



30 YEARS / BOOKMARKED
WE'LL SAVE YOUR PLACE

STORYTELLERS ENABLE NEW KINDS OF IMAGINATION.

—VIET THANH NGUYEN / SAL'S 2017/18 LITERARY ARTS SERIES

2017/18 ANNUAL REPORT

DEAR FRIENDS,

Wow, what a year. What a 30 years. In 2017/18, together with you, we celebrated three decades of bringing the most important authors and thinkers of our time to Seattle stages and classrooms. We listened to and learned from Ron Chernow and Ta-Nehesi Coates and Madeleine Albright and so many others. We celebrated the bravery and creativity and hard work of writers (big and small) in our Writers in the Schools (WITS) program. And we got busy preparing for the next 30 years with the launch of our Vision 2020 strategic plan.

Fundamentally, this plan is about deepening our engagement with the community and building the tools to do that. In the plan's first year—thanks to generous support from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust, the Nesholm Family Foundation, and a group of dedicated SAL supporters—we were thrilled to launch our new website; implement a new ticketing and donation database; digitize our 30-year collection of lectures and readings; and roll out a podcast, SAL/on air, to share that treasure trove with you.

And, at a time when our country is struggling with divisions, we developed and began implementing strategies to deepen our current relationships with our many participants and partners, and to build connections with new communities. We presented Questlove at Washington Hall, partnered with teachers from very high-needs schools to guide us in how best to serve their students, and provided 10% of our event tickets for free or at reduced prices to students and community members who couldn't afford to otherwise attend.

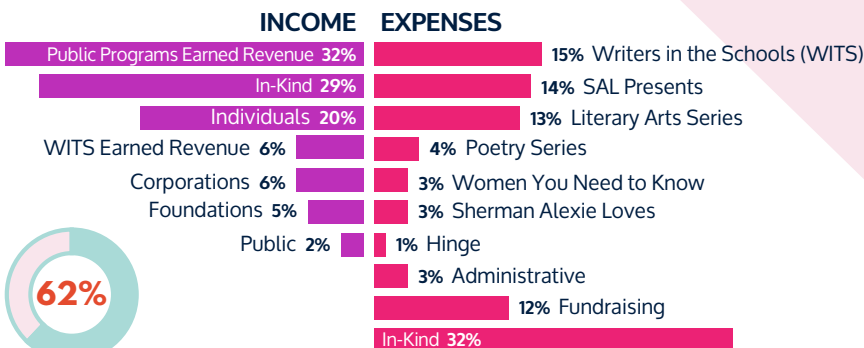
At a SAL event last fall, trans activist Janet Mock argued that "we need to fight for more complicated answers and more courageous conversations." Last year, we did just that—both on our stages and behind the scenes—and we are excited to continue to do so this year and in the decades to come.

Abundant gratitude, and onward,

Ruth Dickey
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Tim Griffith
BOARD PRESIDENT

2017/18 INCOME & EXPENSES*



62% of income comes from charitable gifts.

TOTAL INCOME
\$3,254,695

TOTAL EXPENSES
\$2,960,094

*Unaudited

THANK YOU

Seattle Arts & Lectures is deeply grateful to the following corporate, public, and foundation partners for their generous support of our work in 2017/18.

We are also tremendously grateful to the many individuals and additional partners who so generously contributed to our work last year. A full list is featured on our website at www.lectures.org/individual-giving.

PRESENTING SPONSOR: **The Seattle Times**

MAJOR SUPPORT (\$10,000+): Amazon Literary Partnership; ArtsFund; Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; The Boeing Company; Davis Wright Tremaine LLP; Elizabeth George Foundation; Expedia, Inc.; glassybaby; Golden Lasso; Harvest Foundation; Medina Foundation; M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust; Nesholm Family Foundation; The Norcliffe Foundation; Nordstrom; Perkins Coie; Petunia Charitable Fund; University of Washington
PUBLIC SUPPORT: 4Culture; City of Seattle Office of Arts & Culture; National Endowment for the Arts; Washington State Arts Commission
ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT: AlphaGraphics; BlackRock Charitable Fund; BNY Mellon Wealth Management; Chihuly Garden & Glass; Chihuly Studio; Confidence Foundation; Copper Canyon Press; Elliott Bay Book Company; Fales Foundation; Gateway Construction Services Inc.; Goldman Sachs; HUB International; Jeffris Wood Foundation; Mannix Canby Foundation; MFA in Creative Writing & Poetics – UW Bothell; O'Donnell Family Foundation; Olson Kundig Architects; Poets & Writers; Pride Foundation; Reed Longyear Malnati & Ahrens PLLC; Schmidt Financial Group, Inc.; School of Visual Concepts; Seattle Foundation; Slalom; Stoel Rives LLP; Teutsch Partners LLC; Third Place Books; Tom Douglas Seattle Kitchen; University Book Store; Vulcan Inc.; WA State Opportunity Scholarship; Whittier Trust Company of WA; Women's Funding Alliance
HOTEL SPONSOR: Four Seasons Hotel Seattle; Hotel Sorrento
WINE SPONSOR: Woodinville Wine Country; Guardian Cellars & Newsprint Wines

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PUBLIC PROGRAMS

LITERARY ARTS SERIES / POETRY SERIES / WOMEN YOU NEED TO KNOW (WYNK) / HINGE / SHERMAN ALEXIE LOVES / SAL PRESENTS / SUMMER BOOK BINGO



YOUTH PROGRAMS

WRITERS IN THE SCHOOLS (WITS) / YOUTH POET LAUREATE



17
—
18

30
EVENTS

SEASON

10%

of SAL tickets are provided at very low- or no-cost to those who otherwise couldn't afford to attend our events.

*You provide so much for the Puget Sound region to enlighten, encourage, and promote literature and conversation—
thank you.*

-AUDIENCE MEMBER

2017/18 SEASON
29,269
ATTENDEES

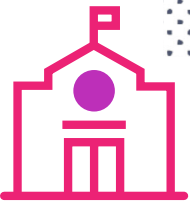
Attendance increased by 29% since 2015/16



7,136

WORKING WITH WRITERS-
IN-RESIDENCE & AT
SPOTLIGHT AUTHOR VISITS

K-12 STUDENTS



WITS works with 28 public schools & Seattle Children's Hospital



"I didn't like to write but now I love it."

6TH GRADE WITS STUDENT

Writers in the Schools (WITS) matches professional creative writers with local K-12 public schools for yearlong classroom residencies.

94%

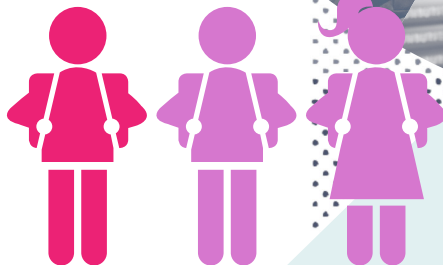
Of teachers say their students improved their writing skills.

78%

Of older WITS students report that they are proud of their writing.

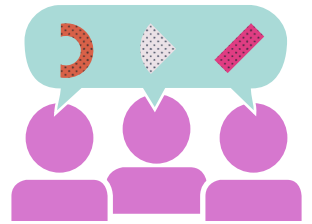
92%

Of younger WITS students report that they believe they can continue to get better at writing.



1 in 3 students served by WITS last year was low-income and/or in hospital care.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS IMPACT



65% Said they gained a deeper awareness of different perspectives & communities.

65% Said the event changed or deepened how they thought about something.

13% Said the event prompted them to engage with their community through volunteering, donating, or advocating for an issue.



sal seattle arts & lectures

30 YEARS / BOOKMARKED
WE'LL SAVE YOUR PLACE

Seattle Arts & Lectures champions the literary arts by engaging and inspiring readers and writers of all generations in the greater Puget Sound region.