



2016 Annual Report
THE MARY DUKE BIDDLE FOUNDATION





2016 Annual Report

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Cover: Miss Mary Lillian Duke, portrait by François Flameng, 1910.
On loan courtesy of The Mary Duke Biddle Trent Semans Foundation

2016 | Chair's Message



John Mebane, Jr. retired from the board at the end of 2016, after 22 years of service. As Treasurer, he provided prudent financial guidance, particularly regarding the foundation's investments. The Board is grateful for John's service, friendship, and commitment to the foundation.

Staff

Mimi O'Brien, Executive Director
Kathy L. Harrison, Executive Assistant

Contributors

Colleen Carrigan, Art Director
Bridget Booher, Writer
Todd Cohen, Writer

In my twelve years as a trustee of The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation, I have never been more excited about the steps we are taking toward the vision inspired by Mary Duke Biddle. When my great-grandmother established this foundation sixty years ago, she was intentionally broad in her directions to future trustees on how and where to distribute grants, and she had the foresight to suggest that the trustees "from time to time" reconsider the best ways to accomplish her goals. With her father, Benjamin N. Duke, and uncle, James B. Duke, as models, Mrs. Biddle understood the need to always look forward and adapt to changing issues.

This vision that Mary Duke Biddle had for current and purposeful giving has always driven the work of our dedicated trustees and staff, particularly over the past few years as we engaged in an assessment of the foundation's impact to ensure it retains its strong philanthropic tradition. In several stages we scrutinized both internal operations and grantmaking practices, and we are pleased with the prospects for long-term sustainability and impact, especially through significant enhancements to our grantmaking.

The trustees of The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation view our self-evaluation and consequential changes as ensuring a robust continuation of the legacy of Mrs. Biddle and others who helped develop the foundation into the strong institution it is today. Leading the way for much of the foundation's 60-year history were Mary D.B.T. Semans and Dr. James H. Semans, Mrs. Biddle's daughter and son-in-law. Even into their nineties, the Semanses worked

tirelessly in service to humanity, going about their foundation work with a generosity of spirit that greatly inspire our trustees and staff today. The Board of Trustees firmly believes that the foundation is now well poised for its next decade and beyond, moving forward the mission developed by Mrs. Biddle, the Semanses, trustees, and staff, and carried out by those within the organizations we have served.

As we transition into the next phase of our development, and as I prepare to step down this year as chair of the board I have proudly served on since 2005, I want to express my gratitude for the opportunity to be part of this remarkable foundation. I am pleased that Chris Harris, my cousin and another great-grandson of Mary Duke Biddle, will succeed me as chair.

Having reached the foundation's 60th year, we celebrate our past and also the future. Our nearly \$44 million in grants to thousands of organizations is a point of pride, but more importantly, we rejoice in our history of actively working with people to make a positive impact in our society. We look forward to continuing these partnerships and sincerely hope our future grantmaking programs and initiatives will do much to help them elevate the human condition in ways that Mary Duke Biddle envisioned sixty years ago.

Jon Zeljo, Chair (2013-2017)



The Mary Duke Biddle Trustees and Administration, 2016: Front, left to right: K. Todd Walker, James D.B.T. Semans, Mimi O'Brien (Executive Director), Chris Harris. Back, left to right: John G. Mebane, Jr. (retired December, 2016), Jon Zeljo, C. Russell Bryan

“Having reached the foundation’s 60th year, we celebrate our past and also the future. Our nearly \$44 million in grants to thousands of organizations is a point of pride, but more importantly, we rejoice in our history of actively working with people to make a positive impact in our society.”

Jon Zeljo

New Trustees Elected

Lois Deloatch and **Allison Haltom** joined the Biddle Foundation Board of Trustees in January 2017. Both bring extensive experience in nonprofit management, including board governance, sustainability, and program delivery. Both are active volunteers with nonprofits in the Triangle and other areas of North Carolina.



Ms. Deloatch serves as Philanthropy Director for the Center for Responsible Lending, a Self-Help affiliate that works to ensure a fair financial marketplace for vulnerable and underserved communities. Previously, she held key fundraising positions at Duke University and North Carolina Central University, where she was Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement and Executive Director of the

NCCU Foundation. Her volunteer leadership roles include the boards of the Rotary Club of Durham, the Durham Tourism Development Authority, the Jazz Foundation of North Carolina, and the Gregory B. Davis Foundation. As an artist, Ms. Deloatch is noted for her rich contralto voice and expansive repertoire of jazz, blues, and spirituals.



Ms. Haltom is Senior Associate with moss + ross, a consulting firm that provides strategic planning, fundraising, and executive search services to nonprofits. During her long career at Duke University, she held several leadership positions, including Director of the Annual Fund, University Secretary, and Vice President. Her volunteer leadership has focused on education, and she has served on the boards of trustees of UNC-Asheville, University of North Carolina School of the Arts, Durham Academy, and the Hill Center.

Mary Duke Biddle: A Legacy of Service

Mary Lillian Duke Biddle was born on November 16, 1887, in Durham, N.C., the only daughter of Benjamin Newton Duke and Sarah Pearson Angier Duke, and the granddaughter of Washington Duke. She attended public schools in Durham and enrolled in Trinity College, later named Duke University, from which she earned her degree in English in 1907.

Maintaining a residence in Durham, the family also had a home in New York City. During her youth, she traveled frequently with her parents to New York City, where she attended theater and opera performances and developed a keen interest in the arts. Living in the City provided her with great access to the arts, and Mary became an accomplished singer and pianist.

She took an active part in the civic and social life of Durham until her marriage in 1915 to Anthony Joseph Drexel Biddle, Jr., after which she lived in New York City and Irvington-on-Hudson, NY. The couple had two children, daughter Mary and son Nicholas. Divorced in 1931, Mrs. Biddle and her children moved back to Durham for part of each year beginning in 1936. As she spent more time in Durham, her family and civic connections deepened. Her commitment to Duke University, her community, and North Carolina grew more meaningful.

Mrs. Biddle developed an appreciation for the importance of philanthropy from her father, who was the guiding hand behind many of the Duke family's many charitable activities. Duke University, in particular, flourished through the support of her grandfather, father, and Uncle J. B. Duke. She, too, was a strong supporter of Duke, where she made gifts most notably to the library

and to the Sarah P. Duke Gardens, which she helped establish in honor of her mother. She also had an abiding interest in aiding the arts.

In the latter part of her life, she discussed her desire to provide continuing support for her causes and concerns with family, friends, and trusted advisors. In September 1956, she established The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation. She focused the foundation's grantmaking in North Carolina and New York, in recognition of their significance to her and her family. She singled out three churches, in Durham, New York City, and Irvington-on-Hudson, as organizations important to her. Mrs. Biddle also directed that at least one-half of the foundation's grants be made to Duke University. Stating that she was primarily interested in furthering religious, educational, and charitable activities, Mrs. Biddle otherwise gave the foundation's Board of Trustees broad discretion in determining how best to accomplish her objectives. Over the decades, the trustees have stewarded this responsibility by considering what was important to her and her family.

Mary Duke Biddle died in 1960 at the age of 73. Through The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation, her family philanthropy and personal legacy continues. She passed to her children and her grandchildren her respect for high ethical principles, appreciation of art and beauty, and a great enthusiasm for life.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE DAVID M. RUBENSTEIN RARE BOOK & MANUSCRIPT LIBRARY, DUKE UNIVERSITY

Mary Lillian Duke, age 9, subject of Trinity College Professor Lockwood's experimental photography, and below, in 1916, shortly after her marriage to Anthony Joseph Drexel Biddle, Jr.

Investing in Inspired Innovation for 60 Years



Four life lessons grounded the philanthropic vision of Mary Duke Biddle when she created The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation in 1956. Mrs. Biddle knew from experience that even modest gifts can stimulate meaningful change. She had seen the doors that education can open to a better future. An accomplished singer, she understood the role the arts can play in enriching lives. And she had witnessed the hope that people in distress can find through faith.

For 60 years, that vision has informed and shaped the work of the foundation. Its work, its focus, its flexibility, and its impact all reflect Mrs. Biddle's belief that, with careful seeding and tending, creative ideas for making communities better places to live and work can bloom.

Established with stock worth just over \$100,000, The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation initially made two grants—to Duke University and to Christ Church United Methodist in New York City. Each totaled \$204. Over the past six decades, the foundation has awarded nearly \$44 million in grants, while its endowment has grown to just under \$30 million. As with its endowment, the foundation's grantmaking and impact have grown, guided by Mrs. Biddle's descendants, who have remained true to her philanthropic vision and have participated actively in the foundation's work.

Mrs. Biddle understood that communities are more likely to thrive when people in every walk of life have access to education and cultural resources they can use to make sense of life's challenges, and to cope with them. For 60 years, the foundation has nurtured education and the arts as well as investing in a broad range of programs to address social needs. Thanks to the flexibility that Mrs. Biddle provided in creating the foundation, it has continually adapted its philanthropy to address the changing needs of communities.

Mary D.B.T. Semans, Mrs. Biddle's daughter, and her husband James H. Semans, M.D., both founding members of the foundation's board of trustees, championed its investment of "small but significant" grants that can provide a critical boost for an organization or program in its early stages. That focus on cultivating innovation continues.

While the foundation focuses much of its grantmaking on innovation, it counts on the recipients of its funding to develop ideas based on their own vision and hands-on experience, and to turn them into programs that make a difference in the lives of the people and communities they serve.

GRANTS AWARDED

During 1st Decade
\$2,783,591

During 6th Decade
\$12,649,227

ENDOWMENT VALUE

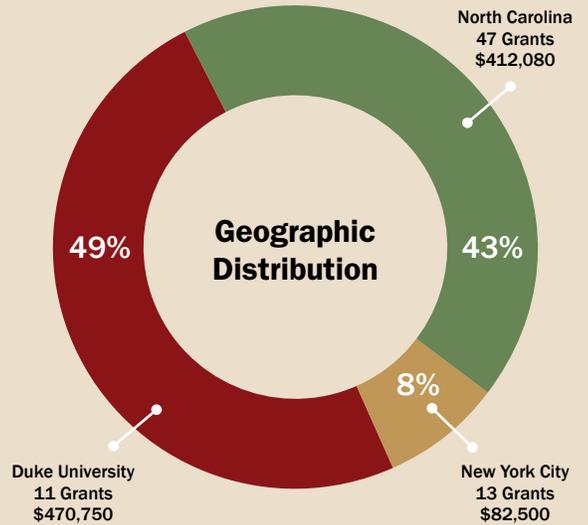
1956
\$108,950

2016
\$29,630,053

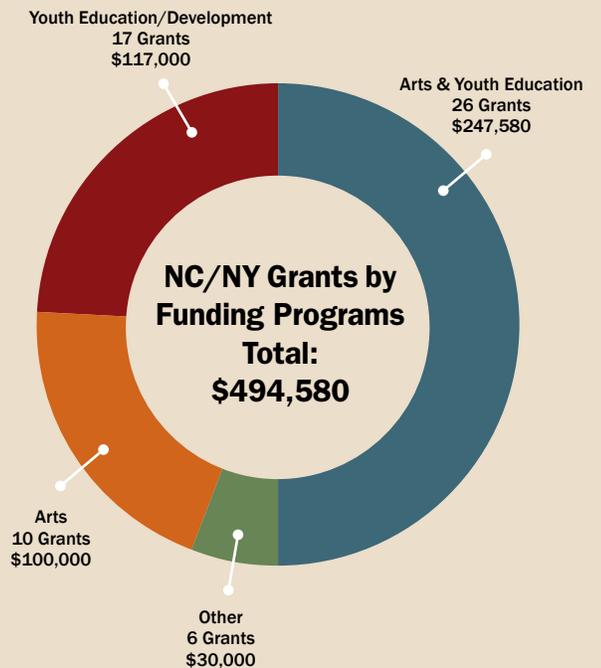
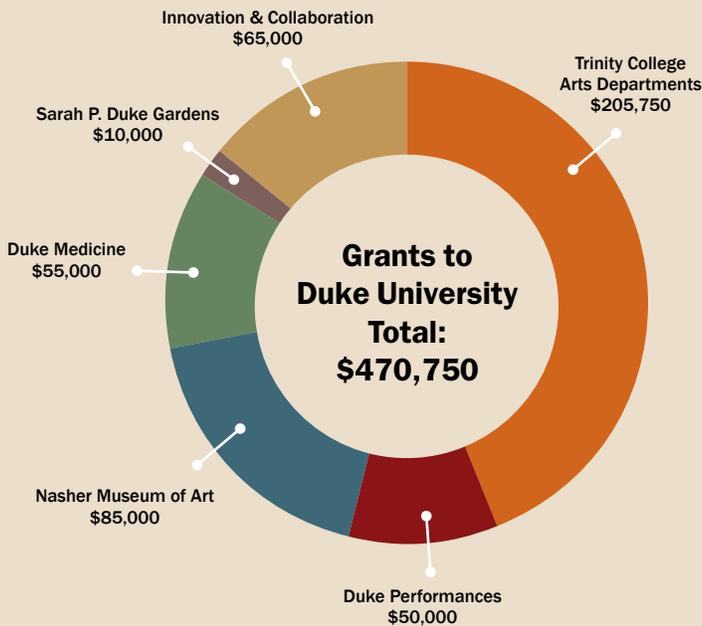
Grantmaking Overview

As directed by Mrs. Biddle, the foundation each year gives about half its grant funding to Duke University. In 2016, this equaled nearly \$500,000. It also awarded just under \$500,000 to other organizations in North Carolina and New York City. This funding included support to groups with which it has longstanding relationships, as well as grants awarded through an open and competitive process to organizations that focus on education and the arts. The foundation has the privilege to help many organizations achieve their goals, and we are pleased to highlight the work of **North Carolina Arts in Action** and the **Southern Documentary Fund**.

In addition, to celebrate its 60th Anniversary in 2016, the foundation honored Mary Duke Biddle's legacy by awarding five special grants totaling



\$125,000 to organizations in North Carolina and New York City. Grants to the **Asheville Art Museum**, the **Durham Arts Council**, **Kidznotes**, **Student U**, and **UpBeat NYC** were made to support artists, boost arts education, and prepare students to succeed in school and life. Descriptions of these grants can be found throughout this annual report.



2016 | Grant Recipients in the Arts

American Dance Festival

Durham, NC

To commission and premiere *Analogy/Lance: Pretty aka The Escape Artist*, the second work in a new trilogy by Bill T. Jones during the 2016 season
\$10,000

Arts For Life

Asheville, NC

To launch educational art lessons for young patients in the Carolinas HealthCare System's Levine Children's Hospital
\$4,000

Carolina Theatre of Durham

Durham, NC

Support for the Carolina Theatre's 90th Anniversary campaign. This grant reflects the strong relationship between the theater and the Biddle Foundation.
\$15,000

The Chamber Orchestra of the Triangle

Durham, NC

For the 2016-17 concert season. The Biddle Foundation generally does not make grants for season support. This grant reflects the long history shared by The Chamber Orchestra of the Triangle and the Biddle Foundation.
\$7,000

Culture Mill

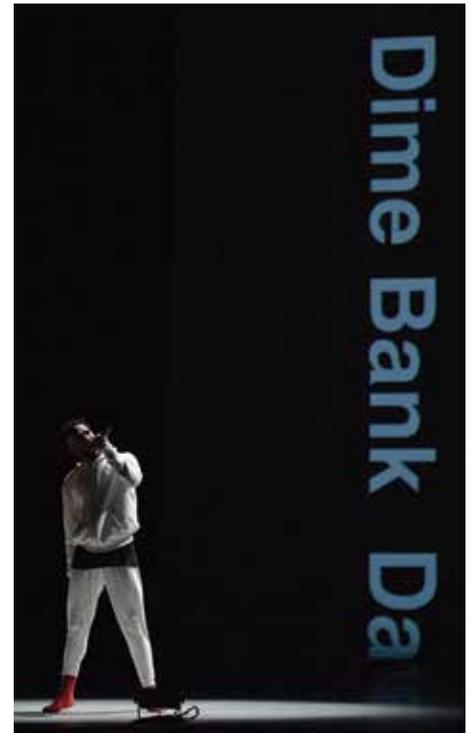
Saxapahaw, NC

Articulating Value in The Arts is a project to facilitate discussion around understanding, quantifying, and articulating different notions of value in the arts
\$5,000

dell'Arte Opera Ensemble

New York City, NY

For the Opera Leadership Mentoring Program, which enhances the skills of young professionals on the production and design side of the opera industry by pairing them with established and highly regarded mentors
\$5,000



ADF's presentation of Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company's work "Analogy/Lance: Pretty aka the Escape Artist."



GRANT HALVERSON

Durham Arts Council

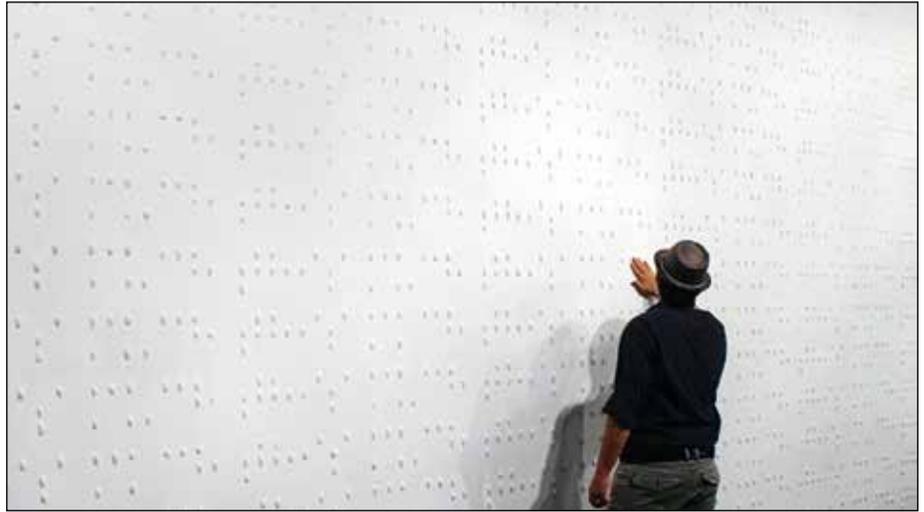
Durham, NC

Support to develop an online arts/arts organization/creative arts business directory to increase visibility of these sectors and organizations and for the Ella Fountain Pratt Emerging Artists Grant program, which provides career development grants to individual artists in Durham, Chatham, Orange, Granville, and Person Counties. This grant was made in celebration of the Biddle Foundation's 60th Anniversary. \$25,000

The Field

New York City, NY

For the Field Leadership Fund, a paid leadership training program designed to train the next generation of less-advantaged arts managers and accelerate the careers of under-resourced artists \$5,000



Braille installation by Katherine Worel

Southern Documentary Fund

Durham, NC

For the 2016 SDF Filmmaking Grants, which assist filmmakers making documentaries in or about North Carolina at various stages of production, leading to the completion and distribution of powerful works \$20,000

Visual Arts Exchange

Raleigh, NC

For TACTILE: an exhibition and programming with the mission of increasing accessibility in the creative community \$4,000



Visual Arts Exchange Raleigh's 2016 exhibition TACTILE

COURTESY VISUAL ARTS EXCHANGE

Keeping Regional Storytelling in Focus: Southern Documentary Fund

Cultivating Southern stories and documentary storytellers, and connecting those storytellers to funding and distribution networks critical to getting their movies made and shown, is the goal of the Southern Documentary Fund in Durham. Founded in 2002, SDF has served as fiscal sponsor for 150 completed documentaries, and for another 73 still in progress. It also advises documentary-makers, tracks their progress, and provides feedback and mentoring.

And since 2014, SDF itself has made four grants a year, of \$2,500 to \$7,000 each, to seed documentaries, thanks to a multi-year investment by The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation. "It really made us a player in the documentary funding field," says Naomi Walker, executive director of SDF. "Small as the grants are, they make a huge difference in the region." Over a five-year period, Biddle Foundation funding will total \$100,000.

Support from the Biddle Foundation for the regranting program has boosted SDF's profile with national funders, including a major foundation that has invited SDF to apply for a significant grant. SDF would use the new funds to make more grants to more documentary-makers, match them with mentors, and generate ideas and feedback for works in progress.

The Biddle support "vaults our projects onto the national stage," giving them cache and credibility, Walker says. It also raises the visibility of SDF itself in the documentary world and among investors, increases its capacity to advise documentary-makers, and makes it easier to recruit industry professionals and prospective donors to help select and support documentary-makers and their work.

"Frequently, documentary filmmakers have to leave the South and move to New York or Los Angeles or San Francisco to have access to industry connections and to get the work that supports their field," Walker says. "We want makers to be able to stay here and flourish here. Because they're so under-resourced and don't have those same connections, small grants make a big difference. The funding from The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation put SDF on the map in the documentary industry."



Top: Still from *Reach Back and Fetch It: The Carolina Chocolate Drops Story*
Bottom: Still from *Always in Season*



2016

Always In Season

by Jaqueline Olive

Burden Of Proof by Cynthia Hill

Farmsteaders by Shaena Mallett

Reach Back and Fetch It:

The Carolina Chocolate Drops Story

by John Whitehead

2015

I, Destini by Nicholas Pilarski
and Destini Riley

The Nine-Month Withdrawal
by Ashley Panzera

Red Wolf Revival by Roshan Patel
and Madison McClintock

United Skates by Tina Brown
and Dyana Winkler

2014

Raising Bertie by Margaret Byrne

The Last Barn Dance
by Jason Arthurs

Living Off the Line:

Stories from The Clothesline Muse

by Lana Garland

Furniture Workers Story
by Phoebe Brush



Durham Arts Council (Durham, NC)

The 60th Anniversary grant to the Durham Arts Council honors the legacy of Dr. and Mrs. James H. Semans, founding trustees of the Biddle Foundation, and their long-time friend Ella Fountain Pratt, former Executive Director of Durham Arts Council. Together, they were tireless advocates for the arts. Formed in 1954, the Durham Arts Council promotes accessibility to the arts for the community and needed support for artists. Annually, it serves 400,000 visitors and program participants a year, over 1,500 artists, and over 60 arts organizations through art classes, artist residencies in schools, exhibitions, festivals, grant programs, technical support and training, and much more. MDBF's 60th Anniversary grant supported the development of a new online arts directory and continued a long-standing investment in the career development for emerging artists.

Nonprofit arts and cultural organizations in Durham represent an economic engine: According to the most recent data (2011), the combined economic impact of those organizations totals \$125.5 million. The new directory will provide greater visibility for local artists and facilitate collaboration between the arts sector, from collectors to curators to educators and most of all, the public. Expected to be launched by late summer 2017, the directory will be the only local, non-member based, publicly accessible directory of artists and arts organizations in the Triangle.

The Ella Fountain Pratt Emerging Artists Awards were launched in 1984 in partnership with the N.C. Arts Council to invest in individual artists by funding projects pivotal to the advancement of their careers.

This grant program has served as a model for other arts councils throughout the State. Each year about 110 artists submit applications for the program, from which the Arts Council awards 15 to 16 grants for mid-career development projects to individual artists in Durham, Chatham, Orange, Granville, and Person Counties. Artists typically use the funds for needs ranging from attending conferences, buying materials and equipment, and conducting research to securing larger studio space, creating new art, and increasing their visibility. The grants also provide recognition and validation that artists can use to secure other funding, and expand their range of opportunities and their professional networks.

Will Thomas, EAP 2016
Anna Kipervaser, film artist, EAP 2016
Al Strong, jazz musician, EAP 2016
Martha Clippinger, fiber artist, EAP 2017
Chieko Murasugi, EAP 2017

“We are working to create opportunity for artists and arts groups to work collaboratively among themselves, to work across sectors, to apply for grants, to be more accessible, and to get the training they need.”

—Sherry DeVries, executive director



COURTESY DURHAM
ARTS COUNCIL

2016 | Grant Recipients in Youth Education & Development

Bee Downtown

Durham, NC
To expand The Buzz About Bees educational program to additional elementary schools and develop curricular materials for teachers
\$5,000

Book Harvest

Durham, NC
To expand the Books on Break program to Eastway Elementary School in Durham, NC
\$5,000

Carolinas Aviation Museum

Charlotte, NC
Support for pre-K-12 educational programming, including a Girls in STEM program for middle school girls as well as other efforts that involve boys and other age groups. This grant was made in honor of Biddle Foundation Trustee John Mebane, who retired from the board after more than 20 years of service. Mr. Mebane is also a long-time volunteer at the Museum.
\$20,000

Communities in Schools of Durham

Durham, NC
For the Trained for Impact Initiative, to strengthen the intensive case management delivered by CIS coaches to students
\$5,000

Communities in Schools of Wake County

Raleigh, NC
For Smart Beginnings, a school-readiness program for pre-K students in Raleigh, NC
\$5,000

East Durham Children's Initiative

Durham, NC
For STEAM Saturdays: Nurturing Young Scientists of Color in East Durham, focusing on elementary and middle school students
\$5,000



COURTESY BEE DOWNTOWN



COURTESY EAST DURHAM CHILDREN'S INITIATIVE

Literacy Council of Highlands

Highlands, NC
For the Franklin-area Schools Tutoring Remediation Program, to bring K-3rd grade students up to grade level by offering remediation and tutoring services, both inside and outside of the classroom
\$5,000

The Marian Cheek Jackson Center for Saving & Making History

Chapel Hill, NC
For the Learning Across Generations Community Mentor Team, which will position longtime community members in classrooms as local history experts and social change stewards, in order to engage students of color as informed student-citizens
\$5,000

Kramden Institute

Durham, NC
For the Tech Trailblazers program, which teaches computer-related STEM skills to underserved students in grades 6-9
\$5,000

Nourish International

Chapel Hill, NC

To extend the reach and impact of the Nourish High School Program, which introduces students to skills and knowledge in social business, international development, and leadership
\$5,000

Profound Gentlemen

Charlotte, NC

For the Brotherhood Advisory Community, a 10-month development cohort aimed to improve the academic, social, and emotional achievement of 6th-12th grade boys of color and to retain male educators of color in the classroom
\$5,000

Student U

Durham, NC

Support for the Summer Academy Internship and College Promise Advisor programs, which allow current Student U students to take on key leadership roles, gain valuable work experience, and serve as teachers and mentors to younger students. This grant was made in celebration of the Biddle Foundation's 60th Anniversary.
\$25,000

Teachers2Teacher-International

Chapel Hill, NC

For Math in Real Life: Bringing Math to Life at Carrboro Elementary through monthly workshops
\$4,000

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill-Campus Y

Chapel Hill, NC

To continue the Kenan-Biddle Partnership, which stimulates collaboration between students at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Duke University.
\$5,000

Village of Wisdom

Durham, NC

For Family Learning Villages 2.0, which engages the parents of Black youth and provides tools and training to help prepare children for success
\$5,000



COURTESY, TEACHERS2TEACHER-INTERNATIONAL

Walltown Children's Theatre

Durham, NC

For PLAY: Peer Leadership through the Arts for Youth, a program that provides leadership development and academic planning for high school students and academic tutoring for middle school students
\$5,000

Women's Wellbeing and Development Foundation

Asheville, NC

For the Hillcrest Youth Initiative, a community-based afterschool program, focused on academics, artistic expression, life skills, and fitness and nutrition
\$3,000



Student U (Durham, NC)

“We want to see a Durham where all kids can succeed. We believe the way to get there is for our students to actually be the leaders who change the system.”

—Dan Kimberg, founder and advancement director

Founded in 2007, Student U is a college-access and success organization that believes all students in Durham have the ability to succeed. Students participating in Student U begin in sixth grade, most qualify for school lunches that are free or at a reduced price, most are students of color, and most are the first in their families to go to college. Student U creates a pipeline of services to support public school students through middle school, high school, and college. By providing direct services after school and during the summer and advocating for students and families within schools, Student U ensures that students develop the academic skills and personal well-being needed to succeed. MDBF’s 60th Anniversary grant supported the high school internship and College Promise Advisors programs.



DERRICK BEASLEY, STUDENT U

Student U works with students at 18 middle schools and 12 high schools in Durham. Middle school students meet five days a week after school and get additional instruction in literacy and math, and students also participate in dance, orchestra, and arts clubs. During the summers, they participate in a six-week, project-based enrichment program. High school students receive personal and academic support during the school year. Summer programming for freshmen and sophomores focuses on academic instruction, while juniors and seniors have access to experiential learning opportunities and internships.

Student U interns work in local nonprofits or in the Summer Academy, serving as Teacher Assistants, Grade Head Assistants, and Healthy Foods Assistants. These roles support middle school students in their academic journeys as well as benefit the overall operations of the organization. Student U college students serve as College Promise Advisors, teaching Student U’s College Bound 101 course to high school ninth- and tenth-graders and act as peer role models for these younger students.

Asheville Art Museum (Asheville, NC)



“The arts are an essential component in developing critical thinking skills that lead to success, yet over the past 20 years there has been a steady decline in funding for the arts. We partner with schools throughout the region to ensure that the diverse population of students have full access to art and education, and to programs that allow for students with different learning styles to excel in the arts and in their academic studies.”

—Pamela L. Myers, executive director



COURTESY, ASHEVILLE ART MUSEUM

Established in 1948, the Asheville Art Museum is the only community-based nonprofit visual art organization in Western North Carolina, serving all 24 rural counties in the region. Presenting more than 400 educational programs annually, the Museum serves as a key arts education partner for local community centers and the region’s schools, where funding for arts programs is limited. MDBF’s 60th Anniversary grant allowed the Museum to expand its successful Literacy Through Arts program and take Tot Time, a pre-K program, into the community.

In 1994, the Museum launched its Literacy Through Arts program with surrounding school districts to boost student literacy by integrating the arts with learning. Over the course of nine classes, art educators lead students in a variety of expressive

hands-on visual art projects and creative writing projects. The tenth and final class is a Museum gallery visit with a hands-on studio activity. This grant allowed the Museum to offer the program to 950 kindergarten through fifth grade students in McDowell, Henderson, and Madison Counties. In the wake of budget cuts and limited resources for many school districts, visual arts would not be part of the curriculum for most students in those counties without the Museum’s program.

Tot Time uses a range of guided art activities for pre-school children and their caregivers to improve the youngsters’ motor skills, language development, and visual learning, while fostering interest in the arts and providing socialization opportunities. Originally offered once a month at the Museum, this grant allowed the program to expand. Five monthly Tot Time programs are now available at public libraries, parks, and recreation centers in Asheville and Buncombe County. The Museum anticipates reaching 1,200 pre-school children and their caregivers over the course of a year.

2016 | Grant Recipients in Arts & Education



COURTESY ALZHEIMER'S POETRY PROJECT

Brooklyn Technical High School students perform poetry at New York Memory Center

Alzheimer's Poetry Project

Brooklyn, NY

For Poetry for Life, an intergenerational program that provides training to high school students to engage elders living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia through performing poems and to create their own poems based on the experience \$5,000

Anam Cara Theatre Company

Asheville, NC

For the Youth Summer Theatre Experience, an in-depth educational program for youth interested in various aspects of theatrical production, including acting and design \$3,200

Asheville Art Museum

Asheville, NC

Support to implement the Literacy Through Art program in Madison, Henderson, and McDowell County Schools and to offer Tot Time, a preschool arts program, at parks, recreation centers, and public libraries in Buncombe County and Asheville. Literacy Through Arts fosters creativity and proficiency in the arts, language arts, and communication skills while targeting arts and core curriculum competencies. Tot Time offers a guided art activities for preschool children to provide early exposure and introduction to the arts. This grant was made in celebration of the Biddle Foundation's 60th Anniversary. \$25,000

Blackspace

Durham, NC

For the Detroit Radio Exchange project, a beat-making and radio production program that will bring together youth and mentors from Fusion Youth Radio and Blackspace \$5,000

Cameron Art Museum

Wilmington, NC

For Full STEAM Ahead: The CAM Whirligig Project, which uses the arts to teach STEM subjects to elementary and middle school students \$5,000

The Center for Documentary Studies

Durham, NC

For the Full Frame Documentary Film Festival Fall 2016 Youth Screening, Summer 2017 School of Doc Filmmaking Camp, and Lending Library \$7,000

One hundred sixth grade students from GLOW Academy toured the Cameron Art Museum and created STEAM projects inspired by Caroline, the museum's Vollis Simpson whirligig.



COURTESY CAMERON ART MUSEUM



JOSIE SPENCE | CHEROKEE COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL OF NC

Gina Gibney Dance

New York City, NY
 To enhance the Hands Are for Holding program by adding six framing workshops to complement the assembly performance. Hands Are For Holding uses the power of dance to promote healthy relationships among youth and preventively combat interpersonal violence issues such as dating violence and bullying.
 \$5,000

Global Scholars Academy

Durham, NC
 For Making Music and Art Across Cultures, which will provide an integrated arts afterschool program to K-8 students
 \$5,000

Hickory Choral Society

Hickory, NC
 For the Children’s Choral Outreach Projects, which include the Children’s Choral Summer Camp and Children’s Choir in Performance with the Hickory Choral Society and full orchestra
 \$4,000

Hillsborough Arts Council

Hillsborough, NC
 For the Arts in Education Afterschool program in an elementary and middle school, which will involve learning an art form (dance, painting/drawing, writing, music/voice, movement) that connects students’ daily cultural experiences to other cultures
 \$4,000

Kidznotes

Durham, NC
 Support to expand this successful El Sistema-inspired orchestral training and education program for elementary students into Southeast Raleigh and to help them reach the goal of serving 185 Raleigh students by 2017. This grant was made in celebration of the Biddle Foundation’s 60th Anniversary.
 \$25,000

Cherokee County Arts Council of NC

Murphy, NC
 For Faces and Places: A Photography Workshop and Exhibit, which provides professional education in photographic arts to high school students within the context of their history and social science curricula
 \$5,000

Drastic Action

New York City, NY
 For “Dis/Location (Fort Tryon)” an education and dance performance project in which middle school students at the City College Academy of the Arts will create dances about their family’s immigration experiences
 \$5,000

Community Boys & Girls Club

Wilmington, NC
 For the Just Dance program, to help students learn to express themselves, achieve physical fitness, and acquire many life skills needed to become successful, productive citizens
 \$5,000

Community-Word Project

New York City, NY
 To expand the Arts Learning Bridge to three new schools, to address the difficult and pivotal transition students undergo as they move from elementary school to middle school
 \$5,000

Creative Alternatives of New York

New York City, NY
 To pilot an after-school drama therapy group for students who have experienced trauma, in partnership with Educational Alliance and Boys and Girls Clubs
 \$5,000



FILIP WOLAK

Extreme Kids and Crew

Brooklyn, NY
 For Extreme Kids’ Afterschool Experience, a drop-off program for students receiving special education services that promote socialization, listening skills, and body awareness through multidisciplinary arts, movement, play, and academic support
 \$5,000



COURTESY KIDZNOTES

Kidznotes (Durham, NC)

“El Sistema uses the orchestra and assembling a mini-society to create a model of living and of human effort that is really about every single person mastering their part and blending it to create something of great beauty that is bigger than just yourself.”

—Katie Wyatt, Kidznotes co-founder

Kidznotes, launched in 2010, uses orchestral training to prepare underserved students to succeed in school and life. In partnership with five elementary schools each in Durham and Raleigh, and a middle school in Durham, it immerses students in music instruction after school, and on Saturdays it assembles all the students in each community for orchestra or band rehearsals, along with choir rehearsals. Serving nearly 500 students in Durham and Wake Counties in 2016-17, the program plans to grow to 1,000 students by 2020. MDBF’s 60th Anniversary grant supported its continued expansion into Southeast Raleigh.

All Kidznotes students learn violin in kindergarten, with kindergarteners and first-graders spending a total

of six hours a week after school and Saturdays on the program, and older students spending at least 10 hours a week. Starting in first or second grade, students join either a band or orchestra, and all students also participate in a choir starting in kindergarten. Kidznotes students perform publicly at least six times a year, typically 10 to 12 times, and as many as 25 times for the most advanced students. Kidznotes provides all the instruments for students, the musical instructors, and the curriculum. In turn, each participating public school provides a music teacher for team-teaching after school, for orchestra or band instruction on Saturdays, space, and transportation to Kidznotes’ home base, known as the “nucleo.”

Inspired by the internationally known El Sistema program, Kidznotes changes the life trajectory of underserved students in Title 1 public schools. Students who participate in Kidznotes do better in school and are prepared to succeed in life and work because learning an instrument and performing in an orchestra stimulate brain development. Those activities also lead to greater academic achievement and language comprehension; improved social skills; more nimble physical coordination; greater self-confidence; and the critical skills of problem-solving, self-discipline, and teamwork. This scalable model is building a thriving network of children, families, and community partners in which excellence and collaboration in music foster the individual and group transformative potential.



“A music program accessible to everyone in a community gives children and youth an opportunity to see the potential in their lives, shows them they have the ability to do whatever they set their minds to, and gives them a taste of creating beauty in a group through hard work.”

—Liza Austria, executive director and co-founder



MICHAEL SANTIAGO

UpBeat NYC (Bronx, NY)

UpBeat NYC uses the pursuit of musical excellence and ensemble performance to bring about positive change in the lives of South Bronx children. Started in 2009 by a family of musicians and educators, co-founders Liza Austria and Richard Miller provided a safe-haven for neighborhood children. Through the years, the program became known among local families as a trusted place where their children can safely study and explore music.

MDBF’s 60th Anniversary grant supported the creation of new instructional programs and the enrollment of additional students. UpBeat NYC, inspired by the El Sistema model, develops social and musical skills

through childhood pre-orchestra classes, private lessons, sectional groups, ensemble playing, peer mentoring, and public performance. This free program provides instruments and intensive musical engagement after school and in the summer. Children enroll on a first-come, first-served basis, with no auditions. Most students begin in a pre-orchestra class, learning basic music theory and participating in a choir. Next, students take classes that focus on a particular instrument like a violin or clarinet and how they work, followed by classes in which the students are part of a group receiving instruction on how to play a real instrument. Then, they become part of a string or wind orchestra.

Eventually, they join an advanced orchestra that combines string, wind, and percussion instruments.

With funding from the Biddle Foundation, UpBeat NYC began a new track for brass and woodwind instruments and for percussion, beginning with pre-orchestra instrument instruction. The new track included a wind instrument initiation class and separate classes for clarinet, trumpet, trombone, and percussion. With 50 more students beginning to learn those instruments in 2016-2017, UpBeat NYC plans within the next year to form an intermediate orchestra, and then plans the following year to form a beginner orchestra.

National Sawdust

Brooklyn, NY

For the Very Young Composers project, which gives Brooklyn children the tools and training they need to compose their own musical works, which are then performed by professional musicians in a state-of-the-art venue \$5,000



VALERIA CONIGLIONE

North Carolina Arts in Action

Durham, NC

For capacity building and teacher training efforts for this arts education program \$15,000

The Peoples Channel

Chapel Hill, NC

For the Community Coverage Youth Volunteer Program, which introduces youth volunteer crew members to the technical, conceptual, and creative tools of video production while providing video documentation of local performances, lectures, panel discussions, and civic festivals \$4,600

Rhizome Communications

New York, NY

To create high school curriculum guides for the Net Art Anthology, an online resource of 100 born-digital works of art \$5,000

Thalian Association of Wilmington Inc

Wilmington, NC

To support the afterschool programs at the Community Boys & Girls Club and the Brigade Boys & Girls Club with theater arts education classes and onsite theatrical productions \$5,000

All the Right Moves: North Carolina Arts in Action

North Carolina Arts in Action helps children reach their full potential using performing arts as the catalyst to build focus, discipline, self-esteem, teamwork, and leadership. Over the past several years, it has strengthened its staff and board, improved its fundraising, and better integrated dance into the classroom curriculum for more fourth-grade students in more low-income public schools, thanks in part to a multi-year investment from The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation.

With this capacity-building funding, the nonprofit hired a consultant to assess its revenue model and fundraising, and to recommend changes. It installed a donor-management data system and hired two outside grantwriters. It expanded and trained its board on its role in planning and fundraising. It developed a new strategic partnership with a local public school system. It hired an artistic director and part-time office assistant. It added more teaching artists and teaching assistants, and provided training on its teaching methodology to them and to classroom teachers in the schools it serves.

That capacity-building has yielded strong returns: N.C. Arts in Action now receives a total of \$220,000 from 16 foundations, up from \$100,000 from seven foundations. Foundation funding now accounts for roughly half the nonprofit's annual revenue. Six hundred individuals now contribute a total of \$50,000 a year, up from 300 individuals who gave a total of \$20,000. The organization now serves 1,000 students in 10 public schools in four counties, up from 400 students in four schools in two counties. And through the new partnership, the Wake County Public School System provides 40 percent of the cost to N.C. Arts in Action of serving seven Wake schools.

"Focusing on capacity has really transformed Arts in Action's ability to plan for the future and begin to position ourselves for longevity and program stability," says Marlon Torres, its executive director.



MARYBETH CARPENTER

Theatre Art Galleries

High Point, NC

For ArtSmart: Afterschool Programs Enhancing Elementary Art Education, a new after school arts program combining art history, art appreciation, and art education at schools and community centers \$4,780

University of North Carolina School of the Arts Foundation

Winston-Salem, NC

For Dean's Discretionary support and the Creative Excellence Fund. This grant reflects the long history shared by UNCSA and the Biddle Foundation. \$55,000

UpBeat NYC

Bronx, NY

Support to expand this emerging El Sistema-based orchestral training and

education program for elementary students by creating five additional year-round classes for winds, brass, and percussion and to support the formation of two new orchestras. This grant was made in celebration of the Biddle Foundation's 60th Anniversary. \$25,000

Winston-Salem Symphony Association

Winston-Salem, NC

For the Academy of Music and Arts, an intensive afterschool program, offered in partnership with The Salvation Army of Winston-Salem, based on the El Sistema model of teaching elementary school students to play musical instruments \$5,000

2016 | Other Grant Recipients

Christ Church United Methodist

New York, NY

For annual support. This grant reflects the long history shared by the church, Mary Duke Biddle, and the Biddle Foundation.

\$5,000

Duke Memorial United Methodist Church

Durham, NC

For annual support and to renew the historic building. The foundation doesn't typically support construction or renovation projects, but this grant reflects the long history shared by the church, Mary Duke Biddle, and the Biddle Foundation.

\$10,000

Forest Hills Neighborhood Association Inc.

Durham, NC

For the Mary Duke Biddle Trent Semans History Grove in the Forest Hills Park. This grant was made in honor of Mrs. Semans, who was the daughter of Mary Duke Biddle and a founding trustee of the Biddle Foundation.

\$7,500

Irvington Presbyterian Church

Irvington, NY

For annual support. This grant reflects the long history shared by the church, Mary Duke Biddle, and the Biddle Foundation.

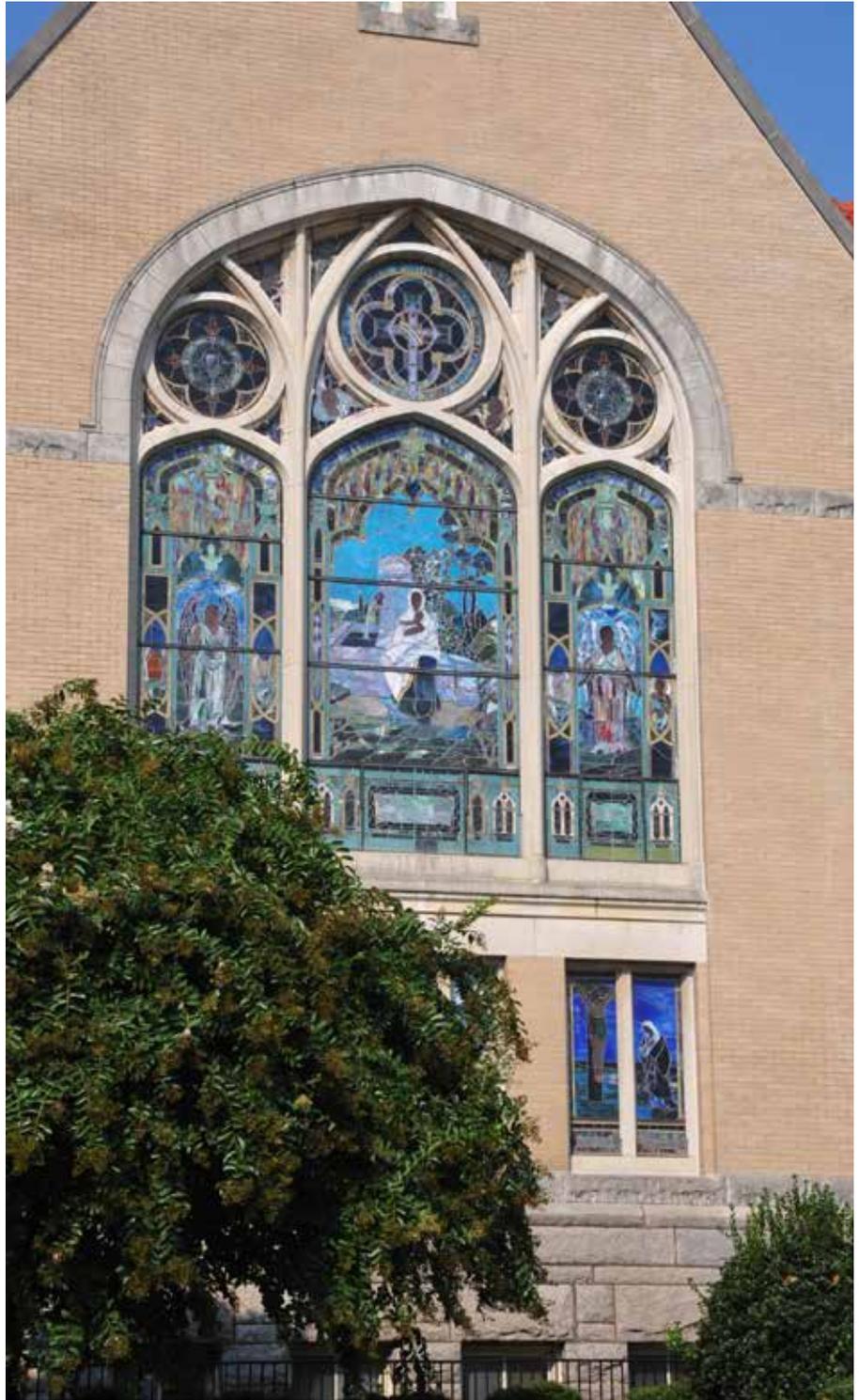
\$2,500

North Carolina Center for Nonprofits

Raleigh, NC

For annual support.

\$5,000



Duke Memorial United Methodist Church named in honor of one its founders, Washington Duke

JERRY & ROY KLOTZ, MD

Honoring the Past, Investing in the Future at Duke University



If Mary Duke Biddle were to visit today's Duke University, she would be astounded at its size, scope, and stature. When she graduated from Trinity College in 1907, the fledgling regional college had no medical school, the magnificent Duke Chapel and Duke Gardens had yet to be built, and there was no formal course of study for the arts. Today, Duke is a global institution where groundbreaking medical research is transforming the healthcare landscape; its places of worship, intellectual inquiry, and natural beauty have become iconic destinations for brilliant students, faculty members, and international visitors; and the arts are a powerful conduit for cultural exploration, inspiration, and healing.

When she founded The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation (MDBF) in 1956, Mrs. Biddle stipulated that half of its funding each year go to Duke. As leadership of the Foundation has been passed on to subsequent generations of family members and trustees, that relationship has been carefully cultivated to ensure that the work of the foundation honors the family's legacy while funding innovative university initiatives. Nearly everywhere you look at Duke, the imprint of the MDBF can be found.

For much of its sixty-year history, the foundation was led by Mrs. Biddle's daughter, Mary D.B.T. Semans, and her husband, Duke surgeon and urologist Dr. James H. Semans. Like her mother, Mrs. Semans was a devoted arts aficionado, and the Semans and trustees made the arts at Duke a central focus of MDBF support. For example, the Foundation was directly responsible for elevating Duke's music program from a low priority into a now vibrant department with Ph.D. tracks in musicology, ethnomusicology, and composition; nine performing ensembles; and courses that attract hundreds of students a year—some of whom have gone on to perform with national and international symphonies, serve as influential arts

administrators, write award-winning compositions, and, as tenured faculty members at Duke and other leading music programs, train the next generation of musicians. The foundation also funded the Mary Duke Biddle Music Building, Music Library, and Musical Instrument Collections, and supported music programs in the Duke Chapel, including the installation of a Holtkamp organ in the family chapel.

Foundation support has provided consistent funding for Duke's dance, theater, film, and art and art history programs as well, including opportunities for artistic and intellectual cross-pollination with other programs and departments at Duke. It also provides annual support for the nationally-renowned Duke Performances, which mounts presentations of work ranging from world premieres

to experimental works-in-progress. As an early champion of Duke's art museum from its beginnings on East Campus, Mrs. Semans established a tradition of annual support from the Biddle Foundation. A \$1 million grant in 2005—the largest ever given by the Foundation and given in honor of her brother Nicholas D. Biddle—helped launch the Nasher Museum of Art, which has become a learning laboratory for students and faculty and the site of consequential exhibits and cultural conversations.

In some cases, Duke family philanthropy and MDBF grants have provided much-needed funding when other sources were not readily available, such as Mary Duke Biddle's gift of \$1.5 million shortly after World War II to expand the main library. In other instances, one family member's personal passion became a multigener-



BRUCE ROBERTS

Dr. and Mrs. Semans

ational imperative. When the Class of 1939 sought to redecorate the Parlors in the East Duke building for the university's Centennial Celebration in 1937, Mary Duke Biddle tapped her personal friend Karl Bock, a prominent New York City decorator, for the job. In 2015, gifts from the Biddle Foundation and from Mary Trent Jones, Mrs. Biddle's granddaughter and longtime foundation trustee, augmented funding from Duke University to update and modernize the Parlors.



Mary Duke Biddle and the Biddle Foundation have had an indelible impact on the spectacular Sarah P. Duke Gardens. Named for her mother, the Gardens were made possible through Mary Duke Biddle's personal financial support. The Biddle Foundation honors this history through a continued commitment to the Gardens. For example, in the middle of the Mary Duke Biddle Rose Garden, the renovated Roney Fountain, supported by a 2010 foundation grant, pays tribute to Anne Roney, sister-in-law of Washington Duke, who helped raise his sons Ben Duke and James B. Duke when their mother (her sister) died young.

From its earliest days as Duke University, the institution sought ways to establish and build a medical program that would train physicians, conduct pioneering research, and provide high quality care. Stipulation for a medical school was made in James B. Duke's Indenture of Trust; since its establishment in

1930, the young medical school has grown into the internationally ranked Duke Health System, supported along the way with funding from the MDBF. Mrs. Semans, who served as trustee of the MDBF for 48 years, had a keen understanding of the medical field owing to her marriages to Duke surgeon and historian Josiah Charles Trent, M.D., who died in 1948; and to Dr. Semans, who died in 2005. Dr. Semans, a founding trustee and chair of the board for more than twenty years, played a significant role in connecting the foundation with important programs in Duke's medical school and hospital. Scholarships, new departments, special research, a hospital-based arts program, and library holdings were established or expanded under the Semans' leadership, and continue to be a priority for Duke funding from the MDBF.

In more recent years, the trustees have created the Duke University Special Projects Initiative, which continues the foundation's legacy of assisting Duke achieve its goals by funding innovative, collaborative projects that demonstrate potential for having strategic impact at the university. These grants are single-year and are intended to launch rather than sustain project activity. The Special Projects grant program is open to all Duke University schools, departments, and units. To date, three significant grants have been awarded. The inaugural grant, made in 2015, commissioned two Duke art faculty to create a collaborative piece that combines music and digital imagery. In 2016, the grant allowed Duke to establish an annual summit on Innovation for Tropical Conservation. And in 2017, the grant supported SciPol, a nonpartisan public service website presenting science policy updates researched and prepared by students, under the guidance of faculty and graduate students.

Through these and other examples, The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation continues the family's remarkable legacy of philanthropic support to Duke University, ensuring its vitality for decades to come.

2016 | Grant Recipients at Duke University

Arts of the Moving Image

For the Screen/Society program, which provides a film and video exhibition program for the Triangle community, with an emphasis on screening challenging and thought-provoking work in its original format \$10,650

Dance Program

For production and marketing expenses connected to ChoreoLab and November Dances and for the Backstage Series, which provides opportunities for students to interact with professional and visiting artists \$37,200

Department of Art, Art History & Visual Studies (AAHVS)

For Students as Curators: Artists, Objects, Exhibitions \$10,000

Department of Music

For the Graduate Composition Fellowship, Lecture Series, Master Class, and Opera Workshop \$132,000

Department of Theater Studies

For support of visiting artists who will work in residency with students \$15,900

Duke Performances

For the Hip-Hop as Documentary Initiative, which will engage the Duke community around the profound influence of hip-hop music and dance \$50,000



End-of-year AAHVS student art exhibition

COURTESY DEPARTMENT OF ART, ART HISTORY & VISUAL STUDIES, DUKE UNIVERSITY



Hip-Hop as Documentary Initiative participants

NATALIE ROBLES



SHAWN ROCCO, DUKE MEDICINE

Above: William Dawson, Musician In Residence at Duke University Hospital, puts the “Uke” in Duke
 Right: The Summit on Innovation for Tropical Conservation, focused on the remote sensing.

Duke University School of Medicine

For need-based financial aid for third-year medical students
 \$25,000

Duke University Health System

Arts & Health at Duke
 For the Artists in Residence Program
 \$30,000

Nasher Museum of Art

For K-12 education programs, exhibitions, conservation efforts, and student internships
 \$85,000

Nicholas School of the Environment

To launch an annual Duke Summit on Innovation for Tropical Conservation. This grant was made through the Biddle Foundation’s Special Projects Initiative at Duke.
 \$65,000

Sarah P. Duke Gardens

For annual support
 \$10,000



COURTESY NICHOLAS SCHOOL OF THE ENVIRONMENT, DUKE UNIVERSITY

The Gardens “will be of great interest and value to the students and to the visitors and a fitting memorial to your mother.”

Duke University President William Preston Few to Mary Duke Biddle

COURTESY SARAH P. DUKE GARDENS





**THE MARY DUKE
BIDDLE FOUNDATION**

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