



Minnesota Film and TV Board  
FY2013/2014 ACHF Annual Report  
Contracts 37842/300-489, 53110/300-1419 and 59561/300-1956  
August 1, 2015 FINAL REPORT

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Minnesota Film and TV is a 501(c)3 public–private partnership governed by a board of directors comprised of professionals from the Minnesota business community. Since 1983 our office has functioned as Minnesota’s film commission. Our mission is to advance Minnesota’s economy and enhance its robust cultural environment by promoting and supporting the state’s production industry.

During the 87<sup>th</sup> legislative session Minnesota Film and TV was allocated \$1,000,000 for FY12 and FY13 from the Legacy Amendment’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, MN Laws, 2011, 1st Special Session, Chapter 6, Articles 4 and 5. The appropriation of \$500,000 in FY2012 and \$500,000 in FY2013 was split between grants to Minnesota residents to create film or television productions that promote Minnesota’s cultural heritage, and for the film production jobs program (Snowbate) under Minnesota statutes, section 116U.26. This appropriation expired June 30, 2015.

In FY2013, Minnesota Film and TV, in consultation with Independent Feature Project/ Minnesota, was fortunate enough to receive an additional \$600,000 in funds for a new

competitive film production incentive program. This appropriation expired June 30, 2014.

Minnesota Film and TV is pleased to provide the following final report on the programs funded with Legacy dollars.

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The Minnesota Film Production Jobs (Snowbate) Program

Contract 37842/300-489

\$500,000 in funding for the contract period (7/1/11-6/30/15-contract closed May, 2014) plus \$103,289 reallocated to Snowbate from unused Minnesota Filmmakers Legacy Grant Fund money as approved by the Department of Administration on 12/28/12.

Snowbate is a reimbursement of up to 20% of qualifying Minnesota production costs available to producers of Feature Films, Television Pilots, Documentaries, Post Production and Internet programs for those categories of production. The program is designed to stimulate and support film and TV production in Minnesota, with the highest percentage of reimbursement (20%) reserved for productions that most closely align with ACHF Guidelines and Principles.

Measurable Outcomes

The Snowbate Program's impact and outcomes are based on data tracking of the total number of projects reimbursed and the total number of full-time equivalent jobs created (calculated using the Legacy reporting formula) in the project period. We also tracked the total production dollars spent by Snowbate incentive recipients in Minnesota.

The Snowbate program certified six projects. All six projects have received Snowbate reimbursement.

Summary of All Applications

Total Certified Project Applications to date:	6
Total Projects denied/withdrawn to date:	0
Total Projects reimbursed in full to date:	6
Total Projects in Process to date:	0

## Breakdown of Certified Projects by Category

### Feature Films

2

*Death to Prom*: Rene and Frankie, two best friends, make the best of going to high school by dreaming up high-fashion photo shoots and bribing their siblings to model for them. Rene loves his fashion magazines and designing clothes. Frankie lives for her camera and punk rock. The drama they dream up in their fashion shoots becomes very real when they end up fighting over their classmate Sasha, a shy soccer player with a soft spot for poems by Pushkin. *Death to Prom* (a McKnight Screenwriting Fellowship & Francis Ford Coppola's Zoetrope Screenplay Competition Finalist) is a bizarre love triangle loaded with enough glamour and attitude for "Project Runway" & Vogue, but with enough heart to make Molly Ringwald bite her lip with anticipation.

### *Stay Then Go*

*Stay Then Go* is about a woman, Marion Baird, event planner extraordinaire. She cares about brides, grooms, 50th wedding anniversaries, ice sculptures, bar and bat mitzvahs, and unrefrigerated truffles. Her husband, Dick Baird, a studio photographer, has a distinct knack for documenting an exalted version of normal. Teeth never looked so white, ruffles so starched; shiny shoes, shiny hair, shiny pets. They have a little child, Eddie, which oddly rocks and strains their careful world. They discover that he has autism. For Marion, this changes her career, her marriage, her life – inexorably. As Eddie gets older, a glimmer of a lovely identity emerges for him, that of a young artist. But just as he, (and Marion) begins to envision an independent adult life, an unlikely event occurs, altering their course forever.

### TV Pilots

1

*America Unearthed*: America is a burial ground for ancient secrets. Ancient symbols, religious relics, cryptic messages and a plethora of unexplained artifacts and sites suggest cultures from around the world left their mark on what is now U.S. soil – long before the official "discovery" of the New World. Scientist Scott Wolter insists there's a lot we don't know about our distant past and a lot that some have gone to great lengths to cover up.

### Documentaries

2

*Twilight Tear*: Tucked away in a small airplane hangar in Granite Falls, sits a piece of American history, the "Twilight Tear." This documentary taps into the Herculean efforts of "warbird" enthusiasts who devote their lives to lovingly restoring the aircraft of WWII.

### *Electropolis 3D*

From the spellbinding drama of a widespread grid catastrophe to the brilliant technologies forging a more reliable and efficient future, *Electropolis 3D* is the incredible story of our quest to reimagine and reinvent our entire energy ecosystem.

### Post Production

1

*The Flightline* is a fast moving 30-minute aviation magazine TV show that brings the viewer into the cockpits of some of the world's greatest aircraft.

### Internet

0

<u>Total Snowbate Project FTEs and MN Production Dollars Spent</u>	
Snowbate Project FTEs	15.39
Production \$ spent in MN by reimbursed projects to date:	\$1,372,472
Total Production Expenditures in MN:	\$1,372,472

<u>Film Production Jobs (Snowbate) Fund Expenditures</u>	
Total Project Reimbursement	\$274,494

The Minnesota Film Production Jobs (Snowbate) Program  
 Contract 37842/300-489

<u>CUMULATIVE FTEs and Costs for entire grant period</u>	
MN Film and TV staff FTEs	0.76
Actual direct support cost for contract period	\$40,518
Office of Grants Management Fiscal Agency Fee	\$3,000

In May, 2014, an amendment was requested and approved to transfer the remaining funds from Contract #37842/300-489 into Contract #59561/300-1956 due to the fact that Snowbate funds had been allocated from the General Fund at a higher rate of reimbursement to filmmakers. The funds that were transferred are being offered in Summer 2014 as part of the Minnesota Filmmakers Legacy Reimbursement: Cycle 4 Finishing Funds.

**Contract #37842/300-489 is now closed.**

Legacy Arts and Cultural Heritage Production Reimbursement Program (LACH)  
Contract 53110/300-1419  
\$600,000 in funding for the contract period (7/1/12-6/30/14)

The Legacy Arts and Cultural Heritage Production Reimbursement Program (LACH) is a new competitive incentive program established to support the creation of feature films and documentaries in Minnesota by professional, experienced mid-career Minnesota-based filmmakers. MN Film and TV administered the program in consultation with IFP MN.

The RFP for the LACH Production Reimbursement Program was posted October 26, 2012 and the Round 1 review of proposals took place on December 15. Five projects applied and four were deemed eligible. Three of those projects were named as finalists and continued on to Round 2 judging. All three projects were selected to receive production reimbursement funds and were announced on February 4, 2013.

**Andy Awes**, narrative feature, *Lawnmower Mafia* \$175,000  
Enter Thomas, a ten-year-old Minneapolis "nordeaster." Thomas sees green in the rolling green lawns of his neighborhood and figures it's turf worth protecting. He enlists his big brother's friends and organizes the Lawnmower Mafia. What is this enterprising little gang of kids' formula for success? It's 90% hustle and hard work and 10% intimidation. Sabotage and threats definitely keep their competition away. However, the kids rethink their tactics when they run afoul of grownup bad guys with mob connections and learn crime doesn't pay.

In August, 2013, as part of a scheduled project progress update, Andy Awes notified MN Film and TV that he was withdrawing from the grant program due to a change in the project's overall funding status that would affect his ability to begin production as scheduled. This delay in scheduling would make it impossible to deliver a finished film before contract expiration.

**Patrick Coyle**, narrative feature, *The Public Domain* \$175,000  
Four fictional characters are trying to get home in one way or another when their lives are forever altered due to the I-35W bridge collapse. One fateful night five years later these same individuals are drawn to The Public Domain, a bar that has lived in the shadow of the bridge for decades. That night is the feast of St. Casimir, the Patron Saint of Poland, and the biggest party of the year at this NE neighborhood dive where desire, guilt, ambition and fear are served up with pierogi, Polish vodka and, hopefully, a modicum of redemption.

*The Public Domain* was finished in May 2014 and the filmmaker has received reimbursement in full.

**William Eigen**, narrative feature, *The Jingle Dress* \$175,000  
At its heart *The Jingle Dress* is an immigrant story. An Ojibwe family moves from the White Earth Indian Reservation in northern Minnesota to the Phillips neighborhood of Minneapolis. We follow the Red Elk family as they discover a new culture and through

their experiences and unvarnished perspective we are able to view our own Minnesota culture with fresh eyes, as well as gain insight into an ancient, indigenous society.

*The Jingle Dress* is completed and has received reimbursement in full. It premiered at the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Film Festival this past April.

Round 1 Review Panelists:

**Jeff Forester** studied writing with Ken Kesey at the University of Oregon, and with a class co-wrote and published *Caverns* on Viking Press in 1989. His second book, *Forest for the Trees*, an ecological history of Minnesota's Boundary Waters, came out in 2005, won the Choice Critics Award, and was a finalist in the Minnesota Book Awards. His first sale, *Flashpoint*, (Jim Berg and Joe Forte) was with Lorenzo Di Bonaventura (Transformers, Constantine) at Paramount. His second film, *A Lifetime in Heat* (Jim Berg, Joe Forte) is in development with Shampoo 160 LLC. He recently worked as Associate Producer on the Emmy Award winning tpt documentary *Transplant: A Gift for Life*.

**Tom Hoch**, President/CEO of Hennepin Theatre Trust, oversees the Orpheum, State, Pantages and New Century Theatres. Currently, he is involved with a variety of partners on the creation of a 'cultural district' centered on Hennepin Avenue, spanning from the Walker Art Center to the Mississippi Riverfront. Tom also serves on the boards of the Minneapolis Downtown Council, the Minneapolis Downtown Improvement District, the Animal Humane Society and Planned Parenthood of Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota.

**Susan Marks** is an award-winning, independent documentary filmmaker and writer. Her latest film is the feature documentary, *Of Dolls & Murder* (2011) about dollhouse crime scenes, narrated by legendary filmmaker, John Waters. Marks is also an author of history and pop culture, including *Finding Betty Crocker* (Simon & Schuster 2005) and, most recently, *In the Mood for Munsingwear*. (Minnesota Historical Society Press 2011) Her latest project includes several screenplays, teleplays and two new doll and murder-related documentaries: *Murder in a Nutshell* and *Inside the Speakeasy Dollhouse*.

**Robb Mitchell** is founder, producer and administrator of film and screenwriting workshop Screenlabs beginning in 1990. Over a ten year period he also produced staged script reading series at Ritz Theater, Illusion Theater and at the Dowling Studio, at the Guthrie Theater. He has been involved with the professional development of writers and scripts for more than 30 years. His involvement with literary talent and development goes back to the early 1980s at the Eugene O'Neill Playwright Conference, The American Place Theater, and Playwright's Horizons in New York.

**Beth Schoeppler** is managing director of the Loft Literary Center. Her career spans more than 25 years working in support of non-profits, primarily arts, education and public broadcasting. A generalist, her expertise includes program planning and management, evaluation, finance, development and communications.

**Jason Wallace** is a Twin Cities based independent producer/director/editor. His narrative short and feature work has been broadcast nationally on IFC, ABC Family, and the Lifetime Movie Network. He founded Line Road Pictures in 2005 to develop and produce micro budget films, as well as provide consultation services to filmmakers in need of financing and production assistance.

Round 2 Review Panelists:

**Hafed Bouassida** graduated with a Ph.D. from the famed Prague Film School, FAMU. He subsequently produced, directed and wrote more than forty productions: feature, documentaries, news, ads, corporate, audiovisual and multiscreen programs, in Europe, The Middle East, Africa and The U.S. After teaching at Film in The Cities in St. Paul, he joined the MCTC Cinema Division in 1992 to teach Cinema Production, Cinema History and Screenwriting. In 1996, he developed the new award winning Screenwriting program at MCTC; he currently chairs the program, he is President of the Screenwriters Workshop and chair of Edina Arts Center Board while developing his own screenplays and acting as script consultant and panel member to different local and national competitions, foundations and grant organizations such as the Jerome Foundation, the MN State Arts Board and the Twin Cities International Film Fest.

**Bill Cooper** has been involved with the video, television and film business in the Twin Cities for over 25 years. He has a degree in Mass Communications from St. Cloud (MN) State University. Although he works primarily as an actor, he has produced and/or directed a dozen short and feature films and is currently the Managing Director of the Twin Cities Film Fest.

**Kirk Hokanson** is a creative and visionary commercial producer with dynamic background in content production with expertise in identifying and capitalizing upon market opportunities to develop new business and ensure competitive advantage.

**Anne Kaplan** is the editor of *Minnesota History*, the quarterly magazine of the Minnesota Historical Society. She has a PhD in Folklore and Folklife from the University of Pennsylvania and has published on ethnicity, food traditions, and topics in Minnesota history.

**Mary Rockcastle** is the author of the novels *In Caddis Wood* and *Rainy Lake*, both published by Graywolf Press. She is the director of The Creative Writing Programs at Hamline University and the executive editor of *Water~Stone Review*.

**Norah Shapiro** worked as a public defender for over a decade before making her way to the world of filmmaking. Her first short, *A Sacred Heart*, won the Emerging Filmmaker Award from the Minnesota History Center and aired on Twin Cities Public Television (TPT) in 2006. Her feature *If You Dare* premiered at the 2009 Hot Springs Documentary Festival, screened at the 2009 Mpls/St. Paul International Film Fest, aired on TPT in 2011, and has been collected by universities and libraries around the US and Canada. She has received grants for her current film *Miss Tibet: Beauty in Exile* (now in post production) from the Jerome Foundation, the Minnesota State Arts Board, and received

the 2012 McKnight Filmmaking Fellowship. Previously, she has served as a juror for the Minnesota State Arts Board and the Frozen River Film Festival.

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As a result of Andy Awes' withdrawal from the program, funds in the amount of \$175,000 became available. In order for these funds to be utilized by the filmmaking community, Minnesota Film and Television introduced LACH: Cycle 2 for works in active pre production or production.

The RFP for the LACH: Cycle 2 Production Reimbursement Program was posted September 23, 2013. MN Film and Television and IFP program administrators reviewed all projects for Legacy alignment and scored projects accordingly. Projects achieving 50 points moved on to the full review panel on November 23. Two of the three eligible projects were selected to receive funding and announced on November 25, 2013.

**William Eigen**, narrative feature, *The Jingle Dress* \$75,000

John Red Elk hears from his relatives down in Minneapolis that his Uncle Norton is dead and vows to go to the big city to find out what really happened to him. At its heart, *The Jingle Dress* is an immigrant story of an Ojibwe family that moves from the rural White Earth Indian reservation in northern Minnesota, to the heart of urban Minneapolis' Phillips neighborhood. We follow the Red Elk family as they discover this new culture and through their experience and unvarnished perspective as we are able to view our own Minnesota culture with fresh eyes, as well as gain insight into their ancient, indigenous society.

**Maya Washington**, documentary, *Through the Banks of the Red Cedar* \$100,000

A scholarship to Michigan State University allowed filmmaker Maya Washington's father, wide-receiver Gene Washington, to leave his small segregated town of Laporte, TX and contribute greatly to college football and Minnesota Vikings history as one of the "50 Greatest Vikings of All Time." After retiring from the NFL, Gene Washington became a trailblazer in the Minnesota business community, creating partnerships between corporations, colleges, and universities throughout the country to connect students of color with employment opportunities in Minnesota. This film reveals the ways that scholarships impacted the lives of players of color, who were literally dropped into an integrated environment for the first time, and their white teammates at the height of the Civil Rights Movement in America and the impact on the present generation 50 years later.

Both projects fulfilled their contractual obligations and are complete. Both projects have received reimbursement in full.

LACH: Cycle 2 Review Panelists

**Daniel Pierce Bergin** is Senior Producer & Partnership Manager for Twin Cities Public Television. His notable productions include regional Emmy-winners *North Star: Minnesota's Black Pioneers*; *Lowertown: The Rise of an Urban Village*; *Cass Gilbert: Standing the Test of Time*; and *Slavery By Another Name: Behind the Scenes*. His documentary, *Literature & Life: The Givens Collection* was named the 'Best History



Documentary' at the Prized Pieces International Black Film Festival. His documentary 'With Impunity: Men & Gender Violence' was named 'Best Documentary of 2012' by Mpls/St. Paul Magazine. He was a production fellow for the PBS documentary 'Slavery by Another Name,' which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival.

In addition to long-form documentary work, Bergin received a regional Emmy award for 'Legacy Letters,' a PSA series about celebrating and protecting Minnesota's natural, historical, and cultural heritage. The filmmaker's short narrative films have screened at the American Film Institute, the Chicago International Children's Film Festival, and the Hollywood Black Film Festival. In the 1990s, Daniel Bergin produced the groundbreaking 'Don't Believe the Hype,' tpt's Emmy award winning youth media program. The Minneapolis native and University of Minnesota graduate has served as a director on the boards of several community media organizations including Intermedia Arts, St. Paul Neighborhood Network, Hennepin Theatre Trust, and IFP MN. Daniel is an adjunct instructor at St. Cloud State University. He has been recognized as a MN State Arts Board Fellow, a 2003 Twin Cities Business Journal's "40 under 40", a City Pages Artist of the Year, and was awarded a Bush Leadership Fellowship for his work in community media

**Julie Hartley** has been production managing and producing entertainment and media projects for the past thirty years. Her career began at Twin Cities Public Television (PBS) where she was the Production Manager for national programs. The majority of programs she managed were multi-camera, live event programs. Julie also managed the Prairie Home Companion series live via satellite to the Disney Channel. She then worked for the Australian Broadcasting Corporation in the TV Features Department. As a freelance production manager, she worked on Comic Relief, a documentary in Northern Ireland and several corporate films shot all over the United States. Julie made the leap to independent feature film production in 1988 with the production of Old Explorers. She produced World and Time Enough, With or Without You, Woolly Boys and Brothers Three: An American Gothic. She worked as production manager on several studio features including My Cousin Vinny, A Simple Plan (2nd Unit), Joe Somebody, Lackawanna Blues, Robert Altman's Prairie Home Companion, and Out of the Furnace starring Christian Bale, Casey Affleck, Forrest Whittaker and Woody Harrelson. She worked as the Line Producer on Dave Barry's Complete Guide to Guys, Smother, Thin Ice, for Minneapolis production company, Werc Werk Works, In The Blood shot in Puerto Rico and most recently Basmati Blues shot in India. In 2002, Julie started the Sean Francis Foundation, a non-profit company dedicated to promoting excellence in PSA creation and production as well as mentoring young people in the craft of filmmaking. All in all, Julie has traveled extensively and worked on over thirty feature films and many more television programs. She has several projects in development and manages to keep busy with commercials and other related projects.

### **Mariko Yoshimura-Rank**

Since graduating with a film production and theory degree in 2010, Mariko has worked with documentary and narrative filmmakers to develop and create content. Her involvement has ranged from working in a rental house to shooting, editing and producing both work of her own and assisting the work of others. She is currently part of the team at Werc Werk Works, a Minneapolis-based production company. At Werc

Werk Works, Mariko has been a part of the *Thin Ice* and *Darling Companion* productions. She currently acts as the CEO's executive assistant and the company's festivals and events liaison.

Measurable Outcomes

The LACH Production Reimbursement Program outcomes are measured based on data tracking of the total number of projects awarded reimbursement funds during the contract period and the total number of full-time equivalent jobs created (calculated using the Legacy reporting formula) by those projects upon completion.

LACH 2013 Total Project FTEs and Reimbursement

Total FTEs <i>The Jingle Dress</i>	3.26
Total FTEs <i>The Public Domain</i>	5.18
Total FTEs <i>Through the Banks of the Red Cedar</i>	<u>.60</u>
Total LACH 2013 Project FTEs	9.04
Total Project Reimbursement <i>The Jingle Dress</i>	\$250,000
Total Project Reimbursement <i>The Public Domain</i>	\$175,000
Total Project Reimbursement <i>Through the Banks of the Red Cedar</i>	<u>\$100,000</u>
Total Project Reimbursement	\$525,000

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Legacy Arts and Cultural Heritage Production Reimbursement Program (LACH)

Contract 53110/300-1419

CUMULATIVE FTEs and Costs for entire grant period

MN Film and TV staff FTEs for contract period	0.38
Total Direct Support for contract period	\$52,936
Office of Grants Management Fiscal Agency Fee	\$6,000
Remaining Funds	\$16,064
(Expired on 6/30/14)	

**Contract 53110/300-1419 is now closed.**

Minnesota Filmmakers Legacy Reimbursement: Finishing Funds 2013 (LEG 2), Pre-Pro/Production Fund (LEG 3), and Finishing Funds (LEG 4)  
Contract 59561/300-1956  
\$297,355.56 in funding for the contract period (3/18/2013-6/30/15)  
plus \$283,277.01 reallocated to Minnesota Filmmakers Legacy Reimbursement from Snowbate money as approved by the Department of Administration on 5/27/14.  
Total Funds: \$580,632.57

The Minnesota Filmmakers Legacy Reimbursement: Finishing Funds 2013 (LEG 2) is a competitive reimbursement program established with Arts and Cultural Heritage Funds during Minnesota's 87<sup>th</sup> legislative session. The program was created to support Minnesota filmmakers who are seeking finishing or completion funds for new narrative features or long-form documentaries that align with Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund priorities. \$240,000 was offered in finishing fund reimbursement.

The RFP for the Minnesota Filmmakers Legacy Reimbursement was posted May 13, 2013 and the Round 1 review of proposals took place on August 3, 2013. Nine projects applied and seven were deemed eligible. Four of the eligible projects were selected as finalists and continued on to Round 2 judging on October 5, 2013. All four projects were selected to receive finishing funds and were announced on October 7, 2013.

**Dominic Howes**, documentary, *Robert Bly: A Thousand Years of Joy*  
*Robert Bly: A Thousand Years of Joy* is a comprehensive film portrait of Minnesotan Bly that presents his many engagements with American culture as outstanding poet, groundbreaking publisher, pioneering translator of world poetry, political activist and penetrating social critic. In August 2014, Dominic Howes notified MN Film and TV and stated that he had to withdraw from the grant program due to delays in post production that would prohibit him from delivering a completed project before contract expiration.

**Al Milgrom**, documentary, *The Dinkytown Uprising*  
*The Dinkytown Uprising* is the story of the unprecedented two-month occupation of the Dinkytown neighborhood at the edge of the University of Minnesota campus from March through May 1970.

*The Dinkytown Uprising* is completed and has met contractual obligations and the filmmaker received full reimbursement in October 2014.

**Mike Scholtz**, documentary, *Wicker Kittens*  
*Wicker Kittens* documents the world of competitive jigsaw puzzling. Although many people remain unaware of this unique sub-culture, the St. Paul Winter Carnival hosts the country's largest jigsaw puzzle contest every January here in Minnesota.

*Wicker Kittens* is completed and the filmmaker has fulfilled all contractual obligations. The project has been reimbursed in full. The film premiered at the SXSW Film Festival in March and continues to receive recognition.

**Norah Shapiro**, documentary, *Miss Tibet: Beauty in Exile*

*Miss Tibet: Beauty in Exile* follows a Tibetan-American teen from Minnesota as she travels to the Indian Himalayas to compete in the Miss Tibet Beauty Pageant on an unlikely journey toward her political and cultural awakening.

*Miss Tibet* is completed and has met contractual obligations. The filmmaker received the first reimbursement at the time of picture lock in March and received reimbursement in full in July 2014.

#### Round 1 Review Panelists:

**Mary Ahmann** is a graduate of New York University graduate film program. Working as a freelance film and television editor she has worked on award winning television shows and independent films. As a director her previous films have had both local and national screenings. She has had the honor of serving on many local grant and festival panels. Mary is a current board member on the Independent Feature Project (IFP) and is founding and current board member of TVbyGirls. She is currently on the faculty at Minneapolis Community and Technical College. She has also taught film and video courses at various Colleges including: Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Sarah Lawrence, New York University and St. Cloud State.

**Robert Byrd** is the Program Director of the Jerome Foundation. He also directs the Foundation's Film and Video Program, which supports narrative, documentary, experimental and animation filmmakers in Minnesota and New York City. Robert is also a documentary filmmaker whose Emmy and Festival award winning work has been featured in American and European film festivals as well as national PBS, The Discovery Channel and European television. He has served on numerous media arts funding panels throughout the country, including the Tribeca Film Institute, The Independent Television Service (ITVS), the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), and various state agencies. He has served on boards and funding committees of national organizations, including the National Association of Media Arts and Culture (NAMAC), Grantmakers in Film and Electronic Media (GFEM), the Paul Robeson Fund in New York City. He has chaired the funding panel of the National Black Programming Consortium, a member of the minority consortia of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB), he chaired the selection committee of the National Council on Foundations Film and Video Festival and sat on the Advisory Committees of Twin Cities Public Television's *Minnesota Originals* and the New York State Council on the Arts' digital media initiative.

**Tom DeBiaso** is an educator, filmmaker and photographer. Currently he is Director of the Master of Fine Arts Graduate Program and Professor at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design. He established the Media Arts Department and the Master of Fine Arts degree program at MCAD and served as Dean of Studio Programs. He is a board member of IFP Minnesota Center for Media Arts and The Film Society of Minneapolis/Saint Paul and an academic program evaluator for National Association of Colleges of Art and Design. Last year he received a "Lifetime Achievement Award" from IFP Minnesota for his work as an educator and his advocacy for the visual arts and filmmaking.

**Pamela McClanahan** is the director of the Minnesota Historical Society Press (MHS Press) and also leads the content strategy team at the MHS. Her thirty years in publishing include book, journal, and managing positions at West Publishing, Fortress Press, and the University of St. Thomas. She is active in the Association of American University Presses and the local literary community, and has been a recipient of a Norcroft writing residency.

**Shawn Lawrence Otto** is the writer and co-producer of the Oscar-nominated film HOUSE OF SAND AND FOG. He has sold TV pilots and written for several studios and networks. He will direct his film SINS OF OUR FATHERS, produced by Christine Walker, in 2014, adapted from his forthcoming novel of the same name, due out early 2014 from Milkweed Editions. Otto is also a national science writer and science advocate. He is author of the Minnesota Book Award-winning FOOL ME TWICE: FIGHTING THE ASSAULT ON SCIENCE IN AMERICA, and is cofounder, organizer and producer of the US Presidential Science Debates. He is a frequent guest on NPR's Talk of the Nation: Science Friday, and a contributor to Scientific American, Huffington Post, and other publications. He travels and speaks extensively about science, politics, art, and film.

**Matt Stenerson** is a winner of the 2012 McKnight Screenwriting Fellowship for his script, *Death to Prom* was filmed in 2012. He has also been a finalist in the Sundance Screenwriters Lab and the Zoetrope Screenplay Competition. Similarly, he has co-written and co-directed two live musicals inspired by the music of Belle & Sebastian and The Magnetic Fields. His short films have been featured at Anthology Film Archives in New York, the Austin Gay & Lesbian Film Festival, the Clermont-Ferrand Short Film Festival, the Echo Park Film Center in Los Angeles, and the Heaven Gallery in Chicago. He has worked and volunteered for various film and arts organizations, including: the Austin Film Society, the South by Southwest Film Festival, Stanford University, and Walker Art Center.

Round 2 Review Panelists:

**Marie Domingo** has produced a wide variety of award-winning film and television programs. Her credits include: national TV commercials, music videos for major recording artists, independent feature films, and two national Emmy award-winning public television series. Throughout her 25-year career, Marie has sought to use the power of the media to connect viewers through stories that inform and inspire. She has also pursued her interest in education and community service by teaching Cinema Producing courses at MCTC and serving as a board member of TVbyGIRLS, a media education and leadership development non-profit.

**Mohannad Ghawanmeh** is a versatile film practitioner -- scholar, curator, producer, developer and actor. He co-produced and acted in *Triumph67*, a 2010 MN feature film. He co-coordinated the first edition of the Minneapolis/St. Paul Italian Film Festival in 2008 and has been involved with the Twin Cities Arab Film Festival, organized by Arab arts and culture organization Mizna, since its inception in 2002, including having curated

its editions in 2007, in 2010, and in 2013. Ghawanmeh is currently curating the National Arab American Museum's film festival. He blogs at Cinema Arabiata.

**Mark Steele** is Vice President of Production at Werc Werk Works. Mark brings an extensive background in media, technology and operations to his position as leader of post-production at Werks. He began his career in engineering but with his life-long passion for film and media became both a core team member of Telluride and Sundance operations as well as a leader in interactive businesses. He eventually became the Director of Operations for Tribeca Film Festival. While there, he directed the physical execution of the annual film festival and year-round projects – a multi-million dollar international arts and media brand.

**Greg Winter** works as a Director/Director of Photography at Blue 60 Pictures where he is also an owner/partner. He has worked as a cinematographer for 27 years. His first feature film, Detective Fiction, directed by Patrick Coyle, was admitted to the 2003 Sundance Film Festival and subsequently distributed on the Sundance Channel and the Independent Film Channel. In 2004 Greg was the cinematographer for the independent feature, Justice, nominated for a 2005 NAACP Image Award and distributed to Black STARZ. In June 2005 Greg photographed Test Tube for director Ann Sorenson. A book he photographed about historic Minnesota quilts was nominated for a 2006 Minnesota Book Award. In September 2007 Greg completed Shared Sacrifice: Rock County in War, which focused on the experiences and impressions of Rock County residents during World War II. TPT included the film in its broadcast schedule around Ken Burns’s The War. In 2008 Greg shot The Egg Timer for director Emily Haddad, the IFP Fresh Filmmaker grant recipient. He has recently completed principal photography on “The Jingle Dress” for director William Eigen. Greg also serves as Vice President on the Minnesota Film & TV Board of Directors.

Measurable Outcomes

The LEG 2 outcomes are measured based on data tracking of the total number of projects awarded reimbursement funds during the contract period and the total number of full-time equivalent jobs created (calculated using the Legacy reporting formula) by those projects upon completion.

LEG 2 Total Project FTEs/Expenditures

Total FTEs <i>Wicker Kittens</i>	.14
Total FTEs <i>Miss Tibet</i>	.69
Total FTEs <i>The Dinkytown Uprising</i>	.52
Total Project FTEs	1.35
Total Reimbursement \$ <i>Wicker Kittens</i>	\$4,816
Total Reimbursement \$ <i>Miss Tibet</i>	\$28,250
Total Reimbursement \$ <i>The Dinkytown Uprising</i>	\$10,000
Total Project Reimbursement Paid	\$43,066

Because not all LEG 2 project reimbursement funds were awarded, another program cycle (LEG 3) was announced on January 6, 2014.

The Minnesota Filmmakers Legacy Reimbursement: Pre-Pro/Production Fund (LEG 3) is a competitive reimbursement program established with Arts and Cultural Heritage Funds during Minnesota's 87<sup>th</sup> legislative session. The program was created to support Minnesota filmmakers who are seeking funds for new narrative features or long-form documentaries works in progress that align with Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund priorities. \$155,150 was offered for pre-pro/production reimbursement.

The RFP for the Minnesota Filmmakers Legacy Reimbursement was posted January 6, 2014. The full panel review took place on May 3, 2014. Three projects applied and were deemed eligible. Two of the eligible projects were selected to receive reimbursement funds and were announced on May 5, 2014.

**Michael McIntee**, documentary, *The Marriage Equality Movie* (working title)  
*The Marriage Equality Movie* is a weave of personal stories and the chronology of the historic political fight to prevent Minnesota from becoming the 31st state in a row to ban same-sex marriage...and then become the first to so quickly pivot and embrace marriage equality. Emotional stories intermixed with the political drama make up this documentary about how love and political courage changed public opinion.

*How Love Won: The Fight for Marriage Equality in Minnesota (aka The Marriage Equality Movie)* is completed and the filmmaker has fulfilled all contractual obligations. The project has been reimbursed.

**Norah Shapiro**, documentary, *Minnesota 13: From Grain to Glass*  
*Minnesota 13: From Grain to Glass* explores the intersection of a little-known history of an elite moonshine produced in the heart of Minnesota during Prohibition and the modern-day attempts of an organic family farm and micro-distillery to resuscitate the brand as a premium whiskey.

*Minnesota 13: From Grain to Glass* is completed and all contractual obligations have been fulfilled. The project has been reimbursed.

Review Panelists:

**Ridge Henderson** has worked in the production business for 41 years starting with Campbell Mithun's Communication Workshop producing projects for agency clients including annual meetings, sales meetings and sales films and projects for internal and external audio-visual communications by the agency. He then went into business for himself producing corporate audio-visual communications for a variety of clients. Henderson spent 19 years at Wilson Griak, starting as a line-producer and 11 years producing television commercials working with the staff directors. His last 8 years were as the Executive Producer/Managing Partner. In 2004, Henderson started Blue 60 Pictures with 3 other partners producing corporate communications, television commercials, branded content and any other project that utilizes moving or still pictures and story telling.

**Barbara Wiener** has been a producer/director for the last twenty-eight years. She has worked extensively in the area of arts and cultural documentaries and performance including thirteen years as a producer/director for Twin Cities Public Television in St. Paul, Minnesota. Ms. Wiener believes that our stories create the bridges between people and her work has focused on helping to give voice to those rarely heard. Her productions have received numerous awards including a Cine Golden Eagle, several regional Emmys, several CEN awards, New York International Film Festival award, American Educational Media Golden Apple award, Owl's National Media Award, Parents Choice Award, American Film Institute Robert Bennett award. In addition to a national public television audience, Ms. Wiener's work has been screened at the Sundance Film Festival, The Denver Film Festival, INPUT, and The Women in the Director's Chair International Tour and on Channel Four in London. In addition to her work in documentary, Ms. Wiener is the founder and executive director of TVbyGIRLS, a nonprofit organization that uses the tools of media to develop leadership and cross cultural understanding with girls.

**Kathy Ferrey** has eighteen years experience coordinating, managing and producing film, television, commercial and corporate media. Her film career began in Vancouver, Canada where she worked on studio features & television series. She branched into commercial and corporate video production when she moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota. She also spent a year at Twin Cities Public Television as the Series Managing Producer for a PBS Kids television show and is a founding member of Minnesota Women in Film and Television.

**David Grant** is a Twin Cities-based writer. As a playwright, he has been commissioned to write new work for the Minnesota Science Museum, the Minnesota Historical Society, VocalEssence's (annual "Witness" program on the work of African American composers for 2005, at The Ordway Theater, St. Paul, MN), The Playwrights' Center, and The History Theatre. His most recent production, in 2011, was "Ku Soo Dhawaada Xafadeena (Welcome to Our Neighborhood)," a play about the East African immigrant experience commissioned by Mixed Blood and Bedlam Theatres in collaboration with Voices of Cedar Riverside. As a screenwriter, a sampling of his work includes the feature film scripts, "Fast Girls" for Russell Simmons' Def Pictures, "Spirit Dive" for HBO New York, "Black & Blue," a feature length dramatic series pilot on which he partnered with journalist Michael Cottman for Davis Entertainment and the Showtime Network, and "Block by Block", a web-based dramatic series for children. His most recent project in 2012, was "Tin iyo Cirib (Head to Foot), a family drama on DVD produced by Health Partners as a teaching tool for their staff about more effective service delivery to East African immigrant communities. He is currently doing research in preparation for writing the feature documentary scripts, "Across the King's River," for James Weeks, and the tentatively titled, "Tea with Madiba" for Kiersten Dunbar Chace. He has been a recipient of screenwriting fellowships from the Minnesota State Arts Board and the McKnight Foundation. He and KTCA, Twin Cities Public Television, were awarded the 1990 Regional Emmy, Best Original Dramatic Program, for "The Screenplay Project: Four Shorts." A dvd he wrote about Hazelden Foundation's Springbrook campus was awarded the 2008 Cine Golden Eagle. He teaches screenwriting at Independent Feature Project North. He has also taught screenwriting at The Loft, the Playwrights'



Center, and S.A.S.E., as well as basic writing skills for The Center for Non-Profit Management at the University of St. Thomas. Grant is a graduate of Antioch College. He is president emeritus of Screenwriters' Workshop, a core alumnus member of The Playwrights' Center, and a member of the Writers' Guild of America, west.

Measurable Outcomes

The LEG 3 outcomes are measured based on data tracking of the total number of projects awarded reimbursement funds during the contract period and the total number of full-time equivalent jobs created (calculated using the Legacy reporting formula) by those projects upon completion.

LEG 3 Total Project FTEs/Expenditures

Total FTEs <i>How Love Won: The Fight for Marriage Equality in Minnesota</i>	.26
Total FTEs <i>Minnesota 13: From Grain to Glass</i>	<u>1.37</u>
Total Project FTEs	1.63

Total Reimbursement \$ <i>How Love Won: The Fight for Marriage Equality in Minnesota</i>	\$24,000.00
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Total Reimbursement \$ <i>Minnesota 13: From Grain to Glass</i>	<u>\$39,996.91</u>
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Total Project Reimbursement Paid	\$63,996.91
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Because the review panel was unable to award all of the available funds due to parameters set forth in the RFP, another reimbursement cycle was announced on July 8, 2014. \$320,000 was made available in reimbursement funds for the Minnesota Filmmakers Legacy Reimbursement: Cycle 4 Finishing Funds (LEG 4). Recipients were announced the week of January 12, 2015.

The Minnesota Filmmakers Legacy Reimbursement: Cycle IV Finishing Fund is a competitive reimbursement program established with Arts and Cultural Heritage Funds during Minnesota's 87th legislative session. The program was created to support Minnesota filmmakers who are seeking funds to complete new narrative features or long-form documentaries that align with Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund priorities. \$320,000 was offered for finishing or completion.

The RFP for the Minnesota Filmmakers Legacy Reimbursement IV was posted July 8, 2014. The full panel review took place on January 10, 2015 and three recipients were announced on January 13, 2015.

Dominic Howes, documentary, ***Robert Bly: A Thousand Years of Joy*** is a comprehensive film portrait of Minnesotan Bly that presents his many engagements with American culture as outstanding poet, groundbreaking publisher, pioneering translator of world poetry, political activist and penetrating social critic. In August 2014, Dominic Howes notified MN Film and TV and stated that he had to withdraw from the grant program due to delays in post production that would prohibit him from delivering a

completed project before contract expiration. Because he withdrew before receiving funds in Cycle III, Howes was eligible to apply for Cycle IV.

**Robert Bly: *A Thousand Years of Joy*** is now complete and all contractual obligations have been fulfilled. Full reimbursement has been received.

Marcos Juarez-Gosselin's documentary *The Big Wu Way* highlights the growth of a band, a culture and a community that took form in Northfield, MN in 1992 and grew to an influential presence in the Twin Cities and national music communities. The Big Wu meant something to the people who followed them, supported them and made them part of their lives. The band and its fans encapsulate the Minnesota pride that pervades many aspects of our culture. This is the story of the band, tour crews, roadies, fans, friends and family that made it all possible.

***The Big Wu Way*** is complete and all contractual obligations have been fulfilled. Full reimbursement has been received.

Joel Sheagren, documentary, *Cracked Ice*

The racers arrive on the frozen lake and the race begins—cars driving wheel to wheel, sliding through the curves, snow and shaved ice creating a cold fog. It's standard racing rules, but with unique skills that work nowhere else on the planet. This is ice racing. This documentary captures the history of how Minnesota's unique sport of ice racing began 50 years ago and how the sport continues to attract an audience today.

***Cracked Ice*** is complete and all contractual obligations have been fulfilled. Full reimbursement has been received.

Review Panelists:

**Lu Lippold's** media career has included work as a documentary filmmaker, producer, writer/editor, and journalism teacher. As a film grant administrator for IFP Minnesota, she collaborated with partners from SXSW, Sundance, Tribeca Film Institute, Harvard University, The McKnight Foundation, and more. Her award-winning creative work has ranged from in-depth examination of social justice issues to semi-hilarious food reviews. Previous careers include teaching English in Japan and Greece, computer systems analysis, and degrees in classics, linguistics, and journalism.

**Ann Luster** has spent over 20 years in the media and entertainment industries. Ms. Luster began her film career in MN where she has worked on television commercials and feature films. Today, Ann works primarily on film projects. Some of her credits include *BILL'S GUN SHOP*, *HUMAN ERROR*, a Sundance Film Festival premiere, *13 HOURS IN A WAREHOUSE* and *INTO TEMPTATION*. She is currently producing *C STREET*, a low budget feature film shooting this spring in NYC. Ann is a producer's producer: incredibly motivated, resourceful, and experienced in nearly every facet of film production. Her skills range from budgeting and casting to post production and distribution.

**Eric Tretbar** is a Minneapolis-based writer-director whose seven feature films have played at world festivals, won the Berlin Film Festival (Forum) Audience Award, an Independent Spirit Award Nomination, Filmthreat’s Best of 2003, and screened on NBC, The Sundance Channel, German TV, and at The Walker Art Center. He’s also taught screenwriting and directing at Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Carleton College, and IFP Minnesota Center for the Arts. *Girl Meets Bike* is his latest feature film.

LEG 4 Total Project FTEs/Expenditures

Total FTEs <i>Robert Bly: A Thousand Years of Joy</i>	.59
Total FTEs <i>The Big Wu Way</i>	.08
Total FTEs <i>Cracked Ice</i>	<u>1.77</u>
Total Project FTEs	2.44

Total Reimbursement \$ <i>Robert Bly: A Thousand Years of Joy</i>	\$99,225
Total Reimbursement \$ <i>The Big Wu Way</i>	\$9,418
Total Reimbursement \$ <i>Cracked Ice</i>	<u>\$139,984.15</u>
Total Project Reimbursement Paid	\$248,627.15

Minnesota Filmmakers Legacy Reimbursement: LEG 2, LEG 3 and LEG 4  
CUMULATIVE FTEs and Costs for grant period (7/1/13-6/30/15):

MN Film and TV staff FTEs for contract period	0.88
Total Direct Support	\$80,738.34
Total Project Reimbursement to date	\$355,690.06
Office of Grants Management Fiscal Agency Fee	<u>\$2,645</u>

**Total State Funds Expended: LEG 2, LEG 3 and LEG 4 (7/1/13-6/30/15)      \$439,073.40**

ALL CONTRACTS ARE NOW COMPLETE