

2019 Annual Report



Gracelee Lawrence, *"Perceived Happiness as the Ultimate Revenge"*
2019 Franconia Sculpture Park Jerome Fellow

**FRANCONIA SCULPTURE PARK
ANNUAL REPORT 2019**

MISSION

Franconia Sculpture Park is the pre-eminent, artist-centered sculpture park in the Midwest. Founded in 1996, Franconia provides physically and intellectually wide-open spaces that inspire new ways of thinking through access to contemporary sculpture, installation and land art. Located in the scenic St. Croix River Valley, Franconia operates a 43-acre outdoor museum, active artist residency program, and a depth and breadth of arts programming for a diverse and engaged public.

VISION

We believe that art has the power to change the world. We cultivate critical dialogue between artists and audiences; support artists through the production and presentation of new, experimental work; and educate artists and audiences of tomorrow. Franconia applies creative solutions to the problems of today and tomorrow through the vehicle of contemporary sculpture. We create bold programming that is ambitious, innovative, and that is responsive to the wants and needs of artists and our community. Moreover, Franconia aims to create a welcoming, inviting space for all visitors to learn more about art, the environment, and the changing world we live in.



Daniel Shieh, *"The Way You Look"*
2019 Franconia Sculpture Park Open Studio Fellow



In 2019, Franconia Sculpture Park demonstrated that it is an idea bigger than any one person, bigger than its Board of Directors, its staff or its artists. In 2019, Franconia thrived. We had more visitors, made more art, and more individuals than in any time in our history chose to give us financial support. While there were some bumpy moments in a year of significant transition, Franconia withstood the occasional turmoil and continued to draw in talented artists, employees, and engaged visitors. Most notably, Franconia Sculpture Park attracted our remarkable new Executive Director and Chief Curator, Ginger Shulick Porcella.

Ginger came to our attention as part of a six month long national search. We had many excellent candidates, but Ginger immediately rose to the top. We were delighted to find that she was as interested in coming to the park as we were to have her here. Ginger is the kind of arts administrator that up to now we didn't think existed. She is both an exciting artistic visionary with a national reputation AND a buttoned up operations expert – and in just a few short months she has straightened out our finances, completed our building, tripled applications for our residency program, expanded our programming, begun an exciting art and environmental initiative, and raised our profile not only nationally but locally as well.

Without our donors: individuals, foundations and the State of Minnesota - none of this would be possible. I am so grateful for the ongoing confidence you have shown in this amazing place. As Franconia enters an exciting new phase in its history, I think you will find your philanthropic investment has been a good one. Come see us in 2020. I promise you will be inspired, moved, challenged and even entertained!

Thank you for your support,

Dorothy Goldie
Chair, Board of Directors

LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CHIEF CURATOR GINGER SHULICK PORCELLA

Back in the spring of 2019, I learned that Franconia Sculpture Park was searching for a new Executive Director and Chief Curator. After a 20-year absence from the Midwest, I was drawn to Franconia's verdant landscape, unique residency program, and the wide-open space to experiment outside of a traditional studio setting. My passion has always been supporting artists through residency programs; I enjoy this phase of artists' development as they explore new ideas, mediums, and ways of thinking. It was this potential to expand the residency program—as well as the boundaries of sculpture as a medium—that ultimately brought me to Franconia.



Now, just six months in as Franconia's Executive Director and Chief Curator, I've already seen important progress being made. We narrowed the gap on last year's budget, finishing 2019 with our strongest Year End Appeal to date, raising \$22,000 from 88 individual donors. Through the unwavering support of Franconia's dedicated board, staff, and our local community, we are fast becoming an internationally-recognized outdoor museum for contemporary sculpture, land art, and engaging public programs that foster relatability to a diverse public by directly connecting artist with audience.

The last two years have seen many changes and challenges at Franconia, and we now look forward to a year of growth and opportunities. We are thrilled to announce the opening of Franconia Commons on September 26, 2020. This 8,000 square foot building marks the successful culmination of a five-year capital campaign to provide a community space where contemporary art and civic life intersect. Franconia Commons includes a Visitor Center, multipurpose education and performance space, gallery, gift shop, café, administrative spaces, and new, fully-accessible bathrooms. Please join us this fall for our grand opening during the annual Art & Artists Celebration.

This coming summer, Franconia's board and staff will undergo an important strategic planning process to better envision the positive impact Franconia can have on our local and international community. We will look at Franconia's financial growth and stability, leveraging our residency and exhibition program, and envisioning how Franconia can be a model for contemporary sculpture parks in the future. We will closely evaluate our programs and look to our notable achievements over the past two decades to guide this work.

As we look forward to launching an exciting season of programs for 2020, we've already seen momentous growth in the number and diversity of fellowship applicants, so we're confident we'll have yet another compelling year of thought-provoking art at the park. Yet, there is still so much more work that needs to be done. Luckily, I'm supported by a board and staff who truly understand the importance of presenting world-class contemporary sculpture, land art, and performance right here in rural Minnesota. Our biggest supporter of all has been Dorothy Goldie, a stalwart champion of Franconia who has served as Board Chair for the past two years and seen this organization through some of our most significant challenges and greatest rewards. Together, we'll work to make Franconia an important place where our diverse community can see themselves reflected in our mission, exhibitions, and programs.

Thank you for making 2019 such a memorable year. I hope to see you all at Franconia soon!

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

In 2019, Franconia Sculpture Park commissioned new work by thirty-three emerging and internationally-recognized artists, highlighting a diversity of mediums and concepts within contemporary sculpture. We hosted our longstanding Music@Franconia series, Hot Metal Pour, and 23rd Annual Art & Artists Celebration, as well as more than 60 educational programs for youth that served 17,892 unique students. In addition, Franconia continued to host free weekly tours every Sunday at 2pm from May through October, and twice-monthly artist talks. In total, Franconia served a total of 128,889 visitors from rural Minnesota and beyond in 2019.

Franconia's highly competitive artist-in-residence program receives applications from artists around the globe. Selected artists are provided live/work space, production support, professional development and networking opportunities. Artists-in-residence also receive stipends to support the creation of new, experimental work. Each year we welcome dozens of artists to Minnesota, all whom are invited to live on-site for up to three months, allowing the unique culture and landscape of the St. Croix River Valley to inform their work. The 2019 Residency Program was made possible due to grants from the Jerome Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, RBC Foundation, Windgate Charitable Foundation, and through the Minnesota State Arts Board. Thank you!



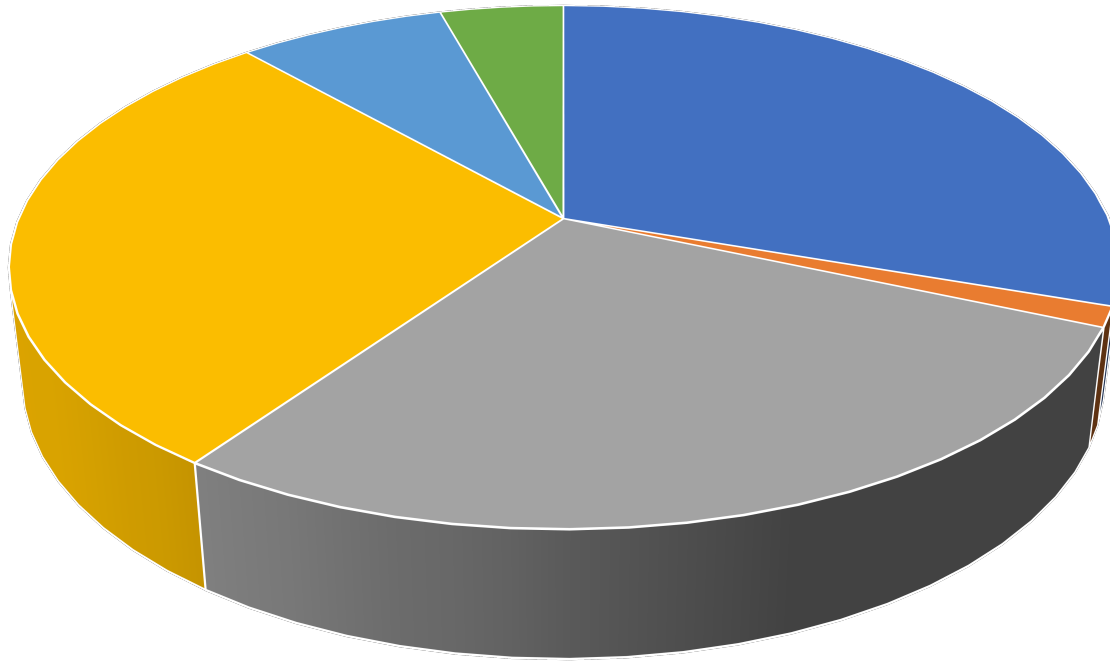
2019 Franconia Sculpture Park Jerome Fellow Emmett Ramstad fabricating his work "Alone Together"

FRANCONIA FY19 FINANCES

	2019	2018
Contributed Support	\$514,208	\$493,799
Earned Revenue	\$41,967	\$75,633
Capital Campaign	\$25,000	\$453,600
	<u>\$581,175</u>	<u>\$1,023,032</u>
Total Operating Expenditures	\$584,887	\$612,855
FY Operating Budget	-\$3,712	\$410,177
Annual Capital Expenditures	<u>\$93,117</u>	<u>\$10,046</u>
Net Revenue	-\$96,828	\$401,571
Year End Cash Balance	\$348,374	\$240,114

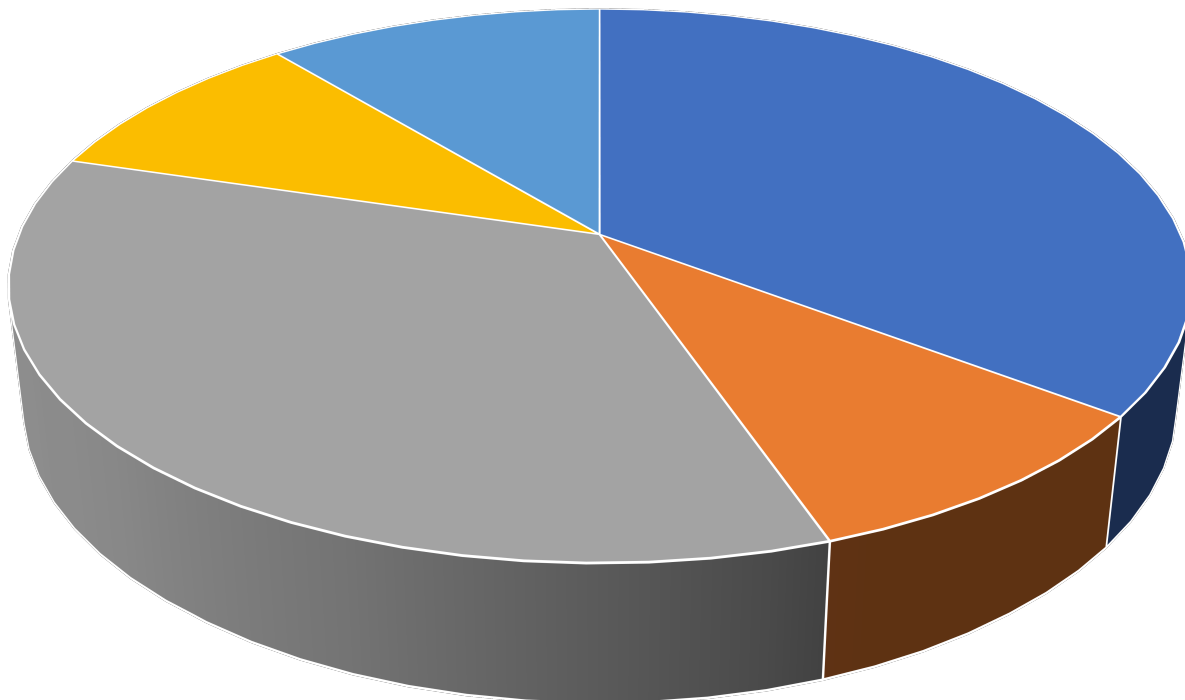


2019 Income Distribution



- Board & Individuals - 30%
- Government Grants - 29%
- Corporate Donations - 1%
- Earned Income - 7%
- Private Foundations - 28%
- Restricted Capital Support - 5%

2019 Expense Distribution



- Administration - 35%
- Community Programs - 10%
- Fundraising - 9%
- Youth Education - 11%
- Artist Residency & Commissions - 35%



2019 Community Collaboration Hot Metal Pour

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dorothy Goldie, Chair
Stacy O'Reilly, Treasurer
Linda Seebauer Hansen, Secretary
Eric Bruce
Rebecca Ditsch
John Joachim
Davis Klaila
Amy McKinney
Diane Mullin
Tamsie Ringler
Heather Rutledge

FRANCONIA STAFF

Ginger Shulick Porcella, Executive Director & Chief Curator
Ellina Kevorkian, Residency Director
Alyssa Auten, Communications & Creative Director
AJ Meadows, Site Manager
Beth West, Office Manager
Zoja Chmielarczyk, Program Assistant
Josh Fusco, Grounds Technician

Thank you to our 2019 Major Supporters, especially those generous donors who have made a sustaining contribution to Franconia Sculpture Park. Individual donations have a significant impact on the continued growth of Franconia, demonstrating the strong and lasting commitment our community has on supporting contemporary sculpture and the intersection of art and ecology in Minnesota.

If you would like to join our list of committed patrons to the arts, sponsor a program, or make a corporate or planned gift, please contact Ginger Shulick Porcella at ginger@franconia.org or call 651.257.6668.

2019 MAJOR SUPPORTERS

\$50,000+

Russell Cowles
Hugh J. Andersen Foundation
Minnesota State Arts Board

\$25,000+

Jerome Foundation
McKnight Foundation
East Central Regional Arts Council

\$10,000+

National Endowment for the Arts
Harlan Boss Foundation
Richard & Nancy Nicholson
Stacy O'Reilly & Eileen McAuley

\$5,000+

The Nash Foundation
RBC Wealth Management
Gavia Trust
Dorothy Goldie & Ralph Schwartz

\$1,000+

MidWestOne Bank
Gregory Contracting
McNeely Foundation
Surly Brewing Company
Fredric Hoffer
Fuller & Connee Cowles
Jay & Page Cowles
Steven Goetz
Sarah Andersen & Christopher Hayner
Weston Hoard
John & Ruth Huss
Timothy McCarron

\$500+

Romayne's on Main
HRK Group
Roger Hale & Nor Hall
Barb & Dennis Smith
Bob & Sandy Brady
Amy & Bill McKinney
Lynn Bjorkman
Melyssa Cowles
Leni Darrow & David Moore, Jr.
Mary Gale
Carla Goers
Arlene Sobiech

\$1-499

Jessica Aasved
Betsy Alwin
Theresa Arfi
Mary Lyn & Richard Ballantine
Betty Barrett
Jack Becker
Tess Bittner
David Borchert
Thomas Borrup
Eric Bruce
William & Raydelle Bruentrup
Kim & David Butler
Christopher Cardozo
Theresa Chwialkowski
Zoe Clarke
Alicia Cozine
Jim Denomie
Rebecca Ditsch
David Dixen
Sara & Mahadev Dovre Wudali
Loretta Draths
Pete Driessen
Jane Emison
Gordon Erickson

\$1-\$499 cont.

Ivy Flanders
Michael Frattalone
Kris Garwick
Lisa Goddard
Douglas Gwost
Pam Hanson
David Hodgson
Dean Jensen
Margel Johnson
Jeffrey Klein
Troy Kozma
Dann Krueger
Linda LeClair
Marie Magnuson
Stephen & Mora Martinson
James McCarthy
Joyce McKenzie
Rene & Christoph Meyer-Grimberg
Warren Moe
Richard & Valerie Moore
Jenny Nellis
Jesse Okie
Beth Parkhill
Angela Phenicie
Andrea Rainy
Neal Cuthbert & Louise Robinson
Russ & Karen Rubin
Heather Rutledge
Pat Schott
David Shapiro
Michael Shpizner
Raymond Skinner
Christine Smalley
Yvonne Snidarich
Ruth Ann Starr
Robert Teslow II
Nancy Viebrock
Mary Volk
Matt Weber
Cole Zrostlik

Kyle Fokken
Nancy Fushan
Poldi Gerard
Linda Gudex
Mike Hanson
Linda & Dale Herron
Jay H. Isenberg
John Joachim
Karen & David Johnson
Kristina T. Kovaciny
Susan Kressin
Kriss Zulkowsky & Chris Larson
Kim Lillyblad
Elana Mann
Woody McBride
Tracy McGrorty
Barbara McMorris
Jack Meyerhoff
Ruby Montgomery
Diane Mullin
James Newton
Thor Olson
Steven Peterson
Karen Kasel & William Pike
Mary Beth Redmond
Carolyn Roby
James Rustad
Stephanie Malcy & Jay Schaefer
Linda Seebauer Hansen
Saar Shemesh
Joi Simpson
James Slusarek
Rebecca Smith
Wendy Sommer
Thomas Terry
Barbara Tigan
Wade & Carol Vitalis
Nickole Waara
Jeannette Wittrock



FRANCONIA SCULPTURE PARK
651.257.6668

29836 ST. CROIX TRAIL
WWW.FRANCONIA.ORG

SHAFER, MN 55074
@FRANCONIAMN