

**Society of American Archivists Foundation
Board of Directors Meeting
August 13, 2020
Virtual Meeting**

**Grant Review Committee Report
(Prepared by Scott Cline, Foundation Board President and
Grant Review Committee Chair)**

The 2019-2020 Grant Review Committee was composed of Scott Cline (chair), JoyEllen Williams, Waverly Lowell, Tanya Zanish-Belcher, Nance McGovern (non-Board member), and Executive Director Nancy Beaumont (*ex officio*). During budget deliberations at the 2019 annual meeting, the Foundation Board approved \$21,300 for strategic grants.

The Foundation received 28 letters of inquiry (LOI) by the December 1, 2019, deadline. The Grant Review Committee was especially selective in reviewing the LOIs and invited 17 of the inquirers to submit applications; the Committee subsequently received 12 applications. After careful review of the applications, the Committee recommended and the Board approved funding of five grants totaling \$23,200. The Board also approved the additional distribution of \$1,900 to cover the amount over the original authorization.

After evaluating, ranking, and discussing the applications, the Committee recommended and the Board approved the following institutions for grants from the Strategic Growth Fund:

- **Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University (\$5,000)**
A proposal to undertake a comprehensive research project to examine archival accessioning labor profiles throughout the United States, including administering a survey, conducting site visits, and developing an open-access dataset.
- **Quenepon Restoration Project Team (\$5,000)**
A proposal to revive, web restore, and create viable digital preservation strategy for *El cuarto del quenepón* to honor its legacy and continuing influence in the Puerto Rico arts community.
- **Society of American Archivists Education Office (\$5,000)**
A proposal to develop the next level of professional development coursework for archives managers, focusing on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) skills and competencies.
- **Sixty Inches From Center (\$4,500)**

A proposal to publish a series of multimedia articles and produce a live discussion series that brings archival best practices to an audience of cultural workers, artists, writers, curators, grant-makers, street scholars, and community archivists.

- **Black Theater Commons (\$3,700)**

A proposal to create an instructive, informative and entertaining video that can be used on BTC's website, in workshops, and in classrooms introducing black theater participants to archives, and advocating for the preservation of the historical records of black theater across the country.

Knowledge of and interest in the Foundation's strategic growth grant program continues to increase. As Appendix A illustrates, in 2016, its first grant cycle, the Foundation received and funded one application. The number of letters of interest and grants submitted has increased since that time. The constraint of available funds has limited Foundation grant awards to five in 2019 and 2020. To date, the Foundation has awarded 21 grants, totaling \$84,256. See Appendix A for statistics over the five years we have awarded grants and Appendix B for a list of all the grants awarded.

The Grant Review Committee conducted its annual review of the application guidelines and the procedures for evaluating proposals. The Committee is developing a list of ideas for revising the guidelines and the procedures. It is likely that revisions to both documents will come before the Board prior to the 2021 grant cycle.

The Committee is unanimous in its gratitude to Nancy Beaumont and Felicia Owens for their work in streamlining the grant process; administering the receipt of materials, correspondence with prospective grantees, and facilitating the Committee's process; and, thus, making our work better and more efficient.

Grant Statistics, 2016-2019

Year	LOI	Grants Submitted	Grants Awarded	\$ Amount
2016	N/A	1	1	2,400
2017	N/A	3	2	6,000
2018	18	9	8	31,022
2019	22	12	5	21,634
2020	28	11	5	23,200

N/A – Letters of Interest were required beginning with the 2018 cycle.

List of Grants Awarded, 2016-2019

2016 Grant Cycle

Louisiana State University: Analysis of User-Generated Descriptions of Moving Image Materials	\$2,400
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2017 Grant Cycle

Pennsylvania State University (and University of Cincinnati): Gathering and Documenting Archival Repository Location Data	\$5,000
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Kennesaw State University: Community Archives Workshop for Indigenous Community Members	\$1,000
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2018 Grant Cycle

Academy of Motion Pictures Foundation, Margaret Herrick Library: African American Film History and Web Archiving	\$5,000
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American Academy in Rome: Preserve Notes of Archeologist	\$5,000
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Florida International University: ADA-Compliant Translation and Transcription Functionality	\$5,000
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Historical Society of Mount Pleasant, Ohio: Preserve 600 Glass Plate Negatives	\$1,445
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Louisiana Historical / Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Associations: Regional Outreach Training	\$4,950
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National Security Archive: Digitize Kissinger/Vance Audiocassette Interviews	\$1,860
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The Nomadic Archivist Project: Regional Outreach Training	\$2,767
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South Asian American Digital Archive: Form Collective to Preserve South Asian American Records	\$5,000
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2019 Grant Cycle

Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Archives: <i>Native American Protocols</i> Workshops and Toolkit	\$5,000
Music of Asian America Research Center: Document Asian American Music Ensembles	\$5,000
Missouri State University Special Collections and Archives: Regional Emergency Response Plan	\$2,500
Illinois State University: Archival History--Wikipedia Biographies of Women, Archivists of Color	\$4,134
The Autry Museum: <i>Native American Protocols</i> Workbook	\$5,000

2020 Grant Cycle

Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University: Archival Accessioning Labor Profiles and Practices	\$5,000
Quenepon Restoration Project Team: Preserve Puerto Rican Arts Community Website	\$5,000
Society of American Archivists Education Office: Coursework for Managers in DEI	\$5,000
Sixty Inches From Center Outreach to Black Artists Communities	\$4,500
Black Theater Commons Video for Outreach to Black Theater Community	\$3,700