

The Francis Family Foundation

BRIGHTER FUTURES  
FOR ALL GENERATIONS

A N N U A L R E P O R T 2 0 0 8

**Introduction.** Since 1913, when Parker Browne Francis II first launched the Oxygen Gas Company in Kansas City, Missouri, the Francis family has continued to be an inspirational and influential force in the Kansas City metropolitan area. In 1951, as the company grew and developed into a major national manufacturer and supplier of industrial and medical gases, Parker B. Francis II established a foundation bearing his name to help promote education and research in the fields of anesthesiology and related pulmonary sciences. Parker B. Francis III also established a foundation to fund his interests in education, and arts and culture. Since the two foundations merged in 1989 to become the Francis Family Foundation, the pattern of grantmaking made today still reflects the interests of the founding donors. For more information about the history of the Francis Family Foundation, please visit [www.francisfoundation.org](http://www.francisfoundation.org).

Today, thanks to the vision of Parker B. Francis and his son John B. Francis, the Francis Family Foundation celebrates 58 years of philanthropy, including the funding of the Parker B. Francis Pulmonary Fellowship Program and support of educational and arts programs geographically located within the greater Kansas City metropolitan area. It is in the context of this history that the 2008 Annual Report honors the accomplishments of more than 200 grants representing a social investment of more than \$6.1 million. While John B. Francis and his wife Mary Harris Francis are both deceased, stewardship of the Foundation was passed to their children – Ann F. Barhoum, David V. Francis, J. Scott Francis and Susan Neves – and four non-family Board members – Gregory Glore, Mary Lou Jaramillo, Charles Schellhorn and Katie Wendel. Susan Neves has since retired from the Board. In 2008, the Foundation Board of Directors created an updated Strategic Plan, which identified three major funding priorities: Pulmonary Research, Lifelong Learning and Arts & Culture.

**Parker B. Francis Pulmonary Fellowship Program.** In 1975, John Byers Francis created the Pulmonary Fellowship program in honor of his father, Parker B. Francis II. Since then, the Foundation has contributed more than \$50 million in support of more than 750 Fellows. In 2008, Fellowship grants exceeded \$2.3 million in support of 48 Fellows. For more information, visit [www.francisfellowships.org](http://www.francisfellowships.org).

**Lifelong Learning.** In 2008, the Foundation invested more than \$1 million in Lifelong Learning grants under the 2008-2012 Strategic Plan. Six grants supported early childhood development efforts in the metro area with an emphasis on professional development for providers and support for advocacy efforts. Examples include support for the Francis Resource Center and the Francis Institute for Child and Youth Development (professional development); and, the Partnership for Children and the Kansas Coalition for School Readiness (advocacy) – two important players in the movement to expand government support for early education initiatives.

Parents are the key to a child’s early development. To strengthen their capacity, the Foundation approved funding for seven parent initiative grants, which will help increase school readiness. These programs focus primarily on literacy development and verbal communication in children from birth to age five. Several also take a more comprehensive view of early childhood development with literacy and communication as part of several core training components. The Foundation expects these efforts to lay the groundwork for children’s success in school, an important benchmark for the community.

**Arts & Culture.** As the year 2008 came to an end, the Foundation Board of Directors approved more than \$900,000 through 58 new grants to support arts and culture organizations and programs in the Kansas City metropolitan area. Total 2008 investments in arts and culture, including multi-year commitments approved in prior years, exceeded the \$1-million mark.

**Grant Highlights.** The Foundation continues to support the many arts and culture institutions that “anchor” a strong and vibrant quality of life in Kansas City. At the same time, through our small arts program, the

Foundation seeds both new and emergent organizations, and expands access for children and underserved populations throughout the community. The Foundation also invests in strategies that strengthen the role of arts in the K-12 education process. Early efforts include the expansion of Kansas City Young Audiences' Arts Partners program. Four new school districts are targeted in the first phase of the expansion; three with Foundation funds and a fourth through the Sosland Foundation. Advocacy efforts of the Missouri Alliance for Arts Education are also being investigated. Strengthening professional development strategies for teachers and teaching artists, as well as building a stronger base of public support for arts and education generally are the early targets of this investment.

**Our Vision.** The Francis Family Foundation envisions current and future generations of well-rounded individuals who are creative, lifelong learners, striving to achieve their fullest potential within their communities.

**Our Values.** The Francis Family Foundation believes in:

- **Excellence** – We are committed to standards of excellence in our operations and grant making activities.
- **Accessibility** – We believe all members of our communities should have the opportunity to participate fully in educational, cultural and social activities, and believe we should seek ways to improve access to these activities to individuals and families of all ages, religions, races, ethnicities, financial abilities and physical and mental abilities.
- **Diversity and Inclusiveness** – We believe in the rich diversity of the greater Kansas City area, and promote inclusiveness in the way we work and in our grant making activities. We seek to celebrate our common experiences and concerns through our grants.
- **Community** – We embrace and promote a strong sense of community and seek opportunities with great potential for strengthening community life and the urban fabric.
- **Innovation and Creativity** – We value the creative process among people of all ages and backgrounds, and we encourage excellence and innovation in our grant making activities.
- **Lifelong Learning** – We promote lifelong learning as a key factor in developing active, well-rounded and contributing individuals in our communities.
- **Collaboration** – We encourage and model collaboration among funders and community organizations.
- **Integrity and Sustainability** – We maintain and promote fiscal and program integrity in our operations and grant making activities to ensure the sustainability of organizations that enrich community life.
- **Planning and Evaluation** – We believe in planning and evaluation as critical methods to assess the effectiveness of our grant making so we can make a difference.

*The Small Arts Grant Program provides support that promotes grassroots development in arts and culture throughout the greater Kansas City metropolitan area.*

**Alzheimers Association - Heart of America Chapter**

*Memories in the Making*

To support a unique art program that ensures cognitively impaired individuals can enjoy the gift of art and fosters community involvement.  
\$6,050

**Benilde Hall**

*Art Expression*

To provide monthly art opportunities to homeless men with addiction issues who are in transitional living setting.  
\$3,500

**Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater KC**

*The Arts Core Program*

To give youth access to opportunities to develop creativity, build cultural awareness and broaden their appreciation for the arts.  
\$7,500

**Chestnut Fine Arts Center Inc**

*2008-09 Theatre Season*

To support six musicals and plays with runs four to five weeks each.  
\$8,000

**Children's TLC**

*Arts and Culture Exploration for Children of All Abilities*

To provide an array of arts and cultural activities for children with and without disabilities.  
\$7,500

**City In Motion Dance Theater, Inc.**

*Adult Dance Dev. Scholarships*

To support a need-based scholarship program to allow adult students (ages 15 and older) to experience classical and culturally diverse dance classes with quality instructors at affordable costs.  
\$3,850

**Culture Through Ballroom Dancing**

*Instruction in Public Schools*

To teach four or five ballroom dance styles and the culture and history of countries in which dance styles originated, to elementary-aged students, culminating in a recital.  
\$7,500

**Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph**

*Connecting Schools to the Arts*

To support a cultural enrichment initiative, Kansas City Young Audiences' Arts Partners will provide age-appropriate arts education programs to the more than 650 students who attend Central City Catholic Grade Schools or their affiliated preschool.  
\$7,500

**Gillis Center Inc.**

*ART-Risk Kids: Gillis Integrated Learning Program*

To expand exposure to the arts beyond the art therapy room for at-risk, traumatized students in a way that improves access to creative expression, social skills, and cooperation.  
\$4,918

**Heartland Chamber Music, Ltd.**

*Heartland Chamber Music Academy*

To support two week-long summer camp sessions for chamber music students and several free and open to the public student and faculty concerts.  
\$5,000

**Kacico Dance**

*2009 Season*

To support the 2009 season at a variety of venues and the creation of an original contemporary dance ballet, collaborations with local and national artists, an apprentice company intensive for youth, and a school of contemporary dance.  
\$6,000

**The Kansas City Boys Choir**

*Boys Choir Performance Program*

For the one-time purchase of 50 jackets.  
\$5,000

**Kansas City Chamber Orchestra**

*Education Outreach Program*

To support a free arts enrichment program that is designed to introduce children from the 4th through the 9th grades to a live classical music performance in a professional concert setting, after the completion of a six-week program of music education act  
\$10,000

**Kaw Valley Arts & Humanities**

*Administration and Capacity Building*

To strengthen the administration and capacity of the organization so that Wyandotte County has arts opportunities and programs that engage the community and enhance economic growth and development.  
\$7,500

**Liberty Symphony Orchestra**

*Community Children's Concert*

To provide area youth and underserved populations access to classical music and education in an informal setting to increase their awareness of and interest in classical orchestral music.  
\$3,000

**Marillac Center**

*Expressive Arts Program*

To provide opportunities for children with special emotional and behavioral issues to express themselves through art, recreation and music.  
\$5,000



*The Foundation provides support to organizations, programs and initiatives in arts and culture that promote excellence in artistic and creative expression and enable greater access to arts and culture for children, families and the underserved with a concerted effort at the urban core of greater Kansas City.*

**Accessible Arts, Inc.**

\$15,000

**Albrecht-Kemper Museum of Art**

\$20,000

**Arts Council of Metropolitan Kansas City**

\$75,000

**Arts Incubator of Kansas City**

\$10,000

**Arts Tech**

\$15,000

**The Charlotte Street Foundation**

\$10,000

**Coterie Theatre**

\$25,000

**Folly Theater**

*Performing Arts Foundation*

*of Kansas City*

\$10,000

**Harriman-Jewell Series at William Jewell College**

\$15,000

**Heart of America Shakespeare Festival**

\$10,000

**Heartland Men's Chorus**

\$7,500

**Kansas City Art Institute**

\$25,000

Awarded in 2007

Total Grant Amount: \$75,000

**Kansas City Ballet**

\$25,000

**Kansas City Chorale**

\$7,500

**Kansas City Repertory Theatre**

\$40,000

Awarded in 2007

Total Grant Amount: \$120,000

**Kansas City Young Audiences, Inc.**

\$30,000

Awarded in 2007

Total Grant Amount: \$90,000

(See story at right.)

**Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art**

*Operating Support designated to*

*Education and Outreach Expenses*

\$30,000

**Paul Mesner Puppets**

\$10,000

**Toy and Miniature Museum**

\$60,000

Awarded in 2004

Total Grant Amount: \$180,000

**Toy and Miniature Museum**

\$40,000

**Unicorn Theatre**

\$10,000

**Wonderscope Children's Museum of Kansas City**

*General Operating Support & merger with the Children's Museum of KC*

\$10,000

Awarded in 2007

Total Grant Amount: \$25,000

**Wonderscope Children's Museum of Kansas City**

\$25,000

Awarded in 2008

Total Grant Amount: \$25,000

**Youth Symphony of Kansas City**

\$10,000

**Kansas City Young Audiences**

was organized in 1961 with the desire to bring classical music programs to area school children.

The Arts Partners program combines the high-quality programs of Kansas City Young Audiences with educational resources of Kansas City's best arts organizations to enhance the education of students. This partnership between arts organizations and school districts has become a model that other communities around the country are following.



**American Jazz Museum**

*Educational Programming and Budget Planning*

To support Jazz Storytelling and Jazz Poetry, designed to broaden public awareness of the artistic, historical and cultural contributions jazz has made to the American experience.

\$10,000

**Carlsen Center**

*(Johnson County Community College) Arts Education Programs*

To support arts education community centers, with continued focus on to underserved school-age children in the urban core and rural areas.

\$25,000

**Friends of Chamber Music**

*Chanticleer and the Shanghai String Quartet; and 'What Makes It Great?' Educational Outreach Series*

To support a performance by vocal ensemble Chanticleer and the Shanghai String Quartet ('From the Path of Beauty') and to support their outreach series.

\$15,000

**Harry S. Truman Library Institute**

*Promoting Educational Excellence*

To help students and teachers from the Kansas City area, who because of funding, may otherwise be unable to participate in the premier education programs of the Truman Library.

\$10,000

**Kansas City Actors Theatre Inc**

*Development/Administrative staff*

To help support the success of the 2009/10 Season by providing seed funds toward hiring the first Development/Administrative position for the organization.

\$10,000

**Kansas City Symphony**

*Youth Education & Outreach*

To help bring the transformative power of great music to those who would otherwise not have access.

\$20,000

**Lyric Opera of Kansas City**

*Opera Education Program*

To help serve children in pre-school through 12th grade and teachers in the Greater Kansas City area with quality hands-on opera programs through in-school residencies and live opera performances.

\$15,000

**Mattie Rhodes Counseling & Art Center**

*Building a Global Community Hand-in-Hand*

To provide increased access to multicultural arts education through expanded programming in the Art Center and Art Gallery, and through the securing of sustainability of the Hand-in-Hand folk art collection. (See story at right.)

\$20,000

**Mid-America Arts Alliance**

*Cultural Programming and Professional Development*

To support rich cultural programming, including visual arts exhibitions and live performances, and to conduct professional development activities to support artists and arts organizations in the metropolitan area.

\$15,000

**Union Station Kansas City, Inc.**

*Kansas City Museum at Corinthian Hall*

To support informal education opportunities, such as a puppet program, focusing on themes of Kansas City local and regional history, on-site and in the community, during renovation of the Kansas City Museum's Corinthian Hall building.

\$12,000

**Union Station Kansas City, Inc.**

*'Dialog in the Dark' Exhibit*

To support the traveling exhibit introducing sighted persons into the world of those with visually impairment.

\$15,000

**University of Missouri-Kansas City**

*(Curators of The University of Missouri)*

*Musical Bridges Program at the Conservatory of Music and Dance*

To support promising urban core musicians in grades 6-12 by providing private lessons, music theory, composition and other experiences that will prepare them to qualify for admission to the UMKC Conservatory or other higher education schools of music.

\$7,500

Awarded in 2007

Total Grant Amount: \$22,500

In early 2007, **Mattie Rhodes Center** acquired the *Hand-in-Hand Folk Art Collection*. The collection was started by Alice Ann Biggerstaff, a longtime Hallmark employee, who acquired more than 800 pieces of folk art. The "seed" collection encompasses sculpture, ceramics, toys, dolls, masks and textiles. The strongest areas of the collection are works from Latin America and Hispanic and Pueblo Indian artists of the Southwest. Mattie Rhodes Art Gallery displays three cases of Hand-in-Hand folk art during all exhibits and provides educational material on the collection in brochures and lesson plans for group visits.



## Arts in Education

---

### **Kansas City Young Audiences, Inc.**

#### *Arts Partners Expansion 2008-2011*

To fund Arts Partners expansion to three additional urban/low-income school districts and increase training of school teachers in use of the arts across disciplines.

\$139,950

Total Grant Amount: \$279,824

### **Missouri Alliance for Arts Education**

#### *Advocacy Program*

To help increase advocacy efforts in Missouri, through research, communication, coalition building and organizational capacity building. (See story below.)

\$30,000

More than 1,000 students, teachers, parents, school administrators, artists, and arts administrators gathered March 10, 2009 in Jefferson City to educate legislators and citizens on the importance of supporting fine arts education in the state's public schools. This event also coincided with the celebration of Music In Our Schools Month and Youth Art Month.

Eighteen student groups from across the state performed at the Capitol Building, showcasing vocal and instrumental music, dance and drama programs in Missouri's public schools. Works of 368 student artists, representing 98 schools in 40 counties were also on exhibit in the Capitol as part of Missouri's Youth Art Month. These enthusiastic young advocates for arts education met with leaders in the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the staff of Governor Nixon. In addition, they presented an advocacy orientation for all attendees of Fine Arts Education Day. All 197 elected Senators and Representatives received office visits during the day from students, teachers and parents. Representative Bob Dixon presented a House Proclamation honoring the arts education advocacy efforts of the students.



To see a video on Fine Arts Education Day visit: <http://video.esgn.tv/player.php?p=j6735hpz>

## Capital Campaigns

---

### **Friends of the Zoo**

#### *Make Your Mark*

To support renovation in the capital campaign and help fund the endowment.

\$250,000

Awarded in 2007

Total Grant Amount: \$1,000,000

### **Kansas City Art Institute**

#### *Barbara Hall Marshall Endowment Challenge*

To support the matching grant that will allow the school to double its endowment by December 2010.

\$125,000

Awarded in 2007

Total Grant Amount: \$500,000

### **Kansas City Ballet**

#### *Construction and Endowment*

To support renovation of the Power House at Union Station into the permanent home for the Kansas City Ballet and School along with an operating endowment for the building.

\$100,000

Total Grant Amount: \$300,000

### **KCPT - Public Television 19, Inc.**

#### *KCPT-Improving for You*

To support conversion from analog to digital production and broadcasting. KCPT must upgrade Master Control, Field Equipment, Editing Suites & Studio to continue producing all local programming.

\$90,000

Total Grant Amount: \$250,000

### **Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art**

#### *Capital Campaign*

To support an endowment for youth and family programs at the museum.

\$100,000

Awarded in 2005

Total Grant Amount: \$500,000

*The Foundation supports organizations and their programs and initiatives that improve and strengthen the quality and capacity of the local early childhood care and learning system. A quality system is one that includes service delivery, teacher training and evaluation, multi-disciplinary learning curriculum and strategies, and advocacy.*

### **Coalition for School Readiness in Kansas Fund**

*(Greater Kansas City Community Foundation)*

*Statewide Coalition for Early Education*

To fund a partnership of early learning advocates, practitioners, business leaders, parents, and law enforcement to support investment in early childhood education so that children are better prepared for success in school and beyond.

\$100,000

### **Donnelly College**

*Organizational Leadership for Early Childhood Education Professionals*

To provide scholarships for Organizational Leadership baccalaureate degrees for students with an early childhood education associate degree or concentration.

\$20,000

Awarded in 2007

Total Grant Amount: \$40,000

### **The Family Conservancy**

*Data Management and Child Care Resource & Referral Services*

To support continual analysis of and responsiveness to families' early education needs in a 14 county bi-state area.

\$59,400

### **Francis Institute for Child and Youth Development**

*(Foundation of the Metropolitan Colleges)*

*General Operating Support*

To support the division chair position for three years.

\$39,276

Awarded in 2004

Total Grant Amount: \$375,000

### **Francis Institute for Child and Youth Development**

*(Foundation Of The Metropolitan Colleges)*

*Francis Resource Center*

To support the Francis Resource Center as it transitions long-term to a self sustaining community resource.

\$573,520

### **Kansas Action for Children, Inc.**

*General Operating Support*

\$20,000

### **Mid-America Regional Council Community Services Corporation**

*Kansas City Early Learning Initiative*

To support community efforts to build a quality comprehensive early learning system for children, infants to PreK.

\$300,000

### **Park University**

*Scholarship Support for Early Childhood Education Students*

To provide scholarships to students seeking a bachelors degree in Early Childhood Education.

\$21,840

Awarded in 2007

Total Grant Amount: \$43,680

### **Partnership for Children**

*General Operating Support*

\$50,000

*The Foundation provides support to organizations, programs and initiatives that provide parents and family members the skills that instill lifelong learning in all children.*

**DeLaSalle Education Center**

*Parent and Child Education Support Program (PACES)*

To support safe and quality on-site childcare for infants and toddlers of DeLaSalle students while assisting young mothers in developing responsibility as well as good parenting skills.  
\$40,000

**Gordon Parks Elementary School**

*Hand-In-Hand:*

*Parents and Teachers Together*

To engage parents of urban core children from grades K-5 in using reading skills at home through workshops that provide specific ways to teach and encourage reading and language development at home.  
\$5,300

**Healthy Steps - BCBS**

*Greater Kansas City Community Foundation*

*General Operating Support*  
\$50,000

**Homefront**

*The Family Conservancy*

*General Operating Support*  
\$35,000

**Kansas City Area Parents as Teachers Consortium**

*Olathe Unified School District #233*

*General Operating Support*  
\$25,000

**Operation Breakthrough**

*Family Nurturing Program*

To help provide a parenting education and support program designed to give low-income parents the information and assistance they need to provide the best possible home environment for their children's healthy whole child development.  
\$19,763

**Reach Out and Read Kansas City**

*Kansas University Endowment Assoc*

*General Operating Support*  
\$50,000  
(See story at right.)

**Swope Corridor Renaissance/ Upper Room, Inc.**

*Upper Room Family Literacy Program*

To help provide GED preparation and parenting skills for young single mothers in collaboration with the onsite child development center.  
\$15,000

Reading is the cornerstone of a healthy life. In fact, there is no stronger single indicator of school success and good health than the ability to read.



★ *Reach Out and Read® Kansas City* partners with pediatric doctors to make books available for children at every well-child visit from birth to five years of age.

★ *Reach Out and Read® Kansas City* is a pediatric early literacy program serving Kansas City's most vulnerable children. Literacy promotion becomes a standard part of pediatric primary care, so that children grow up with books and a love of reading.

★ *Reach Out and Read® Kansas City* trains doctors and nurses to advise parents about the importance of reading aloud and to give books to children at pediatric check-ups from birth to five years of age, with a special focus on children growing up in poverty. By building on the unique relationship between parents and medical providers, *Reach Out and Read®* helps families and communities encourage early literacy skills so children enter school prepared for success.

# Lifelong Learning

## Special Programs & Initiatives

### PREP-KC

*Partnership for Regional Educational Preparation-Kansas City*  
*General Operating Support*  
\$250,000  
Awarded in 2007  
Total Grant Amount: \$1,000,000



Since its founding in 2005, PREP-KC has partnered with the Kansas City, Kansas Public School District and the Kansas City, Missouri School District to develop, leverage, and deploy resources to improve outcomes for the young people of these districts. That success has led to new partnerships with the Center, Hickman Mills,

Grandview, and Independence school districts. Together these six districts educate over half of the low-income students in the bi-state region. PREP-KC's goal is to significantly increase the number of urban students who graduate from high school, succeed in post-secondary education, and develop meaningful and rewarding careers.

## Pulmonary Research

## PBF Fellowships

*Investments in Pulmonary Research are intended to attract, develop and retain the best researchers in the field of pulmonary medicine.*

The Foundation created the Parker B. Francis Fellowship Program, a *national postdoctoral study in pulmonary research* inaugurated in 1975. The foundation remains its sole benefactor today. The Program/Project Supports the development of outstanding investigators planning careers in pulmonary research and awards fellowships in fields related to lung biology and pulmonary disease. In 2007, total Foundation grantmaking in support of the Parker B. Francis Fellowships exceeded \$2.3 million, and supported the work of 48 fellows at the following institutions.

Boston University  
Brigham and Women's Hospital  
CBR Institute for Biomedical Research  
CHUM Research Center  
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center  
Dartmouth Medical School  
Duke University  
Emory University  
Harvard College  
Joan and Sanford I. Weill Medical College of Cornell University  
Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute  
Mount Sinai School of Medicine  
National Jewish Medical and Research Center

Northwestern University  
Ohio State University  
Salk Institute  
St. Michael's Hospital  
Stanford University  
The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston  
Thomas Jefferson University  
University of Arizona  
University of California, San Diego  
University of California, San Francisco  
University of Illinois at Chicago  
University of Iowa  
University of Kansas Medical Center  
University of Michigan  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Rochester  
University of South Alabama  
University of Utah  
University of Washington

University of Wisconsin at Madison  
Vanderbilt University  
Yale University

American Thoracic Society  
*General operating support*  
\$10,000  
Awarded in 2004  
Total Grant Amount: \$50,000

Thomas L. Petty Aspen Lung Conference  
*To continue Parker B. Francis Lectureship at Aspen Lung Conference in 2006, 2007 and 2008.*  
\$3,500  
Awarded in 2005  
Total Grant Amount: \$10,500

## Discretionary Grantmaking

---

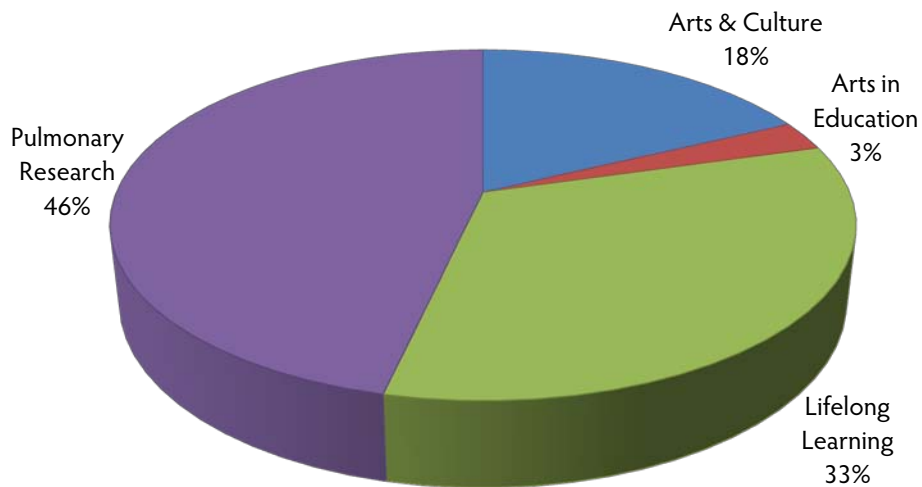
In addition to the awards made, which are consistent with the guidelines in the strategic plan, Foundation Board members may elect to designate a pre-determined amount of money each year for a cause or causes each are interested in personally.

In 2008, 80 awards were made totaling more than \$600,000.

## Financial Highlights

---

Foundation Grantmaking — Strategic Areas of Interest



Foundation Expense Areas

