

# 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

Stories We Shared



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■ Our journey began in 1998 with a dream to change the landscape of the cultural community in the area. Thanks to the countless people who were with us when we opened our doors in 2001 and thousands more who joined us along the way, the success of the JBFC vision is bigger than we ever could have imagined.

And here we are now, celebrating our 15th anniversary. Over the years, we've enjoyed exceptional film programming, innovative approaches to literacy education, deep community engagement, and meaningful dialogue. More about our history follows, but first we want to share an important and far-reaching year in the life of the Jacob Burns Film Center.



A highlight of 2015 was the opening of our two new theaters. With a total of five screens, we can present so many more dynamic films along with inventive programs curated by JBFC staff, international fellows, emerging artists, and partnering organizations. On the education front, we moved forward with our groundbreaking curriculum **Image, Sound, and Story**, a series of hands-on projects that emphasize process, challenge-based learning, collaboration, and reflection.



On top of all of this, we completed a comprehensive strategic planning process in June 2015. The end result is a dynamic representation of the creative, passionate, and exceedingly thoughtful efforts of the JBFC community, including staff, board, audience members, donors, and professional colleagues from Westchester County and beyond. On page 20, you will find a summary of the major goals and core strategies we identified as most crucial to our continued success, with a link to the strategic plan.

We hope you enjoy reading all that we accomplished together this past year, as well as our plans for the future. Together, we will create the next chapter of the JBFC story.

Thank you for being a part of this very special community,

**Hugh Price**

Chair, Board of Directors

**Janet Benton**

Vice Chair, Board of Directors

**Edie Demas**

Executive Director



■ It's been only five years since I welcomed longtime friend Steven Spielberg as our guest at the Burns' 10th Anniversary Celebration. In JBFC time, five years passes like a heartbeat.

When I think about the JBFC's early history, one moment always comes to mind—Pleasantville Day 2001. It was a sunny May Saturday, and volunteers for the soon-to-be-open theater had set up a popcorn stand down the street in Memorial Plaza. We hoped we could spread the word about the new place to any interested parties who strolled by on this popular community day.

So we gave out free Pleasantville Day popcorn. We also distributed free tickets to a community screening. We thought we might sign up a few optimists as members. The wild hope was that by the end of the first year 500 members would have signed on.

Much to our amazement, 200 people joined on that single day. We had more than 1,000 members by the time our doors opened on June 21. And that film for the community screening? *Pleasantville*, of course. That's the one in which the world suddenly bursts happily from black-and-white into color. It was perfect for the occasion. We couldn't have set the scene for the JBFC's first 15 years any better.

Whether you joined us way back at the beginning or are new to our community, you'll enjoy exploring some of the people, programs, milestones, and projects that have shaped and defined the JBFC's first decade and a half. Take a few moments to enjoy our [interactive 15th anniversary timeline](#), which can only begin to capture the nonstop amazements we've been through together. We've come so far—yet it feels like we're just getting started. It's mind-boggling to wonder what milestones and great moments the *next* five years will hold.

With warmest thanks to the JBFC community,

**Janet Maslin**

President, Board of Directors



# FILM

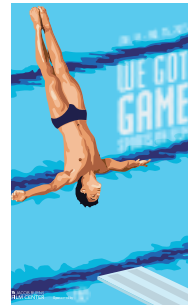
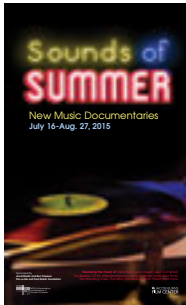
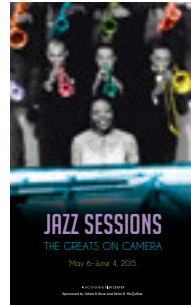
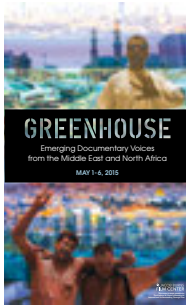
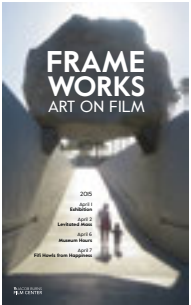
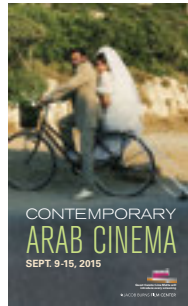
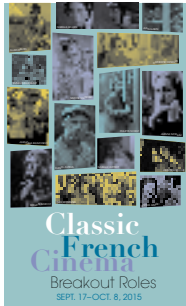
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“ I am so grateful for the Remix series. The examination into the black experience, including the persistent and toxic effect of racism, is essential if the Jacob Burns is to be a vital, living, breathing reflection of our culture. I appreciate that the series brings in new audiences, mixed in color, age, and experience, to share powerful films and conversation. I love that people who work day to day to bring about social justice join us for these programs and that we often leave the theater with more questions than answers. ”

—Phyllis Ross  
JBFC member



## FRAMING STORIES



Family Films  
Global Watch  
Science on Screen  
World Stage on Screen  
Programmers' Picks

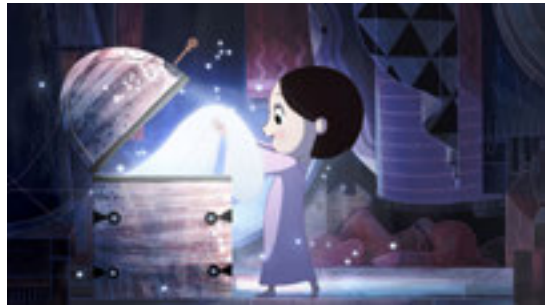
**CLICK HERE**  
to explore JBFC  
film memories—  
and more—from  
the past 15 years

## UNIQUE TO 2015



**A Story for Everyone.**  
With **402 films** from  
**46 countries**, there  
was something for  
everyone at the JBFC  
in 2015.

For a complete list of films,  
**[CLICK HERE](#)**



“The JBFC is  
a force for  
social change  
disguised as a  
movie theater.”

—Jonathan Demme,  
JBFC Board member 2006–15  
and current curator



## SPECIAL GUESTS, SPECIAL MOMENTS

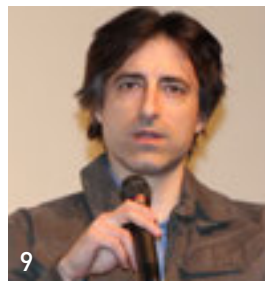
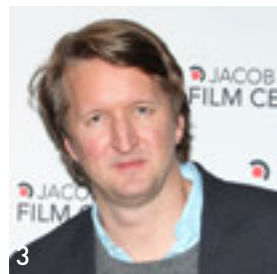
Just some of the 217 filmmakers, artists, musicians, authors, and others who entertained, educated, and moved us this year.

Arlene Alda	Noah Hutton
Laurie Anderson <sup>2</sup>	Bong Joon-ho
Noah Baumbach <sup>9</sup>	Charlie Kaufman <sup>6</sup>
Jon Bowermaster	Shola Lynch <sup>7</sup>
Fred "Fab 5 Freddy" Brathwaite	Virginia Madsen
J. C. Chandor	Ivy Meeropol
Michael Chernus	Natalie Merchant <sup>8</sup>
Jonathan Demme <sup>11</sup>	Stanley Nelson
Abigail Disney <sup>5</sup>	Chazz Palminteri
Jesse Eisenberg <sup>1</sup>	Richard Price
Béla Fleck	Terrence Rafferty
Ron Garan	Andrew Revkin
Nelson George	William C. Rhoden
Bobcat Goldthwait	David O. Russell <sup>4</sup>
Meg Griffin	Bryan Stevenson <sup>10</sup>
Mark Harris	Christine Vachon
Paul Holdengräber	Raven Wilkinson
Tom Hooper <sup>3</sup>	....and many more!

**“Thanks to all for a wildly successful evening—and to your team for their stalwart and delicious support.”**

—Erik Greenberg Anjou, director, *Deli Man*

**CLICK HERE** to explore special moments from the past 15 years





## VISITING FELLOWS

Through our Visiting Fellows program, filmmakers, educators, artists, and programmers from across the country and around the world live, work, and teach on the JBFC campus. Thanks to a generous 2007 grant from Kathryn Davis, the Jacob Burns Film Center purchased 5 Grant St., a residence adjacent to the Media Arts Lab for our Visiting Fellows to call home.



**Sarra Abidi**  
Tunisia  
Spring 2015

Prior to launching her film career, Sarra Abidi studied graphic design at the High Institute of Fine Arts in Tunis and received a master's degree in film editing at INSAS, in Belgium. Sarra received the Chicken & Egg Development Grant at the 2012 Greenhouse forum and the prestigious Vision Sud Est award for best promising filmmaker from the Maghreb at Vision du Réel film festival. While in residence, Sarra worked on her first feature film, *The Dead Can't Vote*, a documentary about chemical pollution in southern Tunisia. She also shared and discussed her film with JBFC audiences.



**Bong Joon-ho**  
South Korea  
Spring 2015

Bong Joon-ho is one of the most successful South Korean filmmakers ever, with a wide international reputation. The *LA Times* says, "Bong Joon-ho is the rare filmmaker who seems to work both within and beyond the confines of genre. His brisk, funny, extremely well-made movies deliver the familiar pleasures of pop entertainment, though often in unfamiliar configurations." He is the award-winning director/screenwriter of *Barking Dogs Never Bite*, *Memories of Murder*, *The Host*, *Mother*, and *Snowpiercer*. During his time at the JBFC, Director Bong was accompanied by producer and Hartsdale native Dooho Choi. Director Bong attended screenings of his four most recent films, participated in Q&As, and worked on preproduction for his upcoming project while he was in residence.



# EDUCATION

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“ My students loved *Trumbo* and were able to make many connections between it, *The Crucible*, and current events. We continued the discussion in class, and the students felt empowered by all their newfound knowledge. As a teacher for the past 31 years, I know how much these experiences mean to the students, and I truly appreciate the JBFC’s commitment to fostering learning outside the classroom. ”

— Barbara Peist

English Teacher, Thornton High School, Mt. Vernon

**CLICK HERE** to explore JBFC education highlights—and more—from the past 15 years.



Karolina Manko

Lynda Shenkman Curtis

## PROGRAMS FOR SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

The JBFC supports educators with curriculum for innovative literacy education. In our age of visual communication, students who are truly college- and career-ready demonstrate skills of critical analysis, creative collaboration, and multimedia communication. From pre-K through grade 12, all our programs are aligned with the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy. Field trips, residencies, and school partnerships give students and teachers an opportunity to engage with JBFC's stellar faculty of mediamakers, storytellers, and educators.

### Focus on Nature

Pre-K–Grade 12

### Seeing Stories

Pre-K–Grade 2

### See Hear Feel Film

Grade 3

### Minds in Motion

Grade 4

### School Partnerships

Grade 5–12

### Classroom to Screening Room

Grades 5–12

### Cinemanía

Grades 7–8

**CLICK HERE** for an overview of all programs for schools and community groups.



## WE CONTINUE TO INCREASE OUR IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY.

### Programs for Schools and Community Organizations

Total Enrollment: **13,823**

Students Fully Subsidized by the JBFC: **10,223**

The JBFC is in **33** of Westchester County's **45** school districts. We waive the participation fee and reimburse transportation costs for schools in which a minimum of 35% of students qualify for free or reduced-price lunch.

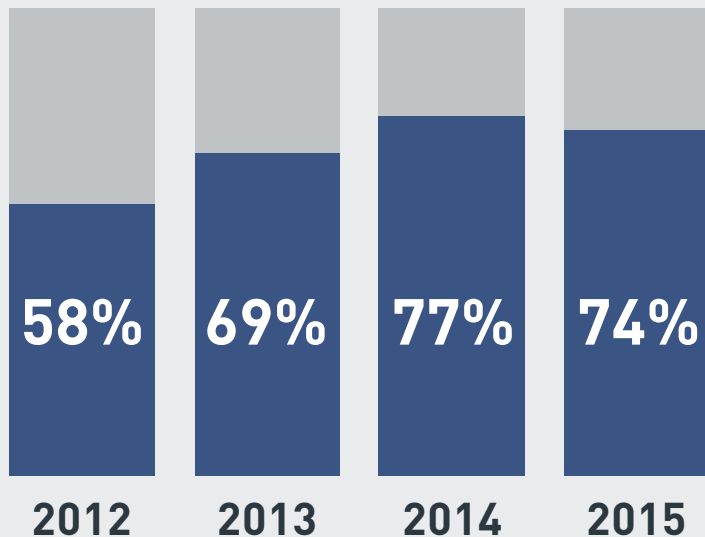


Lynda Shenkman Curtis



Karolina Manko

### % Subsidized by the JBFC



The JBFC provides its 12-week animation program, **Minds in Motion**, to under-resourced schools throughout Westchester County completely free of charge. Elian Tampus, a fourth grader at Claremont School in Ossining, read this note at the celebratory premiere that capped his participation in the fall of 2015.

Hi everybody! My name is Elian Tampus from Mr. Horan's class and I would like to share with you my thoughts.

Fellow students! I know that we all want to thank all the good people here at the Jacob Burns Film Center and our awesome volunteers. But, I'll bet half of you did this project just for the popcorn! I was thrilled about it too. But that's not all of it- we also learned many things (more than eating buttery popcorn), we learned about movie-making.

You might have thought that this experience was fun, but it was also about learning how to be a friend. The way every person was included in the process was just ridiculous! And boy, did we work hard! I'll bet that was the hardest anyone here has ever worked! We also learned how to be a team, how to share, and how to include everyone.

We know that this was fun. No, not just fun, special. We couldn't have done it without our lead animator, Greg, and the volunteers: CJ, David, and Ms. Hernandez. Jacob Burns paid for everything: the supplies, iPads, popcorn, and even the bus ride to our red-carpet premiere. It has all been so amazing and I think our movies will be too.

Thank you!

[CLICK HERE](#) to watch *The Eating Pony*, the film Elian worked on

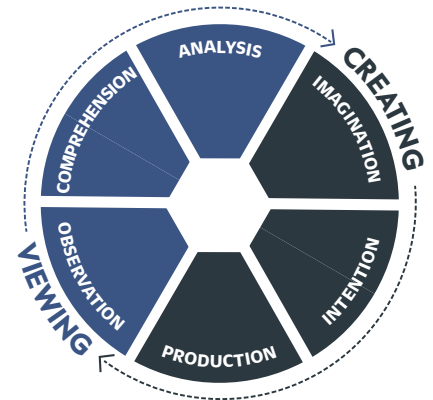


## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Through our professional development opportunities, the JBFC gives educators creative and technical experience with digital media, and support and inspiration for innovative approaches to teaching literacy in the classroom. Teachers learn to enhance their instruction through digital projects designed to integrate creativity, literacy, and technology.

### Image, Sound, and Story: Pre-K–Grade 12 Curriculum

JBFC's new curriculum is a series of hands-on projects that emphasize process, challenge-based learning, collaboration, and reflection. **Image, Sound, and Story** provides a scaffolded progression to support learners as they develop their visual and aural communication skills. Each curricular strand includes 10 projects designed to develop students' visual literacy through viewing and discussing curated media; completing short activities called View Now Do Nows; capturing and editing images and video; and revising and reflecting on their work. All projects are aligned with Common Core Standards and the JBFC Learning Framework and develop these core literacy concepts.



## COURSES AT THE MEDIA ARTS LAB FOR KIDS, TEENS, AND ADULTS

Total Enrollment: **851**

Students fully subsidized by JBFC: **47**

In 2015, the Jacob Burns Film Center offered innovative programs in new media, documentary and fiction film production, screenwriting, animation, and so much more for students from pre-K through adulthood.

**CLICK HERE** to view a complete roster of course offerings.

“ I woke up today with such a sense of accomplishment and promise! Working as we did to learn new skills and then put them to creative use was not only incredibly enjoyable and satisfying but has given me the confidence to know that I will be able to do this again and again. So many stories to tell! ”

—Crafting the Documentary student



Tara Clume





## ■ JBFC EMERGING ARTISTS

The Jacob Burns Film Center is committed to supporting the development of filmmakers through its emerging artist fellowship program. And thanks to the continued and generous support from the Westchester Community Foundation, we were pleased to welcome three Valentine and Clark Emerging Artist Fellows to the JBFC campus in 2015.



### JBFC EMERGING ARTIST

**Tara Clune** | Jan.–May

Tara received a BA in computer science from Columbia University and studied digital filmmaking at New York University's School of Continuing Professional Studies. She currently works as a freelance motion graphic designer and animator, and her work has appeared in music videos, TV shows, and commercials.

During her fellowship, Tara, a Mt. Kisco resident and Westchester native, wrote, directed, and animated *Hourglass*, a stop-motion-style short about a young girl who struggles making friends, and decides to build one from found objects in her home. Tara also created a beautiful trailer for JBFC's **Deadly SINema** series and collaborated with

our faculty to create a trailer about the Emerging Artist Fellowship. We were thrilled and very proud that Tara was selected as a 2016 Sundance Ignite Fellow. This new initiative focuses on young independent filmmakers, age 18–24. As part of her yearlong fellowship, Tara attended the 2016 Sundance Film Festival, met with filmmakers, and received mentorship from Sundance Institute alumni.

Tara is continuing her affiliation with the JBFC as an instructor for a motion graphics class at the Media Arts Lab. We're looking forward to the added experience Tara's new fellowship will bring to our community.



## JBFC EMERGING ARTIST

**Champ Ensminger** | June–Aug.

A Thai-American filmmaker born in Chiang Mai and raised in Spokane, WA, Champ stayed in our Residence for Visiting Artists during his time at the JBFC. After graduating from the University of Washington in Seattle with a degree in comparative literature and anthropology, Champ moved to New York City, where he worked at Vimeo and then as a freelancer and production assistant at the web agency *m s s n g p e c e s*.

During his fellowship at the JBFC, Champ created an experimental short film called *US/Caterpillar Secrets*, scored with original music by Croton-on-Hudson-born musician Zach Cooper and performed by dancer and SUNY Purchase graduate Lindsey Jones. While shooting his film, Champ invited JBFC students to work on set and observe the production process. Champ also worked as a Teaching Assistant for a JBFC filmmaking course for teenagers from the Chappaqua Summer Scholarship Program.

## JBFC EMERGING ARTIST

**Reweina Tessema** | Sept.–Dec.

A Valhalla native and a recent graduate of the School of Film and Media Studies at Purchase College, Reweina began working with the JBFC as a Teaching Assistant before becoming our fall semester Valentine and Clark Fellow.

During her fellowship, Reweina worked as a TA for **Image, Sound, and Story** for homeschooled students, several **Creator's Co-Op** workshops, and several adult courses. Under the guidance of NYU screenwriting professor and JBFC faculty member Rob Morton, and JBFC emerging artist mentor Sean Weiner, Reweina developed *The Roommate*, a coming-of-age short film about a young college grad preparing to boldly step into adulthood. Stylistically inspired by indie films like *Little Miss Sunshine*, Reweina spent months creating the script with subject matter pulled from her own life.

We are thrilled that Reweina has remained at the JBFC, serving as a teacher for **Creator's Co-Op** and **Experiments in Film and Media**.

“ I wish a hole could be dug through the earth from Pleasantville to Chiang Mai, two places which I've grown to love, and where the love of the moving image is shared by so many on opposite sides of the world. ” —Champ Ensminger

## 2015 EDUCATION PARTNERS

Alice E. Grady Elementary School, Elmsford, NY  
Anne M. Dorner Middle School, Ossining, NY  
Bedford Road School, Pleasantville, NY  
Bethune Junior/Senior High School,  
Dobbs Ferry, NY  
Blue Mountain Middle School,  
Cortlandt Manor, NY  
Boys & Girls Club of Northern Westchester,  
Mt. Kisco, NY  
Briarcliff High School, Briarcliff, NY  
Briarcliff Middle School, Briarcliff, NY  
Brookside Elementary School, Ossining, NY  
Casimir Pulaski Elementary School,  
Yonkers, NY  
Cecil H. Parker Elementary School,  
Mt. Vernon, NY  
Chappaqua Summer Scholarship Program,  
Chappaqua, NY  
Charter School of Educational Excellence,  
Yonkers, NY  
Church Street Elementary School,  
White Plains, NY  
Claremont Elementary School, Ossining, NY  
Columbus Elementary School, Mt. Vernon, NY  
Convent of the Sacred Heart, Greenwich, CT  
Cross Hill Academy, Yonkers, NY  
Daniel Webster Elementary School,  
New Rochelle, NY  
Dows Lane Elementary School, Irvington, NY  
Edgemont Middle /High School, Scarsdale, NY  
Edgewood Elementary School, Scarsdale, NY  
Edward Williams Elementary School,  
Mt. Vernon, NY  
Elm Street Neighborhood Center, Yonkers, NY  
Enrico Fermi School of the Performing Arts,  
Yonkers, NY  
Eugenio Maria de Hostos MicroSociety School,  
Yonkers, NY  
Fairfield Ludlow High School, Fairfield, CT  
Fox Lane High School, Bedford, NY  
Fox Meadow Elementary School, Scarsdale, NY  
George M. Davis Elementary School, New  
Rochelle, NY  
George Washington Elementary School,  
White Plains, NY  
Girls Prep Bronx Elementary School, Bronx, NY  
Gorton High School, Yonkers, NY  
Graham Elementary School, Mt. Vernon, NY

Greenville Elementary School, Scarsdale, NY  
Greenwich High School, Greenwich, CT  
Hackley School, Tarrytown, NY  
Haldane Elementary School, Cold Spring, NY  
Heathcote Elementary School, Scarsdale, NY  
Hendrick Hudson High School, Montrose, NY  
Highlands Middle School, White Plains, NY  
Highview Elementary School, Hartsdale, NY  
Horace Greeley High School, Chappaqua, NY  
Iona Preparatory School, New Rochelle, NY  
Irvington Middle School, Irvington, NY  
John F. Kennedy Magnet Elementary School,  
Port Chester, NY  
John Jay High School, Cross River, NY  
Kahlil Gibran Elementary School, Yonkers, NY  
King Street Elementary School,  
Port Chester, NY  
Lincoln High School, Yonkers, NY  
Main Street School, Irvington, NY  
Mamaroneck Ave. School, Mamaroneck, NY  
Martin Luther King Jr. High School,  
Hastings-on-Hudson, NY  
Mary McLeod Bethune High School,  
Greenburgh, NY  
Milton School, Rye, NY  
Mt. Kisco Elementary School, Mt. Kisco, NY  
Mt. Vernon High School, Mt. Vernon, NY  
New Rochelle High School, New Rochelle, NY  
Oaksdale Elementary School, Peekskill, NY  
Ossining Children's Center, Ossining, NY  
Ossining High School, Ossining, NY  
Paideia School 15, Yonkers, NY  
Paideia School 24, Yonkers, NY  
Palisade Preparatory School, Yonkers, NY  
Park Elementary School, Ossining, NY  
PEAK Center, Mt. Vernon, NY  
PEARLS Hawthorne Elementary School,  
Yonkers, NY  
Pelham Preparatory Academy, Bronx, NY  
Pierre van Cortlandt Middle School,  
Croton-on-Hudson, NY  
Pleasantville Cottage School, Pleasantville, NY  
Pleasantville High School, Pleasantville, NY  
Pleasantville Middle School, Pleasantville, NY  
Pocantico Hills School, Sleepy Hollow, NY  
Putnam Valley High School, Putnam Valley, NY

Quaker Ridge Elementary School, Scarsdale, NY  
Ridgefield Academy, Ridgefield, CT  
Roaring Brook Elementary School,  
Chappaqua, NY  
Roosevelt Early College High School, Yonkers, NY  
Roosevelt Elementary School, Ossining, NY  
Rosemarie Ann Siragusa Elementary School,  
Yonkers, NY  
RSHM Life Center, Sleepy Hollow, NY  
Rye Middle School, Rye, NY  
Scarsdale High School, Scarsdale, NY  
Scarsdale Middle School, Scarsdale, NY  
School 5, Yonkers, NY  
School 16, Yonkers, NY  
School 30, Yonkers, NY  
Seely Place School, Scarsdale, NY  
Sleepy Hollow High School, Sleepy Hollow, NY  
Sleepy Hollow Middle School, Sleepy Hollow, NY  
Solomon Schechter School of Westchester,  
Hartsdale, NY  
Somers High School, Lincolnale, NY  
The Little School, Hawthorne, NY  
The Masters School, Dobbs Ferry, NY  
The Spence School, New York, NY  
Theodore D. Young Community Center,  
White Plains, NY  
Thomas A. Edison Community School,  
Port Chester, NY  
Thornton High School, Mt. Vernon, NY  
Todd Elementary School, Briarcliff, NY  
Traphagen Elementary School, Mt. Vernon, NY  
Trinity Elementary School, New Rochelle, NY  
Washington Irving Elementary School,  
Tarrytown, NY  
Westchester Hebrew High School,  
Mamaroneck, NY  
Westhab Family Center, Elmsford, NY  
Westlake Middle School, Thornwood, NY  
Westorchard Elementary School, Chappaqua, NY  
White Plains Middle School, White Plains, NY  
William Holmes Elementary School,  
Mt. Vernon, NY  
Woodlands Middle School, Hartsdale, NY  
Yonkers Middle School, Yonkers, NY





# OUTREACH

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“ Please allow me to extend my sincerest thanks for your most kind invitation to have our members join you for the viewing of *Rockers*. It was wonderful to see our home on the big screen and to fondly remember some of the sights and sounds of the '70s. As an organization that supports and encourages education in all forms, we welcome the opportunity to share this great film with our members. ”

— **Lesleyann Samuel**

President, Union of Jamaican Alumni Associations USA



## Community-building through dialogue is at the very core of everything we do.

In 2015, the JBFC partnered with more than 79 nonprofit organizations. These collaborations remain an important component of our mission and provide enriching opportunities for our members, as well as the community at large. We look forward to developing new and strategic partnerships throughout Westchester County and beyond.

### 2015 OUTREACH PARTNERS

The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, Ridgefield, CT  
 Alliance Française de Greenwich, CT  
 Alliance Française de Westchester, White Plains, NY  
 Alzheimer's Association  
 ArtsWestchester, White Plains, NY  
 Blythedale Children's Hospital, Valhalla, NY  
 Boys and Girls Clubs of America  
 Clearwater, Beacon, NY  
 Community Markets, Ossining, NY  
 Consulate General of France, New York, NY  
 Consulate General of Israel in New York, NY  
 Family Services of Westchester  
 Girl Scouts of America  
 GLSEN  
 Ground Glass Photography Group  
 Groundwork Hudson Valley  
 Holocaust and Human Rights Education Center, Purchase, NY  
 Holy Innocents Church, Pleasantville, NY  
 Hudson Link, Ossining, NY  
 Hudson River Museum, Yonkers, NY  
 Hudson Valley Writers' Center, Sleepy Hollow, NY  
 Katonah Museum of Art, Katonah, NY  
 The Loft, White Plains, NY  
 Manhattanville College Dance and Theatre Department, Purchase, NY  
 Mercy College, Dobbs Ferry, NY

Mosaic of Westchester  
 Mt. Pleasant Public Library, Mt. Pleasant, NY  
 My Second Home/Family Services of Westchester  
 My Sisters' Place, White Plains, NY  
 Neighbors Link, Mt. Kisco, NY  
 Neuberger Museum of Art, Purchase, NY  
 New York Film Festival, New York, NY  
 Ossining Children's Center, Ossining, NY  
 Pace University, Pleasantville, NY  
 Planned Parenthood, Hawthorne, NY  
 Pleasantville Chamber of Commerce  
 Pleasantville Cottage School  
 Pleasantville Farmers Market  
 Pleasantville FOVA (Friends of the Visual Arts)  
 Pleasantville Garden Club  
 Pleasantville Middle School PTA  
 Pleasantville Music Festival  
 Pleasantville Recycles  
 Pleasantville Senior Citizens Center  
 Pleasantville SEPTA (Special Education PTA)  
 Pleasantville STRONG  
 ReelAbilities, New York, NY  
 Rehabilitation Through the Arts, Ossining, NY  
 Riverkeeper, Ossining, NY  
 Romanian Cultural Institute, New York, NY  
 Romanian Film Initiative  
 RSHM Life Center, Sleepy Hollow, NY  
 Saw Mill River Audubon, Chappaqua, NY  
 Scenic Hudson, Poughkeepsie, NY

Steffi Nossen School of Dance, White Plains, NY  
 Stone Barns Center for Food and Agriculture, Pocantico Hills, NY  
 SUNY Purchase College  
 SUNY Westchester (WCC)  
 Teatown Lake Reservation, Ossining, NY  
 Union of Jamaican Alumni Associations  
 Wave Hill, Bronx, NY  
 WESPAC, White Plains, NY  
 Westchester ARC  
 Westchester Children's Association  
 Westchester Community Foundation  
 Westchester County African American Advisory Board  
 Westchester County Department of Corrections  
 Westchester County Tourism & Film  
 Westchester Jazz Orchestra  
 Westchester Jewish Community Services, White Plains, NY  
 Westchester Library System  
 Westchester Martin Luther King, Jr. Institute for Nonviolence, White Plains, NY  
 Westchester Philharmonic  
 WFUV, Bronx, NY  
 White Plains Youth Bureau  
 World Heritage Cultural Center, Pleasantville, NY  
 Yonkers Residential Center, Yonkers, NY  
 Youth Shelter of Westchester  
 Youth Theatre Interactions, Yonkers, NY

**CLICK HERE** to explore highlights of our past 15 years.



**MAY 2016**

JBFC STRATEGIC PLAN SUMMARY

## **THE NEXT CHAPTER: VITALITY, INNOVATION, PROMISE**

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“ We are extremely proud that this plan embodies the JBFC’s founding belief in the unique power of film to build community through shared experiences. ”

— **Edie Demas**

JBFC Executive Producer



## ■ CONTINUING THE JOURNEY

We are profoundly grateful to everyone who has been part of the JBFC story—founders, donors, members, staff, volunteers, teachers, filmmakers, students, community partners—the list goes on and on. Together, we have created a vibrant learning community brought together by the power of film.

While our founding vision has served us exceptionally well, we must think boldly to identify and implement strategies to ensure the continued vitality of our mission and programs. In June 2015 we completed an intensive strategic planning process to gather ideas and insights about JBFC’s challenges and opportunities.

With the steadfast guidance and expertise of the consulting firm WolfBrown, we developed six goals to shape our planning and progress within two distinct areas:

### PROGRAMS

Film, education, and community define and guide the Jacob Burns Film Center. We are deeply committed to fortifying shared film-going experiences; creating and implementing innovative literacy and media-making programs for people of all ages; and nurturing and engaging an inclusive, wide-ranging, and diverse community.

We are also dedicated to improving how these three areas function together, across the organization and across our campus. Synergy in planning, interdepartmental collaboration, and integration of our programs and community members are all key to our continued success.

### STEWARDSHIP

We identified essential goals to build on JBFC’s robust history of leadership and innovation, as well as the remarkable generosity of a founding generation of supporters. Our challenge is to advance our mission and capacity by investing in staff, sustainable structures, strong operating practices, and mission-driven programmatic investments.

**CLICK HERE** to review the major goals and core strategies we identified as most crucial to our continued growth and success, as well as several exciting new initiatives that bring these strategies to life.

We are extremely proud that this plan embodies the JBFC’s founding belief in the unique power of film to build community through shared experiences. Through this effort, we have laid the groundwork for the next five to ten years. Together, we will create the next chapter of the JBFC story.





# COMMUNITY

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“ My husband claims I spend more time at the Burns than at home. It’s become such an important place for so many of us. I’ve even made a very good friend just from seeing her so often while waiting in line for a movie. Thank goodness for the Burns. ”

— Bonnie Gale  
JBFC member

## HOW OUR COMMUNITY UPHOLDS THE JBFC MISSION

The strength of our community rests on the generosity and vision of our donors, members, and volunteers. We are able to realize dreams, expand programs, and open hearts and minds through our collective desire to fully achieve our mission. While we have built a thriving campus where stories are shared and created, our learning community transcends physical space through the power of film and an innovative approach to education.

Each year, we depend on our community to help raise the \$2.5 million needed to fulfill our commitment to our audience, students, teachers, and partners.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about membership

### MEMBERS

Through annual contributions, members provide a solid base for all of our film, education, and outreach initiatives. In grateful appreciation, we offer all members ticket discounts and special opportunities to engage in our programs.

### SILVER SCREEN CIRCLE

Through their annual support (at levels starting at \$2,500), Silver Screen Circle members are instrumental in helping us build a thriving campus filled with people eager to see and hear stories from around the world and learn to tell their own. We are delighted to provide Silver Screen Circle members with exclusive benefits, including easy access to tickets, private screenings and receptions, and so much more. Silver Screen Circle members at all levels are invited to be our guests at the annual Silver Screen Circle Dinner.

### JBFC PROGRAM FUND

The JBFC Program Fund supports a wide range of initiatives, including film series and programs, scholarships and fellowships, and program and curriculum development. Gifts to the Program Fund, which can be restricted or unrestricted, are made through individual donations, foundation grants, and corporate sponsorships.

### THE JBFC VISION CIRCLE

The Vision Circle is a group of donors who have made a commitment to the future of the Jacob Burns Film Center by including it in their estate plans.







Lynda Shenkman, Curtis



Lynda Shenkman, Curtis

## SO MUCH OF WHAT WE DO IS MADE POSSIBLE BY OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS

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 Naomi Allen  
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# A SALUTE TO OUR DONORS

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“ Thank you for all that the JBFC gives me. Please use this gift to support my home away from home. ”

—Marion Wolk

JBFC volunteer, member, and donor

## ■ ANNUAL GIVING

The Jacob Burns Film Center thanks the thousands of individuals, corporations, and foundations who support our film, education, and outreach programs through their annual gifts. While we deeply appreciate all gifts at every level, we are pleased to recognize our major supporters.



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The JBFC is proud to receive support from

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## BUILDING ON SUCCESS FULFILLING A PROMISE TO OUR COMMUNITY

Our two new theaters opened to the public on March 6, 2015. In celebration of a generous leadership gift, one has been named the Adam R. Rose and Peter R. McQuillan Theater. We are profoundly grateful to the donors who contributed so generously to this dynamic and creative expansion.

Adam R. Rose & Peter R. McQuillan  
Arthur & Rebecca Samberg

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## JBFC SUSTAINERS

### SUSTAIN—

According to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary

1. To keep in existence; maintain, continue, or prolong
2. To supply with necessities or nourishment; provide for
3. To support the spirits, vitality; encourage
4. To keep from falling or sinking

### SUSTAINERS—

According to the Jacob Burns Film Center

**A visionary, dedicated, and generous group of dear friends who have remained by our side each and every year since we began our amazing journey together.**

In celebration of our 15th anniversary, we are proud and honored to recognize the JBFC Sustainers.

Joseph and Sophia Abeles Foundation/Lucille Werlinich  
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Emily & Stew Tabin  
Lucy R. Waletzky  
Theodore and Renee Weiler Foundation/Richard Kandel  
Westchester Community Foundation



## CORPORATE SPONSORS

The Jacob Burns Film Center's programming, education, and outreach initiatives provide corporations with innovative and unique sponsorship opportunities. From enhancing brand awareness to entertaining clients, the JBFC helps bring corporate sponsors together with their audiences. We are happy to design a sponsorship package tailored to your unique needs and goals. Sponsoring our education programs enables corporations to further the Film Center's efforts to reach out to children from under-resourced school districts and to help us create a model for 21st century education.



BNY MELLON



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## MATCHING GIFT PARTNERS

The JBFC gratefully acknowledges the following partners, which generously matched their employees' gifts.

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Your gift to the Jacob Burns Film Center can go even further in supporting our film, education, and outreach programs, as many companies will double or even triple employee donations.

Check with your company to see if your gift to the Jacob Burns Film Center qualifies for matching funds. If you have any questions about securing a matching gift please e-mail Terry Ann Marshall at [tmarshall@burnsfilmcenter.org](mailto:tmarshall@burnsfilmcenter.org)

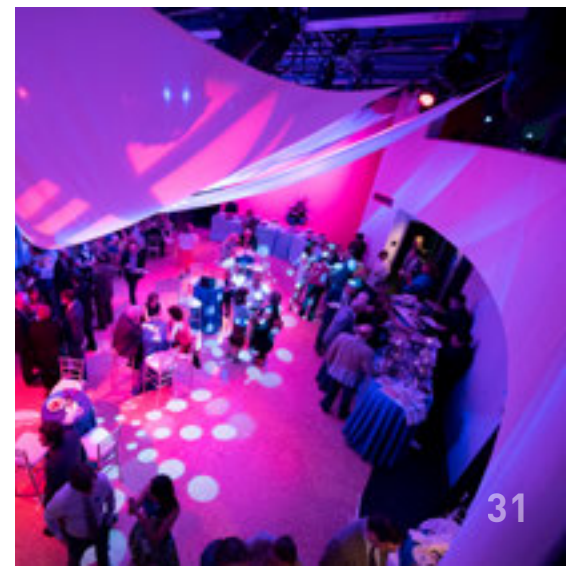
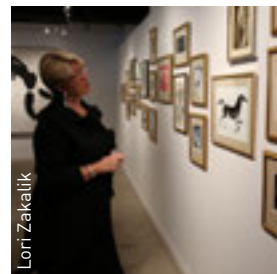
## 14TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: CREATIVITY AND COMMUNITY

In typical JBFC fashion, our Anniversary Celebration is always filled with surprises. Our 14th Anniversary Celebration was not your typical gala.

The evening began with a special program in Theater One when we presented the Leadership Award to Andrew and Judith Economos and the New Lens Award to Noah Hutton. Film shorts highlighted JBFC film and education programs and John Pizzarelli entertained our guests. A buffet dinner followed at the Media Arts Lab where guests enjoyed the good company of fellow JBFC supporters, while exploring inventive media installations created by JBFC students and innovators.

The creative spirit of the Media Arts Lab came to life with an authentic sense of playfulness, community, and joy. Our campus practically vibrated with excitement and insight into what goes on in our creative spaces at the Lab, in our theaters, and in classrooms around Westchester and beyond.

We are deeply grateful for the many different ways the JBFC community participated and supported our Anniversary Celebration, helping to make this important event a wonderful success.





All Photos: Lynda Shenikman Curtis

## 14TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

### \$20,000+

Janet Benton & David Schunter  
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## SPECIAL INITIATIVES

We gratefully acknowledge the following donors who so generously supported special initiatives in 2015. Your additional support helps us continue to offer inspiring and unique film programming to our audiences and innovative education initiatives to our students. Thank you for also helping us fulfill our commitment to thousands of under-resourced students each year.

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**During our Giving Back to the JBFC campaign we asked, “What does the JBFC give you?” These are just a few of the responses we received, along with contributions in support of our film, education, and outreach programs, from members of our community.**

**“Great pleasure.”**

—Sylvia and Herb Saltzstein

**“A broader understanding of the world around us.”**

—Patrice Schwartz

**“Joy! Amazement! Fulfillment!”**

—Colleen Ryan

**“The opportunity to enjoy wonderful films from many different cultures and to expose children less privileged than mine to the creative process of making films.”**

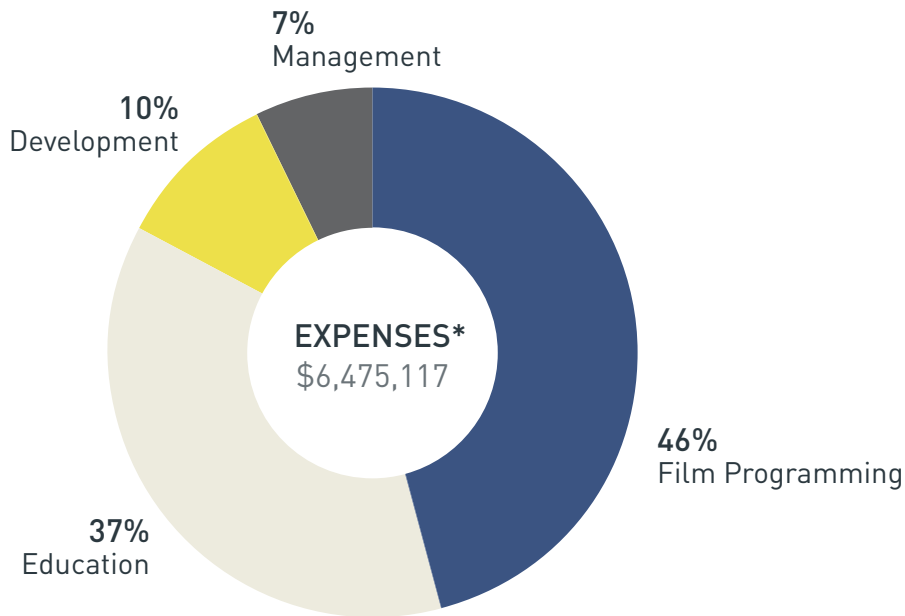
—Carol Zerbe Hurford

**“Interesting movies, enlightening film series, comfortable seats, and friendly, helpful staff”**

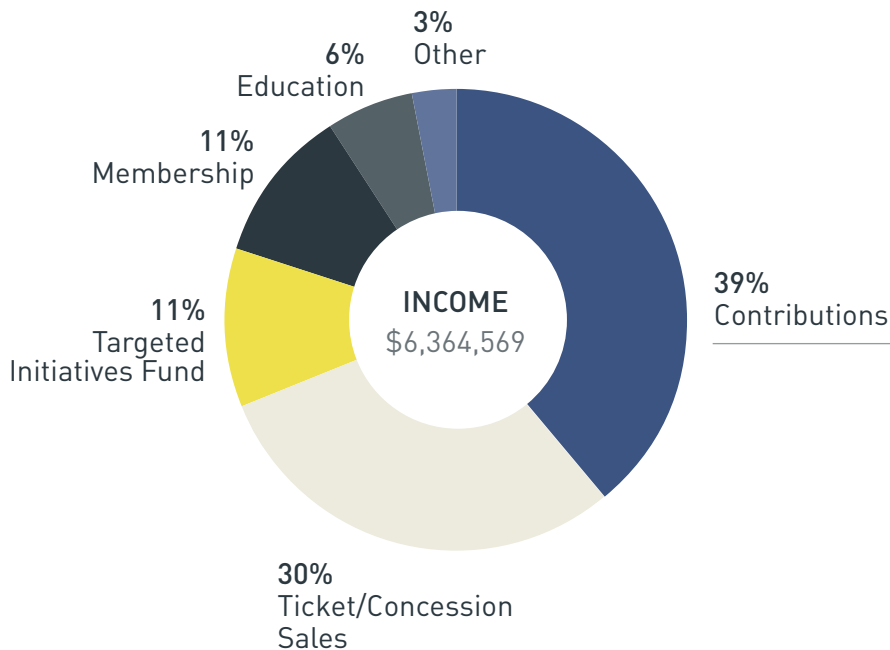
—Paula Santacroce



## FINANCIALS

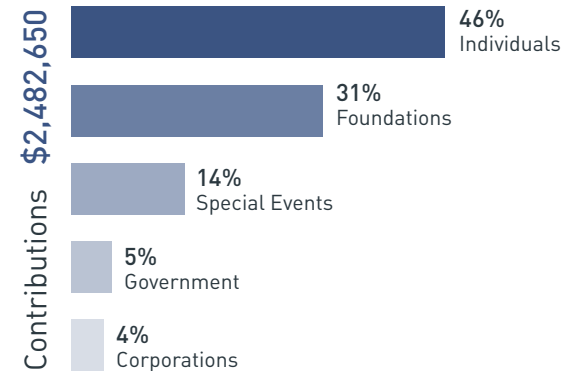


\* Does not include appreciation and amortization.



Photos: Lynda Shenkman Curtis

For a copy of the 2015 audited financial statements, please contact **Judy Exton** at [jexton@burnsfilmmcenter.org](mailto:jexton@burnsfilmmcenter.org) or 914.773.7663, ext. 414.



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Nonprofit. Film. Education. Community.

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**



David Lamb

### Media Arts Lab/Executive Offices

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914.773.7663

### Theater

364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville, NY 10570  
914.747.5555

### Residence for Visiting Fellows

5 Grant St., Pleasantville, NY 10570



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