)

McKnight Visiting Composer Residencies
Hugh Livingston (Oakland, CA)
Charles Peck (Cincinnati, OH)

Minnesota Emerging Composer Awards (MECA)
John Keston (Minneapolis, MN)
Malamanya (Minneapolis, MN)
Graham O’Brien (West St. Paul, MN)

Minnesota Orchestra Composer Institute
Brian Ciach (Bloomington, IN)
Michael R. Holloway (Saint Paul, MN)
Adrian Knight (Brooklyn, NY)
Hannah Lash (New York, NY)
Andreia Pinto-Correia (Boston, MA)
Shen Yiwen (New York, NY)

Welcome Christmas
James Kallembach (Chicago, IL)
Robert Sieving (Minnetonka, MN)

“There are few places to go for funding for a work as unusual as mine, one which crossed several borders of genre and style. ACF has been instrumental in helping me make my musical vision a reality.”

Joel Harrison (JFund)
Composer/percussionist, Andy Akiho, is selected by eighth blackbird as the winner of the 2011 Finale National Composition Contest and is described as ‘mold-breaking’ and ‘vital’ by The New York Times. Black Label Movement performs their work HIT with original soundscape by Greg Brosofske. HIT was underwritten by the Live Music for Dance Minnesota program in partnership with New Music USA, with matching funds provided by the McKnight Foundation. Winners of the ChoralConnections Reading Session pose with choral composer/conductor, Dale Warland. Teaching artist and composer, Peter O’Gorman, works with the wind ensemble students at Minnesota State University, Mankato, on unconventional scoring techniques. innova artist Todd Reynolds performs at South by Southwest. Featured composers join the talented members of Zeitgeist for the annual Zeitgeist-curated Salon.
innova Recordings 2012

“The folks at innova Recordings continue to blow our minds year after year after year…. Top pick.”
– Babysue

“the enterprising, polyglot record label.”
– Allan Kozinn, New York Times

“unusually high levels of cool.”
– Byzantion, Musicweb International

David Keberle
Caught in Time

Guy Klucyvsek
The Multiple Personality Reunion Tour

Eleanor Hovda
The Eleanor Hovda Collection

ETHEL
Heavy

Ryan Scott
Maki Ishii Live

Nick Vasallo
Monuments Emerge

Anna Thorvaldsdottir
Rhizoma

Dylan Mattingly
Contemporaneous Stream of Stars

James Romain
Howl

John Yao Quintet
In the Now

MC Maguire
Nothing Left to Destroy

Danyel Brenzel
Mobtown Modern Big Band The Re-(w)Rite of Spring

Mimi Stillman/Dolce Suono
Odyssey

Polly Butler
Wild Songs

Paul Sperry
Open House: Song Cycles by William Bolcom, Robert Beaser

Jeremy Haladyna
Mayan Time/Mayan Tales

Andrew Violette
Sonatas for Cello and Clarinet

Marc Rossi Group
Mantra Revealed

Jeffrey Weisner
Neomonology

Zack Browning
Secret Pulse

Volti
House of Voices

Jeremy Long
In Suspension

Yvonne Troxler
Brouhaha

David Crowell
Eucalyptus

David Kechley
Colliding Objects

Mariel Roberts
Nonextraneous Sounds

Cornelius Dufallo
Journaling

David Blackburn
Ghostly Psalms

Frank Brickle
Ab Nou Cor

Cornelius Dufallo
Journaling

Erdem Helvacioglu
Eleven Short Stories, Vol. 1

Jeremy Haladyna
Mayan Time/Mayan Tales

Philip Blackburn
Ghostly Psalms

Katie Bull
The Story So Far; Love Spook

Eleanor Hovda
The Eleanor Hovda Collection
Corporate, Foundation, and Government Support

$100,000+
Bush Foundation
McKnight Foundation
William Penn Foundation

$50,000-$99,999
Ford Foundation
Jerome Foundation
Minnesota State Arts Board

$25,000-$49,999
National Endowment for the Arts
Otto Bremer Foundation

$10,000-$24,999
American Music Center
Arts Midwest
Athwin Foundation
Aaron Copland Fund
General Mills Foundation
Rosemary H. and David F. Good Family Foundation
Make Music, Inc.
Mardag Foundation

$5,000-$9,999
Dan J. Epstein Family Foundation
MAHADH Fund of HRK Foundation
Wenger Foundation

$1,000-4,999
ASCAP
Arts Federation
BMI Foundation
Margaret Rivers Fund
Wells Fargo Foundation

Matching Gifts
Ameriprise Foundation
Ecolab Political Action Committee
General Mills Matching Gifts Foundation
Travelers

Gifts from Individuals

Grand Champion ($10,000+)
Louis F. and Katherine E. Hill

Champion ($5,000-$9,999)
Anonymous
Paul Hanson and Steve Riendl
Bill and Susan Sands

Benefactor ($2,500-$4,999)
Anonymous
Meredith B. Alden
The Allegro Fund of The Saint Paul Foundation
Scott F. Clugston
Julia W. Dayton
Nancy Huart
Hella L. Mears and William F. Hueg, Jr.
Art and Martha Kaemmer
Fund of HRK Foundation
Daniel and Constance Kunin
John L. Nuechterlein
and Daniel R. Monson
Alfred P. and Ann M. Moore
Kathleen van Bergen

Patron ($1,000-$2,499)
Albrecht Family Foundation
and Gale Sharpe
Todd Bault
Barbara Ann Brown
Philip and Carolyn Brunelle
Patrick Castillo
Jonja Fleezanis
Kenneth and Gwendolyn Freed
Jack and Linda Hoeschler Family Fund
of The Saint Paul Foundation
Leaetta Hough and Bob Muschewske
Sam Hseng-Hung Hsu
Bonnie Marshall
Mike and Kay McCarthy
Evans Mirageas and Thomas Dreeze
David B. O’Fallon
John and Debra Orenstein
Lawrence M. O’Shaughnessy
Charitable Annuity Trust in honor
of Lawrence M. O’Shaughnessy
David and Judy Ranheim
Eugene C. Rogers
Gloria and Fred Sewell
Dan and Ellie Thomas
Nancy Uscher

Sponsor ($500-$999)
Mark Applebaum and Joan Friedman
James and Susan Berdahl
Choi-Chiu and King-Wo Lam Family
Fund of The Minneapolis Foundation
Robert and Mary Brod

J. Peter Brull Fund of The Minneapolis Foundation
Nicky B. Carpenter
Richard and Kay Fredericks Cisek
Carol Heen and Charlie Boone
Thelma Hunter
Katherine and Darrell Majkrzak
The CPM Legacy Fund of The Saint Paul Foundation
Louis and Gloria Nuechterlein
Paul G. Nuechterlein
Steven Ovitsky
James Walfer

Afiicionado ($250-$499)
Bryan and Suzanne Altman
Susan M. Barnes
Carol Barnett
Bruce and Mary Bean
Gerald B. and Catherine L. Fischer,
In Honor of Jack and Linda Hoeschler
Beth Hoger and Lisa Swern
John Kightlinger
Vaughn and Lori Lane Klopfenstein
John Michel
Moore Family Fund for the Arts
of The Minneapolis Foundation
Lowell and Sonja Noteboom
Michael and Shirley Santoro
Stanislaw Skowaczewski
James R. Stephenson
Terry Knowles and Marshall Rutter

Enthusiast ($100-$249)
Douglas Allchin
Robert Applebaum
Laura Barton
Al Biales
William and Margee Bracken
Craig Carnahan
Chen Yi and Zhou Long
Nancy Bell Coe and William Burke
David Conte
Michael and Kathleen Croswell
Kay Dawson
Jon Deak
Kevin Duggins
Paul A. Epstein
C. Lee Essrig
John Tyler Evans
Gary John Franklin
Daniel S. Godfrey

“The ACF has my deep gratitude for offering the Jerome Fund for New Music to me and to other young composers, and for providing us with a solid rung on the ladder toward success in the challenging but satisfying world of professional music.”

Josh Bauder (JFund)
Enthusiast ($100 - $249) ~ continued

Stephen Green
Mary Jewett Greer
Neal Hagberg and Leandra Peak
Anders and Julie Himmelstrup
Donald and Lois Hoger
Hsin-Jung Tsai
Lila and Harry Jacob
Bryan and Cheryl Kempton
Karen Koepp
Mary Kouyoumdjian
Don and Joann Leavenworth
Don and Diane Lee Lucker
Bob Lund
Sarah Lutman
Steve McPherson
Matt and Jessica Mehlhoff
Nicholas Nash and Karen Lundholm
Merritt C. Nequette
Peter O’Gorman
Timothy J. Olsen,
In memory of Eric Stokes and
Lloyd Ullan
Dede Ondishko
Mary Ann Pulk
Lawrence M. Redmond
Irene Regener
John and Betty Reichert
Dr. Joseph Rubin
Tom Schunn
Arturo Steely
Vern Sutton
Craig Swan
Janika Vanderveilde
Osmo Vanska
Joseph E. Ward
Arlene Williams
David Wolff
David Wrobel

Contributor ($50 - $99)
Anonymous
Heather Barringer
Roger J. Bjorgen
Anselm Blumer
Bob and Beth Burns,
In honor of Craig Carnahan
Jeffrey Cadwell
James Callahan
Arthur Campbell
Joanna and Richard Cortright
Marti Epstein
J. Robert Hanson
Steve Heitzeg and Gwen Pappas
Craig Hultgren
Allen Krantz

Friend ($49 and under)
Anonymous
Sarah Bailey, in honor of Merrie Harrison
Elizabeth Balay
Jared Balogh
Alexander and Inês Blackburn
Philip Blackburn
Christopher Brunelle
Ann and David Buran
Susan M. Clambe
Rene Clausen
Kai Curry
Michael Dellaia
Robert M. Eckert
Geneva Eschweiler
Afsheen Foroozan
Paula and Norman Fox
Brendan Hanenburg
Anne Harney
David Harris
Linda Tutas Haugen
Art and Joan Highbotham
Christopher Hoh
William Holab
Chad Hughes
Heidi Jacob
Soren Jensen
William C. Kempe
Mark Klistoffe
William Kraft
Marvin Lamb
Barbara Leibundguth
Raymond Lindsay
John McGinn
Kevin Mendoza
Lana Mountford
Ronald Nelson
David L. Newman
Dale E. Newton
Warren Park
Robert A. Peskin
Raymond Michael Reddy
Haskell Small
Patricia Steege
Dr. Greg A Steinke
Timothy Takach
Claire Tiller
William Upham
American Composers Forum Statement of Financial Activity for the year ending June 30, 2012

### Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Grants</td>
<td>$844,022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Grants</td>
<td>135,101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Contributions</td>
<td>121,876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation Grants</td>
<td>32,682</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>109,968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endowment/Reserves</td>
<td>223,255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earned Income</td>
<td>225,059</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Operations Revenue** $1,691,963

### Expense

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commissioning and Residency</td>
<td>$475,227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Readings and Performances</td>
<td>23,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>129,442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media</td>
<td>291,978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapters</td>
<td>263,610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member Services</td>
<td>125,046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>155,205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development</td>
<td>233,110</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Operations Expense** $1,696,913

#### Financials 2012

![Revenue Pie Chart](chart1)

- **Foundation Grants**: 50%
- **Endowment/Reserves**: 13%
- **Individual Contributions**: 7%
- **Government Grants**: 8%
- **Corporation Grants**: 2%
- **Membership**: 7%
- **Earned Income**: 13%

![Expense Pie Chart](chart2)

- **Commissioning and Residency**: 28%
- **Readings and Performances**: 1%
- **Education**: 8%
- **Media**: 17%
- **Chapters**: 16%
- **Development**: 14%
- **Administration**: 9%
- **Member Services**: 7%
Leadership

Regional Chapter Directors

Los Angeles Chapter:
- Kate Gale
  Executive Director

Minnesota Chapter:
- Craig Carnahan
  Vice President of Programs

Philadelphia Chapter:
- Adam Lesnik
  Executive Director

San Francisco Chapter:
- Tod Brody
  Executive Director

San Diego Chapter:
- James Falconi
  Program Manager

Regional Chapter Directors

Los Angeles Chapter:
- Kate Gale
  Executive Director

Minnesota Chapter:
- Craig Carnahan
  Vice President of Programs

Philadelphia Chapter:
- Adam Lesnik
  Executive Director

San Francisco Chapter:
- Tod Brody
  Executive Director

San Diego Chapter:
- James Falconi
  Program Manager

Board of Directors

David O’Fallon, President
Evans Mirageas, Vice Chair
Nancy Uscher, Vice Chair
Bill Sands, Treasurer
John Orenstein, Secretary
Carol Heen, Past Chair
John Nuechterlein, Ex Officio

Meredith Alden
Dawn Avery
Carol Barnett
James Berdahl
Pearl Bergad
Karen Brooks
Patrick Castillo
David Conte
Jon Deak
Jorja Fleezanis
Ken Freed
Stephen Green
Leaetta Hough
Nancy Huart
Steven Ovitsky
David Ranheim
Eugene Rogers
James Stephenson
Dan Thomas
Kathleen van Bergen
James Wafler