



# 2017 Annual Report

COMMUNITY BASED LAND CONSERVATION SINCE 1985 \*

BLUE HILL  
HERITAGE TRUST

Our property on Snow's Cove



## Looking Ahead to 2018

Recently, I've found myself walking our local trails quite a lot with a particular ten-year-old boy running out ahead, showing all the proper enthusiasm that young kids should show when exploring the woods. It's been a few decades since I was out there in the lead like that, so while I've been thinking about the woods while walking, I've been enjoying thinking about being ten as well.

I've been remembering the sense of joy and bigness in the woods – of adventuring in a new world – and of feeling small, but also somehow quite safe surrounded by trees. My love of forests and rivers grew strong at that age, and it's been good to think back on those circumstances, especially in relation to our work here at the Trust.

I was a lucky kid. I had nearly unlimited access to the woods, and a freedom to roam that was circumscribed only by the clock. I had to report in at mealtimes; it was really the only rule, and that freedom was special I now know, but I think I was probably in my twenties before I came to appreciate it. Not every kid has that, though I feel strongly that every child – and adult for that matter – should be lucky enough to have woods to roam.

I was lucky in another way, too, in that I had people in my life who taught me about the woods. I'm still coming to appreciate the important things I learned from them, in fact – forty plus years later.

I had an uncle who, when he wasn't teaching math at MIT, managed his 400 acres, in Petersham, Massachusetts, for firewood and small-scale timber. He had a black 1936 Chevy sedan that he used as his woods truck, with no doors or windshield, and only the driver's seat left in place. I learned much sitting on an overturned milk crate beside him in that truck or helping carry saws and chains through the woods. He had a beautiful forest and he was proud of his work. Environmental education was in its infancy back in the early 1970s, but he was an early proponent and I was one of the beneficiaries of his self-appointed outreach program.

We had a neighbor down the road who was an avid hunter and fisherman, and he too let me spend time in the woods with him, though I'm sure I was in the way much of the time. I learned a lot of skills from him. I also came to understand that he had an ethic that was as important to him as the skills. He too really cared for the woods, and was proud of his knowledge and his work. I've learned similar lessons in working with my Cree friends in Quebec – that there must be a bond between land and the people who live on, and by, that land. I've come to see that ethic as the heart of all conservation work in fact, and the thing we must pass on to all the girls and boys we take out in the woods to learn the skills and science of the forest. It's for them that we are conserving land, after all, and it's they who will take over from us in the future. It's they who will run out ahead.

These memories have me looking forward to 2018 and beyond. They have me thinking about building on the growth and change that happened this last year at BHHT too.

I'm pleased to tell you all that the organization is strong and growing, and more pleased to say that I believe it will do good things in the coming years, for both the peninsula and the world beyond.

So many thanks to you all, for your support and your enthusiasm for the Trust's work.

The warmer weather at the end of January opened things up and brought a hint of spring – in thawing streams, and an almost imperceptible flush of life at the tips of bare branches. Change is in the air, and I guess that has me looking forward too.



Hans M. Carlson  
Executive Director



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Photo by Thomas McGuire

# Growth and Development in 2017



Change is good! And in 2017 stewardship changes brought a more-rigorous trails program with a more-formalized volunteer team. Co-managed by two members of our stewardship committee, each trail volunteer conducted regular visits during the peak season, allowing me to carry out other tasks while supporting their work.

This allowed me to focus on our 5-year renewal application with the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, which oversees national standards and best practices concerning ethical and operational aspects of land trusts. Every five years we must document our activities in order to be certified and this represented a good deal of my stewardship year. We anticipate recertification in late Spring, and another five years of working toward the best industry standards.

I did get out of the office once or twice. Our interns and I built a new trail at John B. Mountain, leading to a beautiful water view. Importantly, this was the second year that we had a stellar summer crew, which sparked another important change at the Trust.

To honor our long-standing former Executive Director, our Board established the James W. Dow Intern Program, as well as an endowment for the program, called the Dow Intern Fund. The Trust is committed to funding summer interns in coming years and we are working toward making this a self-sustaining program. Thanks to several very generous donations, we exceeded our first-year goal for the fund and we hope to keep it growing in 2018. All this helps me in my stewardship work, but also helps train future stewards who will carry the work forward, both here and elsewhere.

Stewardship education will be an increasingly important part of Trust work going forward, especially with our acquisition of The Surry Forest. Managing that property will evolve how we look at our own stewardship activity, but also how we share our stewardship philosophy and ethic with our communities. So keep an eye on us in 2018 and stay tuned to see what's in store. Thank you all.



George Fields  
Associate Director



Chrissy Beardsley Allen  
Development & Outreach Director

Yes, thank you all! In 2017 you and your fellow members helped us meet and exceed our \$300,000 annual development goal. Thanks to your donations, we raised \$350,000, which in 2018 will not only help us steward BHHT lands, but also expand public access, support local schools with education resources, provide programming for your community, and protect critical wildlife habitat across the peninsula. We are amazed and honored by the support and loyalty of Trust membership.

We would like to say special thanks to the granting organizations who supported us in 2017. Thanks to Land for Maine's Future, which awarded us \$200,000. This, and an anonymous foundation grant of \$25,000, brings us very close to finalizing the conservation of another important part of the view on Caterpillar Hill, working with Maine Coast Heritage Trust and Island Heritage Trust. Thanks also to the Anahata Foundation

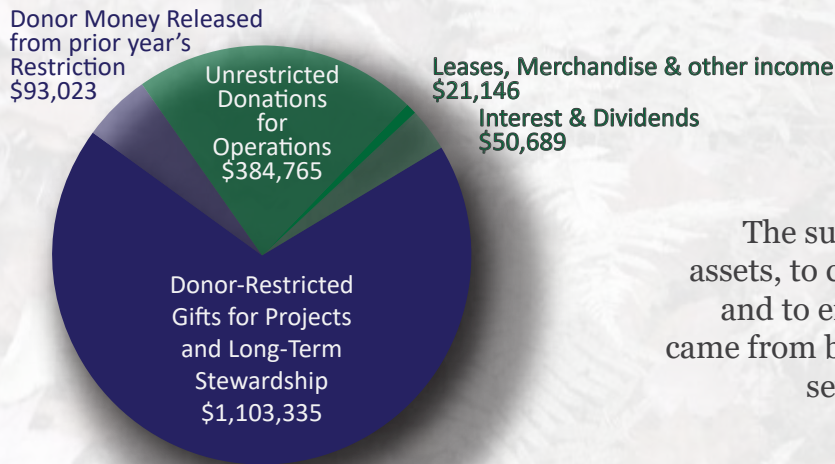
for \$100,000, which will assist in the protection of another large block of forest land on the peninsula in 2018. We also received significant funding from the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund, the Maine Community Foundation, and the Onion Foundation to support projects like educational outreach at the Pierce Pond Fishway, our Citizen Science Studies across the peninsula, and the Open-Air Arts Initiative. Thanks to you and these foundations we are able to offer increased programming in 2018, as well as continuing to conserve land.

Lastly, we want to thank once again our dear friend who left us at the end of 2016 – former board member Pam Johnson – who's bequest of her entire estate was the single largest donation this organization has ever received. It was this which secured the long-term stewardship of Surry Forest, and her gift has not only given Blue Hill Heritage Trust critical financial support, but more importantly, has imbued our work with greater meaning and purpose going forward. We were inspired by Pam's forethought and generosity, and will carry her spirit on in the coming years.



## Audited Financials—2016 Fiscal Year

### Total Support – \$1,652,958



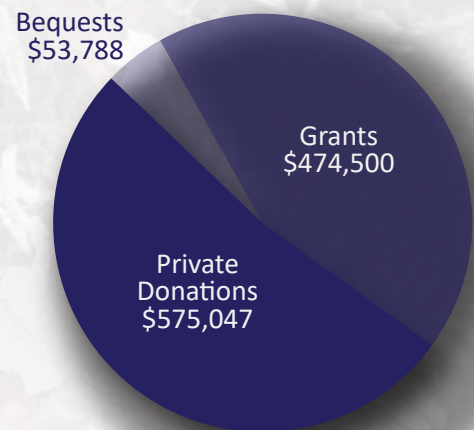
TRUST income falls in two categories: unrestricted donations for operations, and restricted money for projects. Ninety percent of operational funding in 2016 (green) came from your unrestricted donations. The median gift was \$100.

The support that enabled us to care for our land assets, to complete special public outreach projects, and to embark on new conservation efforts (blue) came from both your donor-restricted gifts, and from several substantial state and federal grants.

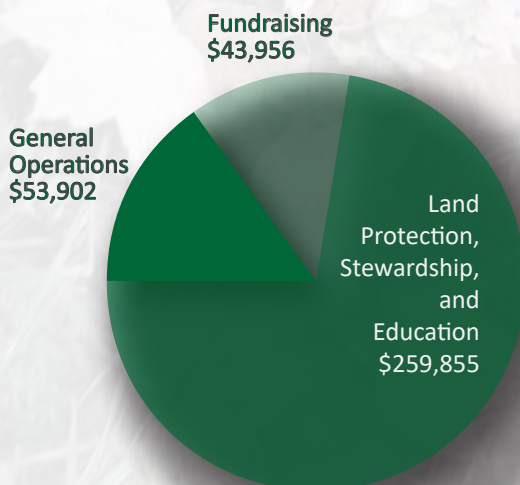
Among others, in 2016, we received a \$445,000 grant from the Maine Natural Resources Conservation Program. We also received \$12,000, for educational program and the new trail guide, from the Maine Community Foundation and the Onion Foundation.

That said, in 2016, 60% of donor-restricted gifts came from your individual donations and bequests. Every individual donation we received let us carry out our mission to preserve and protect forests, farmland, and public access. Your donations allowed us to bring children into the woods, enable farmers to grow food, hunters to practice their tradition, and to protect wildlife and plant habitats for all.

### Donor-Restricted Income for Projects and Long-Term Stewardship – \$1,103,335



### Operating Expenses – \$357,713



The cost of carrying out our mission is increasing as our land holdings, stewardship priorities, and our community programming increases. Three quarters of our operating expenses are dedicated to land protection costs, stewardship, and educational programming. We are proud that general administration and development work continue to make up a small percentage of our budget.





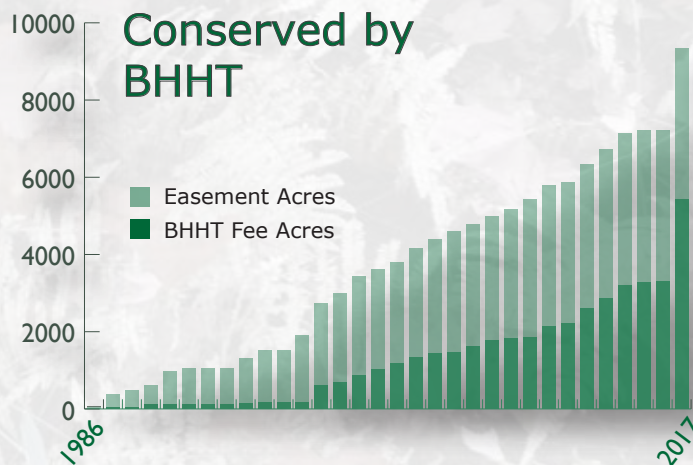
## Net Audited Assets – 2016

Unrestricted Assets	\$4,610,430
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	\$1,656,688
Permanently Restricted Net Assets	\$2,481,014
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$8,748,132</b>

BHHT's unrestricted assets include board-designated stewardship funds, and those designated for operations. Temporarily restricted assets include additional stewardship and land acquisition funds, and other special projects funds. Our operating endowment and conserved lands comprise our permanently restricted assets.

BHHT's conservation holdings are categorized into fee acres and easement acres. Fee acres are owned outright by BHHT, and we control access and use, according to our conservation mission. We hold the development rights on easement lands, while the landowner continues to exercise control over aspects of the land not covered in the easement. While we are not the landowner, we are obligated to defend easements against non-conservation activity. This means annual monitoring and enforcement of easement terms, should they be violated, which requires staff and incurs operational expense, just like ownership.

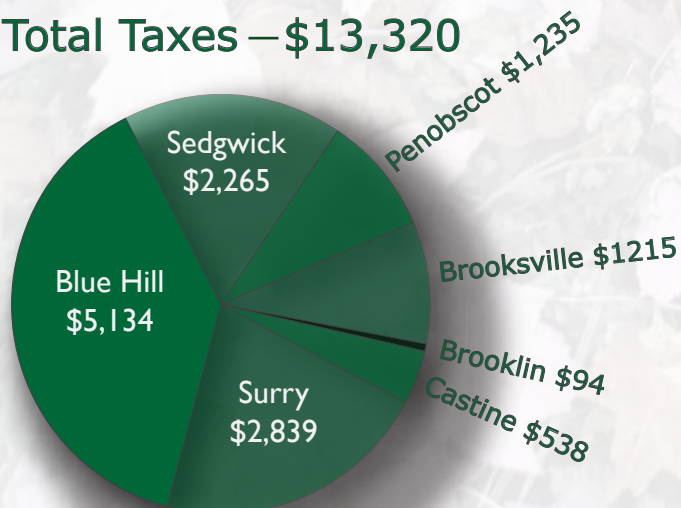
## Total Acres of Land Conserved by BHHT



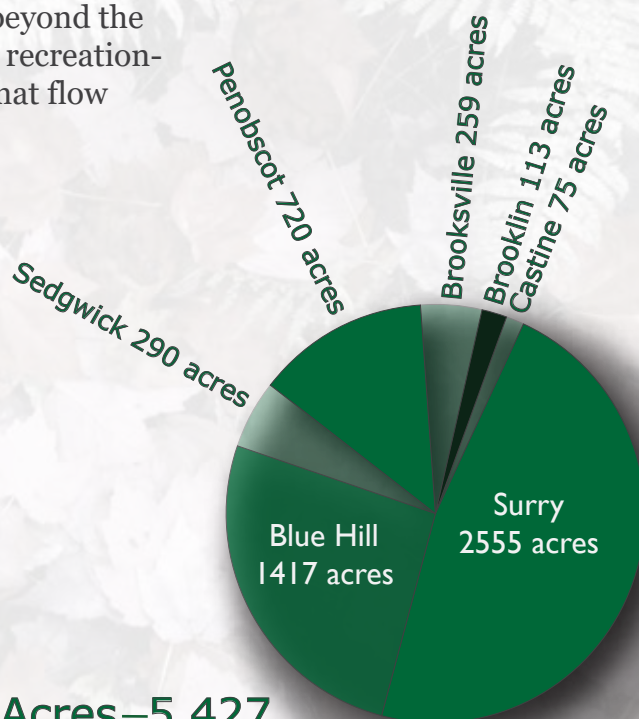
## Property Taxes and Fee Land Acreage by Town in 2017

Blue Hill Heritage Trust is proud to pay property taxes to our towns, under the open space rate available to all Maine landowners. The open space rate comes with a condition of public access, and we welcome use of our properties. We believe that these open acres provide returns to our communities beyond the dollars represented here: a return in ecosystem services, in recreational and hunting value, and indirectly, in the tourist dollars that flow to our area precisely because our communities protect and preserve land and water.

### Total Taxes – \$13,320



### Total Acres – 5,427





# Thank You Volunteers!

Debbie & Rick Alexander  
Norman Alt  
Mary Barnes & Peter Neill  
Jo Barrett  
Johanna Barrett  
Leslie Becker  
Ellen Best  
Blue-Zee Farm  
Susan Brookman  
Cynthia Winings Gallery  
Ken & Kathy Burgess  
Peter Clapp  
Kyle Chick  
Pete Colman  
Bonnie Copper  
Doug Cowan  
Maurice Cunningham  
Hugh & Susan Curran  
Kim Ridley  
Blaise deSibour & Leslie Clapp  
Leif Deetjen  
Jim Dow  
Downeast Chapter of Maine Audubon  
Society  
Chris duPont & SUFU  
Merrie Eley  
Pam Aubuchon-Fields  
Bud Fisher & Barbara Kourajian  
Larry Flood  
Friends of Morgan Bay  
Devon Granger  
Susan & Charles Guilford  
Samantha Haskell  
Lynn Havsall  
Beverly Hawkins  
Alex Hooper  
Jon & Peggy Hopkins

There are so many clever, dedicated, and talented people in your community.

BHHT was proud to work with the following groups in 2017: Act Out with Aislinn; BH Community Compass; BH Community Library; BH Public Library; BH YMCA; BHD Containers; Craig Brook Fish Hatchery; Cynthia Winings Gallery; Downeast Conservatory; Harvard Forest & Highstead; Healthy Peninsula; Island Heritage Trust; Maine Coast Heritage Trust



## Thank You Volunteers!

Amy Houghton  
Ann Humphrey & Aaron Glazer  
Jim Kannry  
King Hill Farm  
Sarah & Wilson King  
Arn Krugman  
Tim Laflam  
Nada Lepper  
Val Libby  
Allen Lucas  
Heather McCargo  
John Merrifield  
Nina Milliken  
Terry Moulton  
Norman & Paula Mrozicki  
John-H. Murphy  
Sarah O'Malley  
Brooke S. Parish  
Timothy & Barbara Poole  
David Porter  
Quill's End Farm  
Patricia Quirk & Dick Littlefield  
Cathy Rees  
Thomas Richardson  
Eddie Saunders  
Janet Schlessinger  
Susan Hand Shetterly  
Nicholas Sichterman  
Strong Brewing Company  
"Courtney Weaver  
Take Off Events"  
Phyllis Taylor  
Jennifer Traub  
Hannah Webber  
Laurie White  
Tate Yoder

Supporting the long-term health  
and well-being of natural and human  
communities on the  
Blue Hill Peninsula.

Their donations  
of time and  
knowledge,  
provide you  
and the Trust  
with invaluable  
skills and  
service.

Development; BH Coop; BH Farmers Market; BH Garden Club; BH Memorial Hospital; BH Peninsula Chamber of Commerce;  
on Network; Downeast Audubon; Firefly Farm; Great Maine Outdoors Weekend; Great Pond Mountain Conservation Trust;  
; Maine Coast Veterinary Hospital; Maine Medical Center; Mainescape; Maine SeaGrant & MDIFW



# Thank You for Your Support!

2017 was a full and productive year for the Trust. Among other accomplishments, we acquired the Surry Forest, secured financing for a second large parcel nearby Surry Forest, and partnered with Maine Coast Heritage Trust and Island Heritage Trust to fundraise for a 32-acre parcel on Caterpillar Hill. We also moved into new offices that will accommodate our expanding staff, and seamlessly transitioned Trust leadership. BHHT is now a larger, more capable organization – operationally and financially – than in past years.

This could not have happened without the support of many people, and I would like to acknowledge two specifically ahead of our donor list.

Pam Johnson was President, long-time Board member, and avid supporter of the Trust. That support continued after her passing, through an extraordinary bequest of her entire estate, which was instrumental to Surry Forest and will support our ongoing stewardship duties on other Trust properties. Secondly, Norm Alt, our immediate past-President, presided over the recent growth with a calm and steady hand. His leadership saw the Trust grow significantly, not just in acreage owned and easements held, but in its overall mission capability.

That said, our membership as a whole is our key strength. Without you the Trust would – quite simply – not be able to function. It's not just financial support (although, at some \$350,000, donations account for an outsized part of our 2017 revenue); it's all the other support that is volunteered as well – work on committees, at outreach events, on trail construction and maintenance, and other stewardship functions. Members make it happen. Many thanks to you all.



## 2017 Gifts for Operations

### Foundations

#### \$50,000 and over

Anahata Foundation

#### \$25,000 to \$49,999

Francis T. and Louise T. Nichols Foundation

#### \$10,000 to \$24,999

Hartfield Foundation

#### \$5,000 to \$9,999

Harris Mathews Charitable Foundation  
Springfield Foundation  
Becton Family Foundation

### Heritage Society

#### \$10,000 to \$25,000

Anonymous  
Wendy & Jack Brown  
Leonard & Elizabeth Buck  
Blaise deSibour & Leslie Clapp

#### \$5,000 to \$9,999

Mrs. Francis W. Hatch  
Sally Lupfer  
James & Diane Lyon  
Anonymous

#### \$1,000 to \$4,999

Norman & Maryann Alt  
Gordon & Lucy Ambach  
Leslie Anderson & Dan Nygaard  
Daniel & Judith Ball

Mary Barnes & Peter Neill

Elizabeth C. Becton

Henry P. Becton Jr.

Wilson P. Becton

Paul G. Birdsall

Anonymous

Frederick & Judith M. Buechner

Mark Cahn & Jackie Frankfurt

Peter & Sandy Clapp

Clements Family Charitable Trust

John & Anika Clements

Robin Clements & Beth Gutcheon

Tyler Clements & Lily King

Dr. Cheryl M. Coffin & Ralph Topham

Dr. Douglas & Posie Cowan

Jim & Joan Darby

William & Nina Doak

John F. Edwards

Ben and Dianna Emory

John & Janan Eppig

Anonymous

John & Janet Fuller

Mrs. Eugene Furth

Terry & Sally Gray

Grace & Bill Gregor

Philip & Sarah Gwynn

Anonymous

Jon & Peggy Hopkins

Hans A. Huber

Ted & Anne Johnson

Eric & Carol Judson

Jim & Marsha Kannry

Jeff & Kathy Klofft

Nicole Lawton

Robin Lincoln

Ann K. Luskey

John & Carol Merrifield

Lorenzo Mitchell

Sally Mitchell & Crispin Spencer

W. Tabb & Rosaline Moore

Terry & Bebe Moulton

George Murnaghan

John H. Murphy

Brooke & Julia Parish

Katrina R. Parson

Dr. Burton W. Pearl & Linda M. Elder

Ron & Mary Pressman

Patricia Quirk

Teresa Rankin

Richard & Margery Read

Susan Richardson

Thomas & Joy Richardson

Andrew Rosenthal & Shari Levine

Katy Rossow

Philip & Elizabeth Ryan

Mary Allison Rylands

Sasco Foundation

John & Katherine E. Stookey

Richard Storck & Aletha Langham

William & Phyllis Taylor

Helen Weinland

Michael & Debbie White

Williams Family Foundation

Timothy Williams





## Business Members

### \$250 to \$500

Camden National Bank  
Carl Gilley Landscape Design/Thrinax, Inc.  
Law Offices of Ellen S. Best  
Hewes & Company  
Saltmeadow Properties  
Yanni's Pizza

### \$0 to \$499

Leslie Anderson Studio & Dan's Flower Farm  
Arbervine Restaurant/DeepWater Brewing Co.  
Bagaduce Farm  
Bar Harbor Bank & Trust  
Blue Hill Books  
Blue Hill Co-op  
Blue Hill Farmers Market  
Blue Hill Fair  
Blue Hill Peninsula Chamber of Commerce  
Blue-Zee Farm  
Bon Fete Cusine  
Bucklyn Coffee and Cynthia Winings Gallery  
Castine Kayak Adventures  
Cheryl L. Boulet, CPA  
El El Frijoles  
Elliott & Elliott Architecture  
Ellsworth Builders Supply, Inc.  
Fairwinds Florist & Gifts  
Furbush-Roberts Printing, Inc.  
Hawkes & Quirk, LLC  
Isle au Haut Boat Services  
King Hill Farm  
Little Island Oyster Company  
Mainescape Garden Shop  
MaVa's Cafe  
Merle B. Grindle Agency  
Otter Cove Construction  
Peninsula Metamorphic Arts and Learning  
Pugnats Ice Cream Shop  
Pyramid Studios, Inc.  
Quill's End Farm  
Rooster Brother  
Seal Cove Boat Yard, Inc.  
Strong Brewing Company  
Take Off Events  
The Activity Shop  
The Christopher Group  
The First  
The Gatherings  
The SEED Barn  
TradeWinds Marketplace  
Wooden Boat School

## Members

### \$500 to \$999

Karen & Edward Applebome  
Christopher Austin & Marcia McKeague  
Robert Balaban  
Mike & Lynne Blair  
Britton Charitable Fund  
Terry & Amy Britton  
Ruth Davis  
Maynard and Jean Forbes  
Bill & Nancy Frederick  
Linda Genereux & Timur Galen  
Peter & Lucia Gill Case  
Bente Hartmann  
Skip and Breeze Hobbs

Charles & Ann Holland

Carolyn Leith

Rob Loomis & Leslie Becker

Jim & Linda May

Bruce Norelius & Landis Green

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Bob & Bette Schmitt

Susan Shaw & Cynthia Stroud

Susan & Sandy Sierck

Candace & Richard Stern

Lisa & Rex Thors

Scott & Joann Thurston

Patrick & Laurie Wardell

Marty Wilson

### \$250 to \$499

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Gene & Kate Barnes

Kathleen Barnes

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Jessica Boger & Greg Rapaw

Virginia R. Boothe

Jim & Kathleen Bower

Alexandre H. Bravo

Robert D. Broeksmit & Susan G. Bollendorf

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Randy & Callie Curtis

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Sarah & James Talalay

Tony, Mary, & Miriam Talalay

The Wilder- Guiles - Labrum Family

Jennifer & Andrew Traub

David Ziff & Alan Bell

### \$100 to \$249

Cliff Abrams & L.A. Bykowsky

Jon Allen

Richard & Susan Antell

Anthony Arnaud

Rich & Diane Audette

Robert & JoDee

Si & Lila Balch

Anonymous

Johanna Barrett

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Charlotte H. Dallett

Matthew Dallett

John Davis

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The Devenish Family

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James W. Dow

Brad & Priscilla duPont

Anonymous

William & Kathryn Eisenhardt

Peter & Deanna Elstrom

Sam & Linda Emerson

Joseph Faber

Margaret Fast

Ellen Foote

Haydee Foreman

George & Patricia Fowler

Betsy Frawley & James Litton

David Furth

Susan Furth

Jacques & Rebecca Gagne

Tom & Elaine Gagner

Ginny Viall Gersch

Anne & Peter Gilchrist

Anonymous

Richard Goldsby & Barbara Osborne

# Your Support Makes It Possible

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 Vanessa Mitchell & Jonathan Tarlin

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## Up to \$99

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 Nancy Bauer  
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 Mark & Martha Bell  
 Trudy & Scot Bell  
 Scott D. Bennett  
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 Alan & Jane Birk  
 Holly Bixby  
 Dorothea Black  
 Temple & Victoria Blackwood  
 Tom Bolmer & Ellyn Montgomery  
 Charles & Nancy Boothby  
 Rich & Cheryl Boulet  
 Standish & Virginia Bourne  
 Gerry Brache & Merrill Slaven-Brache  
 Curtis & Marina Brand  
 Ann Brayton  
 Martin Brecher  
 Charles & Judy Brenton  
 Bags & Kerry Brokaw  
 Johanna Brown  
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