

# NATIVE ARTS & CULTURES FOUNDATION



## 2016 Annual Report

### Upholding Our Values through Arts and Cultures

The 21st century is calling for a more equitable humane existence, greater sharing of resources, and a deeper appreciation of cultural differences. Nearly six million indigenous citizens live in the United States, whose ancestors resided for centuries in original homelands within the continental United States, Hawai'i, and Alaska. At NACF, we work with artists and organizations to support cultural revival, foster creativity and economic opportunity, and address social progress, thereby inspiring hope and collective responsibility within Native communities and across the nation.

In this time of profound cultural upheaval, there are many people who are concerned about the direction of our nation. Native nations and other groups who have experienced injustice believe that many of the freedoms and advances that have been made historically are at risk. Native peoples and communities are motivated by values that have been passed down for generations, inspiring the wellspring of creativity and action that comes forth. There is consensus that amidst transition and upheaval in uncertain times, it is even more important to stay rooted to these values.

At NACF, the inseparable values of courage and compassion continue to shape our work. We can spread compassion and build empathy through arts and cultures, while at the same time standing strong for what we believe. It takes courage to uphold our values, and do the right thing. In Hawai'i, we speak of the value of "pono". Being pono means being fair and just, living in a righteous manner. There is an expectation that if there is injustice, it must be corrected or overcome.

Having compassion and building empathy through the arts helps people connect with one another and learn together. Compassion has a way of cutting through discord and chaos. It's a very empowering and healing force that, when committed to, yields innumerable benefits. Frontiers of the mind and spirit are expanded. People are encouraged to experience and reflect resulting in new ideas and knowledge. Author, speaker, and social visionary, Duane Elgin, says "compassion will no longer be seen as a spiritual luxury for a contemplative few; rather it will be viewed as a social necessity for the entire human family."

We believe that NACF has a responsibility to support artists and efforts that are championing Native shared values with courage and compassion. Commitment to cultural equity, and social progress in communities is paramount. We are inspired by all of your voices and stories and grateful for our partners, supporters, and friends who enable us to do our work.

Me Ke Aloha,

Lulani Arquette, Native Arts and Cultures Foundation President & CEO



*Lulani Arquette  
(Native Hawaiian)  
President/CEO*

Explore, watch, and connect with Native arts online!



[NativeArtsandCultures.org/  
news](http://NativeArtsandCultures.org/news)



[www.facebook.com/  
nativeartsandcultures](http://www.facebook.com/nativeartsandcultures)



[www.youtube.com/  
NACFmedia](http://www.youtube.com/NACFmedia)

# 2016 Highlights



16 National Artist Fellows honored in Literature, Visual Arts, Painting, Music, Traditional Arts, and Artistic Innovation



Mentor Fellowship Program launched to support contemporary and traditional visual arts mentors and apprentices



Community Inspiration Program: Supported "Through the Repellent Fence: A Land Art Film," and youth Native film shorts on climate change with Wisdom of the Elders



Completed a social impact evaluation of our pilot Community Inspiration Projects; to be shared in 2017



Launched partnership with the National Endowment of the Arts to increase access and information flow between public art funders and tribes

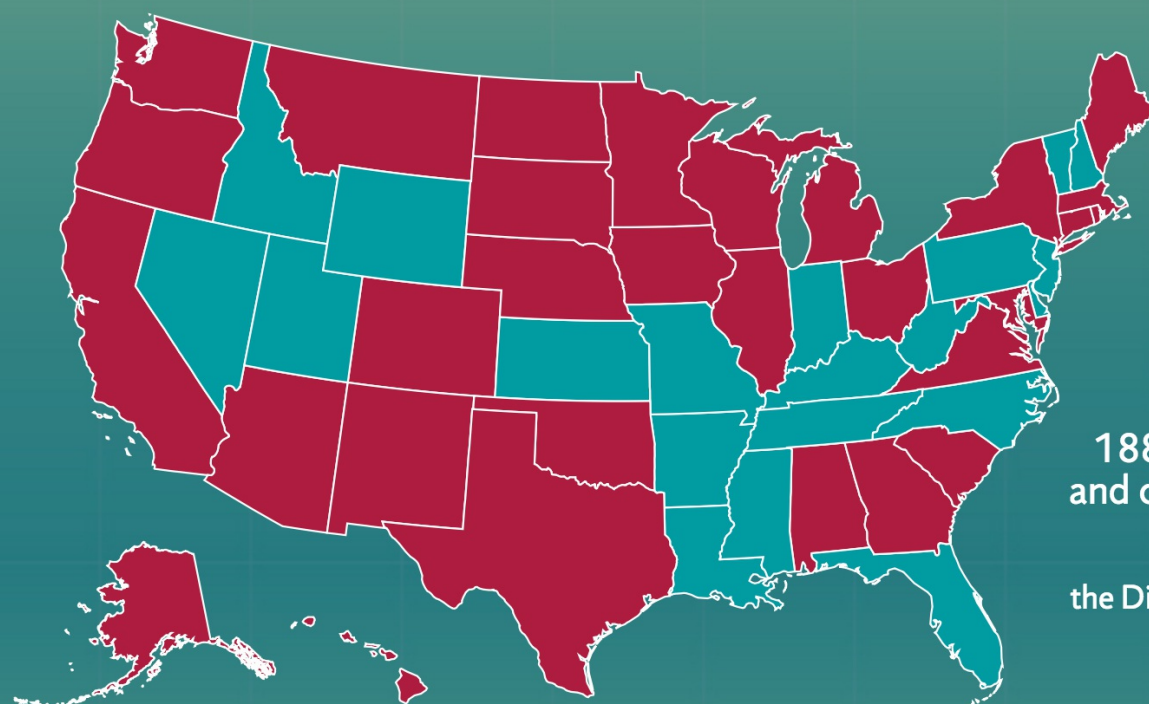


8,500 social media and e-news followers receive information about grants, residencies, exhibitions and resources for artists



Presentations & advocacy at numerous events, such as at Grantmakers in the Arts, Native American and Indigenous Studies Association, Alliance of Artist Communities, etc.

NACF works with artists, communities, and organizations to support cultural revival, foster creativity and economic opportunity, and address Native arts sustainability, thereby inspiring hope and collective social responsibility among all peoples.



NACF has provided assistance to

188 Native artists and organizations in

30 states + the District of Columbia



States in which NACF Programs have assisted and/or collaborated with Native artists and arts organizations since 2010

# Building Compassion Fostering Courage Inspiring Creativity

We can spread compassion and build empathy through arts and cultures, while at the same time standing strong for freedom and justice. In this time of profound cultural upheaval, NACF has a responsibility to support Native artists and communities whose voices are championing their values and vision.



*"Vulnerability is a recurring theme of my work. To accept that reality - vulnerability of the human condition - is ultimately empowering."*

Luzene Hill (Eastern Band Cherokee) of Atlanta, Georgia is an installation artist who works with paper, ink, charcoal, beeswax, and fabric, which to her represent the vulnerability of life. Through her work, she is keen to address endangered languages and violence against women, symbolically reclaiming personal and cultural sovereignty.

As a 2016 Visual Arts Fellow, Luzene will continue her research on Inka khipu knotting. Historically, the khipu was a counting method and a system of recording history, stories, poetry, and events. She uses it now as a three-dimensional language in her work to give Native women a voice.

*"These projects unify and continue to help heal our community, as they are able to feel proud of what they all helped to create."*

TJ Young, Sgwaayaans (Haida Nation) of Anchorage, Alaska first learned carving as a teenager, when his grandfather demonstrated the proper way to carve a halibut hook. Over time, he evolved his interest in the art form into carving larger totems for his Haida community. Sgwaayaans volunteers his carving time and has received significant recognition for mentoring apprentices.

As a 2016 Traditional Arts Fellow, TJ will lead efforts to complete two eighteen foot clan totem poles for a community house in his village.



California's American Indian and Indigenous Film Festival (CAIFF) is an annual program of the California Indian Culture and Sovereignty Center at California State University San Marcos, and NACF was a proud sponsor of its 2016 program.

This festival highlights the best of current films from American Indian filmmakers, producers, directors, and actors working in Indian Country. CAIFF takes place in an area that is home to the largest number of Indian reservations in the region, and engages large groups of tribal peoples as well as surrounding communities.

*"In all of my work, I aim to make the statement that, while we are native people growing up in a not-so-native world, the process of maturing and evolving should not obstruct our search for identity but should empower it."*

Aaron J. Sala (Native Hawaiian) blends modern and ancient worlds into his musical arrangements. Classically trained in piano, voice, and the art of traditional Native Hawaiian chant, he is a composer, arranger, conductor, producer, director, adjudicator, music scholar, and Hawaiian music professor.

As a 2016 Music Fellow, Aaron will complete the composition, scoring and recording for a work-in-progress stage production.





NACF support allowed Seneca choreographer Rosy Simas to travel to France, Germany, and the United Kingdom to meet with contemporary dance programmers, venues, and agents. Her long-term goal is to create new opportunities for Native American choreographers to present their work in Europe.

Simas will present her work "We Wait In The Darkness" in France in 2017. She is continually working on building understanding and opportunities through European and Turtle Island relationships in the field of dance.

*"I make films to reconcile the past of my ancestors with my present-day heroes."*

Erica Tremblay (Seneca-Cayuga Nation) of New York City, New York is interested in telling stories to spark change. By artistically tackling tough topics and sensitively framing those who must fight for justice, this journalist-turned-filmmaker seeks to enlighten and educate audiences.

Her most recent short documentary, "Sexual Assault in Indian Country" examines the epidemic of non-Native perpetrators committing acts of violence against Native women and children on Indian lands. Her 2014 documentary "In The Turn", followed Crystal, a 10-year-old transgender girl growing up in rural Canada. As a 2016 Artistic Innovation Fellow, Erica will focus her lens on the South Dakota non-profit Wica Agli's programs to promote healthy Native masculinity.



*"What I create is an attempt to be as honest as possible."*

Cannupa Hanska Luger (Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara, Lakota) of Glorieta, New Mexico is a contemporary multimedia sculptural artist who constantly experiments with mediums to explore ways and means to deconstruct perceptions about Native identity. He views his work as a catalyst to challenge, and hopefully change, colonial social structures, expectations, interpretations, and perceptions.

As a 2016 Visual Arts Fellow, Cannupa created the installation "Everything Anywhere," drawing upon the intercultural manifestation of nature through matriarchal forms. Most recently and of critical importance, he has designed, created and distributed mirrored shields for the Water Protectors of Standing Rock - a tool which both physically protects its holder, and reflects back the shared humanity between protestors and police.

"Woven: The Art of Contemporary Native Basketry" was the second exhibit of the I.M.N.D.N. Native Arts for the 21st Century Exhibition Series. Held at the Archer Gallery in Vancouver, Wash., the exhibit brought together 13 contemporary Native artists to shed light on the many different facets of the age-old craft of weaving. Artists Talks, public demonstrations and basket-weaving workshops attracted regional Native and non-Native basketry artists to exchange ideas and techniques.

One of the intents of the series was to break away from the preconceived notion that romanticizes Native artists as "frozen" in historic pictures of centuries ago, and to give Native artists an opportunity to express their voice through their contemporary approach to the craft. The uniqueness of this exhibit resulted in an invitation to travel to Aurora University, in Illinois.



For more inspiration, visit [www.NativeArtsandCultures.org](http://www.NativeArtsandCultures.org)

# Board of Directors

- Susan Jenkins (Choctaw) Board Chair
- Sven Haakanson (Old Harbor Alutiiq), Vice-Chair
- Barron M. Tenny, Board Treasurer
- Adrian Wall (Jemez Pueblo)
- Amy Hanaiali'i Gilliom (Native Hawaiian, Ojibwe)
- Brian Patterson (Oneida)
- Cheryl Andrews-Maltais (Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head-Aquinnah)
- Dave Hatch (Siletz) (1953-2016) in memoriam
- Dudley Cocke
- Joy Harjo\* (Mvskoke Nation)
- S.R. Tommie (Seminole Tribe of Florida)
- Valorie Johnson\* (Seneca-Cayuga-Eastern Cherokee)



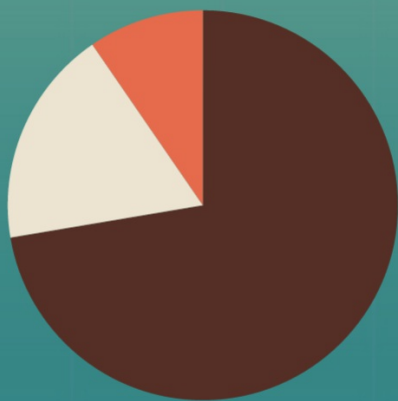
NACF visits the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum on the Big Cypress Reservation, Florida

\*Joined Board of Directors in 2017

# Financials

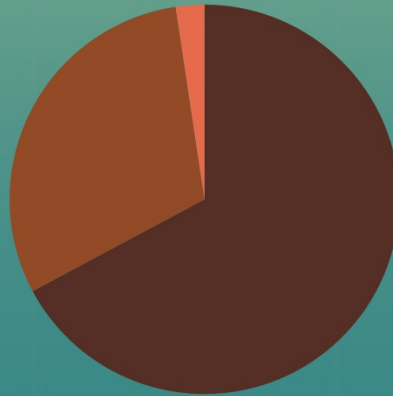
For detailed Financial Reports, please visit <http://www.nativeartsandcultures.org/about/reports>

## Expenses



■ Program Services (72.35%)    ■ Administration (18.07%)  
 ■ Fundraising (9.58%)

## Revenue



■ Foundation - Unrestricted (67.19%)  
 ■ Foundation - Temp. Restricted (30.45%)  
 ■ Individual Donations (2.37%)

Support Native Arts and Cultures: [www.NativeArtsandCultures.org](http://www.NativeArtsandCultures.org) / DONATE

# In Memoriam

When we lose a generation of artists and culture bearers, we lose a generation of deep wisdom. We honor all those who have given so much to their communities, families, and fellow artists through their art, mentoring, and leadership.



Dave Hatch (Siletz)  
*NACF Board Member*



Amelia Cornelius (Oneida)  
*2015 NACF Regional Artist Fellow  
Traditional Arts*



Teri Rofkar (Tlingit)  
*2013 NACF National Artist Fellow  
Traditional Arts*



Clarissa Rizal (Tlingit T'ak Dein Taan Raven Clan)  
*2015 NACF National Artist Fellow  
Traditional Arts*

---

# 2016 Supporters

Anishinabe/Ojibwe: *Miigwech* Creek: *Mvto* Shimalgyak (Tsimshian): *Doyckshin*  
Yaqui: *Chiokoe utessia* Hopi: *Kwakwha* Alutiiq: *Quayanna* Choctaw: *Yakoke*  
Dakota: *Pidamayaye* Tlingit: *Gunalcheesh* Haida: *Haw.aa* Klamath: *Sepk'eeec'a*  
Pueblo of Acoma: *Dawaeo* Cherokee: *Wado* Cheyenne: *Nea ese*  
Coeur d'Alene (Salish): *Limlemsh* Tewa: *Gunda* Lakota: *Pilamyaye*  
Hawaiian: *Mahalo* Blackfeet: *Nitsiiniyi'taki* Sgi: Cherokee Narragansett: *Kutapatush*

## Thank you

### *Individuals*

Adrian Wall  
Amy Wilson  
Anonymous Donor  
Anthony and Lisa Colletti  
Athlyn Silver Woolley  
Barbara A. Baker  
Barron Tenny  
Benita O. Potters  
Bernice Akamine  
Brenda Mallory  
Brian and Barbara Carroll Robinson  
Brian Patterson  
Brigitte Bentele  
Clark Hays  
D Kalei Sombelon  
Darlene Kehaulani Butts  
David and Sally Benjamin  
Don Charles Blom  
Dorothy E. Haught  
Dudley D. Cocke  
Elizabeth Lee Richmond-Panza  
Elizabeth Madrigal  
Elizabeth Steinbrueck  
Elizabeth Theobald Richards  
Eloise Damrosch  
Francene J. Blythe  
Frank Lewin  
Frederick A. & Sharon F. Schaefer  
Gabriella Tagliacozzo  
Gary L. Oxman and Kathryn Menard  
Gayle D. and Thomas R. Bennett, III  
Helen Glenn Burlingham  
Ira Stuart Jacknis  
Jan and Gordon Sandison  
Janette L. Mercier  
Jean M. Martin  
Jeana Woolley  
Jefferson Greene  
John Haworth  
Jonelle Seitz  
Joy Harjo  
Juleah Swanson  
Julia R. Carleton  
Kathleen Marquart  
Keola Beamer  
Kym Aughtry  
Laura Cales  
LeeAnn Jasperse  
Lu Lytle  
Lucy Schmeidler  
Mario Nick Klimiades  
Mary Ann Perdue  
Meredith and Troy Goodman  
Merrilee B. and John E. Adams III  
Mona Abadir  
Patricia Tillmann  
Philip L. and Carol Stein  
Rachel Carleton  
Rebecca Dobkins  
Richard Wandschneider  
Robert M. Cheadle  
Rosalie Lowe  
Rosemarie Wipfelder Kumppe  
Rupert Ayton and Stephanie Sarver  
Sabra Kauka  
Sallejane Seif  
San San Wong  
Sarah Hench  
Shan Goshorn  
Shereyn Ogden  
Sonya Kelliher-Combs  
Steven G. Lee  
Susan A. and Howard Selmer  
Susan J. Morris  
Susan Jenkins  
Tammi Lee  
Tara Lulani Arquette  
Teresa Nemeth  
Timothy Wilson  
Tommer Peterson  
Valerie Egan  
Victoria L. Mason  
Vince and Rhonda Herschell  
Walette G. Pellegrino  
Wendy Suite  
William Rhodarmer  
Zsuzsanna Cselenyi

### *Gifts Made In Memory Of*

Dave Hatch  
Marcelino A. Tacadena III

### *Gifts Made In Honor Of*

Elizabeth Madrigal  
Hillary Clinton  
Rise Ana Robbins

### *Foundations*

Ford Foundation  
H.B. Henson Fund  
Kalliopeia Foundation  
Kerr/Labbe/Lowe Family Fund of  
The Oregon Community Foundation  
Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies  
The New York Community Trust  
National Philanthropic Trust  
Richard C. and Susan B. Ernst Foundation  
The Rose Fund  
The Second Sister Foundation

### *Tribes*

The Chickasaw Nation  
Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation  
Nisqually Indian Tribe Charitable Fund  
Quinault Indian Nation  
Seminole Tribe of Florida

### *Corporate*

Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum  
AmazonSmile Foundation  
Armerich Massena  
Clark College  
The Boeing Company Gift Matching Program  
Fred Meyer/Kroger Community Rewards  
Goodsearch/Goodshop  
Landerhold, P.S.  
Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino  
The Standard Corporate Matching Gift Program  
Umpqua Bank