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*Thank you to the following outgoing
board members for their service:
Jane James of RE/MAX Shoreline,
Byron Champlin of Lincoln Financial,
and Alex Aldrich, former Director of
the Vermont Arts Council.*

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New England's Creative Economy and Why
They Matter report cover, design by InkHouse



DEAR FRIENDS,

It is my pleasure to share the New England Foundation for the Arts annual report for 2017. NEFA plays a unique role in the field, supporting artists and the creation of new work, while promoting greater access to arts experiences and expansive, inclusive conversations that bring our cultural communities together.

NEFA invests in the arts to enrich communities in New England and beyond. We do this by granting funds to artists and cultural organizations; connecting them to each other and their audiences; and analyzing their economic impact. In fiscal year 2017, NEFA:

- **Awarded 503 grants totaling \$3,399,070 supporting music, dance, theater, puppetry, public art, and interdisciplinary work.**
- **Convened leaders together from the arts, military, and healthcare communities for a deeper dialogue around practices and strategies in creating and touring performing arts works that connect civilian and military communities**
- **Assembled close to 300 creative leaders in New London, CT, for the fifth Creative Communities Exchange, sharing ideas and best practices around projects that leverage the local creative sector for revitalization and growth of the broader community.**

I want to extend sincere gratitude to our partners at the National Endowment for the Arts and New England's state arts agencies, and all of our donors, grantees, and collaborators, whose vision and support make NEFA's work possible. I also want to acknowledge the dedication of the NEFA staff and board, both past and present.

Read on for additional highlights and information on NEFA's programs!

With appreciation,

Cathy Edwards

Cathy Edwards
Executive Director

GRANTS & PROGRAMS

NEFA supports artists across many forms of expression and many geographies, connecting collaborators and communities, promoting equitable access to creative opportunities, fueling 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 an over 40-year history of supporting the arts.



Batsheva Dance Company,
photo by Julieta Cervantes

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

- » **Center StageSM** Bringing vibrant performers from abroad to the U.S. in an international exchange and cultural diplomacy initiative in partnership with the U.S. Department of State.
- » **New England Programs** Supporting New England organizations and performing artists of all disciplines with professional development, technical assistance, and grant opportunities.
- » **Creative City** Enabling artists to create projects of all disciplines that take place in the public realm in the city of Boston and integrate public participation into artistic process and presentation.
- » **Public Art** Supporting the field of public art through professional development, networking, and grantmaking through the Fund for the Arts program.
- » **National Dance Project** Supporting artists and nonprofit organizations in the creation and touring of contemporary dance.
- » **Creative Economy** Highlighting and quantifying the economic impact of the creative sector.
- » **National Theater Project** Supporting the development and touring of artist-led, ensemble, and devised theater.
- » **CreativeGround** Showcasing and strengthening New England's creative sector in the region's only online directory of cultural organizations, artists, and creative businesses.

“NEFA is an artist- and art-centric organization that is a vital lifeline for amazing projects in New England, the U.S., and the world.”

Jennifer Johnson
Charlestown Working Theater
Charlestown, MA



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



Powering the Arts

The New England Dance Fund was established with the support of the Aliad Fund at the Boston Foundation to help New England choreographers build their professional networks and skills, and take advantage of catalytic artistic opportunities. In 2017, the first year of grantmaking for the program, NEFA awarded 40 grants to artists working in all six New England states. The grants, made directly to choreographers and ranging from \$500 to \$1,000, supported documentation, technology needs, attendance at conferences, project research, trainings, and more, and connected artists to additional NEFA resources, including

CreativeGround.org, NEFA's online directory of New England's artists, creative businesses, and cultural organizations.

“This grant gives me the confidence of working beyond my comfort zone and inspires me to explore more such opportunities to work with dance/music from other cultures.”

Mouli Pal, *Wilmington, MA*

Building Networks

Center Stage is a public diplomacy initiative that leverages the power of the arts to transcend boundaries, encourages people to engage with cultures other than their own, and delivers lasting impacts in the U.S. and abroad. The third season brought artists from Algeria, Tanzania, and Pakistan on separate month-long tours of the U.S. for performances, master classes, and community engagement activities. Fifty-two participants from seven ensembles traveled a cumulative 29,255 miles to 33 communities in 23 states, reaching close to 40,000 people through 64 performances and 104 off-stage activities.

“I am thankful for the opportunity to have interacted with these players, who captivated the theatre with such honesty — with raw, playful, creative, and inspired action.”

audience member, *University of Indiana, Bloomington, IN*

Energizing Communities

Building upon a legacy of economic research on the creative sector in New England, NEFA commissioned the UMass Donahue Institute to assess employment in the region's creative economy. Creative workers help shape our industries and culture, defining who we are and where we want to live. The report, *The Jobs in New England's Creative Economy and Why They Matter*, delves deeper into the employment, income, and career needs and trends of creative enterprises and artists, and included a pioneering survey of artists and creative workers, Creatives Count. The study includes highlights for each state and uncovers areas for

growth in supporting the sector. In addition, the report provides advice for future researchers, research methodology and data sources, and the updated research definition of the industries and occupations that comprise the core creative economy.

New England's creative economy:

- Employs nearly 310,000 people
- Earns \$17 billion per year
- Has a 20% higher prevalence of artists compared to the U.S.

ABOUT NEFA

SUPPORTING ARTISTS & COMMUNITIES IN NEW ENGLAND AND BEYOND

Founded in 1976, NEFA is one of six regional arts organizations (RAOs) who work in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts and the state arts agencies to support arts programs on a regional basis. RAOs were created by state arts leaders in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts and the private sector in order to transcend state boundaries and give the public access to a greater and richer variety of arts experiences.

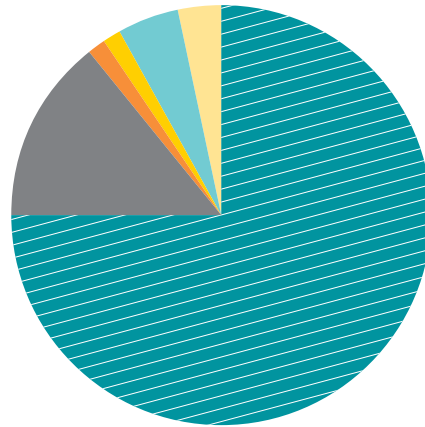
Today, NEFA's programs are regional, national, and international in scope, supporting artists and communities through grants and other resources including workshops, convenings, research, and online tools.



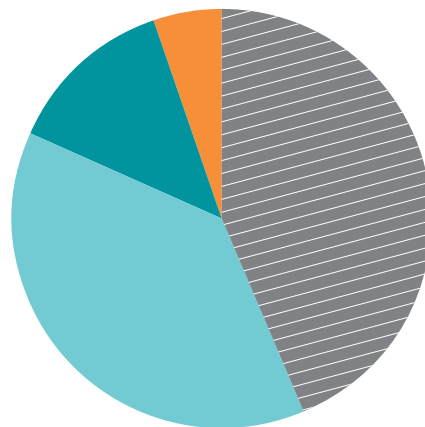
Aaron Larget-Caplan, NEST

FINANCIALS

JUNE 1, 2016 - MAY 31, 2017



Source	Percentage
Foundations, corporations, & government	75.0%
National Endowment for the Arts	14.2%
State Arts Councils	1.5%
Individuals	1.3%
Earned income	4.9%
Interest & dividend income	3.1%



Category	Percentage
Grants	43.7%
Program Services	38.2%
Administration	12.9%
Communications & Development	5.2%

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS	
Cash	4,666,056
Short-term investments	2,840,946
Contributions, grants and other receivables	2,410,048
Investments	8,826,204
Fixed assets	253,700
Other assets	321,515
Total assets	19,318,469
<hr/>	
TOTAL ASSETS	19,318,469

LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	4,587
Grants payable	2,084,009
Fiscal agent payable	59,809
Total liabilities	2,148,405

NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted	385,698
Board designated — strategic opportunity and risk reserve	370,292
Board designated — funds functioning as endowment	3,871,914
Temporarily restricted	12,542,160
Total net assets	17,170,064

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS 19,318,469

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

REVENUE & SUPPORT	
Contributions and grants	6,459,736
Service fees and other income	340,454
Interest and dividends	220,414
Total revenue and support	7,020,604

EXPENSES	
PROGRAM EXPENSES	
Grants	3,393,809
Program services	2,972,312
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES	6,366,121

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	
Administrative and general	1,003,634
Communications and development	403,625
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	1,407,259
Total expenses	7,773,380

Changes in Net Assets from operations	(752,777)
Investment Return	692,645
Changes in Net Assets	(60,131)

NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR 17,230,196
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR 17,170,065

A complete set of audited financials is available on our website or upon request from Sharon Timmel, Development Manager, stimmel@nefa.org, 617.951.0010 x511.

For the most current list of funders and partners, visit nefa.org.

THANK YOU

From June 2016 through May 2017, NEFA was generously supported by the following organizations and individuals:



Department of Economic and Community Development

Office Of The Arts



\$2,000,000+

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation*
Barr Foundation*
Doris Duke Charitable Foundation*

\$1,000,000+

National Endowment for the Arts
U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs*

\$100,000+

Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art*
Embassy of the United States, Islamabad, Pakistan *
The Reva and David Logan Foundation*

\$50,000+

John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
Massachusetts Cultural Council
National Park Service*

\$25,000+

Aliad Fund at The Boston Foundation
The Boston Foundation*
Henry Luce Foundation
The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation
Mary and Ted Wendell

\$10,000+

Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development
Rhode Island State Council on the Arts
Larry and Ann Simpson
Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation
Trust for Mutual Understanding
Vermont Arts Council

\$5,000+

Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut
Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation
Amy Zell Ellsworth
John and Mary-Beth Henry
Frank Loomis Palmer Fund
Maine Arts Commission
Francis and Denise Menton

\$2,500+

Phyllis Dixon
Jane and Peter McLaughlin
New Hampshire State Council on the Arts
Andrea Rogers

\$1,000+

Geeta and Kamesh Aiyer
Arthur Murray Dance Studio of Boston
Andrew Cornell and Francesca Coltrera
Cathy Edwards and Mike Wishnie
Newell Flather
Geoffrey Hargadon and Patricia La Valley
Marcie Hershman
Chip Newell and Susan Morris
John M. Plukas
The James E. Robison Foundation
UBS Financial Services
Lisa Wong and Lynn Chang

\$500+

Anonymous
Kate Blacklock
Judd and Cyndy Blunk
Byron O. and Susan Champlin
Eckert Seamans
Cliff and Marie Hershman
Douglas Keith
Jeremy and Margie Klein Ronkin
Mark and Taryn Leavitt
Catherine Martin
Barbara Murphy
Ann E. Smith
Pam Tatge

\$250+

Anonymous
Alan and Saralynn Allaire
Joyce Collier and Jennifer Potter
Lee W. Ellenberg
Susan Feder and Tom Gordon
Phyllis and Eugene Hershman
Jane James
Mark Jensen
Mary Kelley
Erinn King
Lincoln Financial Foundation
Laura Paul
Jane Preston and Michael Muller
Randall and Claire Rosenbaum
David C. Snyder
Betsy Theobald Richards
Carol Zell

UP TO \$249

Jon Abbott and Shari Malyn
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AmazonSmile
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Ann and Stephen Wicks
Phyllis S. Wishnie
Lani Wolfe
Ruth and Michael Worthington
Carrie Zaslow and Peter Quattromani

GIFTS IN-KIND

Art New England
The Brand Collective
Crocker House Ballroom
The Day
Garde Arts Center
Harris Place
HowlRound
Hygienic Art
MS17 Art Project and Visual Art Library
New London Public Library
Power Posse Productions
Quinn & Hary
Salesforce
Struck Catering

*represents full amount of multi-year grant(s)

For the most current list of funders and partners, visit nefa.org.

SUPPORT NEFA

NEFA is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) working in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts and the six state arts agencies of New England. Additional funding from individual donors, and from public and private institutions, is critically important to realizing our mission.

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



Junebug Productions, Gomela/to return: Movement of our Mother Tongue, photo by Melisa Cardona



NEFA invests in the arts to enrich communities in New England and beyond. NEFA accomplishes this by granting funds to artists and cultural organizations; connecting them to each other and their audiences; and analyzing their economic contributions. NEFA serves as a regional partner for the National Endowment for the Arts, New England's state arts agencies, and private foundations.

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www.nefa.org



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