NORTHLIGHT THEATRE
INTENSELY ENTERTAINING

2018—2019 ANNUAL REPORT
FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This is an exciting time at Northlight Theatre.

More and more, Northlight impacts the lives of a multitude of people from audiences to students to community organizations to veterans.

On stage, this impact is made with new playwrights, directors, actors, and theatre craftsmen.

Off stage, the impact on our educational partners is felt from Evanston and Skokie to the inner city of Chicago. Our community engagement work helps to augment the missions of a diverse array of social service organizations that serve young job seekers, senior citizens, victims of domestic violence, graduating high school seniors, and many others. Our mission to serve our community has never been so wide-ranging and important.

As we work towards building a new theatre complex in the next few years, we understand how this expanded mission reinforces the necessity of art, education, and service in our community. By creating a “public square” for new art and ideas, we have become a place for robust conversations about the issues of the day with the engagement of a diverse group of citizens.

Our work in Skokie and Evanston places us in the unique position of bringing the world to our community and our community to the world. Plays like Nina Simone: Four Women, which celebrated the lasting legacy of Simone’s activist fight for justice and freedom, exemplify Northlight’s artistic desire to tell stories of passion and meaning, and yes, to be entertaining as well.

Our supporters recognize that Northlight requires their continued commitment. This year we were proud to receive a major endowment grant from the Davee Foundation, an unprecedented award from the Ralla Klepak Performing Arts Foundation, support for our educational initiatives from the Offield Foundation, and significant support from the Shubert Foundation. Most importantly, contributed operating support from our loyal subscribers and single ticket patrons resulted in this season’s recording-setting annual fund. These gifts underwrite the mission of our theatre – your theatre – and allow Northlight to bring art, education, and creative assistance to all in our community.

On behalf of the Northlight Board of Directors, our robust Advisory Council, our amazing staff and our loyal audience, thanks to all for their support and belief in the impactful mission of Northlight Theatre to be a beacon for storytelling, conversation, education, and innovation in the American Theatre.

Onward.

Timothy J. Evans
Executive Director
ADVISORY COUNCIL
Susan Karol*
Chair
Anne Berkeley
Steven J. Bernstein
Karl Berolzheimer
Gerhard Bette
Margo Brown
Michael R. Callahan*
Joe Cappo
Marcia Caulkins
Josh Chernoff
Dennis Clarkson
Beth Davis
Paul Finnegan*
Gene Frett
Richard Gilbert
Craig Golden
Eleanor Hall
Tom Hazlett
Karen Hunt
Ann Jennett
Diana King
Paul Lehman*
James Lytle
Michelle Marvin
Marcia Mead Stillerman
Steve Mullins*
Phil Palmer
Nicki Pearson
Merril Prager
Sandra Rosenbloom
Toby Sachs
Esther Saks*
Sara Schastok
Ralph Segall
David Seidman*
Jill Soderberg
Ingrid Stafford
Trimmy Stamell*
Claire Sucsy
Timothy P. Sullivan
Greg Taubeneck
Susan Van Dusen
Bernice Weissbourd

*Past President/Chairperson

FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

I cannot tell you how exciting it is for a theatre to have both the mission of developing new work and the support of an adventurous audience base, as well as a committed and visionary board. This season we shared two world premieres that demonstrated our range of work, from a new adaptation of Jane Austen’s classic Mansfield Park to Landladies, which explored contemporary issues of poverty and economic exploitation. It is also thrilling to find existing plays that resonate in our current climate like Nina Simone: Four Women, a perfect piece to present in this political moment.

The balance of art and commerce is an increasing challenge, and here at Northlight we are grateful for the loyal audience base that has claimed Northlight as “their” theatre. Over our 44 seasons we have so many loyal subscribers who have yearly renewed their commitment to our work and our vision. It is gratifying beyond measure.

We read hundreds of scripts and see so many plays all over the country, at new play festivals in tiny theatres as well as at huge Broadway houses in New York and even overseas, all with the purpose of finding work that will challenge and engage our loyal audience. We pride ourselves on the conversations we have at Backstage with BJ, at our engagement events, and in schools. This interchange of ideas and values is what fuels our purpose and our passion. We like to think you feel that intensity, too.

We are grateful for this opportunity. It is a privilege we cherish, and one we never take for granted.

BJ Jones
Artistic Director
2018|19 SEASON

CURVE OF DEPARTURE
By Rachel Bonds
Directed by BJ Jones
September 13 – October 21, 2018
Chicago legend Mike Nussbaum played the patriarch of an unconventional family in this delicate and gently comic drama.

MANSFIELD PARK
By Kate Hamill Based on the Novel by Jane Austen
Directed by Stuart Carden
November 8 – December 16, 2018
World Premiere
A unique theatrical flair brought new life to Jane Austen’s classic tale of poor but clever Fanny Price and the clash between love and conscience.

NINA SIMONE: FOUR WOMEN
By Christina Ham
Directed by Kenneth L. Roberson
January 24 – March 2, 2019
The transformation of Nina Simone from songstress to activist was the central theme of this provocative and personal musical journey.

LANDLADIES
By Sharyn Rothstein
Directed by Jess McLeod
March 14 – April 20, 2019
World Premiere

INTO THE BREECHES!
By George Brant
Directed by Jessica Thebus
May 9 – June 16, 2019
Women took centerstage in this WWII-set comedy, when a community theatre forges ahead with an all female-cast while the men are off at war.

THEATRE ATTENDANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Production</th>
<th># of Performances</th>
<th>Subscribed Tickets</th>
<th>Individually Sold Tickets</th>
<th>Complimentary Tickets</th>
<th>Student Matinee Tickets</th>
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<tr>
<td>Curve of Departure</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>5,478</td>
<td>2,694</td>
<td>707</td>
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<td>8,879</td>
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<td>Mansfield Park</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>5,429</td>
<td>3,090</td>
<td>813</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>9,623</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nina Simone</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>5,208</td>
<td>4,595</td>
<td>1,088</td>
<td>1,033</td>
<td>11,924</td>
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<td>Landladies</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>5,309</td>
<td>885</td>
<td>758</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6,952</td>
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<tr>
<td>Into the Breeches!</td>
<td>41</td>
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<td>1,838</td>
<td>810</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>26,811</td>
<td>13,102</td>
<td>4,176</td>
<td>1,324</td>
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ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

POST-SHOW DISCUSSIONS

FEATURED DISCUSSION GUESTS

Landladies
Shanesia Davis, Leah Karpel
Live theatre is a communal experience - one we hope to extend beyond the final curtain! Through a combination of post-show discussions and free events at Northlight, local libraries, and community spaces, we add depth and context to each production, as well as provide an opportunity for exploration and civil discourse.

**EVENT EXAMPLES:**

**BACKSTAGE WITH BJ**
Behind-the-scenes discussions with Artistic Director BJ Jones (held every production).

**INSIDE LOOK**
Q&A with artists related to the production, held at local libraries and community spaces.

**COMMUNITY PANEL**
A panel of civil, political, academic, or religious leaders respond to the play content and reflect on how its themes relate to the local community.

**PLAYWRIGHT TALKS**
Visiting playwrights share insight with the audience on the playwriting process, from inspiration to stage.

**PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS & VENUES:**
City of Evanston  
Connections for the Homeless  
Evanston History Center  
Evanston Public Library  
Highland Park Public Library  
Illinois Holocaust Museum  
Improvised Jane Austen  
Jane Austen Society of North America  
Second Baptist Church  
Sketchbrook Brewing  
Skokie Public Library  
Vi Living

Pictured left: Backstage with BJ for Curve of Departure; (middle) “History and Hops” engagement event at Sketchbook Brewing for Into the Breeches!; (bottom) Backstage with BJ for Mansfield Park
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Northlight utilizes theatre in its broadest capacity to act as a conduit between us and our community. Our programs fulfill self-identified needs within that community using applicable theatre skills and resources. These dynamic engagement initiatives align with Northlight’s mission of reflecting our community to the world, and the world to our community.

PARTNERS

Y.O.U. provides services and leadership to meet the emerging needs of young people and their families. Northlight partners with Y.O.U. afterschool enrichment sites to run a Speak Up! theatre for social change program with 3rd-5th graders.

YJС provides job-readiness training and support for young people. Northlight’s program focuses on conflict resolution to prepare young people for challenges in the work place.

YWCA works to eliminate racism and empower women. Northlight teaching artists work with women and children living in the domestic violence residences, fostering community through writing and trust-building activities.

FAMILY FOCUS promotes the well-being of children by supporting and strengthening families. Northlight works with the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Group, helping these caregivers gain the skills and confidence to share their stories with an audience.

EVANSTON SCHOLARS helps improves college access and success for a diverse group of ambitious Evanston students who are traditionally first-generation college entrants. Northlight works with participants on developing the skills necessary to be successful in college preparation and team work.

ARTS FOR EVERYONE 2018-19 was Northlight’s pilot season for this ground-breaking initiative designed to break down the barriers to accessing theatre starting with the price of a ticket. Nearly 600 free tickets were provided to the populations served by the community partners listed above.
Into the Breeches
Molly Hernandez, Annie Munch
EDUCATION

Northlight’s Education Department approaches all aspects of education programming with a spirit of collaboration to encourage students’ artistic growth through self-expression and unbridled creativity.

SCHOOL YEAR AT-A-GLANCE

Student Matinees: 5
Schools/Sites: 42
Classrooms: 105
Teaching Artists/Apprentices/Interns: 27
Participants: 2,330

Education programs extend from our home communities of Skokie and Evanston to the city of Chicago and surrounding areas.

SCHOOLS/SITES:
- A Night Out
- Addison Trail
- Bloom Trail
- Christopher House
- Dawes Elementary School
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Literary and Fine Arts School
- Edison Elementary School
- Evanston Scholars
- Evanston Township High School
- Fairview South School (Elementary)
- Fairview South School (Middle)
- Family Focus
- Guerin College Preparatory High School
- Housing Opportunities for Women
- John Middleton Elementary
- Kelly High School
- Loyola Academy
- Maine East
- Mariano Azuela Elementary School
- Metcalf Community Academy
- Mother McCauley High School
- Mount Vernon
- Newton Bateman Elementary School
- Nichols
- Niles North
- Orrington Elementary School
- Pope John XXII Elementary School
- Proviso West
- Riverside School
- Ryder Math and Science
- Science and Arts Academy
- Skokie Public Library and Illinois Holocaust Museum
- Smyser Elementary School
- Taft High School
- The Ancona School
- Thomas Kelly High School
- Vernon Hills High School
- Walker Elementary School
- Washington Elementary School
- William P. Gray Elementary School
- Youth Jobs Center
- YWCA Evanston - North Shore
Students at Mariano Azuela Elementary School in Chicago participated in Northlight on Campus, a program focused on theatre skills and acting fundamentals, developed through student adaptation of a familiar story.

Local teens performed a theatrical adaptation of *Martin Rising*, an Andrea Davis Pinkney book based on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s final campaign for justice in Memphis, TN. This production was a partnership with Skokie Public Library and the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, supported by the Skokie Community Foundation.
Northlight’s premier fundraising event celebrated the theatre’s commitment to providing intensely entertaining theatre—and so much more—to the community it calls home. Held at The Evanston Golf Club on November 2, 2018, Chicago-based singer/producer Michael Ingersoll provided musical entertainment and served as Master of Ceremonies for the event, which raised $300,000.

HOST COMMITTEE

Julie Chernoff, co-chair
Susie McMonagle, co-chair
Candace Corr and BJ Jones
Jane and Timothy Evans
Betsy Hohman
Catherine Hayden
Karen Hunt
Ann Jennett
Pat Price
Trimmy Stamell
Marcia Mead Stillerman
Mark Tendam

GALA SPONSORS
# Financial Report

## Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Earned Income</th>
<th>Total Earned Income</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ticket Sales</td>
<td>$1,675,161</td>
<td>34.79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education Programs</td>
<td>$58,769</td>
<td>1.22%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scene Shop Outside Projects</td>
<td>$11,182</td>
<td>0.23%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royalties/Other Earned Income</td>
<td>$14,114</td>
<td>0.29%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Earned Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,759,226</strong></td>
<td><strong>36.54%</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributed Income</th>
<th>Total Contributed Income</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individuals &amp; Board</td>
<td>$422,114</td>
<td>8.76%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corporations &amp; Foundations</td>
<td>$696,006</td>
<td>14.45%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>$77,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Events</td>
<td>$310,062</td>
<td>6.44%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital Campaign</td>
<td>$1,410,293</td>
<td>29.29%</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-Kind Donations</td>
<td>$139,451</td>
<td>2.90%</td>
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<td><strong>Total Contributed Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,055,726</strong></td>
<td><strong>63.46%</strong></td>
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**Total Income** $4,814,952 100.00%

## Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Services</th>
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<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Production</td>
<td>$976,380</td>
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<tr>
<td>Artistic</td>
<td>$808,862</td>
<td>21.47%</td>
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<td>Education/Community Engagement</td>
<td>$145,110</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Program Services</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,930,352</strong></td>
<td><strong>51.24%</strong></td>
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<th>Support Services</th>
<th>Total Support Services</th>
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<tr>
<td>General &amp; Administrative</td>
<td>$1,431,594</td>
<td>38.00%</td>
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<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$405,143</td>
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<td><strong>Total Support Services</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,836,737</strong></td>
<td><strong>48.76%</strong></td>
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**Total Expenses** $3,767,089 100.00%

## Change in Net Assets

**$1,047,863**
**THANK YOU**

**NORTHLIGHT LEGACY SOCIETY**
The Legacy Society is a group of committed supporters who have included Northlight in their estate planning. We are honored to recognize members:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Diane and Karl Berolzheimer</td>
<td>Ralla Klepak</td>
<td>Lloyd Morgan</td>
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<td>Margo and Paul Brown</td>
<td>Frederi Greenberg and</td>
<td>Carol and Steve Mullins</td>
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<td>Josh and Julie Chernoff</td>
<td>Dan Pinkert</td>
<td>Janet Mullet</td>
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**NORTHLIGHT VISIONARIES CIRCLE** This list reflects gifts received October 1, 2018 through October 15, 2019
The Northlight Visionaries Circle consists of lead supporters, contributing $1,000 or more to Northlight’s Annual Fund. These members help to realize the vision, both present and future, of Northlight Theatre with their generosity. Members engage with the theatre and artists on a deeper level through special events, education site visits, backstage tours, lunches with our directors, and our Donor Exclusive Newsletter. Circle members are also invited to attend dress rehearsals, Opening Nights, and more.

**PLAYWRIGHTS $10,000-$24,999**
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<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>Nan and Wally Greenough</td>
<td>Atlee Valentine Pope</td>
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<td>J. Douglas Gray</td>
<td>Mark and Kathy McCarville</td>
<td>and Rick Pope</td>
<td>Family Fund</td>
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<td>Frederi Greenberg and</td>
<td>Jim and Sujo Offield</td>
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<td>Dan Pinkert</td>
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**DIRECTORS $5,000-$9,999**
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<td>Carole Cahill</td>
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<td>Sam and Marianne Oliva</td>
<td>Robert S. and Sandra G. Silver</td>
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<td>Julie and Josh Chernoff</td>
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<td>Melanie and Dan Peterson</td>
<td>Mark Tendam and Neal Moglin</td>
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<td>Bernie Dowling</td>
<td>Susie McMonagle</td>
<td>Evelyn Salk</td>
<td>Tom Stringer Design Partners</td>
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<td>Donna and Gene Frett</td>
<td>M. J. O'Brien Family Foundation</td>
<td>Lisa Sanquist and</td>
<td>The Zunamon-Cunniff Family</td>
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**DESIGNERS $2,500-$4,999**
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<td>Kim and Kirk Hoopingarner</td>
<td>Phillip Palmer and</td>
<td>Ralph and Nancy Segall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joan and Kevin Evanich</td>
<td>BJ Jones and Candy Corr</td>
<td>Michael Noonan</td>
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<td>Timothy and Jane Evans</td>
<td>Diana and Neil King</td>
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**COMPANY $1,000-$2,499**
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<td>Howard Dubin</td>
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<td>Rahul and Anuradhika Roy</td>
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<td>Marci Eisenstein and</td>
<td>Linnea and John Mead</td>
<td>Anthony Burt and Karin Reutzels</td>
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<td>Lois Melvoin</td>
<td>Penelope and Toby Sachs</td>
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<td>Sheryl and Christopher Bartol</td>
<td>Mark and Donna Falcon</td>
<td>Brian Montgomery and</td>
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<td>Virginia Beatty</td>
<td>Neil and Marge Gambow</td>
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<td>Dan and Debra Scherman</td>
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<td>Jordan and Jean Nerenberg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rachel Kraft</td>
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<td>Robert Kohl and Clark Pellet</td>
<td>Dr. Rhonda Stein and</td>
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<td>Christy Callahan and</td>
<td>Tom Carmichael</td>
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<td>Steve Krug and Lori Darling</td>
<td>Piper and Jono Rothschild</td>
<td>Lawrence and Nancy Wojcik</td>
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ANNUAL FUND
Northlight Theatre gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the following donors of $100 or more for gifts received August 1, 2018 through August 20, 2019.

PARTNERS $500-$999
Anonymous (3)
Jon and Shelley Benson
Anne Berkeley
Michael Block
Patrice Frey and Wally Bobkiewicz
Mary and Jim Bowman
Robert and Sara Brenner
Margo and Paul Brown
Vickie and Tim Burke
Scott Carter
L. Corwin Christie
Bob Crevey and Sarah Hughes
David and Kate Cudnowski
Susan and David Curry
John R. Dainauskas, MD
Tom and Carol Dammrich
Kimberly and Richard Dsida
Charles and Bridig Duffy Gerace
Jerry and Liz Ettinger
Mark Evans and Maureen Moran
Bill and Sandra Farrow
Bridge Freas
Thomas and Patricia Gahlon
Robyn and David Grossberg
Eleanor Northrop Hall
Carol and Jim Hansen
Marilyn Heath
Todd Hensley and Lizanne Wilson
Don and Betsy Hohman
Donna and Steven Horwitz
Sarah Krepp and Carter Howard
Karen and David Hughes
Kathleen and Hal Jenkins
Keely Jones and Angie Frank
Cameron and Emily Jones
Michaela Jones
Dr. Herb and Mrs. Adrienne Kamin
Martin and Susanne Kanter
Suzanne and Dan Kanter
Robert and Judy Kemp
Robert and Sherry Labate
Judith Levin
David Lynch and Catherine
Guillemin-Lynch
Bonnie and Jay Lytle
Carol Majka
Robert and Linda Meyers
Carolyn Michel and
Howard Millman
Janet Mullet
Ellen K. Munro
Judy Newton
Jeanne Oelerich
Joseph Olszewski
Greg and Nicki Pearson
Marjorie Pelino
Andrew Porte
Judy and Ed Provost
Polly and Ken Rattner
Pamela Davidson and
Tim Scherman
Dr. G. Stephen and
Ellen Scholly
Susan and Brad Schulman
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