

A woman with short, curly brown hair, wearing a blue denim sleeveless shirt, is focused on her craft. She is leaning over a pottery wheel, her hands covered in clay dust. The background shows a rustic workshop with wooden walls and windows. The lighting is natural, coming from the windows.

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

# BEHIND *the* SCENES



**WATERSHED**  
center for the ceramic arts





## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

Watershed's commitment to fostering community shone through all that we accomplished in 2019. From the core residency program, to workshops, events, and exhibitions, your support enabled us to offer opportunities for creativity and connection.

In July, we celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> year of Salad Days. This milestone event brought together more than 600 friends to break bread, appreciate ceramic art, and share ideas. Throughout the summer and fall, we welcomed nearly 100 artists to our signature residency, which included sessions on ephemeral and site-specific work, low-temperature atmospheric firing techniques, and sculptural interpretations of the vessel. Our workshop program brought artists from nine states and three countries to work with Lydia Johnson, and a special workshop led by David Gamble provided an opportunity for Maine's K-12 art educators to grow their curricula in support of the next generation of ceramists.

Additionally, we were thrilled to open the Joan Pearson Watkins House. This restored Victorian home features the Barkan Gallery, named for long-time Watershed supporters Hope and Mel Barkan, along with year-round administrative offices. The gallery provides new space on campus for events and exhibitions that showcase work by alumni and creates a venue where we can partner on public programming with affiliated organizations.

Watershed's plans for 2020 continued to prioritize community and connection. In March, we were fine tuning details for the fully-booked summer residency, K-12 teacher workshops, a show of student work, and an exhibition featuring The Color Network. Of course, for the health and safety of all, face-to-face programming was suspended and rescheduled for 2021.

During this unprecedented time, we are making the best of our quiet campus to fast-track plans for facility improvements and prepare for 2021. The board and staff are also developing new ways to ensure our leadership, policies, and programs better support BIPOC artists and amplify their work. Your continued support of our organization has given Watershed the necessary flexibility to adeptly respond to these challenging times. Thank you for your belief in our mission and for being part of the Watershed community!

With warmest regards,



Joyce Cohen,  
President, Board of Trustees



Francine Rudoff  
Executive Director

# 2019 RESIDENCY

## *Artists Grow Their Practices and Networks in the Watershed Studio*

A residency at Watershed offers artists time and space to reflect, make new discoveries in their work, and connect with peers who work in clay.



1



2



3



4

1. Caroline Ennis installs a piece during a session focused on raw clay and ephemeral work. 2. Matt Merkel Hess examines his Cheeto artpot during the session he co-organized on new interpretations of the vessel. 3. *Session II: How Low Can You Go* included a low-fire tableware swap and outdoor feast. 4. Ebitenyefa Baralaye works on a serpentine piece during *Session V: The New Ancient*.

## 2019 GRIGGS CIRCLE

Members of the Griggs Circle provide a critical revenue stream year after year that enables Watershed to offer art-changing and life-changing programs for artists. The following donors have made three-year commitments to provide annual gifts of \$1,500 or more:

Norman Abram  
& Elise Hauenstein  
Lois & Dr. Edward T. Anderson  
Bruce Armitage  
Beverly A. Berman  
& Jeffrey Backerman  
Betty Bothreau  
E. John Bullard  
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Tim Mitchell  
David & Clemmer Montague  
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& Robert M. Beazley, MD  
Phyllis Kudder Sullivan  
Don Thomas & Jorge Cao  
Bernie Toale & Joe Zina  
Sharon Townshend  
Susan Whitehead  
Patricia Young

“The engaged community and rich dialogue among artists during my Watershed experience was a gift to my art practice. It was a pleasure getting to create, explore, discuss, and play alongside such a distinct array of creatives while sharing the passions, interests, and purposes that have drawn us to clay.”

— Ebitenyefa Baralaye  
2019 Resident Artist



5. Lynn Hobaica, Ashley Pfister, and Niikah Hatfield examine the results from a low-fire gas kiln firing. 6. Jose Villalobos joined members of Ceramic Sculpture Culture in the studio during Session III. 7. Sally Meixner works on a larger-than-life bust during Session IV: *Spirit of the Absurd*.

# RESIDENCY SCHOLARSHIPS

## *Supporting Skilled Sculptors & Makers*

Generous donors fund merit scholarships for artists to participate in Watershed residencies. The Zenobia Award supports talented artists of color with full scholarships, and Kiln God Awards provide full residency support for any artist.



1. Kiln God Award recipient Kristen Jensen works on a sculptural vessel.
2. Forms by Zenobia Award recipient Renata Cassiano.
3. "Inundation" by scholarship recipient Erna Skúladóttir.
4. Scholarship recipient Takming Chuang installs a site-specific ephemeral piece made from unfired clay.

“It was my first time imagining and installing work in an outdoor environment. The session theme was essential, and the group dynamic proved to be very auspicious.”

— Takming Chuang  
2019 Scholarship Recipient



## KILN GODS

In 2019, each of the following donors contributed funds for one artist to participate in a two-week residency:

Amica Companies Foundation  
E. John Bullard  
Simone Leigh  
The Potters' Studio  
Kenneth Schaller  
The Stan Panetski Scholarship Fund\*

## SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONORS

The generous donors listed below helped Watershed provide artists with support for their summer residency sessions:

Cayer Caccia LLP  
Central Tools, Inc.  
Bruce Dawson & Rose Esson-Dawson  
Gretchen Keyworth  
Joan Tidd & Clifton Tidd, Jr.

## SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENTS

Archipelago Foundation  
Ceramic Residency Fund  
Pat Doran Funded Residency Endowment  
Howard Kottler Testamentary Trust  
Alfred and Hanina Shasha Foundation  
Endowment for AIDASHED Scholarships  
Barry L. Thurman  
Funded Residency Endowment

\*Donors to this fund are listed by name on pages 19-21.

5. Zenobia Award recipient Donte Hayes.  
6. Piece by Kiln God Award recipient Chris Rodgers.  
7. AIDASHED scholarship recipient Maiyan Ben Yona.

# ASSISTANTSHIPS & FELLOWSHIPS

## *Young Artists Benefit from Sessions at Watershed*

Watershed partners with colleges and universities to offer residencies to promising art students. The schools cover the residency fees at a reduced rate; in exchange, students work for Watershed in the studio and kitchen for 15 hours per week.



## STUDENT ASSISTANTSHIP SPONSORS

The following institutions and individual donors provided support for a student artist to attend a Watershed Summer Residency in 2019:

Alfred University  
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville  
California College of the Arts  
*gift of Sydney Cohen*  
Maine College of Art  
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth  
Northern Michigan University  
The Ohio State University  
Oregon College of Art and Craft  
Scripps College  
& Claremont Graduate University  
*gift of Molly Nicola Stetzer*



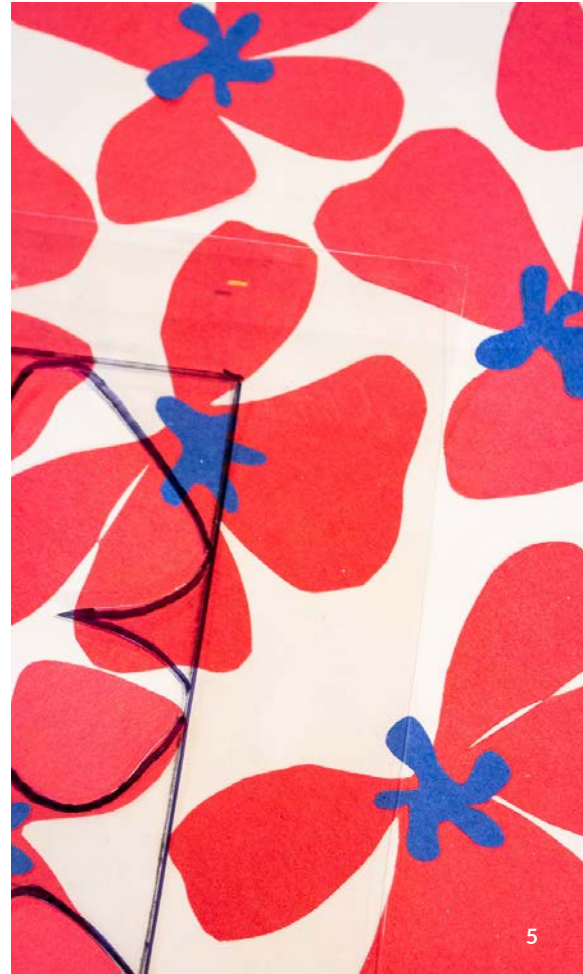
1. Oregon College of Art and Craft student assistant Joshua Kehrberg.
2. Pomona College student assistant Mirena Scott.
3. Farm & Fire Fellows Niikah Hatfield and Taussen Brewer.



# WORKSHOPS & SEMINARS

*Expanding Watershed's Outreach and Community Engagement*

Watershed offers educational opportunities for artists, art enthusiasts, and students throughout the year. Our guest artist workshops draw attendees from across the country, kiln firing workshops prepare regional potters for independent use of Watershed kilns, and the biennial Clay Forum in NYC provides an opportunity for artists to connect and share their work.



4. Guest artist Lydia Johnson led a 2.5 day workshop focused on developing a variety of methods for exploring pattern and form with colored clay slabs. 5. Participants created paper patterns before transferring their designs to clay. 6. Finished pieces by guest artist Lydia Johnson. 7. The 2019 Clay Forum, held at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY, featured talks by curator Garth Johnson (left) and artist Rebecca Morgan (center), along with a china painting demonstration by artist Jessica Stoller. 8. Detail of a piece by Jessica Stoller.

# EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS

## *Celebrating Ceramics in Watershed's Joan Pearson Watkins House*

In 2019, Watershed expanded public programming to offer events and exhibitions in the Joan Pearson Watkins House. Acquired and renovated in 2018, the building now houses the Barkan Gallery, along with administrative offices.



## PROGRAMMING GRANTS

The following agencies and foundations provided support in 2019 for Watershed public programs and organizational development.

**THE BELVEDERE TRADITIONAL HANDCRAFTS FUND OF THE MAINE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**  
\$6,000 to purchase start-up materials and equipment for the Barkan Gallery

**MARGARET E. BURNHAM CHARITABLE TRUST**  
\$3,500 to support new exhibition and event programming in the Barkan Gallery

**THE LINCOLN COUNTY FUND OF THE MAINE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**  
\$8,000 Grant from the Lincoln County Fund (\$7,738) and the Raymond McKinley Rideout Jr. and Marguerite Waterman Rideout Fund (\$262) towards community outreach activities and public events



1. Watershed studio staff member Danielle Weigandt with her piece, *The Summer I Came Home*, which was exhibited during the summer open house in the Barkan Gallery.
2. In October, Watershed partnered with the Maine Craft Association to host *Masters & Apprentices*. The show featured work by artisans who took part in MCA's 2019 Craft Apprentice Program. Here, apprentice Frances Soctomah is pictured with her handwoven baskets.
3. Watershed co-founder George Mason and his wife Susan Weiser Mason stand in front of his large wall piece in the Joan Pearson Watkins House.

# EDUCATING EDUCATORS

## Residencies & Workshops for Maine Ceramics Teachers

Watershed's robust programming for K-12 art teachers provides educators from around the state with an opportunity to refine their skills, develop lesson plans and curricula, connect with colleagues, and expand their personal creative practices.



### EDUCATION GRANTS

Support from the following agencies and foundations enabled Watershed to offer workshops and residencies for K-12 teachers from Maine and beyond.

**THE ANONIMO FOUNDATION**  
\$10,000 to support residencies and workshops for teachers

**THE LANIE AND ETHEL FOUNDATION**  
\$1,000 to support professional development opportunities for K-12 teachers

**MAINE ARTS COMMISSION**  
\$2,600 for professional development workshops for Maine K-12 teachers

1. AMACO's David Gamble (bottom row, center) led a week-long residential workshop for K-12 teachers. He guided participants through a range of projects that can be adapted for a variety of classroom settings and student needs.
2. Workshop participants critique their handmade tiles.
3. Watershed Studio Manager Reeder Fahnestock and Teaching Artist Malley Weber led a "ceramics fundamentals" class for K-12 teachers at Weber's studio in Hallowell, Maine.

# 25<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SALAD DAYS

*Celebrating Artists, Local Food, and Community*

Last July, nearly 600 guests attended the 25<sup>th</sup> annual Salad Days picnic fundraiser. In addition to the annual event festivities, Salad Days Artists from past years returned to campus to take part in the revelries.



1. Fresh Salad Days salads are donated by generous area restaurants or prepared from local ingredients in the Watershed kitchen. 2. 2019 Salad Days Artist Dehmie Dehmloff (far right) shows off her plates alongside her family. 3. To celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> annual Salad Days, Watershed welcomed past Salad Days Artists back to campus. The alums reminisced about their residencies and also gave demos during a daylong workshop. 4. Dehmloff created more than 550 plates for Salad Days guests to choose from. 5. 2005 Salad Days Artist Meredith Host performs a demo on working with decals.

“I created the plates thinking about the unique experience each person would have with the one they chose, and the shared experience they would have using the plates together.”

— Dehmie Dehmlow  
2019 Salad Days Artist



## BUSINESS SPONSORS & ORGANIZATIONAL PARTNERS

Watershed appreciates the generous businesses that support our programs and local events. Thank you to our 2019 sponsors!

Ames True Value Supply, Inc.  
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First National Wealth Management  
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Hannaford Supermarket  
J. Edward Knight Insurance  
Lacoste/Keane Gallery  
Laguna Clay Company  
Mindy Solomon Gallery  
R.H. Reny, Inc.  
Society of Arts and Crafts



6. Visitors from 27 states attended the 2019 Salad Days celebration.  
7. Salad Days guests show off their selected plates. 8. Salad Days Artist alumni created limited editions of reimagined Salad Days plates that were displayed at the event alongside their original designs. 9. 1997 Salad Days Artist and 2020 Watershed Arts & Program Council member Malcolm Mobutu Smith performs a wheel throwing demo for Salad Days guests.

# SALAD DAYS SPECIAL EVENTS

## VIPs Enjoy Insider Access to Watershed Artists & Art

As part of the 25<sup>th</sup> annual Salad Days celebration, three dozen VIP guests were treated to special events and a behind-the-scenes look at Watershed. The experience included a campus tour with Watershed co-founder Chris Gustin, studio visits with artists-in-residence, a talk by guest artist Francesca DiMattio, and a special reception and auction at Watershed co-founder George Mason's studio.



1. VIP pass holders enjoyed open studio visits with members of the Ceramic Sculpture Culture collective. 2. Watershed co-founder Chris Gustin offered VIPs a campus tour and a crash course on Watershed's history. 3. Guest artist-in-residence Francesca DiMattio gave a slide talk on her work. 4. Maine's poet laureate and former director of Haystack School of Crafts, Stu Kestenbaum, served as auctioneer during the 25<sup>th</sup> Celebration reception & art auction. 5 Reception attendees enjoyed Watershed's "Violet Beauregard" signature cocktail. 6. The art auction raised more than \$20,000 for Watershed programs. 7. A delicate auction piece generously donated by artist Rain Harris.

## IN-KIND DONORS

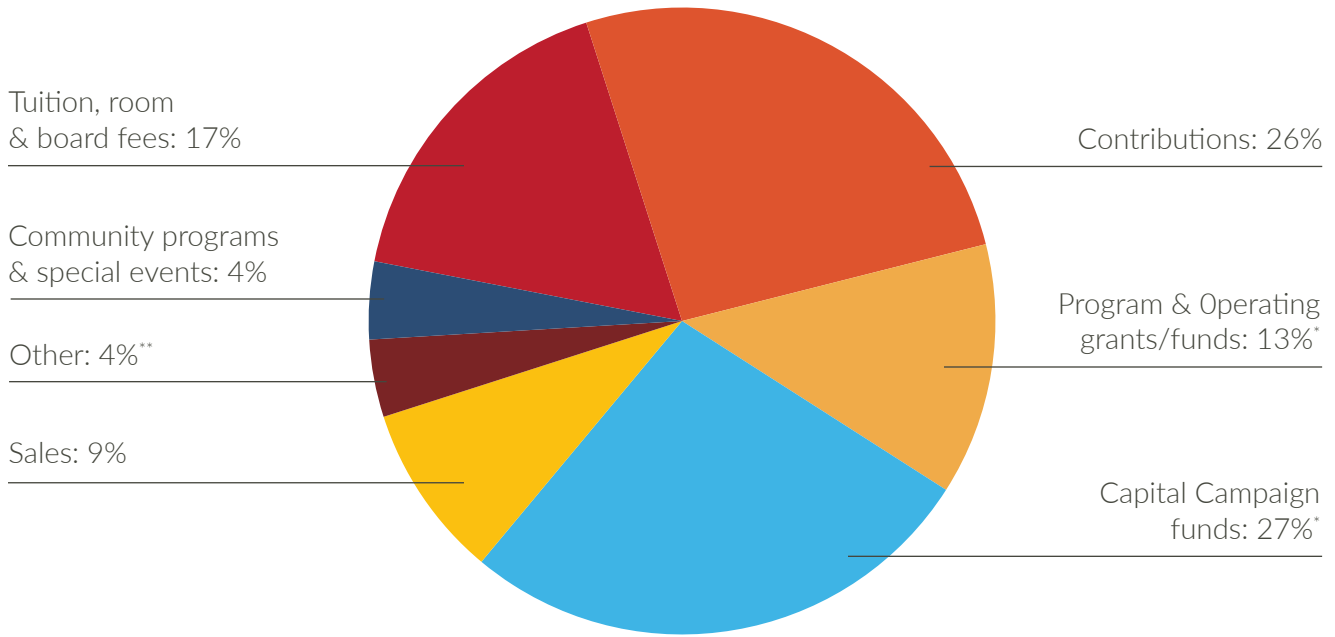
The following donors supported Watershed with gifts of artwork and other in-kind contributions in 2019. Many of these gifts included Salad Days food and drink donations, along with ceramic pieces for the Reverse Raffle, the 25<sup>th</sup> Celebration auction, and a tapas dinner fundraiser in California.



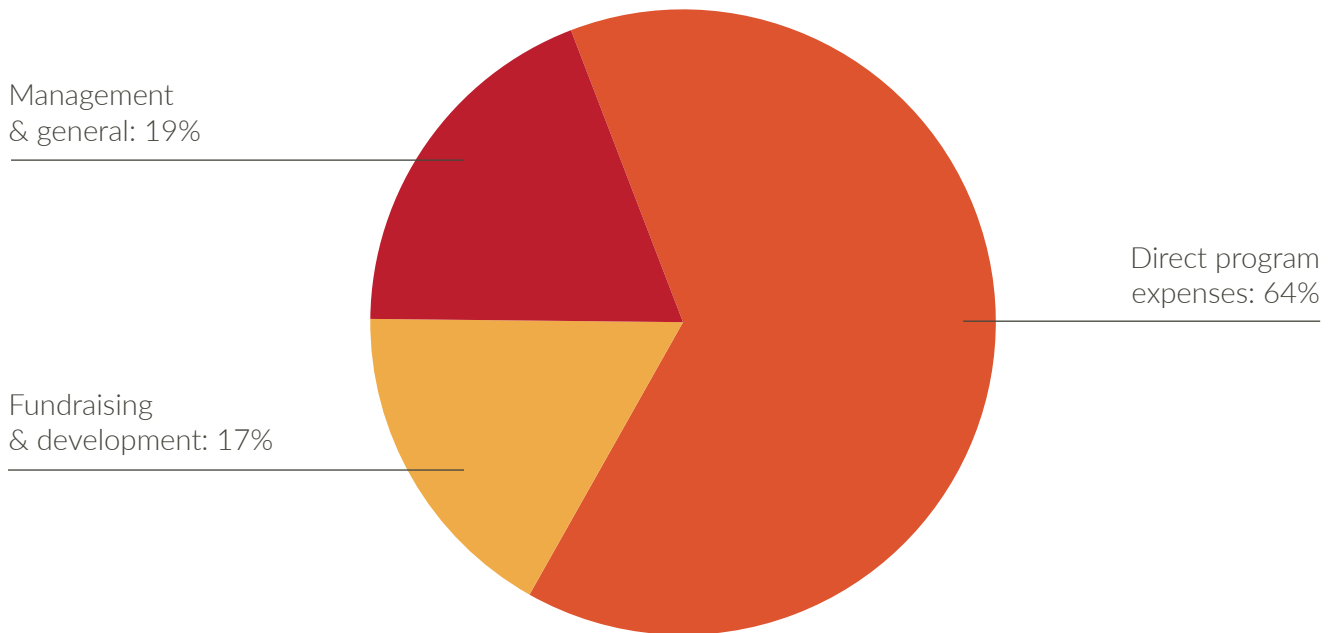
Jessica Abbott Williams  
AMACO  
Barn Door Bakery  
Hayne Bayless  
Ken Becker  
Susan Beiner  
Beverly A. Berman  
& Jeffrey Backerman  
Ellen Blomgren  
Betty Bothereau  
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Kyle Demmon  
Paul Donnelly  
Jeanne Baker Driscoll  
Lynn Duryea  
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Rose Esson-Dawson  
Wayne Fuerst  
Katy Gaebler  
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Claudia Olds Goldie  
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Rick Hirsch & Jean Kerrigan  
Tyler Gulden  
Chris Gustin  
& Nancy Train Smith  
Rain Harris  
Sin-ying Ho  
Sally Jackson  
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Bernie Toale  
Sharon Townshend  
Treats  
Patti Warashina  
Watershed Tavern  
& Boothbay Craft Brewery  
Weatherbird  
Robert Winokur

# FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## ▶ Operating Revenue **\$676,578**



## ▶ Operating Expenses **\$590,969<sup>+</sup>**



\*Net assets released from restriction

\*\*Interest, dividends, stock sales & sponsorships

<sup>+</sup> Depreciation expense for fiscal year 2019 was \$42,383 and is not reflected in these expenses. It is included in Watershed's financial statements.



## Balance Sheet

<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>Current Assets:</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$21,299	\$17,920
Promises to give, net	\$110,423	\$125,811
Inventory	\$2,809	\$2,809
Prepaid expenses	\$1,937	\$1,937
<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>\$136,468</b>	<b>\$148,477</b>
<b>Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation</b>	<b>\$1,356,629</b>	<b>\$1,245,823</b>
<b>Other assets:</b>		
Investments	\$1,211,711	\$ 1,212,766
Promises to give, net of current portion	\$3,879	\$ 66,454
Restricted cash	\$117,549	\$114,528
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$2,826,236</b>	<b>\$ 2,788,048</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current liabilities:</b>		
Demand note payable*	\$10,624	\$13,911
Line of credit	\$50,770	\$0
Accounts payable	\$6,248	\$2,751
Deferred revenue	\$11,035	\$22,651
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$78,677</b>	<b>\$39,313</b>
<b>Net assets:</b>		
Without donor restrictions	\$1,493,029	\$ 1,399,446
With donor restrictions**	\$1,254,530	\$ 1,349,289
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$2,747,559</b>	<b>\$ 2,748,735</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$2,826,236</b>	<b>\$ 2,788,048</b>

\* Truck and plow financing

\*\*Includes Capital Campaign gifts

# 2019 ANNUAL DONORS

Contributions made by generous donors to the annual appeal and throughout the year help Watershed provide transformative experiences and programs for artists at all career stages. The donors listed below made gifts between January 1 and December 31, 2019\*.

## \$5,000 - \$10,000

Lois & Dr. Edward T. Anderson*	David Charak	Carol & Joe Green*	Kenneth Schaller <sup>++</sup>
The Anonimo Foundation	Fern & Harry Cohen*	H.O. Peet Foundation	Nancy & Steve Selvin*
The Belvedere Traditional Handcrafts Fund of the Maine Community Foundation	<i>In honor of Joyce Cohen</i> Joyce & Allan Cohen*	The Lincoln County Fund of the Maine Community Foundation	Paul & Konnie Stark*
Bruce Armitage*	Bruce Dawson & Rose Esson-Dawson*	Don & Lisa Ridley*	Sharon Townshend*
Beverly A. Berman & Jeffrey Backerman*	Jeanne Baker Driscoll*	Jan & Vic Schachter*	

## \$2,500-\$4,999

Norman Abram & Elise Hauenstein*	Elizabeth Kendall & Steve Howard*	J. Michael Maynard & Ilene R. Greenberg	Chris Rifkin*
Betty Bothereau*	Mark Lyman & Anne Meszko*	Alchemy Foundation	<i>A portion of this gift was made in memory of David Montague</i>
<i>A portion of this gift was made in honor of Kristen, Chris, Eric &amp; Peter Falcone</i>	Maine Arts Commission	Network for Good	Don Thomas & Jorge Cao*
E. John Bullard <sup>+++</sup>	Margaret E. Burnham Charitable Trust	Arlynn Nobel*	Bernie Toale & Joe Zina*
		The Potters' Studio <sup>++</sup>	Susan Whitehead*

## \$1,000-\$2,499

Amica Companies Foundation	Brenda Erickson*	The Lanie and Ethel Foundation	Sue Pohanka
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Lenny & Anne Dowhie Trusts*	Susan Kaplan*	Jeffrey Musich	Bobbi & Rusty Tunnard
	Gretchen Keyworth*	Theodore & Mary Gene Myer	Patricia Young*
	Lacoste/Keane Gallery	Ed Nicoll & Helen Kent-Nicoll*	

## \$500-\$999

Walter & Alice Abrams Family Fund	Downeast Energy	J. Edward Knight Insurance	Hope Rovelto
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Paul Donnelly & Rain Harris			

\*Griggs Circle member who pledged multi-year gifts

<sup>++</sup> Kiln God or Assistantship donor

<sup>^</sup>Gift amounts do not include Capital Campaign gifts or pledges

**\$100-\$499**

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**IN MEMORY OF  
 DAVID MONTAGUE**

The Watershed community mourns the loss of long-time supporter and Watershed Trustee, Colonel David Perry Montague, who passed away last November. David will be remembered as a craft collector, astute traveler, patron of the fields of classical music and opera, and for passionately serving on numerous boards for the arts and music organizations he loved. Thank you to those who donated in his memory.

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Bruce Dawson and Rose Esson-Dawson have generously contributed to Watershed over the past seven years. They have hosted fundraisers at their home in Westport, MA, volunteered at numerous events, and raised more than \$7,000 to support Watershed's scholarship program through Bruce's annual golf tournament. The couple joined the Griggs Circle in 2014 and has continued their commitment to Watershed's sustained giving program ever since. Bruce currently serves as treasurer on the Board of Trustees, and Rose chaired the Salad Days committee as an Advisory Council member from 2014 to 2018.

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Work by 2019 artist-in-residence Matt Merkel Hess in the Watershed studio.

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# year round

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