About the Poetry Foundation
The Poetry Foundation is an independent literary organization committed to a vigorous presence for poetry in American culture. The Foundation seeks to be a leader in shaping a receptive climate for poetry by developing audiences, creating new avenues for delivery, and encouraging all kinds of poetry through innovative literary prizes and programs.
# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Updates</td>
<td>07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Poetry Magazine</em></td>
<td>08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community, Educators &amp; Student Programs</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Poetry, Prose &amp; Podcasts Online</em></td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media Partnerships</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awards</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Trustees &amp; Staff</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Introduction
Introduction

“Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced.”
—James Baldwin

Michelle T. Boone, Poetry Foundation President

If ever there was a word to describe the past two years at the Poetry Foundation, it would be “change.” Like so many organizations, the Foundation has had to pivot, adjust and reassess its role, purpose and positioning as we all enter into the “new” normalcy in the aftermath of the global pandemic of the past two years. This change wasn’t just needed, it was necessary.

In the summer of 2020, the Poetry Foundation shared a public declaration of our Commitment to Our Community, citing ways in which we would work to transform into an organization that better reflects, respects, and represents the poetry ecosystem. Since that Commitment, we have worked continuously to become more diverse, equitable, and inclusive in our programming, services, staffing, board members, and engagement with communities of poets and artists who are central to our work, as we examined what it means to be a partner and trusted member of our community. We engaged, we listened, and we recognized the significant responsibility we have, the role we play and the space we occupy within the literary landscape as we pursued our mission to celebrate, share and support poetry widely.

As we approach the end of my first year as the president of the Poetry Foundation, I am mindful that while we are moving ever forward, it is vital to take a moment to reflect back on the lessons of the past two years of change. Although our journey of renewal is just beginning, we share with you our progress during 2020–2021 anchored in adopting the values of equity, generosity, inclusion, justice, transparency, and trust.

We’ve learned a lot and with your continued feedback and guidance in the future, we aim to keep learning and thank you for your partnership and support.

Yours in poetry,
Michelle T. Boone
Poetry Foundation President

Key Updates

2020–2021 in Review:
A Time for Transformation
Michelle T. Boone
Poetry Foundation President

Key Updates

In partnership with Lord Cultural Resources, started the process for a new Strategic Plan, the first one since 2006 at the Foundation.

Increased diversity in leadership with new staff promotions and hires, including Michelle T. Boone as president in May 2021 and several additions of new board members of color.

Launched a nationwide search for a new editor of Poetry magazine.

Collaborated with Ethos, a Chicago-based Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) firm, who conducted an equity audit in parallel with the Foundation’s work to fulfill commitments first named in the Open Letter of Commitment to Our Community. Findings included:

- Since 2003, of nearly 4,000 Poetry contributors, one-fourth were people of color.
- In that same period of time, more that 53% of contributors were men.
- Diversity has been incrementally increasing across social identity categories over time, with 2018 representing the biggest increases.
- These findings do not represent where the Foundation or magazine wants to be or can be; rather, they give a starting point from which growth can be marked.

Awarded $2 million in emergency grants, and began the process of reimagining the Foundation’s future grantmaking.

Increased transparency with consistent updates on the changes at the Foundation in relation to the goals and priorities stated in the Commitment.

Global Pandemic

Like many organizations across the country, the COVID-19 pandemic compelled the Poetry Foundation to pivot to a new approach. On March 13, 2020, the Foundation closed its doors to the public to support the City of Chicago’s efforts to contain the spread of the COVID-19 virus and practice social distancing as advised by the Centers for Disease Control and the Chicago Department of Public Health. All in-person, on-site public programming was canceled or postponed.
Poetry Magazine

Founded in Chicago in 1912 by Harriet Monroe, Poetry continues to be recognized as an influential space for verse. As the oldest monthly magazine devoted to verse in the English-speaking world, Poetry supports the Foundation’s Commitment to the Community by welcoming several poets as guest editors, including Ashley M. Jones, Su Cho, and Suzi F. Garcia in 2021.

During 2020 and 2021, Poetry published:

- 733 poems
- 9 issues by guest editors
- 103 visual/multimedia poems
- 54 prose pieces
- 56 episodes of the Poetry Magazine Podcast

Or it is like a prism light
g all of the
directing
rays of
t hat they miss their direct mark Yo u r heart or the heart of the p
erson in front of you w hom you were trying to
mak e recipient Yo u th ou gh yo u were se nding it stra1ght, saying it tr
ue, but then it g
et s refracted, k
aleidoscoped, t
thrown left onto
a wall, or loosen
down a corridor, 
the
s -pac e s in betwee
h It becomes so
mething triple-i
maged and ove
td and hard t
ored abuoyin
gund excuir
rent a ball o
f dark light
mete ring i
nsd e a h
abit of
m e rcu
ry a nd
obsidian

From “Would That” by the collective She Who Has No Master(s), published in Poetry, November 2021

Poetry’s Honors:

- National Magazine Award winner for John Lee Clark’s essay, “Tactile Art”
- National Magazine Award Cover Contest finalist for Armando Veve’s September 2019 cover art
- National Magazine Award Photography finalist for “From ‘Crowns,’” featuring poems by Patricia Smith and photographs by Sandro Miller

Additionally, Poetry:

- Received more than 32,000 submission packets
- Subscribers: 2021: 30,801; 2020: 26,039
- Included 150 (47.3%) contributors who were published in the magazine for the first time in 2020
- 260 (81.5%) contributors published in the magazine for the first time in 2021
Events
In response to the pandemic, the Poetry Foundation changes in its approach and presentation of public events. These included a pivot to entirely digital/online offerings in 2020–2021 and the Poetry Off the Stage series on Instagram. The Programming team added the presence of live captioners and/or American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters to all events; events were also recorded and added to the Poetry Foundation website to be accessed anytime.

The Programming team introduced post-event surveys so that attendees could provide feedback on the events and highlight areas for improvement. This practice is ongoing, and the feedback is greatly appreciated.

A few examples:

“I loved the descriptions of the speakers and their surroundings. It was a very welcoming atmosphere.”

“The presentation of identities, visual descriptions, and simultaneous ASL interpretation made me feel like this is a space that carefully considers everyone.”

“Each poet had lineage in each other, other poets, and the unshared now shared experiences. Wonderful curation. Great flow. Beautiful souls, each one and all.”

“This was my first time attending a Poetry Foundation event, and I’m glad I did.”

Marilyn Nelson and an ASL interpreter, Young People’s Poetry Day, September 2021

Kristian Bachrach, pianist Daniel Baer, and an ASL interpreter, LYNX Project Amplify Series, September 2021
Library
2020–2021 Poetry Foundation Annual Report

Library

2020–2021 Book Clubs

Each month, Library staff moderated an online book club featuring a wide range of classic and contemporary poets. Moving to a virtual format allowed guests to join the conversations from anywhere in the world. Participants in the United States received copies of the discussion book free of charge.

- 24 book clubs
- 377 attendees
- 21 of 24 books discussed were by BIPOC poets
- 19 of 24 books discussed were by living poets

2020–2021 Writing Workshops

The Library’s long-standing writing workshop series, Forms & Features, also adapted to an online format in 2020. Through these workshops, participants came together to learn about different poetic forms and aspects of poetry, and to create their own work. From these sessions, a new reading series, Celebrating the Poets of Forms & Features, was born, providing participants a space to share work from those workshops.

- 238 sessions
- 4,184 attendees

2020–2021 Youth Programming

In addition to the book clubs and workshops geared towards adult fans of poetry, the Library offers a number of programs for young writers and readers of the art form.

Field trips were changed to online sessions available to educators who wanted to bring more poetry to their classrooms, resulting in the following:

- 31 sessions
- 677 attendees

The Teen Poetry Labs, traditionally in-person summer workshops, shifted to online sessions that were available to more young poets in the virtual space, leading to:

- 29 sessions
- 239 attendees

Poetry Explorers is a new program that began as a virtual event series. It has evolved into an interactive video series that caregivers and educators can enjoy with their young poets again and again.

- 8 event sessions
- 4 video installments
While the Poetry Foundation building was closed in 2020–2021, its commitment to poetry as art form did not stop. For the first time, the Foundation installed an artwork on its Chicago building’s exterior: *For And Nor But Or Yet So* by Bob Faust.

This installation debuted November 2021 and celebrated the poems of 2021 Ruth Lilly Award winner Patricia Smith.

Smith, who was raised on the West Side of Chicago, is the winner of numerous awards, including the Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award and Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize. She is a mentor and inspiration to a generation of poets and a treasure for innumerable readers.

The poems gathered for the installation were available as QR codes that collectively created a “family tree” of work selected by Smith, tracing generative connections between poets past and present.
Community, Educators & Student Programs
Community, Educators & Student Programs

Incubator for Community-Engaged Poets

The Incubator is a program for poets who engage with and serve communities through their creative practice. Prior to the pandemic, the Incubator consisted of a four-day introductory session of workshops and discussions that culminated with the Chicago Poetry Block Party. Then, work continued in Incubator Fellows’ communities, supported in part by grants awarded annually to two Fellows for their community projects.

The Foundation went through several permutations of Incubator, working to adapt it to function during the pandemic and in a way that was aligned with the changes underway at the Foundation. This evolved into an evaluation of the program. Feedback was requested and received from 77 out of 98 Incubator alumni.

Hope Rhymes

The Foundation joined Poetry Ireland in 2021 to announce the new multi-year partnership, Hope Rhymes. This partnership aims to connect communities of poets and audiences in the United States and Ireland, with a focus on engagement with and services for young people.

Summer Poetry Teachers Institute

In July 2021, we carried forth our Commitment to the Community with the free virtual institute “Poetry in an Antiracist Classroom,” which reached more than 200 educators, ranging from kindergarten to the community college level. They learned new ways to teach poetry to their students. It was the sixth annual Institute expanded to a broad, virtual educator audience. The Poetry Foundation worked with longtime partner O, Miami, the annual poetry festival, to plan the Institute programming.

Poetry Out Loud

A partnership of the National Endowment for the Arts, Poetry Foundation, and state arts agencies, Poetry Out Loud is a national arts education program that encourages the study of great poetry by offering free educational materials and a dynamic recitation competition for high school students across the country. Since the program began in 2005, more than 4.1 million students and 68,000 teachers from 17,000 schools and organizations across the nation have participated. The competition’s virtual national finals were administered by Mid Atlantic Arts.

2019–2020 School Year

- 263,000 participating students
- 2,200 schools
- Each state champion received a $1,000 prize
- In states where the finals were canceled, the state arts agency received $1,000 to either award to a state champion named later or divide among the students who advanced to the state finals.

2020–2021 School Year

- 98,000 participating students
- 1,300 schools/organizations
- $45,500 in prize money was awarded to competing students and their schools

Gwendolyn Brooks Youth Poetry Awards

Created to celebrate and honor the legacy of Illinois Poet Laureate Gwendolyn Brooks, the first Black author to win a Pulitzer Prize, the Gwendolyn Brooks Youth Poetry Awards is an annual competition open to all Illinois poets in grades K–12. The Poetry Foundation partnered with Illinois Humanities, Brooks Permissions, and the Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts to host virtual ceremonies honoring the students.

2020–2021 totals

- 626 submissions
- 14 counties and 92 zip codes represented
- With 365 entries, 2021 marked the most submissions since the contest’s revival in 2017

Artwork by Sirin Thada

Artwork by Amber Huff
Poetry, Prose & Podcasts Online
Poetry, Prose & Podcasts Online

During the past two years of the pandemic, Foundation staff were heartened by the public’s continued engagement with and support of our poetry content. People found inspiration and refuge in our digital offerings, which included the Poem of the Day newsletter, weekly featured articles, the website archive, and new video content. The Poetry Foundation website continues to serve as an evolving resource of articles for educators, poetry collections, poets blogging on various topics, and poetry tools for young people.

### 2020–2021

- 4.5 million+ average monthly website visitors
- 568 new poet bios added
- 2,188 new poems added
- 46,000+ poems in the archive
- 83 new feature articles
  - Artwork by Lars Leetaru for Tyler Malone’s feature essay, “Thinking Is a Sickness of the Eyes” was included in the American Illustration Annual 40.
  - J. Howard Rosier’s feature on Frederick Seidel was selected by Literary Hub as one of the 10 best book reviews of 2021.
- Nearly 130,000 newsletter subscribers
- 5 active poetry podcasts: Audio Poem of the Day, Poetry Magazine Podcast, Poetry Off the Shelf, PoemTalk, and VS
- 1.2 million+ podcast listeners

### VS Updates

The Poetry Foundation’s Webby-nominated podcast series, in partnership with Postloudness, has some changes of its own.

- Launched the open call for Roll Call, the podcast miniseries dedicated to the past, present, and future of Black poetry.
  - This resulted in 62 applications from around the United States and beyond.
- After 5 seasons, cohosts Franny Choi and Danez Smith are stepping aside to make room for new voices.
  - The open call for the new cohorts brought in 74 applications, and the new duo begins in 2022.

### Harriet Blog

In 2021, readers of the long-running Harriet blog were introduced to a revamped version of the blog and to Harriet Books, an initiative dedicated to a weekly review of independently published contemporary poetry. In its first year, Harriet Books published 119 reviews of new poetry collections.

In 2021 the Harriet blog featured:
- 28 Featured blog posts
- 8 Open Door posts
- 36 news roundups

Nearly 130,000 newsletter subscribers
Media Partnerships
Media Partnerships

Media partnerships provide a unique opportunity for the Poetry Foundation to invest in poetry programming that reaches new and familiar audiences across a broad media spectrum. This resulted in a more robust presence for poetry-related stories in video, print, radio, television, and social media.

In 2021, the Poetry Foundation relaunched the long-standing, free weekly column American Life in Poetry with award-winning poet and author Kwame Dawes as the new editor. Dawes’s tenure is paired with an engaging new website, designed to connect people to poetry through interests, geography, and representation. Ted Kooser retired as the series editor after celebrating more than 800 columns. The column continues to be published in partnership with the English Department of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Collaborating with Complexly, the Foundation welcomed new co-curators of the twice-weekly YouTube series Ours Poetica which featured Charlotte Abotsi and Sarah Kay in 2021 for Season 3. The poetic duo invited guests to share poems with audiences in short readings that evoke the tactile joy of holding a book while experiencing a poem. Ours Poetica returned to screens of all sizes every Monday and Friday in September.

In partnership with American Public Media, 2021 also marked the return of celebrated poetry podcast, The Slowdown, with award-winning poet Ada Limón taking helm as host, delivering a short episode each weekday of a poem and a moment of reflection. This offered listeners a different way to see the world—through poetry.

On a local level, the Poetry Foundation began a partnership with the Chicago Reader in 2020. Poetry Corner is a biweekly space in the Reader’s print and digital editions that works with Chicago poets to curate a feature of new poems by local writers. This partnership both supports independent writers and publications and provides Chicagoans with a new space to encounter art by people from their community.

The Poetry Foundation is also proud to share the title of 2021 Best Poetry Organization with Kuumba Lynx in the Reader Best of Chicago issue, voted on by the publication’s readers.
Awards

**Partnerships**, grants, prizes, awards, and programs are a few of the ways we continue to celebrate and support past, present, and future poets from all walks of life. The awards processes were revisited in 2020–2021, expanding the pool of decision makers, and they continue to evolve with the Poetry Foundation.

For the first time, the Pegasus Awards ceremonies were virtual, meaning that winners and their supporters could celebrate safely from wherever they were. In 2021, the event was open to the general public to log on and cheer these incredible poets, and the video was added to the Foundation website to be enjoyed by all for years to come.

**Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize**

$100,000 prize each year

**Established in 1986** by Ruth Lilly, the prize is one of the most prestigious awards given to American poets. The prize honors a living U.S. poet whose lifetime accomplishments warrant extraordinary recognition.

Patricia Smith – 2021
Marilyn Chin – 2020

**The Pegasus Award for Criticism**

$7,500

**This award honors** the best book-length works of criticism published in the prior calendar year, including biographies, essay collections, and critical editions that consider the subject of poetry or poets.

**2021 Winner:** Susan Briante for *Defacing the Monument*

**2021 Finalists:**
- Mayra A. Rodriguez for *Audre Lorde: Dream of Europe* and Rosanna Warren for *Max Jacob: A Life in Art and Letters*

**2020 Finalists:**
- Peter Campion for *Radical as Reality: Form and Freedom in American Poetry, Dorothea Lasky for *Animal,* and Peter Murphy for *The Long Public Life of a Short American Poem: Reading and Remembering Thomas Wyatt*

**Young People’s Poet Laureate**

$25,000 prize for two-year term

**Naomi Shihab Nye’s Tenure Extended**

The Poetry Foundation extended the tenure of current Young People’s Poet Laureate, Naomi Shihab Nye, to 2022. Nye was awarded the honor and two-year term in 2019, but had to cancel a number of her readings and programs due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The extension of her tenure allows for new initiatives to replace those that were canceled. It also allows Nye to maintain her commitment to celebrating poetry in geographically underserved and rural communities.

Patricia Smith by Beowulf Sheehan
Marilyn Chin by Jon Medel
Naomi Shihab Nye, courtesy of artist
Susan Briante by Bear Guerra
Saskia Hamilton by Meg Tyler

2020–2021 Poetry Foundation Annual Report

Awards

Patricia Smith
2021 Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize recipient

Marilyn Chin
2020 Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize recipient

Naomi Shihab Nye
2019 Young People’s Poet Laureate

Young People’s Poet Laureate

**$25,000 prize for two-year term**

**Naomi Shihab Nye’s Tenure Extended**

The Poetry Foundation extended the tenure of current Young People’s Poet Laureate, Naomi Shihab Nye, to 2022. Nye was awarded the honor and two-year term in 2019, but had to cancel a number of her readings and programs due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The extension of her tenure allows for new initiatives to replace those that were canceled. It also allows Nye to maintain her commitment to celebrating poetry in geographically underserved and rural communities.

Patricia Smith by Beowulf Sheehan
Marilyn Chin by Jon Medel
Naomi Shihab Nye, courtesy of artist
Susan Briante by Bear Guerra
Saskia Hamilton by Meg Tyler
Awards

Ruth Lilly and Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Poetry Fellowship
$25,800 prize each year

Five prizes for poets early in their careers to encourage the further writing and study of poetry.

2021
Bryan Byrdlong, Steven Espada Dawson, Noor Hindi, Natasha Rao, Simon Shieh

2020
Isabella Borgeson, Luther Hughes, Cyrée Jarelle Johnson, Darius Simpson, Khaty Xiong

Grants
The Poetry Foundation is a private operating foundation, meaning it is a non-profit organization that devotes most of its resources to programs that serve the public; grantmaking, by regulation, is not one of those programs, and so is only one facet of the Foundation’s work as a charitable organization. That said, the Foundation recognizes the importance of grants funding in the arts, and has been reimagining how it can serve the poetry ecosystem in sustainable ways.

The Poetry Foundation opened an emergency grant program to support poetry and affiliated arts organizations struggling during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Foundation committed $1 million in emergency grants over two years at that time; it has doubled that to $2 million in emergency funds distributed within one year.

The emergency grants were open to poetry organizations and organizations that use poetry as an expression of their missions, located in the United States. This included organizations fighting for social justice and working to advance racial equity in poetry and affiliated art.

One-time emergency grants were awarded in the range of $5,000–$20,000, determined by organizations’ annual budgets and requested funds. A panel of internal staff reviewed and chose applicants.

Grants Awarded

A total of 128 organizations received emergency grant funding from the Poetry Foundation from the emergency grant opportunity. Of the recipients:

- 74 of the organizations provide programs for BIPOC, LGBTQIA, and/or other marginalized groups
- 48 of the organizations focus on youth programming
- 88 of the organizations support their local communities
- 113, or 88%, of the organizations had not previously received funding from the Poetry Foundation.
## Recipients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recipient</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1455 Literary Arts, Inc.</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>826 Chi</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>826 Michigan</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>826 New Orleans</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska Quarterly Review</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alliance for Young Artists &amp; Writers</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alice James Books</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Poetry Museum</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art from Ashes Inc.</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ArtistYear</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts + Literature Laboratory</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge Inc.</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts Council of Princeton</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artspace/Slam Richmond Affiliation</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian American Writers Workshop</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autumn House Press</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo Ridge Press</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beyond Baroque</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Table Arts</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Stoop of CultureTrust</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOA Editions, Ltd.</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston Scores</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowery Poetry Club</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BreakBread Literacy Project</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Poets in the Schools</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambridge Community Center</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CantoMundo</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cavan Kerry Press</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cave Canem Foundation</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for the Art of Translation</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Asylum</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago Hopes for Kids</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago Poetry Center</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Advocacy Through Poetry / Community Justice Project</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Building Art Works</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Literature Initiative</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community-Word Project, Inc.</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ConTextos</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copper Canyon Press</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D.C. Creative Writing Workshop</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deep Center</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desert Island Supply Co.</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dew More Baltimore</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diaporic Vietnamese Artists Network / Intersection for the Arts</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dove Mission Initiative, Inc.</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DreamYard’s Bronx Poetry Project</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fonograf Editions</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free Verse</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gemini Ink</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls Write Now</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLOW Academy</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Journey Development Foundation</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glyph Living</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Mountains Review</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hope at Hand, Inc.</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hurston Wright Foundation</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Na-Po</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inside Out Literary Arts</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Women’s Writing Guild</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Just Buffalo Literary Center</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kearny Street Workshop, Inc.</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuumba Lynx</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kundiman</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lambda Literary</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letras Latinas</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Journeys Writers Club, Inc.</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Litmus Press</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Litquake Foundation</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine Inside Out</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mano Amiga</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mass Poetry</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan Quarterly Review</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mighty Writers</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota Prison Writing Workshop</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missoula Writing Collaborative</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mizna</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music in Common</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska Writers Collective</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noemi Press</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuyorican Poets Cafe</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NY Writers Coalition, Inc.</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obsidian: Literature &amp; Arts in the African Diaspora</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Path with Art</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poet Lore</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poets &amp; Writers, Inc.</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poetry and Art as Therapy for a Spirit in Grief / Northwest New Mexico Arts Council</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poetry Project</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poetry Society of America</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poetry Society of New York</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHINO Poetry/The Poetry Forum, Inc.</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River of Words Program at Saint Mary’s College</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Louis Poetry Center</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shout Mouse Press</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Press Traffic</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snow City Arts</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaking Truth to Power From Center for Empowering Refugees and Immigrants (CERI)</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Split This Rock</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundress Publications</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAB: The Journal of Poetry &amp; Poetics</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachers and Writers Collaborative, Inc.</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Care Center</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Diatreme, Inc.</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Lab</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Midwest Writing Center</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Open Mouth Literary Center</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Oxford American Literary Project</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information about the Poetry Foundation’s financial status, please visit PoetryFoundation.org/Foundation/Financials
In December 2021, the Poetry Foundation pledged to distribute $9 million in grants over the next three years as part of our continued evolution, focusing on ongoing support and new efforts. Those efforts are:

**Renewal and Recovery**
- Continued financial support for past emergency grant recipients impacted by the ongoing pandemic

**Equity in Verse**
- Support to build capacity of BIPOC-led literary, publishing, and poetry organizations, management, and programs
- Support to cultivate and engage new, diverse audiences for poetry
- Foster new collaborations and partnerships, as well as innovation and new technologies in the field

**Program Collaborations and Partnerships**
- Continued support of existing programs and partnerships
- New collaborations that are in line with the Foundation’s forthcoming Strategic Plan
Board of Trustees & Staff

Breakroom at the Poetry Foundation. Photo by James Prinz

Board of Trustees

Caren Yanis, Chair
Willard Bunn III, Chair (2020)
Eugene Y. Lowe, Jr., Vice President
Andrea Wishom, Vice Chair
Benna Wilde, Vice Chair (2020)
David Ormesher, Secretary
Stuart J. Miller, Secretary (2020)
Allan E. Bulley, III, Trustee
Cecilia A. Conrad, Trustee
Gwendolyn Perry Davis, Trustee
Fabiola Delgado, Trustee
Marian Godfrey, Trustee (2020)
Lynn Jerath, Trustee
Blythe McGarvie, Trustee (2020)

Kary McIlwain, Trustee
Susan Noyes, Trustee
Brian Provost, Trustee
Scott Turow, Trustee
Angel Ysaguirre, Trustee
Board of Trustees & Staff

Staff

Office of the President
Michelle T. Boone, President (2021–present)
Hannah Doherty, Executive Assistant to the President and Board Liaison (2021–present)
Maris Maeve O’Tierney, Executive Assistant to the President and Board Liaison (2018–2021)
Marilyn Rubio, Director of Strategic Initiatives and Special Projects

Finance & Administration
Lawrence T. Mangan, Interim Chief Financial Officer (2021–present)
Kate Coughlan, Chief Financial Officer (2020–2021)
Caren Skoulas, Chief Financial Officer (2005–2020)
Krystal Languell, Director of Finance (2021)
Nevertha Brooks, Finance Associate
Angelica Flores, Receptionist & Fiscal Assistant

Programs & Community Engagement
Ydalmi Noriega, Vice President of Programs and Engagement
Steve Young, Program Director (2003–2020)
Justine Haka, Program Manager
Itzel Blancas, Community Programs Manager
Alex Benjamin, Building and Events Manager
Noah Fields, Events and Accessibility Coordinator
Lindsay Summers, Events & Logistics Assistant
Michael Keating, Poetry Ambassador
Me’Chelle Robinson, Poetry Ambassador
Akilah Muhammad, Poetry Ambassador

Library
Katherine Litwin, Library Director and Exhibitions Co-curator
Maggie Queaney, Library Associate
Evalena Friedman, Library Assistant
Stefania Gomez, Education and Youth Services Assistant

Digital Programs
Harlan Wallach, Chief Technology Officer & Director of Digital Programs (2019–2021)
Erin Watson, Interim Digital Director/Product Manager
Dan Hoefler, Product Project Manager (2020–2021)
Nuria Sheehan, Digital Project Manager (2020)
James Sitar, Senior Web Editor (2007–2021)
Jeremy Lybarger, Features Editor
Shoshana Olidort, Web Editor
Michael Slosek, Web Editor (2012–2020)
Janet Cheung, Web Producer
Michelle Martinez, Permissions Coordinator
Meg Forajter, Permissions and Digital Projects Assistant

Marketing & Communications
Sarah Whitcher, Marketing & Media Director (2018–2021)
Liz O’Connell-Thompson, Media Manager
Hannah Kucharzak, Marketing Associate
Moyo Abiona, Media Assistant
Emily Bieniek, Media Assistant (2018–2021)

Poetry Magazine
Don Share, Poetry Editor (2013–2020)
Fred Sasaki, Creative Director and Exhibitions Co-curator, Interim Coeditor
Lindsay Garbutt, Interim Coeditor
Holly Amos, Associate Editor
Hannah Kucharzak, Marketing Associate
Angela Flores, Editorial Assistant
Ashley M. Jones, Guest Editor (May 2021–July 2021)
Su Cho, Guest Editor (September 2021–November 2021)
Suzi F. Garcia, Guest Editor (December 2021–February 2022)
Image Credits

Design for this annual report by Kareracter Creative Studio

_Ours Poetica_ visuals from Complexly

_For And Nor But Or Yet So_ by Bob Faust

Susan Briante by Bear Guerra

Artwork by Amber Huff

Artwork for “Thinking Is a Sickness of the Eyes” by Lars Leetaru

Marilyn Chin by Jon Medel

“Amontance” by Sandro Miller

Frederick Seidel by Keith Negley

Photographs of the Poetry Foundation building and _For And Nor But Or Yet So_ by James Prinz

“Would That” by She Who Has No Master(s)

Patricia Smith by Beowulf Sheehan

Artwork by Sirin Thada

Saskia Hamilton by Meg Tyler

Artwork for “They Came, and I Wrote Them” by Isip Xin