

**THE SCHERMAN FOUNDATION INC.**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2015**

16 East 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, Suite 601  
New York, New York 10022  
t. 212-832-3086  
[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
Amy Bergtold	Director
Hillary Brown	Director
Miriam Buhl	Director
David R. Jones	Director
Gordon N. Litwin	Director
John J. O'Neil Δ	Director
Miles Rapoport	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 and Treasurer
Alexa Avilés	Program Director
Catherine Porter	Administrator
Naiche Parker	Grants Manager
Zabrina Collazo ◇	Program Assistant

Δ until September 14, 2015

◇ until July 16, 2015

\* deceased March 27, 2007

\*\* deceased December 11, 2009

\*\*\* deceased June 17, 2012

## GRANTS

For the year ended December 31, 2015

### Summary

Core Fund	
Arts	442,500
Environment	732,000
Governmental Transparency and Accountability	45,000
Human Rights and Liberties	95,000
Reproductive Rights and Justice	407,500
Strengthening New York Communities	945,000
Miscellaneous	<u>42,250</u>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>2,709,250</b>
Katherine S. and Axel G. Rosin Fund	
Arts	1,315,000
Environment	623,240
Strengthening New York Communities	<u>1,265,000</u>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>3,203,240</b>
Employee Matching Gifts	4,030
Other Contributions	<u>5,452</u>
<b>Total Grants</b>	<b>5,921,972</b>

Unless otherwise indicated, grants are for general operating support.

### Core Fund

#### Arts

Atlantic Theater Company New York, NY	\$20,000
Ballet Hispanic of New York New York, NY	\$20,000
Bronx Museum of the Arts Bronx, NY	\$25,000
Brooklyn Youth Chorus Academy Brooklyn, NY	\$20,000
Center for Traditional Music and Dance New York, NY	\$25,000

City Lore New York, NY	\$30,000	
Dance/NYC New York, NY	\$30,000	
Dancing in the Streets Brooklyn, NY	\$12,500	*
ETHEL Foundation for the Arts New York, NY	\$20,000	
Harlem Stage New York, NY	\$20,000	
Manhattan Graphics Center New York, NY	\$20,000	
New York Festival of Song, Inc. New York, NY	\$20,000	
New York Theatre Workshop New York, NY	\$25,000	
Playwrights Horizons New York, NY	\$25,000	
The Public Theater New York, NY	\$35,000	
School of American Ballet New York, NY	\$15,000	
Signature Theatre Company New York, NY	\$30,000	
Society of the Third Street Music School Settlement New York, NY	\$10,000	*
St. Ann's Warehouse Brooklyn, NY	<u>\$40,000</u>	
<b>Total Arts</b>	<b>\$442,500</b>	

## Environment

Added Value New York, NY	\$20,000	*
Alaska Conservation Foundation Anchorage, AK	\$25,000	*
American Littoral Society Sandy Hook, NJ	\$35,000	
Asian Pacific Environmental Network Oakland, CA	\$50,000	
BlueGreen Alliance Foundation Minneapolis, MN	\$50,000	
Climate and Energy Funders Group San Francisco, CA	\$2,000	*
Climate Parents New York, NY	\$20,000	*
Conservation Law Foundation Boston, MA	\$40,000	
Environmental Advocates of New York Albany, NY	\$40,000	
Green City Force <i>Urban Agricultural Expansion Initiative</i> Brooklyn, NY	\$25,000	*
Green Corps San Francisco, CA	\$20,000	*
Greenpeace Fund <i>Climate and Energy Campaign</i> Washington, DC	\$60,000	
The Horticultural Society <i>Neighborhood Plaza Partnership</i> New York, NY	\$25,000	*
Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance New York, NY	\$30,000	

New York Lawyers for the Public Interest <i>Environmental Justice Project</i> New York, NY	\$35,000	
New York Public Interest Research Group Fund <i>Straphangers Campaign</i> New York, NY	\$40,000	
Oceana Washington, DC	\$30,000	
People's Climate Movement Building Project New York, NY	\$10,000	*
Riders Alliance New York, NY	\$50,000	
Transportation Alternatives New York, NY	\$50,000	
The Trust for Public Land <i>Queensway Cultural Greenway Project</i> New York, NY	\$40,000	
Union of Concerned Scientists <i>Defending and Communicating Climate Science Program</i> Cambridge, MA	<u>\$45,000</u>	
<b>Total Environment</b>	<b>\$732,000</b>	

### **Governmental Transparency and Accountability**

EPIC Washington, DC	<u>\$45,000</u>	
<b>Total Governmental Transparency and Accountability</b>	<b>\$45,000</b>	

### **Human Rights and Liberties**

American Civil Liberties Union Foundation New York, NY	\$45,000	
Center for Constitutional Rights New York, NY	<u>\$50,000</u>	
<b>Total Human Rights and Liberties</b>	<b>\$95,000</b>	

### **Reproductive Rights and Justice**

Advocates for Youth Washington DC	\$45,000	
American Civil Liberties Union Foundation <i>Reproductive Freedom Project</i> New York, NY	\$50,000	
Forward Together Oakland, CA	\$45,000	
Funders Network on Population, Reproductive Health & Rights Rockville, MD	\$2,500	*
Girls for Gender Equity Brooklyn, NY	\$40,000	
Law Students for Reproductive Justice New York, NY	\$50,000	
National Advocates for Pregnant Women New York, NY	\$55,000	
Physicians for Reproductive Health New York, NY	\$35,000	
RH Reality Check (now Rewire) New York, NY	\$40,000	
URGE: Unite for Reproductive and Gender Equity Washington, DC	\$45,000	
<b>Total Reproductive Rights and Justice</b>	<b>\$407,500</b>	



## Strengthening New York Communities

ALIGN <i>Climate Works for All</i> New York, NY	\$25,000	*
Brooklyn Community Foundation <i>Healthy Communities Initiative</i> Brooklyn, NY	\$20,000	*
City Limits New York, NY	\$30,000	
Communities United for Police Reform New York, NY	\$45,000	
Community Voices Heard New York, NY	\$50,000	
El Puente Brooklyn, NY	\$40,000	
Faith in New York Corona, NY	\$50,000	
Fifth Avenue Committee Brooklyn, NY	\$25,000	*
Good Old Lower East Side (GOLES) New York, NY	\$50,000	
Impact Center for Public Interest Law New York, NY	\$10,000	*
Impact Center for Public Interest Law <i>Right to Counsel Project</i> New York, NY	\$20,000	*
Legal Services NYC <i>The Equal Rights Initiative</i> New York, NY	\$50,000	
New Economy Project New York, NY	\$50,000	

New Immigrant Community Empowerment Jackson Heights, NY	\$40,000	
New York City Change Capital Fund New York, NY	\$55,000	*
New York Communities Organizing Fund Brooklyn, NY	\$40,000	
New York Immigration Coalition New York, NY	\$40,000	
Northwest Bronx Community Clergy Coalition Bronx, NY	\$40,000	
Participatory Budgeting Project New York, NY	\$5,000	*
The POINT Community Development Corporation Bronx, NY	\$40,000	
Pratt Center for Community Development Brooklyn, NY	\$40,000	
Southern Bronx River Watershed Alliance Bronx, NY	\$50,000	*
UPROSE Brooklyn, NY	\$45,000	
Urban Justice Center <i>Community Development Project</i> New York, NY	\$45,000	
Voices of Community Activists and Leaders (VOCAL) Brooklyn, NY	<u>\$40,000</u>	
<b>Total Strengthening New York Communities</b>	<b>\$945,000</b>	
<b>Miscellaneous</b>		
Alliance for Justice Washington, DC	\$30,000	
NYC Capacity Building Collaborative New York, NY	\$5,000	*

Philanthropy New York <i>Membership</i> New York, NY	<u>\$7,250</u>	*
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<b>Total Miscellaneous</b>	<b>\$42,250</b>	
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<b>Total Core Fund Grants</b>	<b><u>\$2,709,250</u></b>	
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## **Katharine S. and Axel G. Rosin Fund**

### **Year One of 2015 Cycle**

The Scherman Foundation made five new grants in 2015, totaling \$2,230,000 over three years, from the *Katharine S. and Axel G. Rosin Fund* to innovative and high-impact projects in the areas of Arts and Strengthening New York Communities.

#### **Arts**

Gibney Dance <i>Digital Connectivity Initiative</i> <i>Grant total: \$300,000 over three years</i> New York, NY	\$100,000	**
Pentacle <i>Capacity Bootcamp</i> <i>Grant total: \$300,000 over three years</i> New York, NY	\$100,000	**
New Music <i>New Music Impact Fund</i> <i>Grant total: \$495,000 over three years</i> New York, NY	<u>\$165,000</u>	**
<b>Total Rosin – Arts</b>	<b>\$365,000</b>	

#### **Strengthening New York Communities**

Good Old Lower East Side (GOLES) <i>Youth and Community-Led Alternatives to Permanent Exclusion</i> <i>Grant total: \$600,000 over 3 years</i> New York, NY	\$200,000	
Pratt Center for Community Development <i>Building Community Capacity to Shape New York's Housing Plan</i> <i>Grant total: \$535,000 over 3 years</i> Brooklyn, NY	<u>\$165,000</u>	
<b>Total Rosin – Strengthening New York Communities</b>	<b><u>\$365,000</u></b>	
<b>Total Year One of 2015 Cycle</b>	<b>\$730,000</b>	

## Year Two of 2014 Cycle

The Foundation also paid the second installment of its 2014 Rosin Fund grant cycle.

### 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	<u>\$225,000</u>	**
<b>Total Rosin – Arts</b>	<b>\$425,000</b>	

### Environment

Alliance for Water Efficiency <i>A Net Zero Water Land Use Ordinance for Sustainable Water Use and Urban Growth</i> <i>Grant total: \$500,000 over 3 years</i> <b>Chicago, IL</b>	\$176,000	**
World Resource Institute <i>The World Watersheds Tool: Empowering Citizens for More Sustainable Drinking Water</i> <i>Grant total: \$300,000 over 2 years</i> Washington, D.C.	<u>\$113,000</u>	
<b>Total Rosin – Environment</b>	<b>\$289,000</b>	

### **Strengthening New York Communities**

Association for Neighborhood & Housing Development <i>Equitable Economic Development Project for 50,000 Quality Industrial Jobs</i> Grant total: \$450,000 over 2 years New York, NY	\$125,000
CHHAYA Community Development Corporation <i>Basement Apartments Safe for Everyone</i> Grant total: \$150,000 over 2 years Jackson Heights, NY	\$75,000
New York Lawyers for the Public Interest <i>Transform, Don't Trash New York City</i> Grant total: \$600,000 over 3 years New York, NY	<u>\$200,000</u>
<b>Total Rosin – Strengthening New York Communities</b>	<b><u>\$400,000</u></b>
<b>Total Year Two of 2014 Cycle</b>	<b>\$1,114,000</b>

## Year Three of 2013 Cycle

The Foundation also paid the third and final installment of its 2013 Rosin Fund grant cycle.

### Arts

Alliance of Resident Theatres/New York <i>Collective Insourcing</i> Grant total: \$650,000 over 3 years New York, NY	225,000	**
New Dramatists <i>New Plays/More Ways</i> Grant total: \$350,000 over 3 years New York, NY	\$150,000	**
Queens Museum of Art <i>Open A.I.R.</i> Grant total: \$425,000 over 3 years Queens, NY	<u>\$150,000</u>	**
<b>Total Rosin – Arts</b>	<b>\$525,000</b>	

### Environment

Charles River Watershed Association <i>Smart Sewering Infrastructure for Water Sustainability</i> Grant total: \$670,000 over 3 years Weston, MA	\$210,000	**
GreenLight NY <i>Accelerating Daylight's Efficiency Potential</i> Grant total: \$300,000 over 2 years New York, NY	N/A	
Rainforest Alliance <i>Lessons Learned in Sustainable Water Practice</i> Grant total: \$371,029 over 3 years New York, NY	<u>\$124,240</u>	**
<b>Total Rosin – Environment</b>	<b>\$334,240</b>	

## Strengthening New York Communities

Center for Popular Democracy <i>The Workplace Dignity Initiative</i> Grant total: \$750,000 over 3 years Brooklyn, NY	\$250,000	**
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Legal Aid Society <i>Alliance for Tenant Power</i> Grant total: \$750,000 over 3 years New York, NY	<u>\$250,000</u>	**
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<b>Total Rosin – Strengthening New York Communities</b>	<b><u>\$500,000</u></b>	
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<b>Total Year Three of 2013 Cycle</b>	<b>\$1,359,240</b>	
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<b>Total Katharine S. and Axel G. Rosin Fund Grants</b>	<b><u>\$3,203,240</u></b>	
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<b>Other Contributions</b>	<b><u>\$5,452</u></b>	
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<b>Employee Matching Gifts</b>	<b><u>\$4,030</u></b>	
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<b>Total Grants Paid in 2015</b>	<b><u>\$5,921,972</u></b>	
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\* 1-year grants

\*\* 3-year grants

Unmarked grants are two years.



**Statement Activities for the Year Ended  
December 31, 2015**

**Investment Revenue**

Dividends, interest and other partnership income	\$ 1,982,372
Net realized gains on investment	<u>1,810,431</u>
	<u>3,792,803</u>
Direct investment expenses	
Investment management fees	690,517
Investment related expenses	145,274
Federal excise tax	<u>158,000</u>
<b>Total direct investment expenses</b>	<u>993,791</u>
<b>Net Investment Revenue</b>	<u>2,799,012</u>

**Expenses**

Katharine S. and Axel G. Rosin Fund grants	3,203,240
Core Fund grants	2,793,732
Foundation operations and governance	<u>837,956</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>6,834,928</u>
Change in net assets before net unrealized loss on investments	(4,035,916)
Net unrealized loss on investments	<u>(3,542,236)</u>
Change in net assets	(7,578,152)

**Net Assets**

Beginning of year	<u>119,545,370</u>
End of year	<u>\$111,967,218</u>