

Threshold Foundation

is a progressive foundation and a community of individuals united through wealth, who mobilize money, people and power to create a more just, joyful and sustainable world.

2011 ANNUAL REPORT

Our Mission

To be a powerful and visible model of conscious, effective philanthropy.

To create a fertile training ground that supports the full and authentic expression of our passions and purpose.

To be a dynamic forum for learning about social issues and the people working to address them.

To cultivate and continually renew the heart and soul of our community.

To be a vibrant, growing and diverse multi-generational membership organization.

To transform wealth into an instrument of change.

About Threshold

Threshold is a community of individuals united through wealth, and a progressive foundation mobilizing money, people and power to create a more just, joyful and sustainable world.

Threshold provides a place where people with significant financial resources, a commitment to social change and an interest in their own emotional, psychological, and spiritual development can come together to scheme, dream, learn, work, play and see what happens. We have observed that social change flows from personal growth so we work on our inner lives and social responsibility simultaneously.

Threshold meetings are an ongoing experiment — an evolving form designed to encourage members to discover their most meaningful work and purpose, and engage in the world from that place.

Threshold Foundation serves the social change movement through collaborating with and funding innovative national and international nonprofit organizations and individuals working towards social justice, environmental sustainability, humane economic systems and peaceful coexistence.

Member volunteers administer the foundation with the assistance of Tides Foundation which is located in San Francisco. Granted funds are raised annually with almost all donations coming from the membership. New members join Threshold Foundation primarily through a personal relationship with an existing member or by referral from a membership committee.

Information about submitting a grant request to Threshold Foundation can be found on page 27 of this report and at www.thresholdfoundation.org.

News from the Year

The Past and the Future:

This will be my last letter as President. It's been a privilege and education to serve this community. They have always inspired me with their depth of knowledge and passion for their subjects.

My report back for this year is that we continue to grow and innovate, as well as deepen our roots in our perennial areas of interest...sustaining the planet and social justice for all.

The Sustainable Planet and Justice and Democracy committees continue to work, on Threshold's behalf, in diverse areas and with the caveat that our funding be in "acupressure points" that are critical and meaningful.

Sustainable Planet has projects in policy work, farmer education, outreach and network building with the CA Climate and Agriculture Network, the Oil and Gas accountability Project of Earthworks and the JOBS project in central Appalachia, which they hope in particular will be a catalyst for sustainable economic diversification and the creation of long-term good paying jobs in renewable energy. They also have chosen Taxpayers for Common Sense to support the important legislation ending high-carbon subsidies. These are a few of many projects we have funded in the Sustainable Planet Committee.

The Justice and Democracy Committee focuses on youth that are impacted by the criminal justice and drug policy systems along with voting rights. This year amongst several other groups, the committee chose to fund the Bus Project, which hosts forums about candidates and policy issues and mobilizing voters. They also supported Law Enforcement Against Prohibition, a project that seeks to educate the public, media and policy makers on the failure of the drug war. And another outstanding group funded was the Mississippi Coalition for the prevention of Schoolhouse to Jailhouse, an intergenerational project formed in 2003 with more than 65 statewide groups that are trying to dismantle the pipeline from schoolhouse to jailhouse.

The Queer Youth Fund along with its collaboration with Liberty Hill Foundation makes multi-year grants through its diverse donor and activist committee to nonprofits who work on improving the quality of life among, gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth. The QYF has become a model for collaborative granting styles at Threshold. Both the Democracy Committee and a new Funding Circle, Thriving Resilient Communities, are using a version of this model for their funding format and collaborative grant making for next year's grant cycle. Yahoo! Another big organic transformation at Threshold and thank you QYF!

Last but not least is the Election Integrity Funding Circle, which seeks to fund projects working to protect the democratic process from threats of election manipulation and fraud. They continue to be one of the only groups funding this important arena. Election Integrity funded the Columbus Institute for Contemporary Journalism, Velvet Revolution and Verified Voting Foundation to name a few. .

It has been wonderful for me to witness the arc of Threshold's grantmaking ...from the more individual silos of particular focus areas, to the increased collaboration and diversity of our committees as well as a move toward multi-year funding. In my mind it speaks to our continued relevance and responsiveness.

I'm always amazed at how the community creates the perfect next place to go. My leadership at Threshold was one of remembering that the community always had the answer to listen deeply and then to support the change that was being called for.

So without further ado..... I bid you adieu....It's been a joy and pleasure.

With love and gratitude,

Michele Grennon,
New Castle, NH 2011

Threshold Foundation 2011 Grants List

Following a two-year process of change and development, Threshold launched a newly re-designed Grants Program in 2007. We established two Core Committees: Democracy and Sustainable Planet, and introduced a new philanthropic form for Threshold: Funding Circles. In 2010 the Democracy Committee expanded its scope to address restorative justice and drug policy reform themes and became the Justice and Democracy Committee.

The Justice and Democracy and Sustainable Planet Committees are the more permanent, institutional fixtures in Threshold's philanthropic constellation. Funding Circles are authorized in a yearly charter process and remain in the foundation's orbit for a more limited scope of work or length of time.

For more information about current Core Committee and Funding Circle guidelines and funding criteria, please visit the Threshold Foundation website at www.thresholdfoundation.org.



Justice and Democracy — \$352,675

Threshold Foundation's Justice & Democracy Committee is a donor-based fund that seeks to ensure human rights for youth impacted by the criminal justice and drug policy systems, and political rights for those in historically disenfranchised communities.

Threshold Foundation's Justice and Democracy Committee is a donor-based fund that seeks to ensure human rights for youth impacted by the criminal justice and drug policy systems, and political rights for those in historically disenfranchised communities.

The prison-industrial complex is a self-perpetuating system based on the subjugation of an increasing segment of our communities through racial and economic scapegoating. The economic angle of this is immediate, bottom line, material gain for the corporations supporting and profiting from the prison industrial complex.

The "war on drugs," rather than protecting youth, has resulted in the institutionalized persecution of Black, Latino and Native American young people. While more and more young men and women of color are being ushered into the criminal justice system under the guise of fighting drugs, resources for educating youth are diminishing and barriers to education restrict students with drug convictions from receiving higher education.

Threshold Foundation envisions an authentic participatory democracy through which social justice can be achieved, and believes that when engaged in the political decisions that affect their lives, ordinary people are central to making possible that change.

BUS PROJECT

Bus Project is an innovative vehicle for hands-on democracy which tours the country in a bus, mobilizing voters and hosting forums about candidates and policy issues.

\$36,150 — PolitiCorps project

Portland, OR | www.busproject.org

DIRECT ACTION FOR RIGHTS AND EQUALITY

Direct Action for Rights and Equality (DARE) is a multi-racial and multi-issue grassroots organization of low-income families primarily headed by single mothers. It organizes neighborhood residents through house meetings, community outreach, membership meetings and committee participation, and mobilizes its constituency through direct issue campaigns.

\$26,075 — Behind the Walls program

Providence, RI | www.daretowin.org

FAMILIES UNITED FOR RACIAL AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY

Families United for Racial and Economic Equality (FUREE) is a multiracial, woman led membership organization made up of low-income and no-income workers. FUREE works to organize low income families to build power to change the system so that all people's work is valued, and everyone can have the right and economic means to decide and live out their destinies. The guiding principle behind FUREE is that those directly affected by the policies they are working to change should lead the organization.

\$31,075 — Voter Engagement for Empowerment project

Brooklyn, NY | www.furee.org

FEDERATION OF CHILD CARE CENTERS OF ALABAMA

Federation of Child Care Centers of Alabama (FOCAL) believes that there is Black leadership in Alabama. That with fundamental resources, Black leaders can organize themselves, educate themselves, and work together at all levels in the community for the positive development of African Americans. FOCAL believes that low-income people do have a very real interest in their community and in community improvement and that they can and should make decisions about programs that affect their community and their personal lives. FOCAL believes the overriding goal of any program aimed at improving living conditions in the low-income community must be one that builds and strengthens the capacity of low-income people to manage and control their own resources.

\$43,075 — Communities Act to Create Hope Citizen Engagement program

Montgomery, AL | focalfocal.org

INSIGHT-OUT

Insight-Out's mission is to provide services and self-development opportunities to prisoners and challenged youth and empower them to positively transform their predicaments. It does so by organizing initiatives that create the personal and systemic change to transform violence and suffering into opportunities for learning and healing. Insight-Out was founded by the founder and former executive director of Insight Prison Project, and works closely with that organization.

\$5,000 — Insight-Out's general support

Woodacre, CA | [N/A](#)

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGAINST PROHIBITION

Law Enforcement Against Prohibition (LEAP) works to educate the public, the media, and policy makers about the failure of current drug policy by presenting a true picture of the history, causes and effects of drug abuse and the crimes related to drug prohibition. LEAP's speakers bureau is staffed with knowledgeable and articulate former drug-warriors who describe the impact of current drug policies on: police/community relations; the safety of law enforcement officers and suspects; police corruption and misconduct; and the financial and human costs associated with current drug policies. LEAP's goal is to restore the public's respect for law enforcement and to reduce the multitude of harms resulting from fighting the war on drugs as well as minimize the incidents of death, disease, crime and addiction by ultimately ending drug prohibition.

\$31,075 — general support

Medford, MA | www.leap.cc

LINEAGE PROJECT

Lineage Project's mission is to support at-risk and incarcerated youth by offering awareness-based practices, such as meditation and yoga, as tools to develop the mind, body, and heart. The primary focus of the organization has been inside locked detention facilities working each week with over 150 boys and girls age 12–17 as well as staff and guards. Through meditation, yoga and story-telling they address issues such as anger management, stress reduction, and deeper issues such as forgiveness and the search for meaning.

\$10,850 — Lineage Project's general support

New York, NY | www.lineageproject.org

MISSISSIPPI COALITION FOR THE PREVENTION OF SCHOOLHOUSE TO JAILHOUSE

Mississippi Coalition for the Prevention of Schoolhouse to Jailhouse is an intergenerational alliance of more than 65 statewide and local organizations formed in 2003 across traditional barriers of race and class to dismantle the pipeline from schoolhouse to jailhouse and promote positive behavior intervention strategies to keep students in school. The Coalition crafted the Juvenile Justice Reform Acts of 2004 and 2005 adopted by the legislature to eliminate the abuse of incarcerated children, to enforce the rights of incarcerated children to a public education, and to promote community-based alternatives to incarceration of children at facilities far from their families.

\$34,075 — Mississippi Coalition for the Prevention of Schoolhouse to Jailhouse's general support

Lexington, MS | N/A

NEW ERA COLORADO FOUNDATION

New Era Colorado is a multi-issue organization committed to engaging, educating, and training a new generation of active citizens and young leaders in Colorado. It is a full-spectrum civic engagement organization, in that it provides the resources and tools for young people to gain collective power in all levels of the democratic process, including issue organizing, electoral organizing, and the legislative process.

\$41,075 — general support

Denver, CO | www.neweracolorado.org

NORTH CAROLINA LATINO COALITION

North Carolina Latino Coalition (NCLC) is a statewide network of organizations that works to coalesce, train, and organize the low income Latinos of North Carolina. The organization works across religious, racial, ethnic, class, and neighborhood lines for the public good. Its primary goal is to develop local leadership, institutional capacity, and organized power to fight for social justice. Member organizations have access to organizing technical assistance and leadership development trainings aimed to building their organizing capacity.

\$36,075 — general support

Durham, NC | http://www.iafsoutheast.com/nc_latino_coalition.html

STUDENTS FOR A SENSIBLE DRUG POLICY FOUNDATION

Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSFP) is committed to providing education on harms caused by the War on Drugs, working to involve youth in the political process, and promoting an open, honest, and rational discussion of alternative solutions to our nation's drug problems. Currently, it has chapters on 160 college, university and high school campuses with 300 new chapters forming this fall. SSDP's national agenda includes: The Higher Education Act (HEA) Education Campaign; Criminal Justice Spending vs. Higher Education Spending; and the U.S. involvement in the Colombian civil war.

\$27,075 — general support

Washington, DC | www.ssdp.org

YOUTH ART AND SELF-EMPOWERMENT PROJECT

Youth Art and Self-Empowerment Project (YASP) is building a youth-led movement to stop the increase in the incarceration rate of youth by ending the practice of automatically trying and incarcerating young people as adults. Through its work in the Philadelphia jails, YASP provides space for incarcerated young people to express themselves creatively and to develop as leaders both within and beyond the prison walls. Young people who have been through the adult court system are at the forefront of YASP, leading the movement to keep teenagers out of adult prisons and to create new possibilities for youth around the city.

\$31,075 — Youth Art and Self-Empowerment Project's general support

Philadelphia, PA | www.yasproject.com

Sustainable Planet — \$416,074

How do we meet the needs of people now without compromising the needs of future generations? How do we bring all human activities into harmony with nature for the benefit of all beings? To face these questions, we must transform both human culture and technology to live within the physical limits of the local and global ecosystems. Most urgently, this implies protecting threatened ecosystems to preserve biodiversity and prevent extinction. This in turn will require addressing global ecological issues such as climate change, empowering local and indigenous communities and deploying new clean technologies.

AFRICAN RAINFOREST CONSERVANCY

African Rainforest Conservancy (ARC) conserves and restores African rainforests – among the oldest and most biodiverse in the world – through grassroots conservation and community development. ARC believes that by providing new economic and educational opportunities, local people are empowered to preserve their natural heritage for future generations.

\$23,500 — CREATE program: Conservation of Ruvu South through Education, Advocacy, Tree planting and the Elimination of poverty

New York, NY | www.africanrainforest.org

ALLIANCE FOR SUSTAINABLE COLORADO

The mission of Alliance for Sustainable Colorado is to achieve environmental, economic and social sustainability in Colorado through building broad support among individuals, nonprofit organizations, businesses and government. The Alliance facilitates relationships and common goals and agendas among these groups to unify support behind jointly backed policy initiatives that consider long-term impacts. It provides the nucleus for a statewide sustainability movement for Colorado and a model for sustainability movements in other states.

\$26,000 — general support

Denver, CO | www.sustainablecolorado.org

CALIFORNIA CLIMATE AND AGRICULTURE NETWORK

California Climate and Agriculture Network (CalCAN) is a coalition that advances policy solutions at the nexus of climate change and sustainable agriculture. Its program areas include farmer education and outreach, network building, and policy initiatives.

\$29,500 — general support for California Climate and Agriculture Network

Sebastopol, CA | www.calclimateag.org

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL LEGAL DEFENSE FUND

Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund (CELDF) was founded to provide free and affordable legal and organizing assistance to grassroots, community-based organizations working to protect their quality of life through protecting the natural environment, building sustainable communities, and asserting local control over corporations. CELDF's four program areas are focused on assisting local communities across the United States to litigate environmental cases without legal counsel, to incorporate and gain federal tax exempt status, to build sustainable communities, to work with local officials to adopt ordinances that protect the environment and assert community control over corporations, and to provide direct litigation on their behalf.

\$20,000 — Community Water Project

Chambersburg, PA | www.celdf.org

DEFENSA Y CONSERVACIÓN ECOLÓGICA DE INTAG

Defensa y Conservación Ecológica de Intag (DECOIN) works to involve local people in environmental conservation measures and to stop extractive industry projects (mining), promote sustainable economic alternatives, and to educate the local population on the importance of natural resource conservation.

\$17,000 — continued work to conserve the Intag area's biological diversity, water resources, and forests, defend community, human, and environmental rights, and promote environmentally sustainable and socially just economic activities

Imbabura, CA | www.decoin.org

EARTH ECONOMICS

Earth Economics is devoted to advancing and applying the science of ecological economics to promote healthy ecosystems, communities, and economies, while also working to halt the globalization of unsustainable economic policies. Focusing on the areas of toxics, forests, fisheries, and global trade policies, they achieve their goals through organization, education, and advocacy.

\$5,000 — to print and disseminate the report on the Intag region of Ecuador

Tacoma, WA | www.eartheconomics.org

EARTHWORKS

Earthworks is dedicated to protecting communities and the environment from the destructive impacts of mineral development, in the U.S. and worldwide. It fulfills its mission by working with communities and grassroots groups to reform government policies, improve corporate practices, influence investment decisions and encourage responsible materials sourcing and consumption.

\$45,000 — Oil and Gas Accountability Project

Washington, DC | www.earthworksaction.org

FUNDACIÓN CASA PALABRA Y PUEBLO

Periodico INTAG is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of communities in Intag, the subtropical region of Cotacachi County, Ecuador, through promoting conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources via economic activities compatible with these goals. It is a grassroots organization that also promotes gender and ethnic equality and fair trade through information and educational activities.

\$6,000 — continued work of Periódico INTAG to improve access to communication and information for all residents of Intag's communities

Otavalo, ECUADOR | www.intagnewspaper.org

GLOBAL COOLING

Global Cooling is a nonprofit led by Dr. John Latham and other renowned scientists working to stall global warming by researching, developing, and rapidly deploying technology to increase the reflectivity of maritime clouds, thus cooling the planet and providing more time to develop and globally apply cleaner methods of meeting our population's energy needs.

\$19,000 — Global Cooling's support of Dr. John Latham's travel related to research and presentations on marine cloud brightening

Boulder, CO | planetnetwork.net/climate/cooling

JOBS PROJECT

JOBS Project is a catalyst for sustainable economic diversification in Central Appalachia, creating replicable, locally-owned institutions that capitalize on renewable energy resources. It serves the communities in Central Appalachia who have provided the nation with energy for generations. It promotes renewable energy as a way to create long-term, good paying jobs. It aims to make good use of federal and state incentives by offering rural landowners the chance to participate in the development of renewable energy projects beginning in 2010. To prepare the workforce for jobs in renewable energy, it works with educators to “turn their school into a tool” for learning about technological innovation and 21st century skills.

\$30,574 — general support

Williamson, WV | www.jobs-project.org

KIDS VS. GLOBAL WARMING

Kids vs. Global Warming (KvGW) is a youth-led, nonprofit organization committed to empowering youth to lead the way to a sustainable and just society. Its projects include presentations and action teams, community activism, the Declaration of Independence, and C3Y. One of its projects, the iMatter Campaign, mobilizes a network of young activists who compel action on climate change through a moral appeal: to live and lead as their future matters.

\$18,000 — general support for Kids vs. Global Warming

Oak View, CA | www.kvgw.org

PEACEFUL UPRISING

Peaceful Uprising is committed to defending a livable future through empowering nonviolent action. Its focus is on changing the institutional and social status quo at the root of the climate crisis, and move toward a just and healthy world. By increasing awareness about the realities of climate change, it seeks to bring the issue to the forefront of the public forum and secure, through nonviolent means necessary, the attention that the climate crisis deserves and requires.

\$33,500 — Peaceful Uprising’s general support

Salt Lake City, UT | www.peacefuluprising.org

RAINFOREST ACTION NETWORK

Rainforest Action Network (RAN) campaigns for the forests, their inhabitants and the natural systems that sustain life by transforming the global marketplace through education, grassroots organizing, and non-violent direct action.

\$23,000 — Coal Finance Campaign

San Francisco, CA | www.ran.org

RAINFOREST CONSERVATION FUND

Rainforest Conservation Fund (RCF) is an all-volunteer organization whose mission is to ensure the future of tropical rainforests through practical solutions and with respectful commitment to local people. RCF's primary work is in and around the 1,000,000 acre Tamshiyacu Tahuayo Communal Conservation Area (ACRCTT) in the Amazon basin of northeastern Peru. It works with local people and governments to promote conservation and provide alternatives to environmentally destructive practices.

\$29,000 — Majijuna Project

Chicago, IL | www.rainforestconservation.org

RAVEN

The mission of RAVEN is to assist Aboriginal peoples within Canada in protecting or restoring their traditional lands and resources and addressing critical environmental challenges such as global warming by strategically enforcing their Constitutional rights through the courts in response to unsustainable settlement or industrial exploitation supported by the State. RAVEN was formed out of the perceived need to redress the balance when it comes to obtaining justice in the courts for Canada's native people. Native leaders, advocates and their legal teams face impossible odds when going against the established interests of large corporations and governments in order to protect their right and lands. The struggles worldwide for the rights of indigenous peoples are frequently closely related to the effort to prevent environmental degradation through inappropriate industrial development. By obtaining financial support for these inter-mixed native rights and environmental causes it hopes to bring balance into the game.

\$40,000 — to support Canada's First Nations people to defend their homelands and traditional ways of life against environmentally destructive industrial development

Victoria, British Columbia, CANADA | <http://www.raventrust.com/>

TAXPAYERS FOR COMMON SENSE ACTION

Taxpayers for Common Sense Action seeks to achieve a government that spends federal taxpayer dollars responsibly by educating the public and holding Congress and policymakers accountable.

\$51,000 — Ending High-Carbon Subsidies project

Washington, DC | www.taxpayer.net



Election Integrity Funding Circle — \$174,768

The Election Integrity Funding Circle seeks to ensure that every American can vote, that votes will be counted as cast, and works to eliminate voter suppression and barriers to voting.

This funding circle's 2011–2012 grantmaking directly grows out of funding done in previous years through Threshold's Democracy Committee, and targets specific efforts to protect the democratic process from threats of election manipulation and fraud. Projects funded will address the following issues: whistle blower protection; citizen exit polls to engage civic participation; and meaningful prosecution of election fraud crimes.

COLUMBUS INSTITUTE FOR CONTEMPORARY JOURNALISM

Columbus Institute for Contemporary Journalism is dedicated to promoting media independence through alternative and diverse voices. Its outlets are the internet, a bimonthly journal, book publishing, radio programs and video production.

\$39,056 — the investigation, litigation and deposition of Jeff Averbek and/or his agents at Smart Tech and Air Net and state-wide election integrity efforts to expose the problems and irregularities with electronic voting in the State of Ohio and to disseminate th

Columbus, OH | www.freepress.org

ELECTION TRANSPARENCY COALITION

Election Transparency Coalition is dedicated to educating and organizing the citizens of New York State and beyond, to maintain, and when necessary, restore citizen oversight and public control of its elections.

\$16,904 — Election Transparency Coalition's lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of concealed vote-counting and public advocacy work supporting the goals of the litigation

Staatsburg, NY | www.electiontransparencycoalition.org/

VELVET REVOLUTION

Velvet Revolution (VR) is a 501(c)4 organization founded for the purpose of providing a means for citizens and organizations to mobilize to create a clean, transparent and accountable government. Specifically, VR began around the issue of election fraud during the 2004 election, and it expanded later into media reform, war resolution and government accountability. Its major focus is exposing and correcting problems with electronic voting machines and their tabulators. VR was co-founded by Justice Through Music and The Brad Blog, and it is a 501(c)4 activist, education and lobbying organization.

\$60,904 — Election Protection and Campaign Accountability Watch

Washington, DC | www.velvetrevolution.us

VERIFIED VOTING FOUNDATION

Verified Voting Foundation (VVF) is a non-partisan nonprofit organization championing transparent, reliable and publicly verifiable elections. Its goal is to enable voters to have unqualified and justified confidence in election results.

\$57,904 — joint project with Common Cause Education Fund to challenge internet voting and protect elections.

Carlsbad, CA | www.verifiedvotingfoundation.org

A vibrant rainbow arches across the sky, set against a background of a dense green forest. The rainbow's colors are bright and distinct, transitioning from red on the left to violet on the right. The forest below is lush and green, with some buildings visible in the distance. The overall scene is bright and hopeful.

Queer Youth Fund — \$130,246

Through this funding collaborative, a diverse donor and activist committee makes multi-year, \$100,000 grants to grassroots, local, state or national nonprofit organizations located anywhere in the United States working to improve the quality of life among gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning (GLBTQQ) youth.

The Queer Youth Fund awards grants to innovative and effective leadership development programs or organizing projects that empower GLBTQQ youth to improve societal conditions that affect them and that make a long-term difference to their movement.

LIBERTY HILL FOUNDATION

Liberty Hill Foundation partners with innovative and effective Los Angeles grassroots organizations to combat poverty and injustice, and help transform the City of Angels into a place that promises safety, equality and opportunity for everyone who lives here.

\$130,246 — Queer Youth Fund

Los Angeles, CA | www.libertyhill.org



Informal Funding occurs at Threshold meetings and raises funds for organizations presented by members to members. These are closed funding cycles and as such do not accept unsolicited letters of inquiry.

2011 Summer Informal Funding — \$171,849

FREE SPEECH FOR PEOPLE

Free Speech For People (FSFP) is a national non-partisan campaign working to restore democracy to the people and to return corporations to their place as economic rather than political entities.

\$30,915 — general support for Free Speech for People

Amherst, MA | www.freespeechforpeople.org

MANDALA HOUSE

Mandala House envisions a world without violence, where compassion for self and others is unlimited and the tools for self-recovery are available to everyone. The organization provides self-directed healing programs to post/conflict populations, focusing on survivors of sexual and gender-based violence. Working with a trauma-sensitive yoga and breath awareness model in a group dynamic, Mandala House teaches mind/body awareness tools that practitioners can take into their lives, healing themselves and others.

\$20,488 — Mandala House's War Child and Gulu Training projects

New York, NY | <http://mandalahouse.org>

NANTUCKET SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The mission of Nantucket Sustainable Development Corporation (NSDC) is to sustain Nantucket's economic vitality while preserving and restoring community character. Believing all citizens have a responsibility to be part of the decision making process in the community, NSDC is committed to consensus building, public-private partnerships, and collaboration with existing island groups.

\$13,513 — Farm-to-School Garden Program

Nantucket, MA | www.sustainablenantucket.org

NEW STORIES

New Stories is dedicated to promoting life-affirming change for individuals, humanity and our planet through the vehicle of story. The mission of New Stories is to serve as a resource center and a support for the emergence of new stories for who we are, what we can be, where we can go and how we change. Its vision is to expand the territory of story as a primary tool for social change by creating, designing, collecting and offering resources, curricula, courses, conferences, workshops, seminars and trainings, both in person and virtually that promote an improved understanding of the forces affecting our future and vision for guiding the process of change

\$12,724 — Whidbey GeoDome Project

Freeland, WA | www.newstories.org

PACHAMAMA ALLIANCE

Pachamama Alliance preserves the Earth's tropical rainforests by empowering the indigenous people who are its natural custodians and contributes to the creation of a new global vision of equity and sustainability for all. Pachamamma's work in the Amazon focuses on strengthening indigenous peoples' ability to powerful speak and stand for their own rights and interests, through capacity building to empower them to preserve the rainforest and their way of life.

\$29,314 — Kapawi Ecologde Sustainability Overhaul project

San Francisco, CA | www.pachamama.org

THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

Community Foundation for the National Capital Region aims to facilitate individual, family and organizational giving at all levels to create a permanent source of philanthropic capital to improve the quality of life in the metropolitan Washington region. It accomplishes this by connecting its donors to organizations providing impactful programs; serving as a convener and catalyst on emerging issues; and providing sound financial management of assets.

\$18,670 — DC Shared Space Fund

Washington, DC | www.cfncr.org

TRISKELES FOUNDATION

The mision of Triskeles Foundation is to serve and support progressive social, educational and philanthropic initiatives.

\$11,679 — Motivation Systems Ecology Fund

Exton, PA | www.triskeles.org

VOICE FOR HOPE

Voice for HOPE (Healers of Planet Earth) works to advance the well-being of humanity by ensuring that producers, practitioners, and consumers of complementary, alternative and integrative health and wellness services and products have meaningful participation in the development of public policy, through educating policy makers and the general public and promoting the rights of individual consumers and their families to information, access, redress and choice.

\$17,166 — Voice for HOPE's Citizen Healers Trainings

Washington, DC | www.voiceforhope.org

ZING FOUNDATION

Zing Foundation works to promote philanthropy among individuals and families that care about a more joyful, just and sustainable world and to promote participatory culture for social healing.

\$17,380 — Arts Rising - Playback North America network

Arlington, MA | www.zings.org

2011 Winter Informal Funding — \$124,609

ALIANZA LATINOAMERICA POR LOS DERECHOS DE LOS INMIGRANTES

Alianza Latinoamericana por los Derechos de los Inmigrantes (ALIADI) is a network of community members throughout California who share information and resources to uphold the rights and social integration of immigrant communities. Its mission is to participate in educational campaigns, promoting and demanding respect for human rights, political, social and labor rights of workers and families living in a legal vacuum due to the lack of political capacity by those in power. Additionally, it builds networks of trust amongst different sectors, and promote alternative proposals for social integration in the broadest sense.

\$9,950 — Alianza Latinoamerica por los Derechos de los Inmigrantes' Campaign for the Implementation of City/County ID Cards

San Francisco, CA | www.aliadi.org

AMAZON WAKANI

Amazon Wakani preserves and sustains Achual forests and farms, medicinal plants and the cultural traditions of the Achuales living in the village of Nuevo Jerusalem, located in the Peruvian Amazon Forest. The major project of Amazon Wakani is Achual Sustainable Harvests, which maximizes biodiversity using ecologically appropriate technologies,

develops a sustainable economic system and conducts reforestation of depleted areas, while ensuring a self-sufficient Achual Village, stronger in their cultural ideals and skilled in the care of their lands. This is accomplished in alliance with Redpal Peru, Permacultural America Latin, el Peru and the leaders of the Achual village.

\$7,670 — Amazon Wakani's Achual Sustainable Art Collective

San Anselmo, CA | <http://amazonwakani.org/>

ARIZONA ADVOCACY NETWORK

Arizona Advocacy Network is a statewide progressive coalition working for economic security, environmental protection and social justice by making political power accessible to all Arizonans, regardless of socio-economic conditions, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity or geography. Its mission is to build a broad-based, non-partisan coalition of grassroots and advocacy organizations and leaders throughout Arizona that develops and strengthens leadership, promotes social justice, and articulates and advocates a peoples' agenda for Arizona.

\$10,245 — anti-corruption initiative to amend Clean Elections and curb lobbyists' influence

Phoenix, AZ | www.azadvocacy.org

BE PRESENT

Be Present is a national grassroots organization committed to building conscious and active partnerships in a diverse and changing world. It is a diverse network of women and girls who are committed to participating in a world in which the value of women will be measured by their willingness and ability to forge strong, viable communities which are free from the barriers of racism, sexism, homophobia, classism, and ageism.

\$11,410 — regional dialogues on Sustaining a Community of Practice for Transformative Philanthropy

Stone Mountain, GA | www.bepresent.org

BIG APPLE CIRCUS

Big Apple Circus' mission is to invigorate the communities it serves with the joy and wonder of classical circus through a unique shared experience it creates in its tent and through dedicated outreach programs in healthcare facilities and the community.

\$3,972 — general support

New York, NY | www.bigapplecircus.org

BIOMASS ACCOUNTABILITY PROJECT, INC.

The Biomass Accountability Project, Inc. works to educate the public about the harm to human health and the environment from biomass combustion power facilities; and to provide organizational, scientific, and legal support to local community groups in which biomass power projects are proposed.

\$7,135 — general support

Cambridge, MA | www.nobiomassburning.org

BIOSPHERE FOUNDATION

Biosphere Foundation supports research and education about our Earth's biosphere. Biosphere Foundation supports an on-going coral reef program, Planetary Coral Reef Foundation (PCRF), which conducts research to address the coral reef crisis. PCRF has pursued an unprecedented global mission to preserve coral reefs through innovative programs in science, technology and education.

\$3,972 — Marine Mammal Sanctuary

Big Pine, CA | www.biospherefoundation.org

GAIAFIELD PROJECT

GaiaField Project supports a network of spiritual leaders and their constituencies to co-create large-scale global meditation and prayer vigils. It facilitates the sharing of information and resources between existing networks which share the goal of bringing together people in meditation or prayer through web-organizing strategies. It also convenes face-to-face meetings with relevant spiritual leaders and organizing annual live or online gatherings for leaders.

\$7,015 — Gaiafield Project's Global Coherence Initiative (GCI) Global Care Room Project

San Francisco, CA | www.gaiafield.net

GLOBAL EXCHANGE

Global Exchange is an international human rights organization dedicated to building ties between citizens of the United States and those of the global South. Its mission is achieved through several main program areas including: campaigns on today's most pressing political and economic rights issues; a fair trade program; an international and domestic delegations program; and a public education program that produces educational resources and houses a Speakers Bureau that brings human rights leaders from other countries to share their perspective with the American public.

\$11,870 — Human Rights Fund for Mexico's Border States, in collaboration with The Angelica Foundation

San Francisco, CA | www.globalexchange.org

JUSTICE THROUGH MUSIC PROJECT

Justice Through Music is a national organization devoted to voter education, integrity and protection. Its mission is to ensure that every vote counts and is counted. It believes that voters should get to the polls and that their votes must be protected from error, fraud and theft. It works with a broad spectrum of organizations and elected officials to do this.

\$22,490 — Campaign Accountability Watch

Washington, DC | www.jtmp.org

MOSAIC PROJECT

The Mosaic Project helps build a peaceful and productive future by uniting children of diverse backgrounds. Within a nurturing, diverse environment, perhaps the most diverse they have ever encountered, the students are encouraged to appreciate each individual's contributions and the value of community. By reaching youth in their formative years, Mosaic Project hopes to foster confident new generations that value difference and inclusiveness.

\$13,745 — to support the participation of low-income children in the 2011 Outdoor School sessions

Oakland, CA | www.mosaicproject.org

SAKTHI FOUNDATION

The Sakthi Foundation, formed by a small group of members, is an endeavor to provide service through Pancha Bhoota healing.

Its mission is to bring right-awareness in people to avoid sufferings and lead a high quality life. Sakthi Foundation sheds light on rational solving approach by looking deep at the root cause of problems, in all walks of life.

\$5,775 — Yasayan Bumi Sehat's Employee Health Insurance Program

Fairfield, IA | www.sakthifoundation.org

SEA STEWARDS

Sea Stewards' mission is to restore ocean health and the health of the San Francisco Bay, by protecting all ocean life from plankton to sharks. Its vision is to promote sound stewardship for sharks, and all marine life. Through its science based films and video it investigates fisheries and seafood consumption patterns to inspire stewardship for all marine life. Its education and outreach campaigns, e.g. the San Francisco Shark Sanctuary, are directed towards raising awareness on shark conservation, sustainable fisheries, improved water quality and sustainable seafood consumption. Dedicated to ocean health, Sea Stewards is an integrative organization incorporating multi media, scientific practice, documentary, web video, outreach and advocacy. With its non profit partners and volunteers, its efforts in the San Francisco Bay reach a world audience.

\$9,360 — Sea Stewards' Healthy Ocean Initiative

Fairfax, CA | www.seastewards.org

Discretionary Grants — \$6,220

CLASS ACTION

Class Action seeks to raise consciousness about the issues of class and money and their impact on our individual lives, relationships, organizations, institutions and culture. It aims to heal the wound of classism, support the development of cross-class alliance building and the movement of resources to where they are most needed to create justice, equity and sustainability for all.

\$250 — general support

Boston, MA | www.classism.org

COLORADO CONSERVATION VOTERS EDUCATION FUND

Colorado Conservation Voters Education Fund (CCVEF) was established to provide education and training to increase the effective participation of conservationists in the political arena and to educate legislators, the media and the public about outdoor issues facing Colorado today.

\$1,560 — general support

Denver, CO | ccvef.org

HUCKLEBERRY YOUTH PROGRAMS

Huckleberry Youth Programs works to engage adolescents and their families in San Francisco and Marin Counties in a comprehensive array of quality services addressing prevention and health promotion, crisis intervention, stabilization and growth. Huckleberry Youth Programs seek

to empower young people to develop and maintain healthy relationships as well as promote their talents, ideas, leadership and health; to assist youth and their families in overcoming the obstacles they may encounter, which can include family concerns, drug and alcohol abuse, mental health challenges, teen pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, violence, social and economic inequities, and physical and sexual abuse; and to assist clients in navigating complex social welfare, educational and juvenile justice systems.

\$1,050 — general support

San Francisco, CA | <http://www.huckleberryyouth.org/home.html>

JEWISH CHILDREN'S REGIONAL SERVICE

Jewish Children's Regional Service (JCRS) began in 1855 as an orphanage and is currently the oldest existing Jewish children's social services organization in the United States, as well as the only regional Jewish child social services agency in the country. It is primarily focused on serving Jewish children and their families through the following programs and services: camp scholarship aid, college aid, special needs program, the PJ Library, support groups, Hanukkah Card and Gift Program, and the Special Friends Club.

\$250 — general support

Metairie, LA | www.jcrs.org

NATIVE ENERGY, INC.

NativeEnergy is a climate solutions innovator and recognized leader in the U.S. carbon market, offering services that reduce carbon emissions to fight, global warming. Since 2000, it has used its distinctive “help build” model to support the construction of new wind farms, other renewable generation and carbon reduction projects. NativeEnergy offers its customers carbon-solutions consulting services and carbon offsets and renewable energy credits (RECs). By helping finance construction of Native American, family farm, and community-based renewable energy and carbon reduction projects, its customers help communities in need build sustainable economies. It also has significant Native American ownership, providing tribes the ability to share in the business value it is creating. It has strong relationships with environmental NGOs and business partners who work with it to build public awareness and promote action in the fight to reduce global warming pollution.

\$1,050 — to purchase carbon offsets

Burlington, VT | www.nativeenergy.com

NATIVE ENERGY, INC.

NativeEnergy is a climate solutions innovator and recognized leader in the U.S. carbon market, offering services that reduce carbon emissions to fight, global warming. Since 2000, it has used its distinctive “help build” model to support the construction of new wind farms, other renewable generation and carbon reduction projects. NativeEnergy offers its customers carbon-solutions consulting services and carbon offsets and renewable energy credits (RECs). By helping finance construction of Native American, family farm, and community-based renewable energy and carbon reduction projects, its customers help communities in need build sustainable economies. It also has

significant Native American ownership, providing tribes the ability to share in the business value it is creating. It has strong relationships with environmental NGOs and business partners who work with it to build public awareness and promote action in the fight to reduce global warming pollution.

\$1,560 — to purchase carbon offsets

Burlington, VT | www.nativeenergy.com

NOBLE TREE FOUNDATION.ORG

The Noble Tree Foundation.org is a supporting organization of The Spartanburg County Foundation which is a community foundation. The Noble Tree Foundation.org was established February 2000, and will make grants from time to time with its primary focus to provide grants which will enhance the well being of the citizens of Spartanburg County through the promotion of landscaping and excellence in horticulture throughout Spartanburg County.

\$250 — general support

Charlotte, NC | www.spcf.org/NobleTreeFoundation.org.htm

OUT YOUTH

Out Youth seeks to promote the physical, mental, spiritual, and social well-being of sexual minority youth so that they can openly and safely explore and affirm their identities.

\$250 — general support

Austin, TX | www.outyouth.org

Information for Grantseekers Threshold Foundation's annual grants program includes two Core Grantmaking Committees — the Justice and Democracy Committee and the Sustainable Planet Committee — and a number of funding circles, which change on an annual basis. For current information about Core Committee and Funding Circle guidelines and funding criteria, please visit the Threshold Foundation website at www.thresholdfoundation.org.

GRANTS PROCESS

The annual grant cycle begins in September with the submission of Letters of Inquiry (LOI). Each year this process is evaluated to be determined as an open solicitation process or invitation only. Please check the Threshold website each September for the current LOI process. From the LOIs the grant committees invite a limited number of organizations to submit a proposal. After reviewing the proposals, the grant committees select a subset of organizations for a site-visit and evaluation. Once the site-visit and evaluations are complete evaluations are reviewed and grant committees finalize their grant recommendations to the Circle (Board of Directors) in June. Grant agreement and funds are disbursed at the end of September.

GRANT TYPES AND SIZES

Threshold Foundation provides grants for general operating expenses as well as special projects. We do not give emergency or discretionary grants outside of the annual grant cycle.

Grant amounts typically range from \$5,000 to \$25,000.

Organizations seeking grants must have 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status or 501(c)(4) lobbying status from the IRS or must be exclusively organized for charitable or educational purposes, inside or outside the United States.

APPLYING FOR A GRANT

The first step in applying to the annual grant cycle is to submit an online Letter of Inquiry through our website at www.thresholdfoundation.org. Note that guidelines for applying to the annual grant cycle often change, as we are continually trying to improve our process based on feedback from grantees and committee members. Therefore, we recommend that grantseekers visit the Threshold Foundation's website in September for the most up-to-date information regarding the deadline and application process for the following year's cycle.

Endowment Investment Report

The endowment investment principles of Threshold Foundation complement its philanthropic goals. The entire portfolio has a social investment focus with positive and negative screens: seventy percent is in socially screened stock, bonds, and cash with Boston Common Asset Management, Calvert, Miller/Howard Investments, and Trillium Asset Management; twenty percent is in Program Related Investments, primarily Community Development Loan Funds that are listed here; the remaining ten percent has been designated for high growth, venture-type investments.

Program Related Investment Loan Amount

Accion International Boston, MA www.accion.org	\$55,000
Cooperative Fund of New England Wilmington, NC www.cooperativefund.org	\$20,000
E&Co Bloomfield, NJ www.energyhouse.com	\$50,000
Enterprise Corporation of the Delta Jackson, MS www.ecd.org	\$25,000
Human/Economic Appalachian Development, Inc. Community Loan Fund (HEAD Corp.) Berea, KY www.headcorp.org	\$20,000
Institute for Community Economics Springfield, MA www.icelt.org	\$25,000
National Federation of Community Development CU New York, NY www.natfed.org	\$50,000

Program Related Investment Loan Amount

New Hampshire Community Development Concord, NH www.nhclcf.org	\$25,000
Opportunity Finance Network Philadelphia, PA www.opportunityfinance.net	\$100,000
Root Capital Cambridge, MA www.rootcapital.org	\$20,000
Self-Help Credit Union Durham, NC www.self-help.org	\$25,000
Self-Help Enterprises Visalia, CA www.selfhelpenterprises.com	\$45,000
Shared Interest New York, NY www.sharedinterest.org	\$25,000
The Loan Fund Albuquerque, NM www.LoanFund.org	\$20,000

Endowment Gifts

You can make an endowment gift to Threshold Foundation through a charitable trust, real estate gift, or by means of a bequest in your will. Because grantee organizations, grantee needs and other conditions change over the years, it will often avoid legal complications if simple unrestricted language like the following is used in wills:

“I hereby give and bequest _____ to Threshold Foundation, a not-for-profit tax-exempt public charity founded under the laws of the State of New York, having as its principal address PO Box 29903, San Francisco, California 94129-0903, for the general purposes of Threshold Foundation.”

If you want to discuss the language of your bequest, or if you want more information on planned giving possibilities (including real estate gifts), the staff or Circle (Board of Directors) would be happy to meet with you. To schedule a meeting contact the Foundation Manager at 415-561-6400.

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Directors
Threshold Foundation

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial position of Threshold Foundation (“the Foundation”) as of December 31, 2010 and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Foundation’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. The prior year summarized comparative information has been derived from the Foundation’s 2009 financial statements and, in our report dated May 31, 2010, we expressed an unqualified opinion on those statements.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Foundation’s internal control over financial reporting. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Threshold Foundation as of December 31, 2010 and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Signed
Fontanello, Duffield & Otake, LLP
Certified Public Accountants
44 Montgomery Street, Suite 2019
San Francisco, CA 94104

Balance Sheet

Statements of Financial Position

YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009

2010

2009

Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 367,333	\$ 258,560
Pledges receivable	35,390	5,950
Deposits	18,600	10,650
Interest receivable	7,593	9,159
Investments, at fair value	2,268,804	2,211,618
Program related investments	480,000	490,000
Total assets	3,177,720	2,985,937

Liabilities

Accounts payable	4,726	11,866
Grants payable	69,000	—
Refundable deposits	71,918	63,700
Total liabilities	75,566	75,566

Net Assets

Unrestricted net assets		
General operations	466,476	471,871
Designated for grantmaking pool	95,387	138,256
Designated for endowment purposes	2,378,773	2,251,094
Total unrestricted net assets	2,940,636	2,861,221
Temporarily restricted net assets	91,440	49,150
Total net assets	3,032,076	2,910,371
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 3,177,720	\$ 2,985,937

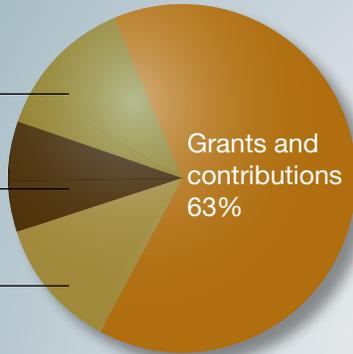
Income & Expense

2010 Revenue

Membership fees 12.8%

Investment income 11.7%

Conference revenues 12.5%



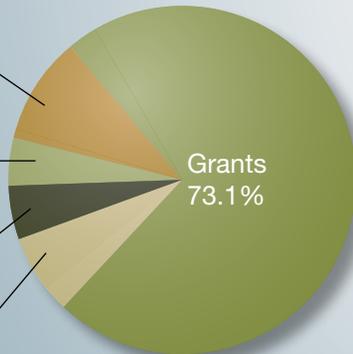
2010 Expense

Conference expenses 9.9%

Membership services 4.4%

Grantmaking support 4.9%

Board/corporate support 7.7%



Statements of Activities

YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009

Support and Revenue

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	2010 Total	2009 Total
Grants and contributions	\$ 1,138,374	\$ 35,390	\$ 1,173,764	\$ 1,304,723
Membership fees	182,727	56,050	238,777	241,099
Conference revenues	232,578		232,578	167,064
Investment income				
Interest and dividends	52,760		52,760	63,591
Investment fees	(17,507)		(17,507)	(16,390)
Net realized gain/(loss)	71,437		71,437	(108,069)
Net unrealized gain/(loss)	112,162		112,062	372,538
	1,772,431	91,440	1,863,871	2,024,556
Net assets released from restriction	49,150	(49,150)	—	—
Total support and revenue	1,821,581	42,290	1,863,871	2,024,556

Expenses

Program services				
Grants	1,272,895		1,272,895	1,360,128
Conference expenses	173,535		173,535	221,512
Membership services	75,968		75,968	99,562
Total program services	1,522,398	—	1,522,398	1,681,202
Supporting services				
Grantmaking support	84,798		84,798	99,019
Board/corporate support	134,970		134,970	93,512
Total supporting services	219,768	—	219,768	192,531
Total expenses	1,742,166	—	1,742,166	1,873,733
Change in Net Assets	79,415	42,290	121,705	150,823
Net assets at beginning of year	2,861,221	49,150	2,910,371	2,759,548
Net assets at end of year	\$ 2,940,636	\$ 91,440	\$ 3,032,076	\$ 2,910,371

Cash Flows

Statements of Cash Flows

YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009

2010

2009

Cash flows from operating activities

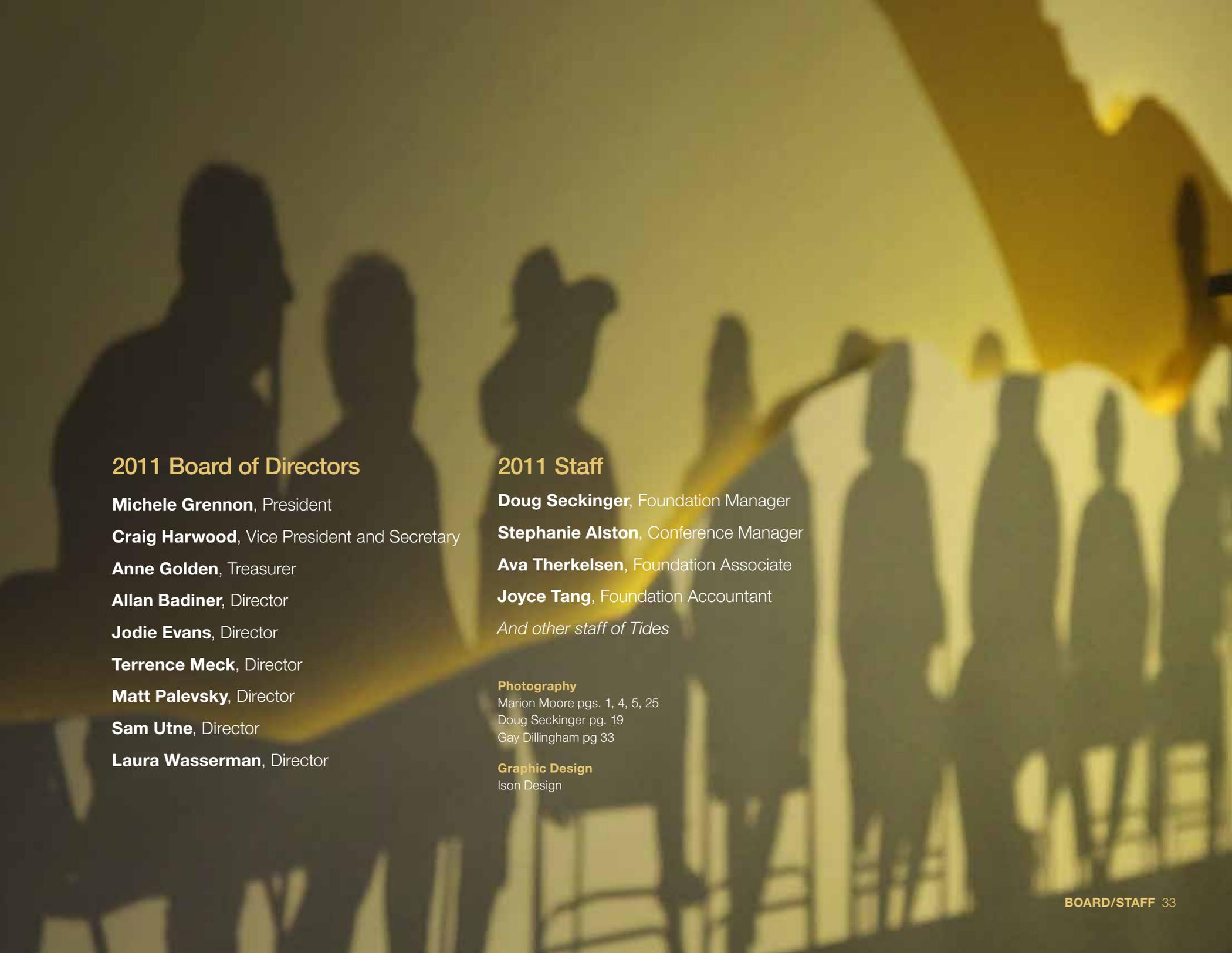
Change in net assets	\$ 121,705	\$ 150,823
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to cash used in operating activities:		
Realized (gains)/losses on investments	(71,437)	108,069
Unrealized (gains)/losses on investments	(112,062)	(372,538)
Contributed stock	(81,739)	(71,056)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Pledges receivable	29,440	12,575
Deposits	(7,950)	14,630
Interest receivable	1,566	2,384
Accounts payable	(7,140)	924
Grants payable	69,000	(350,000)
Refundable deposits	8,218	54,200
Net cash used in operating activities	(109,279)	(449,989)

Cash flows from investing activities

Purchase of investments	(546,731)	(797,346)
Proceeds from sale of investments	754,783	1,172,077
Increase in program related investments	—	(25,000)
Decrease in program related investments	10,000	70,000
Net cash provided by investing activities	218,052	419,731

Net change in cash and cash equivalents

	108,773	(30,258)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	258,560	288,818
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$ 367,333	\$ 258,560



2011 Board of Directors

Michele Grennon, President

Craig Harwood, Vice President and Secretary

Anne Golden, Treasurer

Allan Badiner, Director

Jodie Evans, Director

Terrence Meck, Director

Matt Palevsky, Director

Sam Utne, Director

Laura Wasserman, Director

2011 Staff

Doug Seckinger, Foundation Manager

Stephanie Alston, Conference Manager

Ava Therkelsen, Foundation Associate

Joyce Tang, Foundation Accountant

And other staff of Tides

Photography

Marion Moore pgs. 1, 4, 5, 25

Doug Seckinger pg. 19

Gay Dillingham pg 33

Graphic Design

Ison Design

In Memoriam



Mary Calder Rower
1939–2011

Mary Rower came into our community thirty years ago. She was powerful and beloved — if occasionally bristly — throughout. Mary was always a force: a force to be reckoned with, a force of love, a force for being truthful. She served

officially on committees that tended to our community — membership and guardians — and also served on the Circle (our board of directors) from 2004 until her death from cancer last June.

As important as those formal contributions were, Mary most memorably embodied for us, the commitment, as one friend put it, of “truth over harmony.” If someone was misbehaving in any way that was not serving the whole, Mary could be counted on to step forward and “take care of it”. In that way she could be serious and focused and sometimes even harsh — but what a laugh she had! What joy she could foster with her mischief and love of life! What beauty she could create with her exceptional gift for beading and knitting and other “high domestic arts”. Mary also brought forth her sincere soprano voice with great joy in recent years, serenading us with traditional folk songs, often with her grandson Gryphon.

Equal to Mary’s contribution to Threshold, was how the Threshold community — the donuts — nourished her life. There are few people with as strong a gift for friendship as Mary had. She found friends of every age and stage in abundance at Threshold. For many of us, her MacDougal Street home, where she lived for nearly fifty years, was our NYC home-

away-from-home where we enjoyed her loving hospitality — including her cooking, another of those domestic arts at which Mary was learned, and excelled. With food, as with all things, Mary was particular but not fussy.

Mary’s passions for organizations were as deep and lasting as her friendships. Once she decided you were OK, she became devoted. As longtime friend Sandra Wilson saw it, “Mary’s philanthropy and investments all had to do with her love of the people she met or, if it was a vision, first she became involved and friendships grew. The groups and businesses she supported were part of her extended family.” Among them, The Putney School, the Big Apple Circus and an array of true progressive politicians all benefited from Mary’s loyal support. She was a founding trustee of the Calder Foundation and was integral to the creation of the Atelier Calder residency program in Saché, France.

Mary grew up in Roxbury, Connecticut with frequent travels and extended stays in Europe. She attended the Putney School, graduating in 1958. In 1961 she married Howard Rower, also a longtime Threshold member who died eleven years ago.

Mary leaves behind her sons Holton and Sandy, and her much beloved grandchildren Gryphon, Sofia, Isabel and Pond.

She also leaves behind a wake of authentic Mary-ness which will continue to wash over us and infuse us, her donut community. Long live the Mary in all of us.

Marian Moore
February, 2012

In Memoriam



Marguerite Craig
1923–2011

Marguerite's life focus was connecting with the "Universal Truth" and discovering how this world and other dimensions communicate. She always was curious, loved learning and had the courage to launch into the unknown, be it in business or for causes she supported.

Early in her life she visited Bahia, Brazil and was taken by the work of a nun, Sister Dulce, who was helping the "street children". Marguerite organized a huge campaign in Los Angeles and sent military transports loaded with needed supplies to Brazil and was welcomed there by government and community leaders.

She spent many years creating and developing the travel program for IONS. She and others traveled world-wide exploring how others live and contribute to the world society.

Marguerite's commitment to Threshold was a very important and fulfilling time in her life.

She moved to Ashland in 2000 and spent those years enjoying a quieter life, reading, seeing wonderful theater and movies and as always, connecting people to people and sharing new thoughts via, phone, letters and the internet. She found great joy in being able to send financial support to many smaller programs in addition to being able to leave a legacy to her special non-profits through the Craig Trust handled by Threshold.

In Memoriam



Ashawna Hailey
1949–2011

Ashawna Hailey passed away at home in peace on October 14 at the age of 62. Shawn Hailey was born in Lubbock, Texas, on October 8, 1949. He attended Texas Tech University, where he co-founded Data-Link Corporation during his senior year. After graduation, he moved on to

Martin Marietta to design the launch sequencer for the Sprint Anti-ballistic Missile System. He joined his brother Kim at General Instrument as a microprocessor architect in 1972. He continued computer design at AMD in 1974 by building their first Intel compatible processor — the 9080. While at AMD he also introduced their first non-volatile memory family that competed with the Intel 2708. In 1979, with his brother Kim he founded Meta-Software. They introduced Hspice, a circuit simulator that has become the world standard for high speed circuit analysis.

After a his successful career in technology, Shawn embarked on an even greater challenge: the creation of Ashawna, an Independent Entertainment Professional. This was, perhaps, his most important

endeavor. This metamorphosis opened the doors to an adventure that brought the newly realized Ashawna into contact with myriad kindred spirits, including the Threshold community. We were blessed to share the adventure of the 13 year old girl who wanted Shawn's body through adolescence to adulthood. It was messy, courageous, inspiring and beautiful. Ashawna's brilliance and open heart met each of us with a freshness and generosity of spirit. She was always ready to shock and disrupt the way we accepted and engaged with the world but only to create opportunities for richer and more interesting lives. Many in the Threshold community had memorable and original experiences with Ashawna both at conferences and while visiting at her paradise of Wainiha, Kaua'i.

Ashawna approached the world with a loving and creative, playful, trickster genius that lightened and inspired the lives of those around her. Shawn, Ashawna and all that they created will be missed greatly. We who survive her are eternally grateful for the opportunity to have known her.

Shawn is survived by his children Neal and Nora and by his twin brother Kim.

Jodie Evans

In Memoriam



Leonard Marks

1942–2011

Leonard was a top entertainment lawyer, meditation teacher, disarmament and peace advocate, piano player and lover of life. He was tragically struck with Alzheimer's about 10 years ago and disappeared from active participation in the Threshold community. Leonard was born in NYC, received his BS from Baruch College and his law degree from Yale. His clients included Billy Joel, the Beatles, Elton John and Eddie Murphy. He was founding partner of the law firm Gold, Farrell & Marks in 1970. Marks, a former federal prosecutor, is survived by his brother, beloved twin daughters, son-in-law and grandchildren.

In Memoriam



Alan Slifka
1929–2011

Alan Slifka, “Mr. S” died in Los Angeles on Feb. 11 2012 at the age of 81. The world, and all his life touched, was blessed by the presence of a great soul.

Alan was born in 1929 to wealthy Jewish family in New York. A twin, he never liked to be alone and sought connection and security his entire life; in business, in

family, through philanthropy, and in the end, through love. Alan was a Yale graduate and ran a successful hedge fund, Halcyon Capital. He had an apartment on Park Ave., a beautiful home in the Hamptons, a cultured and comfortable lifestyle, and three handsome sons. But his external success belied his restless quest for meaning and love. He never settled for the trappings of happiness, but was constantly driven to seek and experiment, in faith, in love, in ideas and in action. He was a dreamer; always seeking a better world, never deterred long by disappointment.

Alan had a truly generous soul, and delighted in finding ways to help others. For Alan, giving was an art. No problem was too challenging for him; one of his goals was to make war obsolete. He had a childlike faith in human potential, his own and others. He gave joy through the Big Apple Circus; a European style circus designed to delight audiences with wit and subtlety, not overwhelm them with fear and spectacle. He gave prophetically through the Abraham Fund, working to improve the lives of Arab Israelis and help Israel integrate and heal its wounds. He gave generously through the Slifka family foundation, Threshold and his own personal philanthropy. He gave in big ways, endowing a program in coexistence at Brandeis University, founding the Abraham Herschel School in New York, and providing early support to the Open

Center. But he also gave in small and thoughtful ways, a new bike for his housekeeper’s child, encouragement to a young scholar, advice and help for friends and their dreams. He was incredibly generous with his time; a valuable team player, who brought insight, authenticity, vision, and vulnerability to all that he did.

Those of us lucky enough to have worked with Alan at Threshold probably share a few warm memories. Alan often indulged in long pauses before he spoke, beginning a sentence and then closing his eyes and taking a deep breath, as if he were taking internal inventory to find and express his deepest truth. Minutes sometimes passed as we waited in respectful silence for him to open his eyes and complete his thought. As he grew older, I sometimes worried that he had drifted off to sleep, but almost always those pregnant pauses were followed by wise and compassionate words.

And who can ever forget Alan’s smile, which opened in stages over his face, growing broader and more encompassing, until eventually his entire face, from eyes to chin, became a huge beaming grin. This smile was unforced, and rose across his face like the sun at the sight of someone he loved, or some small happenstance of beauty or wit. It was unforced and signaled Alan’s sincere and profound delight in the grace and upward energy of the human spirit, in the transformation of pain into love, and in ordinary kindness and tenderness.

Toward the end of his life, Alan sought security and love in his third and final marriage with Riva Ritvo. I like to think that he finally found the love and devotion he craved. He certainly deserved it. He leaves behind his wife Riva, his three sons Randy, Michael and David, his stepchildren Victoria, Skye and Max, his devoted personal staff Marilyn and Lorraine, and many, many, many friends who were touched by his spirit. Thank you Alan.

Sarah Stranahan