

ANNUAL REPORT
2012



NEW ENGLAND FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS

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“There are no other institutional funders that take the long view on a project, supporting it from creation to the end of its tour, and that support the entire...ecosystem...the scope and scale of NEFA’s support is unmatched.”

— Jeremy Olson, *Executive Director*
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Thank you to Geeta Ayer, David Bahlman, Darrell Bulmer, David McWilliams, and Raúl Medina for their service to the NEFA board.

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Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to share this report and a few of the many highlights of NEFA's fiscal year 2012.

By the numbers, we awarded \$3.5 million in grants to recipients throughout New England and across the U.S.; artists and organizations received funding through nearly 500 grants ranging in size from \$200 to \$75,000.

Alongside the grantmaking numbers, there's a lot more: convenings, workshops, a discussion series, and publication of our latest creative economy research. All of these brought more value and depth of connection to the communities we serve. Working regionally, nationally, and internationally, we also broke new ground on a cultural diplomacy program with the U.S. Department of State.

At its best, NEFA's work sparks the transformative power of art. None of this would be possible without the generous support of our donors and funders, or the extraordinary dedication of our staff and board. I extend my deepest gratitude.

With appreciation,

Rebecca Blunk
Executive Director

IMAGE CREDITS

Front Cover (l-r):
Aardvark Jazz Orchestra (New England States Touring) by Chris Cheon
Basketry by Sarah Sockbeson (Penobscot) (Native Arts) by Sarah Sockbeson
Spellbound Dance Company (National Dance Project) by Karli Cadel
Mondo Bizarro (National Theater Project) by Melisa Cardona

Back Cover (l-r):
Lineu Zaderesi's Riverfest by Carita Ramos (Fund for the Arts)
Bevan Weissman's Ripplerun (Fund for the Arts) by Bevan Weissman
Nora Chipaumire (National Dance Project) by Susy Simonetto

Page 1:
NEFA Executive Director Rebecca Blunk by Abigail Baisas

GRANTS & PROGRAMS

NEFA's programs support artists across many forms of expression and many geographies, connecting collaborators and communities, fueling creative exchange and public discourse, and strengthening the creative economy.

Each program and project that is brought to life at NEFA builds a stronger and more dynamic infrastructure for the arts. Through grants, convenings, online tools, creative economy research, and pioneering partnerships, NEFA continues a 35+ year history of supporting the arts.



Image credit: *noori (Center Stage)* by Shahrukh Khurshid

Visit www.nefa.org for more detail on current programs and services, including:

- » **Center StageSM**
Bringing vibrant performers from abroad to the U.S.—and cultural diplomacy to Main Street America.
- » **National Dance Project**
Supporting artists and nonprofit organizations in the creation and touring of contemporary dance.
- » **National Theater Project**
Supporting the development and touring of contemporary artist-led collaborative, ensemble, and devised theater.
- » **Native Arts**
Supporting Native American artists and Native-led nonprofit organizations through grantmaking and network development.
- » **New England Presenting & Touring**
Supporting the New England presentation of performing artists of all disciplines from the region and around the globe, and providing professional development and technical assistance to presenters throughout the six New England states.
- » **Public Art**
Supporting the field of public art through professional development, networking, and grantmaking.
- » **Creative economy research**
Highlighting and quantifying the economic impact of the creative sector.
- » **CreativeGround.org**
Showcasing the excellence and diversity of New England's creative economy; connecting cultural organizations, artists, and creative businesses; and strengthening the quantitative understanding of the creative sector (launching in 2013).

Learn more about NEFA's grant recipients at www.nefa.org.

“NEFA isn't just another granting organization... They're knowledgeable about the business of arts presenting; they participate in the lives of our industry; and they listen.”

— Liza Sacheli Lloyd
Arts Presenter
Middlebury College

SUPPORT

CONNECT

STRENGTHEN



Professional Development & Networking

NEFA's third annual Public Art Discussion Series is one way that NEFA provided much more than grants in 2012. Notable guest presenters drew artists and their community partners from across New England to engage in lively conversations on the most topical issues in the field.

“NEFA’s Public Art Discussion Series doesn’t just know the pulse of the art scene in New England, it is creating it.”

— Dan Sternof Beyer
Boston-based public artist

Image credits (l-r): Compagnie de Danse Jean-René Delsoin (Center Stage), by UNCW/Katherine Freshwater; Joseph Wheelwright’s Sleeping Moon (Fund for the Arts), courtesy of Dorchester Arts Collaborative; Beadwork by Rhonda Besaw (Wabanaki) (Native Arts), courtesy of Rhonda Besaw; The Water Is Rising (Expeditions) by Andrew Ribner; Papermoon Puppet Theater (Center Stage) by Sarah Sidman

Artists in Communities

NEFA supported the U.S. tour of *The Water is Rising* in 2012 to 11 communities from Burlington, VT, to Riverside, CA.

A compelling performance exploring the impact of global warming through movement and song, this piece features performers from Tuvalu, Tokelau, and Kiribati, tiny Pacific atolls expected to disappear within 50 years due to climate change. *The Water Is Rising* conveys deep connections to nature, their ancestral past, and our collective present.

“Students... don’t often have the opportunity to think about the human impacts of climate change, habitat loss, and other environmental threats.... Their message will stay with us.”

— High school teacher
Pennsylvania

Cultural Economic Impact

NEFA released its latest creative economy report in fiscal 2012. *New England’s Creative Economy: Nonprofit Sector Impact* demonstrates the undisputable value of a robust cultural sector to the region’s economy – through numbers and stories illustrated in state by state highlights.

“NEFA is a leader in helping us understand the importance of the creative economy.”

— Rocco Landesman
Former Chairman,
National Endowment for the Arts

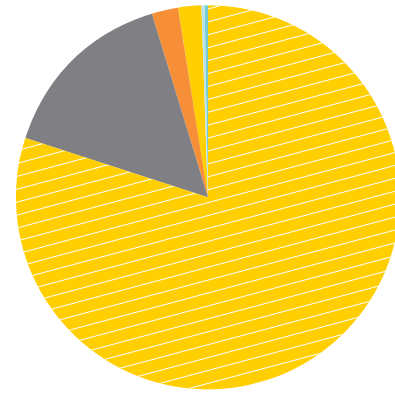
FISCAL OVERVIEW

JUNE 1, 2011 - MAY 31, 2012

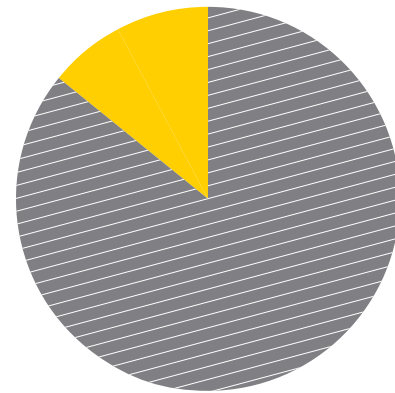
The financial results of FY12 reflect a year of accomplishment. Development efforts yielded a number of multi-year commitments from funders, securing resources for future years' programs and strengthening the organization's financial position for the year. NEFA's cash reserve, developed under the guidance of the board, provides a measure of reassurance and flexibility as the organization moves forward.



Image credit: Ragamala Dance (National Dance Project) by Hub Willson for Allentown Symphony Association



REVENUE	
Foundations & Corporations	80.1%
National Endowment for Arts	15.4%
State Arts Councils	2.1%
Interest & Dividend Income	1.9%
Earned Income	0.3%
Individuals	0.2%



EXPENSE	
Grants & Programs	86%
Administration, Communications, & Development	14%

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS	
Cash	884,344
Certificates of deposit	1,900,987
Investments	11,508,790
Grants receivable	4,988,007
Fixed assets	104,963
Other assets	281,034
Total assets	19,668,125

LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	214,138
Grants payable	2,610,688
Agency funds payable	120,111
Total liabilities	2,944,937

NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted	3,059,264
Temporarily restricted	13,663,924
Total net assets	16,723,188

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS 19,668,125

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

REVENUE & SUPPORT	
Contributions and grants	7,790,757
Service fees and other income	90,200
Interest and dividends	182,242
Total revenue and support	8,063,199

EXPENSES	
PROGRAM EXPENSES	
Grants	3,501,736
Program services	1,408,806
Research, documentation, and evaluation	183,731
Total program expenses	5,094,273

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	
Administrative and general	367,042
Communications and development	464,502
Total administrative expenses	831,544
Total expenses	5,925,817

Changes in net assets from operations	2,137,382
INVESTMENT RETURN	-294,227
Change in Net Assets	1,843,155

NET ASSETS, beginning of year 14,880,033

NET ASSETS, end of year 16,723,188

Audited financial statements are available upon request.

THANK YOU

From June 2011 to May 2012, NEFA was generously supported by the following:



The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation



For an updated list of funders and partners, visit www.nefa.org.

\$2,000,000 +

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
Doris Duke Charitable Foundation

\$1,000,000 +

National Endowment for the Arts
U.S. Department of State

\$100,000 +

Asian Cultural Council
Doris Duke Foundation
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The Ford Foundation
Leveraging Investments in Creativity
The Community Connections Fund
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Robert Sterling Clark Foundation

\$50,000 +

Germeshausen Foundation
Massachusetts Cultural Council
The McKnight Foundation

\$10,000 +

Rona and Jeffrey Abramson
Connecticut Office of the Arts
National Park Service
Native Arts & Cultures Foundation
Rhode Island State Council
on the Arts
Rosenberry Charitable Term Trust
Betty Saks & Bart Kavanaugh
Vermont Arts Council
Anonymous

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Vermont Community Foundation
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\$500 +

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* = Director's Fund donor

SUPPORT NEFA

Our mission at NEFA is simple: to cultivate and promote the arts in New England and beyond. As a nonprofit 501(c)(3), our work is made possible through the generous support of individual donors and public and private institutions.

To make a gift or to learn more about NEFA's work, please visit us at www.nefa.org, or call Sarah Long Holland at 617.951.0010 x511.



Image credit: Circa (Expeditions)
by Justin Nicholas Atmosphere



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www.nefa.org

Creatively supporting the movement of people, ideas, and resources in the arts within New England and beyond, making vital connections between artists and communities, and building the strength, knowledge, and leadership of the region's creative sector.

NEFA is a 501(c)(3) that operates with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New England state arts agencies, and from corporations, foundations, and individuals.

