



MNHS

ANNUAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR 2019



FROM THE PRESIDENT

In my first full year as president of the Executive Council I have seen firsthand the impressive commitment of our staff, volunteers, interns, members, state leaders, donors, and visitors. It is because of this commitment that MNHS is stronger and more vibrant than ever.

I am pleased to report that MNHS had a stellar fiscal year 2019. The Creating Our Future Campaign wrapped up at the end of 2018 having exceeded its goal! Thanks to you, this success will support preserving important historic sites, digitizing Minnesota’s newspapers, and investing in educational programs for years to come.

Through exhibits we showcased the history of Somali Minnesotans and 100 years of the Ojibwe jingle dress tradition. In May, rock and roll came to the History Center with an exhibit about the iconic First Avenue, the heart of Minnesota’s music scene. At historic sites, preparations are underway for construction to begin on the Historic Fort Snelling revitalization, while much-needed preservation work continued at Mill City Museum. And we said a fond farewell to Lee Radzak, who retired after 36 years as the keeper of Split Rock Lighthouse.

I am also very excited about what’s coming ahead. We have engaged the public in a process to solicit their input on the name of Historic Fort Snelling in light of the expanded stories we are sharing there and the revitalization of the site. Thousands of people have given their input through an online survey and many have participated in six forums we held across the state. We are grateful for everyone’s participation and insight.

This December, our first permanent exhibit devoted solely to Native American history, *Our Home: Native Minnesota*, will open at the History Center followed by *She Voted: Her Fight, Our Right*, which marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment. These flagship exhibits will round out a year of programs and initiatives that draw on our shared history.

Our new CEO and director, Kent Whitworth, completed his first full year with MNHS and has traveled across the state meeting members, donors, legislators, and other key stakeholders. He has joined a strong organization with dedicated employees who work hard every day to collect, preserve, and share the stories of all Minnesotans so they may be known and remembered.

Your support of MNHS makes all of this possible, and for that I offer my heartfelt thanks and gratitude.

David R. Hakensen, president



▲ David R. Hakensen, president

Kent Whitworth, director and CEO ▲

FROM THE DIRECTOR AND CEO

It has been a fulfilling first full year at MNHS as I have had the privilege to get to know our network of historic sites, extensive collections, and most importantly the remarkable people—staff, board members, interns, volunteers, members, donors, and our many partners—who make this organization what it is today. I am encouraged each day as together we strive to live out the elements of our culture at MNHS—respect, collaboration, innovation, and one MNHS (We are a community with a shared purpose: fulfilling our mission and vision).

Our mission boldly states that we use the power of history to transform lives. To accomplish this, we must act as both connectors and historians, applying the historical process to deepen our understanding of the past and reaching out to people of all backgrounds in ways that bring us together rather than divide us.

The important work of clarifying core functions and identifying new strategic priorities is well underway. Over the next twelve months, the strategies will continue to emerge and the long-term path will become more clear. The pace of our planning is intentionally deliberate and is perhaps best explained by the proverb, “If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.”

In 2020, we look forward to providing you a multitude of opportunities to engage with Minnesota history. MNHS invites you to research our history, discuss our history, sing our history, dance our history, and even taste our history!

I hope you are energized as you read about several fiscal year 2019 highlights. We certainly could not do it without your commitment to the Minnesota Historical Society! We draw inspiration from your passion for history, your love of our great state, and your loyalty to and generosity toward this amazing organization.

With deep gratitude,

Kent Whitworth, director and CEO



FISCAL YEAR 2019 AT A GLANCE

We have
23,005
member
households

1,034,058
GUESTS
visited MNHS
historic sites
and museums



2.8 million
people visited
our website
MNHS.org,
4.5 million times

Friends engaged
2.4 MILLION TIMES
on MNHS social media platforms



27,000
STUDENTS
AT 193 SCHOOLS
participated in National History
Day in Minnesota

223,133
field trip
visitors

2,425 items
added to
collections



The Arts and Cultural
Heritage Fund provided
\$6.5 million through
205 grants
awarded across Minnesota

Northern Lights
student textbook
served
60,600
students

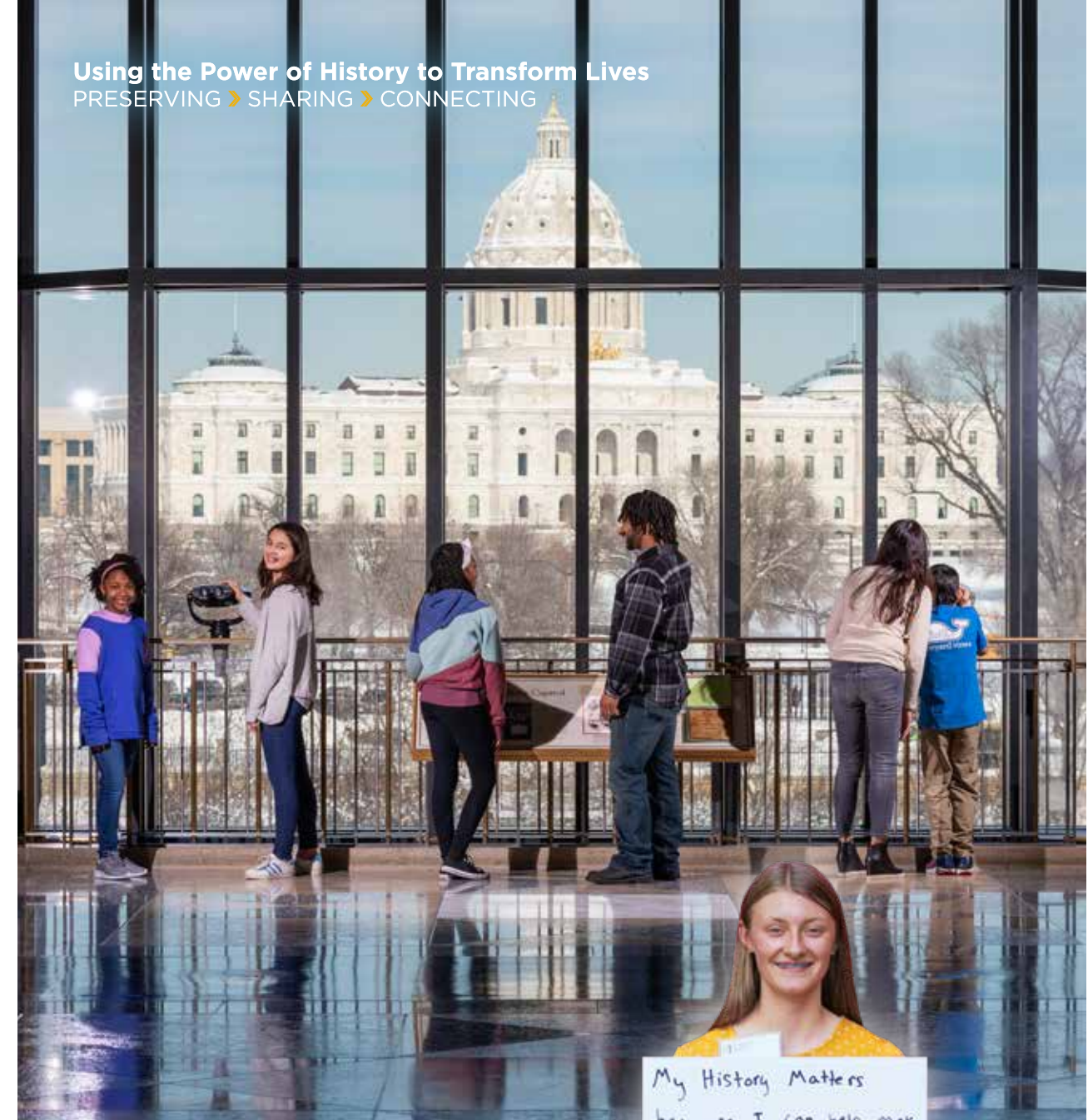
MNHS Press
sold 121,979
print and ebooks



2,200
volunteers and
interns contributed
56,000+ hours

**Gale Family
Library**
at the
History Center
welcomed

22,200 researchers



Using the Power of History to Transform Lives
PRESERVING > SHARING > CONNECTING

#MyHistoryMatters

Follow MNHS on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter to see what Minnesotans are saying about why their history matters.

MINNESOTA'S HISTORICAL RESOURCES

Sharing access to meaningful places, programs, resources, events, services, and exhibits



VISITATION

Attendance dropped 7% from the previous fiscal year due in part to a change in the way visitors are reported at the State Capitol. Highlights included:

- 1,034,058 visitors
- 223,133 field trip visitors
- 23,005 member households
- 2.4 million engagements with MNHS on social media
- 2.8 million visitors to our website MNHS.org, 4.5 million times



HISTORIC SITES & MUSEUMS

Highlights from MNHS' network of 26 historic sites and museums included a jingle dress exhibit, a lighthouse legacy, and more:

- MNHS historic sites and museums became part of the national Blue Star Museums program, which offered free general admission to active-duty military personnel and their families during the summer at museums across the country.
- Split Rock Lighthouse's longest-serving keeper, Lee Radzak, retired in April after nearly four decades caring for the National Historic Landmark. The news made national and international headlines.
- Mille Lacs Indian Museum and Trading Post shared the history of the Ojibwe jingle dress with the exhibit *Ziibaaska' iganagooday: The Jingle Dress at 100*.
- Mill City Museum launched the first major update to the interactive Water Lab since the museum opened in 2003.



- Jeffers Petroglyphs offered extended Saturday hours, staying open until 7 pm so visitors could see the rock carvings at dusk.
- The History Center offered a wide range of programs in support of *The 1968 Exhibit*, including MLK Weekend closing programs; community programs at Hallie Q. Brown Community Center, Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, the Capri Theatre, and others; and a presentation by Vice President Walter Mondale.



EXHIBITS

History Center exhibits invited guests to relive their favorite music memories and more:



Irvine Community Gallery exhibits explored topics about immigration and incarceration rates in Minnesota, and showcased the photography of Wing Young Huie and Native American teens.





MNHS PRESS

Books about a Minnesota rock legend and the golden era of department store shopping propelled readership of MNHS Press titles:

- 121,979 print and ebooks sold, up 11%
- 333,786 unique users viewed 770,418 pages on MNopedia, up 17%



GALE FAMILY LIBRARY AND DIGITAL PRESERVATION & ACCESS

MNHS dramatically improved access to collections while welcoming researchers of all ages:

- The library served 22,200 in-person and correspondence research requests.
- A new in-house digitization process allowed for 1.3 million pages to be added into the Minnesota Digital Newspaper Hub, bringing the page count to three million, representing nearly 700 newspapers in all 87 Minnesota counties dating back to 1849.



- The National Endowment for the Humanities provided MNHS a sixth grant to support participation in the National Digital Newspaper program.
- Staff digitized more than 94 government record and manuscript collections, which are now available online.



COLLECTIONS

From Green Giant to Charles A. Lindbergh, MNHS added 2,425 new items to the collections:

- Early Prince press kit and demo tape, a personal travel Bible, and a handwritten note to his lawyer.
- A photograph collection of Lindbergh on his return to the United States aboard the *USS Memphis* following his historic flight to France, and Navy flight goggles he wore in the 1930s.
- An 1853 Ojibwe translation of a Church of England prayer book, including sacraments, psalms, and hymns.
- Tools made by a sculpture professor to help students with limited mobility and photos of the students using them. ▼



- The manuscript collection of Maud Hart Lovelace, author of the Betsy-Tacy series.
- Several paintings by St. Paul artist Clara Mairs.
- Objects and manuscripts from the Green Giant Company, transferred from the LeSueur County Historical Society.



Double Portrait: Clara and Clem
by Clara Mairs
oil on canvas
Gift of Kathleen M. Daniels

Archaeology highlights included:

- The completion of survey and excavation work in connection with the Historic Fort Snelling revitalization project that revealed the foundations of two 19th-century buildings, and military and Native tool-making artifacts.
- A tour of archaeological sites around Lake Vermilion in St. Louis County for elders from the Bois Forte Band of Ojibwe.
- The addition of 45 collections for a total of 15,035 artifacts, representing field work conducted across 19 counties over the past seven years.



Sprout alarm clock.



Charles A. Lindbergh
on the *USS Memphis*.
About 1927.

EDUCATIONAL
RELEVANCE

Providing context and
connecting the present with
the past



CHARLES LINDBERGH
HOUSE AND MUSEUM

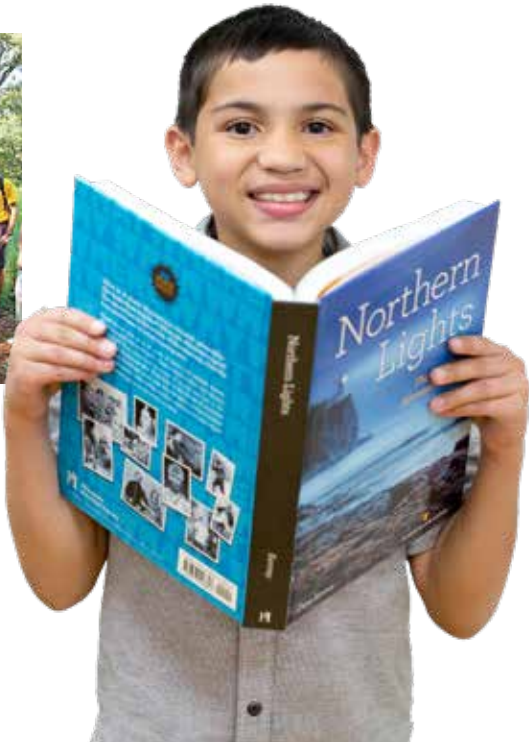
EDUCATION AND
LIFELONG LEARNING

MNHS helped students connect with
the past while developing critical-
thinking skills:

- 223,133 students and chaperones
visited MNHS historic sites and
museums on field trips.
- 20,401 students across Minnesota
benefited from bus subsidies
through the Legacy Field Trip
Support Fund.
- 11,530 students from greater
Minnesota benefited from bus
and accommodation subsidies
through the MacMillan Field Trip
Transportation Grant.
- *Northern Lights* student print and
digital textbook served 60,600
students, or 83% of Minnesota's
6th graders.



- 2,251 teachers participated
in workshops, presentations,
and sessions.



NATIONAL HISTORY DAY

More than 27,000 Minnesota students participated in National History Day,
with two students taking home medals at the national competition:

- Abigail Peterson, North Lakes Academy, Forest Lake (above, 6th from left)
- Kevin Torstenson, Murray Middle School, St. Paul (above, 4th from left)



NATIVE AMERICAN INITIATIVES

MNHS worked to build relationships with and advocate for Native peoples across Minnesota and beyond:

- MNHS launched the Native American Undergraduate Fellowship through a generous grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The program provides hands-on experience for Native American students interested in pursuing careers in cultural heritage fields. ▼
- The History Center hosted the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums conference with more than 300 guests.



MNHS undergraduate fellows participate in statewide outreach programs. ▲▶



Luqman Mohamed, a college intern, advised on the *Somalis + Minnesota* exhibit.

DEPARTMENT OF INCLUSION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Building relationships with African Americans and an innovative new memory loss program led diversity efforts last year:

- A new initiative to build sustainable relationships with specific communities got underway beginning with strategies to engage African Americans long-term. ▶
- The Heritage Studies and Public History master's program, a partnership with the University of Minnesota, celebrated its first graduating class.
- MNHS launched the US version of the award-winning House of Memories free dementia awareness program, originally developed in the UK by National Museums Liverpool. ▼



- The Woodbury Police collaborated with MNHS to develop new implicit bias training using *The 1968 Exhibit* to examine relationships between police and communities in the 1960s and today.
- Eighteen college fellows and 28 teen interns participated in programs that offer career building opportunities for traditionally underrepresented communities and tribal sovereign nations.



Maren Levad, MNHS and Carol Rogers, National Museums Liverpool





HISTORIC FORT SNELLING

As preparations for the construction of the Historic Fort Snelling revitalization project got underway, MNHS continued development of new programs, including:

- A new tour about the lives of women at Fort Snelling and a new station where staff shared stories of the 25th Infantry, a segregated African American unit known as Buffalo Soldiers. ▶
- MNHS hired Chris Belland, a captain in the Minnesota Army National Guard, as the new program and outreach manager of veterans relations.
- In addition to the Blue Star Museums program, MNHS offered free general admission for veterans, Native Americans, and their families.



- *Minnesota’s Secret Language School*, an exhibit developed by the Twin Cities Japanese American Citizens League, showcased the stories of nearly 6,000 Japanese Americans who trained as linguists to fight in the Pacific theater during World War II. ◀
- In May, the third Dakhóta Omníčiye, or gathering, was held with Dakota community members and allies sharing community knowledge, Dakota language, art, games, and storytelling. ◀



ARTWORK BY MARLENA MYLES
(SPIRIT LAKE DAKOTA)

2019 LEGISLATIVE SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

MNHS is thankful for the following appropriations from the 2019 legislative session:

- \$45.8 million for operations for the biennium, plus an operating adjustment of \$850,000.

- \$32.9 million for the biennium from the Legacy Amendment’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund to support programs, including statewide grants that help preserve and share Minnesota history.
- Passage of a statutory change to permit local governments to fund history organizations.



STATEWIDE PRESERVATION

MNHS preservation projects included care for the statewide network of historic sites and museums, partnership programs, and Legacy funding:

- Statewide preservation projects included:
 - Conditions assessment for the MNHS 3D objects warehouse
 - Infrastructure improvements to prepare the Kellogg Center to house MNHS archaeology staff and the Office of the State Archaeologist ▼



- Window replacement at the History Center
- Asset preservation projects included:
 - Ongoing preservation of the Ruin Courtyard walls at Mill City Museum
 - Maintenance and repair at Split Rock Lighthouse, Fort Ridgely, and the Forest History Center
- MNHS partnered with the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota and Northern Bedrock to provide preservation training and rehabilitation work statewide.
- The Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund provided \$6.5 million through 205 grants awarded across Minnesota, including:
 - City of Orono, Hennepin County, archaeological survey of Big Island Amusement Park



- Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center Authority, St. Louis County, repair of the bulk freighter William A. Irvin museum ▲
- Sinclair Lewis Foundation, Sauk Centre, Stearns County, predevelopment of the Sinclair Lewis Boyhood Home and Carriage House for reuse
- Norwegian-American Historical Association, Northfield, Rice County, digitization plan for the O.E. Rolvaag Collection allowing for greater public access

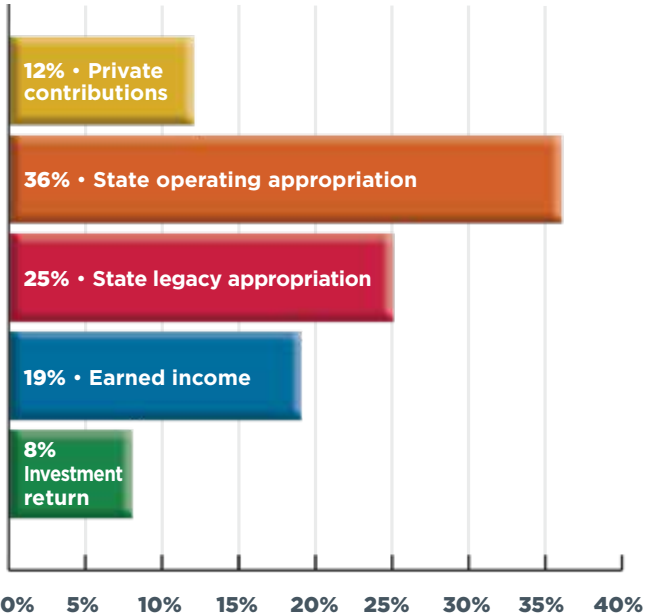
As a nonprofit, we serve the people of Minnesota. Our annual budget of about \$60 million comes from three sources that work together to bring the public vibrant, crucial programs, and services: private funding, earned revenue, and public funding, including significant funding from the State of Minnesota.

Public funds, including funding from the state’s general fund, provide a foundation of support and enable us to leverage non-public funds to create a nationally recognized history program. Typically, two-thirds of our operating funds come from the State of Minnesota. We deliver functions designated by law, such as preserving historic landmarks and resources, managing critical records and collections, and operating cultural destinations important to tourism. State support also includes capital funding

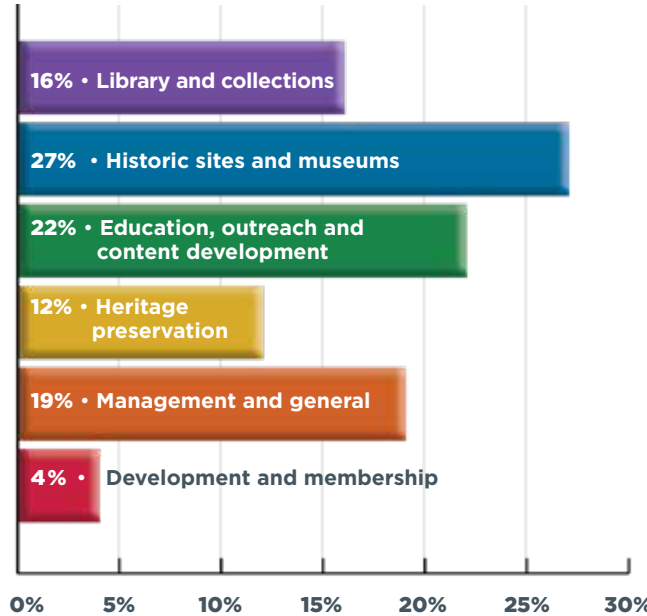
to preserve historic buildings and construct new ones, as well as Legacy Amendment (Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund) support for new, statewide history programs, including grants for local history organizations.

The Minnesota Historical Society also receives support from donors and members. Their gifts support everything from general operations and school field trips to important acquisitions, conservation work, and community outreach. Endowment funds give MNHS strength for today and tomorrow. Finally, earned revenue from rental events, museum stores, admission fees, publication sales, and many other activities also provide a base of funding while keeping history accessible and at family-friendly prices.

SOURCES OF SUPPORT AND REVENUE



EXPENSES BY PROGRAM AREA



Condensed Balance Sheet As of June 30, 2019								(000's) omitted
	Without Donor Restrictions			With Donor Restrictions			Total	
	Operating	Plant fund	Board-designated endowment	State appropriations	Other	Perpetually Restricted		2019
Cash and investments	\$ 11,818		7,183	(3,555)	31,916	75,645	\$	123,007
Receivables	1,680			36,848	1,501	797		40,826
Museum shop inventories	1,131							1,131
Property and equipment net		90,383		4,848				95,231
Total assets	\$ 14,629	90,383	7,183	38,141	33,417	76,442	\$	260,195
Total accounts payable and accrued liabilities	4,723			1,476	365	296		6,860
Net assets	9,906	90,383	7,183	36,665	33,052	76,146		253,335
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 14,629	90,383	7,183	38,141	33,417	76,442	\$	260,195

Statement of Activities Year ended June 30, 2019								(000's) omitted
SUPPORT AND REVENUE:								
Support:								
Private contributions	\$ 3,016				1,998	3,133	\$	8,147
County and other grants					92			92
State operating appropriation	23,247							23,247
State legacy appropriation				16,105				16,105
Total support	26,263			16,105	2,090	3,133		47,591
Revenue:								
Admission fees	2,737							2,737
Museum store sales	2,331							2,331
Publication sales	1,472							1,472
Program fees	1,598							1,598
Contract service fees	1,990							1,990
Library sales and fees	256							256
Investment return	1,389		311		903	2,885		5,488
Endowment payout	1,011		(244)		1,742	(2,509)		(19)
Change in value of split-interest agreements						(19)		
Rental, parking, food services	1,295							1,295
Other sales, fees, and memberships	688				1			689
Total revenue	14,767		67		2,646	357		17,837
Total support & revenue	41,030		67	16,105	4,736	3,490		65,428
Fund Transfers	(400)				(33)	433		
Net assets released from program restrictions	17,511	1,479		(14,175)	(4,815)			
Total support, revenue, and net assets released from program restrictions	58,141	1,479	67	1,930	(112)	3,923		65,428
EXPENSES:								
Program services:								
Library and Collections	9,469	264						9,733
Historic sites and museums	14,970	1,006						15,976
Education, outreach, and content development	12,288	452						12,740
Heritage preservation	7,135	5						7,140
Total program services	43,862	1,727						45,589
Supporting services:								
Management and general	11,271	101						11,372
Development and membership	2,167	1						2,168
Total supporting services	13,438	102						13,540
Total expenses	57,300	1,829						59,129
Net increase (decrease) in net assets	841	(350)	67	1,930	(112)	3,923		6,299
Net assets at beginning of year	9,065	90,733	7,116	34,735	33,164	72,223		247,036
Net assets at end of year	\$ 9,906	90,383	7,183	36,665	33,052	76,146	\$	253,335

These statements are condensed from MNHS' audited financial statements which are available at www.mnhs.org/reports.

CREATING *our* FUTURE CAMPAIGN

Thank you!

The Minnesota Historical Society gratefully acknowledges the individuals, families, and organizations who have so generously supported the Creating Our Future Campaign from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2018. The Creating Our Future Campaign provided substantial investment in three major project areas: the revitalization of Historic Fort Snelling and the Oliver Kelley Farm, educational experiences that reach counties and communities across Minnesota, and digital preservation to expand online access and support learners of all ages.

\$1,000,000 +

The Estate of Josephine (Nicky) Benz Carpenter
The Mark E. & Mary A. Davis Foundation
Ruth and John Huss
The Art and Martha Kaemmer Fund of HRK Foundation for Historic Fort Snelling — International Site of Conscience and the Art and Martha Kaemmer Fund of HRK Foundation
Betty and Whitney MacMillan
Raymond N. Plank^^
Eugene C. and Gail V. Sit Foundation and Sit Investment Associates Foundation

\$500,000 – \$999,999

The Katherine B. Andersen Fund of the Saint Paul Foundation
K.A.H.R Foundation
Robert^^ and F. Alexandra Klas
Longview Foundation
David and Kitty Crosby
Robert and Teri Crosby
Thomas^^ and Ellie Crosby
Mary C. Dolan
Robert^^ and Lucy Mitchell
Fred and Eleanor Winston
The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
Gregory and Cynthia^^ Page
The Scrooby Foundation
Whaley Foundation

\$250,000 – \$499,999

Patrick and Aimee Butler Family Foundation
Jim and Pam Deal
Driscoll Foundation
Ecolab Foundation
Gale Family Foundation
Preston^^ and Patricia Haglin
Jim and Sharon Hale
Hubbard Broadcasting Foundation
Land O'Lakes, Inc.
David and Janis Larson Foundation
Roxanne Michelson
Rosenberry Charitable Trust as recommended by Lucy Rosenberry Jones
Jane Rae Wilkens

\$150,000 – \$249,999

Annette Atkins and Tom Joyce
The Estate of Norma Hovden
The Estate of Hella Mears Hueg

Martin^^ and Esther Kellogg
Stephanie Kroeger
The Estate of Betty Meyer
Michel and Barbara Nelson
The Thomas and Julianne Youngren Foundation

\$100,000 – \$149,999

Marie H. Ankeny Legacy Fund of The Minneapolis Foundation
Suzanne Blue
Judith S. and Richard F. Corson
Neil C. Danner
The Estate of Ross T. Dunlop
George Family Foundation
Rosemary and David Good Family Foundation
Jean Mattson Larson and Mark Larson
McCarthy-Bjorklund Foundation
Minnesota Corn Growers Association
Richard and Nancy Nicholson Fund of the Nicholson Family Foundation
Kate K. Piper
George and Diane Power
Red Wing Shoes Foundation
Ken and Nina Rothchild
Securian Foundation
The Estate of Elaine U. Underdahl

\$50,000 – \$99,999

Anonymous
Andersen Corporate Foundation
Ford and Amy Bell
The Estate of Clement Engen
Robert^^ and Phyllis Goff
The Estate of Anne A. Hage
Hardenbergh Foundation
Mike and Karel Helgeson
Janet N. Jones
John S. and James L. Knight Foundation
Henry Luce Foundation
Minnesota Wheat Research and Promotion Council
Osborn Family Foundation
Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation
William Stoeri and Sue Johnston
Frank W. Veden Charitable Trust
Wheelock Whitney^^ and Kathleen A. Blatz
The Estate of Helen C. Wilson
Women's Organization of the Minnesota Historical Society

\$25,000 – \$49,999

Anonymous
The Estate of Betty J. Anderson
Fred C. and Katherine B. Andersen Foundation
Martha S. Anderson^^ in memory of Keith Anderson
James J.^^ and Sally Casey
The Dr. Dash Foundation
The Estate of Hazel Dicken
Mark and Kathryn Tokar Haidet
Don Helgeson and Sue Shepard Fund of the Central Minnesota Community Foundation
The Estate of William J. Hoffman
Charlotte and Ward Johnson
Margaret V. Kinney
Stephen R. Nelson
Alta Marie Oben
Rosen Family Foundation
Carl and Verna Schmidt Foundation
Edward C. Stringer and Virginia L. Stringer
Sugarbeet Research & Education Board of Minnesota & North Dakota
Thomson Reuters
Paul and Carolyn Verret
Wells Fargo Foundation

\$10,000 – \$24,999

3M Foundation
Andersen Corporation
Peter^^ and Sally Anson
Charles and Margaret Arnason
Athwin Foundation
Diane Berthel
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota Foundation
Thelma Boeder
Patricia and Francis Buschette
Caroline's Kids Foundation
Judith A. Christensen^^
Caryl and Ed Crozier
Katherine D. Doerr
D. Stephen and Diane Elliott
Hillary Freeman and Carol Mork
Ram and Neena Gada Family
Jennifer H. Gross
David and Kim Hakensen
Ruth Hale^^
Eileen and Kenneth Kamman
The Kendeda Fund
Tom and Mary Gerry Lee
Monica Little and Mark Abeln
Hugh and Marilyn Madson
Robert W. Maynard^^

Harry G. McNeely Jr.
William C. Melton
Midwest Dairy Association
Evelyn Miller
Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust
Donald and Patricia Moberg
Byron Napier^^
Ronald Rosenberg
Curtis and Marian Sampson
Smead Manufacturing
Loretta L. Stutsman^^
Missy Thompson and Gar Hargens
Benjamin and Debrah Vander Kooi
Maxine Wallin
Dorene S. Welck
Warren and Margaret Zaccaro

\$5,000 – \$9,999

Anonymous
John and Caryl Busman
Elaine Tessman Christiansen
Mitch and Laurie Davis
Michael and Ann Farnell
Vicki and Si Ford
Marion and William^^ Glew
The Estate of B. Anita Lake-Maykoski
Barbara B. Nelson
Bruce and Elizabeth Pankonin
Dwight and Marjorie Peterson
Joachim F. Pusch
Tom and Laura Rasmussen
Dan Schmechel and Mimi Wright
Jean and Mark Schroeppfer
Eldon Tessman
Jeff and Cindy Thom
Nancy and Ted Weyerhaeuser
Cindy and Arba Williamson

\$2,500 – \$4,999

Grant and Kimberly Davis
James and Ann Howard
Roger P. Kochevar
Dennis Lamkin
Russell and Karen Larsen
Caroline and Andrew Oliver
Irene M. Ott
Jon and Glenda Tollefson
Archie D. and Bertha H. Walker Foundation
Kent and Sarah Whitworth
Penny Rand Winton
The Estate of Wilfred Zalaznik

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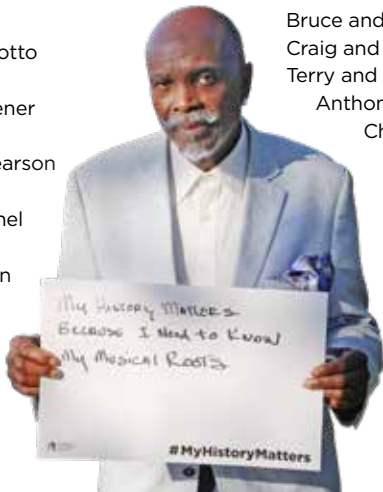
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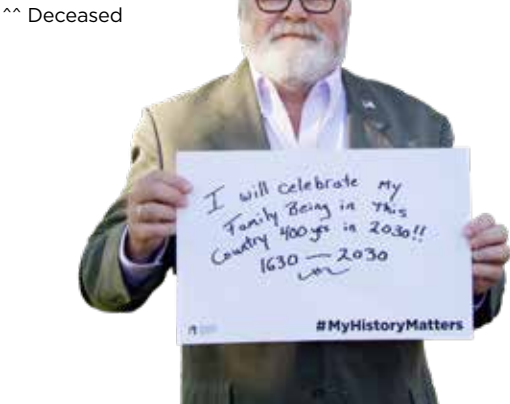
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