



2017 Annual Report

There's space for everybody in the world in this organization. If you're a composer, you need to be connected here. All the genres are covered, there are no walls. It's an open space. Go and write your own story.

- Nirmala Rajasekar, innova artist & 2008 and 2004 JFund Awardee

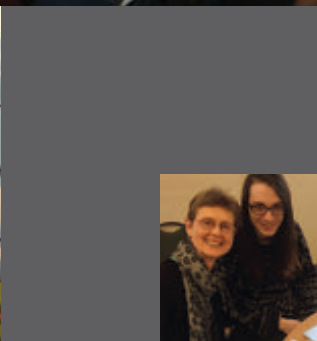
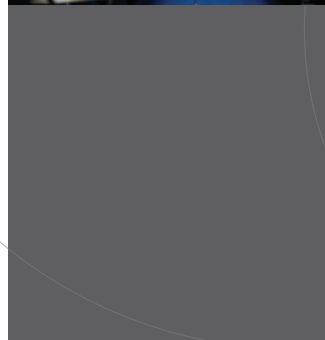
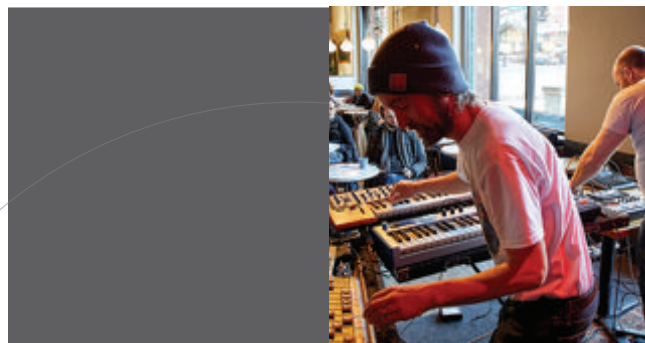
2017_{fy} Year in Review

Programs

- Awarded more than \$300,000 in grants to a diverse group of composers and performers of new music.
- Launched ACF CONNECT in partnership with Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble. Jung Yoon Wie, Rufus Reid, and David Biedenbender were selected from a national pool of 370 applicants.
- Partnered with ANCIA Saxophone Quartet for the fourth annual ACF Showcase Concert, featuring music by three composers chosen from a national call for scores. Number of applicants increased 130% from FY16.
- Faith Partners continued residencies in Baxter/Brainerd, MN, and Rochester, MN.
- More than 289 people attended Landmark to Lowertown, a midday concert series in public spaces in downtown Saint Paul. Performers were all former Minnesota Emerging Composer Awards awardees, and their music ranged from funk inspired by Ethiopian rhythms and live electronic music generated by analog equipment to live coding and original jazz.
- Served more than 2,000 members in all 50 states; Washington, DC; and 14 countries.

Education

- Awarded six composers with mentorship, professional performances, and scholarship funds through the third NextNotes® High School Composition Awards.
- NextNotes Lab featured five world premieres performed by teen composers and their peers.
- Three NextNotes participants featured on From the Top® radio show.
- Reached over 1 million students to date through BandQuest® and ChoralQuest®.
- Attendance at national ACDA conference and International Midwest Band Clinic to promote programs with thousands of educators and conductors.
- New BandQuest piece "Steps Ahead" by Michael Gandolfi premiered by Roland Hayes Middle School band (Roxbury Crossing, MA).
- New ChoralQuest piece "When I Sing" by Rosephanye Powell premiered by Auburn Junior High School Elites Girls choir (Auburn, AL).



ACF has helped me realize that I am relevant to the music scene and society. Writing music in my apartment, which is mostly a lonely endeavor, I never quite realized that what I'm doing is a collective effort among many composers, performers, and other creative artists.

- Jung Yoon Wie, ACF CONNECT composer

2017 ^{fy} Awardees & Commissions

- **ACF Connect**

David Biedenbender (*East Lansing, MI*)
Rufus Reid (*Teaneck, NJ*)
Jung Yoon Wie (*Ann Arbor, MI*)

- **ACF Showcase**

Robert Lemay (*Sudbury, Ontario, Canada*)
Robin McLaughlin (*Essex Junction, VT*)
Steven Snowden (*Jamaica Plain, MA*)

- **BandQuest**

Michael Gandolfi (*Cambridge, MA*)

- **Champion of New Music Awards**

International Alliance for Women in Music
The Crossing and Donald Nally
Charles Amirkharian

- **ChoralQuest**

Rosephanye Powell (*Auburn, AL*)

- **Dale Warland Singers Commission Award**

Chorus Austin with Joshua Fishbein

- **Healing and Hope Through Song**

Louisa Castner (*Minneapolis, MN*)
Victor Zupanc (*Minneapolis, MN*)

- **Jerome Fund for New Music (JFund)**

Aleksandr Brusentsev (*Eagan, MN*)
Stephanie Chou (*New York, NY*)
Asuka Kakitani (*Northfield, MN*)
M. Lamar (*Brooklyn, NY*)
Brian Mark (*Brooklyn, NY*)
JP Merz (*Minneapolis, MN*)
Brian Petuch (*Brooklyn, NY*)
Joseph C. Phillips, Jr. (*Brooklyn, NY*)
Leah Maria Villarreal (*New York, NY*)
Samuel Wells (*Brooklyn, NY*)

- **Landmark to Lowertown**

Yohannes Tona (*Fridley, MN*)
John Davis (*Minneapolis, MN*)
Mike Hodnick (*Chaska, MN*)
Kevin Washington (*Minneapolis, MN*)

- **McKnight Composer Fellowships**

deVon Russell Gray (*Saint Paul, MN*)
Linda Kachelmeier (*Saint Paul, MN*)
Andrea Mazzariello (*Northfield, MN*)
Jake Runestad (*Minneapolis, MN*)

- **McKnight Visiting Composer Residencies**

Paul Giess (*Philadelphia, PA*)
Kristin Norderval (*New York, NY*)

- **Minnesota Emerging Composer Awards (MECA)**

Lynn O'Brien (*Minneapolis, MN*)
Jay Afrisando (*Falcon Heights, MN*)
Zacc Harris (*Minneapolis, MN*)

- **Minnesota Orchestra Composer Institute**

Katherine Balch (*Boston, MA*)
Michael Boyman (*New York, NY*)
Judy Bozone (*Plano, TX*)
Michael-Thomas Fomai (*Honolulu, HI*)
Tonia Ko (*Ithaca, NY*)
Phil Taylor (*Pittsburgh, PA*)
Conrad Winslow (*Brooklyn, NY*)

- **MN Varsity Showcase Composers**

Nicholas Christenson (*Minneapolis, MN*)
Sam Hanson (*Saint Paul, MN*)

- **NextNotes Composers**

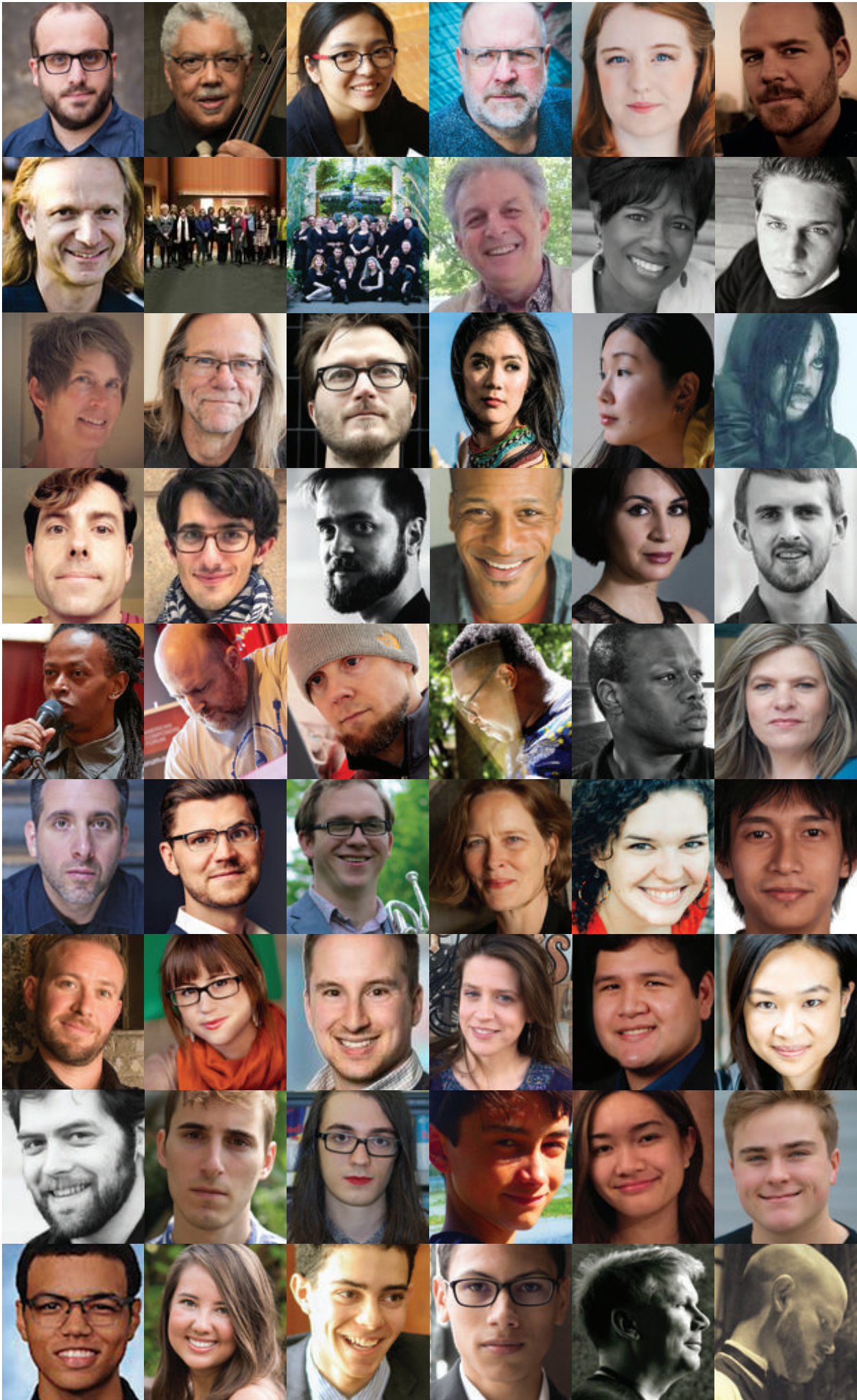
Stephanie Chow (*Bloomington, IL*)
Alistair Coleman (*Bethesda, MD*)
Nathaniel Heyder (*Alexandria, VA*)
Natsumi Osborn (*Katy, TX*)
Sammy Sussman (*Bedford Hills, NY*)
Evan Tiapula (*Brisbane, CA*)

- **NextNotes Teacher Recognition**

Sue Colgan-Borror
Orchestra Director at Fox Lane High School
Derek David
Instructor at New England Conservatory of Music
Dr. Daniel Knaggs
Director of Music at St. Martha Catholic Church
Thomas Liddle
Choral Director at Takoma Park Middle School
Dr. Kimberly McCord
Music Education Professor at Illinois State University
Cynthia Van Maanen
Instructor of Music Composition and Music Theory
at Interlochen Arts Academy

- **Welcome Christmas**

Lee Blaske (*Excelsior, MN*)
Sean Sweeden (*Kansas City, MO*)





Dana Jessen
Carve

Ross Feller
X / Winds

The Crossing
Seven Responses

arcomusical
MeiaMeia

Timothy Dunne
Metaphrase

Revolutionary Snake Ensemble
I Want That Sound

Neil Rolnick
Ex Machina

Areon Flutes
Thrive

Bohemian Trio
Okonkolo

Cornelius Dufallo
Journaling 2

Grant Cutler
Self Portrait

Kenneth Meyer
Draw the Strings Tight

Volti
This is what happened

Molly Gebrian and Danny Holt
Trios for Two

Patti Cudd
Eos

Juri Seo
Mostly Piano+

Akropolis Reed Quintet
The Space Between Us

Society for New Music
Music Here and Now from the Heart of New York

Trevor Babb
Warmth

Crystal Mooncone
Listening Beam Five

Sophia Vastek
Histories

Tracey Engleman
Lift Me into Heaven Slowly: Songs of Libby Larsen

Jane Antonia Cornish
Into Silence

Orchestra Next. Brian McWhorter
Kenji Bunch: The Snow Queen

David DiChiera
Letters and Fantasies

Emanuele Arciuli
Walk in Beauty

Ann Millikan
Millikan Symphony

The NextNotes experience was among the best I've ever had. Working with the mentors and each talented student composer was so intellectually stimulating. I not only learned so much from listening to and discussing the others' music, but the conversations I had with everyone sparked so many questions and ideas about the music world and what our role in it is.

- Natsumi Osborn, 2017 NextNotes Winner

2017 ^{fy} innova® recordings

- Released 27 titles (total catalog holds over 550), featuring artists and composers from brilliantly diverse backgrounds and experiences.
- Achieved high visibility playlist, digital, and physical retail placement and facilitated many licensing opportunities on artists' behalf. Many titles received national and international radioplay.
- Received ongoing recognition and critical praise, both nationally and internationally, for 2017 projects, from venues such as NPR, WQXR, Wall Street Journal, Gramophone, Second Inversion, PopMatters, and more.
- Several titles earned places on end-of-year lists published by NPR, New Music Box, and Naxos Music Library.
- innova continues to pay out 100% of all net sales to artists, over \$50,000.
- Supported artists' tours and shows and continued to foster community connections by arranging gatherings, appearing at events, and presenting at conferences.

I think the role that ACF plays in the field of new music continues to be the support of young composers through its various programs that are targeting school and school-age composers or people interested in composition.

- Dameun Strange, 2015 MECA Awardee

ACF Social Media Stats:

20,695

Facebook followers increased

15%

ACF, innova and ACF Education

680

YouTube followers increased

5.5%

ACF, ACF Education, and innova

17,578

Twitter followers increased

3.7%

ACF, innova, NextNotes and New Music MN

Workshop Wednesdays

In collaboration with Minnesota Music Coalition, ACF hosted seven *Workshop Wednesdays*. These workshops were open to anyone interested, and topics ranged from composing for media in a global market to writing about one's art to the world of music conferences and festivals.

230

Instagram followers increased

65%

ACF Education

2279

Soundcloud followers increased

9.8%

innova

of new works

35

In FY17 ACF announced the evolution of its National Composition Contest into ACF CONNECT, a program which will give composer awardees more significant time with partnering ensembles as well as professional development opportunities. For the first cycle, three composers will have two years to work with Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble, culminating in a concert of the new work in July 2018 during PNME's festival season.

ACF would like to extend a special thank you to all the organizations that partnered with us last year.

- University of MN School of Music (Minneapolis, MN)

Auburn Junior High School (Auburn, AL)

Roland Hayes School of Music (Roxbury Crossing, MA)

Minnesota Public Radio (Saint Paul, MN) and Music Makes Us Whole

Landmark Center (Saint Paul, MN)

Minnesota Music Coalition (Saint Paul, MN)

Make Music Alliance (New York, NY)

MakeMusic, Inc (Boulder, CO)

Giving Voice Initiative (Minneapolis, MN)

MacPhail Center for Music (Minneapolis, MN)

One Voice Mixed Chorus (Saint Paul, MN)
- Springboard for the Arts (Saint Paul, MN)

Minnesota Orchestra (Minneapolis, MN)

Minnesota Opera (Minneapolis, MN)

Vocalessence (Minneapolis, MN)

Hal Leonard Corporation (Milwaukee, WI)

Minnesota Boychoir (Saint Paul, MN)

Christ United Methodist Church (Rochester, MN)

B'nai Israel Synagogue (Rochester, MN)

Lord of Life Lutheran Church (Baxter, MN)

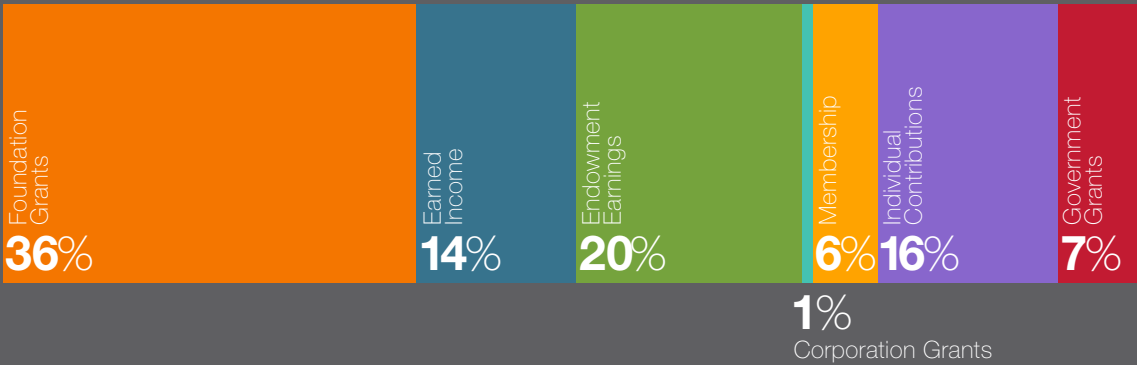
First Congregational United Church of Christ (Brainerd, MN)

RECLAIM (Saint Paul, MN)

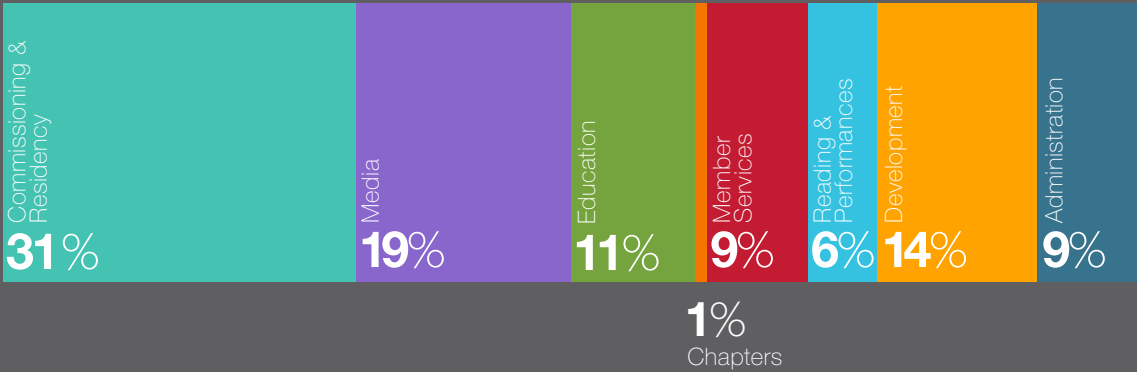
American Composers Forum
Statement of Financial Activity
for the year ending
June 30, 2017

Financial Overview

Income	
Foundation Grants	\$563,042
Government Grants	112,009
Individual Contributions	254,548
Corporation Grants	7,397
Membership	89,05
Endowment Earnings	304,771
Earned Income	214,948
Total Operations Income	\$1,546,420



Expense	
Commissioning and Residency	\$479,897
Readings and Performances	86,444
Education	179,219
Media	299,939
Chapters	142,835
Member Services	9,377
Administration	147,908
Development	214,803
Total Operations Expense	\$1,560,422



PROGRAMS

Government, Foundation, and Corporate Support
\$100,000+
Jerome Foundation
The McKnight Foundation
Minnesota State Arts Board

\$25,000-\$49,999
The Augustine Foundation

\$10,000-\$24,999
Aaron Copland Fund for New Music, Inc.
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Mary Lynn Badarak
Eric Barber
Theresa J. Beckhusen & Salvatore Pane
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**deceased*
***in memory of Stanislaw Skrowaczewski*

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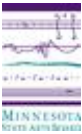
I appreciate the American Composers Forum and the McKnight Foundation for the amazing work without which my work would not be so effective. I appreciate them. I can continue to do my favorite thing: composing music.

– Sergey Kvoshchinsky, 2017 McKnight Fellow



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