“NEFA has always been a fabulous resource for artists and arts organizations.”

Aimée M. Patrin
Executive Director, Portland Ovations, Portland ME

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DEAR FRIENDS,

As we come to the close of the New England Foundation for the Arts’ 39th year, I am grateful to reflect on the value of this important organization. NEFA represents a unique collaboration between the National Endowment for the Arts and the state arts agencies in New England, as well as private donors and philanthropies.

I was deeply engaged by the conversations I had in each of New England’s states during my first months at NEFA, learning about the aspirations of our constituents. Through my travels, I have experienced the impressive diversity of our region’s artistic, cultural, and physical landscapes. NEFA is proud to advance opportunities for creative people and communities.

This report gives NEFA the opportunity to share some highlights of the past year. The following are just a few examples of what NEFA accomplished in 2015:

• Made 418 grants totaling $3,073,759 supporting music, dance, theater, puppetry, public art, and interdisciplinary work.
• Celebrated the first anniversary of CreativeGround, a first-of-its-kind regional online directory of the creative sector, which demonstrates the richness of New England through over 30,000 profiles of artists and cultural organizations and businesses.
• Produced the second season of Center Stage, a cultural diplomacy initiative in partnership with the U.S. Department of State, touring ensembles from Morocco, Pakistan, and Vietnam across 29 American communities, reaching more than 22,800 people.

Read on for additional highlights of NEFA’s programs, which together help artists create and share work in communities throughout New England and across the U.S., and bolster the resources of the creative sector. My most sincere thanks go to an incredibly committed staff and board, our partners at the NEA and New England’s state arts agencies, and our funders and donors, whose collective generosity make NEFA’s work possible.

Thank you to the following outgoing board members for their service: David Butz, Dan Forest, Asia Kayles, Peter Nissen, John Pluas, and Andrea Rogers.

The executive director of each New England state arts agency holds a seat on the NEFA board. The Massachusetts Cultural Council has opted not to exercise its governance role at present.

With appreciation,

CATHY EDWARDS
Executive Director
GRANTS & PROGRAMS

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

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

» Center Stage™ Bringing vibrant performers from abroad to the U.S. in an international exchange and cultural diplomacy initiative of the U.S. Department of State.

» Creative City Enabling artists to create projects of all disciplines that take place in the public realm in the city of Boston and that integrate public participation into artistic process and presentation.

» 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 artist-led, ensemble, and devised theater.

» New England Presenting & Touring Supporting New England organizations in the presentation of performing artists of all disciplines from the region and around the globe with professional development, technical assistance, and grant programs including Expeditions, NEST, and Presenter Travel.

» Public Art Supporting the field of public art through professional development, networking, and grantmaking through the Fund for the Arts program.

» Creative Economy Highlighting and quantifying the economic impact of the creative sector.

» CreativeGround Showcasing and strengthening the understanding of New England’s creative sector in the region’s only online directory of cultural organizations, artists, and creative businesses.

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 almost 40 year history of supporting the arts.

“"We all need to thank you for the work you do to keep dance alive...it is great to know there are resources available to support dance like NEFA and NDP."

Joan Myers Brown
Founder/Executive Artistic Director,
The Philadelphia Dance Company (PHILADANCO)

Image Credit: Double Edge Theatre (National Theater Project) by David Wiland
Building Networks

In June, NEFA held its fourth Creative Communities Exchange (CCX) in Keene, New Hampshire, bringing together 250 creative sector leaders from across New England. The Exchange, which rotates to different New England communities, highlights a wide range of successful initiatives from the region that leverage the local creative sector for revitalization and growth of the broader community. The goal is to advance the region’s leadership on applying creative economy strategies in communities through knowledge sharing and networking.

“Every time I attend CCX, which I’ve done since the beginning, I learn something new—a program or idea that helps Creative Portland do better work... It’s the only chance we have to learn from our regional colleagues, and it’s hugely impactful.”

Jennifer Hutchins
Creative Portland; 2015 recipient of NEFA’s Creative Economy award

Powering the Arts

NEFA has infused over $4.3 million into the theater field since the first round of National Theater Project grants five years ago. To date, 37 new works have been supported and have toured to large and small arts presenters, military bases, universities, regional theaters, and festivals in 29 states across the U.S.

Sandglass Theater (Putney, VT) toured the NTP supported work, D-Generation: An Exaltation of Larks, to 14 sites in 12 states across the U.S.

“Every time I attend CCX, which I’ve done since the beginning, I learn something new—a program or idea that helps Creative Portland do better work... It’s the only chance we have to learn from our regional colleagues, and it’s hugely impactful.”

Jennifer Hutchins
Creative Portland; 2015 recipient of NEFA’s Creative Economy award

“The NTP award puts us in the company of some of the most interesting ensemble theater companies in the country and brings us to the table of discussions that get to the substance of what kind of theater we want to make and why.”

Eric Bass
co-artistic director, Sandglass Theater

Energizing Communities

The Nile Project, a boundary-crossing musical collaboration by traditional musicians from 11 countries along the Nile River, highlights the urgent issues of water and sustainability, worldwide. NEFA’s Expeditions program supported a seven-site tour across five states in New England, with presenting partners collaborating on creating meaningful engagement activities, such as panel discussions on water politics, arts and social engagement, and international development, along with festivals highlighting the relationship of local communities to nearby rivers.

“Thank you for making this happen for Rivendell. The music and the discussion were fantastic. It opened the eyes of our rural kids.”

Keri Gelenian
Principal, Rivendell Academy
**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.

---

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**
**JUNE 1, 2014-MAY 31, 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVENUE &amp; SUPPORT</th>
<th><strong>Contributions and grants</strong></th>
<th>6,456,428</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Service fees and other income</strong></td>
<td>289,608</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Interest and dividends</strong></td>
<td>202,242</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total revenue and support</strong></td>
<td>6,948,278</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSE</th>
<th><strong>Grants</strong></th>
<th>3,216,910</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Program services</strong></td>
<td>2,383,221</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Research, documentation and evaluation</strong></td>
<td>249,875</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total program expenses</strong></td>
<td>5,850,006</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES</th>
<th><strong>Administrative and general</strong></th>
<th>740,523</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Communications and development</strong></td>
<td>459,658</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total administrative expenses</strong></td>
<td>1,200,181</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

| TOTAL EXPENSES | 7,050,187 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHANGES IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS</th>
<th>(101,909)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Investment Return</strong></td>
<td>382,713</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total changes in net assets</strong></td>
<td>280,804</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NET ASSETS, beginning of year</th>
<th>21,204,386</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET ASSETS, end of year</strong></td>
<td>21,485,190</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th><strong>Cash</strong></th>
<th>924,131</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Certificates of deposit</strong></td>
<td>6,726,827</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Investments</strong></td>
<td>8,633,104</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grants receivable</strong></td>
<td>7,346,388</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fixed assets</strong></td>
<td>205,703</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other assets</strong></td>
<td>63,459</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td>23,899,612</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES</th>
<th><strong>Accounts payable and accrued expenses</strong></th>
<th>178,625</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grants payable</strong></td>
<td>2,161,488</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agency funds payable</strong></td>
<td>74,309</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities</strong></td>
<td>2,414,422</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NET ASSETS</th>
<th><strong>Unrestricted</strong></th>
<th>4,872,059</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Temporarily restricted</strong></td>
<td>16,613,131</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total net assets</strong></td>
<td>21,485,190</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS | 23,899,612 |

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**ASSETS**

| **Cash** | 924,131 |
| **Certificates of deposit** | 6,726,827 |
| **Investments** | 8,633,104 |
| **Grants receivable** | 7,346,388 |
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<td>21,485,190</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS | 23,899,612 |

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**FINANCIALS**
**JUNE 1, 2014-MAY 31, 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVENUE</th>
<th>Foundations, corporations, &amp; other federal</th>
<th>74.2%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National Endowment for the Arts</td>
<td>16.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>State Arts Agencies</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Individuals</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Earned income</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Interest &amp; dividend income</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSE</th>
<th>Grants</th>
<th>45.7%</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td>33.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Research, documentation and evaluation</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Communications &amp; Development</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.
THANK YOU
From June 2014 through September 2015, NEFA was generously supported by the following:

$2,000,000 +
The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
Doris Duke Charitable Foundation
National Endowment for the Arts
U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

$100,000 +
Asian Cultural Council
Barr Foundation
Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art
Department of Cultural Affairs
Embassy of the United States, Islamabad, Pakistan
The Reva and David Logan Foundation
Massachusetts Cultural Council
Robert Sterling Clark Foundation

$50,000 +
John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

$10,000 +
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Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development
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Heather Hierson
Lincoln Financial Group
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New Hampshire State Council on the Arts
John Pluas*
Andrew Rogers*
Vermont Community Foundation*
Wilson Butler Architects*

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Anonymous*
Kerry and Tim Brosnihan*
M. Christine Dyer*
Eckert Seamans
Cathy Edwards and Mike Wishnie*
Geoffrey Hargadon*
Marcie Hershman*
Jane James*
Mary Kelley*
Lindsay and Aaron Miller*
Beatrice and Peter Heiss*
Mary Margaret Schoenfeld and David Low*

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Anonymous*
Janet E. Banks*
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Lee Ellenberg*
Susan Fedor and Todd Gordon*
Ed Henry*
Joanne Herman*
Phyllis and Eugene Hershman*
Lynn Estyn and Oliver Buckley*
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Anita McGahan*
Riki Nieren*
Peter Nessen*
Max Niber and Jane Staunton*
Adrienne Petillo*
Jane Preston and Michael Muller*
Elizabeth Theobald Richards*
Linda Shetlin*

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Anonymous*
Sarah Long Holland and Jonathan Holland*
Sallie McCorkis*
Daniel McCuder*
Karen Mendelson*
Bill Nguyen*
Victoria Noon and Odile Peroci*
Cheri Opperman and Maure Aronson*
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Mollie Quinlan-Hayes*
Michael Reed*
Julia Rouds*
Romalya Tlghman*
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Jo Ani Share and Rochelle Weinman*
Steven and Ben Kerrt-T Davis*
Sophie Parker & Associates*
Jake and Katherine Thompson*
Trillium Asset Management*
Tufts University Department of English*
Sandy Upton*
Donna Varliancourt and Robin Reid*
Carol Wilkinson*

UNDER $100
AmazonSmile
Lora and David Brody*
Seweryn and Louise Brayn*
Patty and Mitchell Cooper*
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Quita Sullivan*
Kathleen Webster*
Jane M. Weissman and Mo Bell*
Nate Williams*
Lauren Johnston Winsor*

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Arthur Fink Photography
City of Keene, New Hampshire
The Colonial Theatre
Flint & Foster
Google AdWords
Kazeme Sentinel
Salen Group
Struck Catering

+ = Annual Fund donor
* = Rebecca Blunk Fund donor

For the most current list of funders and partners, visit www.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.
NEFA builds connections among artists, arts organizations, and funders, powering the arts to energize communities in New England, the nation, and the world.