

The Scherman Foundation Inc.

Annual Report 2011



16 East 52nd Street, Suite 601, New York, NY 10022
tel 212-832-3086 fax 212-838-0154
www.scherman.org

Design by IEG Grafiks Inc. www.ieggrafiks.com

Statement of Policy

The Scherman Foundation was founded in 1941 by Harry Scherman, founder of the Book-of-the-Month Club, as a small family foundation. From a modest giving program, averaging about one hundred thousand dollars a year, the Scherman Foundation has grown and broadened its interests. To date, it has made more than 6,949 grants, totaling almost 114 million dollars.

The giving program of the Foundation emphasizes long-term general support, reflecting the Directors' commitment to sustained support for current grantees, and the belief that strong nonprofit leaders who are closest to the issues can best decide on the most effective use of grant funds.

The main areas of interest of the Scherman Foundation are the environment, human rights and liberties, reproductive rights and services, the arts, and social welfare. In the last two areas particularly, preference is given to organizations in New York City. The Foundation does not fund colleges, universities or professional schools. No grants are made for medical, science or engineering research, nor does the Foundation make grants to capital campaigns, individuals, or in support of conferences, specific media or arts productions.

Application Procedures

Grants are made only to tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organizations. Applications which fall within the scope of interests of the Foundation are considered and acted upon by the Board of Directors at its meetings held four times a year. Meeting dates are flexible.

Request for support should be made in a brief letter of inquiry to the President outlining the purpose for which funds are sought. In addition to a brief program description, helpful information to include with your inquiry:

- ▶ Board of Directors and key personnel lists
- ▶ Current year budget
- ▶ Present sources of support, including other foundation funders
- ▶ Evidence of tax status

Requests for support may be submitted electronically to: submissions@scherman.org. Please put SUPPORT REQUEST in the subject line.

If additional information or a meeting is required, it will be requested. Applicants will generally be advised within eight weeks if a proposal has been declined or is under consideration.

The foundation does not accept proposals via fax. Proposals may be submitted electronically to submissions@scherman.org, clearly marked as PROPOSAL in the subject line. Do not submit video or audio cassettes or CD's, unless requested to do so.

The Foundation does not maintain a mailing list, nor does it produce publications other than an Annual Report, which may be downloaded from the Foundation's Website.

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
Anthony M. Schulte	Director
Marcia Thompson	Director
John Wroclawski	Director
Axel G. Rosin *	Chair and Director Emeritus
Katharine S. Rosin **	Director Emeritus

Staff

Mike Pratt	President
Alexa Avilés	Program Officer
Nancy T. Handler	Administrator
Zabrina Collazo	Administrative Assistant

*deceased March 27, 2007

**deceased December 11, 2009

Grants

For the year ended December 31, 2011
Summary

The Arts	\$485,000
Environment	\$794,000
Human Rights and Liberties	\$115,000
Reproductive Rights and Services	\$337,500
Social Welfare	\$667,000
Miscellaneous	\$35,350
Employee Matching Gifts	\$3,300
Other Contributions	\$3,460
TOTAL GRANTS	\$2,440,610

Unless otherwise indicated, grants are for general support
* Represents a two-year grant

The Arts

Atlantic Theater Company New York, NY	20,000*
Bronx Council on the Arts Bronx, NY	20,000*
Bronx Museum of the Arts Bronx, NY	20,000*
Brooklyn Youth Chorus Academy Brooklyn, NY	20,000*
Center for Traditional Music and Dance New York, NY	20,000*
City Lore New York, NY	20,000*
Dancing in the Streets New York, NY including one time grant of \$10,000 for collaboration with Casita Maria	25,000*
Elevator Repair Service Theater Brooklyn, NY	10,000
Harlem School of the Arts New York, NY	30,000*

The Arts *continued*

Harlem Stage Gatehouse New York, NY	20,000*
HERE New York, NY	20,000*
Manhattan Graphics Center New York, NY	15,000*
New York Festival of Song New York, NY	20,000*
New York Foundation for the Arts New York, NY	30,000*
New York Shakespeare Festival New York, NY	30,000*
New York Theatre Workshop New York, NY	20,000*
New York Youth Symphony New York, NY	10,000
Playwrights Horizons New York, NY	25,000*
Queens Museum of Art Flushing, NY	20,000*
School of American Ballet New York, NY	15,000*
Signature Theatre Company New York, NY	25,000*
St. Ann's Warehouse Brooklyn, NY	30,000*
Third Street Music School Settlement New York, NY	<u>20,000*</u>
Total, The Arts	\$485,000

The Arts *continued*

In 2010, the following organizations received two-year grants (for 2010 and 2011) in the Arts Program:

- Alliance of Resident Theatres/New York
- Brooklyn Academy of Music
- Brooklyn Arts Exchange
- Classic Stage Company
- Dance Theater Workshop/New York Live Arts
- Great Small Works
- New Dramatists
- New York City Ballet
- Performance Space 122
- Sphinx Organization/New York activities
- St. Luke's Orchestra Ensemble
- Symphony Space
- Vineyard Theatre

Environment

Alaska Conservation Foundation Anchorage, AK	50,000*
American Littoral Society Highlands, NJ	25,000*
Blue Green Alliance Minneapolis, MN	40,000*
Center for Working Families New York, NY Green Jobs/Green NY	20,000
City Parks Foundation New York, NY Catalyst Project (\$25,000) General Operating Support (\$15,000)	40,000*
Climate Organizing Lab Cleveland, OH	50,000*
Conservation Law Foundation Boston, MA	40,000*
Energy Action Coalition Washington, DC	50,000*

Environment *continued*

Environmental Advocates of New York Albany, NY	40,000*
Environmental Grantmakers Association New York, NY	4,000
Green Corps San Francisco, CA	40,000*
Greenpeace Fund Washington, DC Quit Coal Campaign	60,000*
Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance New York, NY	30,000*
National Resources Defense Council New York, NY Sustainable Transit Campaign	50,000
New York Community Trust New York, NY One Region Fund	5,000
New York Public Interest Research Group Fund New York, NY Clean Drinking Water Coalition NYPIRG (\$10,000) Riverkeeper (\$7,500) Catskill Center (\$2,500)	20,000
New York Public Interest Research Group Fund New York, NY Straphangers Campaign	40,000*
Oceana Washington, DC	30,000*
Rainforest Action Network San Francisco, CA Climate and Energy Activities	45,000*

Environment *continued*

The Trust for Public Land New York, NY Parks for People-New York City Program	30,000*
Transportation Alternatives New York, NY	45,000*
Union of Concerned Scientists Cambridge, MA Climate Solutions Campaign	<u>40,000*</u>
Total, Environment	\$794,000

In 2010, the following organizations received two-year grants (for 2010 and 2011) in the Environmental Program:

- Added Value & Herban Solutions
- Ceres/ Climate Activities
- Chesapeake Climate Action Network
- Chesapeake Climate Action Network/ Windmills Not Oil Spills
- Earthjustice/Northeast Office's Shale Work
- EARTHWORKS
- Environment America Research & Policy Center/
- Global Warming, Oil Savings & Clean Energy Program
- Friends of the Earth
- Green Guerillas
- League of Conservation Voters Education Fund/Climate Advocacy
- National Caucus of Environmental Legislators
- PEER (Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility)
- Rocking the Boat
- Tri-State Transportation Campaign/New York City program
- Western Resource Advocates/Energy Program

Human Rights and Liberties

American Civil Liberties Union Foundation New York, NY	45,000*
Center for Constitutional Rights New York, NY	40,000*
Electronic Privacy Information Center Washington, DC	<u>30,000*</u>
Total, Human Rights and Liberties	\$115,000

Human Rights and Liberties *continued*

In 2010, the following organizations received two-year grants (for 2010 and 2011) in the Human Rights and Liberties Program:

Human Rights First
 New York Civil Liberties Union Foundation
 New York Immigration Coalition
 Latino Justice/PRLDEF

Reproductive Rights and Services

Advocates for Youth Washington, DC Activities in the United States	40,000*
American Civil Liberties Union Foundation New York, NY Reproductive Freedom Project	45,000*
Asian Communities for Reproductive Justice Oakland, CA	40,000*
Choice USA Washington, DC	35,000*
Funders Network on Population, Reproductive Health and Rights Rockville, MD	2,500
Law Students for Reproductive Justice Oakland, CA	50,000*
Ms. Foundation for Women Brooklyn, NY Women's Reproductive and Sexual Rights, Health and Justice Program	50,000*
National Advocates for Pregnant Women New York, NY	50,000*
Physicians for Reproductive Choice and Health New York, NY	<u>25,000*</u>
Total, Reproductive Rights and Services	\$337,500

Reproductive Rights and Services *continued*

In 2010, the following organizations received two-year grants (for 2010-2011) in the Reproductive Rights and Services Program:

- Center for Reproductive Rights
- Community Healthcare Network
- Medical Students for Choice
- National Abortion Federation
- National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health

Social Welfare

Association for Neighborhood & Housing Development New York, NY Initiative for Neighborhood and City-Wide Organizing	50,000*
Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation Brooklyn, NY	25,000*
Community Voices Heard New York, NY	40,000*
Good Old Lower East Side New York, NY	40,000*
Legal Aid Society New York, NY	60,000*
Legal Services NYC New York, NY	40,000*
National Center for Law and Economic Justice New York, NY Project Fair Play New York	30,000*
Neighborhood Economic Development Advocacy Project New York, NY	50,000*
Neighborhood Funders Group Washington, DC	2,000
Neighborhood Opportunities Fund New York, NY	25,000
New York Communities Organizing Fund, Inc. Brooklyn, NY New York City Activities	40,000*

Social Welfare *continued*

New York Lawyers for the Public Interest New York, NY Environmental Justice and Community Development Project	50,000*
New York State Tenants & Neighbors Information Service New York, NY	10,000
Northwest Bronx Community & Clergy Coalition Bronx, NY	40,000*
Pratt Center for Community Development Brooklyn, NY	60,000*
Sustainable South Bronx Bronx, NY	30,000*
The Point Community Development Corporation Bronx, NY	40,000*
UPROSE Brooklyn, NY	35,000*
Total, Social Welfare	\$667,000

In 2010, the following organizations received two-year grants (for 2010-2011) in the Social Welfare Program:

- Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A/
Community and Economic Development Unit
- Center for Community Change
- Citizens Committee for New York City
- Community Resource Exchange
- Correctional Association of New York
- Families United for Racial and Economic Equality / FUREE
- Fresh Youth Initiatives
- Housing Court Answers (Formerly City-Wide Task Force on Housing Court)
- inMotion
- Lawyers Alliance for New York
- Make the Road New York
- MFY Legal Services, Inc.
- The Door - A Center of Alternatives
- The Fifth Avenue Committee
- The Osborne Association
- United Neighborhood Houses
- Urban Homesteading Assistance Board/
Work on overleveraged and at-risk HUD housing
- Women's Housing and Economic Development Corporation
- Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice

Miscellaneous

Alliance for Justice Washington, DC	30,000*
--	---------

Philanthropy New York New York, NY	<u>5,350</u>
---------------------------------------	--------------

Total, Miscellaneous	\$35,350
-----------------------------	-----------------

In 2010, the following organizations received two-year grants (for 2010-2011) in the Miscellaneous Program:

- Center for Public Integrity
- Foundation Center
- Government Accountability Project
- National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy/
- Grantmaking for Community Impact Project
- OMB Watch
- Project on Government Oversight
- Taxpayers for Common Sense
- WNYC Foundation

Employee Matching Gifts	<u>\$3,300</u>
--------------------------------	----------------

Other Contributions	<u>\$3,460</u>
----------------------------	----------------

TOTAL	<u><u>\$2,440,610</u></u>
--------------	---------------------------

**Statement Activities for the Year Ended
December 31, 2011**

Unrestricted net assets

Unrestricted revenues and gains (losses)	
Bequest	\$ 6,000,000
Interest and dividends	1,222,720
Realized and unrealized losses on investments	<u>(4,810,591)</u>
Total unrestricted revenues and gains (losses)	<u>2,412,129</u>

Expenses

Program services	
Grants awarded	
The Arts	485,000
Environment	794,000
Human rights and liberties	115,000
Reproductive rights and services	337,500
Social welfare	667,000
Miscellaneous	35,350
Employee matching gifts	3,300
Other	<u>3,460</u>
Total grants	2,440,610

Supporting Services

Investment fees	506,834
Management and general	804,079
Total expenses	<u>3,751,523</u>

Decrease in unrestricted net assets (1,339,394)

Unrestricted net assets, beginning 95,123,976

Unrestricted net assets, ending \$ 93,784,582