Hello Community Partner and Friend:

2004 has been an eventful year for Hmong Cultural Center and the Hmong community in Minnesota. We have been very active over the past year presenting our new Building Bridges race relations outreach program to hundreds of persons of all walks of life including workshops for professionals working with the new Hmong refugees and numerous groups of college and primary and secondary students. We believe that recent events show that there is a strong need for the sharing of information about the Hmong experience and Hmong contributions to Minnesota so we can better understand and respect each other.

In the latter part of 2004, we began serving large groups of new Hmong refugees from Thailand as we added several ESL classes to our full slate of Citizenship classes at the center. It is clear that 2005 will prove to be very busy as our services and programs are in great demand by both Hmong and non-Hmong.

I very much would like to invite you to visit our center in 2005 to learn how we can work together as partners to promote understanding and respect between different groups in our Twin Cities community while also helping the new Hmong refugees and other Hmong residents of Minnesota build productive and successful lives as Americans.

HMONG CULTURAL CENTER SERVICE STATISTICS 2004

The Qeej Music Instruction Program served more than 50 children and youth
The Dance Instruction Program Served more than 30 children and youth

The Youth Cultural Mentorship Program Served 15 students with small group mentorship instruction in the Hmong Cultural Arts (Qeej Musical Instrument and Paj Ntaub Embroidery)

The Cultural Customs Program provided instruction to 40 educational professionals employed by the Saint Paul Public Schools so that they can more effectively work with Hmong families and youth.

The Citizenship and ESL Program provided more than 19,000 hours of Citizenship and English instruction to refugee adults in the final 6 months of 2004 alone, a new record level of Adult Basic Education service for the center in a half year period, and one of the highest levels of any local provider to Hmong refugees in the Twin Cities. To respond to strong community need, the center has established several new ESL classes to serve new Hmong refugees from Thailand.

The Hmong Resource Center served 1,274 on-site visitors and about 80,000 more via the Hmong Cultural Center website at www.hmongcenter.org. Of the on-site visitors, about 49% were Hmong and 51% were non-Hmong, showing the diverse user base of the Resource Center.

On the front cover, Hmong Cultural Center Executive Director Txong Pao Lee talks to Staff of Admission Possible, an educational organization, as part of the Building Bridges Outreach Program, the photo is from the September 3, 2004 Issue of the Saint Paul Pioneer Press.
HMONG CULTURAL CENTER MISSION AND PROGRAMS

Established in 1992, Hmong Cultural Center’s Mission is to promote the personal development of children, youth, and adults through Hmong cultural education while providing resources that enhance cross-cultural awareness and understanding between Hmong and Non-Hmong persons.

Vision Statement: Human Rights Focus - the Hmong Cultural Center and its Resource Center works to advance the human rights of Hmong interacting with mainstream institutions and systems across the United States as it educates non-Hmong professionals and service workers about the background and culturally-specific needs of their Hmong service populations.

Multicultural Education and Race Relations Outreach Programs to Promote Cross-Cultural Understanding Between Hmong and non-Hmong

Hmong Resource Center: The Hmong Resource Center is a heavily utilized program that provides community outreach activities related to multicultural education for the purposes of promoting positive race relations in the Minneapolis-St. Paul community. Hundreds of individual college and secondary school students and community members such as educators and health and medical professionals use the Resource Center each year to find information about the Hmong. The Resource Center also publishes a Hmong Studies scholarly journal and compiles and disseminates its own Hmong-related social science research in relation to important socioeconomic and social justice issues. All of these activities are intended to improve understanding and group relations between Hmong and non-Hmong while also improving the ability of core institutions in the mainstream society to serve Hmong-Americans in a culturally competent manner.

Building Bridges: Teaching about the Hmong in Our Communities Program:
To respond to the need for community education about the Hmong refugee experience, Hmong refugees from Wat Thamkrabok and Hmong contributions to Minnesota and the United States, the Hmong Cultural Center's Building Bridges race relations outreach program provides comprehensive and interactive multicultural education presentations about the Hmong to groups in the Twin Cities community and Greater Minnesota. The Building Bridges program is intended to promote dialogue and understanding and reduce stereotypes that divide our communities.

Adult Education and Literacy Programs to promote the personal development and self-sufficiency of Hmong adults in American Society

Citizenship Program: This program prepares adults for their citizenship exams by teaching them about American laws, history and government while tutoring them for their citizenship interviews.

ESL Program: This program teaches adults Basic English vocabulary and grammar as well as workforce skills such as computer keyboarding.

Educational Programs to promote the personal development, self-esteem, and social skills of Children, Youth and Adults

Qeej Musical Instrument and Dance Programs: This after-school program teaches children and youth, aged 6 to 18, how to play the qeej musical instrument and traditional qeej songs, and how to perform qeej dances. The Qeej instrument is an important cultural identifier for the Hmong people and plays an intrinsic role in Hmong funerals. This program helps reconnect children and youth to the culture of their parents. The Qeej program also includes guest speakers on important youth issues and academic enrichment activities for children and youth. The dance program provides instruction to children and youth in traditional Hmong and Asian dances.

Hmoob Kab Lis Kev Cai (Cultural Customs): This program is the only one in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area that teaches adults and youth traditional songs and rituals associated with the Mej Koob (the traditional Marriage Ceremony) and Kev Pam Tuag (Funeral Customs) in order to help ensure the survival of the Hmong culture which is an important Human Rights issue to the Hmong Diaspora as it is to other groups who only constitute a small minority population in countries where they live throughout the world.
We are very proud that our wide range of programs are culturally grounded, but Hmong Cultural Center today is about a lot more than just “culture” Did you know?……….…..

Hmong Cultural Center offers multicultural education programming for the general community and several classes a day of ESL and Citizenship programs for refugees and immigrants.

In the 2003-04 Fiscal Year, Hmong Cultural Center served more Hmong refugees with Citizenship Classes than any other Twin Cities-based Hmong Organization.

In the 2003-04 Fiscal Year, Hmong Cultural Center provided more student hours in adult education programs (ESL and Citizenship) than any other Hmong organization in Saint Paul with the exception of Lao Family Community.

Hmong Cultural Center is the only organization in the state of Minnesota that offers a comprehensive community presentation program intended to promote education and dialogue about the Hmong people and their contributions to Minnesota while reducing stereotypes. The program has been presented throughout the Twin Cities Metro and in Greater Minnesota/Western Wisconsin locations including Duluth, Saint Cloud, Forest Lake, Big Lake and River Falls, WI. Hmong Cultural Center was a finalist for the Minnesota Council on Nonprofit’s 2004 Anti-Racism Programming Award for its race relations outreach programming initiative.

In 2004, the Hmong Cultural Center’s Resource Center published Hmong 2000 Census Publication: Data and Analysis, completing a year-long cooperative project with Hmong National Development in Washington D.C. and several scholars. The publication was the first to analyze changing Hmong socioeconomic, educational and demographic trends across the United States using 2000 census data.

HMONG STUDIES JOURNAL PUBLISHES VOLUME 4 AND 5

In 2004, the Hmong Cultural Center’s Resource Center published 2 issues of the Hmong Studies Journal—the only peer-reviewed academic journal with a focus on Hmong Studies. Hmong Studies Journal has published 7 issues in 5 volumes since 1996. Hmong Studies Journal started as an internet based journal but volumes 4 and 5 have also been printed in physical, hard copy editions. Hmong Studies Journal is at www.hmongstudies.org

Articles in Hmong Studies Journal Volume 4
“The Hmong ‘Dab Pog Couple’ Story and its Significance in Arriving at an Understanding of Hmong Ritual” by Dia Cha.
“Migration of Hmong to Rochester, Minnesota: Life in the Midwest” by Cathleen Jo Faruque.
“Contradictions in Learning how to be Thai: A Case Study of a Young Hmong Woman” by Tracy Pilar Johnson-Messenger.

Articles in Hmong Studies Journal Volume 5
"Medical, Racist, and Colonial Constructions of Power: Creating the Asian American Patient and the Cultural Citizen in Anne Fadiman's The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down" by Monica Chiu.
"Hmong Transnational Identity: the Gendering of Contested Discourses" by Roberta Julian.
"Caught Between Cultures: Hmong Parents in America's Sibling Society" by Tamara L. Kaiser.
"Hmong Parents' Perceptions on Instructional Strategies for Educating their Children with Disabilities" by Halee Vang and Manuel T. Barrera.
"Southeast Asian Adolescents' Perceptions of Immigrant Parenting Practices" by Zha Blong Xiong, Daniel F. Detzner and Michael J. Cleveland.
NEW LEARN ABOUT HMONG MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION WEBSITE IS LAUNCHED

In late 2004, Hmong Cultural Center’s Hmong Resource Center launched a new multicultural education website: www.learnabouthmong.com. The new Learn about Hmong website uses online video clips and other multimedia technologies to teach about the Hmong people, and promote a better understanding of the Hmong people and their experiences in Minnesota and the United States. The website is supported by grants from the 3M/COMPAS Award for Innovation in the Arts Program and the Asian Pacific Endowment of the Saint Paul Foundation.

A highlight of the website is a 38 slide comprehensive “Hmong 101” presentation with information about Hmong History, the Hmong refugee experience, the new Hmong refugees coming from Wat Thamkrabok, Hmong life in America, the basics of Hmong culture and cultural etiquette for service providers and others who interact with traditional Hmong. Other features include a photo essay of Hmong businesses which have helped revitalize several Saint Paul neighborhoods, video clips of important Hmong community events in Minnesota, and profiles of Hmong who were pioneers in the fields of medicine, academia, law and politics.

Txongpao Lee, Executive Director of Hmong Cultural Center summarized the broader purpose of the website: “Our goal is to make a better environment, not just for the Hmong but for everyone, so we can understand each other and respect each other.”

HMONG CULTURAL CENTER SERVES NEW REFUGEES FROM THAILAND WITH ESL CLASSES, CLOTHING DRIVE, AND SPONSORSHIP OF 2004 HMONG RESOURCE FAIR

For the past 8 years, Hmong Cultural Center has been one of the major providers of Citizenship classes to adult Hmong refugees in the Twin Cities area. In the final few months of 2004, more than 3,000 Hmong refugees from Thailand were resettled in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area, the bulk of them choosing to live with relatives in Saint Paul. To meet the tremendous demand for new adult ESL classes for the Wat Thamkrabok refugees, Hmong Cultural Center added 2 new sections of ESL classes at the end of 2004 which quickly filled up with new Twin Cities residents from the Wat. The center begins 2005 with 3 sections of ESL classes and 30 hours a week of adult ESL instruction in addition to its numerous Citizenship classes. Earlier in 2004, Hmong Cultural Center led a very successful clothing drive for the new refugee families. Txongpao Lee, Executive Director of the center, has made serving the new refugees a special priority. In the Fall of 2004, Lee helped sponsor his uncle’s family who lived in Wat Thamkrabok in Thailand for more than a decade. The Hmong Cultural Center also served as the fiscal agent for the Hmong Resource Fair which provided information about available services in the Twin Cities to Hmong refugees and their sponsor families October 30, 2004 at Arlington High School in Saint Paul.
Multicultural Education at the Hmong Resource Center in 2004
The cultural center’s Hmong Resource Center is a primary provider of multicultural
education resources and race relations outreach activities related to the Hmong people to
groups in the Twin Cities area and the Upper Midwest. The Hmong Cultural Center serves as
the Hmong representative organization on the Council of Advisors of Tolerance Minnesota.

Number of Hmong Resource Center Visitors Affiliated with Universities or Colleges
1/01/04-12/31/04

MN-Based
University of Minnesota - 95 St Cloud State University - 56
Mankato State University - 55 University of Saint Thomas - 51
Metropolitan State University - 43 Hamline University - 30
Concordia University - 30 College of Saint Scholastica (Duluth) - 11
Macalester College - 8 Century College - 8
Saint Paul College - 6 College of Saint Catherine - 5
Bethel University - 4 St. Olaf College - 3
Capella University - 2 Saint Mary's University - 2
Augsburg College - 1 University of Minnesota-Morris—1
University of Minnesota-Duluth - 1 College of Visual Arts (St. Paul) - 1
Minneapolis Community Tech. College - 1

Other States
UW-River Falls (WI ) - 5 UW-Eau Claire (WI) - 2
UW-Madison (WI) - 1 University of Texas at Austin - 5
Brown University (RI) - 5 Ohio State University - 3
Ponoma College (CA) - 2 University of Pennsylvania - 2
CSU-Fresno (CA) - 1 University of Southern California - 1
University of Colorado - 1 University of Utah - 1
Northern Illinois University - 1 College of Saint Francis (IL) - 1
Georgia Perimeter College - 1

Foreign-Based
Queen’s University (Belfast, Ireland) - 2 University of Oslo (Norway) - 1

Total 2004 Academic Visitors = 452

Groups Participating in the Building Bridges Race Relations Outreach Program in 2004 (Partial List)
Saint Cloud State University Anthropology of Hmong Culture class;
Saint Cloud State University Introduction to Asian American Studies Class;
Mankato State University Introduction to Ethnic Studies Class;
University of Minnesota Multicultural Education Class for Science Teachers
Metropolitan State University Multicultural Communication Class
Marshall (MN), Junior High School 7th and 8th Graders
World Culture Magnet Elementary School 6th Grade Class (Saint Paul);
Blake School, Plymouth, MN, all 8th Grade Classes;
Saint Bernard’s School (Saint Paul) Staff Development Day;
Creative Arts High School Class, Saint Paul, MN;
J.J. Hill Elementary School, Saint Paul (Presentations to all grade levels K-5);
Chisago Lakes School District
Best Buy Corporation Diversity Committee
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Staff from University of Minnesota Human Rights Center
Staff from Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights
Carl Perkins Summer Program for Suburban Schoolteachers in Twin Cities Metro Area
Anoka County Social Services Caseworkers
East Metro OIC Staff
Ramsey County Action Employees
Saint Paul Foundation Staff
Workshop with Wilder Foundation for 75 Service Professionals working with new Hmong refugees
3 Groups of Greater Minnesota Educators and Service Professionals (150 persons total) at the
Minnesota Humanities Commission
2004 Hmong Resource Center Acquisitions

Resources for Health and Medical Professionals Collection


Resources for Teachers and Educators Collection


2004 Hmong Resource Center Acquisitions

Gender Issues in the Hmong Community Collection


Hmong Socioeconomic Incorporation Collection


Olson, Kent; Yang, Vang; Tadesse, Nigatu; Chang, Yanping; Yang, Nengshao and Seung-Wan Lee. (2003). “Results of a Farm and Market Survey for Hmong Specialty Crop Farmers in the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metro Area.” Staff Paper P03-11, Department of Applied Economics, College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences, University of Minnesota, (December 2003), 1-39.


2004 Hmong Resource Center Acquisitions

Hmong in East and Southeast Asia Collection


Hmong History Collection


Hmong-American Literature and Media Arts /Collection


Hmong Cultural Practices and Language Collection


2004 Hmong Resource Center Acquisitions

Hmong Cultural Practices and Language Collection Continued


General Reference Resources


Miscellaneous

DVDs


Hmong Human Rights in Asia Newspaper Articles Collection

The Hmong Resource Center is intended to promote in a meaningful way data collection for researchers and community members working on social justice and advocacy initiatives pertaining to the Hmong minority residing overseas. All articles in the collection are from major or international media sources. The Human Rights collection contains hundreds of articles describing the situation of Hmong in Southeast Asia from the mid-1970s to the present. To view a full list of articles visit: www.hmongcenter.org

“A Plant that is Central to Hmong Beliefs.” The Nation (Thailand), December 20, 2004. (Article describes Hmong arrested for growing the Ganchong plant which Thai police confuse with Marijuana).


2004 Hmong Resource Center Acquisitions

Hmong Human Rights in Asia Newspaper Articles Collection Continued


“2,000 Hmong (Refugees) Face Deportation.” The Nation (Thailand), August 26, 2004.


“Onwards to a New Beginning and Liberty (Hmong Refugees in Wat Tham Krabok).” The Nation (Thailand), June 23, 2004.


“Loyalty to U.S. Finally Paying Off for Hmong; Nearly Three Decades After They Last Fought Communists in Their Native Laos, Refugees at a Thai Camp are to get American Citizenship.” David Lamb, Los Angeles Times, April 18, 2004.
2004 Hmong Resource Center Acquisitions

Hmong Human Rights in Asia Newspaper Articles Collection Continued

“Call for Hmong Monitors (In Laos).” The Nation (Thailand), April 9, 2004.


“700 Hmong Surrender.” The Nation (Thailand), March 5, 2004.


“A Life in Exile – Laotian Hmong Look to Future in U.S.; While the Young see Resettlement from Thailand to the U.S. as a Real Opportunity, the Elderly are Wary.” The Straits Times (Singapore), February 23, 2004.


Hmong-American Race Relations Newspaper Articles Collection

The Race Relations collection at the Hmong Resource Center contains hundreds of articles from media sources documenting incidents of bias, hate crimes, and institutional discrimination as well as local level race relations between Hmong and non-Hmong in Minnesota, California, Wisconsin and other states extending from the late 1970s to the present time. The Race Relations Collection is intended to promote in a meaningful way data collection for researchers and community members working on social justice and advocacy initiatives pertaining to Hmong residing in the United States. To view a full list of articles visit: www.hmongcenter.org

Minnesota


2004 Hmong Resource Center Acquisitions

Hmong-American Race Relations Newspaper Articles Collection Continued

Minnesota


Wisconsin


“(Eau Claire) Forum Shows Depths of Racial Tension.” Wisconsin State Journal, December 18, 2004


“Man Accused of Damaging Neighbors’ Property; ‘Killer’ was Painted on Three Homes, Truck of Hmong Residents (Menominee, WI).” Jesse Garza, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, December 4, 2004.


“Conversation in the Woods; ‘So Much Progress,’ he said. ‘And then This (Northwest Wisconsin).’” Dennis Anderson, Minneapolis Star Tribune, December 2, 2004.


“Local Hmong Don’t Feel Backlash; But They Have Felt Stress Since a Hmong Man was Accused of Killing Six Hunters.” George Hesselberg, Wisconsin State Journal, November 25, 2004.


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**Hmong Cultural Center’s Daily Schedule**

**Adult ESL classes** - Monday through Friday 9-11 AM, 1-3 PM, 4-6 PM  
**Citizenship Classes** (Hmong Language) - Tuesday through Thursday 10-Noon, Noon-2 PM  
**Citizenship Classes** (English Language) - Mondays and Wednesdays 10-Noon

**After School Programs for Children and Youth** - Monday through Friday 4-6 PM

**Hmong Resource Center Library and Research Center** - Open Monday through Friday 9:30-6:00 PM

Weekends by appointment.

**Building Bridges Race Relations Outreach Presentations** - Available by Appointment at the Center and in the Community Monday through Friday 10 AM—3 PM
Mark Pfeifer of the Hmong Cultural Center and Kazoua Kong-Thao of the Saint Paul School Board served as co-chairs for the Hmong Resource Fair planning committee. The event was held October 30, 2004 at Arlington High School in Saint Paul. More than 100 service providers shared info with Hmong refugees and their sponsoring families at this heavily attended event. Hmong Cultural Center was fiscal agent for the Resource Fair.

Tou Sue Lee teaches the basics of the Hmong language and cultural etiquette to police officers, schoolteachers, social workers and other professionals at the center in the Summer of 2004. The Police Chief of Saint Paul was among the students in the class.
Txong Pao Lee teaches an afternoon ESL class to Hmong refugees who have recently moved to Saint Paul from Wat Thamkrabok in Thailand. In terms of student numbers, Hmong Cultural Center is one of the most significant providers of Adult Basic Education to Hmong adults in the Twin Cities.
Adult refugee students recently arrived from Wat Thamkrabok in Thailand study English in an Evening English as a Second Language Class at Hmong Cultural Center’s Saint Paul offices.
HMONG CULTURAL CENTER STAFF

Txong Pao Lee, Executive Director

Mark E. Pfeifer, PhD, Director, Hmong Resource Center

Kao Neng Lee, Coordinator, Citizenship and ESL Program

Thai Vang, Citizenship and ESL Teacher

Tougeu Leepalao, Consultant, Teacher, and Resource Developer

Ga Long Thao, Teacher, Youth Programs

Jerry Yang, Teacher, Youth Programs

Kue Lee, Teacher, Youth Programs

Mai Thao, Teacher, Youth Programs

HMONG CULTURAL CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sean Lee, (Applications Consultant, U.S. Bank), Board Chair

Dao Xiong, (Southeast Asian Parent Advisor, PACER,) Vice Chair

Khue Yang, (Assistant Vice President, University Bank), Treasurer

Gale Mason-Chagil, PhD, (Cultural Inquiry Consulting and Adjunct Professor, Metropolitan State University), Secretary

Gerald Fry, PhD, (Professor and Graduate Chair, Department of Educational Administration, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities)

Shoua Moua, (Writer and English Teacher, Cleveland Middle School, St. Paul)

Shoua Sue Lee

White Song

HMONG CULTURAL CENTER ADVISORY GROUP

Ser Lee (Senior Vice President, Primerica Financial Services, Saint Paul), Chair
## HMONG CULTURAL CENTER, INC. FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004

### INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUPPORT</th>
<th>Total ($)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants-government</td>
<td>$157,850</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundation grants</td>
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<td>Contributions</td>
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<td>Fundraising—Performances</td>
<td>$3,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
<td><strong>$278,850</strong></td>
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### EXPENSES

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<tr>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Payroll expenses</td>
<td>$149,975</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Expenses</td>
<td>$50,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Operating Expenses</td>
<td>$55,440</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$256,215</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NET INCOME

- **$22,635**

### 2004 DONORS TO HMONG CULTURAL CENTER’S FALL FUNDRAISING BANQUET OCTOBER 9, 2004

- Txong Pao Lee
- Mark E. Pfeifer
- Ron Mazurowski
- Shoua Moua and Tou Lee
- Gerald Fry
- Dao Xiong
- Sean S. Lee and Maisee Lee
- Gale Mason-Chagil
- Jesse Kao Lee and Der Yang Chang
- Hiroko Akiba
- Anna Thao
- Catherine A. Geisen-Kisch
- Steven Yang
- Kerry Koua Lee
- Kathy My Mouacheupao
- Todd Otis
- Koua Thao and Senghoua Chang
- Kathryn Schuchman
- Kazoua Kong-Thao
- Fue Heu
- Michael Smeby
- Deanne L. and Merlin J. Magnusson
- Ann Mazurowski
- Fong Lor and Nao Thao
- Tom Fitzpatrick
- University Bank
- Asian Home Care

The Fall banquet raised $4,186 for youth programs at the center in 2005
2004 Corporate, Governmental, and Foundation Supporters of Hmong Cultural Center’s Adult Education, and Multicultural Education Programs

Saint Paul Community Literacy Consortium  - www.spclc.org
Saint Paul Foundation  - www.saintpaulfoundation.org
Saint Paul Travelers Foundation  - www.stpaul.com
Freeman Foundation
McKnight Foundation  - www.mcknight.org
Grotto Foundation  - www.grottofoundation.org
Marbrook Foundation
University Bank  “Minnesota’s Socially Responsible Bank”  - www.universitybank.com
COMPAS/ Medtronic Arts Access Program  - www.compas.org
3M/ COMPAS Award for Innovation in the Arts  - www.compas.org
Metropolitan Regional Arts Council through an appropriation of the Minnesota State Legislature  - www.mrac.org
Saint Paul Foundation Asian Pacific Endowment for Community Development  - www.saintpaulfoundation.org
Minnesota Humanities Commission in partnership with the Minnesota State Legislature and the National Endowment for the Humanities  - www.minnesotahumanities.org

Please support our Corporate Funders — Saint Paul Travelers, 3M, Medtronic, and University Bank in Saint Paul with your patronage of their products and services