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The Vincent Astor  
1997 Foundation

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The Vincent Astor Foundation 1948-1997



The Vincent Astor  
Foundation 1948–1997



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WHEN VINCENT ASTOR DIED IN 1959, his will provided that half the assets from his estate, some \$67,000,000, should come to The Vincent Astor Foundation. He had founded the Foundation in 1948 and had used it for modest charitable contributions to organizations such as the American Red Cross and the United Hospital Fund. Vincent's charge to the Board of Trustees was to distribute the income in grants for "the alleviation of human misery." I was elected President of the Board in January 1960, and then we started out—timidly, wishing to feel our way in order to achieve the greatest of good out of what we had to give. Now, thirty-seven years later, it is time to bring the Foundation to a close. This final report tells the story of how the Foundation evolved, describing the projects of which we are proud, and even a few mistakes.

There are three principles that we were convinced of at the beginning and that throughout the years we have clung to. They have been our guideposts, our roofree, and our floor plan.

- With very few exceptions, the money was to be spent in New York City, because John Jacob Astor, the founder of the family fortune, lived and died here. Having arrived in this country in 1783 with two suits of clothes, a pound in his pocket and seven flutes to sell, he died in 1848 the richest man in America, leaving the then vast sum of \$20,000,000. Although he started out in the fur trade, most of the money was made in New York City real estate.
- We were to be "people-oriented" in our thinking. Essentially the Foundation was to be dedicated to making urban living as attractive as possible for the residents of all five boroughs, and we would keep a special eye out for the less fortunate.
- Ours was a comparatively small foundation, so we could take a personal interest in our giving. My rule was that we did not present a proposal to the Foundation's full Board until my Director and I had seen the project ourselves. In most cases it was impossible to assess a project from an office high above Park Avenue. Seeing is believing. So we always went to visit the project in order to meet the people who ran it and to get a feel for their surroundings. This approach, which has taken us to so many fascinating parts of New York, has been a source of great joy for me and the Foundation's staff, and we feel that our giving has benefited from it. In all the years of site visits, we never had a disagreeable incident.

Over time we have learned that although no one small foundation can change the world, our grants can help to fill urgent needs and in some cases make a real difference. We have been able to move from the problems of teenage gangs to housing, parks, and museums; from the Astor Home for Children to care of the aged; to education, hospitals, and medicine; to the preservation of historic buildings, gardening on city lots, and after-

school reading programs. Whether it was a factory in the Bronx or scholarships for gifted children, or whether we gave large sums of money or small ones, each project seemed to meet a need and in some small way to contribute to a better city.

In order to show how the Foundation's giving developed after Vincent's death, this report presents the grants made year by year from 1960 through 1997. I have singled out a few of our interests, but by no means all, for that would require several volumes! A summary of grants by program category follows the chronological listing. I hope that this review will provide the reader with an understanding of the Foundation's activities over the years. We have come quite a long way since 1960, and our work has been a great joy and satisfaction for me. However, I could not have done it alone. It is only because of the wisdom and help of the Trustees and the hard work of our small staff that these things have been accomplished.

Berndt Astor



*Vincent Astor*

# 1960

In 1960, the Trustees approved several large grants that reflected Vincent's interests. Three organizations, the Astor Home in Rhinebeck, the New York Public Library, and New York Hospital, had been of particular concern to him. He had family ties to the Astor Home and the Library, for in 1952 Vincent founded the Astor Home for Disturbed Children in memory of his father; his great, great grandfather, John Jacob Astor, helped to start the New York Public Library. I took Vincent's place on the boards of both organizations after his death, and the Foundation continued to support them. Vincent was on the Board of Governors of New York Hospital for twenty-nine years, from 1930 until he died.

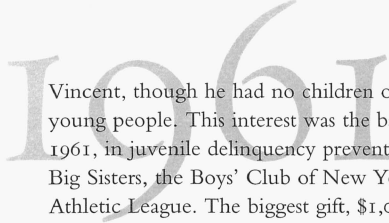
Francis Cardinal Spellman was on the Foundation's Board, and out of respect for him and his great friendship for Vincent, we gave the first of many annual contributions of \$250,000 to Catholic Charities. Connie Guion, Vincent's personal physician, was also a Trustee and as he had the greatest admiration for her, in 1960 the Foundation pledged \$2,500,000 for the construction of a building at New York Hospital that bears her name. Two other grants were approved for the hospital that year, for a total contribution of \$2,615,604.

American Red Cross in Greater New York. General support	25,000	Recording for the Blind, Inc. General support	5,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	50,000	United Hospital Fund of New York. General support	25,000
Cancer Care. General support	5,000	Visiting Nurse Service of New York. General support	5,000
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York. General support	250,000	<i>Total Grants for 1960</i>	<i>3,135,604</i>
Greater New York Fund. General support	25,000		
Harvard Medical School. General support	100,000		
New York Association for the Blind (the Lighthouse). General support	10,000		
New York Eye & Ear Infirmary. General support	10,000		
New York Hospital. Construction of a cardiovascular clinic	2,500,000		
New York Hospital. For the Dr. Connie M. Guion Outpatient Building	75,000		
New York Hospital. For research under Dr. Frank Glenn	40,604		
New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	10,000		

*The Astor Home,  
Rhinebeck*







Vincent, though he had no children of his own, had an especially deep affection for young people. This interest was the basis for the Foundation's new program, initiated in 1961, in juvenile delinquency prevention. The Board enthusiastically endorsed grants to Big Sisters, the Boys' Club of New York, Madison Square Boys' Club, and the Police Athletic League. The biggest gift, \$1,000,000, was to the United Neighborhood Houses in support of pre-teen programs at settlement houses throughout the city. In subsequent years the Foundation approved almost \$19,000,000 in grants for youth programs.

American Friends Service Committee, Inc. Toward community development project in East Harlem	10,500	National Council on Crime and Delinquency. Toward the New York City Action Committee on delinquency prevention	25,000
American Red Cross in Greater New York. General support	25,000	Osborne Association, Inc. Toward efforts to prevent juvenile delinquency	25,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	50,000	Police Athletic League, Inc. Toward PAL's program to rehabilitate its buildings	50,000
Big Sisters, Inc. General support	25,000	Sisters of the Good Shepherd. For one cottage at facility in Huntington, L.I.	120,000
Boys' Club of New York. Toward the year-round week-end camping program	15,000	St. Philip's Community Service Council of Greater Harlem, Inc. Toward juvenile delinquency prevention program	5,000
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York. General support	250,000	Trail Blazer Camps. General support	25,000
Children's Aid Society. Toward youth programs	25,000	United Hospital Fund of New York. General support	25,000
Girls Club of New York. For a casework service program	12,250	United Neighborhood Houses of New York, Inc. Toward UNH's pre-teen project	1,000,000
Graham Home for Children. General support	10,000	United Neighborhood Houses of New York, Inc. Grant distributed to member houses to further their work in juvenile delinquency prevention	250,000
Henry Street Settlement Urban Life Center. Toward youth program	25,000	Young Women's Christian Association. General support	25,000
Leake and Watts Children's Home, Inc. Toward the residential program	10,000	<i>Total Grants for 1961</i>	<i>2,056,000</i>
Legal Aid Society. Toward program for legal assistance in children's court	11,000		
Madison Square Boys' Club, Inc. To implement home visitor program	12,250		
National Council on Crime and Delinquency. General support	25,000		

*Drew Hamilton  
Houses*

# 1962

In 1962, the Foundation expanded the number of grants relating to juvenile delinquency prevention. In addition, the Board began branching out to other fields. We made the first major gift to the New York Public Library—\$500,000 toward the conversion of the Arnold Constable store on Fifth Avenue into what is now known as the Mid-Manhattan Library. The Trustees were intrigued by the concept of a public television station in New York and gave the fledgling Channel 13 \$50,000. We also made an exception to the Foundation's New York guideline with a grant of \$1,000,000 to the Harvard Medical School. Vincent attended Harvard but was forced to leave after his father died on the Titanic in 1912. He always had great admiration for the University, and this grant seemed appropriate.

Association for Homemaker Service, Inc. General support	10,000	National Council on Crime and Delinquency. Toward the work of New York City Action Committee program	10,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	50,000	New York Hospital. General support	50,000
Big Sisters, Inc. General support	25,000	New York Hospital. Toward research under Dr. Arthur Okinaka	25,000
Boys Club of Queens, Inc. General support	10,000	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	10,000
Camp Sussex, Inc. For renovations	25,000	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. Toward costs of converting the Arnold Constable store to Library uses	500,000
Casita Maria Inc. For furnishings and equipment at Casita Maria's new building, the Bronx	50,000	Play Schools Association, Inc. General support	25,000
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York. General support	250,000	Puerto Rican Social Services, Inc. General Support	25,000
Children's Aid Society. General support	25,000	Sisters of the Good Shepherd. To build a second cottage in Huntington, Long Island	130,000
Citizens' Committee for Children of New York. Toward CCC's work relating to juvenile delinquency prevention	15,000	United Neighborhood Houses of New York, Inc. Grant distributed to member houses to further their work in juvenile delinquency prevention	250,000
Educational Broadcasting Corporation/Channel 13 WNET. General support	50,000	Wiltwyck School for Boys, Inc. General support for Patterson House	25,000
Family Service Association of Nassau County, Inc. Toward Youth Service Project	20,000	Young Women's Christian Association. General support	25,000
Fresh Air Fund. General support	10,000	Youth Development, Inc. Toward construction program at camp in Glen Spey, N.Y.	150,000
Grosvenor Neighborhood House, Inc. Toward construction and furnishings at new facility on Manhattan's Upper West Side	50,000		
Harvard Medical School. General support	1,000,000		
Kips Bay Boys' Club, Inc. General support	10,000		
		<i>Total Grants for 1962</i>	<i>2,825,000</i>

*Mid-Manhattan  
Library*





# 1962

Jane Jacobs's remarkable book, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, published in 1961, set me to thinking about ways in which the Foundation might help to make public housing more livable. In 1961, thanks to Mayor Robert Wagner, I was fortunate to meet an extraordinary man, Ira Robbins, a lawyer and member of the New York City Housing Authority. With him I discussed the possibility of putting shops, drugstores, and other amenities in the city's sterile high-rise, low-income complexes in order to create more of a neighborhood atmosphere. The authority did not wish to do this, so instead we picked out one of the most needy housing projects in Manhattan—Carver Houses in East Harlem. In a space within the project we built a park intended as an “outdoor living room,” retaining the architectural firm of Simon Breines and Paul Friedberg. There was a grand opening which was attended by Mayor Robert Wagner and the Mayor of San Juan. Flamenco dancers danced with enthusiasm, despite the pouring rain!

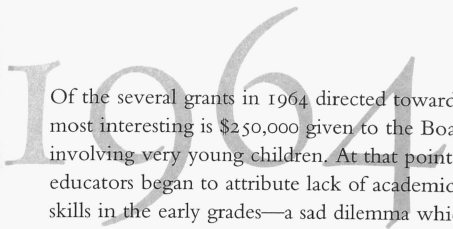
One day, at an event at the New York Public Library, I sat next to Moran Weston, Rector of St. Philip's Church in Harlem. I was impressed by his dedication and went to visit the little Parish House next to his church on 133rd Street. It was absolutely teeming with people! Clearly the parish needed more space for its many activities, and in 1963 the Foundation made the first of several grants totaling \$938,000 for the construction of a fine community youth center. The basement of the structure went down three stories so that one day St. Philip's could build housing for senior citizens above the center.

Association for Homemaker Service, Inc. General support	10,000	Kips Bay Boys' Club, Inc. General support	5,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	50,000	Leaguers, Inc. Toward costs of recreation building	25,000
Boys' Club of New York. Toward construction of a new camp in the Catskill Mountains	50,000	Legal Aid Society. For three staff attorneys to represent young persons in criminal courts	25,000
Boys Harbor, Inc. Toward construction and repair of camp in East Hampton	75,000	Lincoln Hall. Toward construction of a school building at Lincoln Hall, a residential treatment center for troubled boys	50,000
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York. Toward the construction of a research building at St. Vincent's Hospital	250,000	Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Toward construction of a cancer research laboratory	200,000
Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center. Toward construction of a research building	200,000	Montefiore Hospital. Toward construction costs	200,000
Family Service Association of Nassau County, Inc. Toward Youth Service Project	22,000	New York City Housing Authority. Toward construction of recreational facilities for low-rent housing developments	10,000
Fresh Air Fund. General support	5,000	New York City Housing Authority. For construction of a recreation area in the Carver Housing Project, East Harlem	200,000
Girls Club of New York. For improvements to Club building on East 30th Street	83,650		

*Opening Day,  
Carver Houses*



New York City Housing Authority. For additional construction work to complete the Carver Housing recreation area	85,900	United Neighborhood Houses of New York, Inc. Grant distributed to member houses to further their work in juvenile delinquency prevention	125,000
New York City Housing Authority. Special lighting for outdoor stage platform built in the Carver Housing recreation area	6,600	Wiltwyck School for Boys, Inc. Toward the construction program in Yorktown Heights	250,000
New York Hospital. Toward research under Dr. Glenn	25,000	Young Men's Christian Association of Greater New York. Toward Youth Opportunities Project of the Vocational Service Center and Bedford Branch	15,000
Northside Center for Child Development, Inc. Toward a remedial reading program	10,000	Young Women's Christian Association. General support	10,000
Puerto Rican Forum, Inc. Toward summer education programs within the Puerto Rican community	20,000	Young Women's Christian Association of Brooklyn. Toward capital improvements	15,000
St. Luke's Hospital. Toward construction program	200,000	<i>Total Grants for 1963</i>	<i>2,531,150</i>
St. Vincent's Hospital. Toward construction program	200,000		
St. Philip's Community Service Council of Greater Harlem, Inc. Toward construction of St. Philip's Community Youth Center	108,000		



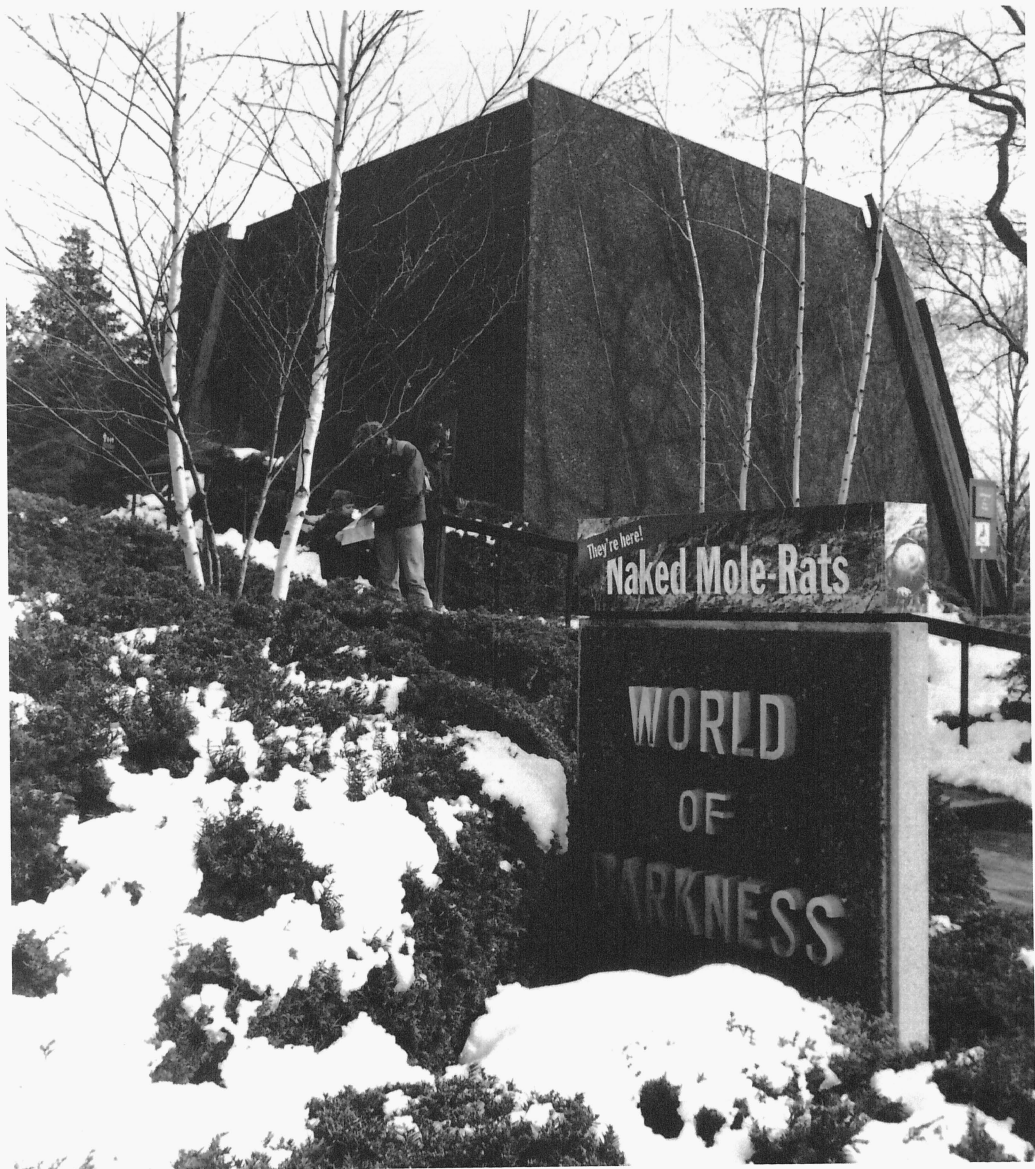
Of the several grants in 1964 directed toward youth, in looking back the one I find the most interesting is \$250,000 given to the Board of Education for a reading program involving very young children. At that point the school dropout rate was on the rise, and educators began to attribute lack of academic success to students' failure to acquire basic skills in the early grades—a sad dilemma which I regret still exists today.

At this time the Foundation approved the first of many grants to St. George's School in Newport, where Vincent had gone. Although he was not particularly happy at the school when he was there, he did take an interest in it later on and gave a dormitory, two houses for masters, and the infirmary. From 1964 to 1980, the Foundation contributed each year for scholarships. Then in 1981, we approved a grant of \$1,000,000 to endow the Vincent Astor Scholarships in perpetuity. Over the years it has been a pleasure to read reports sent to us by the school about the bright young people who have received those scholarships.

1964 was also the year of our first large grant for a capital project at the Bronx Zoo, now known as the Wildlife Conservation Society. We gave \$300,000 for the construction of the World of Darkness building, where day and night have been reversed: artificial light kept on during the night enables nocturnal creatures to rest; during the daytime a reduced level of light permits the animals to pursue their normal nocturnal activities, enabling visitors to observe them.

American Bar Association Fund for Public Education. To formulate and recommend minimum standards for administration of criminal justice	250,000	Boys' Club of New York. Toward construction of the dining hall at the Catskill camp	100,000
Association for Homemaker Service, Inc. General support	10,000	Boys Club of Queens, Inc. General support	10,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	50,000	Boys Harbor, Inc. Toward boating program in East Hampton	50,000
Berkshire Farm for Boys. For dormitory construction	300,000	Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York. For furniture and maintenance of the Ferncliff residence for the elderly	250,000
Big Sisters, Inc. General support	10,000	Children's Village. Toward capital campaign for comprehensive center for treatment of emotionally disturbed boys	100,000
Bloomingdale Neighborhood Recreation Committee. Toward youth recreation program on Manhattan's Upper West Side	7,500	Episcopal Mission Society in the Diocese of New York. Toward construction of a summer camp in Parksville, New York	25,000
Board of Education of the City of New York. For language enrichment study	250,000	Graham Home for Children. Toward construction of a recreation building	100,000
Boy Scouts of America/Greater New York Council. For Bedford Stuyvesant saturation scouting program	90,000	Graham Home for Children. Toward construction of a recreation building	70,000
Boys' Club of New York. Construction of a dining hall at Camp Harriman	150,000		

Kips Bay Boys' Club, Inc. Toward construction of a clubhouse in Clason Point	100,000	Trail Blazer Camps. Toward construction and repair costs	15,000
Madison Square Boys' Club, Inc. Toward construction program	100,000	Union Settlement Association, Inc. General support for the East Harlem Neighborhood Study Club	7,500
New York City Housing Authority. For the plans to be used in obtaining bids for construction of a recreation area at Riis Houses on Manhattan's Lower East Side	75,000	Union Settlement Association, Inc. General support for the East Harlem Neighborhood Study Club	15,000
New York City Mission Society. Toward construction of the Minisink Town House in Harlem	100,000	United Neighborhood Houses of New York, Inc. Grant distributed to member houses to further their work in juvenile delinquency prevention	140,000
New York Hospital. Toward research under Dr. Glenn and Dr. Okinaka	25,000	Vocational Advisory Service, Inc. Toward a youth employment program	10,000
New York Zoological Society. Toward construction of the World of Darkness building	300,000	Wiltwyck School for Boys, Inc. Toward construction in Yorktown Heights	100,000
Protestant Board of Guardians. Toward PBG's remedial reading program	10,000	Young Men's Christian Association of Greater New York. Toward the Youth and Work Project	15,000
Puerto Rican Forum, Inc. Toward summer education programs within the Puerto Rican community	25,000	Youth Council on Civic Affairs, Inc. Toward the organization and promotion of Youth Councils throughout the United States	25,000
St. George's School. For an Astor Scholarship	3,500	Youth Development, Inc. Toward construction program at camp in Glen Spey, N.Y.	150,000
St. George's School. For two Astor Scholarships	7,000	<i>Total Grants for 1964</i>	<i>3,145,500</i>
St. Philip's Community Service Council of Greater Harlem, Inc. Toward construction of the youth center	100,000		



# 1965

In 1965, I met Lady Allen of Hurtwood, who had developed the concept of the “adventure playground” —in other words a playground that challenged a child but was safe at the same time. Children could experience danger by climbing quite high upon ropes or a wall, for instance, and then jumping into soft sand. I discussed the adventure playground with Ira Robbins, who was enthusiastic and suggested that we incorporate one into a new park at Riis Houses on the Lower East Side. The park was similar to the one at Carver, but grander in scale. In addition to the playground, there were an amphitheater with dressing rooms, wading pools, and pergolas. Riis Park opened with great fanfare at a ceremony attended by Mayor Lindsay and Mrs. Lyndon Johnson. Unfortunately, in the 1970’s and ’80’s, Riis Park was not properly maintained and it became litter-strewn and marked with graffiti. What I had envisioned had not come to be. In recent years, however, thanks to the interest of a group of tenants that is working with the Housing Authority, things have taken a turn for the better. In 1997, the Foundation gave \$250,000 toward the renovation of the original adventure playground.

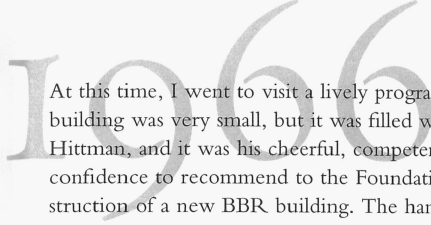
Aspira of New York, Inc. Toward leadership program for talented Puerto Rican students	15,000	Hurricane Island Outward Bound School. Toward construction of the school on Hurricane Island, Maine	50,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	50,000	Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. Toward construction of a camp infirmary in Bantam, CT.	50,000
Big Brothers, Inc. For renovation of a group residence	305,000	New York City Housing Authority. For construction of the Riis Houses recreation area	766,150
Block Development Project, Inc. Toward the establishment of a community development organization in East Harlem	15,000	New York City Mission Society. Toward construction of Minisink Townhouse in Harlem	100,000
Boys Brotherhood Republic of New York, Inc. For building repairs and recreational equipment	15,000	New York University. Toward APEX, a program to prepare disadvantaged youths for college	300,000
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York. General support	250,000	Puerto Rican Forum, Inc. Toward summer education programs within the Puerto Rican community	15,000
City Wide Coordinating Committee. Toward summer youth program	31,490	Science and Arts Camps, Inc. Scholarships for NYC youth at summer camp	22,200
Educational Broadcasting Corporation/ Channel 13 WNET. General support	25,000	South Brooklyn Neighborhood Houses. Toward the “Casa de Ayuda Propia,” a self-help program in South Brooklyn	75,000
Episcopal Mission Society in the Diocese of New York. Toward construction of summer camp in Parksville, N.Y.	25,000	St. Christopher’s School. Toward construction program	50,000
Greer, A Children’s Community. Toward the building program at Greer’s foster home and school in Hope Farm, N. Y.	200,000		

*Opening Day,  
Riis Park*





St. George's School. For Astor Scholarships	10,500
Union Settlement Association, Inc. General support for the East Harlem Neighborhood Study Club	5,000
United Neighborhood Houses of New York, Inc. Grant distributed to member houses to further their work in juvenile delinquency prevention	75,000
Vocational Advisory Service, Inc. General support	10,000
Wiltwyck School for Boys, Inc. Toward construction in Yorktown Heights	100,000
Youth Council on Civic Affairs, Inc. Toward the organization and promotion of Youth Councils throughout the United States	25,000
<i>Total Grants for 1965</i>	<i>2,585,340</i>

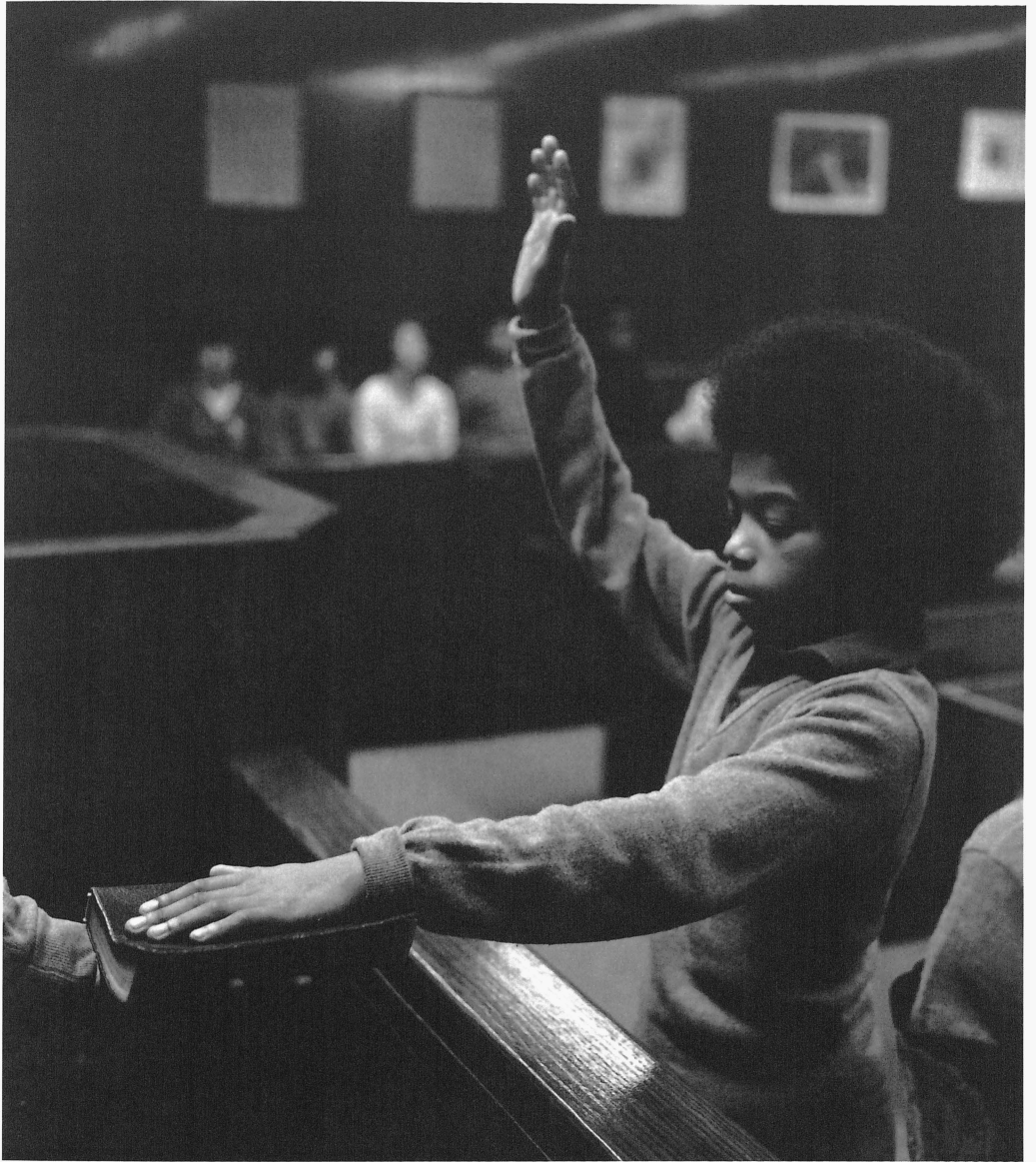


At this time, I went to visit a lively program called the Boys Brotherhood Republic. The building was very small, but it was filled with busy, happy boys. The director was Ralph Hittman, and it was his cheerful, competent personality that gave me the inspiration and confidence to recommend to the Foundation's Board a grant of \$1,100,000 for the construction of a new BBR building. The handsome facility includes a professional basketball court, a courtroom done in paneled wood where the boys try cases on their own, a library, and a woodworking shop. In 1981, the Foundation endowed the building with a further grant of \$1,000,000. Although through the years BBR continued to run fine programs, eventually the organization fell on financial hard times. Happily, in 1997 it was taken over by the Henry Street Settlement; one of the Foundation's last grants was \$250,000 to Henry Street toward the transition.

Grants approved in 1966 also include the Astor Chair for Space Sciences at New York University's School of Engineering and Science. At that time, man had not yet landed on the moon, and space exploration was an exciting new field. By the 1990's funding for space-related programs had been largely taken over by the federal government. NYU asked if the name of the chair could be changed to the Astor Chair in Science, and the Foundation's Trustees willingly consented. The Chair is currently held by Professor Stephen Jay Gould of the University's Department of Biology.

Astor Home for Children. General support	50,000	Department of Parks of the City of New York. Toward a playground adjacent to P.S. 166 on West 89th Street, Manhattan	225,000
Big Brothers, Inc. General support for group residence	100,000	Fresh Air Fund. General support	10,000
Boys Brotherhood Republic of New York, Inc. For construction of a clubhouse	1,100,000	Goddard-Riverside Community Center. For the rebuilding of the dining room at Pioneer Youth Camp at Rifton, N.Y.	75,000
Boys' Club of New York. For rehabilitation of New York City facilities	100,000	Graham Home for Children. Toward expanding the services of the Home	50,000
Boys Harbor, Inc. Toward mortgage on new building in Manhattan	100,000	Harlem School of the Arts, Inc. Toward construction program	50,000
Buchanan School Playground. For the construction of a playground at the Buchanan School, Washington, D. C.	500,000	Hurricane Island Outward Bound School. Toward construction of the school on Hurricane Island	50,000
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York. General support	250,000	Institute of Public Administration. General support	25,000
Christodora Foundation. For construction of camping facilities at Northover Camp, New Jersey	195,000	Jennie Clarkson Home for Children. Toward construction of recreation building	50,000
City Wide Coordinating Committee. General support	35,000		

Killside Improvement Project. For purchase and renovation of building to be used as a Teen Center, and one year's operating expenses	25,000	St. George's School. To cover residual cost of sending Carter Monroe to Sciences and Arts Camp in summer 1966	560
New York City Housing Authority. For Riis Houses Recreation Area	1,840	St. George's School. For four Astor Scholarships	14,800
New York City Housing Authority. For summer entertainment programs for Riis and Carver amphitheaters	25,000	Theatre in the Street. Toward summer performances at Riis and Carver houses	3,750
New York Hospital. Toward research under Dr. Glenn	25,000	United Neighborhood Houses of New York, Inc. Grant distributed to member houses to further their work in juvenile delinquency prevention	50,000
New York University. To establish the Astor Chair for Space Sciences at the University's School of Engineering and Science	500,000	Vocational Advisory Service, Inc. General support	10,000
Police Athletic League, Inc. Toward establishment of Central Harlem Youth Center	100,000	Wiltwyck School for Boys, Inc. Toward construction at facility in Yorktown Heights	50,000
Real Great Society. For establishment of a "Night Club," a photography store, and a leather workshop	15,000	Youth Board Research Institute of New York, Inc. Toward establishment of a group residence for boys	75,000
		<i>Total Grants for 1966</i>	<i>3,860,950</i>



# 1967

Upon the completion of the Carver and Riis projects, I wanted the Foundation to do something further in community development. But being a relatively small foundation, we had to be in touch with someone who had access to federal funds. I had a long talk with Bobby Kennedy, who was most enthusiastic about the possibility of a major project in Bedford Stuyvesant. The Foundation approved a grant of \$1,000,000 for the planning and construction of two “superblocks” there, which transformed the streets into a park with play areas and paths for strollers.

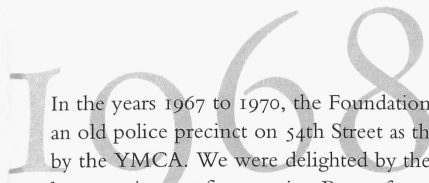
Of note also in 1967 was the first of a series of grants to two new organizations—quite different from one another but each designed to develop leadership skills in young people. A Better Chance helps talented minority students gain admittance to top preparatory schools. The Foundation’s funds, some \$1,700,000, have supported the students coming from New York City. The Hurricane Island Outward Bound School in Maine helps young people to gain confidence during a rigorous course that includes sailing in all kinds of weather, rope climbing, and scaling a huge granite cliff. Most of the Foundation’s grants enabled disadvantaged youth from New York to attend this imaginative program.

Finally, one of Vincent’s interests had been his yacht, Nourmahal, which took him in search of the giant tortoises that are indigenous to the Galapagos Islands. In Vincent’s memory the Foundation contributed to the construction of the research ship, *Beagle III*, which was the name Charles Darwin had given his boat.

A Better Chance, Inc. Scholarships for NYC students enrolled in rural public school program	100,000	Carver Amphitheater Committee. For summer entertainment program	10,000
Aspira of New York, Inc. Toward the Guild Program, designed to develop leadership and vocational skills among Puerto Rican youth	50,000	Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York. General support	250,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	50,000	Chapin School. To improve faculty salaries and physical plant	5,000
Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation. For the construction of two “superblocks”	1,000,000	Charles Darwin Foundation for the Galapagos Islands. Toward cost of building research vessel, <i>Beagle III</i>	50,000
Berkshire Farm for Boys. For dormitory construction	100,000	Clinton Youth Center. Toward renovation	250,000
Boy Scouts of America Greater New York Council. For Bedford-Stuyvesant saturation scouting program	75,000	Community Hospital at Glen Cove. General support	2,500
Broad Jump, Inc. For the first-year expenses of Project Broad Jump, a summer tutorial program	100,000	Cornell University Medical College. For the establishment of the Astor Library Fund	10,000
		Department of Parks of the City of New York. Toward completion of a playground adjacent to P.S. 166	11,000
		East 117th Street Parents Association. For a summer program	5,700



East Harlem Baseball League. General support	1,750	New York Zoological Society. Toward scientific research in animal behavior	2,500
Emergency Shelter, Inc. For furnishings at group residence	16,000	Operation Crossroads Africa, Inc. General support	2,500
Episcopal Mission Society in the Diocese of New York. For improvements to Houston and Mulberry Street playgrounds	5,100	Real Great Society. For East Harlem educational program	75,000
Fresh Air Fund. General support	25,000	Roosevelt Hospital. Toward the purchase of an electron microscope	10,000
General Hospital of Saranac Lake. Toward the building fund campaign	5,000	Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children. General support	2,500
Harvard Law School. Toward Sesquicentennial Fund Program	10,000	St. George's School. For a Science Chair	300,000
Hurricane Island Outward Bound School. \$25,000 toward the capital program; \$25,000 for scholarships	50,000	St. George's School. To cover residual cost of sending Carter Monroe to Sciences and Arts Camp in summer 1967	810
Interracial Council for Business Opportunity. For the Mayor's Task Force for the Economic Redevelopment of Harlem	5,000	St. George's School. For Astor Scholarships	14,800
Lower East Side Action Project, Inc. General support for youth programs	50,000	St. Philip's Community Service Council of Greater Harlem, Inc. Toward construction of youth center	350,000
Madison Square Boys' Club, Inc. For busing Bronx boys to the downtown facilities during the summer	6,840	Topkapi Museum. Toward the renovation of the Topkapi Sarayi Museum in Istanbul	2,500
Madison Square Boys' Club, Inc. Toward construction of the Morrisania Clubhouse in the Bronx	350,000	Union Settlement Association, Inc. General support	5,000
Middlesex School. For scholarships	10,000	United Fund of Long Island, Inc. General support	5,000
Miss Porter's School. Toward capital improvements	5,000	Visiting Mothers. General support for day care program	5,000
National Geographic Society. Toward Dr. L.S.B. Leakey's work in Africa	2,500	Visiting Mothers. General support	25,000
New York City Housing Authority. For construction of a comfort station in the Riis Houses recreation area	40,000	Visiting Nurse Service of New York. General support	10,000
New York City Housing Authority. For a greenhouse to be installed at the site of the Drew-Hamilton Houses in Harlem	16,000	Wiltwyck School for Boys, Inc. Toward Wiltwyck's out-patient clinic	25,000
New York City Mission Society. Toward expansion of summer camp program	50,000	Young Women's Christian Association of Brooklyn. For the development of a sex education program	60,000
New York Hospital. Toward special research initiated after Dr. Glenn's retirement	25,000	<i>Total Grants for 1967</i>	<i>3,713,000</i>
New York Urban League, Inc. Toward Harlem Prep School project	75,000		



In the years 1967 to 1970, the Foundation gave a total of \$933,000 for the renovation of an old police precinct on 54th Street as the Clinton Youth Center, a project sponsored by the YMCA. We were delighted by the completed building, which included all the latest equipment for exercise. But unfortunately, in the end the project was not a success, for the neighborhood changed and there was an insufficient number of children to use the building; eventually the Y turned it over to a different type of organization.

A Better Chance, Inc. Toward expansion of scholarship program for NYC minority students enrolled at preparatory schools	530,000	East Harlem Computer Training Program. General support	15,000
Applied Resources, Inc. Support for Urban Volunteer Program	15,000	East Harlem Computer Training Program. General support	50,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	75,000	East Harlem Federation Youth Association. Toward youth recreation programs	25,000
Bennett College. Toward capital campaign	10,000	Eldridge Community Center. Toward ECC's summer Youth Development Program on the Lower East Side	10,000
Big Sisters, Inc. General support	25,000	Fresh Air Fund. General support	15,000
Boys Athletic League, Inc. Construction of four gypsy wagons	12,000	Girls Club of the Lower East Side. General support	25,000
Boys Brotherhood Republic of New York, Inc. Additional grant toward construction of a new clubhouse	250,000	Grand Street Settlement. Toward construction program	100,000
Boys' Club of New York. Toward the National Scholarship Fund; to support boys from New York City	15,000	Harlem Prep School. For equipment and furnishings in new building	50,000
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York. Toward the Cardinal Spellman Memorial Fund	335,000	Henry Street Settlement Urban Life Center. Toward the development of social service programs	100,000
City Wide Coordinating Committee. General support	25,000	Huntington Hospital. Toward the Expansion Fund	5,000
Clinton Youth Center. Toward renovation of the Clinton Youth Center	100,000	Hurricane Island Outward Bound School. Toward capital expenses and expansion of the HIOB program	50,000
Consumer Action Program of Bedford Stuyvesant. To promote CABS credit union	50,000	Interfaith City-Wide Coordinating Committee. General support	25,000
Cornell University Medical College. Toward the Astor Library Fund	10,000	Interracial Council for Business Opportunity. General support	200,000
Davidson Community Center. For expansion of educational projects and storefront activities	10,000	Kips Bay Boys' Club, Inc. Toward construction of a clubhouse	100,000
East Harlem Block Associations. Toward summer programs	9,600	Knickerbocker Drum and Bugle Corps. For equipment	10,000





Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. Toward camp construction	10,000	Soul and Latin Theatre Troupe. General support	35,000
Lower East Side Action Project, Inc. Toward construction of youth residence	160,000	South Kent School. Toward the construction of a new hockey rink	5,000
Middlesex School. Toward building and endowment program	10,000	St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. Toward the Remedial and Recreation Center	10,000
National Conference of Christians and Jews. General support	5,000	St. George's School. For Astor Scholarships	16,200
National Geographic Society. Toward Dr. L.S.B. Leakey's work in Africa	2,500	St. George's School. For Carter Monroe's summer program with the Experiment in International Living, Mexico City	500
New York City Housing Authority. Payment to architects Pomerance & Breines for services in connection with construction of Riis Houses recreation area comfort station	4,000	St. Philip's Community Service Council of Greater Harlem, Inc. Toward youth center	250,000
New York Hospital. Toward research under Dr. Glenn	25,000	Studio Museum in Harlem. For renovations and general support	35,000
New York University. Toward a series of conferences on race relations	10,000	Theatre in the Street. Toward summer performances at Riis and Carver houses	5,000
New York Urban Coalition. General support for NYUC's coordinating counseling and training efforts	100,000	Topkapi Museum. Toward the renovation of the Topkapi Sarayi Museum, Istanbul	7,500
New York Urban League, Inc. Toward rent for a storefront for the NYUL Street Academy	750	Union Settlement Association, Inc. General support	5,000
Philipstown Volunteer Ambulance Corps. For a new ambulance	5,000	United Negro College Fund, Inc. Toward scholarship program	100,000
Real Great Society. \$50,000 for rehabilitation of "Town House;" \$25,000 for establishment of educational program in Bedford Stuyvesant	75,000	Visiting Nurse Service of New York. General support	10,000
Roosevelt Hospital. Toward construction program	10,000	Yale University. Toward construction of the Ingalls Rink	5,000
Rutgers Community Center. For the development of the Lower East Side Youth Leadership program	25,000	Young Devils. For uniforms and equipment	7,000
Self Enterpride, Inc. Toward the establishment of the West Side Street Academy, an alternative school for dropouts	5,000	Young Men's Christian Association of Greater New York. Toward the Summer Youthmobile Project	5,000
Soul and Latin Theatre Troupe. For SALT's summer program	8,500	Young Men's Christian Association of Greater New York. Toward the Summer Youthmobile Project	5,000
		Youth Development, Inc. Toward purchase of a building in Manhattan	100,000
		<i>Total Grants for 1968</i>	<i>3,308,550</i>

# 1969

In 1969, the New York Zoological Society told us that they owned a piece of land across the Bronx River which the city was viewing with covetous eyes for housing. We went up to look at the land, which was really quite beautiful, with small hills and majestic trees. Dr. William Conway, General Director of the Zoo and a man of genius in his field, came up with the idea of building what he called an Asian Plain. There would be enough space for each species to be perfectly happy, surrounded by vegetation similar to that of its natural habitat. The visitors would look down on the animals from a comfortable monorail and the animals wouldn't be frightened at all—they could be completely themselves. The Foundation's Board heartily endorsed the Zoo's plan and between the years 1969 and 1977 approved grants totaling \$7,600,000 for the construction and endowment of the exhibition now called Wild Asia, which opened to the public in 1977. We were very happy when in 1979, Patty, one of the Zoo's elephants, was thought to be pregnant. After twenty-two months of anxious waiting, the first elephant to be born in New York City in 10,000 years, appeared. He was named Astor and was proclaimed the most intelligent baby at the Zoo! Alas, he only lived seventeen months, but he gave real pleasure to all who cared for him or viewed him from the monorail.

A Better Chance, Inc. Scholarships for NYC minority students enrolled at preparatory schools	360,000	Brooklyn Children's Museum. For interim facility, MUSE, pending construction of permanent children's museum building	50,000
American Hospital of Istanbul. General support	2,500	Buckley School. Toward capital campaign	5,000
Applied Resources, Inc. Support for volunteer programs in New York City	15,000	Capital Formation, Inc. Toward program to direct deposits into minority-owned banks	2,500
Association of the Bar of the City of New York. Toward two Centennial studies	25,000	Carnegie Hall Society, Inc. Toward youth programs	5,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	75,000	Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine. Toward summer program operated by Independent School Summer Urban Education	5,000
Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation. Toward construction of a civic and community center	500,000	Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York. Toward the Cardinal Spellman Memorial Fund	335,000
Boys Brotherhood Republic of New York, Inc. Additional grant toward construction of a clubhouse	42,320	Chinese Development Council. For English language teaching program	25,000
Boys' Club of New York. General support	2,500	Clinton Youth Center. Toward renovation of the Clinton Youth Center	558,000
Boys Harbor, Inc. Toward construction at camp in East Hampton	50,000	Committee for a Comprehensive Education Center, Inc. Toward an alternative school on Manhattan's Upper East Side	81,600
Broad Jump, Inc. General support for a summer and after-school tutorial program for disadvantaged students ages 7-14	50,000		

Community Hospital at Glen Cove. General support	2,500	Mothers-In-Action. For acquisition and renovation of a day care facility on the Lower East Side	50,000
Cornell University Medical College. Toward the Astor Library Fund	10,000	National Conference of Christians and Jews. General support	2,500
East 117th Street Parents Association. For a summer program	2,000	New York City—Vermont Youth Project, Inc. Toward summer youth program	100,000
East Harlem Federation Youth Association. For renovation of clubhouse	65,000	New York City Department of Parks and Recreation. For a study, supervised by the NYC Dept. of Cultural Affairs, about the preservation and improvement of the Schomberg Collection	40,000
East Village Girls' Club. General support	25,000		
East Village Girls' Club. General support	3,500		
Emergency Shelter, Inc. Toward acquisition of building at 293 East 10th Street, to serve as a second residence	100,000	New York City Housing Authority. For a horticultural training program	10,000
Fort Greene Youth Patrol. General support	25,000	New York University. Toward excavation and research at Aphrodisias	2,500
Girls' Club of Locust Valley, Inc. General support	2,500	New York Zoological Society. For construction of Asian Plain Exhibit	5,000,000
Grace Church of New York City. For Opportunity Project, a summer educational enrichment program	2,000	Northside Center for Child Development, Inc. Toward summer program with the Tenants Councils of housing projects in Harlem	5,000
Henry Street Settlement Urban Life Center. Toward a residence for indigent families	50,000	119th Street Block Association. For completion of storefront community center	5,000
Hudson Guild. Toward the development of social service programs	25,000	Operation Crossroads Africa, Inc. General support	2,500
Independent School Summer Urban Education Project. Toward summer program	5,000	Police Athletic League, Inc. Toward completion of PAL's Central Harlem Community Center	50,000
International Medical and Research Foundation, Inc. For medical aid and health education in East Africa	2,500	Real Great Society. General support	25,000
James Weldon Johnson Community Centers, Inc. Toward summer youth program	10,000	Roosevelt Hospital. General support	10,000
Knickerbocker Drum and Bugle Corps. For equipment	9,200	Self Enterpride, Inc. Toward the Uptown Street Academy's Summer Exposure program	20,000
Lower East Side Action Project, Inc. For storefront boys' club program	15,000	Stanley M. Isaacs Neighborhood Center, Inc. Toward costs of training high-school dropouts for service in the food industry	25,000
Lower East Side Action Project, Inc. Toward construction and equipment at residence	150,000	Union Settlement Association, Inc. General support	5,000
Middlesex School. General support	10,000	United Negro College Fund, Inc. Toward scholarship program	100,000
Miss Porter's School. For SPHERE Program	5,000		



Urban Deadline. For the construction of a vest-pocket park on the Lower East Side	35,000	Young Devils. For sports equipment	10,000
Visiting Nurse Service of New York. General support	10,000	Young Men's Christian Association of Greater New York. Toward the Summer Youthmobile program	50,000
Vocational Foundation, Inc. Toward VFI's regional expansion program	40,000	Young Men's Christian Association of Greater New York. Toward the Summer Youthmobile program	2,500
Wabash College. General support	10,000	<i>Total Grants for 1969</i>	<i>8,357,620</i>
West 80th Street Community Child Day Care Center. For remodelling and equipping the day care center	25,000		

*Astor, a few  
minutes old*

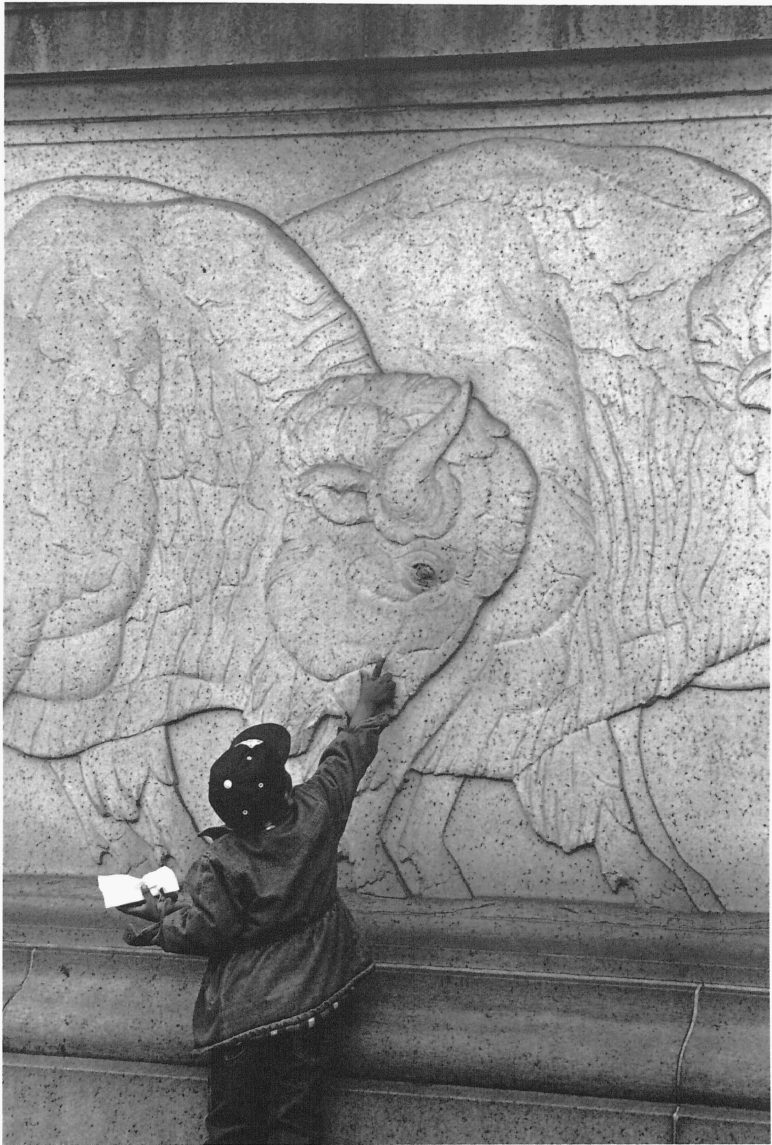
# 1970

In the belief that the City's cultural institutions—its “crown jewels”—add immeasurably to the quality of life in New York City, during the 1970's the Trustees approved a series of grants to several museums—the Metropolitan, the Museum of the City of New York, and the South Street Seaport Museum. In 1970, the American Museum of Natural History received \$250,000 toward its Centennial Year Fund. The Foundation's total giving to museums is over \$29,400,000.

Also in 1970, the Trustees approved two large grants which we hoped would help in the fight against drug abuse, \$250,000 to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for a television documentary on the subject and \$350,000 to St. Luke's Hospital for a new drug rehabilitation center.

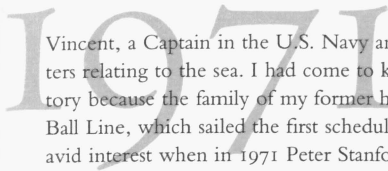
All Saints' Elementary School. For equipment for bugle corps	1,750	Cornell University Medical College. Toward the Astor Library Fund	10,000
American Museum of Natural History. Toward the Centennial Year Fund	250,000	Corporation for Public Broadcasting. For program on drug abuse	250,000
American Museum of Natural History. Toward the Museum's annual West Side Day	10,000	East Harlem Federation Youth Association. For purchase of building at 2247 Second Avenue to serve as EHFYA's community youth center	155,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	75,000	Fleming School. General support	5,000
Berkshire Farm for Boys. For dormitory construction	100,000	Fresh Air Fund. General support	20,000
Boys Harbor, Inc. Toward winterization and construction at camp in East Hampton	75,000	Fund for Peace. Toward the Second National Convention on the Challenge of Building Peace	5,000
Broad Jump, Inc. General support	50,000	Girls' Club of New York. To establish a sound financial base for Lower East Side facility	50,000
Bronx Community College of the City University of New York. For job training program in water safety	3,000	Grace Church of New York City. For Opportunity Project	3,000
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York. Toward the Cardinal Spellman Memorial Fund	330,000	Green Vale School. Scholarships for minority students	10,000
Christian Herald Charities. For follow-up of summer camping program	35,000	Hollow Organization, Inc. Toward development of the concept of the streetworker	5,000
Clinton Youth Center. Toward renovation	25,000	Hurricane Island Outward Bound School. For the construction of two fiberglass power boats	50,000
Collegiate School. Scholarships	5,000		
Community Development Foundation, Inc. General support for New York City community projects program	25,000		

*American Museum of  
Natural History*





International Medical and Research Foundation, Inc. For medical and health education in East Africa	2,500	Roosevelt Hospital. General support	5,000
Knickerbocker Drum and Bugle Corps. For equipment	6,000	Smith College. Toward a College Bound summer program for twenty 6th grade girls from IS 201 in East Harlem	10,000
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. For day camp program	15,000	Sphere, Inc. Toward summer enrichment program for inner city youths held at Connecticut independent schools	10,000
Lower East Side Action Project, Inc. Toward construction and equipment at residence	75,000	Sphere, Inc. Toward summer program	5,000
Madison Square Boys' Club, Inc. Toward new facility in the Bronx	50,000	Sports Foundation, Inc. For year-round sports counseling programs	50,000
Metropolitan Regional Council, Inc. For Bronx housing feasibility study	20,000	St. George's School. For Astor Scholarships	16,200
Miss Porter's School. Toward Development Fund	5,000	St. George's School. For Astor Scholarships	25,000
National Geographic Society. Toward Dr. R.E. Leakey's research project	2,500	St. Luke's Hospital. Toward the establishment of a drug rehabilitation center	350,000
New York University. Toward excavation and research at Aphrodisias	2,500	St. Philip's Community Service Council of Greater Harlem, Inc. For equipment, furnishings, and landscaping at youth center	130,000
New York Urban Coalition. General support	100,000	Teachers, Inc. For a summer training program in the Joan of Arc School District on Manhattan's West Side	70,000
New York Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. Toward non-violence project developed by the Quaker Project on Community Conflict	50,000	Tremont Community College. For a summer remedial education camp	12,000
Operation Crossroads Africa, Inc. General support	2,500	Urban Skills, Inc. General support for community programs	20,000
Our Lady of Victory Church. Toward a summer youth program in the Claremont-Morrisania section of the Bronx	8,800	Visiting Nurse Service of New York. General support	10,000
Polo Grounds Community Association. For summer youth program	8,500	Vocational Foundation, Inc. Toward expansion	40,000
Puerto Rican Forum, Inc. Toward summer education programs	20,000	Wabash College. General support	10,000
		<i>Total Grants for 1970</i>	<i>2,679,250</i>



Vincent, a Captain in the U.S. Navy and a skilled sailor, had a life-long interest in matters relating to the sea. I had come to know something about New York's maritime history because the family of my former husband, Charles Marshall, had owned the Black Ball Line, which sailed the first scheduled ships from South Street. Thus I listened with avid interest when in 1971 Peter Stanford came to describe his plans and dreams for the South Street historic district, then a cluster of dilapidated buildings along Manhattan's waterfront. The Foundation's Trustees began to understand the district's potential and approved \$150,000 in "seed money" to the new South Street Seaport Museum. Over the years the Museum grew. One by one the buildings were restored and the great sailing ships, Wavertree and Peking, came to be moored at the docks, their tall masts providing a marvelous contrast to the giant buildings in lower Manhattan. In 1975 the Foundation gave South Street \$1,000,000, which enabled the Museum to plan for a major expansion. The Rouse Company subsequently took over the development of the Seaport, and the area has become one of the City's most attractive commercial and cultural assets. The Foundation's Trustees, who have approved grants totaling \$2,644,000 to the South Street Seaport Museum, are proud to have had a hand in the evolution of South Street since the beginning.

The Foundation's first large gift to the Metropolitan Museum was made in this year—\$1,000,000 toward the construction of the Michael Rockefeller Wing. Michael was drowned in 1961 in New Guinea, and this magnificent gallery for primitive art is a fitting tribute to his memory.

Abbott House. Toward equipping group homes for children	30,000	Boys Brotherhood Republic of New York, Inc. For the initiation of an endowment fund	40,000
American Hospital of Istanbul. Toward the construction of a new wing	2,500	Boys Brotherhood Republic of New York, Inc. For building repairs	5,500
American Museum of Natural History. Toward the Museum's annual West Side Day	10,000	Broad Jump, Inc. For expansion of the program to include girls	65,000
American Museum of Natural History. Toward <i>Costumes of the East</i> exhibit	5,000	Broad Jump, Inc. For the Society School, a learning environment program at P.S. 126 in Manhattan	25,000
American Youth Hostels, Inc. For a summer recreation program	8,600	Bronx Community College of the City University of New York. For job training program in water safety	4,000
Applied Resources, Inc. Toward a day care construction project	50,000	Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York. For renovation of Ferncliffe Home	250,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	75,000	Cornell University Medical College. General support, in memory of Dr. Connie M. Guion	5,000
Bank Street College of Education. For Day Care Consultation Service	25,000		
Big Brothers, Inc. Toward renovation and operation of group residence	25,000		

Davidson Community Center. General support	5,000	Metropolitan Museum of Art. General support	5,000
East Harlem Center. For youth recreation program	5,000	Metropolitan Museum of Art. Three-year grant toward construction of the Michael Rockefeller Wing	1,000,000
Educational Broadcasting Corporation/ Channel 13 WNET. Toward acquisition of news library	50,000	Museums Collaborative, Inc. For summer project	25,000
Fresh Air Fund. General support	10,000	National Conference of Christians and Jews. General support	5,000
Friends of Puerto Rico, Inc. General support	5,500	National Geographic Society. Toward Dr. R. E. Leakey's Early Man project at Lake Rudolf, Kenya	2,500
Girls' Club of New York. General support	25,000	New School for Social Research. Toward production of film, <i>The Open Classroom</i> , a teacher training program	80,000
Goddard-Riverside Community Center. For demonstration youth leadership project	15,000	New York Urban Coalition. Toward the Haaren High School Mini-School Experiment	25,000
Grace Church of New York City. For Opportunity Project	1,000	Operation Crossroads Africa, Inc. General support	2,500
Greensward Foundation, Inc. For publications on Prospect Park and Brooklyn Botanic Garden	4,250	Old Dartmouth Historical Society. Toward the Whaling Museum's educational program	2,500
Harvard Law School. Scholarships for students from New York City	8,000	Phoenix House Foundation, Inc. Toward acquisition of building at 164 West 74th Street, to serve as a center for treatment of drug abuse and addiction	100,000
Hollow Organizations, Inc. Toward the High School Crisis Squad program	5,000	Puerto Rican Traveling Theatre Company, Inc. For summer outdoor theatre program	15,000
Hudson Guild. Toward youth program	2,000	Richmondtown Restoration, Inc. To establish the historic Bennett House at Richmond Town, Staten Island, as a Children's Kitchen	102,190
Hudson Guild. For the Communicator's Project, an outreach program for the homebound elderly	34,860	Roosevelt Hospital. Capital fund drive	5,000
Interfaith Adopt-A-Building. Toward the Adopt-A-Building program	50,000	Ruppert Green. Toward the development of the site of the former Ruppert Brewery into a garden and recreation area	30,000
International Medical and Research Foundation, Inc. For medical aid and health education in East Africa	2,500	Ruppert Green. General support	20,000
Jobs for Youth, Inc. Toward PRIDE, a junior high school jobs program	15,000	Selfhelp Community Services, Inc. Toward Project Pilot, an outreach program for elderly persons living on Manhattan's Upper West Side	30,000
Jugglers. Toward production costs of the Jugglers, a multi-media children's theater troupe	3,500		
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. Toward an outreach program for the elderly	32,282		
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. For summer day camp program and the construction of an adventure playground	20,000		

South Street Seaport  
Museum



South Street Seaport Museum. Toward PIONEER, a summer marine training program for youth	10,000	United Negro College Fund, Inc. Toward scholarship program	50,000
South Street Seaport Museum. General support	150,000	Venture Raiders, Inc. For staff salaries and equipment at the Morrisania Adventure Playground in the Bronx	14,300
St. Bernard's School. For scholarships	3,000	Visiting Nurse Service of New York. General support	10,000
St. George's School. For Astor Scholarships	18,750	Vocational Foundation, Inc. General support for job training and placement program for youth ages 16-19	40,000
St. John's College. Summer fellowships for NYC public school teachers at the Graduate Institute in Liberal Education, Santa Fe	15,000	Wabash College. General support	10,000
St. Philip's Community Service Council of Greater Harlem, Inc. General support for community service programs	25,000	West Side Montessori School. Toward the acquisition of a building	75,000
Street Life Project. For "Street Life," a research program on utilization of NYC streets and parks	25,000	Women's Prison Association and Hopper Home. Toward Children of Offenders, a program designed to teach women the skills necessary to handle the responsibility of children	27,500
Sweet Briar College. Toward the scholarship fund established in honor of Connie M. Guion	5,000	Young Women's Christian Association. Toward the YWCA's summer camping program at Camp Quannacut	10,000
Taft Church and Community Center. Toward summer day camp programs	6,000	<i>Total Grants for 1971</i>	<i>2,864,232</i>
Third World Associates Group. For a summer recreation program for African-American youths of Fort Greene participating in the Third World Associates Group	500		

# 1972

In 1972, the market was strong and the assets of the Foundation went over \$100,000,000, elevating us to the realm of the “big foundations.” The Trustees felt that it was an opportunity to make a large capital gift to a major institution and approved a grant of \$5,000,000 toward the endowment of The Metropolitan Museum of Art. At that time, under the able leadership of Douglas Dillon, Chairman, and Director Thomas Hoving, who was later succeeded by Philippe de Montebello, the Museum was expanding considerably, and it has become one of the country’s leading cultural institutions. The Foundation’s total contribution to the Museum over the years is \$20,804,364.

Lenox Hill Neighborhood House came to us that year with a most creative program for the elderly. Called the SCOPE Project, it involved teenagers who “adopted” isolated old people on Manhattan’s Upper East Side and saw them on a regular basis, providing welcome companionship and assistance, meals, housekeeping, and other chores. The program, which continues to this day, was a great success and served as a prototype for many others like it throughout the city.

American Museum of Natural History. Toward the Museum’s annual West Side Day	10,000	China Institute in America, Inc. For educational and social programs for young Chinese immigrants	30,000
American Museum of Natural History. Toward the Museum’s Capital Fund Drive	200,000	Collegiate School. For scholarships	5,000
American Museum of Natural History. General support	5,000	Corporation for Public Broadcasting. For program on law and justice	76,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	75,000	East Harlem Block Nursery, Inc. Toward acquisition and renovation of new facility	75,000
Bennett College. Scholarships	5,000	East Harlem Center. For the construction of a playlot on 101st Street in East Harlem	28,000
Boys’ Club of New York. For renovation of New York City facilities	50,000	East Third Street Community Development Association. For an Adventure Playground on East 3rd Street, Manhattan	25,500
Boys Harbor, Inc. For City-to-Country, a weekend camping program for junior and senior high school students	50,000	Eugene O’Neill Memorial Theater Center. Toward the construction of “Showboat,” a floating children’s theater	100,000
Broad Jump, Inc. General support	60,000	Fresh Air Fund. Toward computerization of contributors list	10,000
Bronx Community College of the City University of New York. For the job training program in water safety	7,500	Harvard Law School. Scholarships for students from New York City	3,000
Brotherhood-In-Action, Inc. For three community relations programs	50,000	Hudson Guild. Toward the Communicator’s Project	25,000
Buckley School. For scholarships	2,500	Institute of Fine Arts Foundation. General support	100,000
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York. Three-year grant for centralization of facilities	1,000,000		



Institute of Judicial Administration, Inc. Toward the Juvenile Justice Standards Project, established to provide a standardized approach to the legal problems of juveniles throughout the country	150,000	Old Dartmouth Historical Society. Toward educational programs	2,500
Interfaith Adopt-A-Building. General support	40,000	Operation Crossroads Africa, Inc. Scholarships for students from New York City	7,500
Knickerbocker Drum and Bugle Corps. For equipment	5,460	Puerto Rican Traveling Theatre Company, Inc. For summer outdoor theatre program	15,000
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. For summer program and adventure playground	22,500	Regional Plan Association. Toward "Choices for '76" project	25,000
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. Toward SCOPE, an outreach program for the elderly	36,000	Ruppert Green. General support	17,000
Lower East Side Action Project, Inc. Toward construction of residence	60,000	South Street Seaport Museum. Toward the Marine Training Institute, a program aboard the ferry Hart to train ex-addicts in marine mechanics	73,000
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Toward capital fund drive	200,000	South Street Seaport Museum. Toward the PIONEER marine training program	55,000
Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward the Museum's capital fund drive	5,000,000	South Street Seaport Museum. General support	2,500
Museum of the City of New York. Toward exhibition program	10,000	St. Bernard's School. For scholarships	3,500
Museum of the City of New York. Toward capital fund drive	200,000	Visiting Nurse Service of New York. General support	10,000
Museums Collaborative, Inc. For Museum Summer project	10,000	Wabash College. For scholarships for students from New York City	5,000
Mystic Seaport, Inc. General support	15,000	West Side Montessori School. For scholarships	3,500
National Geographic Society. Toward Dr. R.E. Leakey's work in Africa	2,500	West Village Committee. Toward the establishment of a garden on the triangular lot owned by St. Vincent's Hospital	3,000
National Geographic Society. Toward Dr. R.E. Leakey's work in Africa	2,500	Young Audiences, Inc. General support for performing arts programs in NYC public schools	25,000
New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	1,000,000	<i>Total Grants for 1972</i>	<i>8,993,960</i>

*Lenox Hill  
Neighborhood House*



# 1973

My interest in The Rockefeller University goes back to my childhood. The American Legation in Peking, where I lived, was opposite the Rockefeller Institute, as it was called then, and we used to hear about the extraordinary work against the bubonic plague and other terrible diseases found in China at that time. I learned more about the Institute's accomplishments when I lived in Haiti, where my father was High Commissioner. The Rockefellers sent people down there to study leprosy, elephantiasis, and the dreadful venereal diseases that were common among the populace. When years later I found myself on the Board of The Rockefeller University, it was a great moment for me. The University has attracted the most extraordinarily bright young people and I think is probably one of the finest centers for the study of the human body and mind in the world. In 1973 the Foundation's Trustees were pleased to approve a grant of \$2,000,000 for the establishment of two chairs to be held by scientists working at the University toward solutions for the treatment of cancer. The chairs are presently held by Dr. James E. Darnell and Dr. Paul Greengard.

By the early 1970's, Central Park had really grown very shabby indeed. Everywhere one looked were trees with bare roots, litter, and deteriorating buildings. We were glad to learn of efforts both private and public to address the problems of the park and in 1973 approved two grants, \$15,000 to a group working at Columbia University for the development of a management plan, and \$200,000 to the Department of Parks and Recreation for several renovation projects. Seeing the potential of a public/private partnership for the management of the park, in 1975 Betsy Barlow Rogers founded the Central Park Task Force, which eventually became the Central Park Conservancy. Through its efforts, the park has been restored and New Yorkers can once more be proud of one of the city's most beautiful assets. The Foundation's grants for a variety of programs in Central Park total \$690,900.

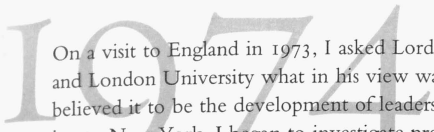
American Museum of Natural History. Toward the Museum's annual West Side Day	5,000	Brooklyn Children's Museum. For construction of the Brooklyn Children's Museum	100,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	75,000	Brotherhood-In-Action, Inc. For three community relations programs	50,000
Bennett College. For scholarships	4,000	China Institute in America, Inc. For youth program in social affairs	30,000
Board of Education of the City of New York. For the development of the Gifted Child Studies Program	360,000	Collegiate School. For scholarships	5,000
Boys Brotherhood Republic of New York, Inc. General support	50,000	Colonial Dames of America. Toward construction of an auditorium adjacent to the Abigail Adams Smith Museum	50,000
Boys' Club of New York. For establishment of a health education program	50,000	Columbia University in the City of New York. For a plan of Central Park	15,000

*The Dairy,  
Central Park*



Designers of Harlem, Inc. For equipment to be used in the Harlem Textile Program	8,000	Institute of Fine Arts Foundation. Endowment	100,000
East Harlem Federation Youth Association. Toward EHFYA's electric bill	2,500	Interfaith Adopt-A-Building. General support	40,000
Educational Broadcasting Corporation/ Channel 13 WNET. For Consumer Help Center	25,000	International Medical and Research Foundation, Inc. For medical aid and health education in East Africa	2,500
Girls Club of New York. General support	6,000	Jobs for Youth, Inc. General support for PRIDE	25,000
Hudson Guild. Toward Communicator's Project	25,000	Korean Church of Queens. For community center education program	5,000
Hudson Guild. Toward Communicator's Project	34,860	L.S.B. Leakey Foundation. To assist the Gombe Stream Research Center in Tanzania	2,500

Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. Toward SCOPE, an outreach program for the elderly	65,000	Si-Yo Music Society Foundation, Inc. General support	5,000
Metropolitan Museum of Art. For Japanese and Chinese sculpture restoration	20,000	South Street Seaport Museum. For the Pioneer Marine Training Program	75,000
Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc. General support	2,000	St. Bernard's School. For scholarships	4,500
Municipal Art Society of New York, Inc. General support	5,000	St. George's School. For Astor Scholarships	18,750
Neighborhood Committee for the Asphalt Green. Toward the establishment of an outdoor youth sports and recreation center on the site of the old municipal asphalt plant on Manhattan's Upper East Side	60,000	St. George's School. For Astor Scholarships	25,000
New York City Department of Parks and Recreation. For Central Park rehabilitation project	200,000	St. John's College. Summer fellowships for NYC teachers; paid over six years	75,000
New York Foundling Hospital. For the establishment of child abuse program at the Foundling	50,000	St. Paul's School. Toward the school's advanced studies summer program	10,000
Operation Crossroads Africa, Inc. For scholarships	2,500	United States Naval Institute. For the establishment of the Vincent Astor Memorial Leadership Essay contest for junior officers and officer trainees	36,850
Parks Council, Inc. General support	30,000	Visiting Nurse Service of New York. General support	10,000
Parks Council, Inc. General support	15,000	Wabash College. For scholarships for students from New York City	4,000
Phelps-Stokes Fund. For educational programs	2,500	West Side Montessori School. For scholarships	5,500
Regional Plan Association. Toward "Choices for '76" project	25,000	West Village Committee. Toward plant materials for St. Vincent's Triangle Garden	3,000
Robert A. Taft Institute of Government. Toward seminars on government and politics for secondary and high school teachers	100,000	Young Women's Christian Association. Toward YMCA-YWCA camping program	25,000
The Rockefeller University. For endowment of two Vincent Astor Professorships to be awarded to scientists working toward an understanding of how to treat and prevent cancer	2,000,000	<i>Total Grants for 1973</i>	<i>3,944,960</i>



On a visit to England in 1973, I asked Lord Noel Annan of Kings College, Cambridge and London University what in his view was the most important aspect of education. He believed it to be the development of leadership, the nurturing of real talent. On returning to New York, I began to investigate programs for gifted children in New York's public schools. It turned out that there were few, and that the Foundation might act as a catalyst to initiate a new program for the city's gifted young students. But to whom could we turn to carry out such an idea? After quite a search, we found at the Board of Education Dr. Virginia Ehrlich, who turned out to be just the person we were looking for. With a Foundation grant of \$150,000, in 1974 she began the Astor Program for Gifted Child Studies at two schools, P.S. 114 in Brooklyn and P.S. 116 in Manhattan. Eventually the classes were held at eight schools in four school districts. The foundation funded the Gifted Child Studies Program for five years at a total cost of \$1,310,000. The program is now entirely supported by the Board of Education, and we are very proud to have given it its start.

In 1974, Channel 13 began what it called its Independence Campaign, a drive to raise a large sum so that it was no longer dependent on grants from the Ford Foundation for the lion's share of its funding. The Trustees, believing that the station had become a very important cultural asset in New York City, approved a grant of \$1,000,000 toward the campaign.

American Museum of Natural History. Toward the Museum's annual West Side Day	5,000	Education Development Center. For costs of films and educational materials to be sent to Dr. R. E. Leakey at the National Museum in Kenya	2,500
Aspira of New York, Inc. Toward Leadership Development Program for Puerto Rican Youth	25,000	Educational Broadcasting Corporation/Channel 13 WNET. Five-year grant toward Independence Campaign: \$750,000 for building program; \$250,000 for program development	1,000,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	75,000	Environmental Action Coalition. For a tree care education program held at five public and parochial schools in Brooklyn Heights	4,225
Board of Education of the City of New York. For the Gifted Child Studies Program	150,000	Floating Hospital. General support	50,000
Boys Brotherhood Republic of New York, Inc. For building repairs	13,050	Fresh Air Fund. Toward computerization of contributors list	15,000
Boys Brotherhood Republic of New York, Inc. General support	50,000	Goddard-Riverside Community Center. For vest-pocket parks program on Upper West Side	15,000
Colonial Dames of America. For Abigail Adams Smith Museum	50,000	Harvard Law School. For scholarships	5,000
East Third Street Community Development Association. Toward the operating costs of East Third Street Adventure Playground	1,650		

Henry Street Settlement Urban Life Center. the renovation of the kitchen and recreation area at the Good Companions Center, a facility for the elderly	74,000	Phelps-Stokes Fund. For Educational Programs	2,500
Hospital Audiences, Inc. Toward professional entertainment for confined persons	50,000	Princeton University. Scholarships for students from New York City	5,000
International Medical and Research Foundation, Inc. For medical and health education in East Africa	2,500	Reading Is Fundamental. Toward the national RIF program	50,000
Jobs for Youth, Inc. Toward job development project	15,000	Robert A. Taft Institute of Government. Three-year grant toward college seminar program	100,000
Korean Church of Queens. For community center program	5,000	South Street Seaport Museum. Toward the façade restoration of 21 Fulton Street	50,000
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. For the modernization of LHNA's elevator	31,000	St. Bernard's School. For scholarships	4,500
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. Toward SCOPE and Telefriend programs	69,523	St. George's School. Three-year grant for Astor Scholarships	75,000
Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward the purchase of Islamic objects	5,000	St. John's College. Summer fellowships for NYC teachers	12,500
Metropolitan Museum of Art. General support	5,000	St. Paul's School. Toward the advanced studies summer program	5,000
Mystic Seaport, Inc. Toward educational program for youth	5,000	St. Paul's School. For scholarships	5,000
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Toward the renovation of offices at the Roy Wilkins Center, a program for ex-offenders	25,000	Third Century Corporation. For a study by the Commission on Critical Choices for Americans	500,000
National Geographic Society. Toward Dr. R. E. Leakey's Early Man Study at Lake Rudolf	2,500	Union Settlement Association, Inc. Toward the construction of Blake Hobbs Park at 104th Street and Second Avenue	42,942
Neighborhood Committee for the Asphalt Green. General support	10,000	Village Committee for the Jefferson Market Area, Inc. To underwrite a five-year program for the maintenance of the Jefferson Market Garden in the West Village	33,600
New York Landmarks Conservancy, Inc. For the Fraunces Tavern Block Study	25,000	Visiting Nurse Service of New York. General support	10,000
New York Landmarks Conservancy, Inc. Toward the Grace Church School Expansion and Historic Preservation Program	25,000	Wabash College. For scholarships for students from New York City	10,000
New York Landmarks Conservancy, Inc. Toward the Grace Church School Expansion and Historic Preservation Program	5,000	West Side Montessori School. For scholarships	5,500
Parks Council, Inc. Toward the construction of a new fence at the Greening of Ruppert site	2,700	West Village Committee. Toward maintenance of the St. Vincent's Triangle Garden	2,500
		Young Audiences, Inc. General support	20,000
		Young Women's Christian Association. Toward YMCA-YWCA camping program	25,000
		<i>Total Grants for 1974</i>	<i>2,777,690</i>

*Gifted Child Studies  
Program*



# 1975

In 1974, the Foundation made grants totaling \$55,000 to the New York Landmarks Conservancy toward the restoration of the nineteenth-century Grace Church houses, which comprise the Grace Church School on 4th Avenue at 10th Street. These were the first of many grants to renovate fine old buildings throughout the city. During the 1970's, the preservation movement gathered momentum, and enterprising organizations such as the Conservancy, the Municipal Art Society, and the Center for Building Conservation embarked on one imaginative project after another. The Foundation's Trustees admired their work, for we believed that New York City's landmarks provide essential contrast to the modern structures of steel and glass that surround us. The Foundation has given nearly \$12,000,000 for the restoration of historic buildings and ships.

In 1975, we approved a grant of \$500,000 to the Commission on Critical Choices, initiated by Nelson Rockefeller to address matters of national concern. But like so many efforts of this kind, in the end it did not accomplish very much of a lasting nature.

1975 marked New York City's fiscal crisis, causing cut-backs in city services and an aura of gloom. In an effort to encourage volunteer self-help at a neighborhood level, Senator Jacob Javits and Osborn Elliott, started—with a \$50,000 grant from the Foundation—the Citizens Committee for New York. The small organization made a difference at that difficult time and continues to help thousands of block associations and other community groups each year.

A Better Chance, Inc. Scholarships for NYC minority students enrolled at preparatory schools	100,000	Big Sisters, Inc. General support of counseling service for children and their families	25,000
American Friends Service Committee, Inc. For completion of pocket park adjacent to East 11th Street Sweat Equity Housing Program	5,000	Board of Education of the City of New York. For the Gifted Child Studies Program	800,000
American Geographical Society. General support	2,500	Boys Brotherhood Republic of New York, Inc. For building repairs and equipment	25,000
American Museum of Natural History. Toward the Museum's annual West Side Day	10,000	Brooklyn Academy of Music. General support	2,500
Animal Medical Center. For medical care for animals belonging to the elderly poor	10,000	Central Park Task Force. Toward staff salaries at CPTF, a privately-funded organization established to work closely with the Dept. of Parks to improve management and operation of Central Park	60,000
Association of Lower East Side Settlements. General support for DAWN, a recreation program for girls ages 10 to 15	50,000	Children's Art Carnival, Inc. General support for community programs in Harlem	2,500
Astor Home for Children. General support	100,000	Citizens' Committee for Children of New York. Two-year grant toward the Citizens' Committee's analysis of New York City's fiscal crisis	60,000
Big Brothers, Inc. To reduce long-term debt obligations	50,000		

Citizens' Committee for New York City, Inc. General support for the Committee's work in encouraging volunteer self-help activities in neighborhoods throughout New York City	50,000	Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward the exhibition <i>American Masterpieces</i> ; \$33,935 for installation, \$65,000 for special issue of the Museum Bulletin	98,935
Congress of Italian-American Organizations, Inc. For consumer information program in Bensonhurst	53,600	Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward the installation of permanent Islamic galleries	10,000
Cooper-Hewitt Museum. Toward renovations	2,500	Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward keeping the Museum open Tuesdays during 1975/76	150,000
East Harlem Tutorial Program, Inc. General support for reading program in East Harlem	5,000	Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc. Toward open air performances in NYC parks	10,000
Environmental Action Coalition. For tree care education program in Queens	5,500	Museum of the City of New York. General support	2,500
Explorers Club. Toward the Threshold Field Program, for NYC youth interested in the field sciences	2,500	Navy Yard Boys' Club. Toward construction of Navy Yard Boys' Club	10,000
Fraunces Tavern Museum. Toward restoration of the Fraunces Tavern Museum	5,000	Neighborhood Committee for the Asphalt Green. General support	10,000
Henry Street Settlement Urban Life Center. To enable staff at the Urban Life Center to stimulate community involvement in Riis Park	11,000	Neighborhood Housing Services of New York City, Inc. Toward home improvement loan fund for residents of Baisley Park area, Jamaica, Queens	20,000
Hurricane Island Outward Bound School. Toward the establishment of the Inner City Resource Team, an Outward Bound program conducted in Harlem	2,500	New York Association for the Blind (The Lighthouse). General support	2,500
Hurricane Island Outward Bound School. Three-year grant toward the Inner City Resource Team in Harlem	75,000	New York Botanical Garden. Toward the Greenworld for Children program	2,500
Juilliard School. General support	5,000	New York Landmarks Conservancy, Inc. Toward the Grace Church School Expansion and Historic Preservation Program	25,000
Inner-City Scholarship Fund, Inc. For scholarships at parochial schools	100,000	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. Endowment; income to be used for general support	1,000,000
Kips Bay Boys' Club, Inc. Toward construction of swimming pool at Bronx headquarters	50,000	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	5,000
Knickerbocker Drum and Bugle Corps. For equipment	10,000	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. For the catalogue to accompany <i>The American Idea</i> exhibition	5,000
Legal Aid Society. Toward legal services to the poor	5,000	New York Urban Coalition. Toward the environment studies program at C. S. 129 in the South Bronx	5,000
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	2,500	New York Zoological Society. For completion of Wild Asia Exhibit	1,600,000



Pierpont Morgan Library. Toward the capital campaign	100,000	Tinker Memorial Fund, Annie Rensselaer. General support. The Fund aids women who have worked for a living but can no longer support themselves financially	2,500
Presbyterian Hospital in the City of New York. Toward the renovation of Babies Hospital	500,000	Venture Fund of the Diocese of New York. Toward the Venture Fund's work to strengthen parishes in the South Bronx	110,000
Reading Is Fundamental. Toward the RIF program in New York City	25,000	Venture Raiders, Inc. For recreation programs at the Morrisania Adventure Playground	5,500
Seamen's Church Institute of New York and New Jersey. Toward the Institute's work in the lower Manhattan community	5,000	Visiting Nurse Service of New York. General support	5,000
South Street Seaport Museum. Toward capital campaign for the development of South Street	1,000,000	Young Women's Christian Association. Toward the YMCA-YWCA camping program	22,500
Stanley M. Isaacs Neighborhood Center, Inc. For the purchase of two new vans for Citymeals-on-Wheels, a meal delivery program for homebound elderly	14,200	<i>Total Grants for 1975</i>	<i>6,463,735</i>
Staten Island Children's Museum. General support	30,000		





# 1976

For a long time I had wanted to have a Chinese Garden at the Metropolitan Museum, a quiet, beautiful courtyard where people could come to hear the ripple of a stream and watch the moving of bamboo trees behind stone fretwork—a retreat from hectic city life. In 1976, the Foundation gave \$400,000 for the planning of such a courtyard under the supervision of Wen Fong, Chairman of the Department of Asian Art. An additional \$600,000 was approved for the purchase of extraordinary furniture from the Ming and Ch'ing periods that had come on the market and that would be incorporated into the new exhibition.

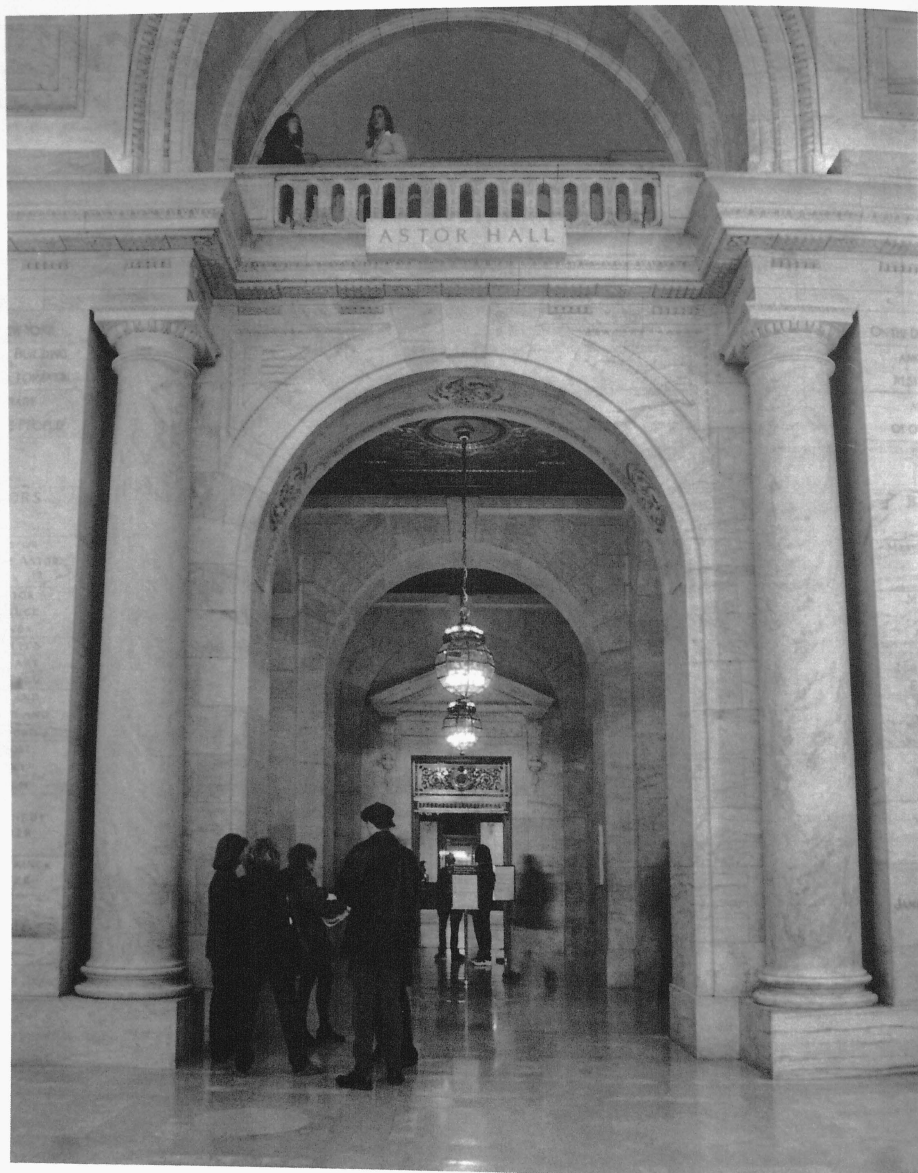
Fortunately, at this moment there was an important breakthrough in this country's cultural relations with China, and the project gained the benediction of Chinese officials. A venerable architect came from Peking with sketches of a courtyard and scholar's room in the Garden of the Fisherman in Soochow, which could serve as a prototype. It was just what we wanted, and the Chinese agreed to build a copy of it in a public park in Soochow. Wen Fong, his wife Connie, and I went to see this copy when it was completed, and we were thrilled by it. Subsequently, a second copy was made for export to this country. The greatest care was taken to ensure that the materials were authentic. A kiln that had been closed for 100 years was reopened to make the tiles on the roof; the mortar to secure them would be made with soot from Soochow, so that the color would be identical to the tiles. When the courtyard was completed, the elements were packed and shipped to New York. Twenty-six workmen followed and spent six months assembling the courtyard at the north end of the Museum. They slept at a neighboring hotel and at 6:45 each morning could be seen walking up the steps of the Metropolitan. A fine chef who came with the workers prepared all their meals in a specially installed kitchen, with a room for ping-pong nearby.

It was a wonderful experience to have the Chinese workmen here, and they cooperated well with the AFL-CIO workers, who were as surprised by their Asian counterparts as the Chinese were astonished by them! The Chinese were a marvelous addition to the life of the Museum and left behind a splendid courtyard, which has been a great satisfaction to me, for it seems to serve the purpose I intended.

American Museum of Natural History. General support	5,000	Broad Jump, Inc. General support	50,000	
Animal Medical Center. Medical care for animals belonging to the elderly poor	10,000	Brooklyn Academy of Music. General support	2,500	
Association of Lower East Side Settlements. General support for DAWN	50,000	Carnegie Hall Society, Inc. Endowment; income to be used for maintenance of the building	25,000	
Association of West Bronx Agencies. Toward the Small Parks program	4,000	Casita Maria, Inc. For office equipment at South Bronx center	5,000	<i>Chinese Garden Court, Metropolitan Museum</i>
Astor Home for Children. General support	100,000	Central Park Task Force. General support	65,000	

China Institute in America, Inc. Contribution to the Institute's capital campaign	50,000	Jobs for Youth, Inc. Toward work-related remedial reading program	15,000
Church of the Transfiguration. Toward an English language program for members of the Chinatown community	14,000	Juilliard School. General support	5,000
Citizens Committee for New York City, Inc. Toward the Citizens Committee for New York City's Park Preservation Fund	5,000	Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. For "Neighbor to Neighbor" program	68,024
Committee for a New J.H.S. 65/I.S. 131 Complex. Toward the Committee's efforts to implement a plan for a new school building	16,720	Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	2,500
Council on the Environment of New York City. Toward Greenmarket, a program to establish farmers' markets in New York City	10,000	Livingston School. Toward the Student Work Fund, which enables students to hold jobs during the school day	2,500
Davidson Community Center. \$3,000 for general support; \$2,000 to be used to purchase typewriters for use in the employ- ment training program	5,000	Magnolia Tree Earth Center of Bedford- Stuyvesant, Inc. Matching funds for a Youth Conservation Corps program	2,500
Economic Youth Enterprises of Red Hook. For recreation equipment	2,500	Metropolitan Museum of Art. For the purchase of a rare example of Persian pottery	10,000
Educational Broadcasting Corporation/ Channel 13 WNET. Toward Independence Fund campaign	500,000	Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward the planning and construction of the Chinese Garden Court; for the acquisition of furniture from the Ming and Ch'ing periods	1,000,000
Episcopal Mission Society. For the Parent- Therapist Program, Harlem	48,337	Metropolitan Museum of Art. For the purchase of two pieces of Persian gold jewelry	10,000
Featherbed Lane Youth Center, Inc. Toward the Small Parks Program and summer youth program	5,000	Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward keeping the Museum open Tuesdays during 1976/77	150,000
Fourth of July in Old New York Committee, Inc. General support	10,000	Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc. Toward open air performances in New York City	10,000
Fresh Air Fund. Toward capital campaign	25,000	Museum of the City of New York. General support	2,500
Goddard-Riverside Community Center. For vest-pocket parks program	20,000	Museums Collaborative, Inc. Toward "Educational Resources Directory" for teachers	10,810
Greater Jamaica Development Corporation. For structural improvements to the building that houses the Jamaica Arts Center	16,580	National Congress of Neighborhood Women. Toward a community-based college program in Brooklyn	2,500
Henry Street Settlement Urban Life Center. To stimulate community interest in Riis Park	35,000	Neighborhood Committee for the Asphalt Green. General support for sports and recreational programs on Manhattan's Upper East Side	10,000
International Medical and Research Foundation, Inc. Toward administrative costs of the New York IMRF office	5,000	New York Botanical Garden. For an environmental program for fifth graders	26,308

New York Botanical Garden. General support	2,500	Society for the Preservation of Weeksville and Bedford Stuyvesant History. Toward the preservation of three houses	2,500
New York City Housing Authority. Toward the flower and vegetable garden competition, summer 1976	25,000	South Street Seaport Museum. General support	5,000
New York City School Breakfast Committee. General support	17,500	South Street Seaport Museum. For security measures and to raise Mathilda, a 19th-century tugboat	100,000
New York City School Volunteer Program, Inc. General support for programs in NYC's public schools	45,000	TIP Neighborhood House, Inc. For TIP's recreation program for girls in the Bronx	34,700
New York Landmarks Conservancy, Inc. Toward a Bicentennial exhibition held in the Custom House	10,000	Teachers College Columbia University. For research projects for Gifted Child Studies program	48,950
New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	10,000	United Neighborhood Houses of New York, Inc. Toward the Joint Supplement Fund, distributed to member houses	1,000,000
New York Urban Coalition. For travel expenses of British educators	15,000	Venture Raiders, Inc. General support	2,500
New York Urban Coalition. For a summer recreation program at C.S. 129 in the Bronx	2,500	Venture Raiders, Inc. For a basketball program and information center in the Bronx	25,000
New York Urban League, Inc. Toward costs of sending women's basketball team to the national championships in New Mexico	2,500	Visiting Nurse Association of Staten Island, Inc. For the purchase of five new cars to be used by nurses on Staten Island	20,000
New York Zoological Society. Toward Kingdom Fund	500,000	Visiting Nurse Service of New York. General support	5,000
New York Zoological Society. General support	2,500	Vocational Foundation, Inc. General support	15,000
Parks Council, Inc. Toward community improvement projects	15,000	We Care. General support for a community- based information center in Harlem	5,000
Pierpont Morgan Library. Toward construction costs of the Library's new wing	500,000	Women's Prison Association and Hopper Home. Toward the Children of Offenders program	50,000
Reading Is Fundamental. Toward the RIF program in New York City	12,500	<i>Total Grants for 1976</i>	<i>5,439,429</i>
The Rockefeller University. Toward the University's capital campaign	500,000		
Seamen's Church Institute of New York and New Jersey. General support	10,000		
Search and Care, Inc. Toward outreach program for the homebound elderly on Manhattan's Upper East Side	20,000		



# 1977

The three institutions that converge on the corner of 70th Street and York Avenue—New York Hospital, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, and The Rockefeller University—constitute one of the world's greatest medical resources. While each institution must be strong in its own right, I feel that the three should work cooperatively, sharing staff and information—acting, whenever possible, almost as one unit. Over the years the Foundation established three chairs at Rockefeller, two at Cornell, and two at Memorial. When in 1977, the Foundation's Trustees approved the grant to endow the Chair of Medicine at Memorial, we expressed the hope that the distinguished physician who held the chair would encourage this spirit of cooperation.

I had been on the board of the New York Public Library since Vincent's death. Although one of New York City's greatest assets, the Library was beset by financial problems. By the mid-1970's hours were cut back, the building on 42nd Street was deteriorating, and morale was very low. Then Richard Salomon was made Chairman, and things began to change. He was a man of determination and imagination and a very hard worker. His energy and optimism were contagious, and as my enthusiasm grew, I began to convey it to the Foundation's Trustees. In 1977 they approved a matching grant of \$5,000,000, to be paid when the Library had raised \$10,000,000. The Board also approved a grant of \$200,000 to match a challenge grant to the Library from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

A Better Chance, Inc. Scholarships for NYC minority students enrolled at preparatory schools	200,000	Boys Brotherhood Republic of New York, Inc. For building repairs and equipment	25,000
American Humane Association. For the training and placement of a hearing dog with a hearing impaired person in New York City	2,500	Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York. Three-year grant to the Cardinal Cooke Educational Scholarship Fund; scholarships to students attending parochial schools in New York City	1,000,000
American Museum of Natural History. Toward the Margaret Mead Anthropological Film Festival	5,000	Central Park Task Force. General support	65,000
Animal Medical Center. Medical care for animals belonging to the elderly poor	20,000	Central Park Task Force. Toward elm tree care in Central and Riverside Parks	5,000
Association of Neighborhood Housing Developers, Inc. Toward a fund distributed to the Association's member organizations for their administrative costs	25,000	Children's Aid Society. Toward construction of a gymnasium and community assembly hall at the Society's Goodhue property on Staten Island	50,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	100,000	Church of the Transfiguration. Toward an English language program for members of the Chinatown community	14,000
Big Sisters, Inc. Toward costs of the Big Sisters office at Bronx Family Court	50,000	Citizens Committee for New York City, Inc. Toward the Emergency Aid Fund to assist victims of the July blackout	5,000

*Astor Hall, New York  
Public Library*



Citizens Committee for New York City, Inc. General support	30,000	International Medical and Research Foundation, Inc. Toward administrative costs of the New York office	5,000
Discovery Rooms for Children, Inc. \$900 to be used for renovation of the Discovery Rooms, a day care program in Washington Heights; the balance for operating costs	2,500	Jobs for Youth, Inc. Toward work-related remedial reading program	15,000
Dome Project, Inc. General support for the Dome Project, an alternative education program on Manhattan's Upper West Side	2,500	Juilliard School. General support	5,000
Downtown Brooklyn Development Association, Inc. Toward the establishment of a community garden in Park Slope, Brooklyn	5,000	Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support for "Neighbor to Neighbor"	53,355
Earth Environmental Group. For a pamphlet about the Hemlock Forest of Bronx Park	3,700	Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	2,500
East Harlem Tutorial Program, Inc. General support	5,000	Lower East Side Community School. General support	2,500
Educational Broadcasting Corporation/Channel 13 WNET. For two pilot programs to precede production of the series <i>The Meanings of Modern Art</i>	250,000	Lower East Side Family Union. General support for work in coordinating services to families in lower Manhattan	20,000
Educational Broadcasting Corporation/Channel 13 WNET. Toward the Independence Fund	100,000	Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. To establish the Vincent Astor Chair of Medicine	1,000,000
Featherbed Lane Youth Center, Inc. General support	5,000	Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc. General support	10,000
Girls Club of New York. \$20,000 for pre-teen program at James Weldon Community Center in East Harlem; \$10,000 for teenage program at East 30th Street clubhouse	30,000	Museum of the City of New York. General support	2,500
Horticultural Society of New York, Inc. For the salary of an Assistant Project Director for the Society's Tree Corps program	25,000	Neighborhood Committee for the Asphalt Green. For renovations and programs at the Fireboat House and Pier at the East River and 90th Street	35,000
Hunter College of the City of New York. To expand the activities of the Teacher Center for Teachers of the Gifted and Talented at the Hunter College Campus	20,000	Neighborhood Committee for the Asphalt Green. General support	10,000
Hurricane Island Outward Bound School To enable the Inner City Resource Team to charter the schooner PIONEER	2,500	New York Botanical Garden. Toward <i>The City in the Forest</i> Exhibition	44,761
Interfaith Adopt-A-Building, Inc. To winterize the Loaisida Town House, a community center on East Fourth Street	1,500	New York Botanical Garden. General support	2,500
		New York City Police Foundation. Toward a slide show, part of a new public tour at the Police Headquarters Building, and for an In-Service Management Training Program	50,000
		New York Foundling Hospital. General support for the Therapeutic Nursery, which treats child abuse cases	70,000
		New York Landmarks Conservancy, Inc. Toward cultural events held at the Custom House during summer 1977	10,000

New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. Challenge grant for the endowment	5,000,000	Seamen's Church Institute of New York and New Jersey. General support	7,500
New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	10,000	Search and Care, Inc. Toward outreach program	30,000
New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support; to partially match NEH challenge grant	200,000	South Street Seaport Museum. General support	5,000
New York Zoological Society. General support	2,500	South Street Seaport Museum. General support	200,000
New York Zoological Society. Toward the Animal Kingdom Fund	500,000	St. George's School. For Astor Scholarships	90,000
Northwest Bronx Community and Clergy Coalition. General support for the Coalition's work in preserving neighborhoods in the Northwest Bronx	50,000	St. John's College. Summer Fellowships for NYC teachers	22,000
Parent Preparation, Inc. Toward family training program in Harlem	5,000	TIP Neighborhood House, Inc. For a recreation program for girls	43,900
Pierpont Morgan Library. General support	5,000	Visiting Nurse Service of New York. General support	5,000
Public Education Association. General support	50,000	Vocational Foundation, Inc. General support	15,000
		Westside Center for Family Services. General support over two years	50,000
		<i>Total Grants for 1977</i>	<i>9,678,216</i>

# 1978

Over the years the Foundation established two funds of \$1,000,000 each to further the work of the Episcopal Church, Vincent's church and mine as well. The income from the Vincent Astor Fund, which is administered by the National Episcopal Diocese, is distributed in grants to parishes throughout the city to meet a particular need—for example, the salary of a new staff member or repairs to a church building. At the Seamen's Church Institute, a fund named for Vincent helps to underwrite the programs that are of such assistance to seamen stopping over in New York City. John Jacob Astor was among the founding members of the institution, which was established in 1828.

At this time Brendan Gill, the charming critic and author who until his death in December 1997 did so much to preserve New York's historic buildings, brought two interesting projects to our attention. The Municipal Art Society needed a proper home for its offices, exhibitions, and gatherings. They found the perfect spot in the Villard Houses behind St. Patrick's Cathedral on Madison Avenue. Built as private townhouses (I went to dinner parties there when I first came to New York), the buildings were eventually acquired by the Archdiocese, which leased them on a long-term basis to the corporation for the new Helmsley Palace Hotel. The east and south wings were to be incorporated into the hotel; the north wing was available for lease, but it needed extensive renovation. As we followed Brendan up and down the cold stairs with flashlights, we began to see the once-elegant building's potential, and soon thereafter the Foundation's Board approved a grant of \$200,000 toward the renovation of what came to be known as The Urban Center. Today the ground floor of the Center, which includes a bookstore, is used constantly for exhibitions, meetings, and seminars; the offices of the Municipal Art Society and other non-profit organizations are housed on floors above.

At the very end of 1978, we heard through Brendan that the Fraunces Tavern block in Lower Manhattan, comprised of five small early nineteenth-century buildings, was threatened with demolition to make way for a parking lot. We hurriedly assembled the Foundation's Board for a special meeting, and a grant of \$250,000 to the New York Landmarks Conservancy was approved, part of the purchase price for the buildings. The interiors of the buildings were converted into attractive apartments, which were rented immediately.

Advocates for Children of New York, Inc. General support	20,000	American Museum of Natural History. General support	250,000
Alley Pond Environmental Center, Inc. General support for the Center's programs in Queens	5,000	Animal Medical Center. \$20,000 for medical care for animals belonging to the elderly poor; \$25,000 for general support	45,000
American Museum of Natural History. General support	5,000	Astor Home for Children. General support	100,000
		Belmont Senior Citizens Organization, Inc. For furniture	2,500

Boy Scouts of America/Greater New York Council. Toward renovations at Camp Kernochan	25,000	Henry Street Settlement Urban Life Center. To stimulate community interest in Riis Park	35,990
Boys Brotherhood Republic of New York, Inc. Three-year grant for building repairs and equipment	75,000	Hurricane Island Outward Bound School. For endowment; the income to be applied to scholarships for students from New York City	100,000
Boys' Club of New York. Three-year grant toward the establishment of an education guidance program at three Boys' Clubs	66,000	Juilliard School. General support	5,000
Broad Jump, Inc. General support	25,000	Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	2,500
Brooklyn Educational and Cultural Alliance. Toward Brooklyn Rediscovery	25,000	Lower East Side Family Union. General support	20,000
Caribbean Council. Support for a program to assist immigrants of West Indian descent living in New York City	5,000	Metropolitan Museum of Art. General support for Islamic Department	10,000
Central Park Task Force. Toward elm tree care in Central and Riverside Parks	2,500	Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward "You're An Artist, Too," a poetry program for children	10,000
Covenant House. Toward establishment of a medical and psychiatric services unit	100,000	Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward construction of the Chinese Garden Court and adjacent gallery	367,575
Dome Project, Inc. For a girls' dance program	3,000	Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward construction of the Chinese Garden Court and adjacent gallery	2,122,425
Downtown Brooklyn Development Association, Inc. General support for the Park Slope community garden	5,000	Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc. General support	10,000
East Harlem Halfway House, Inc. General support	2,500	Municipal Art Society of New York, Inc. Toward production of <i>The Social Life of Small Open Spaces</i> , a film produced by William H. White about urban parks and plazas	2,500
Episcopal Church. To establish the Vincent Astor Fund, which supports projects that strengthen Episcopal ministries in New York City	1,000,000	Municipal Art Society of New York, Inc. Toward construction of the Urban Center in the north wing of the Villard Houses	200,000
Episcopal Mission Society in the Diocese of New York. Toward the Parent-Therapist program in Harlem	27,000	Museum of the American Indian. Toward installation of exhibition <i>Echoes of the Drums</i> , held in the Customs House	25,000
Fresh Air Fund. Toward capital campaign	25,000	Museum of the City of New York. General support	2,500
Girls Club of New York. Toward the purchase of a building on the Grand Concourse in the Bronx	100,000	Museums Collaborative, Inc. Toward the <i>Educational Resources Directory to New York City's Museums, Zoos, and Botanical Gardens</i> , distributed to school teachers	10,000
Girls Club of New York. Toward a city-wide conference on the status of young women	2,500	Neighborhood Committee for the Asphalt Green. General support	10,000
Greater Jamaica Development Corporation. Toward an exhibition space in Queens Borough Hall	8,400		

New York Botanical Garden. General support	2,500	Seamen's Church Institute of New York and New Jersey. For the establishment of the Astor Fund	1,000,000
New York City Mission Society. General support for the New York City Cadet Corps program in the Bronx	7,000	South Street Seaport Museum. General support	5,000
New-York Historical Society. General support for the Society's library	2,500	St. John's College. Six-year grant for summer fellowships for NYC teachers	132,000
New York Landmarks Conservancy, Inc. Toward Conservancy's acquisition of five buildings on the Fraunces Tavern Block	250,000	St. Thomas Community School. Toward fund-raising efforts	2,000
New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	10,000	St. Philip's Community Service Council of Greater Harlem, Inc. To reduce the debt incurred during the construction of St. Philip's Community Youth Center	50,000
New York Zoological Society. For the purchase of a water circulator unit for the Aquarium's scanning electron microscope	2,500	Staten Island Planning Foundation, Inc. General support	5,000
New York Zoological Society. General support	2,500	Synagogue Rescue Project, Inc. Toward a photographic survey of synagogues on the Lower East Side	25,000
New York Zoological Society. Toward increasing the Aquarium's electrical capacity; grant in memory of G. F. Baker, Jr.	110,000	Teachers College Columbia University. For research projects to conclude the work of the Astor Program for Gifted Child Studies	25,836
Old Merchants House of New York, Inc. Toward restoration of the Old Merchants House at 29 East 4th Street, Manhattan	20,000	Tip Neighborhood House, Inc. Toward the young women's track team	31,317
People's Development Corporation. Toward Resource Recovery Program in the Bronx	10,000	Tip Neighborhood House, Inc. To establish an office to concentrate on economic development in the East Tremont section of the Bronx	54,920
Pratt Institute Center for Community and Environmental Development. Toward Pratt Center's Economic Revitalization Project	10,000	Visiting Nurse Service of New York. General support	5,000
Prospect Heights Neighborhood Corporation. \$5,000 toward the summer camp; \$500 for plexiglas windows installed in the "Old 9" building	5,500	Women's Prison Association and Hopper Home. Toward Project Open Door, a job training program for ex-offenders	25,000
Public Education Association. General support for the Bedford Stuyvesant Street Academy, an alternative high school in Brooklyn	55,000	Young Women's Christian Association. Toward capital costs at Camp Greenkill	25,000
The Rockefeller University. Toward the endowment	1,000,000	Youth Village Multi-Service Center. Toward Youth Village Community Garden, the Bronx	2,500
Saint Christopher's Home. Toward renovation of the Center for Family Life, Brooklyn	25,455	<i>Total Grants for 1978</i>	<i>7,759,418</i>



# 1979

Since 1975, the Foundation had given several small grants to the Animal Medical Center for a program that provided free medical care to pets belonging to poor, elderly people. The program served a real need, for so often old people living alone depend on a beloved animal for companionship but cannot afford veterinary bills, which are particularly expensive in New York City. In 1979, the Foundation's Board approved a grant of \$250,000 that would start the Seniors' Animals Veterinary Endowment (SAVE). In 1997, as part of our final distribution, the Trustees established a second such fund to be named after my dogs, Dolly and Maisie.

We learned that Carnegie Hall—a landmark built in 1891 that houses one of the country's most distinguished concert halls—was in dire need of renovation. However, before the large sum required for the work could be raised from public sources and private contributors, a plan had to be prepared. The Foundation's Board approved a matching grant of \$1,000,000 for that purpose. A second grant for a like amount helped to fund the construction involved in lowering the main lobby to street level, so that concert-goers no longer have to scramble up steep steps from the sidewalk on 57th Street.

Representatives from New York University and Cooper Union came to us in 1979 and asked if the Foundation would help to rehabilitate the Astor Place subway station. Considered to be the finest stop on the IRT line when completed in 1904, it was the first station to have an entrance directly into a department store—Wanamaker's. The station has charm, with tiles representing the busy beaver, symbolizing old John Jacob Astor's fur trade, and fancy scrolls over the men's and women's lavatories. Because of the involvement of these educational institutions and the obvious Astor family connection, we were delighted to join other foundations, corporations, and individuals in providing the matching money required by the public agencies, both city and federal. They, of course, provided the lion's share of funding for the multi-million dollar project, which was completed in 1986.

Aging in America, Inc. Toward start-up costs of TempCare, a residential respite care program for the elderly	60,000	Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation. Toward landscaping around new housing on Fulton Street	100,000
All Angels' Church. Toward the establishment of a program similar to the Dome Project at Joan of Arc Junior High School	2,500	Better Bellevue Association, Inc. Three-year grant toward the maintenance costs of Bellevue South Park	15,000
American Museum of Natural History. Toward the Museum's community program	5,000	Broad Jump, Inc. General support	50,000
Animal Medical Center. \$250,000 for the Seniors' Animals Veterinary Endowment; \$25,000 for general support	275,000	Brooklyn Public Library. For Senior Assistants Program, which hires and trains part-time senior aides to organize a variety of special activities for elderly people	35,648
Astor Home for Children. General support	100,000	Caribbeana Council. General support	2,500

*Astor Place  
Subway Station*





Carnegie Hall Society, Inc. For the design and planning of the renovation of Carnegie Hall	1,000,000	Educational Broadcasting Corporation/ Channel 13 WNET. Toward <i>The Meanings of Modern Art</i> series	150,000
Central Park Community Fund. Toward the cost of elm tree care in Central Park	2,500	Fordham University. Toward establishment of an Office for South Bronx Redevelopment Affairs	25,000
Central Park Task Force. General support for the Central Park Conservancy, established to continue the work of the Central Park Task Force	30,000	Frick Collection. General support	2,500
Central Park Task Force. For architects' drawings detailing the restoration of the exterior of the Dairy	29,900	Friends of Riverside Park. Toward the publication of a map and guide for Riverside Park	2,500
Children's Storefront Foundation. Toward renovations at the Children's Storefront building in Harlem	2,500	Girls Club of New York. Toward the renovation of the new Girls' Club building on the Grand Concourse in the Bronx	50,000
Citizens Committee for New York City, Inc. Toward <i>Youthbook: Models and Resources for Youth Programs</i>	5,000	Goddard-Riverside Community Center. General support over two years	50,000
Citizens Housing Planning Council of New York, Inc. Toward establishment of fund in memory of Ira A. Robbins; proceeds to be awarded to an urban planning student who has a demonstrated interest in housing	5,000	Good Old Lower East Side, Inc. General support for neighborhood preservation work	5,000
City of New York Community Board #9. For consultant to Queens Community Board #9 to develop economically viable uses for the LaLance Grosjean buildings, a 19th-century factory complex in Ozone Park	5,000	Horticultural Society of New York, Inc. General support over two years	50,000
Committee for Astor Place, Inc. Toward the renovation of the Astor Place subway station	100,000	James Weldon Johnson Community Centers, Inc. General support over two years	50,000
Community Service Society of New York. Toward the enriched housing program for frail elderly people in the Bronx	25,000	Jobs for Youth, Inc. Toward deficit	30,000
Cornell University Medical College. To establish the Vincent Astor Fund for Medical and Graduate Student Scholarships	1,000,000	Juilliard School. General support	5,000
East Bronx Council on Aging, Inc. General support for the Council's crime victim assistance program	25,000	Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support over two years	50,000
East Harlem Tutorial Program, Inc. Toward the Work-Study Program. Teenage tutors who volunteer during the winter are given jobs in EHTP's summer session	12,000	Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	2,500
		Little Sisters of the Assumption. Toward the Grandmother Program, which trains mature, experienced women to serve the needs of families in East Harlem	12,500
		Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation, Inc. For Vincent Astor Foundation scholarships, given to NYC children of marines toward tuition of college, vocational, or technical school	5,000
		Martin De Porres Community Service Center. General support over two years	50,000
		Metropolitan Museum of Art. General support for Islamic Department	7,500
		Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc. General support	10,000

Museum of the City of New York. General support	2,500	Parks Council, Inc. Toward community volunteer program	40,000
National Portrait Gallery. Toward survey of portraits in New York City, to be incorporated into the <i>Catalogue of American Portraits</i>	15,000	Queens Historical Society. Toward an exhibition about Old Woodhaven Village, intended to show its potential as an historic district	5,000
Neighborhood Committee for the Asphalt Green. Toward energy-related renovations at the Fireboat House	82,000	Riverdale Neighborhood House, Inc. General support over two years	50,000
Neighborhood Committee for the Asphalt Green. General support	10,000	South Street Seaport Museum. Toward the film, <i>Tall Ships of South Street</i>	5,000
New York Botanical Garden. General support	2,500	South Street Seaport Museum. General support	5,000
New York City Police Foundation. Toward efforts to improve 911 system	10,032	South Street Seaport Museum. General support	200,000
New York City Police Foundation. For the training and care of two dogs used by the NYC Police Department to detect bombs	2,500	St. Mark's Church In-the-Bowery. Toward renovation of the church's interior, extensively damaged by fire in 1978	100,000
New York City School Volunteer Program, Inc. General support	50,000	St. Matthew's and St. Timothy's Neighborhood Center, Inc. General support over two years	50,000
New York Foundling Hospital. Toward an electric generator	76,000	Staten Island Children's Museum. Toward the Museum's development planning project	2,000
New York Institute for Child Development. Toward continuing a summer program for learning disabled children at PS 107 in the Bronx	5,000	Tip Neighborhood House, Inc. Staff support and equipment for the young women's track team	54,726
New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	10,000	Tip Neighborhood House, Inc. Toward Bronx 2000, a program to concentrate on economic development in the East Tremont section of the Bronx	250,000
New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. Toward a public relations consultant	24,000	United Nautical Cadets, Inc. For the Bronx-based New York Lancer Drum and Bugle Corps	15,000
New York Urban League, Inc. Toward the renovation of the League's Manhattan branch at 204 West 136th Street	25,000	Urban Academy for Management, Inc. Toward a plan for the Bathgate section of the Bronx	85,000
New York Zoological Society. General support	2,500	Visiting Nurse Service of New York. General support	5,000
New York Zoological Society. Toward the purchase of sharks and related specimens for the Aquarium	2,500	Wave Hill, Inc. Toward an after-school environmental education program in NYC public schools	2,500
New York Zoological Society. Toward the Society's new year-end direct mail solicitation	10,000	Young Devils, Inc. General support for baseball program	2,500
Park Slope Project Reach Youth, Inc. General support	2,500	<i>Total Grants for 1979</i>	<i>4,648,806</i>

# 1980

As the Trustees had supported the Bronx Zoo since 1969, over the years they came to know the neighborhoods surrounding the Zoo. Increasingly concerned by the deterioration of these areas, victims of arson and abandonment, the Board was receptive to proposals from groups working to save housing and encourage economic development in the Bronx. The grants approved for these purposes are too many to list here, but they include \$250,000 to TIP Neighborhood House—started by Phipps Houses, Inc.—for the establishment of South Bronx 2000; \$150,000 to the Northwest Bronx Clergy Coalition for tenant organizing in threatened buildings; \$50,000 to GLIE for the youth employment program at their herb farm in Bathgate; \$200,000 to the New York office of the Local Initiatives Support Corporation, which supports indigenous economic development efforts; and \$85,000 to the Urban Academy toward the plans to build a factory in Bathgate—a project conceived and successfully implemented by Edward Logue, then head of the South Bronx Development Organization. Thanks to courageous, hard-working groups such as these, conditions in many parts of the Bronx began to stabilize.

In 1980, the Foundation approved three grants to organizations at Lincoln Center, exceptions to our guidelines, for we did not normally give to the performing arts. The first, \$1,000,000, was a contribution to the Metropolitan Opera’s centennial campaign. The second was to Lincoln Center, Inc. (\$500,000 toward the operation of the Vivian Beaumont Theater and an equal amount toward endowment for the maintenance of the Lincoln Center plant). A tour through the basements there is fascinating, for the heating and air conditioning pipes are an immaculate tangle that resembles a modern sculpture.

At The Rockefeller University much important work was being done in the field of the neurosciences, and funds were needed for a variety of purposes. The Foundation’s grant of \$5,000,000 was used to establish the Astor Fund for Research in the Neurosciences, to renovate and equip the neurosciences facility, and to endow the Astor Professorship in Neurobiology. The professorship is held by Dr. Torsten Wiesel, who is also president of the University. I often have the pleasure of seeing him there when I stop to walk with my dogs on the beautiful grounds.

Finally, in the spring of 1980, we went on a visit out beyond the old World’s Fair grounds to the Queens County Farm Museum, a nineteenth-century farmhouse that sits on 42 acres of undeveloped land formerly owned by the Creedmore State Hospital. There were an orchard, greenhouses, chickens, and a couple of goats—all part of New York City! This project was just getting started, but it seemed sturdy and obviously had the enthusiastic commitment of the community. We recommended to the Trustees a grant of \$50,000.

A Better Chance, Inc. Scholarships for NYC minority students enrolled at preparatory schools	300,000	American Reading Council, Ltd. Toward the Council’s efforts to improve the teaching of reading in NYC public schools	2,500
American Museum of Natural History. General support	5,000	Asian American Research Institute. Toward the Chinatown History Project	22,000

Astor Home for Children. Toward construction of the Astor Child Guidance Center building in the Williamsbridge section of the Bronx	100,000	Health Video Services, Ltd. Toward <i>Is That What You Want for Yourself?</i> , a film about adolescent pregnancy	2,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	100,000	Henry Street Settlement Urban Life Center. General support over two years	50,000
Brooklyn Botanic Garden Corporation For an audio-visual presentation to be shown to visitors when they first come to the Garden	23,965	John Dewey High School. Toward <i>Fireworks</i> , a newspaper about issues that affect young women	2,500
Center for Building Conservation. Toward the restoration of the Jasper Ward House, a 19th-century mercantile counting-house in the South Street historic district to serve as CBC's headquarters	50,000	Legal Aid Society. For establishment of a unit to train lawyers in the Society's Civil Division in the effective representation of poor persons	141,520
Center for Population and Family Health, Columbia P & S. General support for CPFH's work in the Washington Heights community	25,000	Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	2,500
Central Park Task Force. Toward the renovation of a room in the Belvedere Castle to be used by the Urban Park Rangers	50,000	Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Inc. Endowment toward the maintenance of those portions of the physical plant that are Lincoln Center, Inc.'s responsibility	500,000
Children's Aid Society. For office and program equipment at the Society's newly renovated children's center, part of the Goodhue complex on Staten Island	25,000	Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Inc. General support over two years for the Vivian Beaumont Theater	500,000
Churchill School. Toward two seminars to provide teachers, school personnel, and parents with training and information about learning disabled children	2,500	Local Initiatives Support Corporation. Toward LISC's work to revitalize deteriorating communities in the South Bronx	100,000
Citizens Committee for New York City, Inc. General support over two years	50,000	Lower Manhattan Cultural Council. General support	5,000
Department of State. For establishment of the James Clement Dunn Award, given annually to a mid-career foreign service officer	100,000	Marine Corps Command and Staff College Foundation, Inc. For the establishment of the Major General John H. Russell Endowment Fund; income to support the study of leadership, ethics, and related professional issues at the Marine Corps	100,000
Featherbed Lane Youth Center, Inc. To replace furniture and supplies burned in storefront fire	5,000	Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation, Inc. For Vincent Astor Foundation Scholarships	5,000
Fordham University. General support for the Office for South Bronx Redevelopment Affairs	25,000	Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward the bi-annual meeting of the International Advisory Committee of Keepers of Public Collections of Graphic Art	2,500
Frick Collection. General support	2,500	Metropolitan Museum of Art. General support for Islamic Department	7,500
Friends of Tompkins Square Park. Toward a professional tree care program	2,500	Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward construction of the Chinese Garden Court and adjacent gallery	275,000
Harvard College. Scholarships for students from New York City	10,000	Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward construction of the Chinese Garden Court and adjacent gallery	860,000



Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc.  
Toward the Centennial Fund campaign;  
income to be allocated to the maintenance  
and operation of the Opera House 1,000,000

Morningside Area Alliance, Inc. Toward  
renovation of the Old Stone Gym, in which  
recreation programs are held for girls and  
boys ages 9 to 18 25,000

Museum of the City of New York. For  
endowment 100,000

Museum of the City of New York.  
General support 2,500

National Trust for Historic Preservation.  
Toward the Trust's Annual Meeting and  
Preservation Conference 2,500

Neighborhood Committee for the Asphalt  
Green. For the purchase of wind and  
photovoltaic systems, part of the energy  
education program at the Fireboat House 13,000

Neurosciences Research Foundation, Inc.  
Toward the establishment and operation  
of the Neurosciences Institute at The  
Rockefeller University 500,000

New York Botanical Garden.  
General support 2,500

New York City Mission Society.  
For endowment 50,000

New York City Neighborhood Open Space  
Coalition, Inc. General support 2,500

New York Landmarks Conservancy, Inc.  
Toward the restoration of the stained glass  
windows at the Church of St. Ann and the  
Holy Trinity in Brooklyn Heights 100,000

*BEC Towers,  
Brooklyn, a LISC  
housing renovation  
project*

New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	10,000	Ruppert Green Community. For a feasibility study on the future uses of the vacant block on Manhattan's Upper East Side where the Ruppert Green Garden was located	5,000
New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. Toward a public relations consultant to work on special projects for the Library	15,000	School Settlement Association, Inc. General support over two years	50,000
New York Zoological Society. Toward the Animal Kingdom Fund; income to be used for the operation and maintenance of the Wild Asia exhibit	500,000	South Street Seaport Museum. General support	5,000
New York Zoological Society. Toward the Society's work in the Sudan	5,000	St. Mark's Church In-the-Bowery. Toward renovation	50,000
New York Zoological Society. General support	2,500	Stanley M. Isaacs Neighborhood Center, Inc. General support	50,000
New York Zoological Society. General support	5,000	Studio Museum in Harlem. Toward renovation of the Museum's new building at 144 West 125th Street	50,000
Northwest Bronx Community and Clergy Coalition. General support over two years	50,000	Teachers & Writers Collaborative. General support for Artists & Elders, a program designed to involve elderly people in the art of creative writing	26,500
Old Merchants House of New York, Inc. \$40,000 toward restoration; \$4,000 for production of postcards	44,000	United Federation of Teachers. For air fares of 16 Teacher Centers Consortium members who visited London Teacher Centre sites and schools	7,000
Parks Recreation Fund. Toward the Regional Parks Conference held in Prospect Park	2,500	United States Naval Institute. To endow the Vincent Astor Memorial Leadership Essay Contest	100,000
Pierpont Morgan Library. General support	5,000	Village Committee for the Jefferson Market Area, Inc. Toward the maintenance and security of the Jefferson Market Garden	27,000
Pierpont Morgan Library. Toward the installation of ultra-violet filter to eliminate natural light from the Library's East Room	41,729	WNYC Foundation. Toward <i>Senior Edition</i> , a daily radio program for the elderly	50,000
Prospect Park West Association. Toward the Historic Structure Report for the Litchfield Mansion in Prospect Park, Brooklyn	20,000	Washington Heights and Inwood Development Corporation. General support for WHIDC's work in northern Manhattan	5,000
Public Education Association. General support for Bedford Stuyvesant Street Academy	60,000	The Writers Room, Inc. General support for facility that provides quiet work space for writers	3,000
Queens County Farm Museum. General support	50,000	Young Women's Christian Association. Toward the construction of a housing unit for faculty at Camp Greenkill	25,000
Queensboro Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, Inc. Toward the move from a large shelter to a smaller building	50,000		
The Rockefeller University. For the establishment of the Astor Fund for Research in the Neurosciences	5,000,000	<i>Total Grants for 1980</i>	<i>11,566,714</i>

# 1981

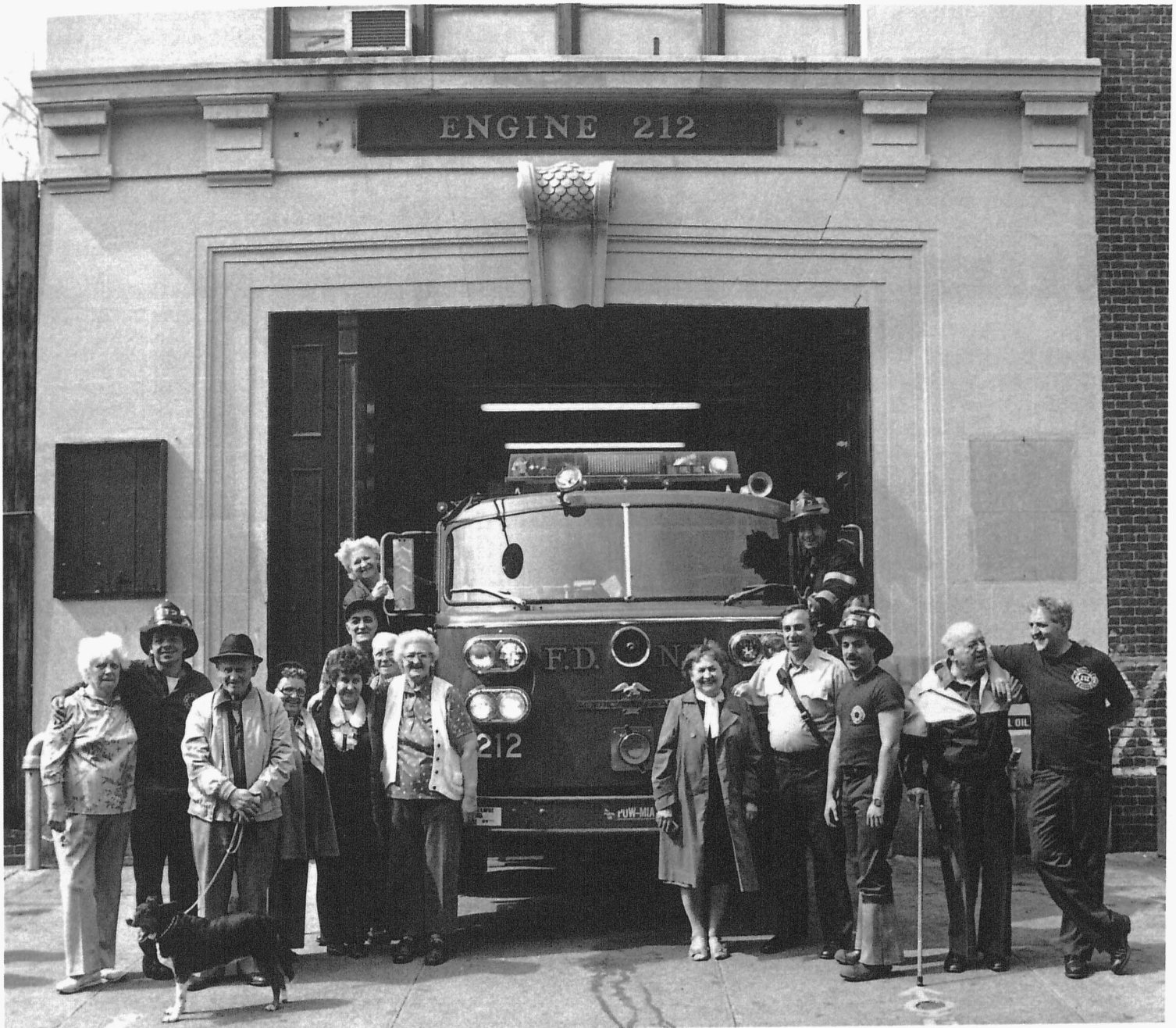
The Pierpont Morgan Library is a brilliant gem in the heart of New York. The building appears to be small, but it contains a vast treasure consisting mainly of drawings, rare books, and manuscripts. Under the able leadership of two directors, Charles Ryskamp and then Charles Pierce, the library has been very active with many new acquisitions and exhibitions. A new wing that houses offices, storage, and a courtyard where one can have tea or a light lunch has been a great success. The Foundation's grant of \$1,000,000 in 1981 went toward the endowment for the Library's Department of Printed Books and Bindings.

In 1981, federal cuts for scholarships were having a serious effect upon colleges and universities. The Foundation had not given a great deal in the field of undergraduate education, but at that time we felt that an exception was appropriate. With a grant of \$1,000,000, the Vincent Astor Presidential Scholarships were established at Columbia College. The President's office sends our Trustees profiles of the Astor Scholars each year, and we are always impressed by the many achievements of these talented young people.

During the fiscal crisis, the city announced plans to close Engine Co. 212 in the Northside community of Williamsburg, Brooklyn. The local people, justifiably proud of their clean, stable neighborhood, recognized the dangerous implications of such a move and for a year and four months, night and day, occupied the firehouse. The city finally relented, and a strong little neighborhood organization emerged to work on problems relating to housing and arson. In 1981, the Foundation made the first of three grants totaling \$158,514 to further the work of People's Firehouse.

Alley Pond Environmental Center, Inc. For an exhibition of small indigenous animals	3,500	Boys Brotherhood Republic of New York, Inc. For endowment: income to defray operating and maintenance costs of the BBR building	1,000,000
American Museum of Natural History. Toward special programs in education department	2,500	Broad Jump, Inc. General support for Prep for Prep, a program that identifies talented public school students in their 5th grade year and prepares them for enrollment in private secondary schools	2,500
American Museum of Natural History. General support	5,000	Bronx Frontier Development Corporation. Toward greening and nutrition program in the Bronx	25,000
American Reading Council, Ltd. Toward a reading center in East Harlem	25,000	Bronx Museum of the Arts. Toward renovation of the Bronx Museum's new building on the Grand Concourse	50,000
Animal Medical Center. For the establishment of the Astor Chair of Comparative Medicine	500,000	Brooklyn Public Library. Second grant for the Senior Assistants Program	12,882
Art Commission of the City of New York. To reprint <i>City Hall—A Guide to its Art and Architecture</i>	4,000		
Astor Home for Children. General support	100,000		

*People's Firehouse,  
Brooklyn*





Casita Maria, Inc. General support over two years	50,000	Inwood-Heights Parks Alliance. Toward the establishment of a Community Parks Resource Center in Northern Manhattan	5,000
Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine. Toward the salaries of apprentices working in the stoneyard	100,000	Jamaica Service Program for Older Adults, Inc. Toward JSPOA's services for poor and near-poor elderly residents of Southeast Queens	50,000
Central Park Conservancy. Toward plans for the restoration of Central Park's Great Lawn area	50,000	Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	2,500
Citizens Committee for New York City, Inc. Toward a city-wide tree match program	10,000	Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. For the development of a program to provide protective services to the frail elderly	50,000
City of New York Municipal Archives. For the cataloguing and restoration of original drawings and other papers relating to the Brooklyn Bridge	25,000	Madison Square Boys' Club, Inc. General support for Madison Square's two clubhouses in the Bronx	25,000
Coalition for the Homeless. General support	25,000	Maternity Center Association. Two-year grant to develop alternative services to hospital obstetric care in low-income areas	39,000
Columbia University in the City of New York. For the establishment of the Vincent Astor Scholarship Fund; income to be awarded to students at Columbia College	1,000,000	Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward the Museum's endowment; income to be used first to meet the costs of the Astor Court	5,000,000
Committee To Oppose the Sale of St. Bartholomew's Church, Inc. General support	5,000	Municipal Art Society of New York, Inc. \$50,000 toward the completion of public spaces in the Urban Center; \$50,000 general support	100,000
Committee To Oppose the Sale of St. Bartholomew's Church, Inc. General support	3,500	Municipal Art Society of New York, Inc. Toward the public education efforts of the Committee to Save St. Bartholomew's	10,000
Committee To Oppose the Sale of St. Bartholomew's Church, Inc. General support	10,000	Museum of the City of New York. General support	2,500
Community Service Society of New York. Support for SERVE, a volunteer program for the elderly on Staten Island	24,882	National Maritime Historical Society. Toward the restoration of Wavertree	50,000
Cranberry Street Association. Toward efforts to save a wooded area adjacent to Squibb Park in Brooklyn Heights	2,500	Neighborhood Committee for the Asphalt Green. General support	10,000
Drawing Center, Inc. General support	5,000	New York Botanical Garden. General support	2,500
Fordham University. General support for the Office of South Bronx Redevelopment Affairs	25,000	New York City Neighborhood Open Space Coalition, Inc. General support	2,500
GLIE Community Youth Program, Inc. Toward the Youth Employability Program in the South Bronx	50,000	New York City Partnership, Inc. Toward the Youth Employment Task Force, providing private sector summer jobs for disadvantaged youth	60,000
Geri-Pare, Inc. Toward the Home Repair Program in Brighton Beach, Coney Island, and Sheepshead Bay	5,000		
Hamilton-Madison House. General support over two years	50,000		

New York City Police Foundation. Toward the Alcoholic Unit Counseling Service of the NYC Police Department	10,000	Sleepy Hollow Restorations, Inc. Toward Sleepy Hollow Restoration's celebration of the Washington Irving Bicentennial	100,000
New York Energy Conservation Fund. General support	25,000	South Street Seaport Museum. Toward <i>Tall Ships of South Street</i> exhibition	5,000
New York Landmarks Preservation Foundation, Inc. Toward the mid-town Manhattan inventory of the Urban Cultural Resources Survey	70,000	South Street Seaport Museum. General support	5,000
New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	10,000	St. George's School. For the endowment of the Vincent Astor Scholarships	1,000,000
New York Zoological Society. For the acquisition of five Coquerel Sifakas, brought from Madagascar	7,500	St. Philip's Community Service Council of Greater Harlem, Inc. To pay in full St. Philip's mortgage loan, taken out during the construction of St. Philip's Community Youth Center	418,000
New York Zoological Society. General support	5,000	Staten Island Children's Museum. \$25,000 toward the exhibition <i>Once upon an Island</i> ; \$10,000 to eliminate the 1980 deficit	35,000
New York Zoological Society. General support	2,500	Teachers College Columbia University. To follow up on the first two classes in the Astor Program for Gifted Child Studies	15,600
New York Zoological Society. For the plans to redevelop the six Beaux Arts buildings and open space which comprise Zoo Court	600,000	Trust for Public Land. For TPL's work in acquiring land for public use on Staten Island	20,000
New York Zoological Society. To supplement the landscaping and maintenance at the Zoo and Aquarium	24,827	United Nautical Cadets, Inc. General support for the New York Lancer Drum and Bugle Corps.	6,125
People's Firehouse, Inc. For an Outreach Coordinator to work on arson prevention in the Northside, Greenpoint, and Williamsburg sections of Brooklyn	25,000	Urban Adventures. Toward an experiential education program at South Bronx High School	2,500
Philharmonic-Symphony Society of New York, Inc. General support	5,000	Washington Heights and Inwood Development Corporation. General support	5,000
Pierpont Morgan Library. To endow the Library's Department of Printed Books and Bindings	1,000,000	Willoughby House Settlement, Inc. General support over two years	50,000
Pierpont Morgan Library. General support	5,000	Women's Prison Association and Hopper Home. General support	50,000
Planned Parenthood of New York City, Inc. General support	50,000	The Writers Room, Inc. General support	2,500
Queens County Farm Museum. For completion of the interior restoration of the Queens County Farm Museum	50,000	<i>Total Grants for 1981</i>	<i>12,189,816</i>
Ruppert Green Community. Toward efforts to preserve the Ruppert Green Garden	5,000		

# 1982

Ever so often public buildings require a bit of housekeeping, usually involving a woman's hand. The Governor's Room, City Hall's official receiving room, comprises three majestic rooms looking over City Hall Park. When in 1982 we went with Beth Straus, President of the Art Commission, to see the Governor's Room, the curtains and upholstery were in tatters and the walls had not been painted in years. The Foundation's matching grant of \$40,000 helped to leverage the money required to put the room in good order. Gracie Mansion, built in 1799 and now the Mayor's residence, is a beautiful house, but it had not had attention in a long while. The front porch was falling down, the kitchen was inefficient, and the furniture shabby. Thanks to the energetic efforts of Joan Davidson, in 1982 the Gracie Mansion Conservancy was formed and undertook the restoration of the house. The Foundation paid for a new passageway between the house and the main reception room, the Susan Wagner Wing.

In 1982, the Foundation's Trustees became concerned with the plight of the many homeless people in New York City. That summer the New York Times wrote of a remarkable young lawyer, Robert Hayes, who had brought legal action against the city on behalf of the homeless. We met him and subsequently approved the first of three grants to support his new organization, the Coalition for the Homeless. Mr. Hayes told us about two Franciscans, Father John Felice and Father John McVean, brothers at the Church of St. Francis on 31st Street. They had acquired an old single-room occupancy hotel on Lexington Avenue and 24th Street and had transformed it into a residence for homeless, mentally unstable people. What is so wonderful about this extraordinary place is that the residents can stay there for the rest of their lives. Each person has his or her own room—their home. The residence, which charges a modest rent, runs on a break-even basis and has become a model for other such buildings in New York. The Foundation contributed \$100,000 toward the renovation of a second St. Francis residence and subsequently has helped to finance others like it, including one organized by the 87th Street Block Association on Manhattan's Upper West Side and another by the Neighborhood Coalition for the Homeless on the East Side.

American Museum of Natural History. For renovation of the Museum's cafeteria and other public service areas	1,000,000	Boys' Club of New York. Toward the expansion of the Pitt Street clubhouse on Manhattan's Lower East Side	250,000
American Museum of Natural History. General support	5,000	Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York. Toward the Cardinal Cooke Educational Scholarship Fund; scholarships to students attending parochial schools	200,000
Art Commission of the City of New York. Toward the renovation of the Governor's Room, a three-room suite which serves as the official receiving room in City Hall	40,000	Church of Saint Luke in the Fields. Toward rebuilding St. Luke's, which was destroyed by fire in March, 1981	100,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	100,000	Citizens Committee for New York City, Inc. General support over two years	50,000

*St. Francis Residence*



Colony-South Brooklyn Houses. General support over two years	50,000	Episcopal Mission Society in the Diocese of New York. Toward staff salaries and a wheel alignment machine for the EMS automotive job training and placement program in the South Bronx	36,435
Cornell University Medical College. For the establishment of the Vincent Astor Distinguished Professorship in Medicine	1,250,000	Franciscan Handmaids of Mary. Toward the renovation of the Day Care Center in Harlem	2,500
Dome Project, Inc. For two staff positions	22,000	GLIE Community Youth Program, Inc. For the purchase and renovation of a two-family apartment building, used by GLIE as an emergency shelter for youth	20,200
The Door. General support	50,000	Geri-Pare, Inc. General support for the Home Repair Program	2,500
Educational Broadcasting Corporation/ Channel 13 WNET. General support	5,000	Good Old Lower East Side, Inc. General support	2,500
El Puente. To repair the boiler at a new youth center in Williamsburg, Brooklyn	2,500		

Gowanus Canal Community Development Corporation. For the development of a comprehensive land use and zoning plan	49,250	National Alliance Against Violence. Toward a campaign to educate the public about the dangers of handgun ownership	50,000
Gracie Mansion Conservancy. Toward the construction of a passageway between Gracie Mansion and the Susan Wagner Wing, part of the Gracie Mansion renovation	200,000	Neighborhood Committee for the Asphalt Green. General support	10,000
Green Guerillas, Inc. General support	20,000	New York Botanical Garden. General support	2,500
Horticultural Society of New York, Inc. Two-year grant toward the Society's urban gardening program	50,000	New York City Neighborhood Open Space Coalition, Inc. General support	25,000
Housing Symphony Orchestra, Inc. General support	5,000	New York City Partnership, Inc. Toward the initial costs of the NYC Partnership's Housing Task Force	50,000
Independence House. General support for youth residence	2,500	New York Landmarks Conservancy, Inc. Toward research about the grounds surrounding the Alice Austen House, a landmark on Staten Island	4,450
Institute of Judicial Administration, Inc. Toward dissemination of information contained in the Juvenile Justice Standards	39,952	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	10,000
Interschool. General support	2,500	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. To establish a fellowship, awarded on a rotating basis to one of the six professional librarians who head the major administrative departments of the Research Libraries	1,000,000
Kips Bay Boys' Club, Inc. Toward an outdoor recreation facility at the Bronx clubhouse	150,000	New York Urban Coalition. Toward the Coalition's Local School Development Project	50,000
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	2,500	New York Zoological Society. General support	2,500
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	2,500	Parks Council, Inc. For additional supervisory staff in the Parks Council's summer work/study program	20,000
Local Initiatives Support Corporation. Toward LISC's efforts to revitalize deteriorating neighborhoods in the South Bronx	100,000	People's Firehouse, Inc. Toward increased administrative staff and services at People's Firehouse	40,916
Manhattan Theatre Club, Inc. General support	2,500	Philharmonic-Symphony Society of New York, Inc. General support	5,000
Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc. General support	5,000	Pierpont Morgan Library. Toward the purchase of a manuscript by Robert Schumann	10,000
Museum of the City of New York. Toward the development of an educational program for learning disabled and emotionally disturbed children	5,000	Pierpont Morgan Library. Toward the cleaning of the exterior of the original Morgan Library building	50,000
Museum of the City of New York. General support	2,500		
National Academy of Design. For the renovation of the Academy's fourth floor galleries	65,000		

Planned Parenthood of New York City, Inc. General support	50,000	Trust for Public Land. Toward a restoration project in Sunnyside Gardens, Queens	2,500
Prospect Park Administrator's Office. For renovation of the Lefferts Homestead, a Dutch Colonial farmhouse now located in Prospect Park	30,100	Trust for Public Land. Toward TPL's work in acquiring land for public use on Staten Island	60,000
Public Education Association. General support for Bedford Stuyvesant Street Academy	5,000	Trustees of the Northern Dispensary of the City of New York. Toward the renovation of the Dispensary's Greek Revival building on Waverly Place	22,550
Search and Care, Inc. Toward outreach program	25,000	University Settlement. General support over two years	50,000
Sheltering Arms Children's Service. Toward a fire escape for new residence for adolescent girls in the Bronx	5,000	Urban Adventures. Toward an experiential education program at South Bronx High School	25,000
Snug Harbor Cultural Center, Inc. Toward renovations	30,000	Village Nursing Home, Inc. Toward renovation	50,000
South Bronx 2000 Local Development Corporation, Inc. General support	75,000	Vocational Foundation, Inc. General support over two years	60,000
South Street Seaport Museum. General support	400,000	Washington Square Association Music Fund. Toward the 25th anniversary year of the Washington Square Music Festival	5,000
South Street Seaport Museum. General support	5,000	Westside Ecumenical Ministry to the Elderly, Inc. Toward outreach programs for the homebound elderly	25,000
Sports for the People, Inc. For Sportsfest, a city-wide sports event for people sixty and over	44,616	The Writer's Room, Inc. General support	2,500
St. Francis Friends of the Poor, Inc. Toward the purchase and renovation of 155 West 22nd Street, the second St. Francis Residence, a self-supporting residential facility for the homeless	100,000	Yorkville Civic Council. For campaign to recruit new volunteers for the Yorkville Volunteer Center	5,000
St. Mark's Church In-the-Bowery. Toward renovation	25,000	Yorkville Emergency Alliance. General support; funds distributed to organizations adversely affected by federal budget cuts	5,000
Staten Island Children's Museum. Toward the renovation of SICM's new building at the Snug Harbor Cultural Center	100,000	Young Women's Christian Association of Brooklyn. Toward a new heating system at the YWCA in downtown Brooklyn	25,000
Tip Neighborhood House, Inc. General support over two years	50,000	<i>Total Grants for 1982</i>	<i>6,580,469</i>

# 1983

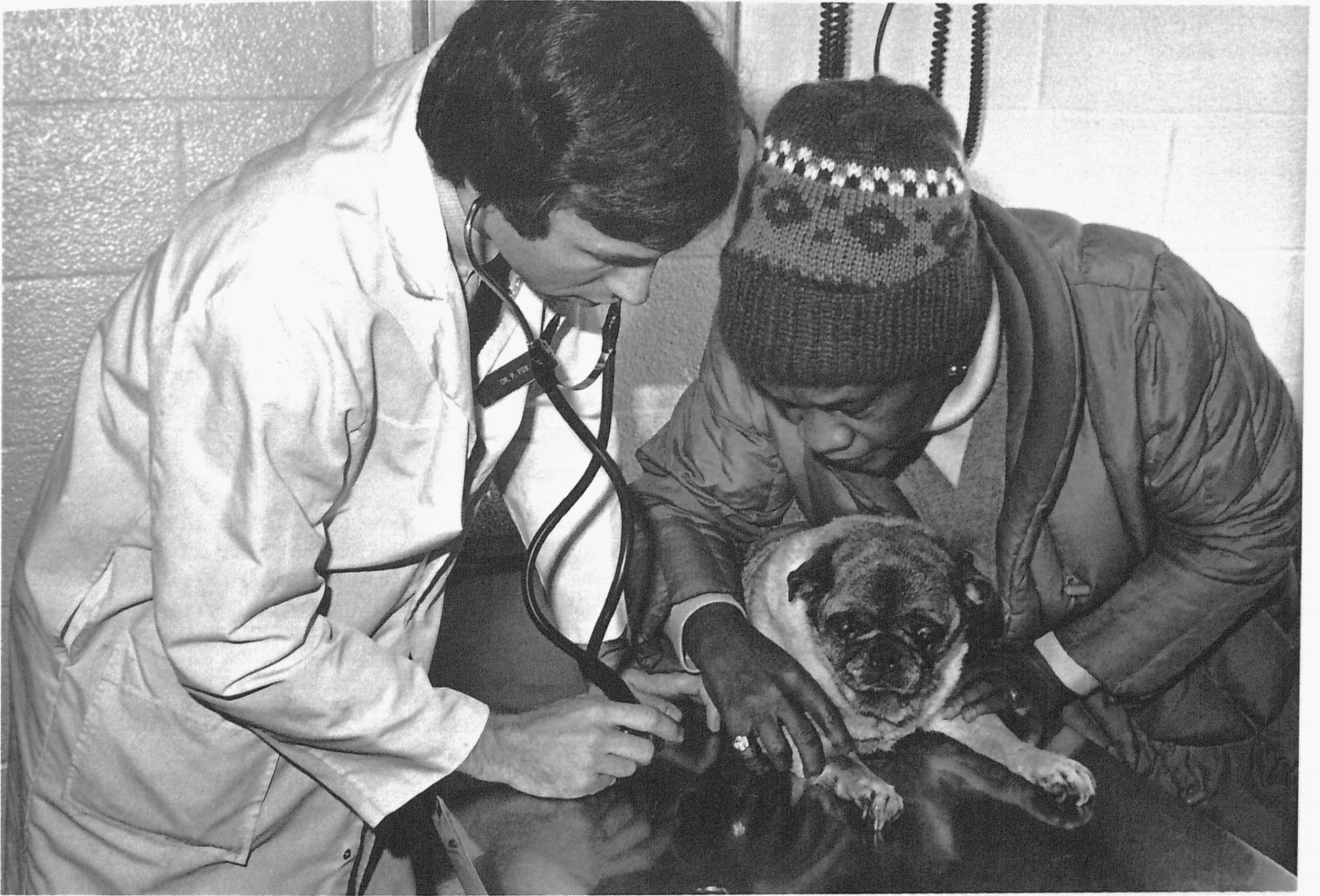
In 1983, the Board went all out for two of the city's large museums, the Brooklyn Museum and the Metropolitan. Brooklyn, at the edge of Prospect Park, is a beautiful museum with especially fine collections of classical antiquities and American decorative arts. In recent years an energetic and imaginative staff has undertaken an extensive and much needed renovation of the nineteenth-century building. The Foundation's grant of \$1,000,000 paid to refurbish the West Wing, which formerly housed the Museum's art school. The Trustees were particularly pleased to make this grant, for Brooklyn, New York's largest borough, has important cultural institutions that have difficulty in securing the large private donations attracted by the better known ones in Manhattan.

At the Metropolitan, there were lots of projects afoot. Planned for 1985 was an exhibition of magnificent paintings, furniture, and objects from the collection of the Princes of Liechtenstein. The Foundation's grant of \$400,000 helped to underwrite the costs of the exhibition, which because of the scale and dazzling variety of the collection, were considerable. In addition, the Foundation contributed \$88,000 for a film about the construction of the Astor Court and \$135,429 for the purchase of a rare 15th-century helmet from the collection of Lord Astor of Hever.

One of the Foundation's Trustees had become interested in the Philharmonic's All-City High School Concert and took us to hear a rehearsal. Each year 100 top instrumentalists from the city's high schools work for four months with members of the Philharmonic orchestra. Then the students and their mentors, sitting beside each other, play a concert on the stage of Avery Fisher Hall. Although the Foundation gave little in the performing arts, our Trustees were convinced that this particular concert, which provides such pleasure to seasoned and young musicians alike, should be underwritten. We joined the Edward S. Noble Foundation in contributing \$350,000 to its endowment.

Ellis Island, looming majestically near the Statue of Liberty, was built as the primary port of entry for immigrants coming to this country. However, by 1954 the buildings were obsolete and were closed by the Immigration Service. In 1983, we visited—a haunting experience, for in the vast vaulted main room looking out onto the Manhattan skyline, one could almost hear the footsteps and voices of the millions of people who passed through on their way to a new life. The Foundation's grant of \$500,000 helped to transform the building into an Immigration Museum.

American Museum of Natural History. General support	5,000	Broad Jump, Inc. General support for Prep for Prep, a program that identifies talented public school students in their 5th grade year and prepares them for enrollment in private secondary schools	50,000
American Reading Council, Ltd. General support for the Friendly Place	25,000		
Animal Medical Center. Toward the endowment of the Center's emergency services	250,000	Brooklyn Bridge Centennial Commission, Inc. Toward the operational expenses of the <i>Brooklyn Anchorage Show</i> , a temporary exhibition in the anchorage of the Brooklyn Bridge	25,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	100,000		



Brooklyn Museum. Toward the conversion of the Museum's West Wing into galleries 1,000,000

Carnegie Hall Society, Inc. Toward the renovation of Carnegie Hall's main lobby 1,000,000

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York. Toward renovations at the Kateri Residence, a nursing home on Manhattan's Upper West Side 450,000

Center for Building Conservation. Toward the restoration of the Jasper Ward House 50,000

Central Park Conservancy. Toward the restoration of the Conservancy Garden 2,500

Children's Art Carnival, Inc. General support 2,500

Chinatown Planning Council, Inc. General support over two years 50,000

Church of Saint Luke in the Fields. Toward the rebuilding of St. Luke's 100,000

Church of the Holy Trinity. Toward renovations at St. Christopher's House, a community center in Yorkville 50,000

Coalition for the Homeless. General support over two years 60,000

College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University. Toward the Physicians and Surgeons Scholarship Fund 10,000

Committee for Astor Place, Inc. For plans for the kiosk to be reconstructed above the Astor Place subway station 5,000

*The Animal Medical Center*



Community Resource Exchange, Inc. General support	2,500	Intrepid Museum Foundation, Inc. For the renovation of Intrepid's forecastle area, to become an education center	270,000
Cooper-Hewitt Museum. Toward construction of a new wing	200,000	La Guardia Community College. Toward a program to train veterinary assistants in the animal health field	5,000
Correctional Association of New York. For a study about the scope and effect of idleness in New York State prisons	15,000	Legal Aid Society. For a unit to train lawyers in the Society's Civil Division	193,800
Dome Project, Inc. General support	50,000	Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	2,500
Drawing Center, Inc. General support	5,000	Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	5,000
Elmendorf Reformed Church. General support	2,500	Madison Square Boys' Club, Inc. Toward the 100th anniversary campaign	150,000
Emmaus House, Inc. General support for the homeless in Harlem	2,500	Marine Corps Command and Staff College Foundation, Inc. General support	2,500
Fifth Avenue Committee. General support	5,000	Metropolitan Historic Structures Association. Toward an audio-visual program about the work of MHSA	2,500
Flatbush Development Corporation. Two-year grant toward FDC's neighborhood stabilization work in Flatbush	50,000	Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward the purchase of a rare cello made by Francois-Louis Pique (1758-1822)	25,000
Flowers With Care. Toward program to train youth for jobs with florists in New York City; \$80,000 general support, \$20,000 for renovation of residence for homeless young men	100,000	Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward the purchase of a painting by Hans Baldung Grien	100,000
Fourteenth Street-Union Square Local Development Corporation. Toward the construction of Union Plaza, a new pedestrian plaza at the north end of Union Square Park	50,000	Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward a loan exhibition from the private collection of the Princes of Liechtenstein, held at the Museum in 1985	400,000
Fresh Air Fund. Toward the counselor lodge, a recreation and training facility on the Sharpe Reservation	2,500	Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward a documentary film about the construction of the Astor Garden Court	88,000
Greenwich House. General support over two years	50,000	Metropolitan Museum of Art. For the acquisition of a 15th-century Hispano- Moresque helmet formerly in the collection of Lord Astor of Hever	135,429
Grolier Club of the City of New York. Toward the Centennial campaign	100,000	Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward the Liechtenstein exhibition	200,000
Harlem Parents Union, Inc. General support for the Harlem Tutorial and Referral Project	5,000	Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc. General support	5,000
Highfields Experimental Treatment Project. For a follow-up study relating to the Highfields Project, an experimental residential facility for delinquent boys, funded in part by the Astor Foundation in the 1950's	15,000	Mirror Theater, Ltd. General support	5,000
Housing Symphony Orchestra, Inc. General support	2,500	Museum of the City of New York. General support	2,500

National Maritime Historical Society. Toward the restoration of the ship Wavertree	100,000	Prospect Park Administrator's Office. General support	50,000
Neighborhood Committee for the Asphalt Green. General support	10,000	Public Education Association. For a teacher training project at the Bedford Stuyvesant Street Academy	54,700
Neighborhood Committee for the Asphalt Green. For equipment and furnishings at the Sports and Arts Center	175,489	Settlement Housing Fund, Inc. Toward the acquisition and renovation of the Capitol Hall Hotel, single-room occupancy hotel on Manhattan's Upper West Side	100,000
New York Botanical Garden. General support	2,500	South Street Seaport Museum. General support	5,000
New York Botanical Garden. Toward the construction of a working garden for children	1,000,000	Southeast Bronx Neighborhood Centers, Inc. General support over two years	50,000
New York Center for Law and the Deaf, Inc. General support	5,000	Southern Brooklyn Community Organization. General support over two years	50,000
New York City Neighborhood Open Space Coalition, Inc. \$50,000 general support; \$25,000 for the salary of a Coordinator for the Mayor's Open Space Task Force	75,000	Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation. Toward renovation of the main immigration building at Ellis Island	500,000
New York City School Volunteer Program, Inc. Two-year grant for a coordinator in Districts 13 and 16, Bedford Stuyvesant	50,000	Sunset Park Redevelopment Committee, Inc. Two-year grant toward neighborhood stabilization work in mid-Brooklyn	50,000
New York City Street Tree Consortium. General support	5,000	Superintending School Committee of Mount Desert. For the establishment of the Vincent Astor Incentive Awards for the faculty and staff of the Mount Desert Elementary School and the Northeast Harbor Library	104,035
New-York Historical Society. Toward the exhibition <i>New York and the China Trade</i>	50,000	Trust for Public Land. Toward a restoration project in Sunnyside Gardens, Queens	5,000
New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	10,000	Urban Revitalization Services, Inc. General support for the Coney Island Community Project	35,000
New York Zoological Society. General support	2,500	Valley Restoration Local Development Corporation. Toward planning for a merchant's cooperative in Manhattan Valley	26,354
Park Slope Project Reach Youth, Inc. Toward renovation of building to house Park Slope Neighborhood Family Center	5,000	Venture Raiders, Inc. Toward the Venture Raiders' job-readiness program	25,000
Parks Council, Inc. \$15,000 toward community volunteer program; \$10,000 toward summer work/study program	25,000	Washington Headquarters Association, New York. Toward the endowment of the Morris-Jumel Mansion in Washington Heights	25,000
Philharmonic-Symphony Society of New York, Inc. Toward endowment of the All-City High School Concert	350,000	Young Men's Christian Association of Greater New York. Toward the Landon K. Thorne Jr. Endowment Fund for Camping Scholarships	25,000
Pierpont Morgan Library. Toward endowment fund in memory of Henry S. Morgan	50,000		
Planned Parenthood of New York City, Inc. Toward renovation of a South Bronx office building used for youth counseling and training programs	150,000	<i>Total Grants for 1983</i>	<i>8,655,307</i>

# 1984

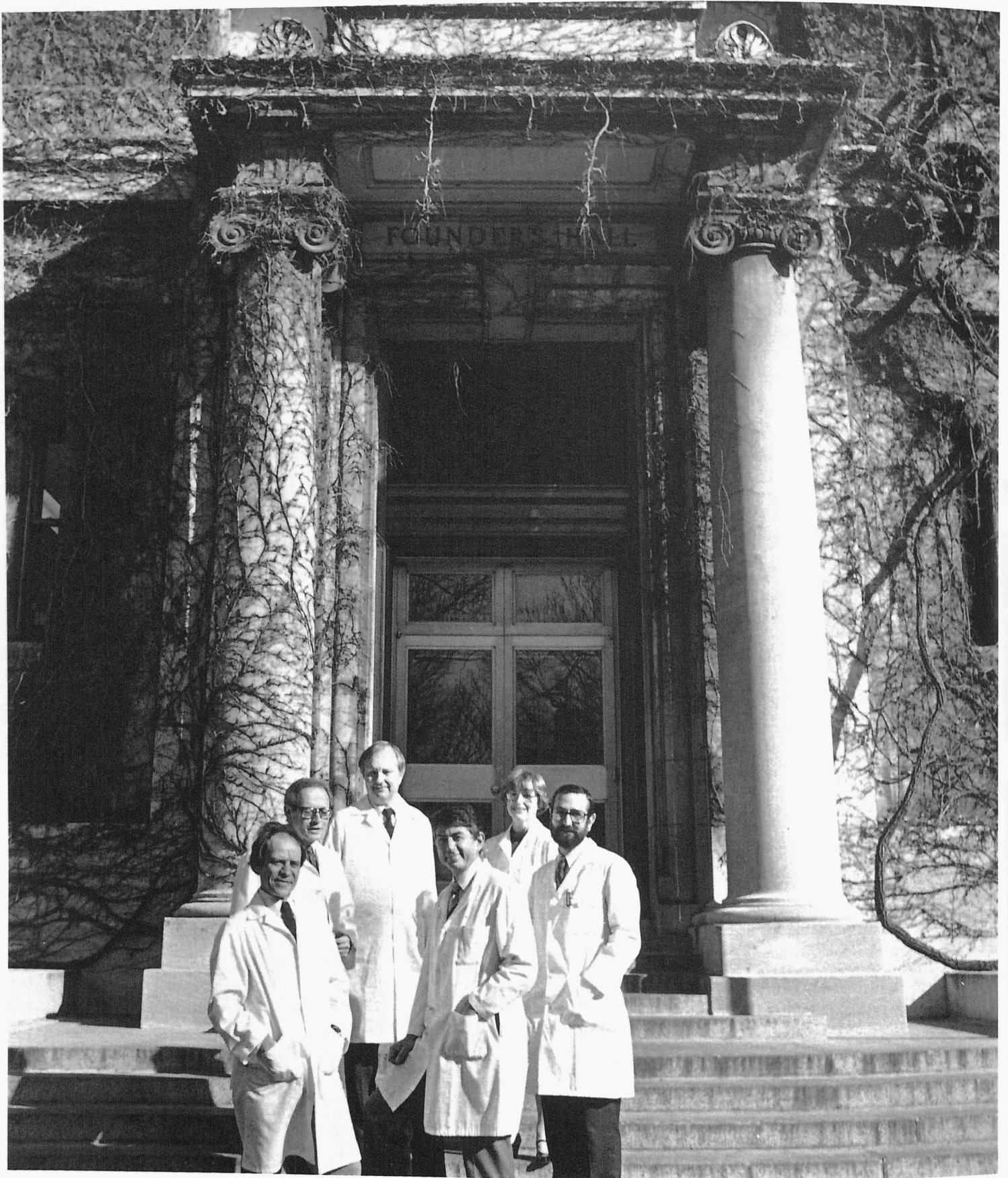
The two largest grants in 1984 were for chairs at the Cornell University Medical College and at Memorial-Sloan Kettering. The chair at Cornell is called the Vincent and Brooke Astor Distinguished Professorship in Neuroscience and is held by Dr. Bernice Grafstein, the first woman to occupy an Astor chair. The Astor Chair in Clinical Research at Memorial is held by Dr. Richard O'Reilly, who conducts pioneering work in bone marrow transplants.

Religious buildings often provide scale and a sense of calm to crowded city streets, and over the years the Foundation has contributed to the restoration of many churches and synagogues. In the 1980's two Manhattan landmarks, St. Mark's In-the-Bowery and St. Luke in the Fields on Hudson Street, were almost completely destroyed by fires. Through the determined efforts of the parishes, both churches were rebuilt; the Foundation contributed \$175,000 and \$200,000 respectively to those campaigns. St. Ann and the Holy Trinity in Brooklyn has marvelous windows by William J. Bolton, the first major stained glass in this country. When we first saw them in 1980, the leads were so loose that precious panes had crashed to the church floor. Funded in part with contributions totaling \$300,000 from the Astor Foundation, a special glass studio was set up at the church, and today many of the windows have been restored. Other grants relating to church buildings include: \$100,000 to the Church of the Holy Apostles in Chelsea, where the soup kitchen provides meals to 1,000 people each weekday; \$31,000 to renovate the clapboard Parish House of Saint Mary's Episcopal Church in West Harlem; and \$50,000 toward repair of the spectacular windows by John Lafarge in the Meeting Room of Judson Memorial Church on Washington Square.

At the invitation of Matilda Cuomo, in 1984 we went up to see the Executive Mansion in Albany. An enormous Victorian house, it had been changed in various ways by successive administrations, with no particular coordination—a real hodge podge! A Conservancy was established that would oversee a complete renovation of the house and ensure that it is properly maintained in the future. The Trustees decided that an exception to our geographic guidelines was appropriate in this case and approved a grant of \$200,000.

A Better Chance, Inc. Toward program to identify and place NYC minority students at preparatory schools	100,000	American Reading Council, Ltd. Toward ARC's work in advocating for school libraries	5,000
Aging in America, Inc. Toward the mortgage of Aging in America's headquarters building in the Northeast Bronx	50,000	American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. General support	25,000
American Friends Service Committee, Inc. Toward AFSC's youth employment program	25,000	American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Toward a van to transport pets to elderly persons	45,500
American Museum of Natural History. General support	5,000	Association of Neighborhood Housing Developers, Inc. Toward ANHD's work to obtain rent protections for small neighborhood businesses in New York City	2,500

Astor Home for Children. Annual operating support	100,000	Columbia University in the City of New York. Toward the renovation costs of Hamilton Hall, Columbia's undergraduate classroom building, designed by McKim, Mead & White	250,000
Bartow-Pell Landmark Fund. For plans to restore the Bartow-Pell carriage house	32,600	Committee to Oppose the Sale of St. Bartholomew's Church, Inc. General support	1,500
Bowery Residents' Committee, Inc. Toward the salary of a full-time director to work with the elderly homeless Bowery population	15,000	Cornell University Medical College. For the establishment of the Vincent and Brooke Astor Distinguished Professorship in Neuroscience	1,250,000
Brearley School. Toward the Centennial campaign	5,000	Council on International Educational Exchange, Inc. Toward Americorps project	2,500
Bronx County Historical Society. \$40,000 toward renovation of the Valentine-Varian House, which now serves as the Museum of Bronx History; \$25,000 toward the endowment of Edgar Poe Cottage	65,000	The Door. General support	75,000
Bronx Frontier Development Corporation. \$20,000 general support; \$10,000 toward production of Zoo Doo, a compost made with manure from the Bronx Zoo	30,000	Drawing Center, Inc. General support	2,500
Camp Friendship. Toward the renovation of a youth center, formerly a church, in Park Slope, Brooklyn	25,000	Educational Alliance, Inc. General support over two years	50,000
Center for Building Conservation. Third grant toward renovation of the Jasper Ward House	100,000	Educational Broadcasting Corporation/ Channel 13 WNET. Toward the production of <i>The Other News</i> , a weekly one-hour news program concentrating on New York City	250,000
Central Park Conservancy. Toward restoration of the Conservancy Garden	2,500	Educational Priorities Panel. For an assessment of libraries in the NYC public school system	15,000
Chapin School. For scholarships	10,000	Erasmus Hall High School. For the historic structures report for the Erasmus Hall Academy of the Arts, an 18th-century building on the Erasmus Hall High School campus, Brooklyn	31,600
Church of the Holy Apostles. \$40,000 toward renovation of church; \$35,000 toward renovation of Mission House	75,000	Executive Mansion Preservation Society, Inc. Toward the renovation of the Governor's Mansion in Albany	200,000
Citizens Committee for New York City, Inc. General support	50,000	First Street Block Association. Toward the conversion of an unused bocci court into a playground	2,500
Civitas Citizens. Toward a proposed development plan of the East 96th Street area in Manhattan	5,000	Foundation Center. General support	2,500
Clinton Community Garden. For a new sidewalk, water system, and wrought iron fence at the Clinton Community Garden	25,000	Fund for Aging Services, Inc. Toward Citymeals-on-Wheels, a meal delivery program for homebound elderly	25,000
Columbia University in the City of New York. Toward the renovation of the Kathryn Bache Miller Theater in Dodge Hall, Columbia University	250,000	Geri-Pare, Inc. Toward the Home Repair Program	2,500
		Geri-Pare, Inc. Toward the purchase of a computer to be used by the Home Repair Program	2,500



Gracie Mansion Conservancy. Second grant toward the renovation of Gracie mansion	50,000	Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. For the establishment of the Vincent Astor Chair in Clinical Research	1,250,000	
Henry Street Settlement Urban Life Center. Toward work of the Fourth World Movement, an organization that assists poor families on the Lower East Side	2,500	Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward the purchase of a 17th-century Indian dagger	10,000	
Horticultural Society of New York, Inc. General support	5,000	Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc. General support	5,000	
Housing Conservation Coordinators, Inc. Toward HCC's efforts to preserve existing housing in Clinton by means of tenant organizing and technical assistance	30,000	Municipal Art Society of New York, Inc. \$50,000 general support; \$19,000 toward publication of the City Catalog, a listing of physical improvement projects in New York City requiring funding	69,000	
Independence House. General support	5,000	Museum of the City of New York. General support	2,500	
Independence House. General support	5,000	National Alliance Against Violence. Toward Police Education Project, to instruct crime prevention officers and the general public about dangers of handgun use	25,000	
Institute of International Education, Inc. Toward the new Student Information Center	5,000	Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter, Inc. Toward the purchase and renovation of a building at 211 East 81st Street, to serve as a permanent residence for homeless men and women	100,000	
Inwood-Heights Parks Alliance. Toward IHPA's efforts to protect and preserve historic parklands in Northern Manhattan	5,000	Neighborhood Housing Services of New York City, Inc. Toward the administrative costs of NHS, a program to revitalize declining neighborhoods through home improvement loans and technical assistance	200,000	
Japan Society, Inc. Toward renovation of the Japan House gallery	30,000	New York Botanical Garden. General support	2,500	
Jericho Project. For an additional staff member to assist in work with the homeless	25,000	New York City Partnership, Inc. Toward a job development program in NYC public high schools	150,000	
Jobs for Youth, Inc. Toward basic skills training and counseling programs	25,000	New York Landmarks Conservancy, Inc. \$75,000 toward the restoration of the windows at St. Ann's; \$25,000 toward the installation of one window from St. Ann's at the Metropolitan Museum	100,000	<i>The Astor Professors, 1985, left to right: Torsten Wiesel, Gerald Edelman, James Darnell, Rockefeller University; Richard O'Reilly, Memorial; David Zakim, Bernice Grafstein, Cornell; William Hayward, Memorial</i>
Kenyan Runners, Inc. General support	5,000	New York Landmarks Preservation Foundation, Inc. For completion of the Manhattan section of the Urban Cultural Resources Survey	60,000	
La Guardia Community College. Toward veterinary assistants and technicians program	5,000	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. Toward the <i>In Celebration of Learning</i> exhibition	100,000	
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support over two years	50,000			
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	2,500			
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	2,500			
Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Inc. Toward the Lincoln Center Fund as endowment for the maintenance of those portions of the plant that are Lincoln Center, Inc.'s responsibility	500,000			
Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation, Inc. Toward scholarships for the children of U.S. Marines living in New York City	25,000			

New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	10,000	The Rockefeller University. For the salary of a Resident in Dermatology at The Rockefeller University Hospital	90,000
New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. Toward <i>Face to Face with Courage</i> , an exhibit sponsored by the Schlesinger Library	5,000	Roundabout Theatre Company, Inc. General support	2,500
New York Zoological Society. General support	2,500	South Bronx 2000 Local Development Corporation, Inc. \$50,000 general support; \$10,000 toward consolidating administrative offices and recycling plant into one building	60,000
New York Zoological Society. Toward the renovation costs of Wild Asia Plaza	2,500	South Street Seaport Museum. General support	5,000
Non-Profit Coordinating Committee of New York. Toward a conference to examine the role of non-profit organizations in New York City	2,500	St. James Church. Toward emergency structural repairs at St. James Church on Manhattan's Lower East Side	25,000
Northeast Harbor Library. For Astor Special Opportunity Grants, to be awarded to students enrolled at Northeast Harbor Elementary School or Regional High School	10,500	Sunnyside Gardens Conservancy, Inc. Toward the restoration of Sunnyside Gardens, Queens	2,500
Northwest Bronx Community and Clergy Coalition. General support over two years	50,000	Union Settlement Association, Inc. General support over two years	50,000
Parish of Calvary and St. George's. Toward the restoration of St. George's Church in Stuyvesant Square, Manhattan	40,000	Valley Restoration Local Development Corporation. Second grant toward the planning for a block-long merchants' cooperative in Manhattan Valley	23,000
People's Firehouse, Inc. Two-year grant toward a housing improvement program in North Brooklyn	92,598	Washington Heights and Inwood Development Corporation. General support	5,000
Pierpont Morgan Library. Toward the renovation of the Reserve Vault	20,000	Yorkville Civic Council. Toward promotional campaign	2,500
Planning Association of Bronx Lutheran Churches. Toward the renovation of a building in the Bronx	25,000	Youth Action Homes Away from Home, Inc. Toward renovation of a building on Second Avenue and 119th Street as permanent housing for youth	35,000
Police Athletic League, Inc. Toward the renovation of the William J. Duncan Center at 552 West 52nd Street, Manhattan	75,000	<i>Total Grants for 1984</i>	<i>6,703,798</i>
Regional Plan Association. Toward RPA's President's Chair Endowment	5,000		

# 1985

In 1985, the Trustees approved the largest grant in the Astor Foundation's history, \$10,000,000 to the New York Public Library. By this time the Library's board, under the leadership of Richard Salomon, had found Vartan Gregorian, a brilliant historian who had been Provost at the University of Pennsylvania. Brimming with ideas, enthusiasm, and energy, as the Library's new president he convinced the board, potential donors, and the public at large that the Library could once again be a pre-eminent institution in New York City. With the help of the trustees and a fine staff, Vartan put in place all kinds of lively innovations—a holiday party for all ages that took place throughout the building at 42nd Street, exhibitions and lecture series, reading groups, an annual fundraising dinner called Literary Lions, and an award program for the valedictorians from public high schools. The Library came alive, and New Yorkers responded by going in droves and by giving generously.

A master plan for the research library at 42nd Street was established, and work to refurbish the splendid Carrère and Hastings building began. To underwrite all this activity and to increase the endowment, the Library began a campaign to raise \$324,000,000. The Foundation's grant, which we paid out over seven subsequent years, was the largest single contribution to the campaign. "Money brings money" is a true saying, and soon the Library had reached its goal. The Library is doing very well today, thanks to the leadership of the board and the hard work of the staff.

At the heart of the Wildlife Conservation Society's Bronx Zoo is a large space that has come to be known as Astor Court. A fifth of a mile long and 400 feet wide, the Court extends from the Paul Manship gates at the Zoo's main entrance to the Rhino Garden. By the mid-1980's the landmark buildings surrounding the Court were no longer suitable for housing animals and needed to be adapted for other purposes. The great domed Elephant House, which had been closed to the public because public access was inadequate, required major renovation that would incorporate a much-needed visitor's center into the building. The Foundation gave a total of \$2,600,000 toward the renovation of the Court; in 1989, we contributed to the casting and placement of the marvelous bronze rhinos "Bessie" and "Victoria."

American Friends Service Committee, Inc. General support for youth employment programs	10,000	Asphalt Green. Toward the construction of a new athletic field	100,000
American Museum of Natural History. General support	5,000	Association for Neighborhood & Housing Development, Inc. General support	2,500
Andrew Glover Youth Program. For the salaries of two youth workers	40,000	Astor Home for Children. General support	100,000
Animal Medical Center. General support	5,000	Banana Kelly. General support for housing rehabilitation work in the South Bronx	25,000
Asphalt Green. General support	10,000	Blair House. Toward the renovation of Blair House	100,000

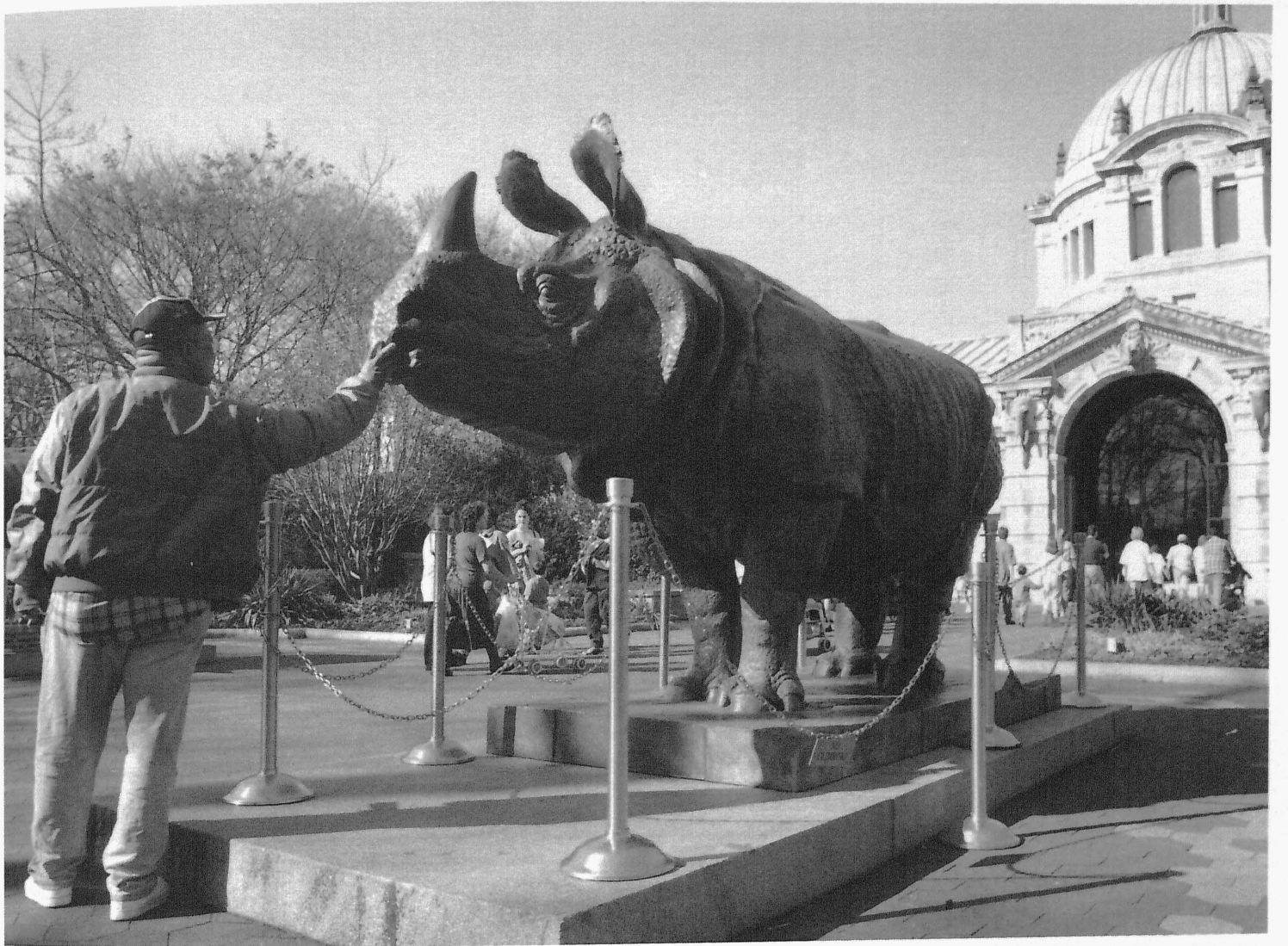


Broad Jump, Inc. General support for Prep for Prep, a program that identifies talented public school students in their 5th grade year and prepares them for enrollment in private secondary schools	25,000	First Street Block Association. Toward purchase of playground equipment	2,500
Brooklyn in Touch Information Center, Inc. General support	2,500	Flowers With Care. Second grant toward the renovation of a residence for homeless young men in Queens	25,000
Caring Community, Inc. Toward a program to provide personal care and housekeeping services to older persons in Greenwich Village	25,000	Fund for Aging Services, Inc. Toward Citymeals-on-Wheels, a meal delivery program for homebound elderly	12,500
Central Park Conservancy. Toward the plan to renovate Central Park's Great Lawn	100,000	Goddard-Riverside Community Center. General support	25,000
Civitas Citizens, Inc. Toward a study of Manhattan's East Side Avenues, from Third to East End, 59th to 96th Streets	5,000	Good Old Lower East Side, Inc. General support	2,500
Coalition for the Homeless. General support for the Coalition's legal advocacy on behalf of NYC's homeless population	60,000	Good Shepherd Services. Toward Good Shepherd's work with youth in Park Slope, Brooklyn	37,500
Covenant House. Toward start-up costs for Rights of Passage, a residential program for young men ages 18-21	25,000	Grand Street Settlement. General support	25,000
Creative Learning Community. For "Celebrating Adolescence," a week-long conference relating to health, substance abuse, and career opportunities	2,500	Grosvenor Neighborhood House, Inc. General support	25,000
The Door. General support	75,000	Horticultural Society of New York, Inc. General support	5,000
Drawing Center, Inc. General support	5,000	Hurricane Island Outward Bound School. For scholarships for students from Boys & Girls High School attending a specially designed reading program at Hurricane Island	2,500
Drawing Center, Inc. Toward the purchase and renovation of a floor at 35 Wooster Street to house the Drawing Center	100,000	Islesboro, Town of. Toward the construction of the G.H. Kinnicutt Center, a multi-purpose addition to the Islesboro School, Maine	5,000
Educational Priorities Panel. For studies of two problems in the NYC public schools: the shortage of basic classroom supplies and the lack of after-school programs	20,000	Jennifer Emily Morris Memorial Fund. Toward summer stipends to students participating in MoMA's summer internship program	1,000
Eldridge Street Project. \$10,000 toward the restoration of the Rose Window; \$15,000 general support	25,000	Jobs for Youth, Inc. Stipends for five young people working as interns in the NYC Public Library system	2,500
Elmendorf Reformed Church. General support for after-school and summer tutorial programs	2,500	Jobs for Youth, Inc. General support	15,000
Episcopal Mission Society in the Diocese of New York. Toward the auto repair training and placement program	25,000	Kenyan Runners, Inc. General support	5,000
		Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	5,000
		Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	2,500
		Marine Corps Command and Staff College Foundation, Inc. General support	2,000

Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Support for two postdoctoral fellows in the Developmental & Membrane Biology Program of the Sloan-Kettering Institute	120,000	New York Landmarks Preservation Foundation, Inc. Toward the planning of several events celebrating the 20th anniversary of the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission	5,000
Mercantile Library Association of New York. General support for this private lending library in Manhattan	5,000	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	10,000
Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward the expenses of the Comité International des Musées et Collections d'Instruments de Musique's 10th anniversary conference	2,500	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. \$7,000,000 toward the Library's unrestricted endowment; \$3,000,000 toward operating costs in 1986-88	10,000,000
Metropolitan Museum of Art. \$50,000 toward the acquisition of a Greek amphora; \$30,000 toward the John Pope-Hennessy Chairmanship; \$20,000 toward the purchase of a Joachim Tielke cittern	100,000	NYZS/The Wildlife Conservation Society. General support	2,500
Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc. General support	6,000	NYZS/The Wildlife Conservation Society. General support	1,000
Mid-Bronx Senior Citizens Council, Inc. Toward the restoration of the Andrew Freedman Home	100,000	NYZS/The Wildlife Conservation Society. Toward the renovation of Astor Court, including remodeling of the Elephant House and construction of an Animal Behavior Theater	2,000,000
Municipal Art Society of New York, Inc. Toward a report to determine the feasibility of establishing the Environmental Simulation Laboratory in New York City	2,500	Pierpont Morgan Library. Toward expenses of the Library's 1985 benefit	5,000
Municipal Art Society of New York, Inc. \$15,000 toward the establishment of the Simulation Laboratory; \$15,000 toward a study of development on Manhattan's West Side	30,000	Pierpont Morgan Library. Toward the planning and administrative costs of a capital campaign	150,000
Museum of the City of New York. General support	2,500	Planned Parenthood of New York City, Inc. General support	25,000
Neurosciences Research Foundation, Inc. Toward the establishment of a library at the Neurosciences Institute	100,000	Pratt Institute Center for Community & Environmental Development. For a study of the impact of rising rents on small NYC businesses and the neighborhoods in which they are located	2,500
New York Botanical Garden. General support	2,500	Prospect Park Alliance. General support	25,000
New York City Neighborhood Open Space Coalition, Inc. Toward the salary of the Coordinator for the New York City Open Space Task Force	20,000	Retreat House of the Redeemer. Toward the renovation of the House	100,000
New York Landmarks Conservancy, Inc. Toward the reception to celebrate the installation of a window from St. Ann and the Holy Trinity, Brooklyn Heights, in the Courtyard of the American Wing	3,000	School of American Ballet, Inc. Toward the 50th anniversary campaign	5,000
		Seamen's Church Institute of New York and New Jersey. General support	1,000
		Settlement Housing Fund, Inc. \$20,000 toward the renovation of The Senate, a single-room occupancy hotel on Manhattan's Upper West Side; \$20,000 general support	40,000

Sixth Street Block Community Center. General support	2,500	Trust For Public Land. Toward TPL's work in acquiring land for public use on Staten Island	10,000
South Bronx 2000 Local Development Corporation, Inc. Toward the acquisition of a building to house administrative offices and R2B2 recycling program	50,000	Vocational Foundation. General support	15,000
South Street Seaport Museum. General support	5,000	Volunteer Services for the Elderly of Yorkville, Inc. General support	5,000
St. Mark's Church In-The-Bowery. Toward the exhibition <i>A Gathering of the Avant-Garde on the Lower East Side, 1948-68</i>	2,500	West Side Community Garden, Inc. Toward the construction of a permanent garden at 89th Street and Columbus Avenue	5,000
Staten Island Greenbelt. Toward the production of and equipment for an audio-visual presentation about the Staten Island Greenbelt	20,770	West Side Montessori School. Toward the completion of the building program	30,000
Staten Island Historical Society. Toward <i>Made on Staten Island</i> , an exhibition in the renovated Historical Museum at Richmond Town Restoration	25,000	<i>Total Grants for 1985</i>	<i>14,142,270</i>

*Astor Court,  
Bronx Zoo*

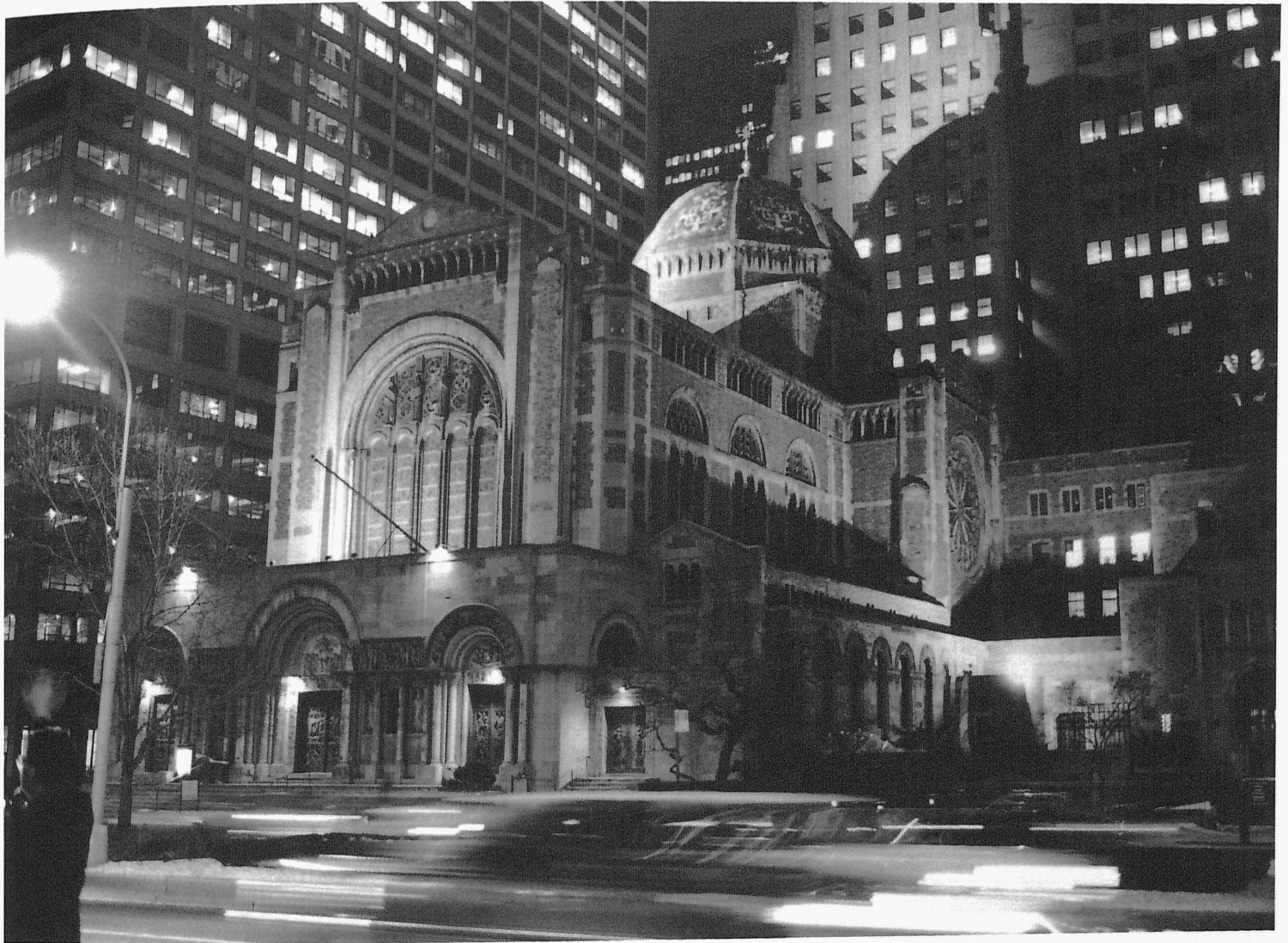


# 1986

The Door on Sixth Avenue in Manhattan is a remarkable organization designed to help troubled teenagers. When they go there much is made available to them—a health clinic, family planning, drug and alcohol abuse counseling, tutoring, and advice about jobs. Because everything is in the same building, young people can be assisted quickly and efficiently. Each time we visited, The Door was crowded but calm, and I felt that the teenagers, many of whom faced daunting problems, were in a safe, constructive place. The Foundation’s grant in 1986 helped with the acquisition of the new headquarters.

Over a period of eight years in the 1980’s, the Astor Foundation contributed a total of \$60,000 to the Committee to Oppose the Sale of St. Bartholomew’s Church, Inc. As its name indicates, the Committee, organized and led by the tenacious lawyer Sinclair Armstrong, fought a plan by the Vestry of St. Bartholomew’s Church to tear down the Community House and replace it with a large office building. The St. Bartholomew’s complex at 50th Street and Park Avenue, built between 1914 and 1928, serves as a beautiful, welcome contrast to the enormous office buildings that surround it. Were another large tower to be constructed, dwarfing the fine church building, an important part of mid-town Manhattan would lose much of the light and air that is left there. We were very glad when in 1989 the Court of Appeals ruled in the Committee’s favor, ending a fight that had involved much hard feeling.

A Better Chance, Inc. Toward program to identify and place NYC minority students at preparatory schools	25,000	Church of the Holy Apostles. Toward replacement of the roof.	25,000
American Reading Council, Ltd. Toward Open Sesame, a reading program at three public elementary schools in Manhattan	25,000	Civitas Citizens, Inc. Toward a study of Manhattan’s East Side Avenues from Third to East End, 59th to 96th Streets	5,000
Asia Society. Support for the Washington Center	7,500	Classical America. For two classes in basic instruction from the classical point of view, held at the National Academy School of Fine Arts	5,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	75,000	Coalition to Save City & Suburban Housing, Inc. Toward the Coalition’s efforts to preserve the City and Suburban housing complex on Manhattan’s Upper East Side	1,000
Brearley School. General support	1,000	Committee to Oppose the Sale of St. Bartholomew’s Church, Inc. Toward the Committee’s efforts to save St. Bartholomew’s Church	15,000
Brooklyn Academy of Music. Toward the design of an air-conditioning system for BAM’s Opera House	50,000	Community Board 7/Manhattan. Toward a review, conducted by Community Boards 4, 5, and 7, of the Columbus Circle development project	1,000
Brooklyn Historical Society. Toward the renovation of a former auditorium into a Brooklyn History Gallery	25,000		
Buckley School. General support	5,000		
Catholic Charities/Diocese of Brooklyn. Toward the renovation of foreclosed houses in South East Queens	2,500		



Cooper Square Committee. Toward the salaries of a construction supervisor and tenant selector for the Cube Building, renovated as a cooperative for 22 homeless families 22,500

Council on the Environment of New York City. General support for the greening program 1,000

The Door. Toward the acquisition of a building at 121 Sixth Avenue, Manhattan to house The Door 35,000

Downtown Community Television Center. Toward the renovation of a landmark firehouse at 87 Lafayette Street, Manhattan, as DCTV's headquarters 25,000

Drawing Center, Inc. General support 2,500

East Side Rezoning Alliance. Toward a land use study for a portion of the Community Board 6 area on Manhattan's East Side 1,000

Educational Broadcasting Corporation/ Channel 13 WNET. Toward *Metroline*, a weekly news program concentrating on New York City 50,000

Foundation Center. General support 1,000

Fountain House. General support 1,000

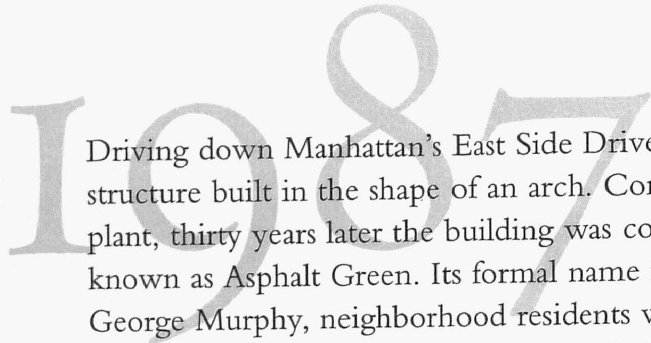
Fourth Universalist Society in the City of New York. Toward the installation of new gutters for this landmark church on Central Park West 25,000

*St. Bartholemew's Church*

Fund for Aging Services, Inc. Toward Citymeals-on-Wheels, a meal delivery program for homebound elderly	1,000	National Dance Institute. Toward "Event of the Year," an international exchange program involving artists and children from New York and The Peoples Republic of China	5,000
Geri-Pare, Inc. Toward the home repair program in Coney Island	1,000	New York Alliance for the Public Schools. General support	25,000
Green Guerillas, Inc. General support	1,000	New York Botanical Garden. General support	1,250
Harlem Heights Community Housing and Development Corp. Toward the administrative costs for 494-6 West 158th Street, an abandoned building renovated for homeless families	25,000	New York City Air Campaign, Inc. General support	1,000
Hartley House. Toward the renovation of the courtyard and Annex	25,000	New York City Mission Society. General support	5,000
Historical Records of the New York County Clerk, Inc. Toward the restoration of the WPA murals in the vestibule and rotunda of the County Court House, 60 Centre Street, Manhattan	25,000	New York City Street Tree Consortium, Inc. General support	2,500
Horticultural Society of New York, Inc. General support	2,500	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundation. General support	5,000
Jericho Project. \$10,000 general support; \$10,000 toward the administrative costs of 170 West 121st Street, an SRO hotel renovated for homeless adults	20,000	New York Regional Association of Grantmakers. General support	1,000
Kenyan Runners, Inc. Toward purchase of a Universal Machine, installed at the Kenyan Runner's new training facility in the PAL Micio Center, Red Hook, Brooklyn	3,750	New York Society for Advancement of Cutaneous Biology & Medicine. Toward the establishment of an institute devoted to dermatological research and treatment	50,000
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	2,500	New York University. For the establishment of the Vincent and Brooke Astor Book Endowment Fund	200,000
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	1,250	NYZS/The Wildlife Conservation Society. General support	1,250
Maternity Center Association. General support	2,500	Open Space Institute. Toward <i>Going, Going, Gone</i> , an exhibition about endangered medicinal plants organized by Adele Auchincloss and Starr Lawrence	3,600
Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward the purchase of an 8th-century Korean bronze statue of Buddha	100,000	Regional Plan Association. General support	2,500
Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward the renovation of the Museum's Chinese Sculpture Hall	300,000	Rockport Apprenticeship. Toward Atlantic Challenge, a French-American exchange bringing French youth to the Liberty Centennial Celebration in New York	1,000
Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc. General support	5,000	Seamen's Church Institute of New York and New Jersey. Toward capital campaign	10,000
Museum of the City of New York. General support	1,250	Seniors Helping Seniors, Inc. General support for outreach to senior citizens in Washington Heights, Manhattan	2,000

Solidaridad Humana. General support for vocational and English Language training programs on Manhattan's Lower East Side	5,000	Unitarian Church of All Souls. Toward the renovation of the Parish House	25,000
Solidaridad Humana. General support for vocational and English Language training programs on Manhattan's Lower East Side	25,000	United Neighborhood Houses of New York, Inc. Toward the Centennial Celebration of the Settlement house movement in New York City	5,000
South Bronx 2000 Local Development Corporation, Inc. General support	25,000	Van Cortlandt & Pelham Bay Parks. Toward plantings designed to protect frail natural areas in Pelham Bay Park	25,000
South Street Seaport Museum. General support	5,000	Vivian Beaumont Theater, Inc. / Lincoln Center Theater. General support	75,000
South Street Seaport Museum. To the renovation of the Jasper Ward House	10,000	Vocational Foundation. Toward VFI's 50th anniversary capital campaign	40,000
St. Francis Friends of the Poor, Inc. Toward the acquisition of St. Francis Residence III, a self-supporting residential facility for the homeless	25,000	We Care About New York, Inc. General support for efforts to address issues relating to litter	2,500
St. John's College. For the 1986/87 tuition of an Astor Fellow to complete her MA degree before returning to teaching in the NYC public schools	4,000	Young Devils. Toward the sports program in East Harlem	1,000
St. Vincent's Hospital. Toward the endowment of St. Vincent's program to provide medical care to homeless adults and children	50,000	Young Women's Christian Association. Toward the Mary French Rockefeller International Friendship Fund	2,500
Teachers College Columbia University. Toward Dr. Virginia Ehrlich's work in following up on the Astor Gifted Child Studies Program	5,000	Youth Communication/New York Center, Inc. For a supplement about NYC libraries in <i>New Youth Connections</i> , a monthly newspaper written for and by teenagers	15,000
		<i>Total Grants for 1986</i>	<i>1,609,850</i>





Driving down Manhattan's East Side Drive, at 90th Street one sees an extraordinary structure built in the shape of an arch. Constructed in the 1940's as the municipal asphalt plant, thirty years later the building was converted into a sports and recreation complex known as Asphalt Green. Its formal name is the Murphy Center, after Annette and George Murphy, neighborhood residents who understood that on the Upper East Side there was little open space for sports and that both public and private school children would benefit a great deal from such a facility. The Murphys worked tirelessly to raise the money that made the conversion possible. Today one sees children playing games on a huge outdoor field and rushing to classes in dance, art, and drama. A splendid new Aquacenter, with an Olympic-sized pool and exercise rooms, has been built next door—another jewel in Asphalt Green's crown.

One of the joys of giving in New York is that even after being engaged in it for many years, there are surprises. In 1987 the office received a request from Erasmus Hall High School in Flatbush, Brooklyn. Enclosed was the photograph of a beautiful eighteenth-century clapboard building that the proposal said was located in the courtyard of the high school. Being interested in both education and in fine old buildings, we went out to have a look. Sure enough, there was the little structure—in need of repair but absolutely authentic—surrounded by the high walls of the Tudor-style high school. Built in 1786 by the townspeople of Flatbush as Erasmus Hall Academy, the building is the country's oldest high school to have operated as such without interruption and now houses administrative offices and a small, student-run museum. The Foundation underwrote a report about the history of the building that subsequently helped to generate sufficient public funds for renovations.

Aging in America, Inc. Toward renovations at Pelham House, a residential respite program for the elderly	25,000	Association for Neighborhood & Housing Development, Inc. Toward the costs of moving to new offices	1,000
Altro Health and Rehabilitation Services, Inc. Toward renovations at Altro's Bronx center, where adults recovering from mental illness are given vocational rehabilitation	25,000	Astor Home for Children. General support	50,000
American Reading Council, Ltd. \$20,000 toward Open Sesame, a reading program for kindergarten-2nd grade at P.S. 192 in Washington Heights; \$5,000 toward a model library service in three school districts	25,000	Benedictine Hospital. Toward the establishment of a pre-natal clinic	2,500
Animal Medical Center. Toward the AMC's Emergency Services Program	25,000	Big Sisters, Inc. General support	2,500
Asphalt Green. Toward the construction of the Swim and Sports Training Center	25,000	Boys Brotherhood Republic of New York, Inc. General support	1,000
		Boys Brotherhood Republic of New York, Inc. For repairs to the BBR building	25,000
		Brearley School. General support	1,000
		Bronx Educational Services. General support for this reading program for adults in the South Bronx	20,000

*Asphalt Green*



Church of the Intercession. Toward an endowed fund for maintenance and repair of this church on Manhattan's Upper West Side	25,000	Episcopal Mission Society in the Diocese of New York. Toward the auto repair training and placement program	10,000
Citizens Committee for New York City, Inc. Toward Project One City, a program to address issues relating to poverty in New York City	25,000	Erasmus Hall High School. \$15,000 toward development of programs and exhibitions in the landmark Academy building; \$10,000 toward fundraising costs	25,000
City Limits. Toward the renovation of new offices	1,000	Flowers With Care. General support	10,000
Coalition to Save City & Suburban Housing, Inc. Toward an illustrated book and exhibition about the City and Suburban complex on Manhattan's Upper East Side	10,000	Fordham Bedford Housing Corp. Toward the renovation of a former nursing home on the Grand Concourse into transitional housing for homeless, single-parent families	25,000
Commission on the Year 2000, The City of New York. Toward the printing costs of the Commission's report	3,200	Forest Hills Community House. Toward a pilot program to assist homeless families in welfare hotels to find apartments and achieve economic independence	15,000
Council on the Environment of New York City. General support for greening program	1,000	Fresh Air Fund. Toward the Community Agency Assistance Program	2,500
Department of Cultural Affairs. Toward <i>One Percent</i> , an exhibition commemorating the City's Percent for Art program	2,500	General Theological Seminary. Toward renovations undertaken on the occasion of <i>Dean Hoffman's Grand Design</i> , an exhibition about General Theological's campus in Chelsea	25,000
Drawing Center, Inc. General support	2,500	Good Shepherd Services. Toward The Open Book, an adult literacy program in Park Slope, Brooklyn	5,000
Drawing Center, Inc. General support	5,000	Graduate School & University Center/CUNY. Toward the Vartan Gregorian Fellowship, awarded annually to a student in the Graduate School's humanities program	25,000
Duke Ellington Memorial Fund, Inc. Toward the Duke Ellington Memorial, a statue designed by Robert Graham, to be placed on Fifth Avenue at 110th Street in Harlem	25,000	Green Chimneys. General support toward the residence for homeless young men ages 17-21 in Manhattan	12,500
East Harlem Tutorial Program, Inc. General support	5,000	Green Guerillas, Inc. General support	2,500
Edenwald Gun Hill Neighborhood Center, Inc. \$2,000 general support for the after-school program; \$1,000 for a mirror in the dance studio	3,000	Greenpoint YMCA of Greater New York. Toward the building renovation	15,000
Educational Broadcasting Corporation/Channel 13 WNET. Toward <i>Metroline</i> , a weekly news program which concentrates on New York	50,000	Harlem Parents Union, Inc. Toward the Harlem Tutorial and Referral Project	2,500
Enterprise Foundation. General support providing technical and financial assistance to neighborhood-based housing programs throughout New York City	25,000	Henry Street Settlement. General support	15,000
		Hole in the Wall Gang Camp Fund, Inc. Toward the construction of The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp, a facility for children with life-threatening diseases in northeastern CT	5,000

Hope Program. General support for this job training program for homeless men and women	5,000	New York Cares. Toward start-up costs for this new volunteer recruitment and placement organization	5,000
Horticultural Society of New York, Inc. General support	2,500	New York City Partnership, Inc. Toward the Summer 1987 training session of the Police Cadet Corps, which recruits college students interested in careers as police officers	25,000
Housing Conservation Coordinators, Inc. General support for HCC's efforts to preserve existing housing in Clinton by means of tenant organizing and technical assistance	25,000	New York City Street Tree Consortium Inc. General support	2,500
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	1,250	New York Dance Center, Inc. Toward the acquisition of 890 Broadway, a building to house three dance companies	50,000
Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Inc. Toward the construction of a building to include dormitories, offices, and rehearsal space for the organizations that comprise Lincoln Center	250,000	New York Landmarks Conservancy, Inc. Toward the Sacred Sites & Properties Fund, which provides grants to religious institutions for restoration projects	25,000
Literacy Partners, Inc. General support	20,000	New York Landmarks Preservation Foundation, Inc. Toward the Commission's program to identify landmark buildings by specially designed plaques	5,000
Local Initiatives Support Corporation. Toward housing and economic development work in the South Bronx	25,000	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	5,000
MBD Community Housing Corp. General administrative support for MBD's work in the Crotona section of the Bronx	25,000	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. Toward the exhibition, <i>A Visual Testimony: Judaica from the Vatican Library</i>	25,000
Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc. General support	5,000	Nightingale-Bamford School. General support	1,000
Municipal Art Society of New York, Inc. For the acquisition of a video cassette recorder and monitor	1,000	NYZS/The Wildlife Conservation Society. General support	1,250
Municipal Art Society of New York, Inc. Toward the establishment of the Brendan Gill Prize	25,000	Parks Council. Toward an analysis of the impact of development on open space and vegetation on Manhattan's Upper West Side	30,000
Municipal Art Society of New York, Inc. General support	25,000	People's Firehouse, Inc. General support for housing rehabilitation in Northside and Greenpoint, Brooklyn	25,000
Museum of the City of New York. General support	1,250	Planned Parenthood of New York City, Inc. General support	25,000
Museum of the City of New York. Toward the exhibition <i>On Being Homeless in New York: An Historical Perspective</i>	25,000	Pleasant Village Community Garden. \$800 toward a legal defense fund for this garden in Harlem; \$200 general support	1,000
National Academy of Design. Toward the renovation of the Academy's Drawings and Prints Study Center	25,000	Prospect Park Environmental Center. Toward the renovation of the Tennis House in Prospect Park, which serves as the Environmental Center's headquarters	3,000
New York Botanical Garden. General support	1,250		

Radcliffe College. General support	5,000	Solidaridad Humana. General support	25,000
Regional Plan Association. General support	2,500	South Street Seaport Museum. General support	5,000
Riverdale Neighborhood House, Inc. Toward the construction of a new building	15,000	West Side Community Garden, Inc. Toward the construction of a permanent garden at 89th Street and Columbus Avenue	2,500
Riverside Park Fund. For the historic structures report on the viewing pavilion/ comfort station at 122nd Street, Riverside Park	3,500	Westpride. General support for this new organization that will monitor development and planning on the Upper West Side	2,500
The Rockefeller University. Toward Professor D. Martin Carter's research in dermatology	5,000	<i>Total Grants for 1987</i>	<i>1,390,700</i>
School Settlement Association, Inc. Toward the summer employment program	2,500		
Settlement Housing Fund, Inc. General support for technical and financial assistance to neighborhood-based housing programs throughout New York City	25,000		

# 1988

Vincent Astor served on the board of the City and Suburban Homes Company, established in 1896 to build and maintain well-designed housing for the working class. The company's largest project, begun in 1901, was a group of fourteen buildings known as City and Suburban; the complex takes the whole block between 78th and 79th Streets, York Avenue to the East River in Manhattan. The 1,300 rental apartments were models of their kind, for decades home to thousands of people of modest means. Then in the early 1980's City and Suburban was bought by a developer who planned to raze several of the buildings to build an 81-story luxury building. He offered tenants cash to move away, and at a time when affordable rental housing was becoming increasingly scarce in New York, hundreds of the apartments were left empty.

People living in the neighborhood surrounding City and Suburban were outraged by the developer's plans and tactics. Under the leadership of the indefatigable Betty Wallerstein, the Coalition to Save City and Suburban was formed and eventually involved over 100 civic and business groups and 600 individuals. An organization run almost entirely with volunteers, the Coalition generated an extraordinary amount of activity. They organized mailings, appeared at public hearings, met with elected officials and members of the press, and conducted tours of the City and Suburban neighborhood. Most importantly, the Coalition secured landmark designation of the complex in its entirety, and when the Board of Estimate exempted four of the fourteen buildings, the Coalition filed legal action against the Board and eventually won the case. The Coalition's final step was to see that City and Suburban was taken over by a company that would keep the rents affordable. In 1992, with a grant of \$25,000 from the Astor Foundation, Kathryn Wylde of the Housing Partnership Development Corporation prepared a study of alternatives for preserving and restoring the buildings. Her report made a convincing case for the economic viability of maintaining the buildings as middle-income rental housing, and in due course they were acquired by a firm that respects the original vision of the City and Suburban Homes Company. This happy ending is a tribute to all the people who worked so hard and effectively to save City and Suburban. In all, the Foundation contributed \$91,000 to the effort.

American Reading Council, Ltd. General support	25,000	Bartow-Pell Landmark Fund. Toward the renovation of the carriage house, now a Visitors' Center for the Bartow-Pell Mansion in Pelham Bay Park	25,000
Animal Medical Center. General support	15,000	Bronx Educational Services. General support for this adult reading program in the Bronx	25,000
Asphalt Green. General support	5,000	Brooklyn Museum. General support	5,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	25,000	Caring Community, Inc. General support for outreach programs for the elderly in Greenwich Village	15,000
Banana Kelly. General support for housing rehabilitation work in the South Bronx	25,000		

Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine. General support for the work of the Cathedral	10,000	Educational Broadcasting Corporation/ Channel 13 WNET. Toward start-up costs for <i>The Eleventh Hour</i> , a week-day news program concentrating on New York City	100,000
Catholic Charities/Diocese of Brooklyn. Toward renovation of a building in Bedford Stuyvesant for homeless families	35,500	Eldridge Street Project. Toward the restoration of this synagogue on Manhattan's Lower East Side	25,000
Church of the Heavenly Rest. General support	1,000	Exploring the Metropolis. Toward a colloquy, "Hindsight and Foresight: Planning for Large Publicly-Owned Sites"	2,000
Church of the Holy Apostles. Toward the restoration of the roof of this landmark church in Chelsea	25,000	Fourth Universalist Society in the City of New York. Toward the restoration of the stained glass windows at this landmark church on Central Park West	25,000
City Planning Department Fund. Toward "New York City: The Challenge Ahead," a conference held to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the City Planning Commission	2,000	Frick Collection. For the Research Libraries, Inc. cataloguing project at the Frick Art Reference Library	5,000
Civitas Citizens, Inc. Toward a study of Manhattan's East Side Avenues from Third to East End, 59th to 96th Streets	2,500	Fund for Aging Services, Inc. General support for Citymeals-on Wheels	10,000
Coalition to Save City and Suburban Housing, Inc. Toward the Coalition's efforts to preserve the historic City and Suburban complex on Manhattan's Upper East Side	25,000	Geri-Pare, Inc. Toward the Home Repair Program in Coney Island	1,000
Committee to Oppose the Sale of St. Bartholomew's Church, Inc. Toward the Committee's efforts to preserve St. Bartholomew's Church	25,000	Good Old Lower East Side, Inc. Toward the renovation of two floors in the Sirovich Senior Center, providing permanent housing for homeless Senior Citizens	2,500
Consumer-Farmer Foundation, Inc. Toward the Senior Citizens Home Improvement Loan Program	2,500	Graduate School & University Center/ CUNY. Toward the Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. Dissertation Fellowship	10,000
Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation. Toward renovation of the former caretaker's cottage at Cypress Hills National Cemetery	20,000	Green Guerillas, Inc. Toward the city-wide community garden program	2,000
Dance Theatre of Harlem. General support	25,000	Il Piccolo Teatro Dell'Opera. Toward the Opera's education program at JHS 113 in Brooklyn	5,000
The Door. Toward purchase and renovation of The Door's new building at 121 Sixth Avenue in Manhattan	25,000	Jamaica Service Program for Older Adults, Inc. General support	20,000
Drawing Center, Inc. General support	5,000	Jericho Project. Toward furniture and equipment at 170 West 121st Street, a SRO hotel renovated for homeless adults	25,000
East Harlem Tutorial Program, Inc. Toward EHTP's after-school reading program	10,000	Kenyan Runners, Inc. General support	1,000
Edenwald Gun Hill Neighborhood Center, Inc. General support	1,000	Lamb's/Manhattan Church of The Nazarene. Toward the repair of water-damaged electrical equipment at the Lamb's Crisis Care Center, serving homeless people in mid-town Manhattan	5,000



Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc.  
General support

1,250

Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward  
the acquisition of a Chinese Buddhist pagoda  
of the Northern Ch'i period (570-577 A.D.)

30,000

Literacy Partners, Inc. Toward the  
publication of books appropriate for  
beginning adult readers

25,000

Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc.  
General support

5,000

Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward  
acquisition of storage cabinets for  
Photograph Studio

20,000

Mid-Bronx Senior Citizens Council, Inc.  
Toward restoration of the Andrew Freedman  
Home, a residence for low-income elderly  
persons on the Grand Concourse  
in the Bronx

25,000

Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward a  
dedicated computer system for the  
Department of Objects Conservation

10,000

Municipal Art Society of New York, Inc.  
Toward the MAS's work on land use issues

1,000

Metropolitan Museum of Art. General  
support for the Department of Asian Art

15,000

*City and Suburban  
Homes*



Municipal Art Society of New York, Inc. Toward the purchase of a fax machine	1,000	Nightingale-Bamford School. Toward the capital campaign	1,000
Municipal Art Society of New York, Inc. General support	25,000	Northeast Harbor Library. For the Astor Special Opportunity Grants awarded to students enrolled at the Northeast Harbor Elementary School or Regional High School	3,500
Museum of The City of New York. General support	1,250	NYZS/The Wildlife Conservation Society. General support	1,250
National Academy of Design. General support	1,250	Old Merchants House of New York, Inc. General support	1,000
National Academy of Design. Toward the exhibition <i>Ogden Codman and the Decoration of Houses</i>	5,000	Old Merchants House of New York, Inc. Toward renovations at the House	25,000
New York Cares. General support for this volunteer recruitment and placement organization	3,000	Parks Council. Toward an analysis of the impact of development on open space and vegetation on Manhattan's Upper West Side	3,000
New York City Neighborhood Open Space Coalition, Inc. General support	2,500	Parks Council. Toward the exhibition <i>Sunlight, Shadows and Skyscrapers</i> , held at the Apple Savings Bank on Manhattan's Upper West Side	2,000
New York City Partnership, Inc. Toward the endowment of the Rockefeller Fellows Program	25,000	Poets House. General support	1,000
New York City Street Tree Consortium, Inc. General support	1,000	Research Foundation of City University of New York. Toward publication of the papers of Albert Gallatin (1761-1848), a friend of John Jacob Astor's, conducted by Baruch College	1,000
New York Landmarks Conservancy, Inc. Second grant toward the Sacred Sites and Properties Fund, which provides grants to religious institutions for restoration projects	25,000	The Rockefeller University. Toward the establishment of a fellowship for post-doctoral investigators from Thailand	5,000
New York Landmarks Conservancy, Inc. Toward the renovation of 64 Havemeyer Street, a former convent in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, as cooperative housing for eleven families	25,000	The Rockefeller University. General support	10,000
New York Landmarks Preservation Foundation, Inc. Toward a program to identify landmark buildings with plaques	2,500	Seamen's Church Institute of New York and New Jersey. Toward renovation of the International Seafarer's Center in Port Newark/Elizabeth, New Jersey	5,000
New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	5,000	Search and Care, Inc. Toward outreach to the homebound elderly on Manhattan's Upper East Side	10,000
New York Society for Advancement Cutaneous Biology & Medicine. Toward the salary of an investigative dermatologist at the New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center	25,000	Seniors Helping Seniors, Inc. Toward outreach to senior citizens in Washington Heights, Manhattan	2,500
New York City Technical College Fund. Toward the establishment of the Center for Intergenerational Reading at New York City Technical College in Brooklyn	25,000	Settlement Housing Fund, Inc. Toward the purchase of furniture and equipment at the Helen Harris Senior Apartments on Manhattan's Lower East Side	1,000

Seventh Avenue Windsor Place Community Association of Brooklyn, Inc. Toward the Association's tree planting program in Park Slope	1,000	Staten Island Historical Society. Toward the relocation and restoration of the Jacob Crocheron House	20,000
Snug Harbor Cultural Center, Inc. Toward the endowment of the Music Hall	25,000	Trust for Public Land. Toward TPL's work acquiring land for public use on Staten Island	10,000
South Street Seaport Museum. General support	5,000	Union Settlement Association, Inc. Toward the expansion of the Settlement's adult literacy program in East Harlem	10,000
St. Ann Center for Restoration and The Arts, Inc. Toward the restoration of the stained glass windows of St. Ann and the Holy Trinity Church in Brooklyn	25,000	United Community Centers Inc. Toward the purchase of instruments for the Center's new marching band	2,500
St. Bernard's School. Toward the capital campaign	1,000	University of California/Institute of Urban & Regional Development. Toward <i>Building New York City</i> , a film about the potential of environmental simulation	5,000
St. Mark's Church in-the-Bowery. Toward the historic structures report to precede the restoration of the Parish House and the fence that surrounds St. Mark's	25,000	Vivian Beaumont Theater, Inc./Lincoln Center Theater. General support	25,000
St. Matthew's and St. Timothy's Neighborhood Center, Inc. Toward a literacy program for pre-school children at this settlement on Manhattan's Upper West Side	10,000	Westpride. General support for Westpride's efforts to promote rational planning principles on Manhattan's Upper West Side	20,000
St. Paul's Memorial Church/Staten Island. Toward the renovation of this landmark church on Staten Island	10,000	Winterthur Museum. Toward a reception held at the New York Public Library on the occasion of the publication of Winterthur's <i>American Elegance</i>	6,000
St. Philip's Church. Toward renovation of the gym floor in the Community Center adjacent to St. Philip's Church in Harlem	25,000	<i>Total Grants for 1988</i>	<i>1,230,500</i>
Stanley M. Isaacs Neighborhood Center, Inc. Toward the adult literacy program at this settlement on Manhattan's Upper East Side	10,000		

# 1989

By the end of the 1980's things in the Bronx began to take a turn for the better, for public funds became available, and many of the buildings that had been burned and abandoned were beginning to be restored as housing for low- and middle-income people. As neighborhoods began to come back, new businesses were starting to locate in the Bronx. I wanted the Foundation's Trustees to see some of these housing and economic development projects, and so we hired a little bus and headed up there. The first stop was a group of fourteen large buildings comprising 900 units that for years had stood empty. They had been taken over by the Settlement Housing Fund, and under the able direction of Carol Lamberg and her staff, were under renovation; the complex would be called New Settlement Apartments. While the interior was almost complete, the main building had no front steps, only a spindly ladder. We all climbed up, including my friend John Pierrepont, who had recently had a knee replacement. A little further north we visited a handsome but abandoned building that had been taken over and was to be renovated by Phipps Houses, a fine non-profit company that has produced affordable housing since 1905. Phipps was raising funds for a playground they wished to construct at the back of the building. Finally we went to an organization called South Bronx 2000. Its founder and president, David Muchnick, showed us an extraordinary glass recycling operation called R2B2. The organization paid people for bottles they brought in, crushed the glass, and sold it to be used for new purposes. The noise of breaking glass was frightful, but we were interested to see this enterprising undertaking. Subsequent to our inspiring afternoon in the Bronx, the Foundation's board approved grants to the three projects we had seen.

American Youth Hostels. Toward the renovation of the former Association Residence, a landmark building on Manhattan's Upper West Side, as a youth hostel	25,000	Boys Brotherhood Republic of New York, Inc. Toward replacing the roof of the BBR building	20,000
ARCS Foundation, Inc. For scholarships to science students from New York State	5,000	Brooklyn Children's Museum. General support	5,000
Asian Americans for Equality. Toward staff to assist homeless families after they move into Equality House, a newly-renovated building in Manhattan's Lower East Side	10,000	Brooklyn Historical Society. Toward renovation of the Society's library	25,000
Asphalt Green. General support	5,000	Brooklyn New School at P.S. 27. To establish a school library	10,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	25,000	Bryant Park Restoration Corp. Toward the renovation of Bryant Park in Manhattan	25,000
Audiences for the Arts, Inc. Toward efforts to preserve the landmark Beacon Theatre at Broadway and 75th Street	5,000	Central Park Conservancy. General support	1,000
Bar Harbor Festival. General support	2,000	Church of the Incarnation. Toward the renovation of this church at Madison Avenue and 35th Street, Manhattan	25,000
		Citizens Committee for New York City, Inc. General support	25,000

City Club of New York. Toward the expenses of the Bard Awards in their 25th anniversary year	1,000	Friendly Place. General support for this storefront reading program in East Harlem	20,000
City Lore, Inc. Toward the exhibition, <i>Tompkins Square: Past and Present</i>	5,000	Friends of the Upper East Side Historic Districts. Toward a preservation manual for owners or managers of designated properties	1,000
Classical America. Toward two classes in basic instruction from the classical point of view, held at the National Academy School of Fine Arts	1,000	Fund for the City of New York. Toward office renovation	430
Community Impact. General support for this program through which Columbia University student volunteers assist low-income people in the Washington Heights/Harlem area	5,000	Goddard-Riverside Community Center. Toward the salary of the Director of Housing	25,000
Cooper Square Committee. Toward architectural and legal fees for 13 East Third Street, renovated for homeless families	20,000	Good Shepherd Services. Toward The Open Book, an adult literacy program in Park Slope, Brooklyn	2,500
Cultural Council Foundation. Toward the Manhattan Decentralization Program, sponsored by the New York State Council on the Arts	5,000	Grace Church in New York. Toward the Grace Opportunity Project, a summer educational enrichment program	1,000
Cultural Council Foundation. Toward the establishment of the Historic House Trust of New York City, which maintains the City's historic house museums	20,000	Greenwich Village School/P.S. 41 Manhattan. Toward the fourth grade's trip to England to visit a PenPal class	5,000
The Door. General support for services to young people	25,000	Historic Hudson Valley. Toward educational programming at Montgomery Place, a new historic site in Annandale-on-Hudson	10,000
Edenwald Gun Hill Neighborhood Center, Inc. Toward a new reading program for young children	3,000	Hope Program. General support for this job training program for homeless men and women	4,000
Educational Broadcasting Corporation/Channel 13 WNET. Toward <i>Eleventh Hour</i> , a week-day news program which concentrates on New York City	25,000	Interfaith Neighbors, Inc. Toward "Witches, Monsters and Goofy Grandmas," an after-school literacy program on Manhattan's Upper East Side	4,000
Enterprise Foundation. Toward housing rehabilitation in New York City	25,000	Juilliard School. General support	2,500
Forest Hills Community House. Toward a program to assist homeless families in welfare hotels to find apartments and achieve economic independence	25,000	Lamb's/Manhattan Church of the Nazarene. Toward the restoration of this church at at 128 West 44th Street	25,000
Frick Collection. Toward the 50th anniversary concert season	2,500	Landmark West. Toward the preservation of historic buildings and districts on Manhattan's Upper West Side	1,000
Frick Collection. For the re-cataloguing project at the Frick Art Reference Library	5,000	Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. For the historic structure report presented to the Landmark Preservation Commission about First Avenue Estates, a 1200-unit building complex on Manhattan's Upper East Side	2,000
Frick Collection. General support for the Frick Art Reference Library	3,000	Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	1,250



Literacy Partners, Inc. Toward the adult reader publishing program	25,000	Vartan Gregorian Farewell Endowment	25,000
Local Initiatives Support Corporation. Toward renovation of 650 units of housing in Brooklyn, Manhattan, and the Bronx	25,000	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. For a farewell dinner for Dr. Vartan Gregorian, President of the NYPL	15,000
Metropolitan Museum of Art. General support	7,500	New York City Technical College Fund. Renewed support for The Center for Intergenerational Reading	25,000
Metropolitan Museum of Art. To endow the Brooke Russell Astor Curatorship of Far Eastern Decorative Art	1,500,000	New York University. Toward The Herbert R. Silverman Scholarship Fund	1,000
Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc. General support	10,000	Northeast Harbor Library. For the Astor Special Opportunity Grants awarded to students enrolled at the Northeast Harbor Elementary or Regional High School	3,500
Municipal Art Society of New York, Inc. General support	25,000	NYZS/The Wildlife Conservation Society. General support	1,250
Museum of the City of New York. General support	1,250	NYZS/The Wildlife Conservation Society. Toward the fabrication of two bronze rhinoceroses for Astor Court	25,000
Museum of the City of New York. Toward plans for the Museum's renovation	25,000	Open Space Institute. Toward the costs of using the boat William O. Benson to promote the Hudson River Valley Greenway	2,500
National Academy of Design. General support	1,250	P.S. 151—Manhattan/District 2. To enable P.S. 151 to give books to every student	5,000
Natural Heritage Trust. Toward the work of the Hudson River Valley Greenway Council	10,000	Phipps Community Development Corp. Toward the construction of a playground at a building newly renovated for homeless families at 2136 Crotona Parkway, Bronx	25,000
Natural Resources Defense Council. For dissemination of information about NRDC's new energy-efficient office in Manhattan	25,000	Pierpont Morgan Library. Toward repair of the Library's roof	25,000
New York City Outward Bound Center. Toward the literacy component of Outward Bound programs at four NYC high schools	25,000	Planned Parenthood of New York City, Inc. Toward the capital campaign	25,000
New York City School Volunteer Program, Inc. General support	10,000	Police Athletic League. Toward PAL's Summer Reading Van program	2,000
New York City Street Tree Consortium Inc. General support	1,000	Preservation League of New York State. General support	1,000
New York Landmarks Preservation Foundation, Inc. Toward the Commission's program to identify landmark buildings by specially designed plaques	1,000	Prospect Park Alliance. General support	25,000
New York Landmarks Preservation Foundation, Inc. General support	1,000	Queens College Foundation. Toward a reading program for teenage parents and their children at Far Rockaway High School, Queens	10,000
New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	5,000	The Rockefeller University. General support	2,500
New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. Toward the			

*New Settlement  
Apartments, the Bronx*

Seamen's Church Institute of New York and New Jersey. Toward the capital campaign	5,000	Volunteers of America of Greater New York. Toward Project Adaptive Literacy (PAL)	10,000
Settlement Housing Fund, Inc. Toward the pre-development costs of New Settlement Apartments, a 900-unit complex in the West Bronx	25,000	We Can, Inc. Toward the program to help low-income people through the collection and redemption of returnable bottles and cans	1,000
South Bronx 2000 Local Development Corporation, Inc. General support	25,000	We Care About New York, Inc. General support for efforts to address issues relating to litter	1,000
South Street Seaport Museum. General support	5,000	West Side Community Garden, Inc. For a bench in the West Side Community Garden	500
South Street Seaport Museum. Toward restoration of the Titanic Memorial at the Seaport	25,000	Westpride. Toward Westpride's efforts to promote rational planning principles on Manhattan's Upper West Side	25,000
University of California/Institute of Urban & Regional Development. Toward <i>Building New York City</i> , a film about the potential of environmental simulation	3,070	Women's City Club of New York, Inc. To publicize <i>NYC Zoning: The Need for Reform</i> , a report prepared by the Women's City Club and the Natural Resources Defense Council	5,000
University Settlement. For the salary of a social worker to assist families once they have moved into permanent housing	28,000	Youth Communication/New York Center, Inc. For "Read All About It," a column in <i>New Youth Connections</i> about readers' favorite books	10,000
View from the Torch/Friends of the Public Schools. To send the children's chorus from P.S. 39 (Brooklyn) to the America Sings Festival in Washington, D. C.	2,000	<i>Total Grants for 1989</i>	<i>2,600,500</i>
Vivian Beaumont Theater, Inc./Lincoln Center Theater. General support	25,000		

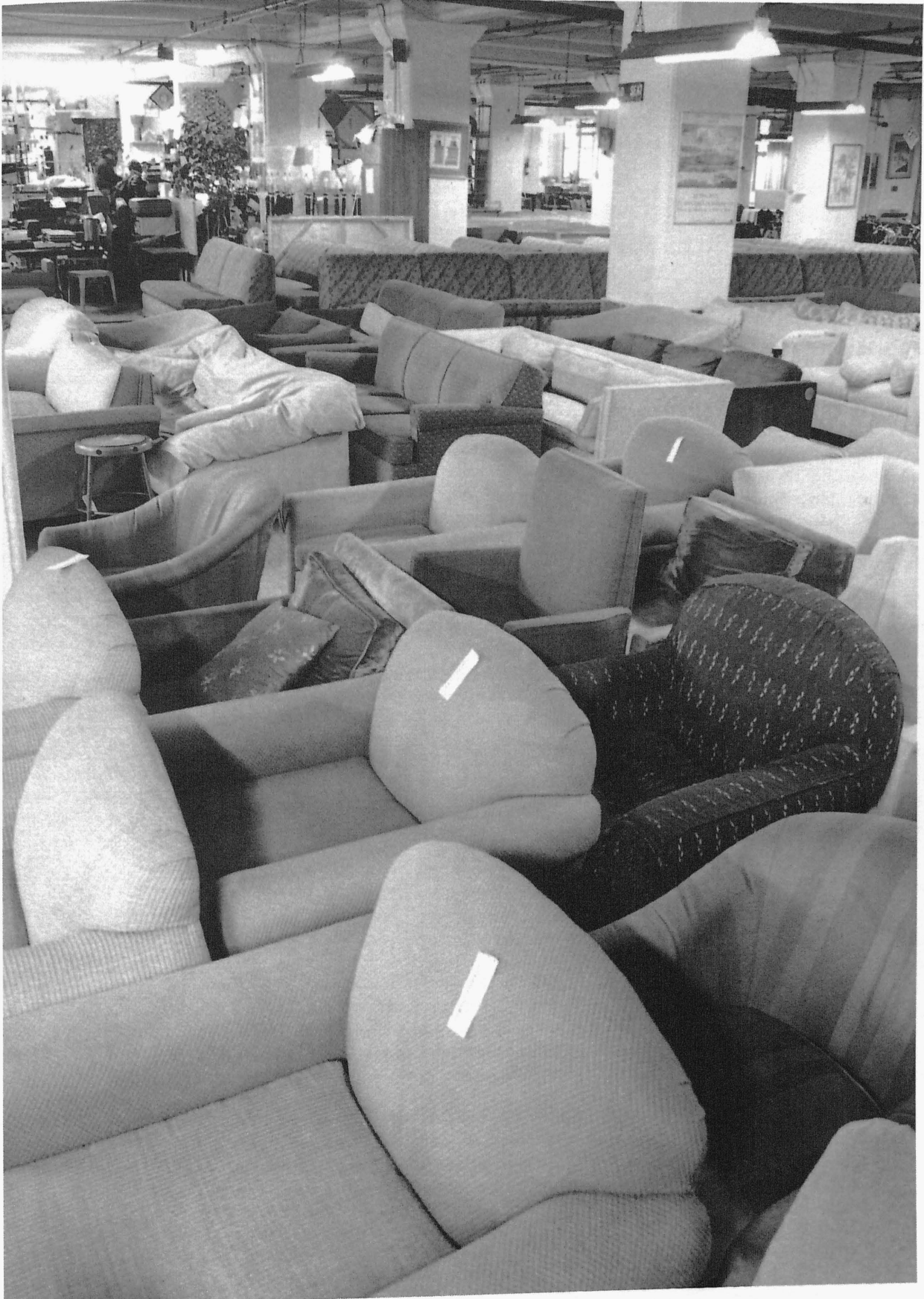
In the fall of 1989, Linda Gillies and I visited two formerly homeless families who had recently moved into apartments in Queens. Although the apartments were perfectly adequate, they were not real homes, for they had only the barest essentials—mattresses on the floor, a kitchen table, and a few dishes provided by a \$700 furnishing allowance from the city. “How,” I wondered as we headed back in the car to Manhattan, “can these people build new lives when they have nothing to sit on?” I asked Linda to find out if there were any organizations that distributed second-hand furniture. She discovered a few, and we assembled a group of interested people in my office to discuss the possibility of a city-wide program. After several meetings, it appeared that The Partnership for the Homeless was the best candidate to develop such a project. They prepared a proposal for a program they named Furnish A Future (FAF) and began to seek support for it; fortunately both the city and private foundations responded positively. Under the very able leadership of a new director, Marjory Rice, FAF was established in a large warehouse in Brooklyn, just under the Manhattan Bridge. At first the furniture came mostly from individuals and then, thanks to help from a committed group of leaders in the furniture industry, hotels and businesses began to contribute (a hotel renovates its rooms on the average of every five years!). People in need of furniture go to the warehouse to select what they would like, and the items are delivered to them. Each year approximately 2,000 families and 150 social service agencies benefit from the program. I feel that FAF is one of the best things that the Foundation has done, and I am very proud of it.

Alliance for the Arts. Toward the revision of the <i>Kids Culture Catalog</i> , a computerized information system available to teachers and students through WNET/Channel 13's <i>Learning Link</i>	2,000	Books for Kids Foundation. General support for this book distribution program	10,000
America-Italy Society. General support	1,000	Bronx Educational Services. General support for this adult literacy program	10,000
American Reading Council, Ltd. General support for Open Sesame, a reading program in four NYC public schools	20,000	Brooklyn Tech Research Foundation. For the development of a research library in the project room of the Technology and Liberal Arts Program at Brooklyn Technical High School	5,000
Animal Medical Center. General support	10,000	Church of the Resurrection. For the purchase of books and bookcases at the Church's tutorial program in East Harlem	3,000
Artsconnection. Toward The Writing Program, designed to revive the publication of public high school newspapers	15,000	City Parks Foundation. General support	15,000
Association of Neighborhood & Housing Development, Inc. General support	1,500	Civitas Citizens, Inc. Toward Civitas's proposed plan to re-zone five East Side avenues in Manhattan	2,500
Astor Home for Children. General support	25,000	Classical America. Toward classes in basic instruction from the classical point of view, held at the National Academy School of Fine Arts	1,000
Beachside Bungalow Preservation Association of Far Rockaway. General support	2,500		



Colonial Dames of America Abigail Adams Smith Museum. Toward the re-interpretation of the period rooms of the Abigail Adams Smith Museum	25,000	High School of Telecommunication Arts & Technology. For books in the after-school reading group for students and teachers at this Brooklyn high school	1,500
Coro Foundation. Toward the first year of Leadership New York, a program to encourage new civic leadership	25,000	Historic Districts Council, Inc. General support	500
Covenant House. General support	5,000	Historic Hudson Valley. Toward establishing an endowed fund for education programs	50,000
Cultural Council Foundation. Toward the Manhattan Decentralization Program, sponsored by the New York State Council on the Arts	5,000	Hope Program. General support for this job training program for homeless men and women	5,000
The Door. General support	25,000	Independent Friends of McCarren Park. Toward the preservation of McCarren Park's 1936 giant swimming pool and bath houses	2,500
Earth Day 1990. Toward Earth Day, New York City	2,500	Interfaith Neighbors, Inc. Toward the East Side Learning Express, an afterschool literacy program	10,000
Edenwald Gun Hill Neighborhood Center. Toward the reading program for young children at this neighborhood center in the northeast Bronx	1,000	Jericho Project. For a van to be used for transportation between Jericho's two residences on Manhattan's Upper West Side	25,000
Educational Broadcasting Corporation/ Channel 13 WNET. Toward Channel 13's capital campaign	150,000	Juilliard School. General support	2,500
Eldridge Street Project. General support	25,000	Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	1,250
Emmaus House. General support for Emmaus House's work with formerly homeless people	2,500	Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Inc. General support	2,500
Frick Collection. For the re-cataloguing project at The Frick Art Reference Library	5,000	Literacy Partners, Inc. Toward the adult reader publishing program	25,000
Fund for Aging Services, Inc. Toward Citymeals-on-Wheels, a meal delivery program for homebound elderly	1,000	Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward the purchase of a landscape painting by Peter Paul Rubens	100,000
General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen of New York City. Toward a new lighting system for the General Society Library in mid-Manhattan	10,000	Metropolitan Museum of Art. For acquisition of photographic storage cabinets	25,000
Grace Church in New York. Toward the Grace Opportunity Project, a summer educational enrichment program	1,000	Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc. General support	10,000
Green Guerillas, Inc. Toward the community garden program	1,000	Morris-Jumel Mansion. Toward the plan for a capital campaign	15,000
Hansborough Recreation Center Conservancy. Toward the development of a fundraising plan	2,500	Municipal Art Society of New York, Inc. Toward Hunters Point Community Coalition's simulated illustration of the proposed Hunters Point waterfront redevelopment plan	2,500
Harvard University. General support	5,000		

*Furnish A Future*



Museum of the City of New York. General support	1,250	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	25,000
Museum of the City of New York. Toward the cost of moving part of the Museum's collections to storage in anticipation of renovation work	10,000	New York City Technical College Fund. Renewed support for the Center for Intergenerational Reading	20,000
Natural Heritage Trust. Toward the work of the Hudson River Valley Greenway Council	10,000	New York University. Toward Reading Recovery, a program for first-graders	25,000
Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter, Inc. Toward the salary of a social worker to work with tenants at the Coalition's SRO residence on Manhattan's Upper East Side	15,000	Northeast Harbor Library. For the Astor Special Opportunity grants awarded to students enrolled at Northeast Harbor Elementary or Regional High School	3,500
Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government/SUNY. General support	3,500	NYZS/The Wildlife Conservation Society. General support	1,250
New York Bar Foundation. Toward the renovation of a conference room at the State Bar Center named for Judge David W. Peck, a Foundation Trustee from 1961 to 1990	25,000	P.S. 151-Manhattan/District 2. Toward the Book-In-Hand project, which enables P.S. 151-M to give books to every student	4,500
New York Botanical Garden. general support	1,250	P.S. 87-Manhattan Parent Association. Toward books and tapes for P.S. 87's library	5,000
New York Botanical Garden. Toward the Garden's program to improve visitor services	25,000	Park Slope Project Reach Youth, Inc. Toward the construction of a reading loft and purchase of books for PRY's Learning Center in Park Slope, Brooklyn	10,000
New York City Street Tree Consortium Inc. General support	1,000	Parks Council. Toward the renovation of the Parks Council's new offices in the Urban Center	15,000
New York Dance Center, Inc. Toward acquisition of 890 Broadway, a building which houses a variety of performing arts organizations	20,000	Partnership for the Homeless. Toward the establishment of Furnish A Future, a furniture distribution program for formerly homeless people	25,000
New-York Historical Society. Toward the Encyclopedia of New York City project	2,500	Partnership for the Homeless. Toward the establishment of Furnish A Future, a furniture distribution program for formerly homeless people	25,000
New York Landmarks Conservancy, Inc. General support	1,000	Pastoral and Educational Services, Inc. Toward renovation of Brooklyn Gardens, a 136-unit building in Greenpoint, which houses single adults and single mothers with children	25,000
New York Landmarks Conservancy, Inc. Toward the Sacred Sites and Properties Fund	25,000	Pierpont Morgan Library. Toward a courtyard to connect the library complex on 36th Street and Madison Avenue with the Morgan Mansion on 37th Street	150,000
New York Landmarks Preservation Foundation, Inc. General support	1,000	Playhouse Preservation Association, Inc. General support for the Helen Hayes/ Tappan Zee Performing Arts Center	2,000
New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	5,000		
New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. Toward the exhibition <i>Kingdoms of Land, Sea and Sky: 400 Years of Animal Illustrations</i>	25,000		

Playhouse Preservation Association, Inc. General support for the Helen Hayes/Tappan Zee Performing Arts Center	4,000	Staten Island Historical Society. Toward the restoration of the Jacob Crocheron House	20,000
Preservation League of New York State. General support	2,500	Union Settlement Association, Inc. Renewed support for the Settlement's adult literacy program in East Harlem	10,000
Preservation League of New York State. General support	1,000	Vivian Beaumont Theater, Inc./ Lincoln Center Theater. General support	15,000
Regional Plan Association. Toward visual presentation materials for RPA's third regional plan	25,000	We Can, Inc. Toward the program to help low-income people through the collection and redemption of returnable bottles and cans	1,000
The Rockefeller University. Toward the capital campaign	50,000	We Care About New York, Inc. General support for efforts to address issues relating to litter	1,000
Seamen's Church Institute of New York and New Jersey. General support	2,000	West Village Committee. For an engineering study to show the viability of placing tunnel ventilation equipment below ground near West and Morton Streets	2,500
Seamen's Church Institute of New York and New Jersey. General support	500	Westpride. Toward Westpride's efforts to promote rational planning principles on Manhattan's Upper West Side	25,000
Skin Disease Society. Toward the salary of an investigative dermatologist at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center	15,000	Women's City Club of New York, Inc. To publicize <i>New York Zoning: The Need for Reform</i> , a report prepared by the Women's City Club and Natural Resources Defense Council	3,000
South Bronx 2000 Local Development Corporation, Inc. Toward housing rehabilitation and waste recycling programs	25,000		
South Street Seaport Museum. General support	1,500		
St. Matthew's and St. Timothy's Neighborhood Center, Inc. Toward a literacy program for pre-school children at this settlement on Manhattan's Upper West Side	10,000		
		<i>Total Grants for 1990</i>	<i>1,415,000</i>

# 1991

In the spring of 1991, we went to Central Harlem to meet with Karen Phillips, head of the Abyssinian Development Corporation, which was founded by the Abyssinian Baptist Church. Under her leadership, Abyssinian has built or renovated many buildings, reviving blocks that once had been commandeered by addicts and drug dealers, and providing housing for hundreds of low-income people. As we were leaving, Karen asked if we would like to see Astor Row. "Astor Row?" we asked, never having heard of it. She took us to 130th Street between Fifth and Lenox Avenues, where we came upon twenty-eight four-story, landmark buildings set back from the street, each with a marvelous wooden porch. They were built in 1881 on land owned by William Backhouse Astor, Vincent's grandfather. Most of the Astor Row buildings were in very poor condition, the window frames and brick facades crumbling, the porches falling apart. Could the Foundation be of help in restoring this beautiful but deteriorated block? We asked Karen Phillips, Susan Jones, head of the New York Landmarks Conservancy, and Laurie Beckelman, then chairman of the Landmarks Preservation Commission, to a meeting, and after talking it over, we agreed to proceed. As each of the houses had different owners, putting together such a project was a complicated job, but thanks to the experience and good will of all involved, a plan was made. The Astor Foundation contributed a total of \$700,000 to the New York Landmarks Conservancy for the restoration of the porches, and additional funds were assembled from city and state agencies, corporations, other foundations, and from the owners of the buildings. I have visited Astor Row many times to watch the progress, which is slow but sure, and feel privileged to have made friends with Eloise Calloway, one of the owners. I went twice to tea in her impeccably neat house, which has books in every room. As the Astor Row project is not yet complete—of the twenty-eight porches, eleven have yet to be restored—in 1997 the Foundation gave \$500,000 to the New York Landmarks Conservancy for future work. We are confident that one day all the Astor Row porches will be completed.

Abyssinian Development Corporation. General support for this housing program in Central Harlem	25,000	Animal Medical Center. General support	10,000
Access Development Fund. Toward books and recreational equipment at 159-161 East 102nd Street, which has been renovated as permanent housing for formerly homeless mentally unstable single people	10,000	Association for Neighborhood & Housing Development, Inc. General support	2,500
Alliance for the Arts. Toward the "Electronic Kids Culture Catalog," a computerized information system available to teachers and students through WNET/Channel 13's "Learning Link"	5,000	Astor Home for Children. General support	25,000
		Beachside Bungalow Preservation Association of Far Rockaway. General support	2,500
		Boys Harbor, Inc. For the library's reading program	25,000
		Catholic Charities/Diocese of Brooklyn. Toward a Revolving Loan Fund, which financed the start-up of 8-10 housing renovation projects each year	25,000

*Astor Row*



Children's Museum of Manhattan. \$10,000 toward Education and Outreach Program; \$7,000 toward a series of ten video and editing classes for public high school students in the Museum's Media Center	17,000	Fund for Architecture and the Environment. Toward the Public Toilets Project in Manhattan	4,500
Church of the Holy Apostles. Toward the restoration of the church roof	25,000	Fund for Public Schools. Toward the Family School Literacy Center at P.S. 153 in Community School District 1 in the Bronx	3,500
City Planning Department Fund. Toward the City Planning Commission's one-day symposium, "Zoning New York City: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow"	2,500	Good Old Lower East Side, Inc. Toward housing preservation and development on the Lower East Side	2,000
Classical America. Toward two classes in basic instruction from the classical point of view, held at the National Academy School of Fine Arts	1,000	Good Shepherd Services. Toward Open Book, an adult literacy program in Park Slope, Brooklyn	5,000
Community Access. General support	2,500	Grace Church Brooklyn Heights. Toward repairs and restoration of this landmark church in Brooklyn Heights	25,000
Community Impact. General support for this program through which Columbia University student volunteers assist low-income people in the Washington Heights/Harlem area	1,000	Grace Church in New York. Toward Grace Opportunity Project, a summer educational enrichment program	1,000
Cornell University Medical College. Toward an endowed Professorship of Dermatology	10,000	Green Chimneys. For books and supplies in the Green Chimneys library	1,000
David M. Hunt Library and School Association. Toward renovation and restoration of The David M. Hunt Library, a historic building in Falls Village, CT	5,000	Green Guerillas, Inc. Toward the city-wide community garden program	1,000
East Harlem Tutorial Program, Inc. Toward EHTP's after-school reading program	5,000	Green Guerillas, Inc. General support	1,000
Edenwald Gun Hill Neighborhood Center, Inc. Toward the after-school reading program at this Bronx neighborhood center	1,000	Henry Street Settlement. Toward the Parent Storytelling Workshop Program, a family literacy program in collaboration with Community District 1 in Manhattan	5,000
Enterprise Foundation. General support for the Enterprise Foundation's work in providing technical and financial assistance to neighborhood based housing programs throughout New York City	25,000	Highbridge Community Life Center. Toward the Homeless to Highbridge Transition Program, designed to help integrate formerly homeless families into the Highbridge, Bronx community	20,100
Forest Hills Community House. Toward the Homeless Families Project	15,000	Historic House Trust of New York City. Renewed support for the Historic House Restoration Crew	20,000
Fresh Air Fund. Toward a summer literacy program at Camp Fishkill	15,000	Homes for New Yorkers. Toward completion of a playground for a newly-renovated building for low-income families at 2136 Crotona Parkway, Bronx	5,000
Friendly Place. General support for this storefront reading program in East Harlem	20,000	Hope Program. General support for this job training program for homeless men and women	5,000
Friends of Gateway. General support	1,000	Independent Friends of McCarren Park. Toward the preservation of McCarren Park's 1936 giant swimming pool and bath houses	1,000
Fund for Aging Services, Inc. Toward Citymeals-on-Wheels, a meal delivery program for homebound elderly	1,000		

Interfaith Neighbors, Inc. Toward the East Side Learning Express, an after-school literacy program on Manhattan's Upper East Side	5,000	Natural Resources Defense Council. Toward establishment of the Urban Law Center, which provides free legal counsel to organizations working on a variety of environmental issues in New York City	20,000
Juilliard School. Toward the new residence hall at Lincoln Center	10,000	Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government/SUNY. General support	1,000
Juilliard School. General support	10,000	New School for Social Research. General support for the New York Environmental Simulation Center	25,000
King Manor Association of Long Island. Toward plans for expansion of education and special programs at King Manor Museum in Jamaica	2,500	New Visions for Public Schools. Toward books, equipment, and part-time staff at libraries in three Early Childhood Centers in the Bronx	23,625
Lamb's/Manhattan Church of the Nazarene. Toward restoration of this landmark church in Manhattan	2,500	New York Botanical Garden. General support	2,500
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	1,250	New York Botanical Garden. General support	1,250
Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Inc. General support	2,500	New York Botanical Garden. Toward the Children's Education Program and Bronx Green-Up, a community garden program	25,000
Local Initiatives Support Corporation. Toward renovation of 650 units of housing in the Bronx, Brooklyn, and Manhattan	25,000	New York Cares. General support for this volunteer recruitment and placement organization	2,000
Lower East Side Tenement Museum. Toward renovations to enable the Museum to comply with current building codes, allowing it to open to the public	25,000	New York City Outward Bound Center. Toward the literacy component of Outward Bound programs at six NYC public high schools	10,000
Marine Corps Command and Staff College Foundation, Inc. A one-time grant toward purchase of an optical storage and retrieval system at the new Marine Corps University Library, Quantico, Virginia	500,000	New York City School Volunteer Program, Inc. Toward "Read Aloud," celebrating SVP's 35th anniversary by bringing celebrities and other readers into 100 NYC public schools to read aloud to third graders	5,000
Metropolitan Museum of Art. General support for the Department of Asian Art	22,500	New York City Street Tree Consortium, Inc. General support	1,000
Metropolitan Museum of Art. General support	25,000	New-York Historical Society. Toward renovation of the NYHS library's Reading Room	25,000
Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc. General support	10,000	New York Landmarks Conservancy, Inc. For the Astor Row Porch Restoration Project	500,000
Municipal Art Society of New York, Inc. General support	25,000	New York Landmarks Conservancy, Inc. Renewed support for the Sacred Sites and Properties Fund	25,000
Museum of the City of New York. General support	1,250		
Museum of the City of New York. General support	10,000		
National Book Foundation. Toward The Writing Life, a program which enables writers to have brief "residencies" at settlement houses	5,000		



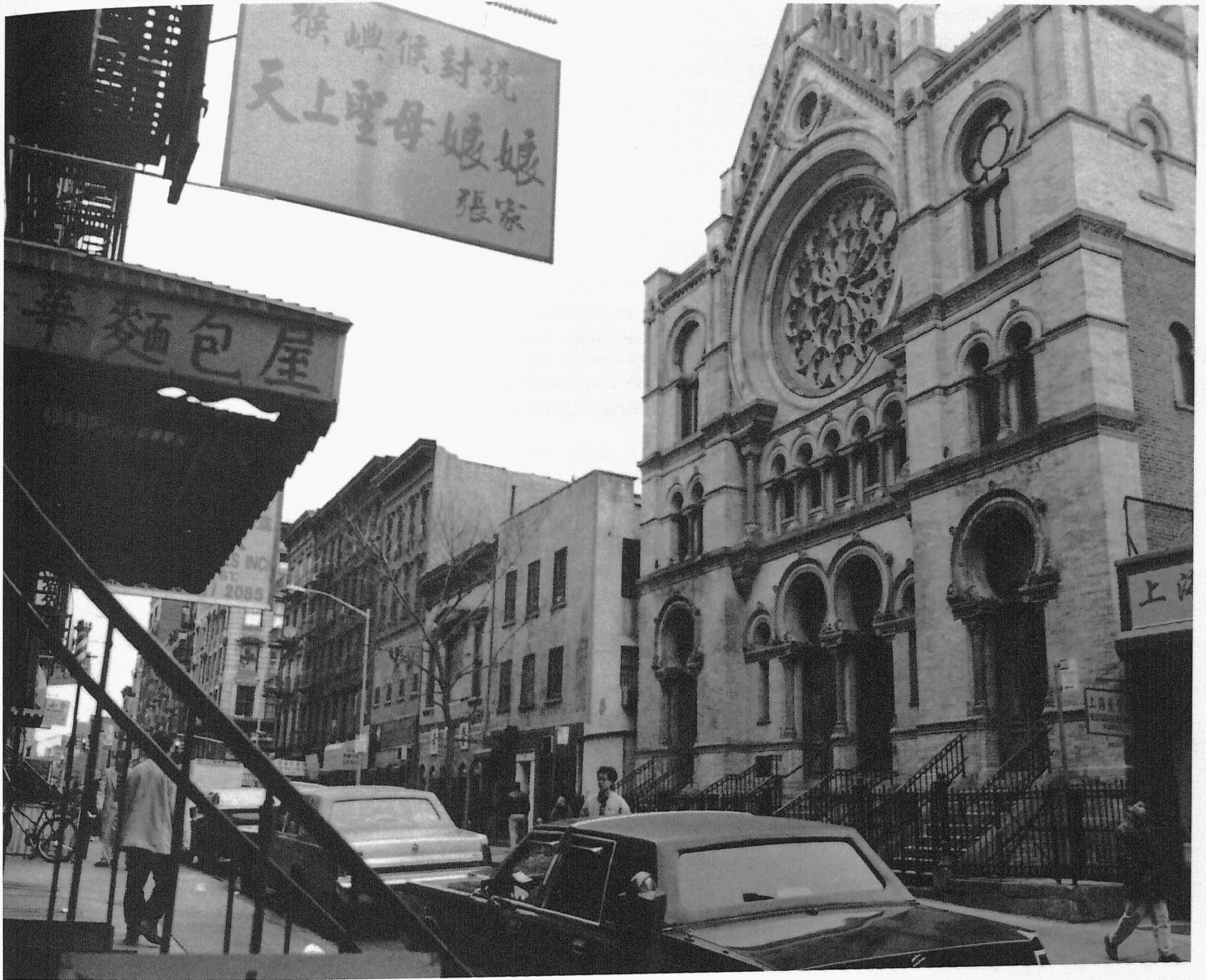
New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	5,000	Roundabout Theatre Company, Inc. Toward the 25th Anniversary Campaign	2,500
New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	25,000	Settlement Housing Fund, Inc. Toward counseling and services for formerly homeless families who have moved to New Settlement Apartments, Highbridge, Bronx	15,000
New York Shakespeare Festival. Toward structural repairs and maintenance of the Public Theater building	50,000	South Street Seaport Museum. General support	4,000
Northeast Harbor Library. For the Astor Special Opportunity grants awarded to students enrolled at Northeast Harbor Elementary or Regional High School	3,500	St. Ann Center for Restoration and the Arts, Inc. Toward restoration of the Church of St. Ann and the Holy Trinity, Brooklyn Heights	25,000
NYZS/The Wildlife Conservation Society. General support	1,250	St. Mark's Church in-the-Bowery. Toward restoration of the Rectory	25,000
NYZS/The Wildlife Conservation Society. Toward the National Environmental Education Center on Astor Court	250,000	St. Matthew's and St. Timothy's Neighborhood Center, Inc. Toward the Toddler and Parent Program, a comprehensive literacy program at this neighborhood center on Manhattan's Upper West Side	5,000
Old Dutch Church of Sleepy Hollow. Toward the Old Dutch Church Preservation Fund	5,000	Stanley M. Isaacs Neighborhood Center, Inc. Toward the Educational Enrichment Program, an after-school literacy program	5,000
Old Merchants House of New York, Inc. Toward renovation work at the House	25,000	Tivoli Community Association. Toward the restoration of the Watts dePeyster Firemens Hall in Tivoli, New York	1,000
P.S. 151-Manhattan/District 2. Toward renovation of the library	25,000	Turtle Bay Tree Fund. General support	1,000
Partnership for Quality Education, Inc. Toward the capital campaign	25,000	Union Settlement Association, Inc. Renewed support for the Settlement's adult literacy program in East Harlem	5,000
Partnership for the Homeless. General support for Furnish A Future, a furniture distribution program for formerly homeless families	50,000	Van Cortlandt & Pelham Bay Parks. General support	2,500
Pierpont Morgan Library. General support	5,000	Vivian Beaumont Theater, Inc./Lincoln Center Theater. General support	10,000
Poets House. General support	1,000	We Can, Inc. Toward the program to help low-income people through the collection and redemption of returnable bottles and cans	2,000
Police Athletic League, Inc. Toward PAL's Summer Reading Van program	2,500	West Side Community Garden, Inc. General support	1,000
Preservation League of New York State. General support	1,000	<i>Total Grants for 1991</i>	<i>2,328,225</i>
Preservation League of New York State. General support	3,000		
Preservation League of New York State. General support	1,000		
Queens College Foundation. Toward expansion of the Family Literacy Program, a reading program for teenage parents in Queens and the Bronx	20,000		

# 1992

Anyone interested in New York's historic buildings ends up going often to Manhattan's Lower East Side, where in the nineteenth century so much was built to house and serve the millions of immigrants who settled there. In some cases these structures fall into disuse and then, miraculously, are brought back to life. At this time we visited three such buildings, the Eldridge Street Synagogue, the Lower Eastside Tenement Museum, and Gouverneur Hospital. Because the congregation had dwindled, the sanctuary of the synagogue was closed in the 1950's and was not opened again until about 1980. Although covered in dust, much of the elaborate woodwork and brilliant green stained glass were intact. Roberta Brandes Gratz, a journalist with a passion for preservation, became interested in the building and led the effort to restore it. When we first went to visit, she showed us the ark where the Torah was kept. With one finger I was easily able to slide open its door, unused for so many years. A few blocks away at 97 Orchard Street is a tenement built in 1883. It contained twenty three-room apartments, and there was no plumbing or running water. At one point eighteen people occupied a single apartment. Eventually water and an indoor toilet for every two families were installed, but by 1929 the tenement violated the building code, and it was sealed until the 1980's. As Ruth Abram, an enterprising historian who in 1984 began the successful effort to make the tenement into a museum, showed us around, we were haunted by the small dark rooms, which seemed to transport us back a century. Finally, in 1992 we visited Gouverneur Hospital, a large abandoned brick building that is characterized by two large bays facing the East River. The hospital was built in 1885 as a branch of Bellevue that would provide the "medical and surgical treatment of persons wounded or taken ill in the streets of the city." Medically obsolete, the building was closed in 1970 and for many years was a sad sight for all who passed by on the East Side Drive. When we went to visit, the structure was in such dangerous condition that we could not go inside, but Steven Coe, head of Community Access, described plans for renovating the building as housing for 123 homeless and mentally unstable people. Today Gouverneur Court, as it is called, functions well as such. The Astor Foundation made grants toward the restoration of these three buildings—success stories all.

Abyssinian Development Corporation. Toward a study analyzing the impact of landmark designation on properties in Central Harlem	2,500	Beachside Bungalow Preservation Association of Far Rockaway. General support	2,500
Abyssinian Development Corporation. General support for this housing and economic development program in Central Harlem	25,000	Books for Kids Foundation. For the dissemination of books to day care centers and other agencies	5,000
Animal Medical Center. General support	10,000	Bronx Educational Services. Toward the adult reading program	5,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	25,000	Brooklyn Historic Railway Association. Toward the display of a trolley car at 42nd Street and Fifth Avenue on Earth Day	1,250

Brooklyn Tech Research Foundation. For the development of a research library at Brooklyn Technical High School	1,000	Edenwald Gun Hill Neighborhood Center, Inc. Toward "Books 'N' Things," an after- school reading program in the Bronx	5,000
Carroll Gardens Neighborhood Women. Toward CGNW's adult and intergenerational literacy programs in South Brooklyn	2,500	Educational Broadcasting Corporation/ Channel 13 WNET. Toward national distribution of the <i>Charlie Rose</i> program	200,000
Central Park Conservancy. Toward the establishment of a Tree Trust to sustain the Conservancy's tree care program	10,000	Eldridge Street Project. General support for the renovation of the Eldridge Street Synagogue on Manhattan's Lower East Side	25,000
Checkerboard Foundation. Toward free distribution of the film <i>Shadow of a Dream: Television and the Black Image</i> to schools and libraries in New York City	5,000	Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies, Inc. Toward the renovation of the Federation's landmark headquarters building on Park Avenue South	28,000
Citizens Committee for New York City, Inc. General support	8,000	Frick Collection. Toward the Research Libraries cataloguing project	2,500
Citizens Committee for New York City, Inc. Toward the New York office of "Save Our Cities/Save Our Children," a march on Washington, May 11, 1992	25,000	Frick Collection. Toward an endowed fund for the Frick Art Reference Library	50,000
City College School of Education/Center for Educational Options. Toward the Center for Educational Options' reading and teacher training programs in ten NYC public schools	5,000	Friends of the Seventh Regiment/Seventh Regiment Armory. Toward restoration and preservation of the Seventh Regiment Armory in Manhattan	2,500
City College School of Education/Center for Educational Options. Toward the Center's programs in ten NYC public schools	25,000	Girl Scout Council of Greater New York. For a pilot project applying the Episcopal Mission Society's Network in the Schools program techniques to Girl Scout troops In New York City	5,000
City Parks Foundation. General support	5,000	Goddard-Riverside Community Center. Toward housing programs at this settlement on Manhattan's Upper West Side	2,500
City Parks Foundation. General support for Van Cortlandt and Pelham Bay Parks	1,250	Goodwill Industries of Greater New York. Toward renovation and expansion of Goodwill's building in Queens	25,000
Citymeals-on-Wheels. General support	1,000	Grace Church in New York. Toward the Grace Opportunity Project, a summer educational enrichment program in Manhattan	1,000
Civitas Citizens, Inc. Toward the East Harlem/Upper Madison Avenue Study, a joint project with East Harlem Community Board 11	2,500	Gracie Mansion Conservancy. General support	25,000
Coalition to Save City & Suburban Housing, Inc. Toward legal costs to protect the landmark status of the entire City & Suburban Complex on Manhattan's Upper East Side	30,000	Gramercy Neighborhood Associates. To complete the funding for a booklet about the Gramercy Park Historic District in Manhattan	2,500
Community Access. Toward plans for a water garden at Gouverneur Court, a 123-unit apartment building for low-income people on Manhattan's Lower East Side	22,000	Green Guerillas, Inc. Toward the community outreach gardening program	2,000
East Harlem Tutorial Program, Inc. General support	5,000		



High School of Telecommunication Arts & Technology. For books in the after-school reading group at this Brooklyn high school

1,000

Historic Districts Council, Inc.  
General support

4,000

Historic Hudson Valley. General support

10,000

Historic Hudson Valley. General support

25,000

Hope Program. General support for this job training program for homeless men and women in Brooklyn

5,000

Housing Partnership Development.  
Toward a financial and marketing plan for the City & Suburban housing complex on Manhattan's Upper East Side

25,000

Housing Symphony Orchestra, Inc.  
General support

1,000

Independent Friends of McCarren Park.  
Toward the preservation of McCarren Park's giant 1936 swimming pool and bath houses in Brooklyn

1,000

*Eldridge Street  
Synagogue*

Interfaith Neighbors, Inc. Toward <i>Challenge</i> , an after-school reading program on Manhattan's Upper East Side	5,000	Metropolitan Transportation Authority of the State of New York. Toward <i>Transitions</i> , a pilot program to identify and assist chronic homeless substance abusers living in subway stations (grant returned and transferred to Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association for same project)	30,000
Kennedy Child Study Center. Toward a barrier-free garden for mentally retarded children and their families at the Center's West Farm facility in the Bronx	2,500	Morris-Jumel Mansion. General support	25,000
King Manor Association of Long Island. Toward the development of public education programs at King Manor Museum in Jamaica	25,000	National Audubon Society. Toward renovation of the Society's historic headquarters building in Manhattan to energy-efficient standards	25,000
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support for this settlement on Manhattan's Upper East Side	2,500	Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government/SUNY. General support	2,000
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. Contribution made in honor of John Pierpont, a Trustee of the Astor Foundation	5,000	New Visions for Public Schools. Second grant toward books, equipment, and part-time staff at libraries in three early childhood centers in the Bronx	23,625
Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Inc. General support	2,500	New York Botanical Garden. \$12,500 toward the Children's Education Program; \$12,500 toward Bronx Green-Up, a community gardening program	25,000
Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Inc. Toward Lincoln Center's Program Endowment Fund	20,000	New York Cares. General support for volunteer recruitment and placement	2,000
Literacy Partners, Inc. Toward the adult reader publishing program	10,000	New York City School Volunteer Program, Inc. Toward the Read-Aloud Program in NYC public schools	5,000
Literacy Assistance Center. Toward the International Adult Literacy Conference held in New York City, August 1992	2,500	New York City Street Tree Consortium, Inc. General support	1,000
Literacy Assistance Center. Toward the International Adult Literacy Conference held in New York City, August 1992	2,500	New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center. Toward The Friends Fund	100,000
Manhattan Borough Development Corporation. Toward the Big Apple Greeter Program, which assists tourists in New York City	2,500	New York Landmarks Conservancy, Inc. General support	1,000
Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward the Family Pass Program, which provides free admissions for family member of children participating in the school visits program	25,000	New York Main Street Alliance. Toward assistance for the Sheepshead Bay Waterfront Development Coalition, Brooklyn	3,000
Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward purchase of a Zeiss Axiovert metallographic microscope for the Objects Conservation Department	20,000	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	5,000
Metropolitan Museum of Art. General support	25,000	New York City Technical College Fund. General support for the Center for Intergenerational Reading in Brooklyn	20,000
Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc. General support	10,000	New York University. Toward teacher training at Reading Recovery, a program for first graders	25,000

Northeast Harbor Library. For the Astor Special Opportunity grants awarded to students enrolled at Northeast Harbor Elementary or Regional High School	3,500	Seneca Neighborhood Center. Toward a summer recreation and youth employment program run by students from Brown University in cooperation with the Seneca Neighborhood Center in the Bronx	2,000
NYZS/The Wildlife Conservation Society. General support	2,500	South Bronx 2000 Local Development Corporation, Inc. General support for the Environmental Classics program, which produces furniture from recycled materials	25,000
Parks Council. General support	10,000	South Street Seaport Museum. General support	3,000
Parks Council. Toward Public Space for Public Life: Planning a Parks Strategy Now for the 21st Century	10,000	South Street Seaport Museum. Toward acquisition of the Seamen's Bank for Savings's collection of maritime art and artifacts	200,000
Partnership for the Homeless. General support for Furnish A Future, a furniture distribution program for formerly homeless families	50,000	Trust for Public land. Toward the Housing and Open Space Project	12,500
Police Athletic League, Inc. Toward PAL's Summer Reading Program	2,500	Union Settlement Association, Inc. Toward the Settlement's adult literacy program in East Harlem	5,000
Preservation League of New York State. General support	4,000	Urban Pathways. General support for The Sun, a permanent residence for single adults in mid-Manhattan	25,000
Regional Plan Association. Toward visual simulation to be used in RPA's Regional Design program	30,000	Vivian Beaumont Theater, Inc./ Lincoln Center Theater. General support	10,000
Research Foundation of City University of New York. Toward the Construction Curriculum Project, a curriculum integrating basic skills and vocational training	5,000	We Can, Inc. Toward the program to help low-income people through the collection and redemption of returnable bottles and cans	1,000
The Rockefeller University. Toward the Outreach Program, which seeks to strengthen science education in NYC public high schools	25,000	Women's Prison Association and Home. Toward renovations at Hopper Home, a Greek Revival building on the Lower East Side	25,000
Roundabout Theatre Company, Inc. Toward the Campaign for Classic Theatre	2,500	<i>Total Grants for 1992</i>	<i>1,586,125</i>
Salisbury School. Toward a scholarship fund for NYC students	5,000		
Screen Actors Guild Foundation. Toward Book PALS (Professional Artists for Literacy), a literacy program in NYC public schools	2,500		

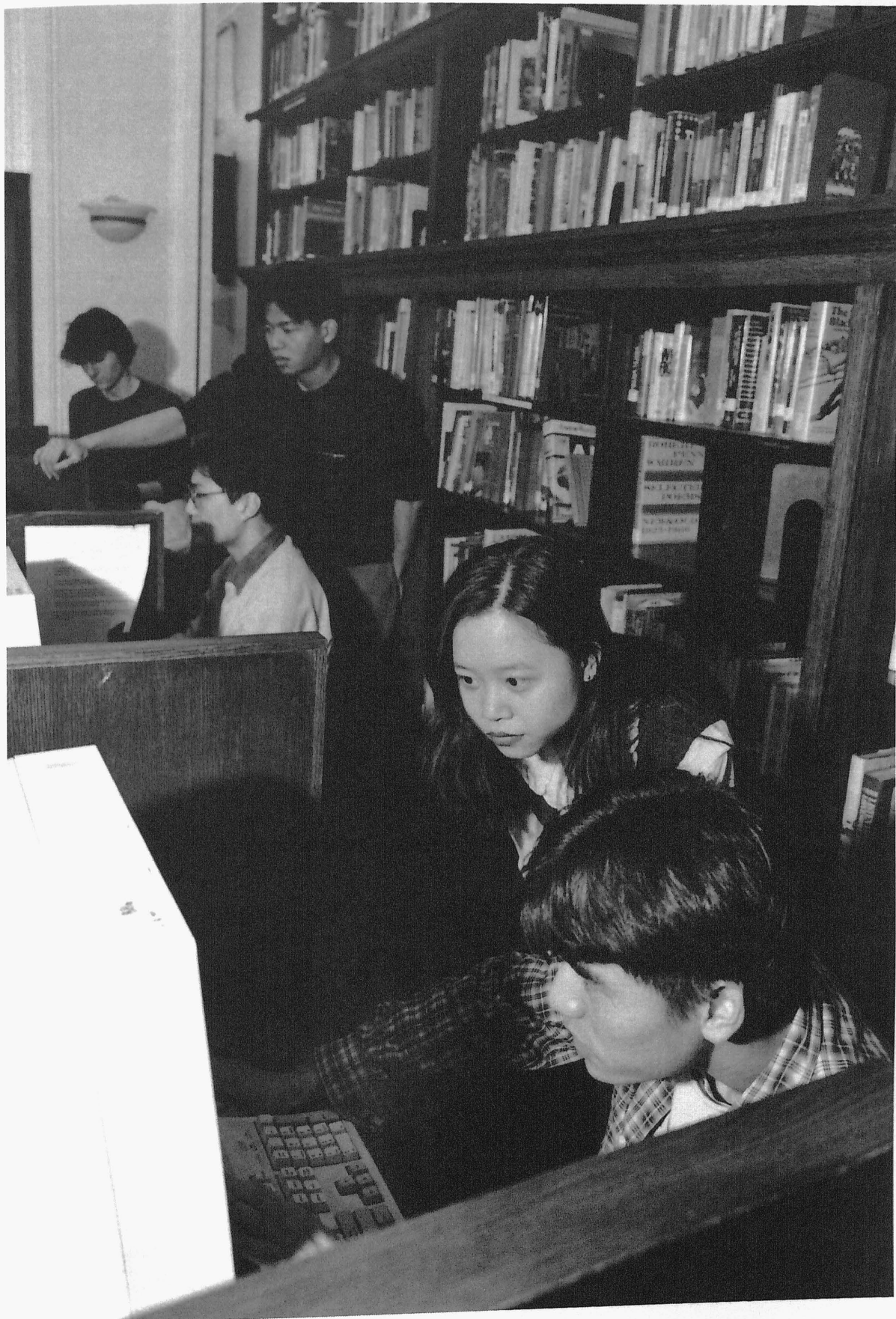
# 1993

I wonder how many readers of this report have been to Brighton Beach in Brooklyn. Everyone should go, for it is a fascinating part of New York. One can stroll along the boardwalk looking out onto the Atlantic or shop on the bustling main street with long-time residents as well as recent immigrants representing many nationalities. We met there with Judith Barron and Jean Kreiling, founders of the Committee to Preserve Brighton Beach & Manhattan Beach, which was fighting a huge luxury housing complex that a developer proposed to build right in the heart of that community. As the development, the scale and nature of which were entirely out of keeping with its surroundings, posed environmental problems, the Committee was bringing a legal challenge against it. They asked the Astor Foundation to join several other funders in contributing to the legal costs, which we were all too happy to do. Although the fight to stop the development was ultimately lost, we much admired these spirited citizens for their determination, and we were delighted by the knishes they gave us to take back to Manhattan. On the way we stopped at the New York Aquarium at Coney Island, which is run by the Wildlife Conservation Society, to see a five-month-old walrus that had been found orphaned in Alaska and was sent to the Aquarium. They named her Tiipaq, which in Inuit means “country girl goes to the city.” She weighed 300 pounds and was calm and friendly, allowing me to feed her a delicious concoction of mashed herring and clams from an enormous bottle.

In 1993, we visited a remarkable school on Second Avenue and 15th Street, the Manhattan Comprehensive Night and Day High School. The principal was Howard Friedman, who in 1989 had made the case to the NYC Board of Education that many young people wanted to finish their education, but they had to work during the day. Needed was a school that operated in the evenings. Today, Manhattan Comprehensive, a fully accredited high school, has 800 students. 400 attend during the day and 400 are there from five to eleven at night, Sunday through Thursday. Because the students choose to go there, the school does not have the disciplinary and security problems that characterize many other city public high schools—the atmosphere is calm and busy. The Foundation contributed \$25,000 to renovate the library, which was in very poor condition. In 1997, as part of our final distribution, the Foundation gave \$250,000 to establish an endowment fund for that library.

Alliance for the Arts. Toward the Electronic Cultural Catalog and Kids Culture Calendar	5,000	Asphalt Green. Toward construction of the AquaCenter	25,000
American Museum of Natural History. Toward education programming for the Museum's new Hall of Biology and Evolution	25,000	Astor Home for Children. General support	25,000
Animal Medical Center. Toward the capital campaign	100,000	Bank Street College of Education. Toward libraries for the Partners for Success Program	25,000
		Borough of Manhattan Community College. Toward “Reading Is Fun, Pass It On,” a family literacy project	5,000

*Library, Manhattan  
Comprehensive Night  
and Day High School*





Brooklyn Historic Railway Association. General support	1,500	Friendly Place. General support	5,000
Carroll Gardens Neighborhood Women. Toward Project Edge, a program providing substantive literacy services to parents on public assistance in South Brooklyn	5,000	Friends of the Seventh Regiment/Seventh Regiment Armory. Toward restoration of the Board of Officers Room	25,000
Church of Saint Luke in the Fields. Toward creating a small greensward area in the St. Luke garden as a play and sitting area for families	2,500	Friends of the Upper East Side Historic Districts. Toward the revised edition of the <i>Preservation Manual</i> , a handbook for owners or managers of designated properties	2,500
Church of the Holy Apostles. Toward restoration of the Bolton stained glass windows of this landmark church in Manhattan	25,000	Fund for Public Schools. Toward renovations and purchase of books and equipment for the library at Manhattan Comprehensive Night and Day High School	25,000
City Parks Foundation. General support	5,000	Goddard-Riverside Community Center. Toward the Housing and Homelessness Services program	5,000
Citymeals-on-Wheels. General support	1,000	Grace Church in New York. Toward the repair of stained glass windows of this landmark church in Manhattan	25,000
Civitas Citizens, Inc. Toward "A Community View," a study to encourage thoughtful development of Manhattan's Upper East Side	2,500	Green Guerillas, Inc. Toward the Community Outreach Program	1,000
Common Cents New York. Toward the penny drive to be conducted by Common Cents in partnership with NYC public schools	1,000	Henry Street Settlement. Toward the Parent Storytelling Workshop, a family literacy program with Community School District 1 in Manhattan	5,000
Council on Foreign Relations. Toward the endowment of the Nelson and David Rockefeller Chair in Inter-American Studies	25,000	Henry Street Settlement. Toward the 100th Anniversary Campaign	25,000
Council on the Environment of New York City. General support	1,000	High School of Telecommunication Arts & Technology. Toward purchase of books for the after-school reading group for students and teachers	800
Covenant House. General support	10,000	Historic Districts Council, Inc. General support	3,000
The Door. General support	25,000	Historic House Trust of New York City. General support	20,000
East Harlem Churches and Community Center. Toward the Booker T. Washington Learning Center's Women's Education and Family Literacy Program	5,000	Historic Hudson Valley. General support	25,000
Educational Broadcasting Corporation/ Channel 13 WNET. Toward production costs for the <i>Charlie Rose</i> program	150,000	Hope Community. Toward building renovation	25,000
Emmaus House, Inc. General support	2,500	Hope Program. General support for this job training program for homeless men and women in Brooklyn	25,000
Falls Village-Canaan Historical Society. Toward restoration of the Palladian window at the South Canaan Congregational Church, a landmark building in Falls Village, CT	5,000	Hunter College of the City of New York. Toward renovation and expansion of the Health Sciences Library at Hunter's Brookdale Campus in Manhattan	25,000
Frick Collection. Toward the Art Reference Library	5,000		

Interfaith Neighbors, Inc. Toward development of the Challenge Program, which integrates language arts, group activities, and counseling for adolescents	5,000	the Library Media Center at the Educational Complex at J.H.S. 99 in Manhattan	25,000
Landmark West. Toward costs of a simulation model of the Lincoln Square district	5,000	New York Botanical Garden. General support	1,650
Landmarks Harlem. General support	25,000	New York Botanical Garden. Toward the Children's Education Program and Bronx Green-Up, a community garden project	25,000
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	1,700	New York Cares. General support for this volunteer recruitment and placement organization	2,000
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. Toward the Transitions program	30,000	New York City Street Tree Consortium, Inc. General support	1,000
Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Inc. General support for the Jazz Department	2,500	New York Community Trust. Toward the Council on Foundations' 1994 Annual Conference in New York City	1,000
Literacy Partners, Inc. General support	25,000	New York Landmarks Conservancy, Inc. General support	1,000
Lower East Side Tenement Museum. Toward renovation of spaces at 66 Allen Street and 90 Orchard Street, to be used for education programs, gallery space and offices	25,000	New York Landmarks Conservancy, Inc. Renewed support for the restoration of Astor Row	200,000
Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward an oral history of the Museum	5,000	New York Main Street Alliance. Toward establishing a Business Improvement District (BID) in East Harlem through the Local Development Corporation del Barrio	3,200
Metropolitan Museum of Art. Holiday party for the Museum's staff and volunteers	25,000	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	5,000
Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc. General support	15,000	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. Toward opening the Research Library on Mondays	25,000
Municipal Art Society of New York, Inc. General support for the work of the Committee to Preserve Brighton Beach & Manhattan Beach, Inc.	5,000	Nontraditional Employment for Women. Toward the Family Literacy Project, a pilot program designed to bring literacy, books, and reading into the home	5,000
Municipal Art Society of New York, Inc. Toward MAS's 100th anniversary endowment campaign	50,000	Northeast Harbor Library. For the Astor Special Opportunity Grants awarded to students enrolled at Northeast Harbor Elementary or Regional High School	3,500
Mutual Housing Association of New York. General support	25,000	NYZS/The Wildlife Conservation Society. General support	1,650
Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter, Inc. Toward an evaluation of NCS's overall program	5,000	Old Merchants House of New York, Inc. General support	25,000
Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government/SUNY. General support	5,000	P.S. 151-Manhattan/District 2. Toward books for an integrated social studies program	3,000
New Horizons - Adult Education Program. Toward the adult literacy program	5,000		
New Visions for Public Schools. Toward			

Parks Council. Toward "Forcing the Spring in Urban America," a colloquium held at the New York Public Library in honor of Dr. Timothy Healy	3,000	St. Mark's Church in-the-Bowery. Toward restoration of the Rectory	25,000
Partnership for the Homeless. Toward Furnish A Future, a furniture distribution program for formerly homeless people	50,000	St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Brooklyn. Toward repair of the exterior of this landmark church	25,000
Preservation League of New York State. General support	4,000	Staten Island Historical Society. Toward restoration of the Jacob Crocheron House	20,000
Prospect Park Alliance. Toward furnishings for the Lefferts Homestead	10,000	Symphony Space. Toward the "All Write!" program, and toward plans to develop the blockfront between 94th and 95th Streets on Broadway	25,000
Queens College Foundation. Toward the Family Literacy Program, a reading program for teenage parents in Queens and the Bronx	5,000	University Settlement. Toward the purchase of books for the Literacy Center Library	5,000
Roundabout Theatre Company, Inc. Toward the Campaign for Classic Theatre	2,500	Vivian Beaumont Theater, Inc./Lincoln Center Theater. General support	10,000
Saint Mary's Church. General support	5,000	We Can, Inc. Toward the program to help low-income people through the collection and redemption of returnable bottles and cans	1,000
SFDS Development Corporation. \$15,000 toward construction of a park at 100th St. and Lexington Avenue; \$10,000 general support	25,000	West Side Community Garden, Inc. General support	1,000
Society of St. Francis. Toward The Bushwick Play Project, a theater and playwriting program for young people ages 7-13 in Brooklyn	2,000	World Monuments Fund. Toward planning for a program to provide unemployed youths with training in restoration and preservation	5,000
St. Ann Center for Restoration and the Arts, Inc. Toward restoration of the Great Chancel Window	25,000	<i>Total Grants for 1993</i>	<i>1,560,000</i>

Support for literacy has always been a big part of our work, for the Trustees shared my belief that no one can have a productive, happy life without being able to read. I also believe that if there are good teachers and access to books, everyone can read. In addition to giving to the New York Public Library and to a multitude of small, community-based reading programs, the Foundation tried to bring attention to the sorry state of the libraries in the public schools. As we went around to these libraries, we found time and again that there were few full-time librarians, that the books dated back to the 1950's and 1960's, and that the library furniture was tattered and inadequate. In order to understand the magnitude of the problem, the Foundation funded two reports, *School Libraries.... No Reading Allowed*, prepared in 1984 by the Education Priorities Panel, and then ten years later, *School Libraries... Unfinished Business*, organized by New Visions for Public Schools. The first report was helpful in prompting the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund, a big foundation, to start up the program called Library Power, which has given new life to many school libraries in New York City. The second caught the attention of Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani, schools Chancellor Rudolph F. Crew, and other public officials. Public funding for school libraries has increased somewhat, and we hope it will continue to grow.

Finally, the Foundation's work in the literacy field included the renovation of a good number of school libraries. A typical example is the library at JHS 99 Education Complex on 100th Street in East Harlem. When we first went there we found the librarian, Naomi Gans, in a large but almost empty room with torn shades and dirty walls. Ms. Gans knew what she wanted, and with contributions from a few private funders and a lot of determination and hard work, she got it. Today the library at JHS 99 is just what a school library should be—well stocked with books and periodicals, equipped with computers, and jammed with children.

Abyssinian Development Corporation. General support	25,000	Beachside Bungalow Preservation Association of Far Rockaway. General support	2,500
Alliance for the Arts. Toward publication of the <i>Kids Culture Catalog</i>	25,000	Binding Together. Toward the literacy component of this job training program	5,000
American Museum of Natural History. Toward the Teachers' Resource Guide for use with exhibitions in the Lila Acheson Wallace Wing of Mammals and their Extinct Relatives	25,000	Bronx Educational Services. General support	5,000
American Red Cross in Greater New York. Toward the Relocation Support Program which provides counseling and other services for formerly homeless families	25,000	Brooklyn Academy of Music. General support	2,500
Astor Home for Children. General support	25,000	Brooklyn Historic Railway Association. Toward the purchase of equipment for the restoration of a trolley car	1,500
		Brooklyn Public Library. Toward general support and purchase of books for <i>Kids Connection</i> , an after-school literacy program in three branches of the Brooklyn Public Library	5,000



Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York. General support for inner-city schools of the Archdiocese of New York City	2,500	Enterprise Foundation. General support	25,000
Children's Aid Society. Toward books for the library at I.S. 218 in Manhattan	5,000	Falls Village-Canaan Historical Society. Toward restoration and painting of interior walls and ceilings of the landmark South Canaan meeting House	5,000
Children's Aid Society. Toward the purchase of books for libraries at P.S. 5 and I.S. 218 in Washington Heights	25,000	Fortune Society. Toward renovation of a small library for the Society's literacy program	15,000
Church of the Heavenly Rest. Toward structural repairs and interior stone work in the fire-damaged sanctuary	25,000	Foundation for Children and the Classics. Toward the Julia Palmer Video project, a teaching guide and educational resource for educators, parents, and community workers	5,000
Church of the Holy Apostles. Toward the Holy Apostles Soup Kitchen	2,500	Frick Collection. Toward the Art Reference Library's Art and Architecture Program	5,000
City Parks Foundation. General support	2,000	Friends of the Roosevelt Island Landmarks. Toward the cost of lighting the landmark Smallpox Hospital on Roosevelt Island	25,000
City Planning Department Fund. Toward a stipend for a summer intern to work on the plan for Lower Manhattan	2,500	Goodwill Industries of Greater New York. General support	10,000
City University of New York/Lehman College. Toward the Youth Practitioners Institute, conducted by the Institute of Literacy Studies at Lehman College	5,000	Gracie Mansion Conservancy. General support	50,000
Citymeals-on-Wheels. General support	2,000	Green Chimneys. General support	2,000
Civitas Citizens, Inc. Toward extending the Upper Madison Avenue Study to include the 125th Street corridor in Manhattan	2,500	Green Guerillas, Inc. General support	1,000
Classical America. Toward a summer program teaching drawing techniques in classical architecture to high school students	2,000	High School of Telecommunication Arts & Technology. For the Great Books Program	1,000
Community Access. Toward equipment and furnishings at Gouverneur Court, which provides permanent housing for formerly homeless, mentally-ill people	25,000	Housing 2000 Housing Development Fund. For renovating a room to be used as a community center with a children's reading corner at 71-83 West 118th Street in Central Harlem	11,000
Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science & Art. Toward planning for the Astor Place area	35,000	Housing Symphony Orchestra, Inc. General support	1,000
Dome Project. Toward the Dome's after-school literacy program at I.S. 44 on Manhattan's Upper West Side	5,000	In Collaboration, Inc. General support for the Readers Theatre Workshop	5,000
Educational Broadcasting Corporation/Channel 13 WNET. Toward production costs of the <i>Charlie Rose</i> program	150,000	Independent Friends of McCarren Park. Toward the preservation of McCarren Park's giant 1936 swimming pool and bath houses in Brooklyn	1,000
Eldridge Street Project. Toward emergency repair of water damage to the Eldridge Street Synagogue	2,500	Interfaith Neighbors, Inc. Toward Challenge, an after-school literacy program for seventh graders	25,000

*Library, JHS  
Education Complex*

Juilliard School. Toward the Music Advancement Program, which provides free musical training for minority children ages 7-15	10,000	National Academy of Design. General support	1,250
Kew Gardens Council for Recreation & the Arts. Toward an illustrated book about Kew Gardens, a first step in the landmark designation process	5,000	National Maritime Historical Society. Toward publication of the International Register of Historic Ships in association with Mystic Seaport and South Street Seaport Museums	2,500
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	1,250	Natural Guard. Toward the Amphibian Training Program for scientific inquiry by intermediate school students in Brooklyn	3,000
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. Toward renovation of LHNA's building	100,000	New 42nd Street. Toward renovation of the Victory Theater in Manhattan as a children's theater	25,000
Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Inc. General support	2,500	New Visions for Public Schools. Toward purchase of books for the Education Complex at JHS 99, Manhattan	25,000
Literacy Partners, Inc. General support	10,000	New Visions for Public Schools. For <i>School Libraries... Unfinished Business</i> , a study of libraries in NYC public schools	20,000
Literacy Assistance Center. For a reception honoring the New York City Adult Literacy Initiative	1,000	New York Botanical Garden. General support	1,250
Local Initiatives Support Corporation. General support	25,000	New York Cares. General support	2,000
Metropolitan Museum of Art. To purchase a video "jukebox" digital computer system for the Photograph Studio	19,500	New York City School Volunteer Program, Inc. Toward endowment of the Joy of Reading Fund	25,000
Metropolitan Museum of Art. For a holiday party for the Museum's staff and volunteers	35,000	New York City Street Tree Consortium, Inc. General support	1,000
Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward acquisition of an export French porcelain dinner service for the Department of American Decorative Arts	25,000	New York Is Book Country. General support	5,000
Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc. General support	15,000	New York Landmarks Preservation Foundation, Inc. Toward a cultural medallion program designed to call attention to significant historic buildings	2,500
Morris-Jumel Mansion. \$15,000 toward renovations to the Mansion; \$10,000 general support	25,000	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	5,000
Mount Morris Park Community Improvement Association. Toward the salary of an executive director	25,000	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. Toward the purchase of books in the humanities	25,000
Municipal Art Society of New York, Inc. General support	25,000	New York University. Toward teacher training at the Reading Recovery project	25,000
Museum of the City of New York. General support	5,000	Northeast Harbor Library. For the Astor Special Opportunity Grants awarded to students enrolled at Northeast Harbor Elementary or Regional High School	3,500
Museum of the City of New York. Toward <i>How the Other Half Lives</i> , an exhibition of the photography of Jacob Riis	5,000		

NYZS/The Wildlife Conservation Society. General support	1,250	Roundabout Theatre Company, Inc. General support	2,500
Old Merchants House of New York, Inc. General support	25,000	Saint Mary's Episcopal Church. Toward exterior work on Saint Mary's Parish House, an historic landmark	2,000
P.S. 76M-Randolph School for Humanities. For the Woodland Garden program at P.S. 76 in Harlem	5,000	Save the Children. Toward the Federation's literacy programs in New York City	5,000
Park Avenue Malls Planting Project, Inc. Toward maintenance of the malls and plantings on Park Avenue	5,000	South Street Seaport Museum. General support	5,000
Parks Council. Toward the Success Garden Program, which teaches environmental studies to NYC school children through the creation of gardens in vacant lots	2,500	St. Ann Center for Restoration and the Arts, Inc. Toward restoration of the Great Chancel Window at the Church of St. Ann and the Holy Trinity, Brooklyn Heights	25,000
Parks Council. Toward legal costs to appeal a New York State Supreme Court decision affecting development of Brighton Beach and Manhattan Beach, Brooklyn	5,000	Turning Point Housing Development Fund Corp. Toward renovation of two buildings to be used as permanent housing for homeless young men and women in Sunset Park, Brooklyn	5,000
Partnership for the Homeless. Toward Furnish A Future, a furniture distribution program for formerly homeless people	50,000	Union Settlement Association, Inc. Renewed support for the Settlement's adult literacy program in East Harlem	5,000
Police Athletic League, Inc. Toward PAL's summer educational programs in New York City	2,000	Vivian Beaumont Theater, Inc./ Lincoln Center Theater. General support	10,000
Preservation League of New York State. General support	5,000	WNYC Foundation. Toward <i>New York Kids</i> , a weekly radio program for children ages 8-12	25,000
Prospect Park Alliance. General support	2,500	<i>Total Grants for 1994</i>	<i>1,421,000</i>
The Rockefeller University. Toward renovations at The Children's School, a nursery school at the University	100,000		



# 1995

In New York there continues to be a serious shortage of housing for poor, single people. In 1995, we visited two fine single-room occupancy residences that had opened in the Times Square area. The Times Square Hotel on West 43rd Street was built in 1922 as a tourist hotel for men; it had 1,000 rooms and an ornate two-story, balconied lobby. Over the years conditions deteriorated, and by the late 1980's the Times Square was one of the city's most derelict welfare hotels. In 1991, the huge building was acquired by Common Ground, a recently-formed housing organization. Under the direction of Rosanne Haggerty, Common Ground's energetic executive director, the hotel was completely renovated. The Times Square now has 650 apartments, a clinic, social services, and an attractive cafeteria on the top floor; they also operate a successful Ben and Jerry's franchise that is staffed largely by residents. The Foundation's grant paid for new furnishings for the lobby.

Encore Community Services, begun in 1977 by St. Malachy's, The Actor's Chapel, on West 49th Street, provides help to the 14,000 elderly poor who live in the Times Square and Clinton communities. In 1987, Encore expanded into the housing field by acquiring the Markwell Hotel at 220 West 49th Street and transforming it into a 90-unit residential building. Each floor has nine rooms, two bathrooms, and a communal kitchen. On the afternoon we went there with executive director Sister Elizabeth Hasselt, whom we met in 1992 when she received the Astor Award at the New York Public Library (a prize most generously established by my great friend, David Rockefeller), a rousing game of Bingo was going on. It was reassuring to know that when the game was over, the participants could return safely to their cheerful, well-maintained rooms upstairs.

Astor Home for Children. General support	5,000	Brooklyn Public Library. Toward books for Kids Connection, an after-school literacy program	5,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	25,000		
Beachside Bungalow Preservation Association of Far Rockaway. General support	2,500	Brooklyn Public Library. Toward the Library's summer reading program, Power Readers	5,000
Big Apple Circus. General support	1,000		
Borough of Manhattan Community College. Toward BMCC's Family Literacy Project, "Reading is Fun, Pass It On"	5,000	CAMBA. General support for literacy programs in Flatbush	5,000
Brooklyn Academy of Music. To establish an archive for BAM	35,000	Carroll Gardens Neighborhood Women. General support for the literacy program	5,000
Brooklyn Historic Railway Association. Toward the Brooklyn Heritage Trolley Project	2,000	Church of Saint Luke in the Fields. Toward the St. Luke's Tutoring Project, an after-school and summer program	2,500
Brooklyn Museum. Toward renovation of the Wilbour Library	25,000	Church of the Holy Apostles. Toward renovation of the restroom facilities at the Holy Apostles Soup Kitchen	25,000

*Lobby, The Times Square*



Church of the Holy Trinity. Toward restoration of Holy Trinity's bell tower	25,000	Frick Collection. Toward an endowed fund for the Frick Art Reference Library	10,000
The City Church, New York. General support	5,000	Friendly Place. General support for this storefront reading program in East Harlem	15,000
City Lore, Inc. Toward a one-day symposium about the Municipal Art Society's report on historical and cultural landmarks	5,000	Fund for the City of New York. General support for the Cityscape Institute	25,000
City Parks Foundation. For plantings on the Brooklyn Heights Promenade	1,000	Goddard-Riverside Community Center. Toward the Center's Housing and Homelessness Services Program	2,500
City Parks Foundation. General support	2,000	Goddard-Riverside Community Center. General support	2,000
City Parks Foundation. Toward the New York Tree Trust	10,000	Grace Church in New York. Toward the Grace Opportunity Project, a summer educational enrichment program in Manhattan	2,500
Classical America. Toward a program teaching classical drawing techniques at the High School of Art and Design	2,000	Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation. Toward a plan for the Ruth Wittenburg Triangle	5,000
Common Ground Community H.D.F.C. Toward furnishings in the lobby of The Times Square, which provides permanent, single rooms to formerly homeless and low-income people	31,200	Henry Street Settlement. Toward the Family Literacy Project	5,000
Conservancy for Historic Battery Park. General support	25,000	High School of Telecommunication Arts & Technology. Toward audio/visual equipment for the high school's library	25,000
Council on the Environment of New York City. General support	1,000	Historic House Trust of New York City. Toward the restoration of porches at eight of the Trust's historic houses	25,000
Edenwald Gun Hill Neighborhood Center, Inc. Toward "Books 'N' Things," an after-school literacy program in the Bronx	5,000	Historic Hudson Valley. General support	25,000
Educational Broadcasting Corporation/Channel 13 WNET. Toward production costs for the <i>Charlie Rose</i> program	75,000	Hope Program. General support for this job training program for homeless men and women in Brooklyn	15,000
Encore Community Services. General support	25,000	Housing Partnership Development Corporation. Toward the renovation of St. Peter's Lutheran Church in the Mott Haven section of the South Bronx	30,000
Falls Village-Canaan Historical Society. Toward a new heating system for the landmark South Canaan Meeting House	5,000	Housing Symphony Orchestra, Inc. General support	1,000
Forest Hills Community House. To acquire books for the after-school program	5,000	Juilliard School. Toward the Music Advancement Program, which provides musical training for minority children ages 7-15	5,000
Foundation for Children and the Classics. For the production of a video of the Julia Palmer workshop, "Good Books"	3,400	King Manor Association of Long Island. General support for the King Manor Museum in Jamaica	25,000
Frick Collection. Toward the Art Reference Library	5,000	Landmarks Harlem. General support	3,500

Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	1,250	New York Foundation for Architecture, Inc. Toward the exhibition <i>Civic Lessons: Recent New York Public Architecture</i>	2,500
Literacy Partners, Inc. General support	30,000	New-York Historical Society. Toward the planning of a permanent New York history gallery	25,000
Lower East Side Tenement Museum. Toward the acquisition of 97 Orchard Street and renovations	25,000	New York Is Book Country. General support	5,000
Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward the purchase of the birth tray of Lorenzo de 'Medici, acquired in honor of Sir John Pope-Hennessy	25,000	New York Main Street Alliance. Toward a conference organized with the Municipal Art Society about the impact of megastores	1,000
Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward the exhibition <i>The Luminous Image, Painted Glass Roundels in the Lowlands, 1480-1560</i>	15,000	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	5,000
Metropolitan Museum of Art. Holiday party for the Museum's staff and volunteers	40,000	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support for the Library's Centennial Year	100,000
Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward an X-ray diffraction unit configured for the characterization of iron and copper- containing materials in works of art	10,000	New York University. Toward the Astor Fellows Travel Program for NYC public school teachers	25,000
Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward the purchase of a pair of ivory Baroque flutes by the Nuremberg craftsman, J. W. Oberlender	25,000	Northeast Harbor Library. For the Astor Special Opportunity Grants awarded to students enrolled at Northeast Harbor Elementary or Regional High School	3,500
Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc. General support	15,000	NYZS/The Wildlife Conservation Society. General support	1,250
Museum of the City of New York. General support	2,500	NYZS/The Wildlife Conservation Society. Toward creating a site on the World Wide Web	15,000
National Academy of Design. General support	1,250	NYZS/The Wildlife Conservation Society. For renovation of the keepers' work areas	100,000
New Horizons – Adult Education Program. General support for this adult literacy program in Brooklyn	5,000	The Open Book. Toward the Open Book's work in NYC public schools	2,000
New York Botanical Garden. General support	1,250	P.S. 151-Manhattan/District 2. Toward books for two supplementary reading programs at P.S. 151	5,000
New York Botanical Garden. Toward the Children's Adventure Project and Bronx Green-Up	25,000	P.S. 76M-Randolph School for Humanities. Toward a horticultural consultant at P.S. 76	2,500
New York Cares. General support	2,000	Park Slope Project Reach Youth, Inc. Toward the expansion of the Family Learning Center	5,000
New York City Street Tree Consortium, Inc. General support	1,000	Parks Council. Toward legal costs incurred by the Committee to Preserve Brighton Beach & Manhattan Beach, Inc.	2,500
New York City Voluntary Action Corporation, Inc. General support	1,000		

Partnership for the Homeless. Toward Furnish A Future, a furniture distribution program for formerly homeless people	50,000	St. Matthew's and St. Timothy's Neighborhood Center, Inc. Toward the Star Learning Center, a literacy intervention program	5,000
Playwrights' Preview Productions. Toward PPP's work in the New York Public Library's branches	1,000	St. Peter's Episcopal Church. Toward the renovation of the church	35,000
Playwrights' Preview Productions. Toward PPP's work in the New York Public Library's branches	5,000	Symphony Space. Toward "All Write!," a literacy program for adults	20,000
Point Community Development Corporation. Toward a summer recreation and youth employment program run by students from Brown University in cooperation with the Point	2,500	Teaching Matters, Inc. Toward the provision of technology support services in NYC public schools	2,500
Preservation League of New York State. General support	5,000	Turning Point Housing Development Fund Corp. Toward renovation of two buildings to be used as permanent housing for young men and women in Sunset Park, Brooklyn	1,000
Professional Children School. Toward renovation of the library	25,000	Union Settlement Association, Inc. Renewed support toward the Settlement's adult literacy program in East Harlem	5,000
Prospect Park Alliance. Toward the Save The Woodlands campaign	5,000	University of Virginia Alumni Association. A matching grant toward an exhibition of the Lady Astor Collection of Native American Art at the Bayly Art Museum	5,000
Reach Community School. To establish a library in a residence for formerly homeless people	15,000	The Urban Assembly. Toward the Safe Streets/Active Streets program	20,000
Riverside Park Fund. Toward the Park Homeless Outreach Project	5,000	Vivian Beaumont Theater, Inc./Lincoln Center Theater. Toward the 10th anniversary campaign, allocated toward renovation of the air conditioning system	100,000
Saint Agnes Church. Toward restoration of the church, which was damaged by fire	2,500	We Can, Inc. General support	1,000
Saint Bartholomew's Church. Toward restoration of the Wonter Crabeith stained glass windows	25,000	We Stay/Nos Quedamos. Toward the development of a plan for the Melrose Commons Urban Renewal Area in the South Bronx	20,000
Saint Mary's Episcopal Church. Toward renovations to the Parish House	29,000	West Side Community Garden, Inc. General support	1,000
Settlement Housing Fund, Inc. General support	25,000	WNYC Foundation. Toward <i>New York Kids</i> , a weekly radio program for children ages 8-12	25,000
Society of St. Francis (Episcopal). Toward the summer, "The Bushwick Play Project"	1,000	The Writers Room, Inc. Toward the library at The Writers Room	1,000
South Bronx 2000 Local Development Corporation, Inc. Toward Big City Forest, a program that reclaims discarded lumber for furniture and flooring	18,000	<i>Total Grants for 1995</i>	<i>1,583,100</i>
St. Andrew's Church of Astoria. To move and reinstall the historic organ	1,000		
St. Andrew's Church of Astoria. Toward the organ fund	1,000		

In the spring of 1996, during a big rain storm, Linda and I went to the Bronx to see the former Morrisania Hospital, just north of Yankee Stadium. Built by the city in the 1920's, the enormous medical complex served the South Bronx until it was closed in 1976. For twenty years the hospital—an architectural gem—stood empty, a crumbling symbol of abandonment in the Bronx. While the building remained structurally sound, a viable plan for its long-term use proved elusive. Then in 1992, a group called the Women's Housing and Economic Development Corporation (WHEDCO) proposed a program that would offer permanent housing to low-income women and their families and at the same time would provide them with the chance to become financially independent through job training and employment. The training, health care, and child care would all be offered right in the building, which was to be called Urban Horizons. Putting such a big project together was a hard job. When we visited we had to wear hard hats, for construction had begun. Under the watchful eye of WHEDCO's indefatigable president, Nancy Biberman, the Urban Horizons building was completed in the spring of 1997; the building is now fully occupied, and most of the programs are up and running. The Foundation contributed to the general operating costs as Urban Horizons was being organized, and one of our last grants was \$1,000,000 to establish a reserve fund for this impressive project.

At the heart of New York City's public school system are its teachers, and I wanted the Foundation to do something for them. In 1995, we met with Anne Marcus, Dean of New York University's School of Education, to discuss how the Foundation might be of help. Her thought was to design a program that would enable teachers to travel abroad. Travel, she said, would make participants stronger teachers by giving them a direct understanding of the approach to teaching in other countries. At the same time, a trip would offer them an exhilarating and restorative break from routine. Dean Marcus's idea seemed a very good one, and in July of 1996 the Foundation shared with NYU the cost of sending ten teachers to Italy for ten days; a similar trip was organized in 1997. In the fall, after the teachers' return, Dean Marcus asked us all to tea in her apartment, and the teachers described their adventures. It has been most heartening to hear their enthusiastic reports, and the Foundation has continued to support the travel program.

Alliance of Resident Theatres/New York, Inc. Toward a feasibility study about the acquisition of three theaters on 42nd Street's Theater Row	2,500	Bank Street College of Education. For equipment and books for the library at P.S. 48-Midtown West School	25,000
Asphalt Green. Toward repairing leaks and waterproofing the landmark building	50,000	Books for Kids Foundation. General support	5,000
Astor Home for Children. General support	25,000	Borough of Manhattan Community College. Toward BMCC's family literacy project "Reading Is Fun, Pass It On"	5,000



Brooklyn Conservatory of Music. Toward an assessment of the physical condition of the Conservatory's historic building	3,500	Frick Collection. Toward the Frick Art Reference Library's continued participation in the Art and Architecture program of the Research Libraries Information Network	5,000
Brooklyn Historic Railway Association. Toward the Brooklyn Heritage Trolley Project	2,000	Friends of the Upper East Side Historic Districts. General support	1,000
Carroll Gardens Neighborhood Women. General support for the literacy program	5,000	Fund for Public Schools. To complete the installation of the computer system in the library at Manhattan Comprehensive Night and Day High School	25,000
Central Park Conservancy. Toward the Elizabeth Barlow Rogers Endowment Fund	2,500	Goddard-Riverside Community Center. General support	2,500
Church of the Good Shepherd. Toward the repair and restoration of the stained glass window above the main altar	5,000	Goodwill Industries of Greater New York. For construction of a small playground at Goodwill's Astoria Center	16,000
Citizens Advice Bureau. For books at two after school programs	4,000	Grace Church in New York. Toward planning for the Huntington Transitional House Project at 102 Fourth Avenue	5,000
City Parks Foundation. For plantings on the Brooklyn Heights Promenade	1,000	Grace Church in New York. Toward the Grace Opportunity Project, a summer educational enrichment program in Manhattan	2,500
City Parks Foundation. Toward the New York Tree Trust	25,000	Grand Street Settlement. For books and furnishings at the After School Latchkey Program	2,500
Citymeals-on-Wheels. General support	2,000	Greater Jamaica Development Corporation. Toward the Sutphin Boulevard Revitalization Project	10,000
Classical America. Toward a program teaching classical drawing techniques at the High School of Art and Design	2,500	Green Guerillas, Inc. General support	1,000
Council on the Environment of New York City. General support	1,000	Harlem Educational Activities Fund, Inc. Toward the HEAF after-school reading program at P.S. 76	5,000
Creative Arts Workshops for Kids. General support	5,000	High School of Telecommunication Arts & Technology. Toward the Great Books Program	1,000
Earth Celebrations, Inc. General support	2,000	High School of Telecommunication Arts & Technology. Toward audio/visual equipment for the High School's library	6,500
Educational Broadcasting Corporation/Channel 13 WNET. Toward an endowed fund for nature programming	50,000	Historic Hudson Valley. General support	25,000
Falls Village-Canaan Historical Society. Toward repair and replacement of windows at the South Canaan Meeting House	5,000	Housing Symphony Orchestra, Inc. General support	1,000
First Unitarian Congregational Society in Brooklyn. Toward renovation of this landmark church in Brooklyn Heights	25,000	Hudson Guild. For books and furnishings at the Education Center	2,500
Forest Hills Community House. Toward the After School Enrichment Program library	5,000		
French-American Foundation. Toward implementation of the program "Early Childhood Initiative in the Community Schools: Lessons from France"	10,000		

*At Dean Ann  
Marcus's tea for  
participants in  
the Astor Fellows  
Travel Program, New  
York University*



Independent Friends of McCarren Park. General support	1,000	New Visions for Public Schools. Toward development of a program to improve elementary school libraries through the use of volunteers and with the involvement of community-based organizations	2,000
Institute for Historical Study. For a photograph of photographers involved in <i>A History of Women Photographers</i> , an exhibition held at the New York Public Library	2,500	New Visions for Public Schools. For staff development at family libraries at Grand Street Settlement, Hudson Guild, and Stanley Isaacs	5,000
Juilliard School. Toward the Juilliard Council Fund	2,500	New Visions for Public Schools. Toward implementation of recommendations made in the report <i>School Libraries...Unfinished Business</i>	25,000
Knox-Gates Neighborhood Association, Inc. Toward the reading and recreation program for children ages 6-12	5,000	New Visions for Public Schools. Toward the Library Media Center at the Educational Complex at J.H.S. 99	25,000
Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	1,250	New York Botanical Garden. Toward the Sun, Dirt, and Water Gallery, in the Garden's new Children's Adventure Project	250,000
Literary Classics of the United States, Inc. To endow the publication of four works by Henry Adams	50,000	New York Cares. General support	2,500
Loisaida, Inc. General support for the literacy program	5,000	New York City Partnership, Inc. Toward the endowment of the Rockefeller Fellows Program	75,000
The Maura Clarke – ITA Ford Center, Inc. General support for the Family Literacy program	5,000	New York City School Volunteer Program, Inc. Toward development of a program to improve elementary school libraries through the use of volunteers and with the involve- ment of community-based organizations	2,000
Metropolitan Museum of Art. Toward the acquisition of a Fourier transform infrared spectrophotometer system for the monitoring of biological activity in works of art	10,000	New York City Street Tree Consortium, Inc. General support	1,000
Metropolitan Museum of Art. For a holiday party for the Museum's staff and volunteers	40,000	New York Is Book Country. General support	5,000
Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc. General support	15,000	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	5,000
Morris-Jumel Mansion. For a year's salary for a development officer	27,000	New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. For the Astor Staff Center at the new Science, Industry and Business Library	250,000
Municipal Art Society of New York, Inc. General support	25,000	New York City Technical College Fund. Toward the evaluation of Reading Starts With Us program	2,000
National Academy of Design. General support	1,250	New York City Technical College Fund. To expand the Center for Intergenerational Reading's program Reading Starts With Us at libraries in Brooklyn	25,000
Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter, Inc. General support	1,000		
Neighborhood Housing Services of New York City, Inc. Toward the restoration of 1-4 unit housing in the South Bronx	25,000		

New York University. Toward the 1997 Astor Fellows Travel Program for NYC public school teachers	35,000	Preservation League of New York State. General support	4,000
Northeast Harbor Library. For the Astor Special Opportunity Grants awarded to students enrolled at Northeast Harbor Elementary or Regional High School	4,000	Preservation League of New York State. General support	1,000
NYZS/The Wildlife Conservation Society. General support	1,250	Professional Children's School. Toward the purchase of computer equipment and furnishings for the library	25,000
Open Book. Toward The Open Book's work in NYC public schools	2,000	Prospect Park Alliance. Toward the Save the Woodlands campaign	5,000
Parent and Teachers Association of P.S. 116, Inc. For equipment and books for the library	25,000	Prospect Park Alliance. General support	5,000
Park Slope Project Reach Youth, Inc. Toward development of a program to improve elementary school libraries through the use of volunteers and with the involvement of community-based organizations	2,000	The Rockefeller University. Gift in memory of Peggy Rockefeller	5,000
Parks Council. Toward legal costs to appeal the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court decision affecting the development of Brighton Beach and Manhattan Beach, Brooklyn	5,000	Roundabout Theatre Company, Inc. General support	2,500
Partnership for the Homeless. General support toward Furnish A Future, a furniture distribution program for formerly homeless people	50,000	Screen Actors Guild Foundation. Toward BOOK PALS (Professional Artists for Literacy), a program in NYC public schools	2,500
Pencil, Inc. Toward development of a program to improve elementary school libraries through the use of volunteers and with the involvement of community-based organizations	2,000	Settlement Housing Fund, Inc. Toward the rent-up of the Two Bridges Rutgers Slip building for formerly homeless and low-income families	35,000
Pierpont Morgan Library. For a new rug in Mr. Morgan's study	25,000	St. Philip's Church. Toward repairs to the church following the collapse of the roof during the blizzard of 1996	25,000
Poets House. General support	1,000	St. Thomas Church in the City and County of New York. For library books and equipment at the St. Thomas Choir School	25,000
Point Community Development Corporation. Toward a summer recreation and youth employment program in the Bronx run by students from Brown University in cooperation with The Point	2,500	Stanley M. Isaacs Neighborhood Center, Inc. For books and furnishings at the After School Learning Center library	2,500
Point Community Development Corporation. For literacy computer software	2,000	Staten Island Historical Society. Toward an inventory of Historic Richmond Town's collections	25,000
Pratt Institute. Toward the restoration of the rare book collection in the Pratt Library	25,000	Symphony Space. Toward "All Write!," a literacy program for adults	25,000
		Teaching Matters, Inc. General support	2,500
		Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center. General support	1,250
		Union Settlement Association, Inc. Renewed support for the Settlement's adult literacy program in East Harlem	3,500

Washington Heights-Inwood Coalition, Inc. Toward renovation and books in the library at P.S. 128	25,000
Washington Heights-Inwood Coalition, Inc. Toward computer equipment for the library at P.S. 189	25,000
We Can, Inc. General support	1,000
WNYC Foundation. Toward <i>New York Kids</i> , a weekly radio program for children ages 8-12	25,000
Women's Housing and Economic Development Corporation. Toward the administrative costs of converting Morrisania Hospital into permanent housing	25,000
<i>Total Grants for 1996</i>	<i>1,748,000</i>

# 1997

In December 1996, the Foundation's Trustees and I made a big decision. As Vincent Astor had no children, and as I believe strongly that family foundations should have family members on the board, our plan always had been that the Foundation's assets would be given away after my death. But with my 95th birthday approaching, I felt the time had come to bring the Foundation to a close. I presented the idea to the Trustees, who saw my point and together we decided that the Foundation would cease operations at the end of 1997. They stipulated that the Foundation would accept no further proposals, and that the final grants would be chosen at their initiative.

In January 1997, a small committee of the Board met to make a plan for the coming year. We decided on these guidelines: 1) Consistent with past Foundation policy, grants would be made almost without exception to organizations located in New York City. 2) Priority would be given to the field of education, particularly to programs that provide children, parents, and teachers with books. The Foundation would develop and underwrite one or two very large projects relating to education. 3) Emphasis would also be given to organizations located in and working to benefit African-American communities, particularly those in Harlem. 4) Most grants would be given to organizations that the Foundation had funded within the past five years. 5) The Board would meet to review grant recommendations twice during 1997, in April and October.

In subsequent meetings, the Grants Committee began to develop the list of recommended grants. We reviewed past annual reports, proposals that were already on hand, and the great number of requests that came into the Foundation office after the press announcement of the Foundation's intention to close. We held meetings with a number of organizations and made site visits. By the end of March, we felt that we had arrived at a definitive list of recommendations for the April meeting. Once the first round of grants was approved, we continued to refine the list for the second meeting. In all, the Trustees approved grants totaling \$23,977,500. When taking into account grants of \$5,000 and under made from the Foundation's two discretionary funds, the Foundation's total giving for 1997 is \$24,202,500.

The list that follows speaks for itself, and I hope that you will enjoy reading it. In keeping with guidelines drawn up at the beginning of the year, there are two large education projects, each involving grants of \$5,000,000. One endows a fund for the purchase of fiction and poetry at the New York Public Library's eighty-five branch libraries; the second establishes the Astor Center for School Libraries, to be based at New Visions for Public Schools, an organization founded ten years ago to assist New York's public school system. The Center will provide school libraries and their librarians with much-needed funds for books, renovations, technical assistance, workshops, and conferences. There are grants that endow favorite Foundation projects, such as the holiday party for the staff and volunteers of the Metropolitan Museum, literacy programming at Channel 13, and the Great Books Program at the High School of Telecommunication Arts in Brooklyn. Other grants will ensure that Foundation initiatives such as the Partnership for the

Homeless's Furnish A Future program or New York University's Astor Fellows Travel Program for New York City public school teachers will continue for several years, until other funding becomes available. Some grants reflect Vincent's interests—his gift of a giant Galapagos tortoise called "Jalopy" to the Staten Island Zoological Society, for instance, or his founding of the Astor Home for Children in Rhinebeck. Other projects, like a beautiful wrought-iron fence for the Jefferson Market Garden in Greenwich Village or a secure future for the Merchants House Museum on East 4th Street near Astor Place, have long been on the Foundation's "wish list."

While ending the Foundation is a sad step in one way, we hope that the grants that we have made in the past and those that were approved in 1997 will constitute a lasting legacy to New York City, the place where most of the Astor fortune was made. For us—the Trustees and staff of the Astor Foundation—the greatest joy has been the chance to be of some small help to this great city and to the extraordinary people who live and work here.

All Saints Church. Toward the endowment of All Saints Church	100,000	Boys Club of New York. Toward the Learning Centers at each of the Club's four clubhouses	50,000
Alliance for the Arts. Toward the dissemination of information about New York City's cultural resources	25,000	Brooklyn Academy of Music. Toward the renovation of the BAM building	100,000
American Museum of Natural History. General support	1,000	Brooklyn Museum. Toward the Museum's endowment fund	250,000
American Museum of Natural History. Toward the renovation of two classrooms	1,000,000	Brooklyn Public Library. Toward the renovation of the Children's Reading Room at the Central Library	500,000
Animal Medical Center. To establish the Dolly and Maisie Fund, a fund within the Seniors' Animals Veterinary Endowment that assists indigent elderly people with the costs of medical care for their pets	250,000	Carnegie Hall Society, Inc. Toward the endowment; in honor of Isaac Stern	50,000
Apollo Theatre Foundation, Inc. Toward the restoration of the Apollo Theater	500,000	Carroll Gardens Neighborhood Women. Toward the literacy program	5,000
Astor Home for Children. Toward the Astor Home's Endowment Fund	500,000	Catholic Charities/Diocese of Brooklyn. Toward housing development in Brooklyn	25,000
Atlantic Theater Company. Toward restoration of the Atlantic Theater Company's Landmark building	5,000	Center for Arts Education. Toward the Annenberg Arts and Education Initiative in NYC's public schools	50,000
Big Apple Circus. General support	1,000	Church of Saint Luke in the Fields. Toward GO at St. Luke's, a summer tutoring program for under-achieving public school children in grades 1-4	2,000
Boys Choir of Harlem, Inc. Toward refurbishment of the library at the Boys Choir in Harlem	50,000	Church of the Holy Trinity. Toward the restoration of the bell tower of this historic church on Manhattan's Upper East Side	25,000

Citizens Committee for New York City, Inc. Toward the Better Neighborhoods for a Better City campaign	100,000	Eldridge Street Project. Toward the re-installation of the Rose Window of this synagogue on Manhattan's Lower East Side	25,000
City Parks Foundation. General support	2,500	Episcopal Evangelism Foundation, Inc. General support	5,000
Citymeals-on-Wheels. Toward the endowment fund	100,000	Erasmus Hall H.S. & Academy of the Arts Alumni Association. To establish a reserve fund for the museum, which is located in the eighteenth-century Erasmus Hall Academy building, Flatbush, Brooklyn	25,000
Civitas Citizens, Inc. Toward the East 125th Street Study	2,500	Falls Village-Canaan Historical Society. To implement a program for the improvement of the sightlines entering the historic district	5,000
Comprehensive Development, Inc. To establish an endowment fund for the library at Manhattan Comprehensive Night and Day High School	200,000	Forest Hills Community House. Toward the After School Enrichment program	5,000
Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science & Art. Toward planning for the Astor Place area	100,000	Foundation for Children and the Classics. General support	5,000
Cornell University Medical College. Toward The Friends Fund	50,000	Frick Collection. Toward the Frick Art Reference Library's continued participation in the Art and Architecture Program of the Research Libraries Information Network	5,000
Council on the Environment of New York City. General support	1,000	Friends of the Upper East Side Historic Districts. General support	1,000
Creative Arts Workshops for Kids. Toward the literacy program	5,000	Goddard-Riverside Community Center. Toward the Center's Housing and Homelessness Services program	2,000
Dance Theatre of Harlem. Toward the endowment for The School of Dance Theatre of Harlem	50,000	Goodwill Industries of Greater New York. For renovation of the Community Room at Goodwill Terrace Apartments in Queens	25,000
Duke Ellington Memorial Fund, Inc. Toward the installation of the Duke Ellington Memorial on Fifth Avenue at 110th Street in Harlem	5,000	Grace Church in New York. Toward the Grace Opportunity Project, a summer educational enrichment program	2,500
Duke Ellington Memorial Fund, Inc. Toward the endowment of the Duke Ellington Memorial on Fifth Avenue at 110th Street in Harlem	2,500	Grace Church in New York. Toward the restoration of the stained glass windows of this historic church in Manhattan	25,000
Earth Celebrations, Inc. General support	3,000	Gracie Mansion Conservancy. Toward the Sarouk Fereghan carpet for the ballroom at Gracie Mansion	5,000
East Harlem Employment Services, Inc. General support	5,000	Gramercy Neighborhood Associates. To complete the booklet, <i>Gramercy, Its Architectural Surroundings</i>	1,500
Edenwald Gun Hill Neighborhood Center, Inc. Toward "Books 'N' Things," an after-school literacy program in the Bronx	5,000	Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation. Toward the Ruth Wittenberg Triangle project	2,500
Educational Broadcasting Corporation/Channel 13 WNET. Toward an endowment for Channel 13's literacy programming for children and adults	1,000,000		

Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation. \$200,000 for a wrought iron fence to surround the Jefferson Market Garden; \$20,000 for administrative costs relating to the fence project	220,000	Landmark West. General support	5,000
		Landmark West. For the re-design of the playground at P.S. 166 on West 88th Street, Manhattan	50,000
Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation. For a concrete base to support the new wrought iron fence surrounding the Jefferson Market Garden	30,000	Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc. General support	1,250
Harlem Educational Activities Fund, Inc. General support	5,000	Literacy Partners, Inc. Toward the Liz Smith Endowment Fund	250,000
Harlem School of the Arts, Inc. Toward the school's endowment fund	50,000	Lower East Side Tenement Museum. Toward the historic structures report for 97 Orchard Street	50,000
Henry Street Settlement. Toward the restoration of the dining room	3,000	Metropolitan Museum of Art. \$1,000,000 to endow the holiday party for the Museum's staff and volunteers; \$50,000 for the 1997 party	1,050,000
Henry Street Settlement. Toward the Family Literacy/Parent Storytelling Training Project	5,000	Metropolitan Museum of Art. For the acquisition of a 12th-century Tibetan Esoteric Buddhist crown	67,500
Henry Street Settlement. Toward the costs of a new affiliation between Henry Street Settlement and Boys Brotherhood Republic on Manhattan's Lower East Side	250,000	Mid-Bronx Senior Citizens Council, Inc. Toward the renovation of the terrace at the Andrew Freedman Home	50,000
High School of Telecommunication Arts & Technology. To endow the Great Books Program	50,000	Mount Morris Park Community Improvement Association. To enable MMPCIA to hire a consultant to advise on the redevelopment of 9 abandoned properties on Mount Morris Park; general support	50,000
Historic House Trust of New York City. To establish an endowment for The Trust's Historic House Preservation Program	100,000	Municipal Art Society of New York, Inc. Toward the MAS endowment fund	100,000
Historic Hudson Valley. General support	100,000	Museum of the City of New York. \$35,000 toward the 75th Anniversary publication; \$65,000 toward the Museum's capital campaign	100,000
Housing Symphony Orchestra, Inc. General support	1,000	New 42nd Street. Toward the Brendan Gill Fund, which subsidizes tickets for young audiences at the New Victory Theater	25,000
In Collaboration, Inc. General support for the Readers Theatre Workshop	5,000	New Visions for Public Schools. Toward materials for the Library Media Center at the Educational Complex at J.H.S. 99	25,000
Independent Friends of McCarren Park. General support	5,000	New Visions for Public Schools. Toward a three-year pilot program to involve community-based organizations and volunteers in school libraries	225,000
Judson Memorial Church, Inc. Toward the restoration of the stained glass windows by John Lafarge at this church on Washington Square	50,000	New Visions for Public Schools. Toward staff development at new or renovated public school libraries in Brooklyn	40,000
Juilliard School. Toward the Juilliard Council Fund	2,500		
Juilliard School. Toward the endowment for Juilliard's Educational Outreach Program	200,000		
Knox-Gates Neighborhood Association, Inc. Toward the After School Literacy Program	5,000		

New Visions for Public Schools. Toward the Love to Read campaign	25,000	Northeast Harbor Library. For the Astor Special Opportunity grants awarded to students enrolled at Northeast Harbor Elementary or Regional High School	4,000
New York Botanical Garden. General support	1,250	Northeast Harbor Library. To endow the Astor Special Opportunity Grants for students enrolled at Northeast Harbor Elementary or Regional High School	100,000
New York Cares. General support	2,500	NYZS/The Wildlife Conservation Society. General support	1,250
New York City Housing Authority. Toward the renovation of the playground at Riis Houses	250,000	NYZS/The Wildlife Conservation Society. Toward a five-year environmental education and training skills program for teachers in Yunnan Province, China	200,000
New York City Street Tree Consortium, Inc. To establish an endowment fund for Trees New York	25,000	Old Merchants House of New York, Inc. Toward the endowment of the Merchant's House Museum on East 4th Street in Manhattan, now part of The Historic House Trust	1,000,000
New York Community Trust. Toward the establishment of the Astor Center for School Libraries, to be based at New Visions for Public Schools	5,000,000	Open Book. Toward The Open Book's work in NYC public schools	5,000
New York Community Trust. Toward the Neighborhood 2000 Fund, established to support community development organizations in New York City	100,000	Park Slope Project Reach Youth, Inc. Toward PRY's Family Learning Center programs	5,000
New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center. Toward construction of the River Pavilion	150,000	Park Slope Project Reach Youth, Inc. For books at after-school programs organized by ten community-based organizations	25,000
New-York Historical Society. Toward the conservation and microfilming of the Society's Astor family collections	100,000	Partnership for the Homeless. Toward Furnish A Future, a furniture distribution program for formerly homeless people	250,000
New-York Historical Society. Toward the exhibition <i>Paul Robeson: Bearer of a Culture</i>	25,000	Playwrights' Preview Projection. Toward PPP's work in the New York Public Library's branches	2,500
New York Is Book Country. General support	5,000	Pratt Institute. Toward The Black Alumni of Pratt Institute's Scholarship Fund	50,000
New York Landmarks Conservancy, Inc. \$500,000 toward the Sacred Sites and Properties Fund; \$500,000 for the completion of the Astor Row porches	1,000,000	Preservation League of New York State. General support	5,000
New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. General support	5,000	Preservation League of New York State. General support	2,500
New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. To establish an endowed fund from which books of fiction and poetry will be acquired for the New York Public Library's branch libraries	5,000,000	Prospect Park Alliance. Toward the Save The Woodlands Campaign	5,000
New York Shakespeare Festival. Toward the renovation of the first floor of the Public Theater	100,000	Prospect Park Alliance. Toward the Alliance's endowment	100,000
New York University. Toward the Astor Fellows Travel Program, which provides travel opportunities to NYC public school teachers	140,000	Queens Borough Public Library. Toward the Futures Fund, established for the purchase of children's books	100,000



The Rockefeller University. Toward the construction of a pedestrian bridge across East 63rd Street in Manhattan	50,000	Staten Island Zoological Society, Inc. Toward the Zoo's endowment, in memory of "Jalopy," a giant tortoise brought from the Galapagos and donated to the Zoo by Vincent Astor	50,000
Franklin & Eleanor Roosevelt Institute. Toward the Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. Award Fund	25,000	Studio Museum in Harlem. Toward the renovation of the entrance to the Sculpture Garden	50,000
Roundabout Theatre Company, Inc. General support	2,500	Symphony Space. \$25,000 toward the "All Write!" program in 1997/98; \$25,000 toward the endowment for educational programs	50,000
Roundabout Theatre Company, Inc. Toward the renovation of the Selwyn Theater on 42nd Street	50,000	Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center. General support	1,250
Royal Shakespeare Company American, Inc. Toward bringing staff from the Prince of Wales Royal Shakespeare School to New York City to train public school teachers and students in the art of Shakespeare	100,000	Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center. To create a garden for the residents	25,000
Screen Actors Guild Foundation. Toward BOOKS PALS (Professional Artists for Literacy), a literacy program in NYC public schools	5,000	Union Settlement Association, Inc. Renewed support toward the Settlement's adult literacy program in East Harlem	5,000
Seton Foundation for Learning, Inc. Toward the development of a high school for disabled students	25,000	United Neighbors of East Midtown, Inc. General operating support	25,000
Snug Harbor Cultural Center, Inc. Toward the endowment of this center on Staten Island	50,000	Visitation Academy. Toward the restoration of Visitation Academy's buildings	5,000
Society for the Preservation of Weeksville & Bedford Stuyvesant History. Toward the restoration of 1698 Bergen Street, one of four historic houses in Weeksville	25,000	Vocational Foundation, Inc. Toward VFI's new Employment and Education Center at P.S. 43 in the Bronx	30,000
St. Andrew's Community Day Care Center. Toward renovation and new equipment for the playground	5,000	Washington Heights-Inwood Coalition, Inc. Toward after-school literacy programs	5,000
St. Ann Center for Restoration and the Arts, Inc. Toward restoration of the Great Chancel Window in this landmark church in Brooklyn Heights	200,000	We Can, Inc. General support	2,000
St. Philip's Church. Toward renovations to the church building	100,000	West Side Community Garden, Inc. Toward the Garden's endowment fund	25,000
Stanley M. Isaacs Neighborhood Center, Inc. For furnishings at the After School Learning Center library	2,500	Women's Housing and Economic Development Corporation. To establish a reserve fund for Urban Horizons, a project located in the former Morrisania Hospital in the Bronx that provides housing, services, and job training to low-income women	1,000,000
Staten Island Historical Society. Toward Historic Richmond Town's endowment	50,000	The Writers Room, Inc. Toward the endowment of this work space for writers on Astor Place	25,000
		<i>Total Grants for 1997</i>	<i>24,202,500</i>

*Groundbreaking,  
new fence for the  
Jefferson Market  
Garden, April 1998*



# The Vincent Astor Foundation

## Grants by Category 1948–1997

Program Area	Total	Number of Grants	Number of Organizations
Animal Care	\$1,572,500	19	4
Botanical Gardens	1,510,434	30	2
Charitable Contributions 1948–1959	1,595,264	235	55
Charitable Contributions 1960–1997	124,000	17	13
Church Programs	7,261,000	27	11
Civic Affairs	1,782,880	94	36
Community Centers	8,066,654	159	49
Community Development	3,715,218	71	40
Education	35,890,426	544	221
The Elderly	1,075,528	50	25
Energy Conservation	75,000	3	3
Gardening/Open Space	827,425	95	35
Health	8,778,104	81	32
Historic Preservation	11,938,100	230	107
Housing/Homeless	5,598,040	153	66
Justice	1,288,804	26	13
Leadership	368,850	8	5
Libraries	28,793,479	104	27
Maritime	1,260,000	15	3
Media	3,761,000	25	4
Museums	29,441,294	254	36
Parks	2,591,020	83	37
Performing Arts	4,911,500	104	27
Planning	351,570	24	15
Population	352,000	8	3
Vocational Education	1,256,435	42	16
Youth	18,898,511	361	138
Zoos	11,659,977	47	2
	\$194,745,013	2909	1025

# The Vincent Astor Foundation

## *Report of Independent Auditors*

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**CONDON  
O'MEARA  
MCGINTY &  
DONNELLY LLP**

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Certified Public Accountants

300 East 42nd Street  
New York, NY 10017-5947  
Tel: (212) 661 - 7777  
Fax: (212) 661 - 4010

### Independent Auditors' Report

The Board of Trustees  
The Vincent Astor Foundation

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial position of The Vincent Astor Foundation as of December 31, 1997 and December 31, 1996 and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Foundation's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Vincent Astor Foundation at December 31, 1997 and December 31, 1996 and the results of its activities and its cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

*Condon O'Meara McGinty & Donnelly LLP*

April 1, 1998

# The Vincent Astor Foundation

## *Statement of Financial Position*

### *Assets*

*Year Ended December 31*

	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
Cash and money market funds	\$ 855,961	\$ 1,578,493
Accrued interest and dividends receivable	15,655	140,138
Prepaid pension (note 3)	73,691	76,679
Prepaid Federal excise tax (note 4)	2,102	7,280
Investments, at market (notes 1 and 2)	<u>1,705,764</u>	<u>24,558,864</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 2,653,173</u>	<u>\$ 26,361,454</u>

### *Liabilities and Net Assets*

#### *Liabilities*

Authorized but unpaid grants (note 1)	\$ —	\$ 183,250
Other accrued expenses	<u>2,805</u>	<u>34,047</u>
Total liabilities	2,805	217,297
Net assets - unrestricted	<u>2,650,368</u>	<u>26,144,157</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 2,653,173</u>	<u>\$ 26,361,454</u>

*See notes to financial statements.*

# The Vincent Astor Foundation

## Statement of Activities

Year Ended December 31

	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
<i>Revenue</i>		
Interest	\$ 978,763	\$ 705,781
Dividends	<u>207,732</u>	<u>258,439</u>
Total revenue	<u>1,186,495</u>	<u>964,220</u>
<i>Less investment related expenses</i>		
Expenses incurred in connection with investment income	181,285	261,863
Provision for Federal excise tax (note 4)	<u>46,178</u>	<u>53,261</u>
Total investment related expenses	<u>227,463</u>	<u>315,124</u>
Revenue available for grants and other expenses	<u>959,032</u>	<u>649,096</u>
<i>Grants and other expenses</i>		
Grants authorized (note 1)	24,252,500	1,748,000
General and administrative expenses	<u>391,306</u>	<u>324,083</u>
Total grants and other expenses	<u>24,643,806</u>	<u>2,072,083</u>
(Deficiency) of revenue to cover expenses before realized and unrealized gains on investments	<u>(23,684,774)</u>	<u>(1,422,987)</u>
<i>Realized and unrealized gains on investments (note 1)</i>		
Realized gains	3,584,507	1,945,009
Unrealized gain (loss)	<u>(3,393,522)</u>	<u>542,590</u>
Net realized and unrealized gains on investments	<u>190,985</u>	<u>2,487,599</u>
Increase (decrease) in net assets	(23,493,789)	1,064,612
<i>Net assets - unrestricted, beginning of year</i>	<u>26,144,157</u>	<u>25,079,545</u>
<i>Net assets - unrestricted, end of year</i>	<u>\$ 2,650,368</u>	<u>\$ 26,144,157</u>

See notes to financial statements.

# The Vincent Astor Foundation

## Statement of Cash Flows

	<i>Year Ended December 31</i>	
	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
<i>Cash flows from operating activities</i>		
Increase (decrease) in net assets	\$ (23,493,789)	\$ 1,064,612
Adjustments to reconcile increase (decrease) in net assets to net cash (used in) operating activities		
Realized (gains) on investments	(3,584,507)	(1,945,009)
Unrealized (gains) losses on investments	3,393,522	(542,590)
Decrease in assets		
Accrued interest and dividends receivable	124,483	29,734
Prepaid pension	2,988	1,635
Prepaid Federal excise tax	5,178	3,261
Increase (decrease) in liabilities		
Authorized but unpaid grants	(183,250)	(239,000)
Other accrued expenses	<u>(31,242)</u>	<u>9,870</u>
Net cash (used in) operating activities	<u>(23,766,617)</u>	<u>(1,617,487)</u>
<i>Cash flows from investing activities</i>		
Proceeds from sale of investments	52,075,511	29,541,557
Purchase of investments	<u>(29,031,426)</u>	<u>(27,406,223)</u>
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>23,044,085</u>	<u>2,135,334</u>
Increase (decrease) in cash	(722,532)	517,847
<i>Cash and money markets, beginning of year</i>	<u>1,578,493</u>	<u>1,060,646</u>
<i>Cash and money markets, end of year</i>	<u>\$ 855,961</u>	<u>\$ 1,578,493</u>

See notes to financial statements.

# The Vincent Astor Foundation

## Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 1997

### *Note 1 - Significant accounting policies*

#### *Operations*

The Vincent Astor Foundation is a private foundation engaged in providing assistance to established organizations and neighborhood programs primarily located in the City of New York. Grants are made for literacy programs, for the production of low and middle-income housing, for programs which promote the thoughtful development of New York City, to certain cultural institutions and for parks and landmark preservation.

During December 1996, the Board of Trustees authorized that the Foundation, which was never intended to continue in perpetuity, would support a number of projects through a series of major grants, particularly in the field of education, over the ensuing year. The result of such a program is that the Foundation would, in effect, spend itself out of existence by disposing of a large portion of its assets by the end of 1997 and wind up its operations as soon thereafter as practicable.

#### *Investments*

Investments are reflected at market value. Where necessary to reflect changes in market value, net unrealized gains or losses on investments are credited or charged to operations. Realized gains or losses on investment transactions, which are determined on a first-in, first-out basis, are reflected in the operations of the Foundation.

The aggregate cost, net unrealized gains (losses) and aggregate market value of the Foundation's investments as of the end of each of the years covered by these financial statements were as follows:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Net Unrealized Gains (Losses)</i>	<i>Market Value</i>
December 31, 1997	\$ 1,719,466	\$ (13,702)	\$ 1,705,764
December 31, 1996	\$ 21,179,044	\$ 3,379,820	\$ 24,558,864

#### *Grants*

Grants, which are subject to routine performance requirements by the grantee, are treated as expenses at the time each individual grant is authorized by the Trustees. These grants are payable to the grantee according to the terms established by the Trustees.

#### *Office furnishings*

The cost of office furnishings and equipment is charged to expense when incurred because the Foundation does not deem such expenditures to be sufficiently material to warrant capitalization and depreciation.

#### *Use of estimates*

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

#### *Concentration of credit risk*

The Foundation's financial instruments that are potentially exposed to concentrations of credit risk consist primarily of cash, money market funds and investments. The Foundation places its cash and money market funds with quality financial institutions. The Foundation invests in securities of financially strong institutions and the U.S. Government and government agencies. The Foundation believes no significant concentration of credit risk exists with respect to its cash, money market funds and investments.



## Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

### Note 2 - Investments, at market

The following is a summary of the Foundation's investments at December 31, 1997 and December 31, 1996:

	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
U.S. government and governmental agency securities	\$ 700,027	\$ 5,096,682
Corporate bonds and other obligations	1,005,737	4,174,838
Common and convertible preferred stocks	—	15,442,959
Unexercised options	<u>—</u>	<u>(155,615)</u>
Total	<u>\$ 1,705,764</u>	<u>\$ 24,558,864</u>

### Note 3 - Pension plan

The Foundation maintains a non-contributory defined benefit pension plan covering all eligible employees. Benefits are based on employees' compensation and length of service. The Foundation's general funding policy is to contribute amounts sufficient to satisfy regulatory funding standards.

The net periodic pension cost for the years ended December 31, 1997 and December 31, 1996 is as follows:

	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
Net periodic pension cost		
Service cost - benefits earned during the year	\$ 26,681	\$ 21,763
Interest cost on projected benefit obligation (based on the assumed discount rate of 7.75%)	26,146	22,961
Actual return on plan assets	(37,090)	(69,307)
Net amortization and deferral	<u>(12,749)</u>	<u>26,218</u>
Net periodic pension cost for the year	<u>\$ 2,988</u>	<u>\$ 1,635</u>

Reconciliation of funded status at December 31, 1997 and December 31, 1996 is as follows:

	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
Plan assets at fair market value	\$ 585,533	\$ 553,294
Projected benefit obligation for services rendered to date (based on unit credit cost method and assuming a 5% rate of increase in compensation levels)	<u>(387,358)</u>	<u>(339,995)</u>
Plan assets in excess of projected benefit obligation	198,175	213,299
Unrecognized net loss (based on expected long-term rate of return of 7.75%)	(114,812)	(124,875)
Unrecognized prior service cost	<u>(9,672)</u>	<u>(11,745)</u>
Prepaid pension expense	<u>\$ 73,691</u>	<u>\$ 76,679</u>

The accumulated plan benefits at December 31, 1997 and December 31, 1996 are as follows:

Actuarial present value of accumulated plan benefits		
Vested	\$ 326,831	\$ 285,070
Nonvested	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Total	<u>\$ 326,831</u>	<u>\$ 285,070</u>

## *Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)*

### *Note 4 - Federal excise tax*

In accordance with the provisions of the Tax Reform Act of 1969 and the Revenue Act of 1978, the Foundation is subject to an excise tax on its net investment income which includes dividends, interest and net realized gains on investment transactions. The Deficit Reduction Act of 1984 permits a private foundation to reduce its excise tax from 2% to 1%, provided it meets certain criteria. The foundation met this criteria in 1997 but not in 1996. Thus, the excise tax was calculated using a 1% rate in 1997 and a 2% rate in 1996. The provision for Federal excise tax for 1997 and 1996 amounted to \$46,178 and \$53,261, respectively.

### *Note 5 - Lease agreement*

The Foundation rents its premises under the terms of a lease agreement which expires September 30, 1998. In addition to the base rent, the Foundation is required to pay its proportionate share of increases in certain operating costs of the landlord over specified base levels. Rent expense for 1997 and 1996 totaled \$88,271 and \$86,148, respectively.

The minimum annual rent under this lease (exclusive of additional rent for increases in certain operating costs of the landlord) for 1998 is \$66,502.



3 0000 079 694 414

## Credits

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### *Design*

Abraham Brewster & Ron Gordon—  
The Oliphant Press, New York

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Vincent Astor Foundation.  
[Annual reports]



*Tile, Astor Place  
subway station. The  
beaver symbolizes John  
Jacob Astor's business  
in the fur trade.*



