



**SISTERS
FOLK
FESTIVAL**
— INC. —

**2014
ANNUAL REPORT**



2015 CALENDAR

February 6	Winter Concert – Foghorn Stringband
February 13	Winter Concert – Eli West and Cahalen Morrison and The Stray Birds
February 27	Winter Concert – Willy Porter
March 6 – 8	Americana Song Academy for Youth
March 8	SFF Presents Celebration of Song
May 6	SFF Presents Ellis
May 8	My Own Two Hands Parade, Art Stroll and Community Arts Celebration
May 9	My Own Two Hands Art Auction & Party
May 16	SFF Presents Steve Poltz and Grant Lee Phillips
May 29	Americana Project Students CD Release Concert
September 8	A Taste for the Arts Private Concert & Fundraiser
September 8-11	Americana Song Academy at Caldera
September 10	Spotlight Night Sponsor and Folk Arts Circle Member Dinner
September 11-13	20th Anniversary of the Sisters Folk Festival
October 3	Volunteer Appreciation Party
TBD	Sisters Folk Arts Circle Private Concert at FivePine

PROGRAMS

The 2014 Sisters Folk Festival, with the debut of “Buck” from poster artist Dennis McGregor, brought artists like Shakey Graves, Anais Mitchell and The Black Lillies together with Eric Bibb, Steve Poltz, Darlingside and Heather Maloney, and Keith Greeninger with Bill Payne, to honor tradition while moving things forward. Patrons and artists alike are struck by the intimacy of venues and excellence in artistry that is on display. The **Americana Song Academy** proves to be a valuable tool for community-building in music and an inspiring event that fills artists with passion for performing, which is witnessed at the Folk Festival each year.

Our year long programming started with the **Winter Concert Series**, as The California Honeydrops, Martyn Joseph, Willy Porter, and Solas, with the multimedia beauty of Shamrock City, presented diverse musical styles. This series expanded to four shows and helped define ways we may move forward with our **SFF Presents** shows, as we did at the end of the year with returning artists Caravan Of Thieves. Our partnership with The Belfry enabled us to offer a holiday sing-along and ukulele workshop and host the **Americana Song Academy for Youth**, expanding our reach and bringing folks together to learn and sing!



Thanks to the generosity of the visual-arts community, we had the most successful **My Own Two Hands** to date, as the theme “From Where I Stand” garnered creative excellence in visual arts and helped stabilize all SFF programming. The Friday night **Community Arts Celebration** continues to grow, showcasing the compelling work we support in the community and schools.

Young artists of the **Americana Project** released “Under the Sun,” 13 original songs and a striking original painting by Meganne Englich-Mills for the cover, bringing together the visual and performing arts. Through the **Americana Community Luthier Program**, students completed 28 handmade guitars and 8 ukuleles, demonstrating the beginning of their lifelong understanding of the craft of instrument-making. Hearing our young artists performing on instruments made by fellow students is a testament to the collaboration we are fostering.

Another iconic image we unveiled was Dennis McGregor’s painting “All the Town’s a Stage,” a true celebration of our unique community, and showcasing why so many of us choose to live in Sisters Country.

FROM THE CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Greetings, Sisters Folk Festival patrons and fans,

We are grateful for your support of music education and community-building through the arts. Through cultural tourism, arts education and music events that bring folks together in compelling ways, we are celebrating 2014 as another banner year for our organization. In 2014, I transitioned from Executive Director to Creative Director, and in doing so my focus will be on the creative offerings and music and arts education of the organization, both of which are life-long passions for me.



The sold-out Festival capped a very successful year, with 10 intimate venues, and the debut of the Fir Street Park, featuring performances by alumni of the Americana Project. We are building a legacy we hope continues for many generations.

To that end, we recently received a “Studio to School” K-8 arts and music education grant through the Oregon Community Foundation. We are one of 18 organizations in Oregon that are pioneering best practices and ways to deliver arts education through our unique partnership with the Sisters School District. The grant will bring visual-arts and music instruction to Sisters Elementary School, music education and arts integration to Sisters Middle School, and help build an even stronger foundation for our programming in Sisters High School. The intent is to value the arts as a powerful tool in education and life, and creativity and self-expression as personal growth experiences that inform all aspects of one’s life.

Without the support of our community and stakeholders this would not be possible, and we recognize we are all responsible for the upbringing of our children and the health of our community. We sincerely appreciate your part in making a positive difference in the lives of people of all generations, here and beyond.

Thank you again for your deep commitment to enriching lives through music and arts. We look ahead to 2015 as another outstanding year.

Gratefully,

Brad Tisdel, Creative Director

FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

The past year was devoted to building a strong foundation for the future. Like the roots of a tree quietly and invisibly stretching out to support its branches, in 2014 we strengthened our “root system” with new offices, systems, grants, and staff.

Change was in the air, and it started in January when we moved into a more efficient office space bringing an already close staff even closer together. In April we launched a new website and fully implemented a comprehensive database and online ticketing system. Perhaps best of all Kerani Mitchell, an Americana Project alumni, joined the Festival team to manage our volunteer program. Having year-round staff to work with our volunteers is a dream come true, and this year’s Festival was one of the smoothest ever, thanks to Kerani’s skillful leadership **AND** the enthusiastic support of over 350 dedicated volunteers.



After five years as the Finance Manager, the board hired me as the Managing Director in July. With my experience in leading non-profit organizations and managing events, and Brad’s skillful booking of talent and his ability to create world-class education for our youth, we are stronger than ever.

On the financial side we had a very successful year and, guess what, we made a change there as well. Our fiscal year now ends on October 31, so that our revenues are more clearly aligned with the cost of doing business. We funded close to \$15K in music and arts scholarships for Sisters youth and graduating seniors. Generous grants supported equipment upgrades for the Luthier program, new programming in grades K-8, and will help us bridge the first two years’ salaries for our expanded staff.

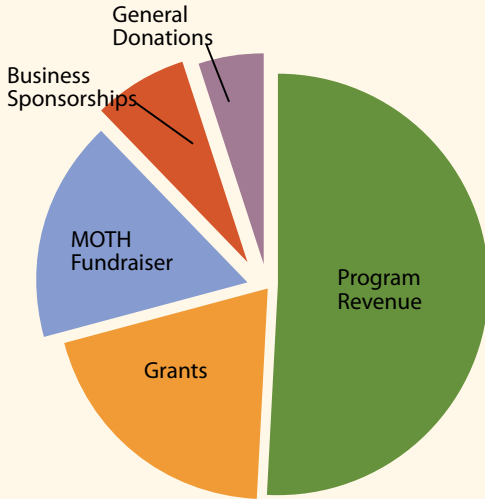
Our roots are strong and our branches are spreading as we look forward to 2015 and the 20th Anniversary of the Sisters Folk Festival.

Thank you so much for your dedication, help and support. We could not do it without you!

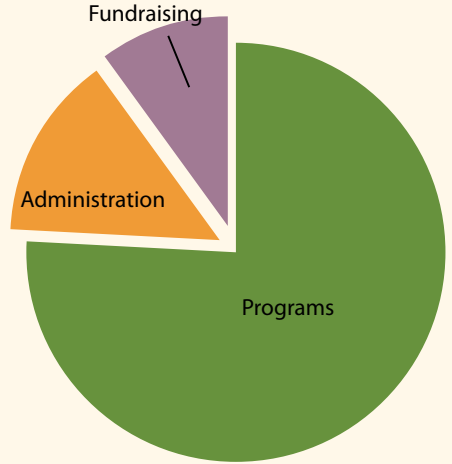
Ann Richardson, Managing Director

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Sources of Income



Functional Expenses



Program Revenue	51%
Ticket Sales, Registration Fees, Merchandise Sales	
Grants*	20%
My Own Two Hands Fundraiser	17%
Business Sponsorships	7%
General Donations	5%
Total 100%	

*A portion (11%) is temporarily restricted at year end – see financial notes

Programs	76%
Americana Project, Song Academy for Youth, Americana Luthier Program, Americana Song Academy, Winter Concerts, Folk Festival, Americana Project Arts Outreach Scholarships	
Fundraising	14%
Administration	10%
Total 100 %	



Financial Notes

2014 financials reflect ten months of activity from 1/1-10/31. In those ten months, we had a 38% increase in revenue over the prior year thanks to grant funding for new programs, equipment and staff. At year end, \$92K of those funds are temporarily restricted for the Studio to School project and staff salaries and will carry forward to help with those costs in 2015. MOTH continues to be a very important part of our fundraising with over \$120K generated from the art auction, donations and tickets.

A public copy of our IRS Form 990 can be found at www.guidestar.org.

BOARD & STAFF

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jack McGowan - Board Chair

Cris Converse - Vice Chair

Sue Boettner - Treasurer

Debbie Newport - Secretary

Kerry Bott - Board Member

Jim Cornelius - Board Member

Jim Cunningham -

Board Member

JoAn Mann - Board Member

Jay Mather - Board Member

Steve Mathews - Board Member

Jeff Smith - Board Member

Susie Zeitner - Board Member

STAFF

Brad Tisdell -

Creative Director

Ann Richardson -

Managing Director

Katy Yoder -

Development Director

Pete Rathbun -

Operations/IT Manager

Kerani Mitchell -

Volunteer & Event Coordinator

DONORS

Ken & Ginger Harrison
Cristy Lanfri
Dan & Priscilla Wieden
Doug Stamm
Gary & Dixie Baker
The Campbell
Foundation
Dorro Sokol
The Roundhouse
Foundation
Cris Converse
Kerry & Barbara Bott
Fran Willis & Ted
Johnson
Mike & Darcy Winslow
Kay & David Grady
Malcolm Cleary
Gail Hayes-Davis &
Mike Davis
Victoria Graves-
Boucher
Susan Johnson
Jackie Gordon
Michael Ilg
Bruce & Marleen
Rognlien
Donald & Gerri Tisdell
Denny & Susan Tower
Chris Van Dyke &
Christine Shihadah
Mimi Graves
Nancy Corwin

Wendie & Mike
Vermillion
Dennis & Julie Miller
Torie Gordon & Bob
Bradley
Curtiss & Jessie-Lea
Abbott
Joan Griffiths
James & Judy Munro
Cindy Johnson
Donna & Paul
Lipscomb
Sharon & John
Lohrmann
JoAn Mann
Jack & Jan McGowan
Paulina Springs Books
Bill & Marty Porter
Jennifer & Keith
Schorsch
Jeff & Ginny Smith
Taylor Northwest LLC
Dave & Maryann
Abbajay
Dottie & Eli Ashley
Robb & Julie Ball
Duncan & Cynthia
Campbell
Kimberly & Andrew
Gorayeb
Sue & Mike Hollern
Robert & Elizabeth
Lende

Chuck & Debbie
Newport
Anouk Tapper
Farrel Droke
Gary & Mollie Eder
Michael Bruce & Julie
Redner
Richard Richards
Pat Boggess
Bob & JoAnn Burgess
Heidi & Tim Ellsworth
Anne Gatling
Margie Heater
Linda Kurtz
Doug & Suzanne Wills
Kathy Miller
Malcolm & Lynda
Murphy
Michael Rosenfield
John & Michelle
Sanders
Dick Sandvik & Diane
Campbell
Deborah Thomas
Libby Westlund
Doug & Susanne Wills
Bea Zizlavsky
Jill Jarkesy
Kent Neff & Linda Wolff
Jan & Jody Ward
Life, Love, Yoga LLC
Dan & Jeri Fouts

Mary Jaqua
John & Carolyn Soutter
Ann Richardson &
Clyde Dildine
Roger & Gayla Nelson
Ponderosa Properties
Marcy Kuhlman
The Nugget
Newspaper
Elizabeth Wehrli
Eric & Sherry Steele
Jean Wells Keenan
Barbara Johnson
Richard & Donna
Stockton
Boyd Wickman
Susie Zeitner
Wendy & Bill Birnbaum
Sue Boettner
Jim & Marilyn Cornelius
Dwight Hatfield
Marean Jordan
Robert & Jennifer
Lawton
Jay Mather & Diane
Russell
Shake Log & Timber
LLC
Judd Smith
Chris Tarpey
Judy Whitfield

FOLK ARTS CIRCLE MEMBERS

Curtiss & Jessie-Lea Abbott

Cal & Marsha Allen

Eli & Dottie Ashley

Joseph Bachtold & Gwen
Hanson

Robb & Julie Ball

Dann & Susan Boeschen

Kerry & Barbara Bott

Peg Brand Weiser & Ed Weiser

Mike Bruce & Julie Redner

Bob & JoAnn Burgess

Della & Eugene Butcher

Bobb & Betty Carlsmith

Brian & Julie Cash

Kelsey Collins

Les & Lori Cooper

Jim & Marilyn Cornelius

Nancy Corwin

David & Linda Cox

Jim & Dana Cunningham

Gretchen Dakin

Kathy & Frank Deggendorfer

Patrick & Elaine Eastman

Heidi & Tim Ellsworth

Laurel & Winn Francis

Michael Funke & Kathryn
Wood

Torrie Gordon & Bob Bradley

Kay & David Grady

Mimi Graves & Boyd Wickman

Victoria Graves-Boucher

Steve & Cindy Greer

Ken & Ginger Harrison

Brad & Michele Hart

Connie & Jerry Hines

Chet & Georgia Hodgson

Pamela Jo (PJ) Hunter

Innoviator – Flight Science

Jill Jarkey

Kathy Johnson

Susan Johnson

Marean Jordan

Pat Kearney & Carol Wall

Ann Kendall

Stephen & Jennifer King

Deb & Paul Klotz

Cristy Lanfri

Libby Layton & Larry Tamiyasu

The Lind|White Group

Scott & Janet Lamoreaux

Karen & Wes Lawrence

Bob & Elizabeth Lende

Donna & Paul Lipscomb

JoAn Mann

Andy Mantecon

Steve & Jan Mathews

Jack & Jan McGowan

Jill McLane

Doug Mombell & Dian Connett

Mary & Lee Morgan

Malcolm & Lynda Murphy

Kent Neff & Linda Wolff

Roger & Gayla Nelson

Chuck & Debbie Newport

Bill & Marty Porter

Cindy & Bill Rainey

Ken Ribb

Doug Roberts & Sheryl Little

Mary Rynerson

Dick Sandvik & Diane Campbell

Marlene Schneider & Scott
Michalek

Jeff & Ginny Smith

Dorro Sokol

Eric & Sherry Steele

Strassman & Hanna Wealth
Management

Dave & Lynda Sullivan

Teulu, LLC

Tom & Dee Thompson

Denny & Sue Tower

Bill Valenti

Jan & Jody Ward

Libby Westlund

Jay & Vanessa Wilkins

Fran Willis & Ted Johnson

Bill & Zoe Willitts

2015 SPONSORS

STAGE

The Roundhouse Foundation
The Starview Foundation

PREMIER

Abbayjay Automated Control Systems
BendBroadband
Breedlove Guitars
Caldera
Deschutes Brewery
KOHD
Metabolic Maintenance
Oregon Public Broadcasting
Preston Thompson Guitars
RE/MAX LLC
Taylor NW
The Bulletin

ARTIST

1859 Oregon Magazine
A Music Lover from Texas
Alpine Internet
Bank of the Cascades
Big Country RV
Black Butte Ranch
Blazin Saddles Cycle N Style
Captive Media Solutions
Cascade A & E
Clearwater Gallery
Depot Café
FivePine Lodge and Conference Center
Grocery Outlet
Hydro Flask
InFocus Eye Care



Lange Winery
Maybelle Clark Macdonald
Melvin's Fir St. Market
Sisters Coffee Company
Tate & Tate Catering
The Belfry
The Nugget Newspaper
Three Creeks Brewing Company

COMMUNITY

Acoustic Guitar Magazine
Advanced Systems Portable Restrooms Inc.
Allen Reel - Attorney at Law
Angeline's Bakery & Cafe
Bi-Mart
Bowerman Guitars
C & C Nursery
Cork Cellars
Deering Banjo Company
Footzone/Outside In

Hayden Homes
High Country Disposal
Inovia Vein Specialty Center
Jelly Belly Candy Company
Kaleidoscope Pizzeria
KLCC Radio
Leonardi Media Arts
Les Schwab Tire Centers
Dennis McGregor
North Branch Building & Design
Paulina Springs Books
Ponderosa Forge & Ironworks
Ponderosa Properties
Ray's Food Place
Shake Log & Timber LLC
Sisters Gallery & Frame Shop
Sisters Rental
Sisters Screen Printing
Sisters Vacation Rental
Twist Cocktail Catering Co.
X-Press Printing

FOUNDATIONS & GRANTS

Fred W. Fields Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation

Meyer Memorial Trust

Chichester duPont Foundation, Inc.

The Roundhouse Foundation

The Starview Foundation Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation

The Ford Family Foundation

Gray Family Foundation

The Oregon Arts Commission & National Endowment for the Arts

The City of Sisters

Deschutes County Commissioners Discretionary Fund

Maybelle Clark Macdonald Fund

Oregon Community Foundation

Oregon Community Foundation Funds:

Ward Family Fund

Casey Family Fund

Serrurier Family Fund

T J Education Fund

Deschutes County Cultural Coalition

Bill and Cindy Rainey Fund

Ron and Linda Klein Fund



CONTRIBUTING VISUAL ARTISTS

Gary Albertson	Sage Dorsey	Al Krause	Bruce Shingledecker
Steve Allely	Janice Druian	Brandi Loveday	Sisters High School Woodshop
Teri Applegarth	Brogin Cody Dye	Susan Luckey Higdon	Judith Sparks
Skip Armstrong	Laurence A. Dyer	Kim Luckini	Trevor Standen
Gordon K. Baker	Karen Z. Ellis	Bill MacDonald	Bill Stevens
Kay Baker	Fullhart Insurance of Sisters	Mary Marquiss	Jane Stevens
Marlene Baldock	Beryl Foust-Hovey	Natalie Marshall	Caroline Stratton
Rick Bartow	Steven Frandsen	Jay Mather	Cindy Summerfield
Paul Alan Bennett	Gabrielle Franke	Steve Mathews	Rosalie Van Ness- Hanford
Tricia Biesmann	Elizabeth Ganji	Hadley McCann	Wendy Vernon
Wendy Birnbaum	Casey Gardner	Dennis McGregor	Lisa Voelker
Crow Black	Rita Garolis- Macdonald	Thomas Means	Jeanie Vogel
Bob Bousquet	Winnie Givot	Blake Meany	Greg Waddell
Peg Brand	Dyrk Godby	Mary Medrano	Barbara Walter
Hailey Brink	Bethany Gunnarson	Sandy Melchiori	Nina Walz
Janit Brockway	Sydney Harrison	Kenneth Merrill	Conrad Weiler
JoAnn Burgess	Jack Hartman	Gary Miller	Mary Jo Weiss
Jenifer Cameron	Berta Heisler	Jill Neal	Jean Wells Keenan
Laura Campbell	Norma Holmes	Chris Nelson	Jeff Wester
Cha for the Finest Gallery	Jim Horsley	Courtney Parker	Lynn Woodward
Yvonne Chelew	Patrick Horsley	Dayne Patheal	Haley Zadow
Pamela Claffin	Jen's Garden	Don Patheal	Susie Zeitner
Gary Cooley	Rick Judy	Preston Thompson Guitars	
Glen Corbett	Karen Grace Kassy	Rob Ralph	
Cork Cellars	Jenelle Kathan	Ray's Food Place	
Mitch Deaderick	Hedi Kershaw	Dan Rickards	
Michelle Deaderick	Kim Kimerling	Autumn Saunders	
Depot Café		Kenneth Scott	

GIVING

Legacy Giving

Your devotion to music and the arts endures through your legacy gift to Sisters Folk Festival, Inc.

A gift of a stock transfer, establishing a remainder trust or a bequest ensures your passion lives on in creative, enriched lives.

Sisters Folk Arts Circle

Sisters Folk Arts Circle members play an essential role in the success of our organization. Their membership helps tremendously with our efforts to provide year-round cultural arts and education opportunities for our students and community. In addition to a tax-deductible donation, members receive tickets to our annual events and are acknowledged and appreciated as key contributors to our organization.

Endowment

In July 2012, our organization partnered with the Oregon Community Foundation (OCF) to create the Sisters Folk Festival Endowment Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation. With OCF's stewardship and long-term investment program, the endowment fund will be maintained in perpetuity, ensuring a stable stream of income to provide operating support to the organization. Our fund is \$36,500 and growing – setting us on a course toward long-term sustainability.

To discuss your donation options, please contact Development Director Katy Yoder at 541-549-4979 or katy@sistersfolkfestival.org. There is no better way to invest in the future of arts and culture in our region.



P.O. Box 3500, PMB 304 • Sisters, Oregon 97759
541-549-4979 • info@sistersfolkfestival.org
www.sistersfolkfestival.org