ABOUT GRANTMAKERS IN THE ARTS

A national network of private, public, and corporate arts funders, Grantmakers in the Arts provides leadership and service that advances the use of philanthropic and governmental resources to support the growth of arts and culture. Through conferences, workshops, and webinars; publications including the GIA Reader; research and policy work across the field of philanthropy; and communication tools on our website; we strive to better inform philanthropic practice and more effectively address the urgent needs facing artists, arts organizations, and arts educators in communities across America.

With a diverse member base including private, family, community, and corporate foundations; national, state, and local governmental agencies; and nonprofit national, regional, and local funders, GIA is the only national association of private and public funders making grants to artists and arts organizations in America.

2014 TOTAL EXPENSES: $1,718,953

- Programs: $1,322,270 (77%)
- Administration: $210,212 (12%)
- Fundraising: $186,471 (11%)

2014 TOTAL INCOME: $1,825,450

- Contributions: $1,401,290 (77%)
- Membership Dues: $244,653 (13%)
- Conference Fees: $167,980 (9%)
- Interest & Misc.: $11,527 (>1%)

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  - Anne and Albert Chase
  - Robert Sterling Clark Foundation
  - The Cleveland Foundation
  - Greater Columbus Arts Council
  - The George Gund Foundation
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  - Up to $4,999
    - 3Arts
    - The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation
    - The Chicago Community Trust
    - The Columbus Foundation
    - The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation
    - The Durfee Foundation
    - The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation
    - Wallace Alexander Gerbode Foundation
    - Irving S. Gilmore Foundation
    - Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts
    - Walter & Elise Haas Fund
    - John H. & Marilyn O. Howard Charitable Foundation, Inc.
    - Albert and Ethel Zorach Charitable Foundation
    - Kentucky Foundation for Women
    - Martinson & Mimi Levitt Foundation
    - Linde Family Foundation
    - Marc Brehner
    - Joan Mitchell Foundation
    - Pulk. Bros. Foundation
    - Prince Charitable Trusts
    - Rockefeller Brothers Fund
    - Sony Pictures Entertainment Sustainable Arts Foundation
    - Zellerbach family foundation

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The Leadership Circle is made up of funders making gifts of $10,000 and above.

GIA especially acknowledges Funding Partners making multi-year gifts. These contributions are essential to the development and sustainability of programs over time.
Dear GIA members and colleagues,

2014 was a year of change and success for Grantmakers in the Arts, in many ways. We began the year with the announcement that our long-time deputy director and director of programs, Tommer Peterson, would retire at the end of 2014. Tommer was the co-editor of the Reader and the coordinating producer of our annual conference. It would not be easy to fill the position with someone as artistically eclectic or managerially gifted. We were fortunate to have had many great applicants for the position and to have selected our colleague Jim McDonald, most recently the program officer at the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation in Seattle, to become our new deputy director and director of programs.

In the area of information and research, GIA made three especially relevant contributions to the field. After hundreds of surveys and interviews, as well as meetings and conference sessions with members and non-members alike, we published “A Proposed National Standard Taxonomy for Reporting Data on Support for Individual Artists.” After two years of presenting our Conversations on Capitalization and Community for funders in fifteen cities and numerous discipline-specific conferences and meetings, we published a “Progress Report on Grantmakers in the Arts’ National Capitalization Project.” In the fall, GIA partnered with the Foundation Center to update a report on the support of arts education, entitled “Foundation Funding for Arts Education, An Update of Foundation Trends.” This report will be released in 2015.

GIA is extremely proud of the Arts Education Funders Coalition’s work in federal arts education. In 2014, we were instrumental in making the arts mandatory in the criteria for Department of Education Pre-K competitive grants to states. In 2014 and 2015, $500 million will have been appropriated to this grant program, which places the arts at the center of the curriculum for children in poverty. We invested .085% to get a return of $500 million. This is the power of policy advocacy and change. We continue to be the voice of private and public funders who work in partnership with schools to make the arts accessible to all children.

We are constantly growing our membership, which expands our areas of funder interest. We are continually inspired by members who push the envelope, funding the integration of the arts in communities and neighborhoods, and for all citizens. Aging, health, environment, community planning, social justice, education, and economic development are just a few of the sectors that our members participate in actively.

At GIA, we are grateful for the ongoing dedication to artists and art forms by our members—especially the executive directors, program directors, program officers, staff, and others who work daily, advocating for dollars and organizational priority to artists and arts organization. GIA members are awesome!

Thank you for contributing to this community of practice that we are honored to serve.

Janet Brown
President & CEO

Rose Ann Cleveland
2014 Board Chair

GIA membership continued to expand in 2014, with a total of 298 members across the US and in Canada, reflecting growth of 4% over 2013. However, membership dues income increased by 20% in 2014 over 2013, indicating that our members’ annual grantmaking budgets are growing—a healthy sign of economic recovery.
THE 2014 CONFERENCE: A COLLABORATION OF NEW IDEAS

Grantees in the Arts’ (GIA) annual national conference provides the only opportunity for arts grantees from across the country to come together to share knowledge and ideas, to develop collective strategies, and to learn about the latest initiatives in grantmaking. The 2014 Conference was held in Houston October 12-15. Over 400 registrants and presenters engaged in a community of learning, networking, and professional growth opportunities. The attendees learned personally how their colleagues and the national arts community are addressing the pertinent issues of the arts philanthropic sector including racial equity, arts education, and supporting individual artists. Plenary presentations included researcher and professor Steven Tepper, musician and poet Joy Harjo, and a conversation between Roberto Bedoya and artist Rick Lowe. IDEA LAB plenary sessions featured presentations by a diverse group of artists and innovators on a variety of topics. Preconferences on support for individual artists, the unique practice of arts grantmaking, and a well-attended tour of Houston’s noted museums preceded the main event.

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

In 2014, GIA celebrated the 25th anniversary of its three-yearly publication, the GIA Reader. The Fall issue was a special 72-page edition. Over the past 25 years, GIA has published 49 issues of the Reader with articles by 590 authors. Since providing digital editions of the Reader in 2010, 328,858 users have accessed or downloaded 950,526 articles from the GIA website. Reflecting GIA’s ongoing effort to increase original content, over seventy percent of the articles printed in 2014 were first published in Reader pages. Contributors in 2014 included Roberta Uno, Aaron P. Dworkin, Adrian Ellis, Susan Kunimatsu, Justin Laing, Juan Tejeda, and Beth Tuttle, among others.

Continuing GIA’s long-term commitment to research, the Fall issue included the annual “Foundation Grants to Arts and Culture, 2012” by the Foundation Center and “Public Funding for the Arts: 2014 Update” from the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies.

NATIONAL CAPITALIZATION PROJECT

Formed in response to the observation that it has been the norm for the nonprofit arts sector to be poorly capitalized, GIA launched the National Capitalization Project (NCP) in January 2010. Since its launch, GIA has provided conference sessions, publications, and Conversations on Capitalization and Community funder workshops in 15 cities across the country. In 2014, a workshop was presented for the New Haven funding community and capitalization presentations were given by Janet Brown at a meeting of the Performing Arts Alliance, the League of Symphony Orchestra Conference, Wisconsin and Minnesota Arts Presenters conference, the TCG conference, the Washington State Arts Congress, the Bolz Center at the University of Wisconsin, and the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies conference.

THOUGHT LEADER FORUMS

In the summer of 2014, the GIA members and thought leaders who had participated in the Racial Equity Thought Leader Forum in 2012 came back together in New York to share case studies from within their own organizations. The studies were candidly discussed, with some becoming the basis for continued learning with the field through sessions at the annual conference and Reader articles. The Forum was facilitated by Lori Villarosa, founder and executive director of the Philanthropic Initiative for Racial Equity.

ARTS EDUCATION FUNDERS COALITION

In 2012, GIA organized the Arts Education Funders Coalition (AEFC), a group of arts and education grantmakers, to research and identify federal policy opportunities that promote equitable access to arts education. GIA engaged the services of the Penn Hill Group, a Washington, DC, policy firm, to keep the Coalition informed of the latest policy news and research.

In 2014, the AEFC successfully advocated for the arts as part of the curricular approach in the Obama administration’s competitive Preschool Development Grants. The United States Department of Education (USDE) was appropriated $250 million for the competitive pre-K grant program in both 2014 and 2015. Without AEFC’s efforts, the arts would not be included in this program, which specifically helps preschoolers living below the poverty level.

The coalition currently has 136 members, representing 117 organizations in 38 states, the District of Columbia, and Ontario, Canada, who receive ongoing updates on GIA’s work in Washington, as well as federal education policy-related news.

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WEB CONFERENCES

In 2014, GIA presented eleven web conferences serving 712 individuals through its ongoing web conference program. Topics ranged from research findings in the arts eco-system, to creative placemaking initiatives, to the role of intermediaries. Sessions are presented by distinguished funders and thought leaders and designed for their colleagues at all stages of their careers in arts philanthropy. They are free to any staff and board members of GIA member organizations.

COMMUNICATION

Access to news and information relevant to the field has grown in the past few years as one of the most highly valued aspects of GIA membership. GIA continues to proactively commission and curate material to share with the members through the GIA website, news feed, social media, weekly Members Bulletin, and, new in 2014, the Weekly Digest. GIA continued in 2014 to add relevant content to the online searchable library, a comprehensive indexed collection of journal articles, reports, and research on arts philanthropy and related topics.
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Research Initiative on Support for Individual Artists

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