2017-2018 Annual Report

We did it!

Greenwich History has a new home.

reenwich historical society

We opened new doors to the community!

Dear Friends,

This year marks an important milestone in the continuous progress of the Greenwich Historical Society since its founding in 1931. Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of our donors and the exceptional efforts of the Board of Trustees, the Capital Campaign Committee, the Building Committee, the Development Committee, our dedicated professional staff, devoted volunteers, community partners and award-winning design professionals, we made history by "Reimagining the Campus" while remaining true to our original charter mission to collect, preserve and share the history of our beloved Town of Greenwich.



This milestone chapter began with the long-sought purchase of the

adjacent Toby's Tavern in 2012. During the next six years the Historical Society embarked upon a journey to capitalize on the opportunity created by Toby's acquisition to materially expand the functionality of our Strickland Road campus through the addition of new exhibition galleries, parking, archives and research library, collections storage and staff offices, which will enable the Historical Society to significantly broaden the spectrum of services we provide to the community.

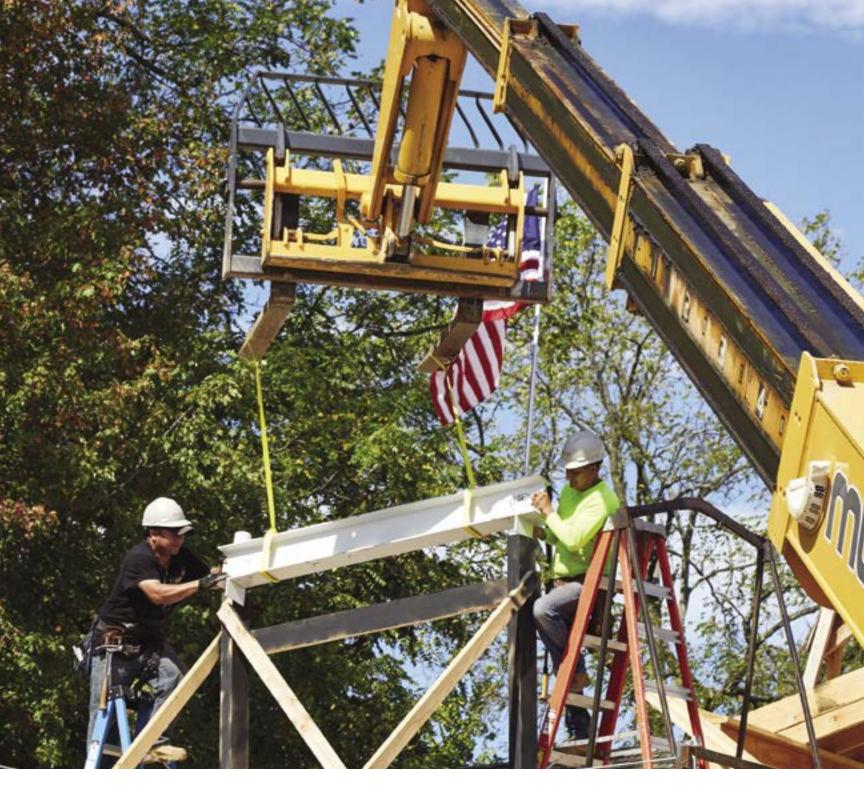
These ambitious objectives were achieved through the completion of both the Capital Campaign and the construction of the "Reimagined Campus" in 2018. Simultaneously, we created the 2018–2023 strategic plan and new mission statement, which reflect our goals for the next five years. In addition, we commenced new planned giving and endowment programs to sustain the plan's enriched education and preservation initiatives at our newly expanded site in the years ahead.

Working together toward shared goals, we have successfully reached the end of this milestone year by fulfilling the Historical Society's long-held dreams for its National Historic Landmark Bush-Holley House site and laying the foundation for another successful chapter in the future history of the Greenwich Historical Society. We are deeply indebted to each of you.

With heartfelt gratitude,

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Davidde Strackbein Chairman of the Board



We worked together to create a new center for Greenwich history.

Dear Members and Friends,



As you can see from the pages that follow, the Historical Society continued to offer a wide array of exhibits, programs and services for and in collaboration with our community to connect people of all ages to our past, to each other and to our future. We researched, exhibited and published the first history of the Jewish experience in Greenwich, yet another chapter in the story of our town. We learned about the first Jewish merchants to purchase Bush-Holley House and discovered the original key to Toby's Tavern. We delighted schoolchildren and amazed teachers in our exhibits and archives. We recognized four new landmarks, celebrated the preservation efforts of local businesses and installed our fifth historic district marker.

We did this while on the move—we moved staff, collections, earth, rocks, sidewalks and gardens, replaced a roof, built a new building and demolished another. Fine arts movers carried paintings, portraits and archival collections to their new storage units, while the library shelves were filled with genealogical records, directories and reference books. Furnishings, displays and interpretive signs arrived, and a conference table was fork-lifted through a second-floor window of Toby's!

Thank you to everyone who shared their stories, research, expertise, financial resources and enthusiasm. And welcome to your new home for Greenwich history.

Debrah. Mecky

Debra Mecky Executive Director & CEO

We educated, preserved, interpreted, documented and connected to serve this unique community.



Total visitors to site: 12,456

Visitors to exhibitions and Bush-Holley House:

2.236



Student visits: 2,956



Supporters, members, donors:

1,113

Volunteers: 263



Events and education programs offered:



Attendance at adult education programs:

$1,\!404$

Children, family and student program attendance:

|4,071

Fundraising event attendance:

2,050



Average donation in support of programs and services:





Digital archives visitors: 2,335

Website visitors:

34,487

Video minutes watched on

You Tube



Combined social media followers (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram):

3,137

YouTube: 7.732



We connected our young residents to their town through art and history.

ducation is central to our mission. In the past year we hosted thousands of students at Bush-Holley House at our beautiful historic site on Cos Cob Harbor. Interactive tours gave all the opportunity to explore topics in a place where significant local historical events occurred.

In addition to specialized school group tours, we hosted two key partnerships for the Greenwich Public Schools. "Sarah and Her Town," focused on the life of Sarah Bush during the American Revolution, includes a classroom visit by a professional interpreter, a tour of Bush-Holley House and a hands-on workshop exploring Colonial objects and craftsmen. Every third-grade public elementary school student and many students from local independent schools participate. We also celebrated our 10th partnership anniversary with the Hamilton Avenue Elementary School. After visiting the site, students returned to the classroom, where thirdgraders designed quilts based on their recollections of the site, fourth-graders were instructed by professional artists on painting self-portraits, and a select group of fifth-graders participated in an after-school program to become student docents.

For many, this was their first museum experience. During their visits, they build critical thinking skills, empathy and civic engagement but, equally important, they develop a true sense of pride and ownership in our site and our town.







We inspired lifelong learning.

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ur belief in the value of lifelong learning and its potential to effect positive change is woven through all we do. In the past year we hosted visitors of all ages at engaging and varied art and history lectures, events and exhibition-related programs that connected them all with the story of our town and beyond.





Adult Programs

Churchill, Roosevelt and Company: Studies in Character and Statecraft, Lewis Lehrman

Founder's Day

American Arts & Crafts Gardens Lecture, Denise Wiles Adams

Story Barn with Emcee Bonnie Levison

Coffee and Tea with *American Odyssey* Curator Ann Meyerson

From Haven to Home, Michael Feldberg

Afternoon Nosh

Dear Mom and Dad Dramatic Reading

A Timely Tale in an Age of Political Turmoil, Douglas Brinkley

Richard Keith Langham Designer Luncheon

On the Paths of Genius: Frederick Law Olmsted in Connecticut, David Leff

The Classical American House Book Talk, Charles Hilton and Phillip James Dodd



Exhibitions

Jim and Jane Henson: Creative Work, Creative Play, April 5 to October 8, 2017

An American Odyssey: The Jewish Experience in Greenwich, November 15, 2017 to March 18, 2018



Children's and Family Programs

Fall Festival

Harmonious Migrations, Ibex Puppetry (Greenwich Reads Together)

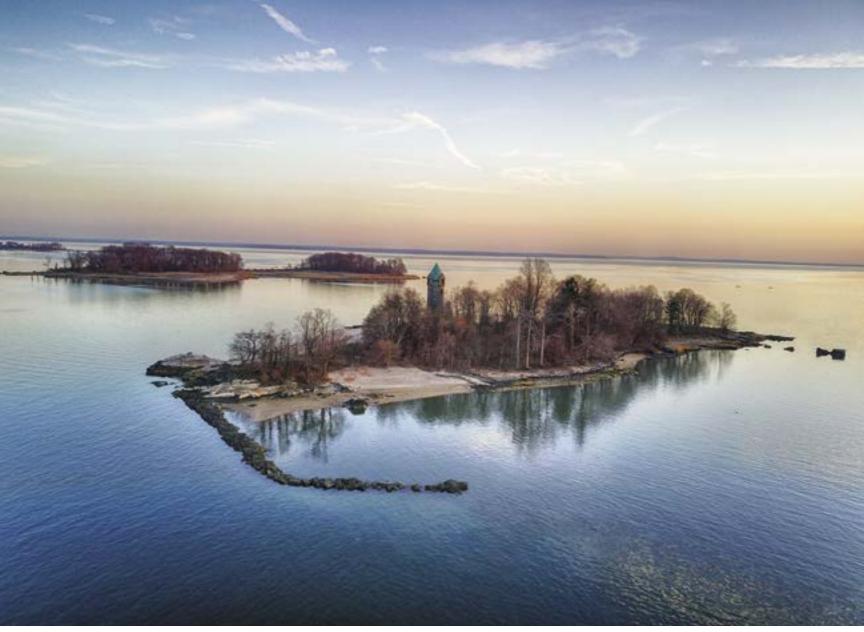
Nick of Time Marionette Performance, No Strings Marionette Company Holiday Open House (Candlelight)

CT Open House Day

Old-Fashioned Fun at French Farm

Experience the Sound

History & Art Camp





here is no town with an architectural history more interesting and varied than Greenwich. In the past year we worked hard to stress the importance of preserving our

architectural treasures.

The Landmark Recognition program continued to cite and document our town's most distinctive properties. This year's selections truly illustrated the remarkable variety of styles to be found in our town. They included: the 1856 Second Congregational Church; Northway, a striking mansion modeled on Versailles' Petit Trianon; a quintessential midcentury modern home; and a classic stucco and half-timbered Tudor. We also recognized



We encouraged all to embrace a sense of place.

Granoff Architects for the restoration and adaptive reuse of the former Connecticut Light & Power Building and Greenwich Construction, LLC, for the restoration and adaptive reuse of 209 River Road Extension. To date, we have plaqued over 300 structures and are committed more than ever to do all we can to save and enhance the architectural landscape of Greenwich.

Under the auspices of the Historical Society, the Greenwich Preservation Network, a group of dedicated preservation advocates and town officials, partnered with local supporters to erect signs that marked areas of historical significance. These markers increase visibility and awareness of historic districts and educate the community about the older buildings and neighborhoods that grace our community. New markers went up in the Putnam Hill and Strickland Road Historic Districts. We now have five markers that tell the story of some of the most important historic areas in our town.

For the second year in a row, in recognition of National Historic Preservation Month, we sponsored This Place Matters, a contest that encouraged residents to snap photos and provide brief descriptions of spots around town that mattered most to them. We were delighted by the barrage of wonderful photos that captured the beauty of Greenwich from so many unique and varied perspectives.

We shared our stories in myriad ways.



Gifts to the Library & Archives

Gerrit Argento Mystery Club

Papers read at Mystery Club meetings: September 23, 2016, October 22, 2016, November 13, 2016, December 4, 2016, March 18, 2017, April 23, 2017, and June 11, 2017

Albert Brecken

Cos Cob Power Plant wiring diagrams (rolled), 1914-1947

Helen Brody

Greenwich Country Day School Yearbooks (1978, 1979, 1983), booklet titled *The Greenwich Country Day School, A Teacher's Perspective* (circa 1980s), small pin of boy and girl running (school logo) believed to have been distributed for an anniversary



Robert Clausi

Greenwich Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency

Oversized, rolled aerial photographs: Conyers Farm (1970); partial shoreline (excluding Cos Cob, Riverside) from 1951; John Street and Partridge Hollow Road, 1980 and 1985

John T. Curry

Envelope addressed to Mrs. Holly, Cos Cob, CT, with postmark of May 8, 1914

Jill Foster

Greenwich Art Society

One box of board minutes, member lists, financials, etc.

Patricia Haslam

Binder of genealogical research (performed between 2000 and 2008) on William P. Patrick, a Civil War veteran who spent much of his life in Greenwich

Judith Alter Kallman

A Candle in the Heart, Memoir of a Child Survivor by Judith Alter Kallman, published by Wordsmithy LLC, 2011

Ali Karimi

Assessor's Office, Town of Greenwich

Declaration records, circa 1892–1912 ("Taxable Lists" including real estate and personal property declared by property owners)

Jenny Larkin

Photograph of the parsonage at Second Congregational Church, circa 1900, 5.5"x7.5"

Irene and Lloyd Marlett

Small collection of letters, photographs, business documents, ephemera related to Bloomfield family of 14 Tremont Street, Cos Cob, CT; includes medal from 1929 Connecticut State Firemen's Convention and Field Day

Jeffrey Bingham Mead

"I Stand With Sam" T-shirt in red, size XL

Claire and Joseph Morrow

Aerial photograph of Wilshire Farm, ca. 1920s, by Captain James Suydam, NY, 15.5"x19.5"

We collected and preserved for future generations.



Gifts to the Library & Archives, continued

Ross Ogden

Greenwich Fire Department—Central District—Signal Stations directory; assorted menus from Greenwich restaurants (1990s-2000s)

Marcia O'Kane

Greenwich Chamber of Commerce

"Wall of Fame" rolled poster signed by attendees of the Chamber's centennial event, binder of material related to Chamber's centennial in 2017

Frank Posluszny

Collier's New Photographic History of the World's War, 1919

Mary Powers

Photographs and correspondence, Old Greenwich Yacht Club, two boxes

Scott Sagar

Lycoming County Historical Society

Mein Kampf by Adolf Hitler, printed by Noram Publishing Co., Greenwich, CT

Linda M. Sampson

Greenwich Beautiful, January 24, 1913 [publication]

Maureen Shea

Horse Island real estate brochure, two print advertisements for Horse Island clipped from magazine (ca. 1990)

Gifts to the Museum Collection 2017–2018

Patricia and John Chadwick

Pair of portraits, *Thomas A. Mead* and *Hannah Seaman Mead*, 1830–1835, Oil on canvas

Louise Meière Dunn

WWI Red Cross Motor Corps ID Bracelet for Louise Benedict Harmon, daughter of E. C. Benedict

Jenny Larkin

All Star Team Jersey Number 1, 1968, from George M. Weiss Senior Babe Ruth League

Louise C. Puschel

Elmer Livingston MacRae, Untitled [*At Gayhead*], 1912, Pastel on fabric

Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Royce

Childe Hassam, *Mrs. Holley of Cos Cob, Connecticut*, 1912, Oil on panel. Front and back images of the painting pictured above.

The Family of Hall MacRae Smith

Pair of chairs original to Bush-Holley House, early 20th century

Jean Goode Smith

Elmer Livingston MacRae, Untitled: Recto: *Twins in a Garden;* Verso: *Child Holding American Flag*, 1914, Pastel

Gen. Israel Putnam, 1845, hand-colored lithograph published by N. Currier, original to Bush-Holley House

Sarah and Craig Smith

Anchor from oyster sloop *Hope* built in 1945 by Stanley Chard Sledge, used to transport supplies over the snow

Deanna E. Whittredge

Four bandboxes, 19th century

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David O. Brownwood Vice Chairman

Jessica S. Guff *Vice Chairman*

Catherine Tompkins Vice Chairman

Bruce D. Dixon Treasurer

David G. Ormsby Secretary

Isabel Malkin Corresponding Secretary

Debra L. Mecky, Ph.D. Executive Director and CEO

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Barbara Bishop Marketing and Communications Consultant

Victoria Bruzzese Senior Special Events

Michele Couture Director of Operations and Visitor Services

Katrina Dorsey Director of Development

Suzanne Flinn *Operations Manager*

Karen L. Frederick Curator of Museum Collections

Anna Marie Greco Director of Education

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Stasha Healy Director of Communications

Laura Kelly Development Associate

Carol Levison Manager of Youth and Family Programs

Jingwei Li Director of Finance

Laura McCormick Public Relations Consultant

Christopher Shields Curator of Library and Archives

Nola Taylor *Researcher*

Mary Vinton Director of Development

Loredana Foti Deborah Kupper Dean McKenna Robert Mosher Belinda Pitt Harry Sakamaki Lucy Rose Van Atta

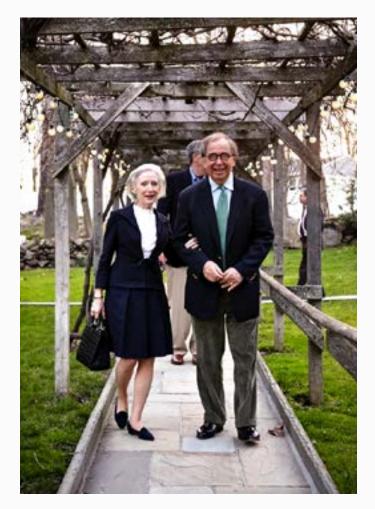


Tribute to Outgoing Chairman Davidde Strackbein

avidde Strackbein has a long and devoted history with this organization. She was a prior board member from 1986 to 1993, when the very first Archives opened in 1987, and has been instrumental over the years in building and preserving our archival collections and deepening the community's appreciation for its history.

When Davidde Strackbein rejoined the Board of Trustees in 2010, she may not have imagined that she would be tapped as its chairman two years later, but she was certainly well prepared. It was a critical time for the Greenwich Historical Society—we had just acquired the Toby's Tavern property in 2012, and the town's 375th anniversary was on the horizon.

Among Davidde's accomplishments were expansion of the Greenwich Landmarks Recognition program, identification of strong volunteer leadership to revive the Greenwich Preservation Network and chairmanship of the town's yearlong anniversary. Most remarkable, during her terms as board chairman, the Historical Society undertook a Historic Structures Report of Toby's Tavern, developed a Master Plan for



facility and program expansion and successfully completed a \$13.5 million capital campaign, chaired by Peter Malkin, to realize the dream for our newly reimagined campus in October 2018.

Davidde will continue to serve as chair of our newly formed Planned Giving Committee that will ensure a viable financial future for the Greenwich Historical Society. Leading the way, The Strackbein Archives Endowment Fund was established with a major gift from Ron and Davidde Strackbein to support archival internships to further expand our knowledge of Greenwich history through collections research and cataloging.

Our profound thanks go to Davidde for her longstanding dedication to preserving our community's history.

Treasurer's Report

Financial Highlights

he audit of the financial information presented here was not available at publication. However, we do not expect any major adjustments. When completed, the audited financial statements and Form 990 will be posted on our website and will be available in hard copy at the Historical Society's office.

This has been an extraordinary year, operating with construction and related disruptions all around us. Notwithstanding all of that, we had a very good year financially. The operating results were positive—an operating gain of \$34 thousand on total operating revenues of \$1.787 million and expenses of \$1.753 million. Investment gains contributed an additional \$19 thousand.

Special events, of which Antiquarius was the major one, were slightly ahead of budget while contributions were slightly under. Investment income exceeded budget, and investment gains were positive. Operating expenses were under budget.

Our balance sheet is healthy. Total assets were \$21.9 million, which included \$8.5 million of new construction costs. The investment portfolio realized a total return of about 7% for the fiscal year.

Budgeting for fiscal 2019 was more challenging because we will be operating in a brand-new environment. The budget is breakeven, and we will do our best to produce another positive operating result.

Change in Net Assets	52,893
Investment Gain (Loss)	18,899
Operating Gain (Loss) Before Investment Gain (Loss)	33,994
Total Expenses	1,753,089
Fundraising—Capital Campaign	147,91
Development	206,508
Management and General	234,50
Program Services	1,164,15
Expenses	
Total Revenues & Assets Released	1,787,083
Distributions from Endowment and Restricted Funds	903,97
Investments Income	44,920
Antiquarius and Special Events (net)	217,83
Program & Services	116,338
Membership & Contributions	504,012
Revenues & Assets Released	
restricted Fund	Unaudited Year Ended June 30, 2018
	Line a stable of the stable

Net Assets	21,910,402
Liabilities	(39,783)
Property, Equipment & Furnishings—net of depreciation	6,624,127
Long-Term Investment	5,957,613
Construction in Progress	8,472,906
Other Current Assets	452,460
Cash and Equivalents	443,078
Balance Sheet	June 30, 2018

Fund Balance

E

Total Fund Balance	21,910,402
Permanently Restricted (excluding appreciation of \$1,004,568) 4,172,229
Temporarily Restricted	1,899,277
General	15,183,368
Board Designated	655,528
Unrestricted:	

Reimagine the Campus

Honorary Campaign Chairs

Senator Richard Blumenthal and Cynthia M. Blumenthal

State Senator Scott Frantz and Icy Frantz First Selectman Peter Tesei and Jill Tesei

Capital Campaign Committee

Bruce D. Dixon Suzanne C. Frank Robert H. Getz Peter L. Malkin, Chairman Barbara MacDonald Deborah Schmidt Robinson

Deborah G. Royce John L. Townsend, III Hugh B. Vanderbilt, Jr.

Capital Campaign Donors

Our deepest thanks go to these visionary and incredibly generous supporters.

Pacesetters (\$100,000+)

Anonymous The Richard and Cynthia Blumenthal Family Barbara and Ray Dalio Roberta and Steven Denning The Frank Family Foundation Jeanine and Robert H. Getz Jessica and Drew Guff Marsha and Carl Hewitt The Jonas Family Fund Isabel and Peter Malkin Laura and Scott Malkin Shelly and Tony Malkin Reuben and Arlene Mark The S & L Marx Family Claire and Joe Morrow Sabrina and Walter Raquet Deborah and Chuck Royce Susan and Eugene B. Shanks Heidi Brake Smith and Scott M. Smith Robert and Gillian Steel Josie Merck Stevenson Davidde and Ronald G. Strackbein Lisa Tannebaum and Don Brownstein Marree and John Townsend Claire F. Vanderbilt Estate Roxanne and Hugh B. Vanderbilt, Jr. Jean and David W. Wallace Sue Ann Weinberg and Jean W. Rose Reba and Dave Williams Wind River Fund

Pioneers (\$25,000+)

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Reimagine the Campus

Capital Campaign Donors (continued)

Trailblazers (\$10,000+)

Pathfinders (Under \$10,000)

Connie and Tom Clephane Helen and Bruce Dixon Rachel and Chris Franco Greenwich Garden Club Gray and Lauren Hampton Melissa and Carney Hawks Mr. and Mrs. Gudmundur Kjaernested Leora and Steve Levy Susan Lynch Alice Melly Earl H. Nemser Lindsay and Dave Ormsby Amy and Brian Pennington Ellen and John Reid William L. Richter Family Foundation

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Public Support

Community Development Block Grant Program

Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation

Institute of Museum and Library Services

State Historic Preservation Office Historic Restoration Fund State of Connecticut Urban Act Program and Small Town Economic Assistance Program

Annual Giving

July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

reenwich Historical Society thanks the following contributors to our Major Gifts program, including the Greenwich Historic Trust, who advance our strategic plans and initiatives. The following generous donors and corporate sponsors support the Historical Society's public programs, preservation and tours of the National Historic Landmark Bush-Holley House, education programs for students and families, bi-annual exhibitions, research and preservation services, the digital collections portal and the many print and online publications. These donors also enjoy all the privileges of membership in the Greenwich Historical Society.

Greenwich Historic Trust

Leadership Circle

(\$25,000 and up) Isabel and Peter Malkin Mr. and Mrs. Harold Newman Davidde and Ronald G. Strackbein Roxanne and Hugh Vanderbilt Sue Ann Weinberg

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(\$10,000-\$24,999) Suzanne and Ramsey Frank Northern Trust Regina Pitaro and Mario Gabelli Debbie and Russ Reynolds Deborah and Perry Robinson Susan and Gene Shanks Alease and Paul Tallman Beth and Beau Taylor Marree and John Townsend Douglas VanderHorn Architects Beverly and John Watling

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Endowment Funds

Gifts to the Endowment support the Historical Society's general operations and programs in perpetuity. We gratefully acknowledge the following named endowment funds:

Antell Family Fund R & C Blumenthal Family Fund William C. Crooks Fund Roberta and Steven Denning, Title 1 School Program Fund Isabel and Peter Malkin Fund Russell and Deborah Reynolds Fund Strackbein Archives Fund Claire and Hugh Vanderbilt Fund David R. A. Wierdsma Fund

Gifts in Honor of and Gifts in Memory of

Ricky and Joseph Arcade in honor of An American Odyssey: The Jewish Experience in Greenwich Brooke and Tom Ashforth in honor of Suzanne Frank Jane and Ken Bartels in memory of Bill Crooks Susan Bevan and Anthony Daddino in honor of Sabrina and Walter Raquet The Honorable & Mrs. Richard Blumenthal in honor of Peter Malkin Mr. Lawrence Buchalter in honor of Rachel Kelly Kathleen and Kip Burgweger in honor of Anne Niemeth Frances Gerety Crowell in memory of Arthur W. Crowell Barbara H. Freeman in honor of Davidde Strackbein Katherine G. Gardner in memory of Jack Moffly Virginia and Michael Genereux in honor of Jessica Guff Greenwich Decorative Arts Society in honor of Davidde Strackbein Estelle Jones in memory of Charles M. Jones Terri and Jed Kaminetsky in honor of Stacey Cross Patty and Charles Kaufmann in memory of Peter Griffin Barbara and Bill King in memory of Jack Moffly Penelope Lehman in memory of Melinda Ogilvy-three gifts Cricket and Jim Lockhart in honor of Susan and Gene Shanks Elizabeth Lummis Malkin in honor of Isabel Malkin

(continues)

Annual Giving July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

Gifts in Honor of and Gifts in Memory of (continued)

Debra and Carl Mecky in memory of Jack Moffly Fifi Sheridan in memory of Lloyd N. Hull Fifi Sheridan in memory of Jack Moffly Cheryl and Ray Simon in honor of Emma Pennington Cynthia van Eck in honor of Virginia Genereux Mugs Zales in honor of Isabel and Peter Malkin



Gifts In Kind

Ann's Hobby Shop Arrangements Abroad and the Museum Travel Alliance **Betteridge Jewelers** Carl Mecky Architecture and Planning Mr. and Mrs. John Chadwick **Charles Hilton Architects** Douglas VanderHorn Architects Greenwich Construction Harrison Wine Vault Ibex Puppetry Jim Henson's Creature Shop Jim Henson's Library and Archives Marcia Selden Catering and Event Planning My Life in Parties Ocean House Randy's Wines, Post Wine and Spirits Mr. and Mrs. Noah Rhodes The Rummage Room Sanctuary Garden Design Smart Kids Toys Summer Rain Trovare Home Chi Chi Ubina Whole Foods

Annual Fund

The Greenwich Historical Society thanks the following donors to the Annual Fund whose contributions enable the Historical Society to fulfill its mission to preserve the history of the community for future generations. We extend our deepest appreciation to all of our donors.

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Gifts up to \$499

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udos to our fabulous volunteers, who are deeply involved in every aspect of our mission. Their contributions of time, energy, creativity and wise counsel enable us to stay relevant as we evolve to meet the needs of the community.

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Long-time supporter John "Jack" W. Moffly, IV (1926-2018) served on the Greenwich **Historical Society's Board of Trustees** from 1987 until 1993. In 1995, he was named an honorary trustee for his dedication and outstanding service, and he joined the Historical Society's Advisory Council at its formation in 2008. In 1987, following a prestigious 34-year career in advertising sales and marketing, Jack and

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wife Donna founded the Greenwich Review, which chronicled the cultural life and history of our town. As time passed, other town magazines

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were added to their stable of publications. After handing the reins of the family business to son Jonathan in 1995, Jack, continued to write for Greenwich Magazine and remained an ambassadorat-large and a board member of a number of other Greenwich nonprofit organizations. He was a special friendgracious, understanding, collaborative, very smart and always thoughtful. He will be dearly missed.

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Oh, what a year it was!





















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Our Mission Statement We preserve and interpret Greenwich history to strengthen the community's connection to our past, to each other and to our future.



Founded in 1931, Greenwich Historical Society operates a nationally accredited museum, library and archives and is home to the National Historic Landmark Bush-Holley House, which was the site of Connecticut's first influential American Impressionist art colony from 1890 to 1920. The Historical Society educates thousands of schoolchildren annually and connects visitors to the history of this vibrant, globally influential community through rotating exhibitions, engaging lectures, stimulating events and fun family programs.

