



The New England Foundation for the Arts envisions a nation where artists flourish and communities celebrate art as essential to a thriving, equitable society. We invest in artists and communities and foster equitable access to the arts, enriching the cultural landscape in New England and the nation.



At the New England Foundation for the Arts, we believe that one of the roles of the arts is to make the invisible, visible. We also believe that it is not the responsibility of those who have been made invisible to remind us that they are still here. Therefore, as a committed ally, NEFA acknowledges that the ground on which we work is the traditional land of the Massachuset and Wampanoag people; we honor their ancestors past, present, and future, and recognize their continued existence and contributions to our society.

NEFA also acknowledges that all the places that our distributed staff live and work, and where we provide support and hold events, are Indigenous lands. We offer our respect to the Elders — past, present, and future.



IMAGE CREDITS

Front cover (I-r): New Work New Englandsupported Daniel Bernard Roumain, photo by Erin X. Smithers; National Dance Project-supported AXIS Dance Company, photo by David DeSilva; and National Dance Project-supported DELIRIOUS Dances/Edisa Weeks, photo by Rebecca Fitton.

At left (top-bottom): National Dance Project-supported Gesel Mason Performance Project, photo by Jovan Landry; National Dance Project-supported Aprils Sellers Dance Collective, photo by Steven Lang; National Theater Project-supported Borderlands Theater and Teatro Bravo, photo courtesy of the artists; and National Theater Project-supported Baba Israel and Grace Galu, photo by Paula Cort.

Back cover (I-r): National Dance Project-supported NAKA Dance Theater, courtesy of the artists; National Theater Project-supported Beatrice Thomas/Black Benatar's Black Magic Cabaret Tour, photo by Candace Smith; and New Work New England-supported Jin Hi Kim, photo by Bleue Liverpool.

Pages 6-7 (I-r): Public Art for Spatial Justice-supported Chelvanaya Gabriel and Mari Champagne, photo by Julian Gabelus; Public Art for Spatial Justice-supported Attack Bear Press' "Community Ofrenda and Calaveras De Coronavirus," photo by Alex Woolner; New Work New England-supported Carolyn Shadid Lewis' "InterGeneration," and National Dance Project-supported Yvonne Montoya, courtesy of the artist.

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DEAR FRIENDS,

Greetings! It's an important time for NEFA as we enter our 45th year. Our values of equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility guide us as we do our work with heart and soul, supporting artists and cultural organizations that have been dramatically impacted by the pandemic.

The arts are essential — they make the difference between a good place to live, and a great place to live. They inspire, educate, and they connect communities. They help us reimagine a more just future, reflect our values, and enable social change. This is what moves NEFA's staff every day, whether providing technical assistance on an application, ensuring everyone feels welcome to participate in NEFA's programs, or re-structuring grant support to accommodate during these uncertain times.

Our gratitude goes to our partners at the National Endowment for the Arts and New England's state arts agencies, as well as our donors, grantees, and collaborators, whose support make NEFA's work possible. I also want to acknowledge the vision and dedication of the NEFA board of directors and advisory council, past and present.

In fiscal year 2021, NEFA:

- Awarded 413 grants totaling \$5.8 million to artists and cultural organizations in New England and across the nation.
- Awarded the first round of grants through New Work New England directly to New England artists in dance, film, interdisciplinary work, music, musical theater, opera, poetry, storytelling, and theater to support the development of new work to engage New England communities. The focus of this pilot program is on artists and the creative process, and projects that further equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility.

• Published a report on the first seven years of Center Stage, NEFA's cultural diplomacy and international exchange initiative in partnership with the U.S. Department of State, while scheduling engagements with artists from Colombia and Peru and seeking nominations for artists from Argentina, Armenia, and Taiwan.

As you read this report on our 2021 fiscal year, you'll learn about additional highlights and information on NEFA's programs.

As always, we welcome your feedback, value your support, and hope you and your loved ones are healthy.

With appreciation,

Cathy Eduards

Cathy Edwards
Executive Director

VISION

NEFA contributes to a nation where artists flourish and communities celebrate art as essential to a thriving, equitable society.

VALUES

- » Artists & the creative process
- » Equity, diversity, inclusion, & accessibility
- » Knowledge building & sharing
- » Leadership
- » Partnership
- » Public funding for the arts



GRANTS & PROGRAMS: INVESTING IN ARTISTS & COMMUNITIES

NEFA connects artists and cultural organizations to opportunities, local economies to artists, and research to practice to equitably build and strengthen the arts and culture sector in New England, the U.S., and beyond. Through grants, convenings, online tools, and research, NEFA continues a 44-year history of pioneering partnerships and programs supporting the arts.

"NEFA's support for artists comes in forms that reach beyond the monetary benefits of the grant."

Raphael Xavier

National Theater Project-supported Kinetic Light, by Grace Kathryn Landefeld

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 Economy Highlighting and quantifying the economic impact of the creative sector, including CreativeGround, the region's only online directory of cultural organizations, artists, and creative businesses, which showcases and strengthens New England's creative sector.
- **National Dance Project** Supporting the creation and touring of new dance works and field-building initiatives for dance makers and dance presenters.
- » National Theater Project Supporting the development and touring of artist-led, ensemble, and devised theater.
- New England Programs Supporting New England organizations to present performing artists of all disciplines, providing artists with support to create and produce new work, and connecting both to resources and networks.
- Public Art Supporting the field of public art through professional development, networking, and grantmaking through work that engages the public, interacting with communities and public space.

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2021



SUPPORT

ADVANCING EQUITY

Public art has the power to shift public culture and cultural and artistic expressions of Black, Indigenous, People of Color are essential to more equitable and vital public spaces. Guided by that knowledge, NEFA's Public Art program launched two new grants for Massachusetts artists and collaborators to imagine and create public art that fosters more just, vibrant, and welcoming public spaces. Collective Imagination for Spatial Justice supports teams of artists, creatives, and community-based collaborators to reimagine more just public artmaking in their communities; Public Art for Spatial Justice supports more just public artmaking projects. To date, \$424,000 has been awarded through 52 grants made across the state.

"New Bedford Creative's Collective Imagination for Spatial Justice project was groundbreaking and integral to the social, economic, and cultural development in New Bedford, Massachusetts."

Jasmyn Baird

Senior Creative Fellow, New Bedford Creative

CONNECT

BUILDING NETWORKS

In response to the impact of COVID-19 on the nation's arts infrastructure, NEFA launched the New England Arts Resilience Fund, part of a national initiative of the U.S. Regional Arts Organizations and made possible by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. With the addition of public funding from the CARES act, and more recently from the American Rescue Plan, through the National Endowment for the Arts, the fund supports New England nonprofits and cultural organizations with recovery and planning capital. The fund prioritizes organizations, communities, populations, and art forms that have historically had less access to major financial resources for sustainability and seeks to support organizations that are led by and deeply engage communities of color.

"The support...allowed Tomaquag Museum to remain visible and vibrant throughout the pandemic utilizing virtual strategies of engagement for children, youth, adults, and elders. Through leveraging [the grant], we were able to gain additional funding which allowed us to finish the year with additional staff. In essence, we are coming out of the pandemic stronger than we have ever been."

Lorén Spears (Narragansett/Niantic)
Tomaquag Museum & Indigenous Arts

STRENGTHEN

INVESTING IN CULTURE

Artists grappled with a global health pandemic, economic downturn, and racial injustice - and the National Dance Project and National Theater Project teams drew on NEFA's values to provide flexibility and intentionality in assisting them. Panel meetings shifted from inperson to virtual, and program advisors were prepared with strengthened evaluation practices. Timelines were extended, and those who did not receive Creation/Production awards were awarded smaller unrestricted awards to invest in their creative growth and sustainability. Grant disbursement timelines were adjusted, touring funds were used for general operating support, and touring periods were extended remaining nimble was essential to supporting grantees in the manner they felt most helpful.

"The response during the pandemic was a great example of how NEFA's values are reflected in the program management — engaging us in direct conversations about how to adapt, shift funds, giving significant flexibility for us to re-design our plans as needed."

Carrie Brunk
Clear Creek Creative

36,505

ABOUT NEFA

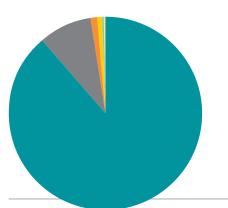
SUPPORTING ARTISTS & COMMUNITIES IN NEW ENGLAND AND BEYOND

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.

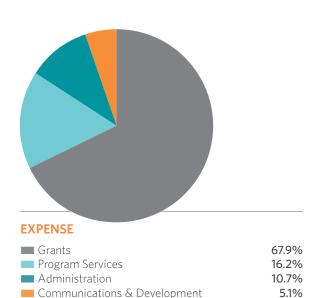
Today, NEFA's programs are regional, national, and international in scope, supporting artists and communities through grants and other resources including workshops, convenings, research, and online tools.

National Dance Project-supported Helen Simoneau, photo by Peter J. Mueller

FINANCIALSJUNE 1, 2020 - MAY 31, 2021



REVENUE Foundations, Corporations, & other Government National Endowment for the Arts State Arts Agencies Individuals Earned income Interest & dividend income 0.2%



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

TOTAL ASSETS	29,742,056
Total assets	29,742,056
Other assets	133,566
Fixed assets	714,408
Investments, short-term and long-term	14,028,925
Contributions, grants, and other receivables	9,096,83
Cash	5,768,326
ASSETS	

LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	503,958
Grants payable	5,343,313
Fiscal agent payable	59,809
Total liabilities	5,907,080

NEI ASSEIS	
Unrestricted	1,906,807
Board designated— strategic opportunity and risk reserve	440,023
Board designated— funds functioning as endowment	5,998,185
Temporarily restricted	15,489,961
Total net assets	23,834,976

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	29,742,056
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OPERATING STATEMENT

REVENUE & SUPPORT	
Contributions and grants	11,256,431
Service fees and other income	13,452
Interest and dividends	26,032
TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT	11,295,915
EXPENSES	
PROGRAM EXPENSES	
Grants and related services	7,648,743
Program services	1,828,342
Total program expenses	9,477,085
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	
Administrative and general	1,209,565
Communications and development	572,760
Total administrative expenses	1,782,325
TOTAL EXPENSES	11,259,410

The numbers presented in this report were unaudited at the time of printing. A complete set of audited financials is available on our website or upon request from NEFA's Development Department, development@nefa.org, 617-865-1845.

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

NET OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)

FUNDERS & PARTNERS

From June 2020 through May 2021, NEFA was generously supported by the following:

















Mass Cultural Council





RISCA





KEY

- Represents full amount of multi-year grant(s)
- Includes a donation to New Work New England
- ▲ Includes a donation to the Rebecca Blunk Fund

\$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 +

Anonymous
The Boston Foundation •

\$50,000 +

Mass Cultural Council Seedlings Foundation •

\$25.000 +

Aliad Fund at The Boston Foundation • Mary and Ted Wendell

\$10,000 +

Arthur Murray
Boston Area
Connecticut Department
of Economic
and Community
Development
Erinn King
New Hampshire State
Council on the Arts
Rhode Island State
Council on the Arts
Vermont Arts Council
Women's Suffrage
Centennial Commission

\$5,000 +

Anonymous
Lee and Amy Zell
Ellsworth
John and Mary-Beth
Henry
Marcie Hershman ▲
Liana Krupp
Maine Arts Commission
Payden & Rygel
Ann and Larry Simpson

\$2,500 +

Anonymous, Vermont
Community Foundation ▲
The James E. Robison
Foundation
The Michael and Janet
Rogers Foundation

\$1,000 +

Robert Blunk A Cathy Edwards and Mike Wishnie A Iván Espinoza-Madrigal and Seth Riseman Newell Flather Geoffrey L. Hargadon Monica A. McCarthy The Menton Family Fund Anne B. Miller Virginia and Timothy Millhiser Barbara Murphy Ann Smith Marco Werman Lisa Wong and Lynn Chang

\$500 +

Adobe
Anonymous
Anonymous
Pamela Diamantis ▲
M. Christine Dwyer
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Michael Jordan
Min Jung Kim
Jane Preston and
Michael Muller ▲
The Raffiani Family
Foundation
Garo Toomajanian and
Marc Harpin
UBS Financial Services

\$250+

Alexander Aldrich Anonymous Anonymous Adele Fleet Bacow A Jovce Collier and Jennifer Potter 🔺 Andrew Cornell and Francesca Coltrera Alexandra Del aite and Tom Kuo Stephen Duprey Lee Ellenberg & Ken Mitchell A Patricia Fontaine Gav & Lesbian Fund of Vermont, at the direction of the Shavne Foundation Richard Hanauer Robert and Kristine Higgins David C. Howse JMS Foundation Mary Kelley and Tom Field Michele Long and Margaret Keenan 🔺 Karen Mittelman Deborah Monosson Chip Newell

Cheri Opperman and Maure Aronson ▲ Lisa Poehler Randall Rosenbaum Larry Rosenberg Linda Shelton ▲ Steve Weiner and Don Cornuet Marillyn Zacharis

UP TO \$249

Chloe Ainley

AmazonSmile

Stephanie Ancona Anonymous □ (3) Anonymous A Anonymous (2) Daniel Arsem-O'Mallev Frances Botsford Bill and Ruth Botzow A Dr. Roger C. and Carol D. Brooks Rebecca Bruvn and Cindy Rosenbaum A Pauline Ho Bynum Michael and Kimberly Cayer Edwige Charlot Jug Chokshi Ann-Marie Ciaraldi Brooke Collison Lisa Crowley Shoshona Currier Carolyn Deuel Joseph and Sarah T. Dowling Johnna Doyle Michelle Droser Claudia Edwards and David Levin David Fanger and Martin Wechsler A Tom Fay and Jeffrey Kuchenbecker Ana Flores Jennifer Fonseca Ralph Freidin A Bruce Gertz, Bassist

Orlando Hernández Victor Herzberg Jean Hey and Shelley Brauer A Janet Hood and Merry Morse A David Hopkins Cheryl Ikemiya A Douglas and Toni-Marie Keith Deb Kelley Michael Kirk and Jill Tuennerman Andrew Krahn Angie Lane Karen B. LeFevre and Jim LeFevre Anita Lichtblau Ellen and Chris Lovell Ginnie Lupi Friends at The MacDuffie School in honor of Patricia "Gail" Spence-Turner Abigail and Sancho Maulion Steve McCormack Will McIntire Karole Mendelsohn Frank Mitchell Kristina Newman-Scott Max Nibert Dane Ouellette K.M. Peterson A Tony Pietricola Eileen Pollack A Margaret A. Pond and James E. Rader

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Carrie Zaslow

Pia Agrawal Asana Taylor Ho Bynum Cadwell Sign Caption Logic Nate Grant Mina Kim Salesforce

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/donate*, or call our development department at 617-865-1845



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THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS FOR THEIR SERVICE:

Taylor Ho Bynum, Geoff Hargadon, Kristina Newman-Scott, Julie Richard, Ann Smith, Marco Werman, and Lisa Wong.



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NEFA invests in artists and communities and fosters equitable access to the arts, enriching the cultural landscape in New England and the nation. 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.

1000 Washington Street, Second Floor, Boston, MA 02118 Traditional lands of the Massachuset and the Wampanoag Peoples

www.nefa.org