



**JOHN BEN SNOW
FOUNDATION
ANNUAL REPORT 2016**



INVESTING IN THE COMMUNITY



INVESTING IN PEOPLE



INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

THE JOHN BEN SNOW FOUNDATION

About John Ben Snow



John Ben Snow was born and raised in Pulaski, New York, a small village north of Syracuse. He graduated from New York University in 1904 and soon thereafter entered F. W. Woolworth & Company. A man of vision, he was attracted to mass market sales and introduced innovative retailing techniques. He rose rapidly through the ranks from stock boy to corporate director, initially in New York, and finally in Great Britain, where he accumulated a small fortune through hard work, savings and wise investments. After retiring from Woolworth in 1939, Mr. Snow devoted the remainder of his life to building the Speidel chain of newspapers and publishing the *Western Horseman*. He was fond of animals, especially horses, enjoyed racing, fox hunting, polo and range riding. Throughout his life, John Ben Snow shared his wealth with relatives, friends, business associates and fellow Pulaskians. He gave generously and freely to those persons and causes he cherished. He preferred to “invest” in people, especially the young, by making available financial assistance. He also believed in improving the quality of life in Pulaski and its environs.

To further these and other philanthropic causes, he established The John Ben Snow Foundation in 1948. The Foundation continues to operate under the terms of its original charter. The charter, granted by the State of New York, authorizes the Foundation to grant funds for educational and humanitarian purposes to qualified organizations. The present membership of its Board, seven in number, includes persons of diverse occupational backgrounds and geographical areas. The Board meets once a year, usually in June, to approve new grants and review previously funded projects.

THE JOHN BEN SNOW FOUNDATION

FUNDING POLICIES

The John Ben Snow Foundation is a private foundation governed by federal tax law and accordingly disburses funds to tax-exempt organizations approved by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). The geographic focus of the Foundation has primarily been Central and Northern New York State, a policy that reflects the personal wishes of the founder.

The mission of the Foundation is to make grants within specific focus areas to enhance the quality of life in Central and Northern New York State. Historically, the Foundation has made grants in the following program areas:

- **Arts and Culture**
- **Community Initiatives**
- **Education**
- **Environment**
- **Historic Preservation**
- **Journalism**

The Foundation responds to the ever-changing needs of various segments of the population of Central and Northern New York State, especially to the needs of young people and people who are disadvantaged either physically or economically.

It is the Foundation's general policy to give preference to proposals seeking funds for new or enhanced programs, one-time, short-term grants to sustain a program until funding is stabilized, matching grants used to encourage the participation of other donors, and "last dollars" towards a capital campaign.

The Foundation will not accept proposals from individuals or for-profit organizations. Additionally, the Foundation does not encourage proposals from religious organizations or proposals for endowments, contingency funding, or debt reduction. There are no minimums or maximum grant amounts; however, most grants range from \$5,000 to \$15,000.

GRANT APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The Foundation is pro-active in seeking grant proposals from qualifying 501(c)(3) organizations. Additionally, the Foundation accepts unsolicited proposals from qualifying organizations.

An initial letter of inquiry must be submitted via the Foundation's online grant management system by **January 1st** of the year in which a grant is

requested. If the proposal meets the stated guidelines and priorities of the Foundation, grant application instructions will be sent to the applicant. All grant applications must be submitted via the Foundation's online grant management system by **April 1st** of the year in which a grant is requested.

The Foundation may require additional information and possibly an interview or site visit. Any discussions or indications of interest should not be construed as a commitment by the Foundation. All complete grant applications are carefully considered and evaluated by the Foundation. Applicants are notified in writing of the Foundation's decision by **July 1st**. All approved grant applicants are required to sign a Grant Acceptance Agreement prior to any funds being released by the Foundation.

The Foundation will periodically consider off-cycle grant proposals between **July 1st** and **December 1st** for projects whose timing does not fall within the standard grant application cycle outlined above. These proposals must be submitted via the Foundation's online grant management system. The funding for these proposals fluctuates yearly based on investment performance as well as prior grant commitments. The grant seeker must contact the Foundation and obtain approval prior to submitting an off-cycle grant proposal.

REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

Because the Foundation assumes that the grantee has a moral and legal obligation to account for all funds received, each grantee is required to submit a grant report via the Foundation's online grant management system by **March 1st** of the year after the approval of the grant. All grant reports are reviewed by the Foundation. Any change in plans must be approved by the Foundation. If a grantee fails to submit a formal report, the Foundation reserves the right to request that the grant funds be returned. Additionally, further grants will not be considered until a final report is received.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jonathan L. Snow, *President*
David H. Snow, *Vice President and Treasurer*
Valerie A. MacFie, *Secretary*
Angus M. Burton
Marion Hancock Fish
Emelie M. Williams

THE JOHN BEN SNOW FOUNDATION

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Year Ending: 31 December 2015

Total Assets	\$ 7,726,941
Excise Taxes	\$ 4,624
Investment Revenue	\$ 272,752
Grants Paid	\$ 312,600

GRANTS APPROVED AT THE 2016 ANNUAL MEETING

ARTS & CULTURE

Open Hand Theater - Syracuse, NY ... <i>Youth Theater Training Program</i>	\$ 5,000
Salmon River Fine Arts Center - Pulaski, NY	\$ 2,500
<i>Art Education and Access</i>	
Schweinfurth Art Center - Auburn, NY	\$ 4,000
<i>Clay Studio Phase 2</i>	
Seneca Cayuga ARC - Waterloo, NY	\$ 6,000
<i>Center for Creative Expression</i>	
Syracuse City Ballet - Syracuse, NY	\$ 2,500
<i>Outreach to Underserved Students</i>	
Syracuse Shakespeare Festival - Syracuse, NY	\$ 1,500
<i>Kids Doing Shakespeare</i>	
Syracuse Stage - Syracuse, NY	\$ 10,000
<i>Educational Programming Support</i>	
Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust - Watertown, NY	\$ 2,500
<i>Venerable Folks of the Tug Hill Region</i>	
	\$ 34,000

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Amaus Health Services @ Cathedral - Syracuse, NY	\$ 20,000
<i>Amaus Dental Services Expansion</i>	

CNY Ronald McDonald House Charities, Inc.- Syracuse, NY	\$ 7,000
<i>Technology Improvements</i>	
Downtown Syracuse YMCA - Syracuse, NY	\$ 5,000
<i>The Urban Swim Initiative</i>	
InterFaith Works of Central New York - Syracuse, NY	\$ 25,000
<i>Building Community/Affirming Dignity</i>	
New York State Rural Housing Coalition, Inc. - Albany, NY	\$ 2,500
<i>Technical Assistance Services</i>	
Paleontological Research Institution - Ithaca, NY	\$ 10,000
<i>Library Access Program Expansion</i>	
Preservation Revitalization of Pulaski - Pulaski, NY	\$ 10,000
<i>Downtown Beautification Project</i>	
Rural & Migrant Ministry of Oswego County, Inc. - Richland, NY ..	\$ 2,500
<i>Smooth Driving</i>	
Yeshua Restoration Ministries - Syracuse, NY	\$ 10,000
<i>Girls Front Porch Outreach</i>	
	\$ 92,000

DISABILITIES AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS

Catholic Charities of Onondaga County - Syracuse, NY	\$ 5,000
<i>Southside Neighborhood Center Accessibility</i>	
David's Refuge - Manlius, NY	\$ 7,800
<i>Parent's Night Out</i>	

THE JOHN BEN SNOW FOUNDATION

Freedom Guide Dogs for the Blind, Inc. -
Cassville, NY\$ 10,000
Van Purchase

Pathfinder Village Foundation -
Edmeston, NY\$ 5,000
Hoop House Expansion Project

Richland Hamlet Recreation
Association, Inc. - Richland, NY.....\$ 2,000
Handicapped Accessible Equipment

\$ 29,800

EDUCATION

100 Black Men of Syracuse, Inc. -
Syracuse, NY.....\$ 5,000
The Syracuse Saturday Academy

Hillside Children's Foundation -
Rochester, NY.....\$ 10,000
Hillside Work-Scholarship Connection

On Point for College - Syracuse, NY ..\$ 12,500
College Access and Success Project

PEACE, Inc. - Syracuse, NY\$ 10,000
Big Brothers Big Sisters

Public Broadcasting Council of CNY
(WCNY) - Syracuse, NY\$ 5,000
WCNY On-Site Student Education Programs

Pulaski Academy & Central School -
Pulaski, NY\$ 800
Snow Incentive Awards

Red House Arts Center -
Syracuse, NY.....\$ 20,000
Classroom in Redhouse @ City Center

Syracuse University - Syracuse, NY ...\$ 3,500
Transitioning Military Veterans to University Life

\$ 66,800

ENVIRONMENT

Lansing Community Council -
Lansing, NY\$ 1,000
Kiosk Signage at Salt Point

Syracuse Northeast
Community Center - Syracuse, NY....\$ 6,000
Northeast Community Garden

\$ 7,000

LITERACY

Geneva Reads Inc. - Geneva, NY\$ 5,000
Healthy Readers

Oswego Bookmobile - Oswego, NY...\$ 5,000
Driving Books Home

\$ 10,000

SPECIAL

Council on Foundations -
Arlington, VA\$ 1,200
General Support

\$ 1,200

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Auburn Public Theater - Auburn, NY..\$ 3,000
Auburn Public Studio Performing Arts Education for Youth

Building Men Program, Inc. -
Syracuse, NY.....\$ 6,000
Building Men Program

CNY Arts Center, Inc. - Fulton, NY...\$ 2,000
ARTY Day Camp

Fiver Children's Foundation -
New York, NY.....\$ 9,000
Camp Fiver

McMahon/Ryan Child
Advocacy Center - Syracuse, NY\$ 10,000
Child Abuse Prevention Programs

Move Along, Inc. - Baldwinsville, NY ..\$ 5,000
Inclusive Sports Program

Musicians for World Harmony -
Ithaca, NY\$ 2,500
Music Heals for Refugees in Syracuse

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Talent Agency Teen Art Portfolio
Development, Inc. - Syracuse, NY \$ 6,300
Summer Intensive Art Portfolio Development

The First Tee of Syracuse -
Syracuse, NY \$ 5,000
First Tee of Syracuse Scholarships

The Media Unit, Inc. - Syracuse, NY . . . \$ 1,000
From The Back of the Bus Performance Tour

YWCA of Cortland - Cortland, NY \$ 2,500
Bridges for Kids Mentoring Program

\$ 52,300

GRAND TOTAL \$293,100