



**JOHN BEN SNOW
FOUNDATION
ANNUAL REPORT 2017**



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 that focuses funding for tax-exempt organizations primarily serving Central New York (defined as Onondaga County and its four surrounding counties of Cayuga, Cortland, Madison, and Oswego) across a range of program areas (detailed below) while responding to the ever-changing needs of various segments of the population, especially to the needs of youth and people who are disadvantaged either physically or economically. Historically, the Foundation has made grants in the following program areas:

- Arts and Culture
- Community Initiatives
- Education Program
- Environmental
- Historic Preservation
- Journalism
- Disabilities and Universal Access
- Youth Initiatives

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 between **October 1st** and **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
Emelie M. Williams, Secretary
Angus M. Burton
Marion Hancock Fish
Valerie A. MacFie
Ann M. Scanlon, Program Director Emeritus
Elizabeth A. Snow, Grants Manager

THE JOHN BEN SNOW FOUNDATION

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Year Ending: 31 December 2016

Total Assets	\$ 8,090,415
Excise Taxes	\$ 13,280
Investment Revenue	\$ 757,000
Grants Paid	\$ 293,100

GRANTS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT IN FISCAL YEAR 2017

ARTS & CULTURE

Auburn Public Theater – Auburn, NY	\$ 5,000
<i>Day Camps and After School Programming</i>	
Central New York Jazz Arts Foundation, Inc. – Syracuse, NY	\$ 3,000
<i>Summer Jazz Workshop</i>	
Clear Path for Veterans, Inc. – Chittenango, NY	\$ 3,000
<i>Perspectives from Along the Path</i>	
Geneva Music Festival, Inc. – Geneva, NY	\$ 5,000
<i>Geneva Music Festival</i>	
Salmon River Fine Arts Center – Pulaski, NY	\$ 2,500
<i>Arts Education and Access Project 2017</i>	
Society for New Music – Syracuse, NY	\$ 3,000
<i>Two Composers-in-Residence in the SCSD</i>	
Syracuse City Ballet – Syracuse, NY ...	\$ 5,000
<i>Outreach to Underserved Students</i>	
Syracuse Stage – Syracuse, NY	\$ 10,000
<i>Backstory</i>	
The Research Foundation for SUNY (at Oswego) – Oswego, NY	\$ 8,000
<i>SUNY Oswego Youth Arts Programs</i>	

\$44,500

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Catholic Charities of Onondaga County – Syracuse, NY	\$ 10,000
<i>Men's Shelter Reconfiguration</i>	
Downtown Syracuse YMCA – Syracuse, NY	\$ 5,000
<i>Urban Swim Initiative</i>	
Eastern Farm Workers Association – Syracuse, NY	\$ 3,000
<i>Medical & Dental Benefit Expansion</i>	
InterFaith Works of Central New York – Syracuse, NY	\$ 25,000
<i>Facility Renovations</i>	
Preservation Revitalization of Pulaski – Pulaski, NY	\$ 10,000
<i>South Park Electrical Upgrade Project</i>	
Pulaski Community Ministries, Inc. – Pulaski, NY	\$ 5,000
<i>Replace Building Roof</i>	
Refugee & Immigrant Self-Empowerment, Inc. – Syracuse, NY	\$ 5,000
<i>Woman Empowerment Project</i>	
Rural & Migrant Ministry of Oswego County, Inc. – Richland, NY ..	\$ 1,200
<i>Equipment Updates</i>	

THE JOHN BEN SNOW FOUNDATION

Sullivan Free Library –
Chittenango, NY\$ 10,000
Bridgeport Library Rejuvenation Project

Vera House, Inc. – Syracuse, NY.....\$ 10,000
Vera House Office Renovation

Women’s Opportunity Center –
Syracuse, NY.....\$ 3,000
Journey to Success

You Can’t Fail – Auburn, NY\$ 5,000
Developing the Next Generation of Women Leaders

\$92,200

DISABILITIES AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS

Access CNY – Syracuse, NY\$ 10,000
Enhancing Care through Mobile Technology

David’s Refuge – Manlius, NY\$ 6,000
Parent’s Night Out

\$16,000

EDUCATION

Fayetteville-Manlius A Better
Chance, Inc. – Manlius, NY\$ 10,000
Residence Renovations

Friends of the SCS Planetarium –
Aurora, NY.....\$ 3,000
Southern Cayuga Planetarium Strategy

Paige’s Butterfly Run, Inc. –
Baldwinsville, NY\$ 5,000
Cancer in the Classroom Educational Materials for Schools

PEACE, Inc. – Syracuse, NY.....\$ 10,000
Big Brothers Big Sisters School-Based Mentoring

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

Syracuse University – College of A&S/
Physics – Syracuse, NY.....\$ 4,000
Enhancing High School Physics Teaching in Central New York

Syracuse University – Maxwell School –
Syracuse, NY.....\$ 10,000
*Citizenship & Civic Engagement Experiences in the
Syracuse Community*

The Milton J. Rubenstein Museum
of Science & Technology –
Syracuse, NY.....\$ 10,000
Science Learning Partnership with Schools

\$52,800

ENVIRONMENT

Central New York Land Trust –
Syracuse, NY.....\$ 7,500
Saving Whiskey Island and Northern Great Bear Campaign

Ithaca Children’s Garden –
Ithaca, NY\$ 9,000
Compost to Cuisine Kitchen Improvements

Montezuma Audubon Center –
Savannah, NY\$ 4,000
Scouts Conserving the Montezuma Wetlands

\$20,500

LITERACY

Cortland Area Communities That
Care Coalition – Cortland, NY\$ 8,000
Books to Grow On Sustainability Planning

Oswego College Foundation –
Oswego, NY\$ 5,000
Driving Books Home-Oswego Bookmobile

\$13,000

OTHER

Foundation Center – New York, NY ..\$ 3,500
Building Capacity in Central New York

\$3,500

THE JOHN BEN SNOW FOUNDATION

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Building Men Program, Inc. –
Syracuse, NY.....\$ 4,500
Rite of Passage Trips

Children’s Home of Jefferson County –
Watertown, NY\$ 7,500
Project Adventure Course Renovation

Friends of Rogers – Sherburne, NY ...\$ 5,000
Summer Adventure Camp Capacity Building

Manlius Pebble Hill School –
Syracuse, NY.....\$ 2,500
MPH Summer Programs

Syracuse Children’s Chorus, Inc. –
Syracuse, NY.....\$ 5,000
SCC City Satellite Initiative

Tillie’s Touch – East Syracuse, NY\$ 8,000
Travel Soccer Program

\$32,500

GRAND TOTAL \$275,000