

MDBF



2015 Annual Report
THE MARY DUKE BIDDLE FOUNDATION



MDBF

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2015 Annual Report

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Cover: *University of North Carolina School of the Arts production of The Drowsy Chaperone.*
Photo courtesy UNC School of the Arts, Winston-Salem

Left: *LEAP preschool student on a farm field trip. Photo courtesy LEAP*

Above: *Claire Porter and Sara Juli in "Small Stories," one of three duets in American Dance Festival's Dynamic Duos performance. Photo by @ghalverson*

Message from the Chair

As The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation prepares to commemorate its sixtieth anniversary, the Board of Trustees has spent time reflecting on the foundation's historical legacy, both to remind us of our remarkable heritage and to guide us as we adapt to changing times. Since its inception in 1956, the foundation has steadfastly honored my great-grandmother's wishes to support education, the arts, and communities in need. While we have funded a diverse range of organizations working in each of these

arenas, all of our grant recipients share a common bond: to engage in work that elevates humanity. Over the course of six decades, the vital work of our grantees has had an inestimable impact on lives and communities, far beyond any monetary measure. We have also been fortunate to have the steadfast dedication and wisdom of trustees such as Thomas S. Kenan III, who served on the board from 1983 until his retirement in December 2015, and John G. Mebane Jr., who joined the board in 1992 and who will retire at the end of 2016. Their continuity of service, deep knowledge of



DUKE PHOTOGRAPHY

New Trustee Elected

K. Todd Walker, Managing Director of Investments for The Duke Endowment, joined the Biddle Foundation Board of Trustees in June 2015. After working at Duke Energy as Director of Long-Term Investments, he joined TDE in 2003 and was appointed to his current position in 2007.

Mr. Walker also serves on the Investment Committee of the Foundation For The Carolinas and the Investment Advisory Group for Davidson College.

He received a B.S. in mathematical sciences from Clemson University and an M.B.A. from the McColl School of Business, at Queens University in Charlotte, NC.

The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation trustees and administration: Front, left to right, James D.B.T. Semans, Mimi O'Brien (Executive Director), and K. Todd Walker. Back, left to right, Jonathan E. Zeljo (chair), C. Russell Bryan, Thomas S. Kenan III, Christopher M. Harris, and John G. Mebane Jr.



COURTESY MARGARET BYRNE, DIRECTOR

Awarded a Southern Documentary Fund Filmmaking Grant, Raising Bertie follows three young men over the course of five years as they grow into adulthood in Bertie County, a small African American-led farming community in North Carolina.

our communities, and sage perspectives have provided thoughtful stewardship every step of the way.

The occasion of our diamond anniversary also prompts us to look forward. Where will the foundation be sixty years from now, and sixty years hence? As I shared in last year's annual report, we have recently recalibrated our work to ensure that our grantmaking approach aligns with best practices in the foundation world. We now actively seek and encourage proposals that have the potential to serve multiple constituencies, and that contribute to an organization's ability to adapt and thrive for years to come.

This year, for example, the foundation funded the final installment of a three-year pilot program created by the Southern Documentary Fund (SDF). This multiyear support from The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation has allowed SDF to assist North Carolina's best documentary filmmakers at various stages of production, leading to the completion and distribution of powerful works that explore racial equality, women's rights, the criminal justice system, and the environment.

The success of the SDF Filmmaking Grant program has had a marvelous ripple effect. Bolstered by MDBF support, SDF created *Reel South*,

an original documentary series for North and South Carolina public television.

SDF's clout and reputation in the documentary world has grown significantly, drawing attention from filmmakers, programmers, and funders. Building on this momentum, SDF received its first grant from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation in the fall of 2015, and its first FilmCraft grant from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in April 2016. As SDF reported to the foundation, "Before the SDF Filmmaking Grants, these funding opportunities were long shots for our small arts non-profit; now they are within our reach."

Expanding opportunities for growth. Bringing the unimaginable into reach. Elevating the human spirit. I speak for all of our trustees and staff when I state that we are immensely proud not only of the impact we have had in our communities, but also of our association and collaboration with the mission-driven organizations that we support. It is just this type of relationship that Mary Duke Biddle envisioned sixty years ago, and that inspires us to carry the foundation's mission into the next sixty years.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Margaret Byrne".

Mary Duke Biddle: A Personal Legacy of Service

Mary Lillian Duke was born on November 16, 1887, the only daughter of Benjamin Newton Duke and Sarah Pearson Angier Duke, and the granddaughter of Washington Duke. From an early age, Mary was exposed to the themes that would shape and define her world outlook: how modest gifts of time and money can multiply, how access to education can forever alter a life path, how music and the arts can enrich the human condition, how churches and congregations can uplift impoverished souls.

Mary attended Durham public schools as a child, and enrolled in Trinity College, where she earned her degree in English in 1907. The institution, later named Duke University, flourished

thanks to the financial backing of her grandfather, father, and uncle J.B. Duke. After graduation, she engaged in Durham's social and civic affairs and was active in the Methodist church.

In June of 1915, Mary married Anthony Drexel Biddle Jr. The couple had homes in Irvington-on-Hudson and in New York City, across from the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The couple had two children, daughter Mary Duke Biddle and son Nicholas Duke Biddle.

Divorced in 1931, the couple parted ways. Mary began to spend more time in Durham, where her community and family connections grew deeper. Near the end of her life, she discussed with family and friends a desire to continue her financial support of the causes and organizations that she, her parents, and her grandfather had assisted. On September 14, 1956, The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation was established as a trust under the laws of the state of New York. Mary Duke Biddle stipulated that at least one half of the foundation's income or principal be directed to Duke University.

With an initial contribution of 800 shares of Aluminium Limited stock valued at \$108,950, the foundation made its first grants in December of that year: \$204 to Duke University and \$204 to Christ Church United Methodist, New York. During the next four years, the founder helped increase its capital and direct contributions to Duke University, churches, hospitals, and various charitable organizations.

Mary Duke Biddle died in 1960 at age of seventy-three, leaving behind a personal legacy of service to others and a permanent institution for benefit of the people of New York City and North Carolina. Since its inception, The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation has awarded grants totaling nearly \$43 million in support of the goals she endorsed and values she exemplified. ■



COLLECTION OF THE MUSEUM OF ART AT DUKE UNIVERSITY. GIFT OF NICHOLAS D. BIDDLE.

Portrait of Mary Lillian Duke by Joaquin Sorolla Y Bastida.

Our Mission Statement & History of Giving

The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation seeks to effect positive change in the communities and lives of people who are served through our philanthropic support.

The foundation maintains a commitment to Duke University, North Carolina, and New York City through grant making that strengthens organizations and facilitates successful programs.

From our inception, we have given to a range of causes, including but not limited to arts and culture, education, and health and human services.

Through an accessible and flexible grant-giving philosophy, the foundation supports organizations and projects of different sizes, missions, constituencies, and scale. We seek to build effective relationships with grantees through close communication and a willingness to understand the areas in which they work and the challenges they face. With every grant, the foundation seeks to empower people and sustain their work in making a lasting impact in their communities. ■



Community School of the Arts' Orchestra in Schools Reunion Class program.

Mary Duke Biddle established the foundation to implement her philanthropic objectives, and she gave the Trustees latitude to carry out and expand on her initial wishes as the future might dictate. Mrs. Biddle stipulated that half of grant funding go to Duke University, including its schools and programs, hospital, and the Sarah P. Duke Gardens, which she gave to the University in honor of her mother. She also requested that consideration be given to the three churches she attended during her lifetime.

Mrs. Biddle had a keen interest in the arts and was herself an accomplished musician. Mary D.B.T. Semans and James H. Semans, M.D., her daughter and son-in-law and long-time trustees, continued Mrs. Biddle's interests and firmly established the foundation as a champion of the arts. Under their leadership, the foundation provided

support to emerging artists, K-12 arts education, and organizations that use the arts to improve quality of life.

Today, The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation continues a family tradition of philanthropy and commitment to enhance and improve the quality of life in the communities it supports.

Current Focus Areas

In carrying out the philanthropic objectives of our founder, the Trustees concentrate on areas where our modest grants can make a significant difference. Now in its sixth decade, the foundation is interested in the arts and youth education, particularly those programs that serve less advantaged populations.

We also encourage collaborative efforts and projects that blend our funding interests. ■

GRANT RECIPIENTS IN NORTH CAROLINA

The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation takes pride in supporting organizations that may be modest in size, but are ambitious in their goals. In 2015 we funded initiatives in the arts and youth education. While most of our grants were to organizations in the Triangle, we make an effort to support nonprofits all across the state. ■

Alleghany Educational Foundation, Inc.

Sparta, NC

To expand Alleghany JAM to include advanced and high school classes in fiddle, banjo, mandolin, guitar, dulcimer, bass, singing, and dance \$5,000

American Dance Festival, Inc.

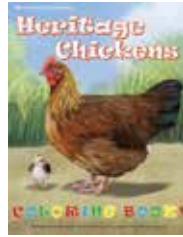
Durham, NC

For ADF Dynamic Duos, a series of three commissioned works performed at the 2015 American Dance Festival \$8,000

American Livestock Breeds Conservancy

Pittsboro, NC
For the Heritage Chicks in the Classroom

project, which highlights biodiversity on farms and explores the importance of protecting our agricultural ecosystem \$3,750



The Arts Center

Carrboro, NC

For an afterschool arts program with Orange County Public Schools \$4,000

Autism Charlotte

Charlotte, NC

To expand Autism Charlotte's Inclusion-Based Afterschool Enrichment Program for Children with Autism within the Charlotte Mecklenburg School System \$5,000



COURTESY ALLEGHANY EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Alleghany JAM students preparing to compete in their in-house fiddlers convention.

4-H leaders bring chicks to American Livestock Breed Conservancy's office after hatching.



ALLISON LANGE

Bookmarks

Winston-Salem, NC

For Bookmarks Summer Reading Program and Video Project, which combined reading with writing and art-based responses to pre-selected books and themes
\$3,250

Carolina Theatre of Durham, Inc.
Durham, NC

For "Restoring Hope," a permanent, museum-quality exhibition on the history of the Carolina Theatre
\$3,500

Bookmarks' Summer Reading students with author David Baldacci.



TERRI BURKE WITH CATCH A SPARK PHOTOGRAPHY

The Center for Documentary Studies

Durham, NC

For Full Frame Documentary Film Festival Fall 2015 Youth Screening and Summer 2016 School of Doc Filmmaking Camp
\$5,500

The Center For Inquiry-Based Learning, Inc.

Durham, NC

For the Middle School STEM Kit Program for Durham Public Schools, which provides professional development, academic coaching, and STEM curriculum materials for middle school science teachers
\$4,000

The Chamber Orchestra of the Triangle, Inc.

Chapel Hill, NC

For the "Bach and His Children, Old and New" 2015 Season Opening Concert
\$5,000

Community Artist Will, Inc.

New Bern, NC

For the Eastern North Carolina Cultural Arts Program, an art education initiative for elementary and middle school students
\$4,000

Eastern North Carolina middle school students participate in a Community Artist Will art class.



COURTESY COMMUNITY ARTIST WILL



COURTESY CENTER FOR INQUIRY-BASED LEARNING

A Center for Inquiry-Based Learning teacher training in Genetics.

Community School of the Arts

Charlotte, NC

For the Orchestra in Schools Reunion Class program, which provides continued strings instruction to middle school students who have completed the Orchestra in Schools program
\$5,000

Crayons2Calculators

Durham, NC

For capacity building in marketing and development
\$5,000

Duke Memorial United Methodist Church

Durham, NC

For annual support
\$5,000

Durham Arts Council, Inc.

Durham, NC

For the Emerging Artists Program
\$8,000

Durham Nativity School, Inc.

Durham, NC

For Food For Life: a teaching garden that engages students in the process of growing their own food as it relates to their curriculum
\$4,000

The Emily Krzyzewski Family Life Center, Inc.

Durham, NC

For the Kool Prep program, which strengthens students' writing and math skills and prepares them for ACT and SAT college entrance exams
\$3,600

El Futuro, Inc.

Durham, NC

For the School Success for Immigrant Students program, designed to help students build communication and problem-solving skills and to better engage in the classroom
\$5,000

Granville-Vance Faith Initiative For Community Action

Henderson, NC

For the GVFICA Education Initiative, which pairs faith communities with specific schools to assist with literacy
\$4,000

Helps Education Fund

Raleigh, NC

For the Metropolitan Organization of Volunteers for Empowering Students (MOVES) Program, which places highly trained volunteers in classrooms to assist with reading, writing, and math \$5,000

Hickory Community Theatre

Hickory, NC

For the Theatre by Me program: Thinking, Feeling, Creating, which uses the dynamic art of theatre to help elementary students see a path to understanding their own culture while developing an attitude of curiosity and understanding for others \$3,350

Latino Educational Achievement Partnership (LEAP)

Durham, NC

For job-embedded professional development for teachers in a bilingual preschool \$4,000

North Carolina Arts In Action, Inc.

Durham, NC

For capacity building and K-5 arts education programming \$10,000

North Carolina Center for Nonprofits

Raleigh, NC

For annual support \$5,000

North Carolina Master Chorale

Raleigh, NC

For the new High School Intensive, which seeks to affect deeper and long-lasting impacts on young singers \$4,000

Northern Moore Family Resource Center, Inc.

Robbins, NC

For the HOPE Academy Preschool and Family Outreach Program, which offers research-based, preschool education that supports emotional, physical, cognitive, and language development \$4,000

Piedmont Opera Theatre, Inc.

Winston-Salem, NC

For arts education programming \$4,000

Rebound Alternatives for Youth

Durham, NC

For a program that provides academic and social development services to Durham County youth on short-term suspension from school \$3,000

The Salvation Army Boys & Girls Clubs of Greensboro

Greensboro, NC

For the Music Program, which introduces classical music performance, history, and theory to youth \$3,000

School for Conversion, Inc.

Durham, NC

For the Creating Local Agents of Change with the WAY program, an afterschool mentoring program serving middle-school aged girls and boys in Durham \$4,000



MARYBETH CARPENTER

Knightdale Elementary School students showcase their talents in a final NC Arts in Action performance before their parents and the community in February.

The University of North Carolina School of the Arts



The University of North Carolina School of the Arts is America's first public arts conservatory. A unique professional school for the performing, visual, and moving image arts, it trains students at the high school, undergraduate, and master's levels for careers in the arts.

The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation enjoys a long partnership with the school. Mary D.B.T. Semans and James H. Semans, M.D., founding trustees of the Biddle Foundation, played an instrumental role in the UNCASA's establishment in 1963, and Dr. Semans was its first Chair of the Board of Trustees. He and Mrs. Semans maintained lifelong connections with the school, as has Thomas S. Kenan III, a long-time Biddle Foundation trustee and UNCASA trustee emeritus.

We celebrated Tom's retirement from the Biddle Board of Trustees at a special meeting held on campus in December 2015 and named the art galleries in the new library in his honor. Biddle Foundation grants over the years total nearly \$1.4 million and have supported numerous programs and projects at the school, including:

- student scholarships across the school
- guest artist residencies
- student performances and productions in drama, music, and dance
- student participation in international festivals, programs, documentary film production, internships, and other career development opportunities



SEEDS

Durham, NC

For the relaunch of the Children's Program, which has been restructured into a cohesive program for elementary aged students
\$4,000

Southern Documentary Fund

Durham, NC

For 2015 SDF Filmmaking Grants, which assist filmmakers making documentaries in or about North Carolina at various stages of production, leading to the completion and distribution of powerful works
\$20,000

Special Olympics North Carolina, Inc. Durham County

Durham, NC

For the establishment of an equipment and uniform replenishment program
\$5,000

Student Action With Farmworkers

Durham, NC

For the Levante Documentary Arts Project, through which farmworker teens learn how to use documentary as a tool to explore their identity, build their self-esteem, and bring public awareness to the experiences of farmworkers in North Carolina
\$4,000

University of North Carolina School of the Arts Foundation, Inc.

Winston-Salem, NC

For Deans Discretionary support, the Creative Excellence Fund, and the Thomas S. Kenan III art galleries
\$75,000

Village of Wisdom

Durham, NC

For the Parent Learning Communities, which serve, connect, and empower Black families to improve the life and academic outcomes of their children
\$5,000

Volunteer Center of Greater Durham, Inc.

Durham, NC

For expansion of the Student Action Board, a leadership training program that combines reflection and service to enable participants to have a significant positive impact on their community
\$4,000

Winston-Salem Delta Fine Arts, Inc.

Winston-Salem, NC

For the Shakers Performing Arts Camp, which teaches Shakespeare and Classical Theater through music, dance, and textual interpretation to youth ages 9-17
\$5,000

Yadkin Arts Council, Inc.

Yadkinville, NC

For a music education program to introduce the Orff-Schulwerk Method to all K-6th grade students at the Yadkinville Elementary School
\$5,000

Total Grants: \$266,950



STEPHANIE TODD OF MAGNOLIA GRAY PHOTOGRAPHY

Students participating in a Yadkinville Elementary School music class.

GRANT RECIPIENTS IN NEW YORK CITY

Mrs. Biddle spent many years in New York City. As it has each year, the foundation supports the churches that she attended—Irvington-on-Hudson Presbyterian and Christ Church United Methodist. In 2015 the foundation awarded grants for a number of arts education programs and artist internships and residencies. ■

American Composers Orchestra, Inc.

New York, NY

For the EarShot program: New Music Readings for High Schools Composers, an innovative new program that teaches students to compose for orchestra
\$4,000

Christ Church United Methodist

New York, NY

For annual support
\$5,000

Cool Culture, Inc.

Brooklyn, NY

For the Adopt-A-Museum program, a family engagement and early learning program that partners the Brooklyn Museum with 10 Brooklyn-based early childhood centers in high-need communities
\$4,000

Daniel's Music Foundation

New York, NY

For the new DMF Youth Band, to

engage young people with developmental and physical disabilities
\$4,000

Harlem Educational Activities Fund, Inc. (HEAF)

New York, NY

For the Cultural Literacy Behind the Arts program, which helps high school students develop cultural versatility, critical skills, and confidence through exposure to arts and culture
\$4,000



Families participate in a Cool Culture Adopt a Museum Program workshop at the Brooklyn Museum.

COURTESY COOL CULTURE



JESSICA OSBER

Students creating art through Marquis Studios Arts for All Inclusive Arts Program in NYC public schools.



JESSICA OSBER

**Irvington-On-Hudson
Presbyterian Church**

Irvington, NY
For annual support
\$2,500

**Kentler International
Drawing Space, Inc.**

Brooklyn, NY
For the K.I.D.S. Art Education Special
Needs Residency Program at P.S. 15,
which offers an expanded and
specialized program that directly links
Kentler's exhibitions with related
curriculum topics
\$4,000

*New Georges production of
Heartbreak, written and directed
by Ariel Stess.*

Marquis Studios Ltd
Brooklyn, NY

For Arts for All, Inclusive Arts Program,
which brings together special
education and general education
students from three adjacent NYC
public schools for an innovative
inclusive arts education program
\$4,000

New Georges
New York, NY

For The Audrey Residencies, a new
program that strengthens the
new-works processes by adding a
year-long residency component to the
3 weeks spent developing a play
\$5,000



A Vampire Cowboys show, part of New Ohio Theatre's Archive Residency with IRT Theater.

New Ohio Theatre

New York, NY

For the Archive Residency, a new program to support independent theatre companies with financial assistance, accumulated sector knowledge, and technical and administrative expertise \$4,000

Noche Flamenca, Inc.

New York, NY

For a month-long flamenco summer camp for NYC teenagers \$4,000

Poets House, Inc.

New York, NY

For a multi-layered educational project that deepens teens' experiences with poetry with the goal of increasing engagement and facility with language, literature and writing \$4,000

SAY: The Stuttering Association For The Young, Inc.

New York, NY

For the expansion of the One-Act Play project, which provides theater training for teenagers in playwriting

and directing activities, working with them to craft one-act plays and musicals to be produced and performed for the public with acclaimed, professional artists \$4,000

Space On Ryder Farm

Brooklyn, NY

For SPACE on Ryder Farm's Season Internship Program, which brings college students and recent college graduates to work side by side with artists, arts administrators and arts professionals in a vibrant and communal residency program \$5,000

Sundog Theatre, Inc.

Staten Island, NY

For the expansion of the 3D Literacy Program, an interactive program designed to help students with literacy challenges improve their ability to read, write, learn, and communicate \$5,000

Teachers & Writers Collaborative

New York, NY

For A Poem as Big as the Met, a program in which fifth- through eighth-grade students explore and write poetry about images and objects from the museum's rich collection \$4,000

Turtle Bay Music School, Inc.

New York, NY

Explore Your Story: A Music and Movement Project in collaboration with myFace, which uses music and dance to provide opportunities for self-expression to students with facial deformities while building confidence and community \$5,000

Total Grants: \$71,500

GRANT RECIPIENTS AT DUKE UNIVERSITY

In 2015 the foundation funded various Duke initiatives in the arts, medicine, and student enrichment. Biddle established the Special Projects Initiative, designed to support innovative, collaborative projects with the potential for strategic impact on the university. The first grant was made for the Faculty Artist Commission project, allowing faculty teams from different departments to create new works of art. ■



J CALDWELL, PHOTOGRAPHER, NASHER MUSEUM

Duke University first-year students contemplate "The Colour Correction" exhibition at the Nasher Museum of Art.

Arts of the Moving Image

For the Screen/Society program, which provides a film and video exhibition program for the Triangle community, with an emphasis on screening challenging and thought-provoking work in its original format
\$10,650

Dance Program

For production and marketing expenses connected to ChoreoLab and November Dances and for the Backstage Series, which provides opportunities for students to interact with professional and visiting artists
\$37,200

Department of Music

For the Graduate Composition Fellowship, Lecture Series, Master Class and Opera Workshop
\$132,000

Department of Theater Studies

For support of visiting artists who work in residency with students
\$15,900

Duke Performances

For the From the Archives Initiative, through which world-class performing artists created works engaging archival materials from Duke's Rubenstein Rare Book and Manuscript Library
\$48,940

Duke University School of Medicine

For need-based financial aid for third-year medical students
\$10,000

Duke University Health System Arts & Health at Duke

For the Artists in Residence Program
\$20,000

Nasher Museum of Art

For K-12 education programs, exhibitions, conservation efforts, and student internships
\$81,560

Office of the Provost

For the Duke University Faculty Artist Commission project
\$50,000

Sarah P. Duke Gardens

For the Mary Duke Biddle Rose Garden and a gift in honor of retiring Biddle trustee Mary Duke Trent Jones
\$81,250

Student Affairs

For the Kenan-Biddle Partnership, which provides grants for collaborative inter-university student projects at UNC-Chapel Hill and Duke University
\$12,500

Total Grants: \$500,000

Statements of Activities – Modified Cash Basis Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

	2015			2014		
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
Support and revenue:						
Contributions received	\$ -	\$ 755,601	\$ 755,601	\$ -	\$ 102,388	\$ 102,388
Investment revenue						
Dividends	-	444,628	444,628	-	636,028	636,028
Interest on corporate bonds	-	86,869	86,869	-	231,795	231,795
Interest on U.S. Government obligations	-	31,556	31,556	-	89,981	89,981
Interest on cash held	-	4,017	4,017	-	270	270
Net realized gain on sale of investments	-	5,910,588	5,910,588	-	2,192,033	2,192,033
Net assets released from donor restrictions	1,579,044	(1,579,044)	-	1,546,490	(1,546,490)	-
Total support and revenue	1,579,044	5,654,215	7,233,259	1,546,490	1,706,005	3,252,495
Expenses:						
Grants, Duke University	500,000	-	500,000	522,000	-	522,000
Grants, North Carolina	266,950	-	266,950	237,755	-	237,755
Grants, New York	71,500	-	71,500	47,500	-	47,500
Administrative	625,216	-	625,216	673,235	-	673,235
Federal excise taxes	115,378	-	115,378	66,000	-	66,000
Total expenses	1,579,044	-	1,579,044	1,546,490	-	1,546,490
Change in net assets	-	5,654,215	5,654,215	-	1,706,005	1,706,005
Net assets:						
Beginning	-	26,743,110	26,743,110	-	25,037,105	25,037,105
Ending	\$ -	\$ 32,397,325	\$ 32,397,325	\$ -	\$ 26,743,110	\$ 26,743,110

Application Information

Deadlines and Application Procedures

Please see the foundation's website for deadlines and detailed application information. www.mdbf.org

If you have questions about deadlines or eligibility, please contact the Foundation at 919-493-5591 or email info@mdbf.org.

Current Funding Interests

The foundation funds arts programs and youth education/development projects, with a particular interest in programs that serve less advantaged populations. We encourage collaborative efforts and projects that blend our funding interests. Grants typically range from \$3,000-\$5,000.

Documentary Film

The Biddle Foundation supports documentary films made in or about North Carolina through our partnership with the Southern Documentary Fund (SDF). All requests for funding for North Carolina film projects should go directly to SDF. southerndocumentaryfund.org/programs/filmmaking-grants/

Organizational Eligibility Requirements

- Organizational annual expenses of \$5 million and under. (Exceptions: Duke University and the University of North Carolina School of the Arts.)
- 501 (c) (3) must be located in NC or NY. If the organization's 501 (c) (3) is in another state with operations in NC or NY, the organization is not eligible to apply.
- Projects must be for the benefit of NC or NY residents.
- Organizations may have only one active grant at a time and only one in a 12-month period. A final narrative and financial report on a previous grant must have been received before a new proposal can be submitted. We ask that organizations wait at least one year after the conclusion of a grant before applying again.

Ineligible Requests

- General operating support.
- Support for ongoing programs or projects. Projects that have been operating for 4 or more years are considered ongoing.
- Capital requests: construction, renovation, or purchase of a building, endowments. Equipment is rarely funded.
- Projects that will be completed or substantially completed when funding decisions are made. See website for funding cycle information.
- Grants to individuals.
- Season support for performing arts organizations.
- Health/human services projects, even if for less advantaged groups.

MDBF

Trustees

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Vice-Chair
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K. Todd Walker
Charlotte, NC

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