Mission

THE MISSION OF THE MACDOWELL COLONY is to nurture the arts by offering creative individuals of the highest talent an inspiring environment in which they can produce enduring works of the imagination. The sole criterion for acceptance is artistic excellence, which The MacDowell Colony defines in a pluralistic and inclusive way. We encourage applications from artists representing the widest possible range of perspectives and demographics, and who are investigating an unlimited array of inquiries and concerns.

Edward and Marian MacDowell established the Colony in 1907 in Peterborough, New Hampshire, to stimulate creativity and enhance expression in American culture. Since then, the Colony has supported the work of more than 8,300 artists from around the world. Fellows have earned 90 Pulitzer Prizes and scores of MacArthur, Guggenheim, GRAMMY, Emmy, Sundance, Tony, and National Book Awards. Artists who experience a residency at MacDowell cite the pivotal difference it makes not only in their work but also in their ability to innovate and take creative risks. A registered National Historic Landmark, the Colony was awarded the National Medal of Arts in 1997.

MacDowell offers 32 studios to artists in seven disciplines: architecture, film/video, literature, theatre, music composition, visual art, and interdisciplinary art. Each year, more than 300 artists, both emerging and established, are awarded Fellowships that last from two weeks to two months to come to Peterborough to focus on their work. Accepted artists are provided with a studio, accommodations, and all meals. There are no fees and anyone may apply.

To continue to provide an ideal working environment for gifted artists, The MacDowell Colony depends on public interest and generosity, and is grateful to the many who have given their support.

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T his page is typically reserved for the chairman’s personal reflections on the year recently passed, but Michael Chabon has graciously granted me his space to frame this moment of transition between executive directors. Beginning on the next page, Cheryl Young provides a comprehensive overview of the tremendous accomplishments and progress experienced during her more than two decades of leadership of The MacDowell Colony. So in this, my second month as Cheryl’s successor, allow me to reflect on this potent concept of change.

When the passing of the torch is afforded time and grace it ensures both the honoring of what has come before and the potentiating of the future. Cheryl has been a strong and steady mentor for me. Over many weeks last spring, she offered invaluable insights and allowed me to pose endless questions. In an enlightened democracy we expect the smooth transition of power; at MacDowell it was also compassionate and creative.

I first set foot in Peterborough last January – to walk the literal terrain of this Elysian place. The woods were white and my footsteps crunched on hard snow and ice. For the first time, I felt the spirit of MacDowell and the responsibility of stewardship.

I visited again in early May, when spring was glorious, and engaged with the dedicated staff in conversations. That was when it became clear that this transition would be embraced by a team of individuals who deeply understood and lived the MacDowell mission. Resident Director David Macy, along with his remarkable cohort, possesses unique insights into what makes an artist residency a productive place for creative souls. MacDowell remains the model for art makers because a dedicated staff – in New Hampshire and New York – stays alert and open to innovation.

I wear on my wrist an old-fashioned analog watch, where the hours and minutes are represented by hands that sweep across the face of time. Unlike digital time keepers, the analog design tells a story. By glancing at it, one can see one’s history, where you have been, as well as imagine what’s to come. It’s a visual map of time. In this way, I hold on to the core values that frame the foundation of MacDowell and position myself to lead the organization into a stable and vibrant future.

I am thankful to Cheryl and David and to the extraordinary MacDowell Board of Directors for their willingness to work with me this past spring during the hand-off; to make sure that the charge of caring for one of the nation’s most important arts institutions continues in a clear and balanced manner.

As you peruse the report in your hands detailing 2018, we’ll keep a watchful eye turned to our heritage as we embrace the future. We will ensure that the MacDowells’ grand and important experiment stays dynamic and relevant: that creative artists from all landscapes and backgrounds find an idyllic setting in which to create art that influences and invigorates our world.

Sincerely,

Philip Himberg, Executive Director
A Short History of Two Decades

1997 to 2007

MacDowell benefited greatly from the outstanding leadership of Chairman Robin MacNeil, President Carter Wiseman, Treasurer Gerry Gartner, and an army of devoted board members eager to help artists achieve their best work. Tom Putnam filled numerous critical roles, including treasurer, board president, and chairman of the Centennial Steering Committee. Through it all, Resident Director David Macy helped make the board’s vision become a reality. Beginning my tenure as executive director in the wake of two capital campaigns, I was tasked with preparing a strategic plan to boost the quality of the residency program. Our goal was to provide the best possible residency experience to the best artists. At the same time, we would plan for a Centennial worthy of our remarkable history, simultaneously restoring and improving all of our 40 buildings.

During my first nine years with MacDowell (1988-1997) as development director and deputy to Executive Director Mary Carswell, I learned a great deal. Beginning my tenure as executive director in the wake of two capital campaigns, I was tasked with preparing a strategic plan to boost the quality of the residency program. Our goal was to provide the best possible residency experience to the best artists. At the same time, we would plan for a Centennial worthy of our remarkable history, simultaneously restoring and improving all of our 40 buildings.

We pursued a top-to-bottom review of admissions policies with the goal of increasing artists from under-represented communities, playwrights, filmmakers, architects, and artists from a wider geographic reach. I introduced a discipline review process to periodically convene admissions panel chairs with unaffiliated experts within each discipline. These sessions helped identify artists in communities that were not aware of MacDowell as a resource and uncovered aesthetic biases. With the help of Bobbie Bristol, Dan Hurlin, and Peter Cameron, we examined the operations of the panels and made improvements. To remove financial barriers we created a writers stipend program with help from the Whiting Foundation. Since then, MacDowell has strived to help artists achieve their best work. Tom Putnam filled numerous critical roles, including treasurer, board president, and chairman of the Centennial Steering Committee. Through it all, Resident Director David Macy helped make the board’s vision become a reality.

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Cheryl Young with current President of the Board of Directors Andrew Senchak in the summer of 2017.

In 1996, leadership of The MacDowell Colony included (from left) Cheryl Young, Tom Putnam, Mary Carswell, David Macy, Jane Alexander, and Robert MacNeil.

The highlights included the opening of the brand new Calderwood Studio in 2000. It became the third new studio along with the nef photography studio and Harz sculpture studio, which were built during the last two campaigns. We renovated Schelling, Wood, and New Jersey, and made over Minter for film. We also expanded the office at East 81st Street, purchasing an adjacent unit in the building.

The vision to improve the residency experience included expanding our library and adding staff to manage the collection. In 2001 we began by defining what should be in the MacDowell collection, and we hired a library consultant to create a new multidisciplinary digital catalog of Fellows’ work that could accommodate sound, websites, images, and film, in addition to books. The first librarian was hired in 2003 to work with 9,000 items. Today, two part-time staff and a host of volunteers help manage the 15,000-item collection.

Our mission and one of our stated Centennial goals was to increase appreciation of the arts as a national value. To do this we ramped up our communications efforts and adopted technologies so that artists and the public would learn about us. We worked on making the online application form easier to use and as word spread, national and international applications increased dramatically. We established a communications department to expand our reach through upgrades to our pioneering website and regular dispatches via our e-News. Our technology coordinator set up a proprietary database of all Fellows and individual residency records. The admissions office moved all of our communications with incoming artists to a portal that provides details from acceptance to departure. We also strengthened our feedback loop for exiting artists to help us identify areas where we could improve the residency experience.

Being an economist by training, I recognized we needed better financial systems and reporting. Tom Putnam and Gerry Gartner collaborated with Chief Financial Officer Judy Jones Parker to establish a communications department to expand our reach through upgrades to our pioneering website and regular dispatches via our e-News. Our technology coordinator set up a proprietary database of all Fellows and individual residency records. The admissions office moved all of our communications with incoming artists to a portal that provides details from acceptance to departure. We also strengthened our feedback loop for exiting artists to help us identify areas where we could improve the residency experience.

In July of 1999, poet Jean Valentine read on the occasion of a dedication of Calderwood Studio just as framing was being finished. Its opening the following year was a highlight of Cheryl Young’s tenure.

An all-Fellows picnic in Central Park in New York was one of the events in a nation-wide celebration of the Colony’s Centennial in 2007. 2001 to create a long-range financial model capable of illustrating changes in the endowment 20 years into the future. Still in use, the model is a critical tool in setting strategic goals. Development efforts during this decade were spent building our capacity for the next campaign to bring us a step closer to sustainability without sacrificing quality. We retained a consultant to conduct a feasibility study and assembled a campaign steering committee. The quiet phase for the Campaign for the Second Century began.

Centennial planning began four years ahead as Centennial Coordinator Anne Stark Locher worked to assemble more than 50 presenting and educational partners in an ambitious nation-wide celebration. Highlights included a MacDowell exhibit at the Library of Congress, an all-Fellows picnic in Central Park, a Centennial book, a suite of short films, and a year of artists’ projects built in partnership with the Peterborough community. The Centennial activities supplement regular community programs curated by David Macy with MacDowell in the Schools – beginning in 1996 – and MacDowell Downtown – beginning in 2001 – that reach thousands of children and adults.

MacDowell was recognized with the National Medal of Arts in 1997 and ten years later Chairman Robert MacNeil delivered the Nancy Hanks Lecture at the Kennedy Center. With continuing support from the National Endowment for the Arts, MacDowell raised the profile of like-minded organizations across the country that play a critical role in the arts ecosystem. Jane Alexander, former NEA Chairman, joined MacDowell’s Board of Directors and actively participated. While excellence is and has always been our mission, at Jane’s urging, the Colony eliminated voluntary residence fees for artists to eliminate confusion about whether donating impacted admissions and to acknowledge the acute financial need of many artists.
When Peterborough challenged MacDowell’s charitable tax exemption from property taxes in 2007, the board resolved to defend the merit of our mission in court. When MacDowell won this landmark case in Superior Court and again, on appeal, in New Hampshire’s Supreme Court, nonprofits across the nation expressed a collective sigh of relief.

During this period we continued to work on building the Alliance of Artist Communities. MacDowell was a founding member, being one of 18 programs to receive funding from the MacArthur Foundation’s groundbreaking initiative. Mary Carswell was founding chairman of the Alliance. I became active early on and attended the very first convening. Later I was elected chairman. After hosting two national symposiums on creativity, the alliance grew to 45 members. David Macy served on the Alliance board thereafter. The field of residency programs grew globally and the Alliance celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2016 with hundreds of members.

2008 to 2015

Susan Davenport Austin succeeded Carter Wiseman in the president’s role in 2008 and in 2010 Michael Chabon would follow Robert MacNeil as chairman. The Campaign for the Second Century began with a boost from the Centennial Celebration and this spring, trustees of the Drue and Henry J. Heinz II Trust underwrote the naming and operations of the library with a grant of $2 million, the largest gift in MacDowell’s history to date.

Post-campaign development efforts focused on stewarding major donors by providing first-hand opportunities to understand the mission and meet with artists. This format paved the way for the National Council that evolved into the current Friends program under the leadership of Barbara Sencak. After 18 years Helen Tucker and Ruth Feder retired as the co-chairs of our national benefit in 2008. In 2013, Michael Chabon introduced the Chairmain’s Evening wherein he would engage two artists from different disciplines in conversation before an audience of MacDowell supporters. Recalling the huge impact of the Louise Talma bequest in 1998, we established the Marian MacDowell Society to recognize those individuals who had included MacDowell in their estate to encourage planned giving crucial to MacDowell’s sustainability.

The Colony has awarded The Edward MacDowell Medal since 1960, and we worked diligently to raise the significance of this national program to honor creative work during the one day of the year that the studios are open to the public. In 2000, to better represent disciplines practiced at MacDowell, we added a wild card slot that the studios are open to the public. In 2000, to better represent disciplines practiced at MacDowell, we added a wild card slot that the studios are open to the public. In 2000, to better represent disciplines practiced at MacDowell, we added a wild card slot.

In 2015, I began hearing that journalists’ livelihoods were suffering and local newspapers were folding or contracting at an alarming rate as a result of the disruption caused by free online content. The Art of Journalism Initiative was set into motion with the idea of doubling the number of Fellowships for journalists producing long-form works. The Calderwood Foundation provided an initial grant of $1 million to leverage funds and endowed a special project fund (the first of its kind at MacDowell) to reimburse journalists’ research expenses.

Michael Chabon refreshed the energy behind finding a new and larger office space in Manhattan. Fred Clarke and Susan Austin led the effort with Jason Van Nest, myself, and staff member Amy MacLauglin. Once the former gallery on West 23rd Street in Chelsea was in our sights, it quickly attracted lead gifts from Tom Putnam and Eleanor Briggs. A substantial supporting gift from Andrew and Barbara Sencak gave the project a boost, as did Fred Clarke’s (and Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects) donation of design services and office furnishings. MacDowell moved into its new home in August of 2017, and over the next twelve months about 2,400 people on the grounds. Fred Clarke’s (and Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects) donation of design services and office furnishings. MacDowell moved into its new home in August of 2017, and over the next twelve months about 2,400 people on the grounds.

In November of 2018, MacDowell dedicated the James Baldwin Library with the help and words of author and Fellow Florence Ladd and poet and Fellow Kevin Young (seated left).
During 2018, many standard tasks proceeded with a new business-as-usual pacing. The four meetings with MacDowell’s executive director resulted in discussions of larger Colony initiatives, such as the dedication of the James Baldwin Library, and enabled a forum for questions concerning grounds improvements, outreach, applications, and administration. These meetings also were an opportunity to plan the annual Fellows Party held in New York City at Little Airplane in Lower Manhattan. The event was robustly attended by close to 200 Fellows, and generated lots of love for MacDowell and a modest donation to the Colony.

This year’s work reflects a new standard for the FEC. Since our 2014 initiative to begin electing regional liaisons, we now have far-flung volunteers willing to throw events in Boston, Phoenix, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Philadelphia. Liaison efforts saw two additional reunions held in Boston and Philadelphia. The FEC also used 2018 meetings to continue to develop our podcast initiative. Three podcasts have been edited and were shared with a few members of the MacDowell community as they continue to go through creative iterations. Our members suggested it might be wise to apply for federal grants (NEH) and start a Fellow-centric crowd sourcing campaign to fund the podcasts, and purchase editing and technical equipment.

While we are not sure where the podcast initiative will lead, it reflects and illuminates the committee’s hard work and deep commitment to new initiatives.

We continue to be focused on improving our social media (Facebook and Instagram) and Web presence by working with Colony administration to more robustly promote the committee by way of FEC exit information packets given to all Fellows as they complete their residencies.

The FEC also resolved to explore hosting additional NYC-area events, focusing on helping Fellows address 21st Century artist needs. We hope to continue to interface with and support the board’s 23rd Street Program Committee, focusing on Fellows events to add to the programming of the space and help to define how the space is used. These expanding projects reflect long-held desires from past FEC members “to do more.” The years ahead will likely provide lessons from our 2018 efforts and produce ideas for still better ways to serve.

Rosemarie Fiore, FEC President
MacDowell attracts the highest caliber of artists from the broadest range of perspectives and demographics from among the seven disciplines practiced at the Colony. More than 2,300 artists applied for MacDowell Fellowships for residencies from January to December of 2018, 316 of whom received Fellowships. They included 11 architects, 27 composers, 25 film and video artists, 21 interdisciplinary artists, 36 theatre artists, 53 visual artists, and 143 writers of poetry, fiction, and nonfiction. Twenty-eight arrived from 12 countries, and the rest traveled from 37 states. Details about their MacDowell projects and other work can be found at macdowellcolony.org/artists.
Left: (Clockwise from top left) Filmmaker Alexandra Cuesta in Sorosis Studio, playwright Darrel Holnes in Sorosis, playwright Shontina Vernon in New Jersey Studio, and nonfiction writer Philip Clark in Banks Studio.

VISUAL ARTISTS

Andrea G Arzt, London, UK
Jonathan Berger, New York, NY
Nayland Blake, Brooklyn, NY
Julia Bland, Brooklyn, NY
Elizabeth Bonaventura, Fleischmanns, NY
Sebastiaan Bremer, Brooklyn, NY
Becky Brown, Bronx, NY
Victoria Burge, Philadelphia, PA
Dawn Clements, Brooklyn, NY
Dawn Kim, Brooklyn, NY
Jennifer Karady, Brooklyn, NY
Vishal Jugdeo, Los Angeles, CA
Jess Johnson, New York, NY
Christine Hiebert, Brooklyn, NY
Elana Herzog, New York, NY
Pinkney Herbert, Memphis, TN
Laurel Farrin, Iowa City, IA
Chaya Bhuvaneswar, Newton, MA
Maurice Sendak, New York, NY
Rose Dickson, Portland, OR
Marie Yoho Dorsey, Tierra Verde, FL
Daniel Duford, Portland, OR
Cressandra Thibodeaux, Houston, TX
Alexandra Cuesta, New York, NY
Max Vernon, Brooklyn, NY
Shima Dantz, Menands, NY
Mary Crow, Fort Collins, CO
Meehan Crist, Brooklyn, NY
Deirdre Coyle, Brooklyn, NY
Ama Codjoe, Bronx, NY
Brian Cochran, St Louis, MO
Carin Clevidence, Northampton, MA
Susan Choi, Brooklyn, NY
Lan Samantha Chang, Iowa City, IA
Jesús Castillo, Oceanside, CA
Maud Casey, Washington, DC
Marianne Boruch, West Lafayette, IN
Dexter Booth, El Segundo, CA
Jayne Blankenship, Palm Beach, FL
Dexter Booth, El Segundo, CA
Marianne Boruch, West Lafayette, IN
Taylor Brothy, Gettysburg, PA
Carolyn Byrne, Minneapolis, MN
Maud Carey, Washington, DC
Jesus Castilla, Oceanside, CA
Lan Samantha Chang, Iowa City, IA
Susan Choi, Brooklyn, NY
Matthew Clark, Bath, ME
Philip Clark, Falls Church, VA
Carin Clevendine, Northampton, MA
Brian Cochran, St Louis, MO
Ama Codjoe, Bronx, NY
Christina Cooke, Tillson, NY
Eduardo Corral, Casa Grande, AZ
Denzel Coyle, Brooklyn, NY
Meehan Crist, Brooklyn, NY
Mary Crow, Fort Collins, CO
Shima Dantz, Menands, NY

WRITERS

Ayòbámi Adébáyó, Ile-Ife, NIGERIA
Mike Alberti, Minneapolis, MN
Kathleen Alcott, Brooklyn, NY
Sara Allen, Ipswich, MA
Elsisa Amezcua, Tempe, AZ
Lesley Atkinson, Saint Louis Park, MN
Louise Aronson, San Francisco, CA
Luchena Awoke, Abuja, NIGERIA
Latifa Ayad, Columbus, OH
Susan Barba, Cambridge, MA
Elf Batuman, Brooklyn, NY
Joshua Bearman, Los Angeles, CA
Chaya Bhuvaneswar, Newton, MA
Burkhard Bilger, Brooklyn, NY
Destiny Birdsong, Nashville, TN
Jayne Blankenship, Palm Beach, FL
Dexter Booth, El Segundo, CA
Marianne Boruch, West Lafayette, IN
Taylor Brothy, Gettysburg, PA
Carolyn Byrne, Minneapolis, MN
Maud Carey, Washington, DC
Jesus Castilla, Oceanside, CA
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Brian Cochran, St Louis, MO
Ama Codjoe, Bronx, NY
Christina Cooke, Tillson, NY
Eduardo Corral, Casa Grande, AZ
Denzel Coyle, Brooklyn, NY
Meehan Crist, Brooklyn, NY
Mary Crow, Fort Collins, CO
Shima Dantz, Menands, NY

Ester Parpetgas, New York, NY
Jami Porter Lara, Albuquerque, NM
Pablo Rascado Quintanar, Mexico City, MEXICO
Erik Riley, Brooklyn, NY
Nadia Sabin, Poughkeepsie, NY
Heidi Schwengler, Yucca, CA
Alexandra Smith, Wellesley, MA
Michael Stamm, Brooklyn, NY
Joni Sternbach, Brooklyn, NY
Sarah Welch, Houston, TX
Margaux Williamson, Toronto, CANADA
Carl Wilson, Eastpointe, MI
Fo Wilson, Chicago, IL
Letha Wilson, Brooklyn, NY
Jeyoung Yoon, Beacon, NY

Artists-in-Residence

Shelly Ota, Brooklyn, NY
Edward Porter, Oakland, CA
Eric Puchner, Baltimore, MD
Hanna Pylväinen, Richmond, VA
Ethel Rackin, Perkasie, PA
Misha Rai, San Diego, CA
Mary Ruefle, Bennington, VT
Lauren Sandler, Brooklyn, NY
Benjamin Schaefer, Rochester, NY
Marianne Shaneen, High Falls, NY
Marie Silkeberg, Stockholm, SWEDEN
Hanna Pylväinen, Richmond, VA
Ethel Rackin, Perkasie, PA
Misha Rai, San Diego, CA
Mary Ruefle, Bennington, VT
Lauren Sandler, Brooklyn, NY
Benjamin Schaefer, Rochester, NY
Marianne Shaneen, High Falls, NY
Solmaz Shafii, Oakland, CA
Shelly Ota, Brooklyn, NY
Edward Porter, Oakland, CA

National Benefit in NYC raised more than $620,000 to fund 2019 residencies.

Throughout the year, MacDowell hosts fundraising events, free presentations to the public, informal gatherings, and is an enthusiastic partner in bringing local students together with the art and artists at MacDowell to expand art appreciation and inspire creative pursuits.

The National Benefit honored retiring Executive Director Cheryl Young who was joined by three of her brothers at the festive evening.

Other program participants in the evening’s festivities included Elsa Davis, Ato Esandoh, Robin Macatangay, David Petersen, Victor Rosario, and Andrea Burns and the NYC Master Chorale.

MacNeil, and Thomas Putnam and the event was co-chaired by Christine Fisher and Anne Stark Locher.

The 2018 National Benefit in New York City in May raised more than $560,000 for the program and offered a chance for Fellows who had been in residence together to catch up at Gotham Hall. It was a night of performances, good food, and much fun and laughter.

The evening’s honorary chairs were Susan Davenport Austin, Mary Carswell, Robert MacNeil, and Thomas Putnam and the event was co-chaired by Christine Fisher and Anne Stark Locher.

The National Benefit honored retiring Executive Director Cheryl Young who was joined by three of her brothers at the festive evening.

Events
Carrie Mae Weems and Tony Kushner Join Michael Chabon on Stage for Dynamic Chairman’s Evening

On Tuesday December 4, MacDowell Chairman and author Michael Chabon spoke about art and culture with BET Award-winning photographer and MacDowell Fellow Carrie Mae Weems and Tony Award-winning playwright Tony Kushner in The Refectory Room at The High Line Hotel in front of 100 of our supporters. This annual event is an exclusive opportunity to sit in on an intimate wide-ranging conversation modeled on dinner banter between artists at MacDowell. Past participants have included Stephen Sondheim, Paul Simon, Zadie Smith, J.D. Salinger, Martin Scorsese, Lin Manuel-Miranda, Lena Dunham, Ta-Nehisi Coates, Patti Smith, and Salman Rushdie in conversation with Michael Chabon. More images and a video of this conversation are available at macdowellcolony.org/events.

NH Benefit Celebrates James Baldwin’s Legacy

One hundred twenty generous MacDowell supporters and friends joined artists-in-residence at the annual New Hampshire Benefit on November 3 to raise more than $41,000 for our program. The evening was a celebration of James Baldwin’s (MF ’54, ’58, ’60) contributions to American society and culture as a prolific writer and artist, and was the first half of a weekend dedicated to Baldwin at MacDowell. Saturday evening included a stirring performance by baritone Phil Lima singing Baldwin’s Poem “Some Days” as well as the spiritual “When the Sun Comes Out” by Michael Chabon, photographer Carrie Mae Weems, and playwright Tony Kushner share a laugh on stage at The Chairman’s Evening.

MacDowell’s Poetry Salon with Vijay Seshadri

On Sunday, November 4, almost 100 people from around the Monadnock region joined artists-in-residence and staff as we named our library for author and MacDowell Fellow James Baldwin. The dedication ceremony marked the first time a national arts organization has dedicated a building in his name. Kevin Young also spoke at the dedication, as did educator, writer, and MacDowell Fellow Florence Ladd, recipient of a 2018 Du Bois Medal, overseer of the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, and friend of Baldwin. Baldwin was in residence at MacDowell in 1954, 1958, and 1960. His residences helped bring into being some of his most seminal works, including Notes of a Native Son, Giovanni’s Room, and Another Country. MacDowell dedicated the James Baldwin Library to honor both his work and continued enormous impact on the public imagination as a novelist, poet, activist, essayist, playwright, social critic, and cultural leader.

Friends Trips & Outings

3/13/18 – A trip to Stephen Karam’s The Humans, Boston
4/18/18 – MacDowell Now exhibition opens with Curator Gallery, NYC
4/26/18 – Young Collectors with curatorial team from JPMorgan, NYC
5/31/18 – Celebrating Leonard Bernstein private concert and dinner, Boston
6/6/18 – A trip to Joshua Harmon’s Skintight, NYC
6/7/18 – MacDowell’s Poetry Salon with Vijay Seshadri, Nicole Sealey and Dennis Nurkse, NYC
6/9/18 – Trip to Philadelphia with Hyperallergic to see Taylor Mac, John Schlesinger, Megan Biddle, Jesse Herrod, and Gabriel Martinez
7/9/18 – Private dinner and playreading with Boo Killebrew, Martha’s Vineyard
10/23/18 – Architecture Salon with Mabel Wilson and New York City Department of Cultural Affairs Commissioner Tom Finkelpearl, NYC
10/25/18 – Young Friends Cocktail Party hosted by Max Vernon featuring: T Kira Madden, Kate Levy, Dennis Norris II, Becky Brown, and The Lazour Brothers, NYC
11/7/18 – Animation Salon with Gina Kamensky and Luke Jaeger, Boston
12/15/18 – MoMA Screening of Barry Jenkins’ adaptation of James Baldwin’s If Beale Street Could Talk, NYC
12/18/18 – Young Friends private tour of JPMorgan Art Collection, NYC
Art Spiegelman, whose masterful Holocaust narrative *Maus* earned the Pulitzer Prize in 1992, accepted the 59th Edward MacDowell Medal from Chairman Michael Chabon before a crowd of 1,200 at The MacDowell Colony on August 12, 2018, saying he was happy to be “the sacrificial red ribbon who could be cut to allow the horde of comics artists in.”

Spiegelman accepted the medal after introductory remarks by Hillary Chute, a Spiegelman friend and collaborator who is a literary scholar and author focusing on comics and graphic novels. Chute served on the panel that selected Spiegelman for the honor. The panel was chaired by Alison Bechdel, best-selling author of the graphic memoir *Fun Home*, cartoonist, and a MacArthur Fellowship winner. The panel also included visual artist, graphic memoirist, and MacDowell Fellow and board member Julia Jacques; graphic novelist, co-founder of the Center for Cartoon Studies, and MacDowell Fellow James Sturm; and Gene Yang, a cartoonist, MacArthur Fellowship winner, and last year’s Library of Congress Ambassador for Young People’s Literature.

Following the award ceremony, visitors enjoyed a picnic lunch and then toured the pathways of MacDowell’s 450 wooded acres to visit 32 open studios. The annual event offers the public the rare opportunity to visit with artists in residence to experience what’s happening on the leading edge of contemporary arts around the world.

Since 1960, The MacDowell Colony has awarded the Edward MacDowell Medal to an artist of enduring vision and creativity who has made an outstanding contribution to American culture. The artistic discipline in which the award is given is rotated to celebrate all fields practiced at MacDowell.

MEDALISTS

2018 Art Spiegelman, comic artist
2017 David Lynch, filmmaker
2016 Toni Morrison, writer
2015 Gunther Schuller, composer
2014 Betye Saar, visual artist
2013 Stephen Sondheim, composer
2012 Nan Goldin, photographer
2011 Edward Albee, playwright
2010 Sonny Rollins, composer
2009 Kiki Smith, visual artist
2008 Thom Mayne, architect
2007 Les Blank, filmmaker
2006 Alice Munro, writer
2005 Steve Reich, composer
2004 Nam June Paik, visual artist
2003 Merce Cunningham, interdisciplinary artist
2002 Robert Frank, photographer
2001 Philip Roth, writer
2000 Lou Harrison, composer
1999 Ellsworth Kelly, visual artist
1998 I.M. Pei, architect
1997 Chuck Jones, filmmaker
1996 Joan Didion, writer
1995 George Crumb, composer
1994 Jasper Johns, visual artist
1993 Harry Callahan, photographer
1992 Richard Wilbur, writer
1991 David Diamond, composer *
1990 Louise Bourgeois, visual artist
1989 Stan Brakhage, filmmaker
1988 William Styron, writer
1987 Leonard Bernstein, composer *
1986 Lee Friedlander, photographer
1985 Robert Motherwell, visual artist
1984 Mary McCarthy, writer
1983 Elliot Carter, composer
1982 Isamu Noguchi, visual artist
1981 John Updike, writer
1980 Samuel Barber, composer
1979 John Cheever, writer
1978 Richard Diebenkorn, visual artist
1977 Virgil Thomson, composer *
1976 Lillian Hellman, writer
1975 William de Kooning, visual artist
1974 Walter Piston, composer
1973 Norman Mailer, writer
1972 Georgia O’Keeffe, visual artist
1971 William Schuman, composer
1970 Edward Albee, playwright
1969 Louise Nevelson, visual artist
1968 Roger Sessions, composer
1967 Marianne Moore, writer
1966 Edward Hopper, visual artist
1965 Edgard Varese, composer
1964 Edmund Wilson, writer
1963 Alexander Calder, visual artist
1962 Robert Frost, writer
1961 Aaron Copland, composer *
1960 Thornton Wilder, writer *

*MacDowell Colony Fellow
Each year, MacDowell artists engage members of the local community in numerous programs and venues that offer a way to meet our Fellows and experience the art created at MacDowell. In 2018, 61 MacDowell Fellows volunteered to share their work at various locations. These efforts reached more than 3,300 adults and children throughout the Monadnock Region. In addition to the programs outlined below, the MacDowell Collection at the Peterborough Town Library is a compilation of donated works by Fellows and offers additional access to music, films, books, and other media created at the Colony.

MacDowell Downtown
Launched in 2002, MacDowell Downtown is a series of free presentations by MacDowell artists that takes place on the first Friday of the month from March through November in downtown Peterborough. Each season of MacDowell Downtown features a wide array of programming, including film screenings, readings, visual presentations, performances, talks, and more. The following artists shared their work with the public at MacDowell Downtown in 2018: collaborators and interdisciplinary artists Erik Ruin and Carlos Sirah; journalist Azmat Khan; composers Byron Asher, Evan Chambers, and Grace McLean; architect Kai Franz; and writers Rebecca Skloot and James Sturm.

MacDowell in the Schools
Since 1996, this program has been bringing the creative process to the classroom, and has invited the classroom into the studio. Students in grade school, high school, and college in the Monadnock Region all benefit from the time and expertise of MacDowell Fellows as they share their passion and their work with the next generations of artists and art lovers. The following MacDowell Fellows volunteered their time during their residencies in 2018 to meet with student artists:

Writers Greg Marshall, Susan Steinberg, and Misha Rai; cartoonist Julia Wertz; playwrights James Tyler, Christina Quintana, and playwright/screenwriter Justin Sherin; poets Amanda Galvan Huynh, Ayokunle Falomo, and Matthew Olzmann; visual artists Marie Yoho Dorsey, Jami Porter Laza, Carl Wilson, and Daniel Duford; composers Michael Fiday and Kate Soper; interdisciplinary artists Jeff Squig and Takahiro Yamamoto; and photographer Tanya Marcuse.

Mariposa, Leadership NH & More
Juleen Johnson, Destiny Birdsong, Greg Marshall, and Rachel Zucker appeared at The Toadstool Bookshop in Peterborough to read from their works. Playwright Ethan Lipton spoke with statewide civic group Leadership New Hampshire in the James Baldwin Library. Nonfiction writer Lauren Sandler gave a brief presentation of her work to a group from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation-Monadnock. Writers Ayòbámi Adébáyọ̀, Amanda Petrusich, and Rage Hezekiah shared their work, and composer Sam Moss performed on the spur of the moment at Thing in the Spring. The Monadnock Music String Quartet played a concert at Temple (NH) Congregational Church featuring the music of MacDowell Fellow Ingrid Arauco. Writers Andrew Sean Greer and Pamela Newkirk presented 10-minute readings of their work and took questions from members of the Monadnock Writers’ Group. Fellow Joan Grubin was in Peterborough to set up an installation of her art in the window of the Sharon Arts Center gallery. Andy’s Summer Playhouse in Wilton, NH presented Froggy, written by Jennifer Haley. Interdisciplinary artist Amy Jenkins screened her film instructions on Parity at multiple regional locations. Interdisciplinary artist Aurora Nealand performed with her group The Royal Roses at Harlow’s Pub.

Top: Photographer Tanya Marcuse opened Heinz Studio to a class of ConVal art students during her residency. Bottom: Takahiro Yamamoto led ConVal students in a performance clinic at the school’s Lucy Hurlin Theater.
Gifts

Of gifts to underwrite Fellowships and to maintain studios and residency buildings are essential to help MacDowell continue its mission. With major gifts designated for Fellowships, we are able to continue our tradition of accepting artists solely on the basis of talent.

ANNUAL FELLOWSHIPS

Annual Fellowships are contributions designated by the donor to help support one or more residencies in the year of the gift.

Herb Alpert/MacDowell Fellowship

The Herb Alpert/MacDowell Fellowship, administered by the California Institute of the Arts and funded by the Herb Alpert Foundation, seeks to identify those artists who contribute “something significant — even visionary — to contemporary life.”

The Ford Family Foundation Fellowship

Rose Dickson, Daniel Duford, Michael Lazarus, Takahiro Yamamoto, and Heidi Schwiegler received these Fellowships established in 2016 for visual artists from Oregon.

The Todd and Christine Fisher Fellowship

Dawn Clements received this Fellowship established for a visual artist.

Ed & Kathy Ludwig Fellowship

Kurt Rohde received this Fellowship, established in 2018 for a composer working at MacDowell.

The National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships

Karla Rothstein, Arthur Gottschalk, Alexandra Cuesta, Helina Metaferia, Kaj-anne Pepper, Anna Fox, Kambui Olujimi, Jami Porter Lara, Latifa Ayad, and David Weiden benefited from an NEA Artist Communities grant to support emerging artists from diverse backgrounds and disciplines who have not previously been to the Colony.

Pew Center for Arts & Heritage Fellowships

Nicole Canuso received this Fellowship established via a 2011 partnership between MacDowell and The Pew Center to fund residencies for Philadelphia-area artists who have received Pew Fellowships.

Pollock-Krasner Foundation Fellowships

Zia Anger and Margaux Williamson received these Fellowships supporting artists of exceptional talent in any discipline.

ENDOWED FELLOWSHIPS

These Fellowships, based on investment income from gifts held in the Colony’s endowment fund, provide support in perpetuity for one or more residencies each year.

Nadya Aisenberg Fellowship, est. 1999

Khay’ Xiong received this Fellowship established by friends and family of the poet, author, scholar, and Colony Fellow to support the residency of a female artist.

Benny Andrews Fellowship, est. 2012

Carl Wilson received this Fellowship to support visual artists who advance the diversity of MacDowell’s residency program established by the Andrews Humphrey Family Foundation.

Walter M. Robinson Fellowship

Chaya Bhuvaneswar received this Fellowship supporting a residency in any discipline.

SPAIN-USA Composers Fellowships

Javier Moreno Sanchez and Octavio Vazquez received these Fellowships, established in 2018 to support emerging or established Spanish composers working in any musical genre.

The Wunderkinder Foundation Fellowship

Zia Anger and Margaux Williamson received these Fellowships supporting artists of exceptional talent in any discipline.

The Patricia Brown Spector Fellowship

Mary Lum received this Fellowship, established in 2018 to support a residency at MacDowell for an outstanding visual artist.

John S. Carroll Fellowship

Joshua Yaffa received this Fellowship, established in 2015 by Norman Pearlstine in honor of the late veteran editor of The Baltimore Sun and Los Angeles Times, supporting MacDowell’s Art of Journalism Initiative.

Clarkeston Family Fund Fellowship

Elif Batuman received this Fellowship, established in 2016 for a nonfiction writer working in long-form journalism.

Aaron Copland Fellowship

Scott Wheeler received this Fellowship established in 2014 by the Aaron Copland Fund for Music in support of composers.

Jean & Louis Dreyfus Foundation Fellowships

John Kelly and Basil Twist received these Fellowships, established in 2012 in support of New York-based interdisciplinary performing artists.

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Milton and Sally Avery Fellowships, est. 1983, expanded 1990
Erik den Breejen and Michael Stamm received these Fellowships for painters of outstanding ability.

Catheine Boettcher Fellowship, est. 1991
Daniel Lazzar received this Fellowship from this fund established in the will of a long-time supporter to fund residencies.

Eleanor Briggs Fellowships, est. 2005
Brian Cochran, Jessica Huang, Marc Ohrem-Leclef, and Brett Story were the recipients of this Fellowship established for artists of all disciplines.

Calderwood Fellowships for Journalism
Matthew Clark, Clair MacDougal, and Lauren Sandler all received this Fellowship established for long-form journalists.

Stanford Calderwood Fellowships, est. 1998
Lee Breuer, Fiona Doyle, David Keane, Rebecca Skloot, La Toya Watkins, Benjamim Lorr, Lesley Arimah, Carolle Maso, and Maude Mitchell all received this Fellowship established to repay writers for a lifetime of pleasurable reading. This fund supports the residencies of all writers who work in Calderwood Studio.

Mary Carswell Fellowship, est. 2006
Sarah Ladipo Manyika received this Fellowship established to support the residency of an artist working in any discipline.

Anne Cox Chambers Fellowships, est. 2015
Nonfiction writers Louise Aronson, Pamela Newkirk, and Ricardo Nulla were awarded these Fellowships endowed to seed our Art of Journalism Initiative.

Margaret Lee Crofts Fellowship, est. 1985
Kate Soper was named to this Fellowship for composers established by the board of directors in recognition of a supporter’s devotion to music and providing opportunities for modern composers.

Nancy Decker Dougherty Fellowship, est. 2013
Laura Esther Wolfson is the recipient of this Fellowship named for a nonfiction writer and Fellow established for a nonfiction writer who is a woman over the age of 45.

Jim and Ruth Ewing Fellowship, est. 2003
Patrick Lazzar is the recipient of this year’s Fellowship named for two past members of the board of directors.

Gerald Freund Fellowship, est. 1996
Kelly Luce was awarded this Fellowship for emerging writers that honors its namesake’s 40-year career in philanthropy and commitment to funding exceptionally creative individuals in the arts and sciences.

Isabella Gardner Fellowship, est. 1982
Juleen Johnson received this Fellowship established as a tribute and memorial to the arts benefactor given every year to a female poet.

Wilder Green Fellowship, est. 2006
Bryony Roberts was awarded this Fellowship established in tribute to an architect and past board member that goes to an architect of exceptional ability.

John Hargraves and Nancy Newcomb Fellowships, est. 2004
Eva Heisler and Grace McLean received these Fellowships for artists of all disciplines established by outstanding supporters of the Colony.

Josephine Mercy Heathcote Fellowship, est. 1989
Shant Mendelson received this Fellowship designated for an artist of exceptional ability endowed by the Heathcote Art Foundation in tribute to its founder and benefactor.

Evelyn Stefansson Nef Fellowship, est. 1989
Conrad Winslow received this Fellowship for a photographer.

New Hampshire Cmte. Fellowship, est. 1991
Matthew Otzmann received this Fellowship endowed by the committee for an artist from New Hampshire.
Robert and Stephanie Olmsted Fellowships, est. 2005
Tanya Marcuse, Pinkney Herbert, Letha Wilson, and Julia Wertz received these fellowships for artists of all disciplines in honor of board member Robert Olmsted and his wife Stephanie Olmsted for their outstanding support of MacDowell.

Elodie Osborn Fellowship, est. 1984
Haruko Tanaka received this fellowship in recognition of a former board member’s success in establishing film as a discipline.

Philip Morris Company Fellowship, est. 1991
Peter Gizzi received this fellowship in literature established in recognition of MacDowell’s contribution to the arts.

Barbara and Thomas Putnam Fellowships
Hans Tursack and Lee Anne Schmitt received these fellowships for artists who work in the Rosamund and David Putnam Studio.

Gardner and Vail Read Fellowship, est. 2007
Koji Nakano received this fellowship for a composer established in honor of a MacDowell fellow.

Bernardine Kielty Scherman Fellowship, est. 2005
João Tordo is the recipient of this fellowship for a published writer.

Frances and William Schuman Fellowship, est. 1990
Andrew May is the recipient of this fellowship, named for the composer, 1971 MacDowell Medalist, and former Chairman of the Board of Directors, and board member.

Arnold T. Schwab Fellowship
Jesús Castillo is the recipient of this fellowship awarded annually to a poet and named for a three-time fellow who wrote many poems and scholarly articles, many of them chronicling the lives of Edward and Marian MacDowell.

Barbara and Andrew Senchak Fellowship in Poetry, est. 2009
Jane Hirshfield is the recipient of this fellowship established for a published poet.

Charlotte Sheedy Fellowship, est. 2015
Jenna Wortham received this fellowship supporting writers whose work explores cultural differences, established in honor of the literary agent’s achievements in cultivating diversity in contemporary literature.

Norton Stevens Fellowships, est. 1975
Tonio Ko, Eugene Birman, Ofir Klemperer, and Michael Piday received this fellowship established by the Norton Foundation in honor of Colony Fellow Aaron Copland’s 75th birthday.

DeWitt Wallace/Reader’s Digest Fellowships, est. 1978
Eric Puchner, Amy Waldman, Annie Sioni-ker, and Aybami Adëdbòyó received these fellowships established to provide residencies for writers.

Thornton Wilder Fellowship, est. 1990
Bonnie Metzgar is the recipient of this fellowship established by the Board of Directors for an artist of any discipline. Wilder was a nine-time Colony fellow, as well as the first recipient of the Edward MacDowell Medal in 1960.

STUDIO AND FACILITY GRANTS

Studio and facility grants, whether endowed or annual gifts, help provide for the upkeep of studios and residence buildings.

Stanford Calderwood Studio
In 1999, Stanford Calderwood funded the construction of a new studio for writers and established an endowed fund to cover the annual costs of maintaining the studio.

Vali Dreyfus Firth Studio
In 1993, Barn Studio was dedicated to Vali Dreyfus Firth, who supported the Colony generally for 15 years. In her memory, the Jean and Louis Dreyfus Foundation funded extensive renovations to the visual artists’ studio and established an endowed maintenance fund for its upkeep.

Heinz Studio
In 1996, Diane Heinz, a vice chairman of the Colony, donated funds to re-create the old icehouse as a sculpture studio and establish a studio maintenance fund.

Evelyn Stefanoson Nef Studio
In 1992, Vice Chairman Evelyn Stefanoson Nef funded the construction of a new photography studio and established an endowed fund to cover its maintenance.

New Hampshire Studio
In 1990, the Gilbert Verney Foundation established an endowed fund to maintain and improve the New Hampshire Studio. In 1992, through a generous bequest given in memory of fellow Victor Candell, the studio was renovated, enlarged and improved the space available for use by visual artists.

New Jersey Studio
The New Jersey Studio (1920-1921) was funded by the New Jersey State Federation of Women’s Clubs, which has continued as a longtime contributor to its maintenance.

Delta Omicron Studio
Members of Delta Omicron, an international music club, funded the building of the studio in 1927. In 1996, the Delta Omicron Foundation made a gift to refurbish a Mason & Hamlin grand piano, dedicated in memory of Roxine Beard Petzold and Adelaide Louise Collyer, two past presidents of the fraternity. In 2016, Delta Omicron contributed to an ongoing pledge to help meet annual maintenance costs and helped initiate renovation of the studio.

Pans Cottage
Built as a men’s residence in 1919, Pan’s Cottage was given by Sigma Alpha Iota, an international fraternity for women in music. Sigma Alpha Iota contributed in 2016 to help meet expenses for utilities and upkeep.

Phi Beta Studio
Phi Beta Fraternity, a national organization for professionals in music and speech, provided for the construction of Phi Beta Studio (1929-1931) and continued to help support its upkeep with grants in 2016.

Star Studio
Since 1971, Alpha Chi Omega, the first organization to contribute a studio to the Colony, has helped to maintain Star Studio, which was built in 1911-1912. In 2016, the organization made contributions to help meet the studio’s expenses as did its Iota Upsilon Iota Alumnae association.

Sorosis Studio
Sorosis Studio was built in 1924-1926 with funds provided by the New York Carol Club of Sorosis, which made contributions in 2016 toward the studio’s maintenance.

TRAVEL AND FINANCIAL AWARDS

Calderwood Project Grant Fund
The Calderwood Fund for Project Grants to Journalism Fellows, established in 2015 through a grant of $500,000, provided 150 grants totaling $16,104.

Calderwood Project Grant Fund for Composers
The Calderwood Fund for Project Grants to Composers, established in 2016 through a grant of $1,200,000, provided 150 grants totaling $1,200,000.

Calderwood Project Grant Fund for Writers
The Calderwood Fund for Project Grants to Writers of Need, established in 2017 through a grant of $1,600,000, provided 150 grants totaling $1,600,000.

The Marsyas Fund Stipends
The Marsyas Fund generously provided five stipends for visual artists in 2018 totaling $4,425.

Pollock-Krasner Foundation
The Pollock-Krasner Foundation Stipend is an award first established in 2015 to enable visual artists of need to benefit from a MacDowell residency. In 2018, we distributed 150 grants totaling $20,000.

Rona Jaffe Foundation
In 2009, the foundation endowed a fellowship for women writers with an enhanced stipend to help recipients cover travel and costs of living that continue at home. In 2018, one stipend was awarded in the amount of $2,500.

The Whiting Writers’ Aid Fund
Through a gift from the Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation, the Colony awards grants of up to $1,500 each to writers needing financial assistance to attend MacDowell. This program, made possible by the foundation’s generous support since 1998, provides a significant benefit to writing fellows and serves as a model for stipend programs in other disciplines for which funding is being sought. In 2018, we awarded 36 grants totaling $51,378.

Anonymous Gift
An anonymous gift of $600 to our stipend fund in 2018 benefited two fellows.
A

though space precludes us from listing all of the generous gifts that we received in 2018, MacDowell is truly grateful for donors of all levels who believe in the importance of investing in artists and the creative process. We received contributions from 737 donors in the past year, 41% of whom are MacDowell Fellows. Thank you.
Magogodi Makhene worked on a fiction project in New Jersey Studio.

BEQUESTS
The Estate of Mary Carswell
Drue Heinz Trust
The Mary Hitchcock Trust
The Arnold T. Schwab Living Trust
The Estate of Nancy Sullivan

STUDIO MAINTENANCE
Alpha Chi Omega Foundation, Inc.
Iota Upsilon Iota Alumnae of Alpha Chi Omega
New Jersey State Federation of Women’s Clubs of GFWC
Phi Beta Fraternity
Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternity’s Charitable Arm, SAI
Philanthropies, Inc.
Sigma Alpha Iota Philanthropies, Inc.
The Sigma Phi Chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota

IN-KIND DONATIONS
City Winery
FCTRY
Adele Griffen
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
Kikerland Design Inc.
Robert and Sylvia Larsen
Katy Lederer
Escopus Foundation Ltd.
David Morehouse
Mortara Family
Pantheon Books

Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects, Inc.
Roy Schiblern
Stacey Steers
Robert Taft
Julia Wertz
Chin Chi Yang

IN MEMORIAM
GIFTS in memory of MARY CARSWELL
Peter J. Fikins
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Gartner - The Gartner Family Fund
David W. Helenek
Jane L. Johnston
Steve Lawson
Robert H. Mundheim
Deidre O’Byrne and Paul Staller

GIFTS in memory of ROBERT ESHO
Joan C. Camann
Patrick and Sarah Carroll
Helen M. Dempsey
Richard Dodson
Joan B. Doty
Louis and Fred Georgopoulos
Amy Lonczak
Robert Mandel
Mary Jane Peabody
Julianne Pernon
Edward and Eileen Sullivan

GIFTS in memory of KATHY PERUTZ
Andrea Blaudner
Norman and Norma Goldberger
Will Goldberger

GIFTS in memory of MARILYN ZIFFRIN
Susan L. and Richard W. Stockwell
Russell North
Malinda Schantz
Betsy C. Whitemore
Mary K. Wirth
Hope Zanes Butterworth
Katharine Torrence Cerow in memory of Ridgely Torrence

Maureen McLane in memory of Ann Bergren
Gudrun Minn-Orloff in memory of Neil Orloff
Louis Polisi in memory of Rosemarie Koezy
Marylou and Joe Quinlan in memory of Donna MacNeil
Nicholas Reinhardt in memory of Sylvia Canfield Winn
Helene Zandrasin in memory of Earl Zinders

NEW YORK SPACE –
as of December 31, 2018
*Denotes New York Circle Giving of $100,000 or more
Anonymous
William N. Banks
William and Helen Beekman
Eleanor Briggs
Mary Livingston Griggs and Mary Griggs Burke Foundation
Barbara K. Bristol
Michael Chabon
Ayelet Waldman
Fred Clarke and Laura Weir-Clarke
Susan Davenport Austin and Kenneth Austin Candide Business Advisors Inc.
Louise Eastman
Emelee and Nicholas Firth
Mary Garfand
Sarah Garfand - Hoch and Roland E. Hoch
through the R.E. Hoch 2011 Family Charitable Trust
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Gartner - The Gartner Family Fund
Mr. and Mrs. Russell Gaudreau Gauthreaux Hershey Family Foundation
Don Hurlin
IAC*
Peter and Eileen Jaychim
Robert and Carol Kirsksy
Robert and Sylvia Larsen
Michael and Monica Lehner / Orchard Foundation
Joan E. and Lawrence G. Macy Trust
Scott Manning
Mary Miller and Robert Rodat
Newcomb-Hargraves Foundation
Robert and Stephanie Olmsted - The Newcomb-Hargraves Foundation

The Calderwood Charitable Foundation
Ann and John Clarksen - Clarksen Family Fund of Fidelity Charitable
Don Colburn
Marie-Therese Connolly
Jack E. Davis
Bruce Earley
Eversource Energy
Sheri Fink
Elizabeth Halstead
Will Hermes
Ellen Kaufman
Nancy Keystone
Janet Kinoshaw
Markos Kouvalakis and Eleni Tsakopoulos-Kouvalakis
Colette Lucas
Meredith Maran
Nion McEvoy
Shaun Newport in honor of The MacDowell Colony NY Office
Michael Paterniti
Norman Pearlstine, Chief Content Officer, Time Inc. in honor of John S. Carroll
Peter Mandel
Ray Pelfrio
Edward Porter
Christine Posnak
Ray Porter
Janaki Ranpura
Matt Schwartz
Jessica Stern in honor of Scott Tyle and his team
Tom and Baba Putnam*
A gain in 2018, MacDowell demonstrated tight control over expenses and ended the year under budget by about one percentage point. Total operating expenses for the year increased 5%, with growth firmly centered in program activities (there was actually a small decline in administrative expenses and fundraising was essentially flat).

Total support and revenue increased by approximately 22% from the prior year to $3.1 million, reflecting, in part, contributions for the West 23rd Street space.

Having made the move from East 81st Street to Chelsea in the third quarter of 2017, MacDowell's family of staff, artists, and supporters enjoyed their first full year in freshly renovated offices and event space near the High Line. A year-long event series called "MacDowell Now" marked the occasion and helped introduce the institution to its new neighbors.

With income shortfalls seeming likely by mid-summer, Finance and Development teams revised fundraising forecasts and revised strategy with an eye to a strong finish. Before year’s end, three generous bequests totaling $828m softened the effect of gaps in Individual Giving and Events.

MacDowell's financial results for 2018 showed resilience despite declines seen in all major stock indices near the end of the year. While MacDowell's financial investment allocation outperformed our benchmark universe of balanced funds, we did not escape the effects of the fourth quarter decline. True investment return on our portfolio (net of withdrawals for operations and additions/endowment gifts) showed a loss of $1.5 million compared to December 31, 2017, effectively giving back about a quarter of 2017's $5.6 million gain. At the end of the year, investments totaled $31.7 million.

Gerald Gartner, Interim Treasurer

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**Treasurer's Report**

### Selected financial information for 12 months ending December 31, 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of artists-in-residence</td>
<td>316</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of artists days</td>
<td>8,705</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments at Fair Value</td>
<td>$31,743,159</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Net Assets</td>
<td>$40,852,426</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Support &amp; Revenue</td>
<td>$3,034,415</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>$3,042,657</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difference Before Investment Return</td>
<td>($2,081,973)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Investment Return</td>
<td>($1,520,319)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Total Net Assets</td>
<td>($3,602,292)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**CY18 EXPENSES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program</td>
<td>$2,968,194</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>$1,071,066</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development</td>
<td>$1,077,128</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CY18 SUPPORT and REVENUE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$2,511,842</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Fees, Royalties and Other</td>
<td>$522,573</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total support and revenue</td>
<td>$3,034,415</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excess (Deficiency)</td>
<td>($2,081,973)</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>($1,520,319)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The MacDowell Colony relies on gifts to sustain the excellence of its residency program and its leadership among artist communities. The Colony gratefully accepts donations of cash, property (such as securities and real estate), and gifts-in-kind from individuals, foundations, and corporations. Gifts may be left unrestricted for general operating use or designated for a specific purpose, such as a studio endowment or a Fellowship. Unique naming opportunities are available for studios, rooms, special equipment, landscaping elements, fellowships, stipends, and endowment funds.

Each year, a significant portion of the Colony’s operations is funded by planned giving, including cash bequests, stocks, real estate, the rights to and royalties from works of art, and useful items such as books, equipment, and furnishings. The Marian MacDowell Society is a group of artists, patrons, and board members who have chosen to remember MacDowell in their wills or other estate plans. The legacies created by these gifts help guarantee that the Colony can offer the same transformative experience to future generations of artists.

Please consider expressing your commitment to MacDowell through an annual contribution, endowed gift, or planned gift. We would be pleased to assist you and your legal or tax advisors. To discuss ways in which your gift can help artists and to learn about possible significant tax savings in planned giving, please call Director of Development Stacey Bosworth at 212-535-9690.

For more information, go to www.macdowell.org.

The MacDowell Colony is a member of the Alliance of Artists’ Communities, a nationwide consortium and professional organization for the field, and ResArts, a worldwide network of artist residency programs.