

**Society of American Archivists
Council Meeting
February 1, 3, 2023
Chicago, Illinois**

**SAA Foundation President's Report
(Prepared by Lisa Mangiafico, President)**

Thank you for the opportunity to update the SAA Council on the SAA Foundation's activities and plans.

SAA Foundation Staff

This report is being prepared during the first week of having a dedicated staff member to help manage the Foundation. Welcome to Astoria Edwards, whose enthusiasm and energy has already excited the members of the SAAF Development Committee who met with her during our regular monthly meeting on Astoria's first day with SAA (no pressure!). We look forward to Astoria flexing her love of data to help the SAA Foundation becoming more consistent with our data and reporting, messaging, expanding our pool of donors, and our level of donations so the Foundation may in turn provide even more assistance to the archival community.

2022 Annual Appeal

The 2022 Annual Appeal ran from late November through the end of December through a series of five email messages, supported by social media postings, with a general theme of archivists supporting the work of archivists through the Strategic Growth Fund. From November 29 through December 31, 76 individuals donated \$13,366.

Upcoming Appeals

The next appeal usually takes place in the April through June period and has focused on different subjects. Based on a discussion by the Development Committee, we currently are looking at an early May appeal around May Day and focused on disaster recovery and the NDRFA funds. In just the first week of January, one Development Committee member noted receiving three emails from different groups that are focusing on climate change and disasters in their programming in the upcoming year. Expanding the funding for NDRFA provides some synergy with the rising concerns among the professional community.

Foundation Strategic Plan

The Board approved the Foundation's first strategic plan in June 2022. During the December 2022 SAAF Board meeting, we spent some time reviewing the Foundation's strategic plan. There are numerous areas that require more in-depth discussion of how will achieve these goals.

One area of potential conversation that may be the topic of in-depth discussion this year (before the budgeting process beings) is the Society-Foundation interplay, especially in regard to the Foundation helping the Society meet goals related to DEIA. We know Council is taking a deep dive into the DEIA Work Plan as it relates to the Society's strategic plan. Another area of discussion may be on funding Society initiatives brought forward by Society working groups, committees, or sections and whether a separate funding stream needs to be put into place to assist with these projects.

Strategic Growth Grants

Grants are made from the Foundation's unrestricted funds, drawing on the accumulated donations and investment income. The FY 2023 payout rate approved by the Board included \$30,000 for grants. This year, the Foundation received an astounding (for us) 74 letters of inquiry as the first stage of grant applications. The work to bring visibility to the Foundation at our hybrid conference in Boston appears to have been quite successful. This unexpected abundance of application riches means SAAF will need to seriously consider increasing our FY23/24 budgeting for the strategic growth grants, and will like not have any budgeted funds "left over" from the grants process to expend on hybrid attendance conference registrations this year as in years past.

Fundraising/Development

I had a conversation in mid-December with Rory Grennan from Florida State University, who has been part of the archival professional bands that have been performing at SAA conferences and/or sponsored events connected to the SAA conference (AV Preserve). He approached Terry Baxter about the possibility of doing "something" at SAA this year and/or next, and Terry suggested Rory talk with the Foundation about using some sort of "concert" or appearance by the musicians of SAA as a potential fundraiser for the Foundation. This would likely be an on-site opportunity at the hotel, with the proceeds going to SAAF.

In place of a Foundation reception, this could be a great way to bring people together, link the Foundation to a fun event, a "party with a purpose" and raise some funds to help with the sustainability of funding for a cause we know is extremely important among the members.

The SAAF staff will investigate all costs that might be associated with this event.

Thanks Terry for considering this opportunity as a great way to bring folks together for good music and a good cause.