



JOHN BEN SNOW
FOUNDATION
ANNUAL REPORT 2021



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 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. The Board and Program Staff seek to collaboratively create proposals within specific program areas (prioritized below) while responding to the changing needs of targeted populations, especially to the needs of youth and people who are disadvantaged economically, emotionally, or physically.

Primary Focus Area: Dating back to the inception of the Foundation in 1948, the primary and overarching grant making priority has been and continues to be programs that focus on education.

- **Education:** This program area targets funds to organizations that provide educational opportunities or academic assistance to individuals who demonstrate an intellectual aptitude and a financial need. Examples include scholarships, fellowships, academic tutoring or counseling, literacy, and journalism.

Secondary Focus Areas: Secondly, the Foundation considers proposals within the areas of Arts and Culture, Community Initiatives, and Youth Programs. The Foundation's objective is to extend the primary educational focus by providing funding support within these additional program areas.

- **Arts and Culture:** This program offers grants that promote arts education and appreciation, particularly for young adults, via the development of educational curriculum and professional instruction including visiting artists and performance support for targeted populations.
- **Community Initiatives:** This program provides funding for programs or services that directly improve the quality of life within Central New York. Examples include support for libraries, food pantries and shelters, and neighborhood revitalization. Generally, the Foundation does not seek proposals for health care initiatives or animal welfare programs.
- **Youth Programs:** This program area offers grants that provide character education or enrichment opportunities via mentoring or after-school programming. Generally, the Foundation does not solicit proposals for short-term summer camps.

Tertiary Focus Areas: As a third priority, the Foundation does consider proposals in the areas of Disabilities and Universal Access, Environmental, and Historic Preservation. As these are not core focus areas, funding is often limited. Priority will be given to proposals with an educational focus.

- **Disabilities and Universal Access:** This program offers grants to organizations in complying with ADA requirements within their facilities (e.g. elevator, handrails, automatic doors, and ramps) or offering services targeted for individuals with physical, mental, or emotional disabilities.
- **Environmental:** This program provides funds for organizations that strive to protect strategic parcels of land and bodies of water as well as programs that educate the general public on key environmental issues such as conservation and water management.
- **Historic Preservation:** This program provides funding for organizations that preserve historical artifacts (e.g. sites, structures, objects) and accounts (e.g. events), and educate the greater community on their significance. Examples include museums, historical societies and educational programming.

Geographic Focus: The Foundation focuses funding in Central New York defined as Onondaga County and its four surrounding counties of Cayuga, Cortland, Madison, and Oswego.

It is the Foundation's general policy to give preference to proposals seeking funds for new or enhanced programs (including capacity building), one-time grants focused on a specific capital need, and 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 \$10,000.

THE JOHN BEN SNOW FOUNDATION

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 31st** 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. If invited after the receipt of the letter of inquiry, 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.

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
Keegan D. Snow

PROGRAM STAFF

Elizabeth A. Snow, Program Officer

THE JOHN BEN SNOW FOUNDATION

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Year Ending: 31 December 2020

Total Assets:	\$ 9,302,129
Excise Taxes:	\$ 6,567
Investment Revenue:	\$ 582,184
Grants Paid:	\$ 277,768

GRANTS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT IN FISCAL YEAR 2021

PRIMARY FOCUS AREA:

EDUCATION

Downtown Syracuse YMCA –
Syracuse, NY \$ 10,000
YMCA Power Scholars Academy

Junior Achievement of
Central Upstate NY, Inc. –
Rochester, NY \$ 5,000
Building Futures through JA Finance Park- Virtual

Newhouse Center for
Global Engagement, SU –
Syracuse, NY \$ 7,500
Video Portals Connecting Syracuse and South Africa

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

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

Syracuse Press Club – Syracuse, NY ... \$ 9,400
Syracuse Journalism Lab

Syracuse University –
College of A&S/Physics –
Syracuse, NY \$ 2,500
Enhancing the Teaching of High School Physics

The Milton J. Rubinstein Museum
of Science & Technology –
Syracuse, NY \$ 7,500
Science Learning Partnership

Vera House, Inc. – Syracuse, NY \$ 9,000
Academic Support in Emergency Shelter

Volunteer Lawyers Project
of Onondaga County, Inc. –
Syracuse, NY \$ 10,000
Law Student Support

\$ 66,700

SECONDARY FOCUS AREAS:

ARTS & CULTURE

Central New York
Jazz Arts Foundation, Inc. –
Syracuse, NY \$ 3,000
CNY Jazz Education Pipeline

CNY Arts Center, Inc – Fulton, NY \$ 8,500
Arts Education Programming

Merry-Go-Round Playhouse –
Auburn, NY \$ 7,500
Sequential Dramatics Program

Perform 4 Purpose – Auburn, NY \$ 7,500
Practice Makes Perfect Music Experience

Salmon River Fine Arts Center –
Pulaski, NY \$ 5,500
Art Class Scholarships

Syracuse City Ballet Inc. –
Syracuse, NY \$ 5,000
2021 Syracuse City Ballet

\$ 37,000

THE JOHN BEN SNOW FOUNDATION

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Catholic Charities of Onondaga County –
Syracuse, NY \$ 11,000
Parent Child+ with CCOC and Partners in Learning

Clear Path for Veterans, Inc. –
Chittenango NY \$ 5,500
Veteran Family Programming

Fund for the City of New York/
Center for Court Innovation –
Syracuse, NY \$ 10,000
Community-Led PLACEmaking Project

Nick's Ride 4 Friends, Inc. –
Auburn, NY \$ 8,500
Chapel Street Expansion

Paige's Butterfly Run, Inc. –
Syracuse, NY \$ 5,000
Donor Management System and Matching Gift

Rural & Migrant Ministry of
Oswego County, Inc. – Richland, NY ... \$ 7,500
Roof Replacement

Sleep In Heavenly Peace –
Fayetteville, NY \$ 8,000
Beds for CNY Underserved Children

The Salvation Army
Syracuse Citadel Corps –
Syracuse, NY \$ 10,000
Transitional Apartments Maintenance

\$ 65,500

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Auburn Public Theater –
Auburn, NY \$ 5,000
Youth Education Programs

Boys & Girls Clubs of Syracuse –
Syracuse, NY \$ 10,000
Security Upgrades for Clubs

Center for Community Alternatives –
Syracuse, NY \$ 10,000
Youth Violence Prevention and Leadership Program

PEACE, Inc. – Syracuse, NY \$ 7,500
Big Brothers Big Sisters

Purpose Farm, Inc. –
Baldwinsville, NY \$ 7,500
PEARLS Partnership in Mentoring Teen Girls

The Haven at Skanda –
Cazenovia, NY \$ 5,000
Skanda's Year-Round Youth Program

\$ 45,000

TERTIARY FOCUS AREAS:

DISABILITIES AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS

Advocates, Incorporated –
Liverpool, NY \$ 10,000
Increase Donor Capacity

Child Advocacy Center
of Oswego County – Fulton, NY \$ 3,000
Parking Lot Safety Lighting

WHOLE ME, Inc. – Syracuse, NY \$ 10,000
Care Coordination Services

\$ 23,000

ENVIRONMENT

National Audubon Society, Inc. –
Savannah, NY \$ 5,000
Montezuma Audubon Center Education Program

\$ 5,000

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Stone Quarry Hill Art Park –
Cazenovia, NY \$ 7,500
Renovations to Dorothy Riester House

\$ 7,500

THE JOHN BEN SNOW FOUNDATION

RESPONSIVE GRANTS

Café Sankofa/ETL Coop –
Syracuse, NY \$ 5,000
Sankofa Community Garden

CNY Family Bicycle Giveaway Inc. –
Syracuse, NY \$ 750
CNY Family Bicycle Giveaway

David's Refuge – Manlius, NY \$ 10,000
Mental Health Counseling for Caregivers and Families

Hopeprint, Inc. – Syracuse, NY \$ 5,000
weCREATE Educational Initiative Spring 2021

Hopeprint, Inc. – Syracuse, NY \$ 8,100
weCAN Educational Initiative Winter/Spring 2022

Mercy Works – Syracuse, NY \$ 10,000
Synergy 2021

Ministries of Victory Temple. –
Syracuse, NY \$ 2,500
Community Laundry Supply Give A Way

North Side Learning Center
of Syracuse – Syracuse, NY \$ 10,000
Saturday Study Sessions for Graduation Success

Once Upon A Star – Syracuse, NY \$ 10,000
Teen Mentoring

Purpose Farm, Inc.-
Baldwinsville, NY \$ 2,500
RISE UP Fund to Rebuild After Fire

Syracuse Stage – Syracuse, NY \$ 10,000
Backstory: Citizen James or The Man Without a Country

The Reading League – Syracuse, NY ... \$ 10,000
Foundational Reading Television Show Pilots

The Upstate Foundation –
Syracuse, NY \$ 9,000
Family Fun Series: Adaptive Activities for Families

United Cerebral Palsy Association
of Cayuga County, Inc. –
Auburn, NY \$ 5,000
Essential Child Care Program

\$ 97,850

GRAND TOTAL \$347,550