



American Composers Forum
75 West 5th Street, Suite 522
Saint Paul, MN 55102-1439 USA

t: 651.228.1407
f: 651.291.7978

composersforum.org



The American Composers Forum is a fiscal year 2018 recipient of an Operating Support grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board. This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support grant, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund, and a grant from the Wells Fargo Foundation Minnesota.



TWO THOUSAND EIGHTEEN IN THE KEY OF NOW



Annual Report

AMERICAN COMPOSERS FORUM

2018

“NextNotes was a life-changing experience that enhanced my appreciation of the arts, improved my skills, and gave me confidence as a composer.” Benjamin Ballmer, 2018 NextNotes finalist

*“My sense of self and personal validation has been hugely impacted by the McKnight Fellowship.”
Linda Kachelmeier, 2017 McKnight Composer Fellow*

“I can’t imagine a better resource for dedicated musicians than ACF. Winning the MECA and performing a Landmark to Lowertown show were huge leaps for me in terms of developing professional confidence and achieving artistic maturity.” Jon Davis, 2010 MECA awardee and 2017 Landmark to Lowertown performer

“Before NextNotes, I really didn’t think of myself as a ‘real’ composer and was not sure about what being a composer means. NextNotes gave me the confidence to pursue my ideas and try different forms of composition/instrumentations.” Isaac Applebaum, 2018 NextNotes finalist

“I told many people over the past few months that the Healing & Hope Through Song residency has been the most rewarding project of my life.” Victor Zupanc, 2018 Healing & Hope Through Song composer

2018

Fiscal Year in Review



Programs

- Partnered with the Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble and Roomful of Teeth for the ACF CONNECT program and received over 400 applications for each program.
- Awarded more than nearly \$300,000 in grants to a diverse group of composers and performers of new music.
- Served 1,197 members in all 50 states as well as 7 countries outside of the U.S.
- Partnered with Jelloslave aka Purple Orange to present the fifth annual ACF Showcase Concert, featuring music by three composers chosen from a national call for scores.
- Introduced a monthly membership subscription option.
- New partnerships with St. Paul Winter Carnival and the Science Museum of Minnesota enabled L2L artists to perform in front of hundreds of audience members.
- More than 1,000 people attended the premiere of Love Never Forgets, new choral music by Louisa Castner and Victor Zupanc, commissioned through an ACF community residency program in Minnesota. This 18-month project with Giving Voice and MacPhail Center for Music set out to defy conventional wisdom that people with Alzheimer's can't learn new things. A crew from CBS News spent two days with the choir, thoughtfully filming interviews, rehearsals, and the concert at The Ordway Center for the Performing Arts.

Education

- Awarded seven young composers with mentorship, professional performances, and scholarship funds through the fourth NextNotes® High School Composition Awards after a record high number of submissions.
- Provided valuable composer panelist feedback to 17 NextNotes Honorable Mention recipients and free ACF student memberships to 16 NextNotes applicants.
- Reached over 1 million students to date through BandQuest® and ChoralQuest®.
- The middle school band at E.C. Adams Middle School in Guilford, CT, premiered the 25th BandQuest piece, "Pop!," by Tawnie Olson.
- The choir at Great Falls Middle School in Montague, MA, worked on the ninth piece in the ChoralQuest series, "Somos los dueños," by Judd Greenstein.
- Promoted BandQuest, ChoralQuest, and NextNotes at Midwest Band Clinic in Chicago, IL, reaching over 17,000 attendees.
- Made the entirety of BandQuest and ChoralQuest series pieces available for digital purchase along with the existing hardgood retail.
- NextNotes Lab, a MN-based group of teen composers, held a recital featuring five world premieres, all performed by the composers and their peers.

ACF Connect

Mingjia Chen (*Ontario, Canada*)
 Mary Kouyoumdjian (*Brooklyn, NY*)
 Peter S. Shin (*Kansas City, MO*)

ACF Showcase

Robin Holcomb (*Seattle, WA*)
 Larry McDonough (*Saint Paul, MN*)
 Harriet Steinke (*Detroit, MI*)

BandQuest

Tawnie Olson (*New Haven, CT*)

Champion of New Music Awards

Sarah Cahill
 Nicole Mitchell
 Jim Staley

ChoralQuest

Judd Greenstein (*Gill, MA*)

Dale Warland Singers Commission Award

Chorus Austin with Joshua Fishbein

In Common

Kashimana Ahua (*Saint Paul, MN*)

Jerome Fund for New Music (JFund)

Lea Bertucci (*Queens, NY*)
 Michael Betz (*Minneapolis, MN*)
 Will Healy (*New York, NY*)
 Eric Mayson (*Minneapolis, MN*)
 Joel Mellin (*Brooklyn, NY*)
 Martin Nevin (*Brooklyn, NY*)
 Lester St. Louis (*Brooklyn, NY*)
 Walken Schweigert (*Saint Paul, MN*)
 Shelley Washington (*Brooklyn, NY*)
 Mark Yodice (*New York, NY*)

Landmark to Lowertown

Lucas Melchoir (*Minneapolis, MN*)
 Dameun Strange (*Saint Paul, MN*)
 Troy Rogers (*Duluth, MN*)

McKnight Composer Fellowships

Joshua Clausen (*Minneapolis, MN*)
 Scott L. Miller (*Otsego, MN*)
 JC Sanford (*Northfield, MN*)
 Tiffany M. Skidmore (*Falcon Heights, MN*)

McKnight Visiting Composer Residencies

Anthony R. Green (*Providence, RI*)
 Volker Goetze (*Staten Island, NY*)

Minnesota Emerging Composer Awards

Queen Drea (*Saint Paul, MN*)
 Holly Hansen (*Minneapolis, MN*)
 Ian Vaver (*Minneapolis, MN*)

Minnesota Orchestra Composer Institute

Saad Haddad (*Los Angeles, CA*)
 Andrew Hsu (*Fermont, CA*)
 Charles Peck (*Philadelphia, PA*)
 Hilary Purrington (*New Haven, CT*)
 Daniel Schlosberg (*Brooklyn, NY*)
 Peter S. Shin (*Kansas City, MO*)
 Nina C. Young (*New York, NY*)

Minnesota Varsity Showcase Composers

Reid Spreiter (*Mantorville, MN*)
 Isadora White (*Minneapolis, MN*)

NextNotes High School Composition Awards Composers

Isaac Applebaum and Nimah Nayel (*Potomac and Silver Spring, MD*)
 Elise Arancio (*Tucker, GA*)
 Benjamin Ballmer (*Evanston, IL*)
 Michael Gaspari (*Robbinsville, NJ*)
 Esther Ollivier (*Los Angeles, CA*)
 Isaac Santos (*Hollywood, FL*)

NextNotes Teacher Recognition

Carrie Eyler
 Choir Director, Richard Montgomery High School, teacher of Nimah Nayel
 Gary Geiger
 Artistic Director, Evanston Children's Choir, teacher of Benjamin Ballmer
 Richard Prior
 Conductor of Emory Youth Symphony Orchestra, teacher of Elise Arancio
 Jonathan (Daniel) Puckett, Jazz Band Director of Eastern Middle School, teacher of Isaac Applebaum
 Randall Reid
 Band Director of South Broward High School, teacher of Isaac Santos
 Gary Shields
 Teacher of Esther Ollivier
 Brian Williams
 Choral Director at Robbinsville High School, teacher of Michael Gaspari

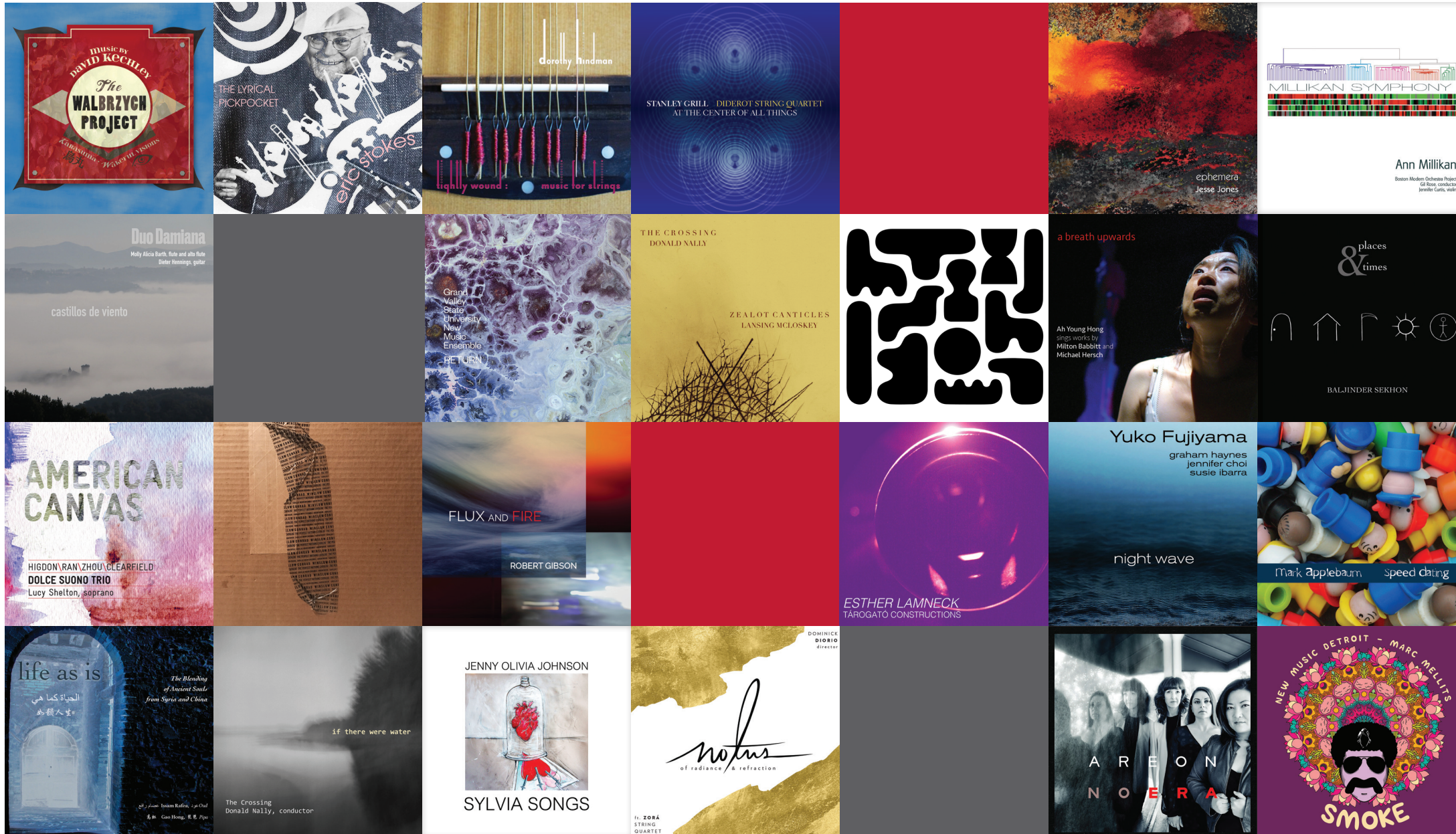
Welcome Christmas

Nancy Gifford (*Doyelstown, PA*)
 David Evan Thomas (*Minneapolis, MN*)



Dale Warland Singers Commission Award
 Chorus Austin with Joshua Fishbein

Carrie Eyler, Choir Director, Richard Montgomery High School, teacher of Nimah Nayel



David Kechley The Walbrzych Project
Eric Stokes The Lyrical Pickpocket
Dorothy Hindman Tightly Wound
Stanley Grill At the Center of All Things
Jesse Jones Ephemera
Ann Millikan Millikan Symphony
Duo Damiana Castillos de Viento
Grand Valley State University New Music Ensemble Return
The Crossing/Lansing McCloskey Zealot Canticles
Matteo Liberatore Solos
Ah Young Hong A Breath Upwards
Baljinder Sekhon II Places & Times
Dolce Suono Trio American Canvas
Conrad Winslow:The Perfect Nothing Catalog
Robert Gibson Flux and Fire
Esther Lamneck Tárogató Constructions
Yuko Fujiyama Night Wave
Mark Applebaum Speed Dating
Issam Rafea and Gao Hong Duo Life As Is
The Crossing If There Were Water
Jenny Olivia Johnson Sylvia Songs
NOTUS Of Radiance & Refraction
Areon Flutes NO ERA
New Music Detroit Smoke, Music of Marc Mellits

- innova Recordings continues to champion visionary musical voices. In FY18, innova released and broadly distributed 24 groundbreaking titles featuring artists and composers from diverse perspectives, backgrounds, and experiences. Life As Is pairs Issam Rafea and Gao Hong, Syrian and Chinese musicians, meeting in Minnesota to create a contemplative and resonant collaboration. Night Wave by Yukio Fujiyama is a delicate and incisive improvisational tour de force.
- Achieved high visibility playlist, digital, and physical retail placement (eg, Spotify, Apple Music) and facilitated a large number of licensing opportunities (including phone commercial and Netflix) on artists' behalf.
- Received a continual stream of recognition and critical praise, both nationally and internationally, for our artists' projects in 2018 from NPR, Wall Street Journal, Songlines, Downbeat, PopMatters, Gramophone, New York Times, HuffPost, and San Francisco Chronicle, to name a few.
- Garnered national and international radio play. Co-produced (with Zeitgeist) Inn-fest, a three-day festival of innova artists in St. Paul, MN.
- Supported artists' tours and shows, and presenting at conferences, such as Chamber Music America.
- Innova continues to pay out 100% of all sales to artists, resulting in more than \$40,000 in 2018 and more than \$1 million lifetime.
- Offered stability and a uniquely artist-friendly business model that ensures the work will be around for years to come.

A special thank you to all the organizations that partnered with us last year.

American Composers Orchestra (New York, NY)
 B'nai Israel Synagogue (Rochester, MN)
 Christ United Methodist Church (Rochester, MN)
 Cowles Center for Dance and the Performing Arts (Minneapolis, MN)
 E.C. Adams Middle School (Guilford, CT)
 First Congregational United Church of Christ (Brainerd, MN)
 Giving Voice (Minneapolis, MN)
 Great Falls Middle School (Montague, MA)
 Hal Leonard Corporation (Milwaukee, WI)
 Jelloslave aka Purple Orange (Minneapolis, MN)
 Landmark Center (Saint Paul, MN)

Lord of Life Lutheran Church (Baxter, MN)
 MacPhail Center for Music (Minneapolis, MN)
 Make Music Alliance (NY, NY)
 MakeMusic, Inc (Boulder, CO)
 Midwest Special Services Inc (Saint Paul, MN)
 Minnesota Boychoir (St. Paul, MN)
 Minnesota Music Coalition (Saint Paul, MN)
 Minnesota Opera (Minneapolis, MN)
 Minnesota Orchestra (Minneapolis, MN)
 Minnesota Public Radio (Saint Paul, MN)
 Noteflight, LLC (Somerville MA)
 Open Eye Figure Theatre (Minneapolis, MN)

Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble (Pittsburgh, PA)
 Roomful of Teeth (North Adams, MA)
 Saint Paul Winter Carnival (St. Paul, MN)
 Science Museum of Minnesota (St. Paul, MN)
 Springboard for the Arts (Saint Paul, MN)
 University of MN School of Music (Minneapolis, MN)
 Vocalessence (Minneapolis, MN)
 West Central Singers (Willmar, MN)
 Willmar Community Center (Willmar, MN)
 Willmar Unitarian Universalist Church (Willmar, MN)

f
21,653
17,091 ACF | 3,685 INNOVA | 877 ACF EDUCATION

t
15,823
14,044 ACF | 583 NEXTNOTES | 1196 NEW MUSIC MN

▶
1,022
657 ACF | 365 INNOVA

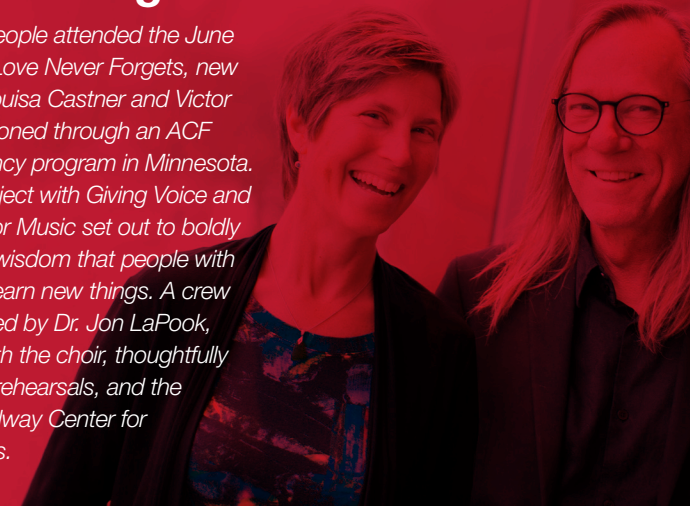
📷
295
NEXTNOTES

🎵
2,375
INNOVA

of new works
27

Love Never Forgets

More than 1000 people attended the June 2018 premiere of Love Never Forgets, new choral music by Louisa Castner and Victor Zupanc, commissioned through an ACF community residency program in Minnesota. This 18-month project with Giving Voice and MacPhail Center for Music set out to boldly defy conventional wisdom that people with Alzheimer's can't learn new things. A crew from CBS News, led by Dr. Jon LaPook, spent two days with the choir, thoughtfully filming interviews, rehearsals, and the concert at The Ordway Center for the Performing Arts.

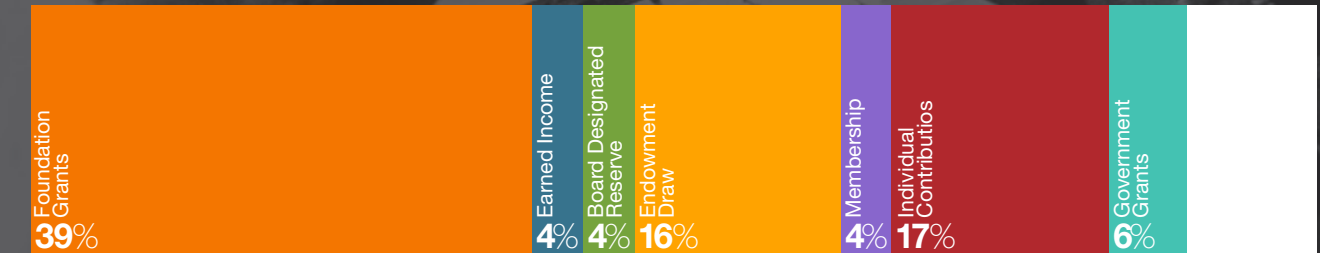


American Composers Forum
Statement of Financial Activity
 for the year ending
 June 30, 2018

Financial Overview

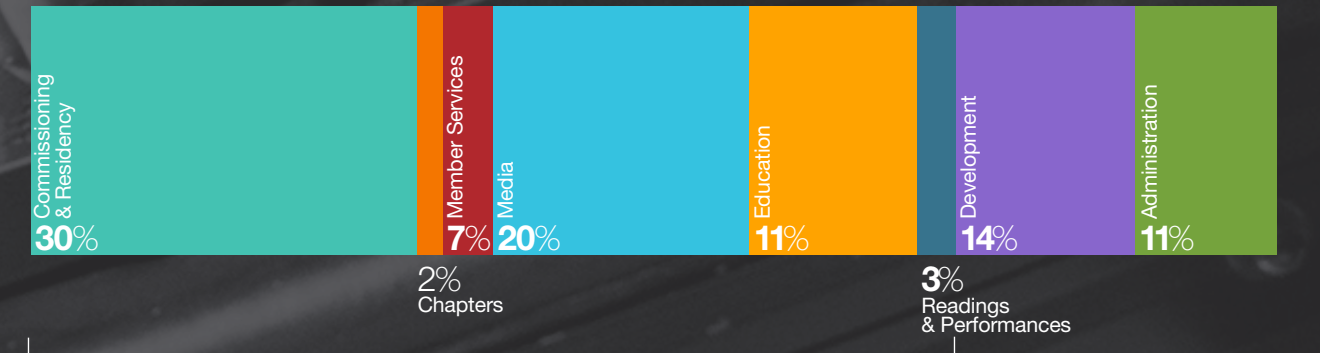
Income

Foundation Grants	\$578,064
Government Grants	93,224
Individual Contributions	258,067
Membership	57,822
Endowment Draw	242,780
Board designated Reserve	53,638
Earned Income	213,378
Total Operations Income	\$1,496,973



Expense

Commissioning & Residency	\$451,761
Readings & Performances	42,582
Education	190,226
Media	298,301
Member Services	106,544
Chapters	26,219
Administration	172,052
Development	216,395
Total Operations Expense	\$1,504,080



PROGRAMS

Gifts from Individuals

Champion (\$5,000+)

Jennifer Howard & Anthony Cascardi
 Estate of Hella Mears Hueg*
 Alfred & Anne Moore
 John Nuechterlein & Dan Monson
 Bill & Susan Sands
 Margaret Wurtele

Benefactor (\$2,500-\$4,999)

Anonymous
 Julia W. Dayton
 Sam Hseng-Hung Hsu & Sally Cheng
 Nancy Huat

Art & Martha* Kaemmer Fund of the HRK Foundation

Deborah Kermeen & John Gorchala

Stephen Miles & Kathy Killion

Gale Sharpe & The Albrecht Family Foundation

Patron (\$1,000-\$2,499)

Mark Applebaum
 Barbara Ann Brown
 Philip & Carolyn Brunelle
 Jeffrey & Jennifer Cadwell
 Scott Clugston
 Dee Ann & Kent Crossley
 Joan Duddingston
 Delta David Gier
 Jeff & Hyun Mee Graves
 Louis Fors & Kathrine Hill

Barry & Cheryl Kempton
 Sarah Lutman
 Bonnie Marshall

Mike & Kay McCarthy
 Greg McNeely
 John Michel
 Evans Mirageas & Thom Dreeze
 David & Judy Myers
 Lawrence* & Bonnie O'Shaughnessy
 Gayle & Timothy Ober
 John & Debbie Orenstein
 David & Judy Ranheim
 Stanford Thompson
 Stephen & Jayne Usery
 Kathleen van Bergen
 James Waffler & Lillian Pohlkamp

Sponsor (\$500-\$999)

Carol Barnett
 Bruce & Mary Bean
 Pearl and Bob Bergad^
 Robert & Mary Brod
 Richard Cisek & Kay Fredericks
 Melitta Drechsler
 Susan Feder
 Vivian Fung
 William Kinney
 Katherine Majkrzak
 David & Katherine Moore Family Fund of The Minneapolis Foundation
 Louis & Gloria Nuechterlein
 Jim Payne
 Gloria & Fred Sewell

Steve & Karen Sonnenberg
 Clara Ueland & Walter McCarthy
 Tom Voegeli

Aficionado (\$250-\$499)

Charlie & Ginger Alden
 J. Anthony Allen
 Mary Ann Aufderheide
 James & Susan Berdahl
 Will & Margee Bracken
 Harry Brull & Myra Barratt
 Patrick Castillo & Karen Kim
 Matthew Culloton
 Peter Flint
 Anne Harney
 Steven Juliana
 Terry Knowles & Marshall Rutter
 Laura Krider^
 Marvin Lamb
 Lori Lane
 Richard Langellotti
 Anne LeBaron
 Janice Marschke
 David Ostenso Moore
 Andrew Paulus
 Paul Sperry
 Craig Swain
 Joseph & Jo Ann Ward

Enthusiast (\$100-\$249)

Douglas Alchin
 Heather Barringer
 Gibson Batch
 David Biedenbender
 Steven Scott Broback

Tim Campbell
 Mary Ellen Childs
 Kay Dawson
 Kevin Duggins
 Paul Elwood
 C. Lee Essrig
 Michael Farley & Barbara Phillips-Farley
 Kathy Gettelfinger
 Daniel Godfrey
 Mary Greer
 Paul Hanson & Steve Riendl
 Joel Harrison
 Edward Harsh
 Susan Haugh
 Julie & Anders Himmelstrup
 Asako Hirabayashi
 Leaetta Hough & Bob Muschewski
 Gerald Slavet^
 Carla Smith
 David F. Smith & Candace Becket
 Asha Srinivasan
 Vern Sutton
 Carlos Tomalsky
 Andrew Tucker
 Dale & Ruth Warland
 Nicholas Weininger
 Dana Wilson
 Mark Wings
 Gemot Wolfgang

Joseph Ohrt
 Timothy Olsen
 Chris Osgood
 Marc Ostrow
 Kyle Pederson
 Daniel J. Perlongo
 Barbara Petersen
 Neva & Richard Pilgrim
 Nirmala Rajasekar
 Lawrence Redmond
 John & Betty Reichert
 Barbara Rice
 Joseph Rubin
 Thomas Schunn
 Corey Sevelt
 Nicholas & Angela Skrowaczewski
 Gerald Slavet^
 Carla Smith
 David F. Smith & Candace Becket
 Asha Srinivasan
 Vern Sutton
 Carlos Tomalsky
 Andrew Tucker
 Dale & Ruth Warland
 Nicholas Weininger
 Dana Wilson
 Mark Wings
 Gemot Wolfgang

Contributor (\$50-\$99)

Bruce Abbott
 Roger Aldridge
 John Austin
 Mary Beckhusen

Alexander Blackburn
 Betsy Blume
 Anselm Blumer
 Maggie Bohlander
 Whitman P. Brown
 Christopher Brunelle
 Elizabeth & Robert Burns
 Brad Burrill
 René Clausen
 Jon Deak
 Dominick DiOrio
 Lawrence & Arlene Dunn
 Sylvia Dyrhaug
 Marti Epstein
 T.G. Febonio
 Kevin L. Gibbs
 Jonathon Grasse
 Christina Hemphill
 Lois Hoger
 William Holab
 Kaen Horiuchi
 Timothy James Igel
 Richard Isaacs
 Ulysses James
 Alan Johnson
 Mark Kilstofte
 Vance Koven
 Douglas Lionel Lieberman
 Robert McNulty
 Erica Mitchell
 Hiroya Miura
 Cecily Morse
 Karen Nelson
 Kevin Nichols
 Peter O'Gorman

Alice Parker
 Kala Pierson
 Michael B. Scherperel
 Jane Sevald
 Evan Solot
 Laura Stone-Jeraj
 Steve Tibbetts

Azin Adjoudani
 David Amdur
 Sarah Anton
 David Ballman & Diane Kutz
 Stan J. Bann
 Bethany Battafarano
 Theresa Beckhusen & Salvatore Pane
 Krissy Bergmark
 Philip Blackburn
 Caroline Boyce
 John Cappola
 Chris Cinque
 Susan Clambey
 Bill Cottman
 Valerie & Joseph Crescenz
 Olivia Dawson-Olson
 Barbara Garland
 Christos Granias
 Diana Grasselli
 Jeff Hansen
 Robert J. Hanson
 Richard Hensold
 Art & Joan Higinbotham
 Michelle des Islets & Shelley Thron
 Eric Jensen

Alexander Blackburn
 Betsy Blume
 Anselm Blumer
 Maggie Bohlander
 Whitman P. Brown
 Christopher Brunelle
 Elizabeth & Robert Burns
 Brad Burrill
 René Clausen
 Jon Deak
 Dominick DiOrio
 Lawrence & Arlene Dunn
 Sylvia Dyrhaug
 Marti Epstein
 T.G. Febonio
 Kevin L. Gibbs
 Jonathon Grasse
 Christina Hemphill
 Lois Hoger
 William Holab
 Kaen Horiuchi
 Timothy James Igel
 Richard Isaacs
 Ulysses James
 Alan Johnson
 Mark Kilstofte
 Vance Koven
 Douglas Lionel Lieberman
 Robert McNulty
 Erica Mitchell
 Hiroya Miura
 Cecily Morse
 Karen Nelson
 Kevin Nichols
 Peter O'Gorman

Michael Kay
 Molly Kinney
 Ulrich Koester
 Stephen & Lisa Kraft
 Sheri Lutz
 David Macbride
 Matt & Jessica Mehlhoff
 Sarah Miller
 Reinaldo Moya
 Clive Muncaster
 Claudia Nelimark

Friend (\$1-\$49)

Eva Neubec
 Lucia Newell
 Loren Niemi
 Pat O'Keefe
 Warren A. Park
 John Plant
 Aaron Ross
 Robert Stevens
 Lisa Taft
 Ann & Paul Toftness
 Roslye Ultan
 Ed Vogel
 Richard Werbowlow
 Ute Zahn

ACF CONNECT

Will & Margee Bracken
 Dee Ann & Kent Crossley
 Julia W. Dayton
 Katherine Goodale
 Jeff & Hyun Mee Graves
 Kathleen Henschel & John Dewes
 Linda & Jack Hoeschler

Hella Mears Hueg*
 Estate of Thelma Hunter*
 The John & Ruth Huss Fund of the Saint Paul Foundation
 The George Frederick Jewett Foundation East
 Art & Martha* Kaemmer
 Mike & Kay McCarthy
 Alfred P. & Ann M. Moore
 I.A. O'Shaughnessy Foundation in memory of Thelma Hunter
 David & Judy Ranheim
 Bill & Susan Sands
 Gale Sharpe
 Doug & Kathy Skor
 Dan & Ellie Thomas
 James Waffler & Lillian Pohlkamp
 Margaret & Angus* Wurtele

Rosemary & David Good Foundation
 The Dr. Fred Noah Gordon Charitable Fund
 HealthPartners Center for Memory and Aging
 Alfred P. & Ann M. Moore
 National Endowment for the Arts
 I.A. O'Shaughnessy Foundation
 Regions Hospital Foundation
 The Wenger Foundation

\$5,000-\$9,999

Amphion Foundation
 ASCAP
 BMI Foundation
 Dorsey & Whitney Foundation
 Farley, Larson & Lee Wealth Management Group
 Ann & Gordon Getty Foundation
 Margaret Rivers Fund
 Wells Fargo Foundation Minnesota

\$1,000-\$4,999

General Operating & Program Support Funders
\$50,000-100,000+
 Jerome Foundation
 McKnight Foundation
 Minnesota State Arts Board

**in honor of John Nuechterlein
 *deceased
 ^gifts in support of NextNotes

General Operating & Program Support Funders \$50,000-100,000+

Jerome Foundation
 McKnight Foundation
 Minnesota State Arts Board

\$25,000-\$49,999

The Augustine Foundation
 Otto Bremer Trust

\$10,000-\$24,999

Aaron Copland Fund for New Music, Inc.
 Athwin Foundation

2018 ACF Board

Officers
 Mary Ellen Childs, *chair*
 Patrick Castillo, *vice chair*
 Anne LeBaron, *vice chair*
 Deborah Kermeen, *treasurer*
 Jeff Graves, *secretary*
 John Nuechterlein, *ex officio*

Members

J. Anthony Allen
 Jeff Cadwell
 Dee Ann Crossley
 Melitta Drechsler
 Vivian Fung
 Delta David Gier
 Jennifer Howard
 Sam Hseng-Hung Hsu
 Nancy Huat
 Bary Kempton
 Michelle Kinney
 Janis Lane-Ewart
 Sarah Lutman
 Stephen Miles
 Evans Mirageas
 Fred Moore
 David Myers
 Joseph Ohrt
 Chris Osgood
 Andrew Paulus
 Bill Sands
 Asha Srinivasan
 Stanford Thompson
 Stephen Usery
 Tom Voegeli
 Jim Waffler

Chapter Staff

Gene Coleman
Chapter Director of ACF-Philadelphia
 Steven Homestead
President of ACF-Los Angeles

2018 ACF Staff

Theresa J. Beckhusen
Development Associate
 Philip Blackburn
Director of Artist Services
 Chris Campbell
innova Operations Director
 Paul Hanson
VP of Finance & Administration
 Tim Igel
innova Publicist
 Kris Kautzman
Manager of Community Partnerships
 Laura Krider
Director of Education & Community Partnerships
 William J. Lackey
VP of Programs
 Bonnie Marshall
VP of Development
 Patrick Marschke
Manager of Membership & Social Media
 John Nuechterlein
President & CEO