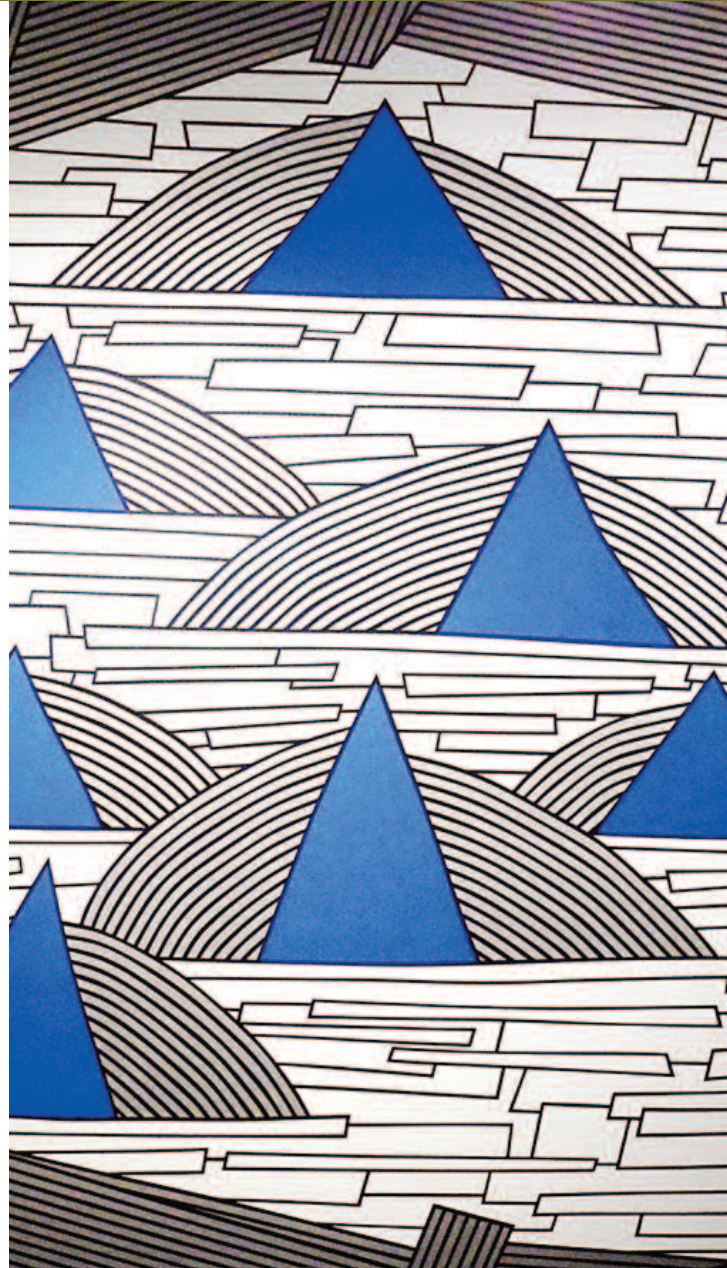




# Support the Extraordinary





## Mission

The Stamford Museum & Nature Center is dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of art and popular culture, the natural and agricultural sciences, and history. The Museum is a vital cultural and educational resource for the community, and a focal point for family activity and interaction. We seek to inspire creativity, foster self-discovery, promote environmental stewardship, and nurture an appreciation for lifelong learning through exhibitions, educational programs, and special events that enhance the visitor's experience of our unique site.

## Board of Directors 2016.17

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### ON THE COVER

Detail, Nicholas Krushenick, *Humongous American Feather Company*, 1990, Acrylic on canvas.

*We are grateful to Purdue Pharma L.P. for their generous pro bono printing of our 2016.17 Annual Report.*

## A Vision Realized – Now & For Future Generations

We are pleased to report that the Stamford Museum & Nature Center has finished another outstanding year with solid financial performance and exciting plans for the future. From humble beginnings in 1936 in a three-room office in downtown Stamford, we have grown to be Stamford's premier nature-based destination, offering a rich canvas of educational programs, exhibitions, and special events, both as Stamford's Museum and as Stamford's beloved Nature Center.

This year marks a milestone in our history as we prepare to construct the first new capital additions to our museum in over 50 years. The Phase I and II projects envisioned by our Master Plan will be nothing short of transformative and include our new **Environmental Education Farmhouse** located at the top of Heckscher Farm, as well as a re-imagined state of the art **Observatory & Planetarium complex**.

In 2016.17, we entered the quiet phase of this extraordinary \$15 million Capital Campaign focused on leadership gifts as a model for a public-private partnership with funding from the State, the City of Stamford, and donors who care deeply about our future service to the region.

We still have a ways to go with our fundraising, but we are excited by the additional educational capacity these projects will bring to the Museum and the how they will enhance our service to the Community and the region. We are most grateful to Carole and Michael Fedele for leading our **Campaign For Future Generations** with their wisdom and devotion to the Stamford Museum & Nature Center.

Every day we are guided by our exceptional mission, which touches all aspects of our institution and challenges us to scale new heights of service. We are committed to these five key aspects of that vision:

1. Our aspiration to be THE regional resource for environmental and natural science education and **to teach our children well** from a diverse palette of offerings.
2. To be an innovative and challenging cultural arts **teacher** through our art and exhibitions program. And in the coming year we will be focused on a new signature series of Adult Programs to engage our lifelong learning audience.
3. To get children out-of-doors and engaged in the natural world around them. We are deeply committed to Richard Louv's "no child left inside" movement.
4. To explore and develop our community role and our opportunities to enhance environmental programs, astronomy, social engagement, and our unique position as Stamford's largest and most diverse nature-based organization.
5. To engage a committed audience of funders – Premiere Partners, Business Affiliates, major donors, and our devoted Members.

We are grateful to our membership, donors, and community for their continued support of our mission. We are also pleased to know that our efforts to enhance our unique position as Stamford's fine arts museum and our commitment to being a premier center for environmental, agriculture science, and nature education has earned the



**Melissa H. Mulrooney, Executive Director & CEO, and William M. Aron, President of the Board of Directors.**

SM&NC ever-growing numbers of members and visitors. Overall, the Stamford Museum & Nature Center attracted over 200,000 visitors in 2016.17, yet another increase year to year. Most notably, our educators touched the minds of 34,000 students in 144 schools through the region, including every public school in Stamford and most every private.

Our thanks go to the SM&NC staff for all of the excellent work they have done to bring us through another winning year of program success. Special appreciation is due to Melissa H. Mulrooney, who this year enjoyed her 12th anniversary as our Executive Director & CEO. Her commitment to excellence and best practices is held as a model for all of us. Our shared success is measured in our rising profile as a spectacular cultural and educational force for the City of Stamford and the region.

We are deeply grateful to Governor Dannel P. Malloy for his confidence in our **Campaign for Future Generations** and the State of Connecticut's commitment to our success. We wish to thank Mayor David R. Martin and the City of Stamford for their continued public-private partnership with us – assisting us with capital and operating support with the clear understanding of our value and economic development impact. We are deeply grateful.

Here's to another wonderful year of service and to our magnificent future! In the following pages, you will see terrific outcomes from our collective work together in 2016.17. Melissa and I hope all of you will join with us for another year of enrichment and engagement. You and your families are vital to our success.

With warmest thanks for of your continued support and delight in the SM&NC!

**William M. Aron**  
President

**Melissa H. Mulrooney**  
Executive Director & CEO

## Volunteers & Community Support

During 2016 - 17, the Stamford Museum & Nature Center enjoyed the support of over 750 volunteers, who collectively donated 9,100 hours of their time. Some highlights of our volunteer program include:

In good weather and bad, volunteers assisted the staff on Heckscher Farm with all daily aspects of animal care and general maintenance.

A virtual army of youth and adult volunteers kept our festivals and special events running smoothly by helping with food tents, arts & crafts, demonstrations, face painting, hayrides, attendance counting, parking, monitoring the galleries, and more.

The **20th Annual Food & Wine Celebration** was a great success due to the tireless efforts of our volunteer Wine Tasting Committee, who worked from November through June to plan and execute this fabulous fundraising event.

A dedicated group of individual volunteers came to our offices every week to help with mailings, data entry, computer research, and other administrative tasks.

The SM&NC was fortunate to have the support of local corporations such as Ernst & Young, Frontier Communications, Indeed, JP Morgan Chase, Legg Mason, Pitney Bowes, RSM US, and State Street Global Advisors. These generous corporate partners not only supplied almost 500 hours of volunteer service, but in many cases also provided funds to purchase the necessary materials. These groups



Volunteers from Pitney Bowes, Inc.

Painted exterior and interior spaces; planted trees, bushes and flowers; maintained our trails; weeded; stacked firewood for the maple sugar house; spread wood chips; erected fences; and so much more.

Other groups such as Future Five, University of Michigan Alumni, the Stamford Garden Club, Brunswick School, Boy Scouts of America, and the BiCultural Day School pitched in with a wide variety of projects.

We thank all the corporate groups, school groups, families and individuals who offer their help throughout the year. It's because of you that our festivals, programs, special events, and overall mission continue to thrive.



Volunteers from the University of Michigan Alumni Association.



Our Junior Curators program gives children the opportunity to learn about service, animal care, and farm life.

## Our Educational Footprint



Malinda Sears, Environmental Education Supervisor, teaches a class about exotic animals in Heckscher WILD!

For the 7th consecutive year, the reach of our signature education program, **SM&NC Aligned-With-the-Schools**, saw another year of growth. Almost 38,000 students, from 144 schools and organizations, participated in our school and afterschool programs within the 2016.17 school year. We saw an increase in farm-based education and geography and social studies classes, with our seasonal stars Maple Syrupping and Apple Cider continuing to remain strong. Our team of Environmental and Farm educators delivered 1,725 programs in total, a 4.5 percent increase. Both in-school and on-site programs saw approximate 4 percent increases in programming respectively.

Our educational programming continues to expand through our area communities, with students from New Haven to New York City visiting our site for immersive opportunities to explore, learn, and discover. Once again, the generous support of local foundations allowed us to provide transportation to more than 1,000 area students who otherwise would not have the opportunity to visit the SM&NC. We also completed the second year of a program with the City of Stamford introducing the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) to Stamford elementary schools. Last year every Stamford 1st grader came to the SM&NC for an interactive program on insects, focusing on the differences between the structure and function of terrestrial and aquatic insects.

Through contract programming, the SM&NC education staff is able to provide hands-on environmental education experiences throughout the school year. With schools such as Stanwich, Selma Maisel Nursery School, Childcare Learning Centers, and the Children's School, we are able to build on curricula through regular visits with students from September-June. Our Discovery Spaces, areas within the school maintained by SM&NC and designed with live animals or science activities, allow for another level of interaction with schools.

Our **Heckscher WILD!** Exhibit continues to be a strong draw for both school groups and public visitors. We again welcomed over 37,000 visitors to the exhibit this year, totaling almost 100,000 people since opening in 2015. Our 40-plus species of teaching animals from across the globe provide visitors with amazing opportunities for interactions through feedings, demonstrations, and other programming.

Our **Art, Nature & Me Preschool** completed another year as the area's premier nature-and play-based school for area preschoolers. Over 100 three- and four-year olds attended two, three, or five days a week in morning and afternoon sessions, led by our team of amazing Early Childhood Educators.

## Art & Material Culture Exhibitions

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Our annual family exhibitions schedule continues to follow the successful seasonal rhythm of exhibitions that feature art, natural history, and American pop culture.

Two live ant farms were the highlight of the *FARMERS, WARRIORS, BUILDERS: The Secret Life of Ants* summer exhibition presented by the



Christel Truglia, Lolita Valderrama Savage, Melissa H. Mulrooney, Governor Dannel P. Malloy, and State Senator Carlo Leone at the Opening Reception for *Art of LOLITA Valderrama Savage: Nature of Tuscany, Stamford & Beyond*.

Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibitions Service. The fall featured a spectacular international festival of art, music, food, and cultural exchange for the opening of the *Art of LOLITA Valderrama Savage: Nature of Tuscany, Stamford & Beyond* featuring original impressionistic landscapes by internationally acclaimed artist and Stamford resident Lolita Valderrama Savage. Superheroes saved the day in the 4th annual *BILLION BRICKS: Super Heroes in Gotham* LEGO exhibition that featured brick-built models of iconic New York City buildings as well as Wayne Manor, Clark Kent's childhood farm, and five different versions of the Batmobile. Spring brought an amazing collection of photographs by the Women Photographers of Connecticut in *POWERFUL YET FRAGILE: Waterways of Connecticut*. A delightful "pop-up" exhibition kicked off the opening of the new ReClaimed ReCreations Makerspace in the former Children's Corner. "Bella the Bride", a wedding dress created from TYVEK by artist Nancy Judd and lent by Terri Shank of Beacon Converters, Inc., was featured in the Bendel Gallery along with a recycled art piece, "Letting Loose" by local artist, June Ahrens.

## SM&NC Permanent Collections

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- "Portrait of Monsieur Wolf" was the focus of a Curator's Talk by Kirsten Reinhardt (formerly Brophy) at the "John Singer Sargent...Accepts with Pleasure" exhibition held in the H. Pelham Curtis Gallery at the New Canaan Public Library on October 15, 2016.
- The permanent collection was the cover story of the Sunday Arts & Style Section of the Advocate on Sunday November 20, 2016.



Alexander Wust, *Midsummer, Montclair, NJ, circa 1873*.

- "Midsummer, Montclair, NJ" by Alexander Wust was the focus of a Curator's Talk, "Fakes, Forgeries & Misrepresentations" by Kirsten Reinhardt, at the Loft Artists Landscape Painting Exhibition opening on January 5, 2017.
- Fourteen works of art and historical objects from the collection were featured at the **First Annual Benefit Dinner** held on March 9, 2017 at the Rockrimmon Country Club in Stamford. Highlights were the pedal cars, a print by Krushenick, paintings by Drewes and Foote, as well as sculptures by Nakian, Borglum, and Polasek.
- A signed sketch of a female nude by Raphael Soyer was a Museum purchase. Two oil paintings (portraits) by noted Stamford artist Loran F. Wilford and one oil painting (landscape) by noted Stamford artist Delos Palmer were donated by Stamford resident and WWII veteran, Frank J. Agastino.
- All of the identified books from the library of naturalist Edward F. Bigelow (44.26.1-300+) were deaccessioned and transferred to the archives of the Bruce Museum. Five paintings and 42 prints, originally deaccessioned in 2007-2008, were auctioned at the Stair Gallery in Hudson, NY.

## Heckscher Farm

Another set of seasons has passed on our productive Heckscher Farm; a year that saw changes and growth. Our maple season reminded us how much nature is “in charge” as we produced only 32 gallons of syrup this year due to the challenges brought by the weather. Staff did a full inventory of our sugarbush areas, retiring some trees and adding new trees to the tap list in preparation for the 2018 season. Cheshire Barn, one of the jewels of Heckscher Farm, received new windows, due to a generous grant from the New Canaan Community Foundation. Our Organic vegetable garden grew to new heights as staff experimented with vertical structures to increase variety and yield. Over a half dozen species of varietal corn was grown to coincide with our summer *Maize: Mysteries of an Ancient Grain* exhibition, and all summer these crops provided food for animals, staff, and programming.

The farm welcomed 16 chicks, 8 ducklings, 17 kids, 16 lambs, and Meg, the first alpaca cria born on the farm in 13 years. We also saw the first year of Heckscher Farmers, a program designed to give summer campers in grades 1-4, a small-group, hands-on experience in farming. The program was met with resounding success with a 100% enrollment with wait list.



Meg, the first alpaca cria born on the farm in 13 years, with mother Rosie.



Visitors enjoyed supporting local businesses at our Sunday Farm Market this summer.

Our **SM&NC Sunday Farm Market** kicked off another successful year, with great new vendors and returning favorites. The Heckscher Farm stand sold our own eggs, wool, and syrup, as well as items like meat and milk, in partnership with other local farms. Our market-based Edible Science series bridged food and science, as participants discovered secrets of their favorite foods, such as elasticity of dough, while exploring where our food comes from.

## Capital Improvements

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The work to maintain and improve our 118 acre site never ceases. This past fiscal year saw the planning of several large-scale projects which will benefit the space and our members and visitors for years to come. One such project was the demolition and reconstruction of new handicap bathrooms at **Heckscher WILD!**, along with the construction of a new Chicken Coop, currently being renovated by Tancreti Construction. Work is also underway, by Montagno Construction, for building the new **SM&NC**

**Farmhouse and Environmental Education Center**, in addition to new paddocks and parking area in coordination with the City of Stamford. Tied to this project is the creation of a new surface area, including a new 20 yard storage container, for sugar maple equipment to be stored during construction. This construction will be a major asset to our site and will greatly improve the visiting experience for individuals and families as well as school groups.



## Facility Rentals & Private Events

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The Stamford Museum & Nature Center remains a popular spot for individuals and businesses to hold their private and corporate events. During the past fiscal year we hosted 4,487 attendees at 65 private events, maintaining the Facility Use growth we have achieved over the past few years. Clients appreciate the flexibility that the SM&NC's unique site allows. With different indoor and outdoor spaces for groups large and small, we were able to provide a space to

suit each individual's needs. The Bendel Mansion provides a beautiful backdrop for wedding ceremonies, and we were delighted to welcome sixteen couples into our space for their special day. Our Wheels in the Woods picnic area was the perfect setting for both corporate retreats and family gatherings last year. Other events we hosted include corporate meetings, professional society dinners, wedding showers, tea parties, and parent socials.



## SM&NC By The Numbers 2016.17

**201,373 VISITORS**

enjoyed the wonders of our extraordinary site last year



**35,144 ARTS & CULTURE ENTHUSIASTS**

viewed the exhibitions in our Museum Galleries



**34,673 STUDENTS**

from 144 schools participated in 1,725 SM&NC Aligned-With-The-Schools Educational programs



**21,512 MEMBERS & GUESTS**

enjoyed our seasonal festival weekends and public events



**3,285 BALES OF HAY**

were fed to our animals



**575 CHILDREN**

participated in our summer camp



**915 ADVENTURERS**

explored the outdoors as part of our "Take a Hike" week

**2,563 MEMBER HOUSEHOLDS**

enjoyed the benefits of SM&NC Membership



**37,847 VISITORS**

interacted with live plants and animals at Heckscher *WILD!*



**752 VOLUNTEERS**

supported the SM&NC's programs, events & upkeep with 9,121 hours of service



**5,896 FRIENDS**

like us on Facebook

As one of the largest nature-based educational institutions in the state, and the largest in the City of Stamford, our mission is to inspire creativity, foster self-discovery, and promote environmental stewardship. Today, the Stamford Museum & Nature Center is a vital cultural and educational resource for Connecticut, as well as a focal point for family activity and interaction.

Through our exceptional educational programs, family festival weekends, museum exhibitions, working New England farm, 80-acres of nature trails, and certified Art, Nature & Me Preschool, we are the model for experiential education and creating lasting memories for individuals of all ages.

Over the years, we have creatively adapted our facilities to meet the growing needs of the community. We have used capital funds wisely and responsibly to renovate buildings to make the most of each



educational area of our campus. However, though we have grown by more than 100 percent in the last 10 years, there has not been a new program building added to our campus in five decades.

We embarked on a Master Planning process in 2008. Over a two-year period, we developed a visionary design to identify critically needed infrastructure, capital improvements, and enriched educational and public spaces to build future capacity for the SM&NC.

In 2016.17, the Capital Campaign Steering Committee, chaired by Michael & Carol Fedele, has worked diligently on the quiet, leadership gift phase to lift off this important \$15 million campaign.



Michael and Carol Fedele, chairs of the Capital Campaign Steering Committee.

## Phase One: The Environmental Education Farmhouse

The **Environmental Education Farmhouse** (4,000 sf) is an immediate capacity-builder to develop a suite of new signature programs, with projected 58% growth in educational service in our first three years. The Farmhouse will be the first education building addition to the property in over 50 years and will serve our highly successful **SM&NC-Aligned-With-**

**Our-Schools** curriculum, family, camp, and adult enrichment programs at an iconic location overlooking the pastures of Heckscher Farm.

Relocation and construction of a new **Maple Sugar & Cidering House** captures additional 13% growth in multi-season programming that will complement the traditions of a working New England farm.



## New Environmental Education Farmhouse on Heckscher Farm

- Construction of the new Farmhouse Education Center
- Relocation and construction of the Maple Sugar & Apple Cidering House.
- Renovation/redesign to the North Parking Lot with new perimeter fencing for safety and security.
- New roadways with enhanced secure entrance to Heckscher Farm and additional Admissions Booth.
- Clearing and addition of two (2) new pastures off existing service road to add to our heritage breeds.

### What Will Happen Inside?

#### • Enriched School, Scout, and Camp Programs:

The Farmhouse will be central hub and vital indoor gathering space to grow nature and agricultural experiential learning on-site in colder months. The Farmhouse Plaza creates a home base gathering space for the Explorers Full Day Camp to build upon 2-4th grade and a new 5th-7th grade camp which will have weekly day-trip components. We will accommodate expanded general scout programs with overnight programs added to our repertoire.

- **Youth and Family Programs:** Expansion of our popular on-site after school programs such as What's For Dinner? and our public programs like Family Farm Fridays, as well as new farm-to-table

based programs for families. A larger space situated on the farm will allow for larger groups to gather in all weather conditions for lectures, demonstrations, and hands-on learning that is simply not available currently. Located in a high traffic area, the new Farmhouse and Plaza will serve as a central area for food options on Festival Weekends and an all-weather demonstration area for exhibitors and hands-on activities.

#### • Teacher Training/Professional Development:

We will present workshops, lectures, and hands-on learning that enhances their knowledge and teaching skills modelled after Shelburne Farms, the Farm-Based Education Network (FBEN) conference, and Northeast Environmental Education Association (NEEEA) annual conference. Stamford is very well suited for this because of its central location between Boston and New York and its variety of accommodations for visitors.

#### • New Salon Series of Signature Cultural & Social Programs for adults to connect to Heckscher Farm.

"Get Your Farm On" with a mobile demonstration kitchen where we will showcase local chefs, cooking demonstrations, and Backyard Farmer demonstrations, such as canning and cheese making. This also allows for "pop-up" restaurants and guest chefs. The large space can also accommodate expanded Farm to Table suppers, landscape design and gardening programs, author talks and book signings, lectures, and boutique concerts.

## Phase Two: The Astronomy & Physical Science Center

Our second component of the **Campaign for Future Generations** is an **Astronomy & Physical Science Center** that will bring our state-of-the-art

Planetarium and Observatory programs under one roof for the first time in our history. This project is still in concept as we continue our fundraising efforts, but here's a sense of what we have planned.

The Astronomy & Physical Science Center (8,000 sf) combines the SM&NC Observatory with a full Planetarium auditorium to function as the center for STEAM education [Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Astronomy, and Math]. Our physical science offerings will be expanded into a hands-on "learning lab" encompassing school programs, summer camp opportunities, public programs, adult enrichment, and family programs. We calculate 84% growth in multi-generational science programming over three years.

This state-of-the-art astronomy and science destination will be a powerful Cultural Tourism asset



for the State of Connecticut and City of Stamford. Our enhanced science curriculum will support the State of Connecticut Standards and the New Generation Science Standards, enabling the SM&NC to become a distinguished regional leader in science education.

**To learn more about the Campaign for Future Generations, please visit [www.smnccapitalcampaign.org](http://www.smnccapitalcampaign.org)**

## Stand With Great Leaders

Business Affiliate members of the Stamford Museum & Nature Center are an influential, committed, and engaged group of business leaders, both global and local, who are aligned with our mission to bring the wonders of art, nature, astronomy, and early childhood education to the community. They wish to advance the communities in which they live and work, and demonstrate this by generously supporting our education programs and mission.

Business Affiliate membership helps to support our educational programs, which reached over 34,000 local students last year at 144 area schools. Business Affiliates also support the SM&NC through their sponsorship of Family Festival Weekends and Events, like our Annual Oktoberfest and our Farm to Table Suppers. Many corporate partners also participate in corporate volunteer days helping to plant trees, maintain trails, chop wood, and more.

The Stamford Museum & Nature Center is grateful to our Business Affiliate Members and their partnership, and is honored to offer them genuine quality-of-life benefits for their families, including corporate family memberships, program participation, and event planning. We are proud of our Business Affiliates program and the exemplary business leaders who are aligned with our success, and look forward to adding additional local business leaders to this influential group in the coming year.



Connecting Companies to the Natural World



Mary and Robert Granata at our Inaugural Benefit Dinner. Robert Granata is President and Chief Operating Officer of First County Bank, one of our premier Business Affiliates partners and Benefit Dinner sponsors.

## We thank the following Stamford Museum & Nature Center Business Affiliates members for their generous support over the past year.

Aquarion Water Company  
Bank of America  
Bridgewater Associates, LP  
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Day Pitney, LLP  
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# DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE

Our Director's Circle is a distinguished group of individuals who are passionate about the development of our community. Their generosity and commitment to the Stamford Museum & Nature Center support our holistic mission to bring the wonders of art, culture, nature, astronomy, and education to our

community and the public. We thank all of our Director's Circle members for their enduring support. For more information about becoming a member of the Director's Circle, contact the Membership Department at 203.977.6533.



Director's Circle members: Stephen A. Cohen, Carol and Michael Fedele, Lynn Villency Cohen, and Melissa Mulrooney at the Inaugural SM&NC Benefit Dinner on March 9, 2017.

## Director's Circle Members 2016.17

Karen and David Alexander  
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 Erin and Jim Bria  
 Lisa Tannebaum and  
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 Merle Spiegel  
 Shelley Taylor and David Swerdloff  
 Karen and Warren Tom  
 Lisa and Paul Welch

## Inaugural Benefit Dinner

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The Stamford Museum & Nature Center's **Inaugural Benefit Dinner at Rockrimmon Country Club** on March 9, 2017, was a tremendous success. Many good friends and generous supporters of the SM&NC enjoyed viewing artwork from our Permanent Collections, up-close and personal visits with animals from Heckscher WILD! and the Heckscher Farm, delicious cocktails and dinner, and a video presentation created by SM&NC college intern Sarah Krufke.

Our thanks to all who helped create such a wonderful evening, notably Lynn Villency Cohen, Chair of the Benefit Dinner, and our distinguished Benefit Committee members: Mr. and Mrs. William Aron, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Cohen, Mr. Stephen

Corman, Mr. Harry D. Day, Mr. and Mrs. Adam DeChiara, the Honorable and Mrs. Michael Fedele, Mr. and Mrs. William Knobloch, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Kravetz, Ms. Loida Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Morton Lowenthal, Mr. and Mrs. Von Narcisse, Mr. Jorge Ortoll, Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Rizzuto, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Selkowitz, Ms. Marsha Shendell and Mr. Mohamed Younes.

We also thank our Sponsors, including Day Pitney LLP, Ernst & Young, First County Bank, and Barbara B. Malloy.

The Benefit Dinner was a special kick-off event for the SM&NC's signature fundraiser of the year, the **20th Annual Food & Wine Celebration** on Friday, June 2, 2017.



Patricia Phillips gets an up-close look at Willow, our resident teaching Barred Owl.



Denise Rizzuto, Sandy Goldstein, Lee Rizzuto, and Michael and Maureen Cacace at our Inaugural Benefit Dinner.

## 20th Annual Wine Tasting

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The Stamford Museum & Nature Center welcomed over 300 supporters to the **20th Annual Food & Wine Celebration** on Friday, June 2, 2017. This festive fundraising celebration and silent auction is held annually to benefit the SM&NC's programs which serve thousands of children and families every year.

On a beautiful spring evening, guests tasted artisanal foods courtesy of local caterers and restaurants, sampled fine wines from a variety of notable vintners, perused an exciting selection of silent auction items,

and enjoyed a new twist to the evening – *Dancing in the Mansion!*

We recognize and applaud the following volunteer members of the 20th Annual Food & Wine Committee for their dedication and months of hard work leading up to this event: Leslie Bruzik, Connie Hubbard, Holly Hyman, Cynthia L. Mammone, Laura Martino, Lee Morgan, Scott M. O'Connor, Lauren Ruberg, Sara Sherlock and Nicole Shanahan.



**We are grateful to our Sponsors, Honorary Benefit Committee, In-Kind Sponsors, Auction Donors, Journal Sponsors, and Food and Beverage providers for their generous support of this memorable and successful event.**

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Mr. and Mrs. Stephen A. Cohen  
Mr. Stephen Corman  
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The Honorable and Mrs. Michael Fedele  
Mr. and Mrs. William Knobloch  
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**FEATURED CATERERS AND RESTAURANTS**

A&S Fine Foods  
Best in Gourmet  
California Pizza Kitchen  
David's Soundview Catering  
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Fiesta on Main  
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BarSol Pisco  
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## Financials

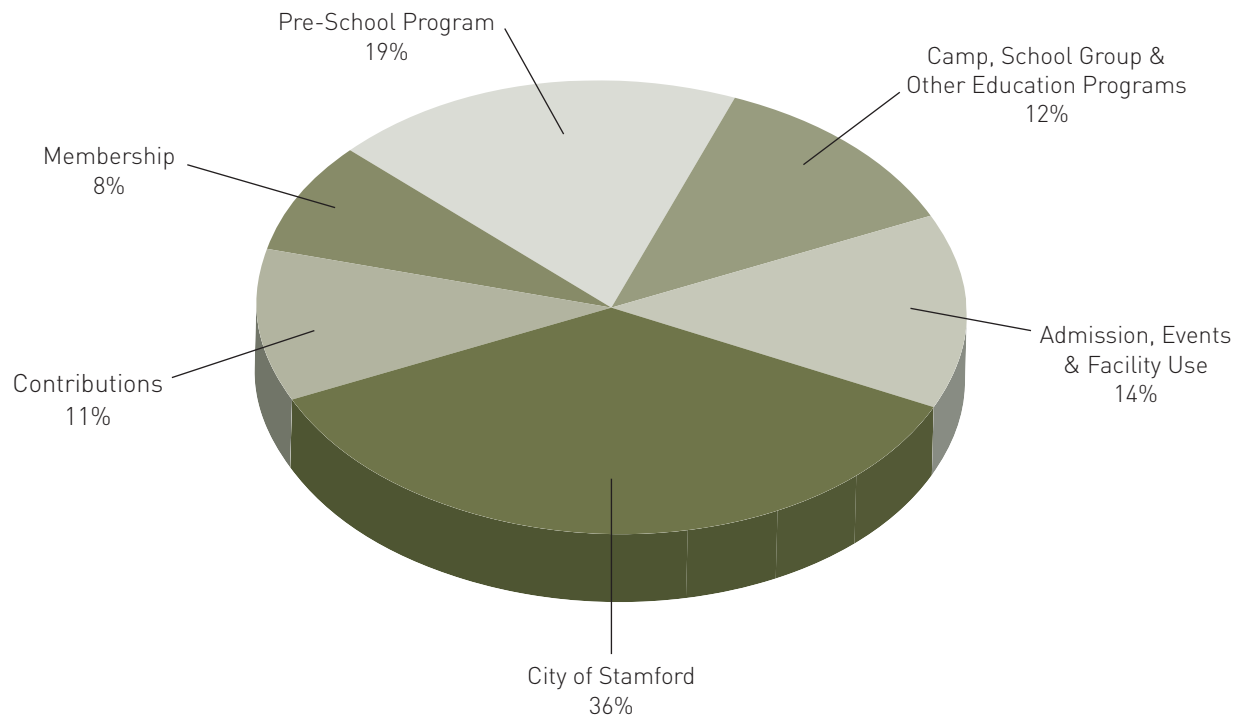
The Stamford Museum & Nature Center has finished the 2016.17 fiscal year on sound footing, recording an 11th consecutive year of balanced budgets.

Annually, we must raise 64% of our funds from corporate, foundation, and individual supports to operate this remarkable 118-acre property.

We thank all of our supporters, members, and participants for your generous, ongoing contributions.

<b>SOURCES OF SUPPORT</b>	
Contributions	\$ 368,000
Membership	259,000
Pre-School Program	621,000
Camp, School Group & Other Education Programs	388,000
Admission, Events & Facility Use	455,000
City of Stamford	1,174,300
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$3,265,300</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Compensation & Benefits	\$2,095,000
Professional Services	305,000
Equipment & Supplies	237,000
Exhibitions, Education Programs, & Site Operations	611,000
Net Reserve	17,300
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$3,265,300</b>

### SOURCES OF SUPPORT





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*The Stamford Museum & Nature Center is eternally grateful to those individuals and organizations that support our mission through the Annual Appeal, fundraising events, and other contributions and make it possible for us to provide a fun-filled educational and cultural resource throughout the year.*

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# Stamford Museum & Nature Center



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