

**THE SCHERMAN FOUNDATION INC.**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2014**

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New York, New York 10022  
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[www.scherman.org](http://www.scherman.org)

The Scherman Foundation nurtures excellent nonprofit organizations and leaders in the fields of community development, environment, reproductive rights and justice, human rights, the arts, and governmental accountability by providing long-term general operating support. It particularly values policy advocacy and grassroots organizing, believing that an engaged population creates multiple paths to equitable, sustainable, and structural social change. The Foundation has a special commitment to New York City, while also funding nationally and, in limited instances, internationally.

The Scherman Foundation's core program focuses on six issue areas:

- Arts
- Environment
- Governmental Transparency and Accountability
- Human Rights and Liberties
- Reproductive Rights and Justice
- Strengthening New York Communities

More information about the Foundation's programs, guidelines, and submission time frames for each program area can be found at [www.scherman.org](http://www.scherman.org).

## Directors

Karen R. Sollins	Chair and Director
Susanna Bergtold	Secretary and Director
Hillary Brown	Director
Miriam Buhl	Director
David R. Jones	Director
Gordon N. Litwin	Director
John J. O'Neil	Director
Marcia Thompson	Director
John Wroclawski	Director
Axel G. Rosin *	Chair and Director Emeritus
Katharine S. Rosin **	Director Emeritus
Anthony M. Schulte ***	Director Emeritus

## Staff

Mike Pratt	President
Alexa Avilés	Program Officer
Catherine Porter	Administrator
Zabrina Collazo	Program Assistant

\*deceased March 27, 2007

\*\* deceased December 11, 2009

\*\*\* deceased June 17, 2012

## GRANTS

For the year ended December 31, 2014

### Summary

Core Fund	
Arts	315,000
Environment	794,000
Governmental Transparency and Accountability	235,000
Human Rights and Liberties	130,000
Reproductive Rights and Justice	402,500
Strengthening New York Communities	670,000
Miscellaneous	<u>67,250</u>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>2,613,750</b>
Katherine S. and Axel G. Rosin Fund	
Arts	900,000
Environment	891,823
Strengthening New York Communities	<u>900,000</u>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>2,691,823</b>
Employee Matching Gifts	3,500
Other Contributions	<u>6,497</u>
<b>Total Grants</b>	<b>5,316,320</b>

Unless otherwise indicated, grants are for general operating support.

### Core Fund

#### Arts

Brooklyn Academy of Music Brooklyn, NY	\$45,000
New York City Ballet New York, NY	\$25,000
Orchestra of St. Luke's New York, NY	\$30,000
Symphony Space New York, NY	\$30,000
Brooklyn Arts Council Brooklyn, NY	\$30,000

Vineyard Theatre New York, NY	\$15,000	*
Brooklyn Arts Exchange Brooklyn, NY	\$25,000	
Classic Stage Company New York, NY	\$25,000	
Elevator Repair Service New York, NY	\$25,000	
Great Small Works New York, NY	\$25,000	
New York Live Arts New York, NY	<u>\$40,000</u>	
<b>Total Arts</b>	<b>\$315,000</b>	

### Environment

350.org Brooklyn, NY	\$80,000	
NEO Philanthropies <i>Building Equity and Alignment for Impact (BEA Initiative)</i> New York, NY	\$20,000	*
Ceres Boston, MA	\$50,000	
Chesapeake Climate Action Network Takoma Park, Maryland	\$50,000	
Earthjustice <i>Northeast Office's Shale Gas and Fracking Work</i> San Francisco, CA	\$50,000	
Earthworks <i>Oil and Gas Accountability Project</i> Washington, D.C.	\$50,000	
Environment America Research and Policy Center <i>Campaign for Global Warming Solutions</i> Boston, MA	\$50,000	

Environmental Grantmakers Association New York, NY	\$4,000	*
Friends of the Earth <i>Climate and Energy</i> Washington, D.C.	\$50,000	
Green Guerillas New York, NY	\$30,000	
League of Conservation Voters Education Fund <i>The Heat is On</i> Washington, D.C.	\$60,000	
Blue Marble Project <i>Move New York</i> New York, NY	\$25,000	*
New York City Environmental Justice Alliance Brooklyn, NY	\$50,000	
New Yorkers for Parks New York, NY	\$40,000	
Rainforest Action Network San Francisco, CA	\$50,000	
Rocking the Boat Bronx, NY	\$40,000	
Tri-State Transportation Campaign <i>New York City Program</i> New York, NY	\$50,000	
Western Resource Advocates <i>Energy Program</i> Boulder, CO	<u>\$45,000</u>	
<b>Total Environment</b>	<b>\$794,000</b>	

### **Governmental Transparency and Accountability**

Center for Effective Government Washington, D.C.	\$45,000
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Demos New York, NY	\$25,000	
Government Accountability Project Washington, D.C.	\$45,000	
Fund for Constitutional Government <i>Open the Government Coalition</i> Washington, D.C.	\$40,000	
Project on Government Oversight Washington, D.C.	\$50,000	
Taxpayers for Common Sense Washington, D.C.	<u>\$30,000</u>	
<b>Total Governmental Transparency and Accountability</b>	<b>\$235,000</b>	

### **Human Rights and Liberties**

LatinoJustice New York, NY	\$45,000	
Human Rights First New York, NY	\$40,000	
New York Civil Liberties Union Foundation New York, NY	<u>\$45,000</u>	
<b>Total Human Rights and Liberties</b>	<b>\$130,000</b>	

### **Reproductive Rights and Justice**

Center for Reproductive Rights New York, NY	\$90,000	
UC Berkeley School of Law <i>Center on Reproductive Rights and Justice</i> Berkeley, CA	\$40,000	
Faith Aloud St. Louis, MO	\$25,000	*
Funders Network on Population, Reproductive Health & Rights Rockville, MD	\$2,500	*

Medical Students for Choice Philadelphia, PA	\$35,000	
National Abortion Federation Washington, D.C.	\$50,000	
National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health New York, NY	\$55,000	
National Women's Health Network <i>Raising Women's Voices</i> Washington, D.C.	\$45,000	
West Virginia Free <i>\$40,00 plus \$20,000 for the Women and Water Campaign</i> Charleston, WV	<u>\$60,000</u>	
<b>Total Reproductive Rights and Justice</b>	<b>\$402,500</b>	

### **Strengthening New York Communities**

Brandworkers Long Island City, NY	\$40,000	
Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A <i>The Community and Economic Development Unit</i> Brooklyn, NY	\$35,000	
Chhaya CDC Jackson Heights, NY	\$40,000	
United Way of New York City <i>New York City Change Capital Fund</i> New York, NY	\$50,000	*
Community Connections for Youth Bronx, NY	\$40,000	
Correctional Association of New York New York, NY	\$40,000	
Faith in New York Corona, NY	\$30,000	*



Lawyers Alliance for New York <i>Legal and Educational Services for Nonprofits Engaged in Community Organizing and Advocacy Work</i> New York, NY	\$40,000	
Make the Road New York Brooklyn, NY	\$50,000	
MFY Legal Services, Inc. <i>Three-Quarter House Organizing Project</i> New York, NY	\$40,000	
MinKwon Center for Community Action <i>Advocacy, Organizing and Civic Participation</i> Flushing, NY	\$40,000	
New Settlement Apartments <i>Community Action for Safe Apartments (CASA)</i> Bronx, NY	\$40,000	
New York State Tenants & Neighbors Information Service New York, NY	\$35,000	
Northwest Bronx Community & Clergy Coalition <i>Kingsbridge Organizing and Advocacy</i> Bronx, NY	\$20,000	*
Community Voices Heard <i>Participatory Budgeting New York</i> Brooklyn, NY	\$40,000	*
Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice <i>Southern Bronx River Waterfront Alliance</i> Bronx, NY	\$50,000	*
Urban Homesteading Assistance Board <i>Breaking the Predatory Equity Cycle Program</i> New York, NY	<u>\$40,000</u>	
<b>Total Strengthening New York Communities</b>	<b>\$670,000</b>	
<b>Miscellaneous</b>		
The Foundation Center New York, NY	\$5,000	

National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy Washington, D.C.	\$30,000	
New York Foundation <i>NYC Capacity Building Collaborative</i> New York, NY	\$5,000	*
Philanthropy New York <i>Membership</i> New York, NY	\$7,250	*
Philanthropy New York <i>Fund for 2025</i> New York, NY	<u>\$20,000</u>	*
<b>Total Miscellaneous</b>	<b>\$67,250</b>	
<b>Total Core Fund Grants</b>	<b><u>\$2,613,750</u></b>	

### **Katharine S. and Axel G. Rosin Fund**

#### **Year One of 2014 Cycle**

The Scherman Foundation made eight new grants in 2014, totaling \$3,200,000 over three years, from the *Katharine S. and Axel G. Rosin Fund* to innovative and high-impact projects in the areas of Arts, Environment, and Strengthening New York Communities.

#### **Arts**

HERE <i>Prime Space Initiative</i> <i>Grant total: \$300,000 over three years</i> New York, NY	\$100,000	**
The Field <i>Field Art Fund</i> <i>Grant total: \$300,000 over three years</i> New York, NY	\$100,000	**
New York Foundation for the Arts <i>Art Business Incubator</i> <i>Grant total: \$600,000 over three years</i> New York, NY	\$200,000	**
<b>Total Rosin – Arts</b>	<b>\$400,000</b>	

## Environment

Alliance for Water Efficiency \$213,000 \*\*  
*A Net Zero Water Land Use Ordinance for Sustainable  
Water Use and Urban Growth*  
*Grant total: \$500,000 over 3 years*  
**Chicago, IL**

World Resource Institute \$187,000  
*The World Watersheds Tool: Empowering Citizens for More  
Sustainable Drinking Water*  
*Grant total: \$300,000 over 2 years*  
Washington, D.C.

**Total Rosin – Environment \$400,000**

## Strengthening New York Communities

Association for Neighborhood & Housing Development \$125,000  
*Equitable Economic Development Project for 50,000 Quality  
Industrial Jobs*  
*Grant total: \$450,000 over 2 years*  
New York, NY

CHHAYA Community Development Corporation \$75,000  
*Basement Apartments Safe for Everyone*  
*Grant total: \$150,000 over 2 years*  
Jackson Heights, NY

New York Lawyers for the Public Interest \$200,000  
*Transform, Don't Trash New York City*  
*Grant total: \$600,000 over 3 years*  
New York, NY

**Total Rosin – Strengthening New York Communities \$400,000**

**Total Year One of 2014 Cycle \$1,200,000**

## Year Two of 2013 Cycle

The Foundation also paid the second installment of its 2013 Rosin Fund grant cycle.

### Arts

Alliance of Resident Theatres/New York <i>Collective Insourcing</i> <i>Grant total: \$650,000 over 3 years</i> New York, NY	225,000	**
New Dramatists <i>New Plays/More Ways</i> <i>Grant total: \$350,000 over 3 years</i> New York, NY	\$125,000	**
Queens Museum of Art <i>Open A.I.R.</i> <i>Grant total: \$425,000 over 3 years</i> Queens, NY	<u>\$150,000</u>	**
<b>Total Rosin – Arts</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>	

### Environment

Charles River Watershed Association <i>Smart Sewering Infrastructure for Water Sustainability</i> <i>Grant total: \$670,000 over 3 years</i> Weston, MA	\$220,000	**
GreenLight NY <i>Accelerating Daylight's Efficiency Potential</i> <i>Grant total: \$300,000 over 2 years</i> New York, NY	\$150,000	
Rainforest Alliance <i>Lessons Learned in Sustainable Water Practice</i> <i>Grant total: \$371,029 over 3 years</i> New York, NY	<u>\$121,823</u>	**
<b>Total Rosin – Environment</b>	<b>\$491,823</b>	

## Strengthening New York Communities

Center for Popular Democracy <i>The Workplace Dignity Initiative</i> <i>Grant total: \$750,000 over 3 years</i> Brooklyn, NY	\$250,000	**
Legal Aid Society <i>Alliance for Tenant Power</i> <i>Grant total: \$750,000 over 3 years</i> New York, NY	<u>\$250,000</u>	**
<b>Total Rosin – Strengthening New York Communities</b>	<b><u>\$500,000</u></b>	
<b>Total Year Two of 2013 Cycle</b>	<b>\$1,491,823</b>	
<b>Total Katharine S. and Axel G. Rosin Fund Grants</b>	<b><u>\$2,691,823</u></b>	
<b>Other Contributions</b>	<b><u>\$3,500</u></b>	
<b>Employee Matching Gifts</b>	<b><u>\$6,497</u></b>	
<b>Total Grants Paid in 2014</b>	<b>5,316,320</b>	

\* 1-year grants

\*\* 3-year grants

Unmarked grants are two years.

**Statement Activities for the Year Ended  
December 31, 2014**

**Investment Revenue**

Dividends, interest and other partnership income	\$ 1,779,624
Net realized gains on investment	<u>10,071,876</u>
	<u>11,851,500</u>

Direct investment expenses

Investment management fees	457,670
Investment related expenses	159,214
Federal excise tax	<u>62,200</u>
<b>Total direct investment expenses</b>	<u>679,084</u>
<b>Net Investment Revenue</b>	<u>11,172,416</u>

**Expenses**

Katharine S. and Axel G. Rosin Fund grants	2,691,823
Core Fund grants	2,708,749
Foundation operations and governance	<u>1,031,842</u>
Total Expenses	<u>6,432,414</u>
Change in net assets before net unrealized loss on investments	4,740,002
Net unrealized loss on investments	<u>(6,178,156)</u>
Change in net assets	(1,438,154)

**Net Assets**

Beginning of year	<u>120,983,524</u>
End of year	<u>\$119,545,370</u>