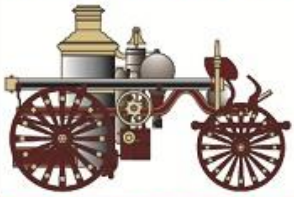


NEW YORK CITY



FIRE MUSEUM

**The Friends of the New York City Fire Department
Collection, Inc.**

FY 2016



ANNUAL REPORT

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MUSEUM STAFF

Sarah Strickland
Executive Director

Noemi Bourdier
Assistant Director/Events and Gift Shop Manager

Amanda Pietrzykowski
Collections Manager

Ann Broughton
Accountant

Alyssa Borger
Gift Shop Associate/Birthday Party Hostess

Tieisha Anderson
Gift Shop Associate

Eugene McCarthy
Building Manager

GRANTS

Carnegie Foundation - \$50,000

The New York City Fire Museum was fortunate to receive generous support from the Carnegie Foundation. This support allows us to continue fulfilling our mission of stewarding the largest collection of fire related artifacts in the world and teaching lifesaving fire safety classes.

American Express - \$25,000

The Museum is embarking on a project to conserve artifacts from the Volunteer Era of firefighting in New York City, thanks to the generosity of American Express. These pieces include: an Exempt Firemen of Long Island City banner, a hand-pulled hose reel cart from 1875, and apparatus models from our wooden toy collection. To complete this project the Museum has hired a conservator whose expertise lies in the conservation of paintings and historical objects, Lauren Paige Isaacs of Flying Pig Art Conservation. The objects chosen will become a part of our permanent display in the second floor gallery dedicated to the Volunteer Era of NYC. Completion of this project will take approximately one year.

FDNY Fire Foundation - \$6,898

The NYC Fire Museum applied for a grant to cover the cost of hiring a design firm to create a proposal for how to update the Fire Safety Education Apartment/Classroom. The Fire Foundation gifted the Museum a total of \$6,896 which covered the entire fee charged by Peter Hyde Designs to complete the conceptual and design phase of the project.



NEW YORK CITY FIRE MUSEUM FIRE SAFETY CLASSROOM

100% CONCEPT DESIGN
DECEMBER 11, 2015



4imprint's one by one® program - \$500

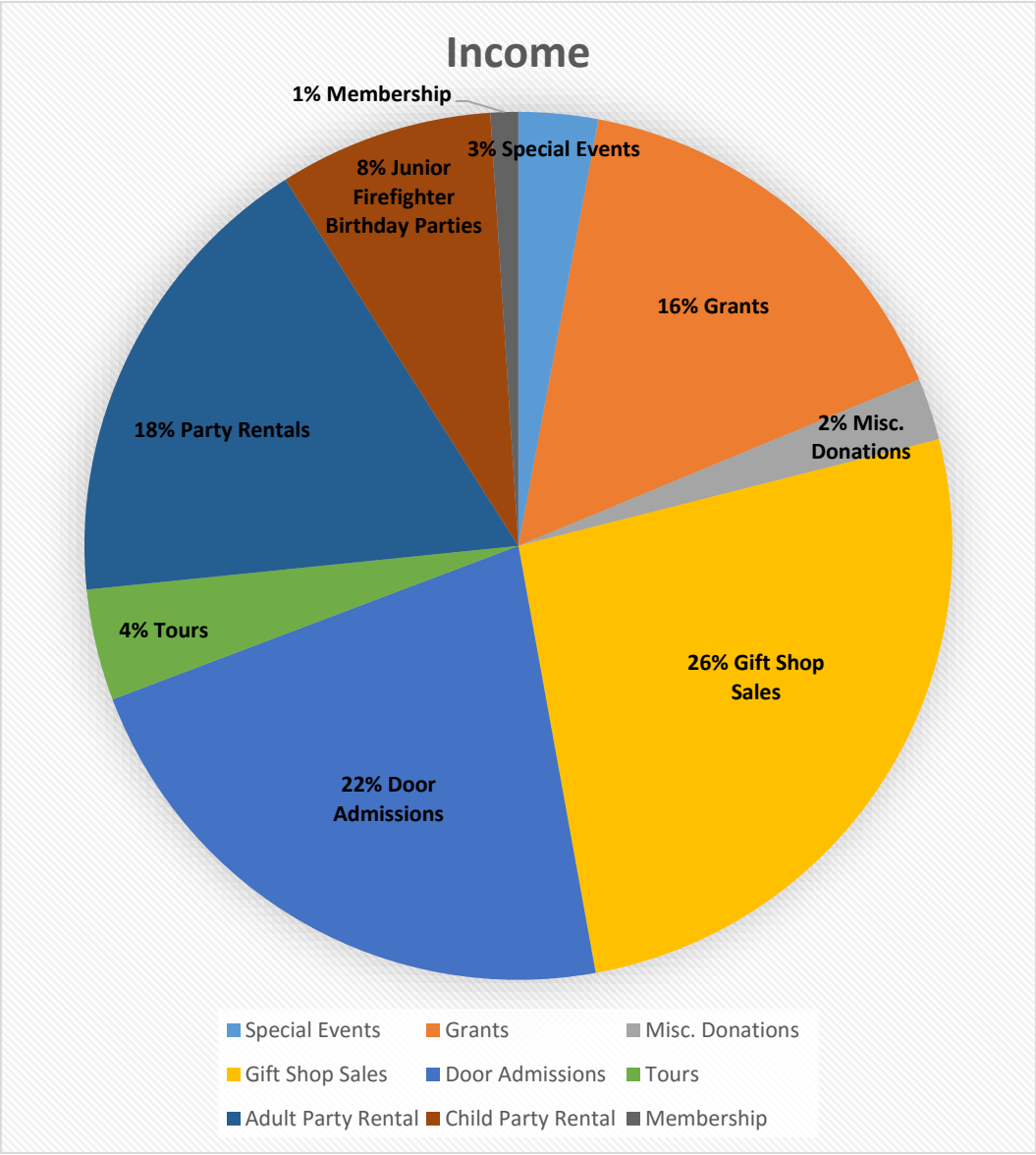
The Museum was fortunate to be awarded an in-kind grant for promotional materials from 4imprint. These materials included: a retractable roll-up banner to advertise for museum programming, event space, and junior firefighter birthday parties. We also received an 8' table cloth with the Museum's name and logo as well as a 5' x 12' banner to promote the NYCFM FDNY Cook-Off. The value of the items was \$500.



Grant Applications

Other applications were submitted, but not successful. A fire prevention and safety grant application to help fund the fire safety apartment upgrade was submitted to FEMA through their Assistance to Firefighters program, but an award was not received. The Museum also applied for the Greater Hudson Heritage Conservation grant to restore two framed certificates awarded to former chief engineer of the volunteer fire department, Cornelius V Anderson. This grant application was unsuccessful.

INCOME



Special Events Admissions -

\$19,088

Educational Tours -\$26,772

Membership -\$6,665

Miscellaneous Donations -

\$14,884

Event Space Rentals -

\$113,546

Children’s Birthday Parties -

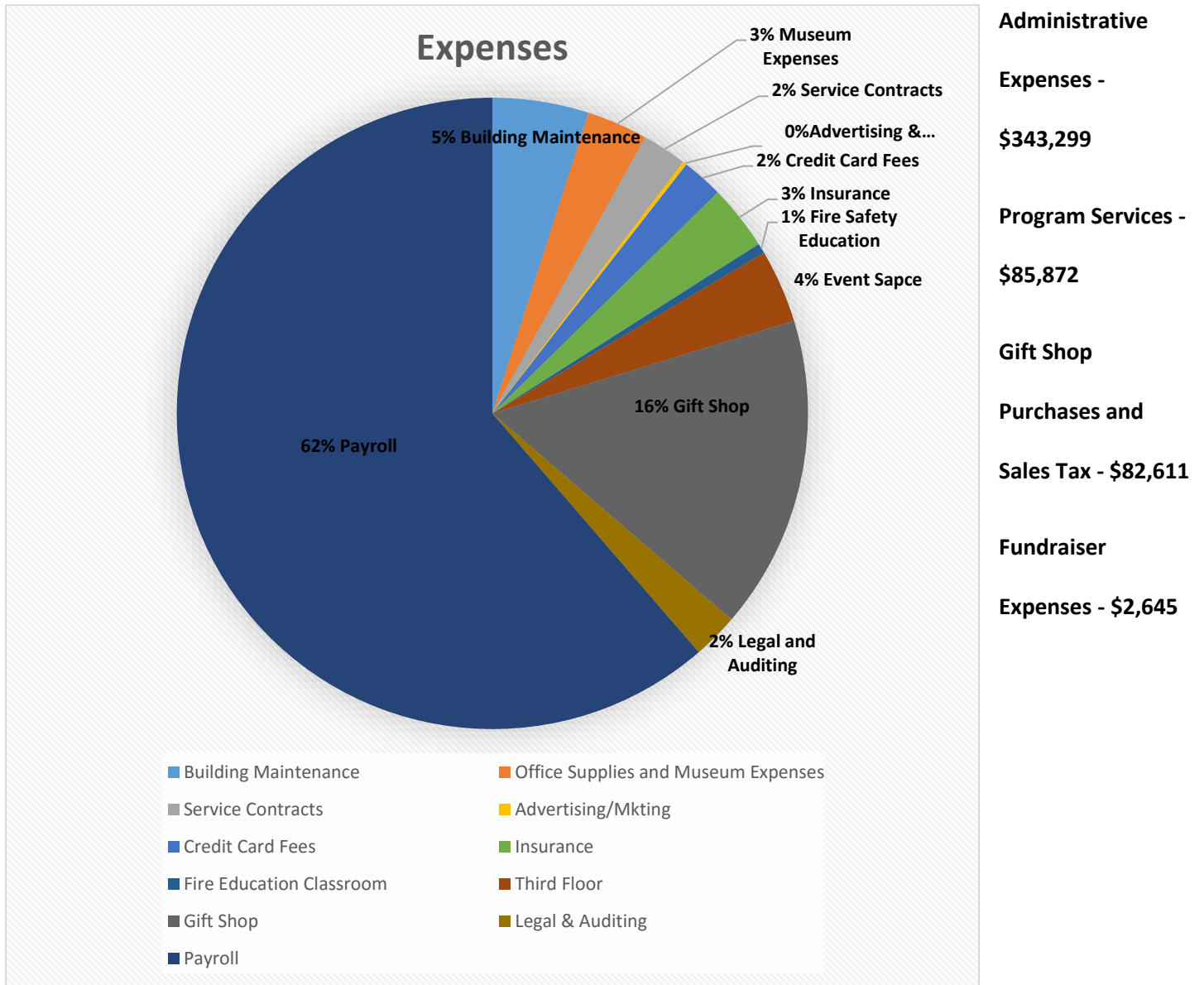
\$51,544

Store Sales - \$168,457

Admissions – \$142,610

Grants - \$101,896

EXPENSES



GROUP TOURS

In 2015, the Museum partnered with Peek, a software platform designed for making online reservations, as a way for groups to book tours. The partnership streamlined our booking protocol and eliminated overbooking as well as ensuring groups make the required deposit. Tours are booked directly from our website, nycfiremuseum.org, by clicking the “BOOK NOW” button on our homepage. Staff also assist teachers with making booking by using the Peek software application on an iPad.

ATTENDANCE

The Museum received 30,169 visitors including 9,065 participants for the fire safety education and historical presentation we offer.

SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

September 11th Wreath Laying Ceremony

The New York City Fire Museum marked the fourteenth anniversary of the September 11th attacks on the World Trade Center with a memorial service commemorating the Supreme Sacrifice made by 343 members of the FDNY. Chief of Department, James Leonard, Deputy Commissioner Robert Turner, Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, the FDNY Ceremonial Unit, FDNY Chaplain Reverend Ann Kansfield, and many active and retired FDNY members attended the annual event.



Left to Right: James Leonard, FDNY Chief of Department; Robert Turner, FDNY First Deputy Commissioner; Sarah Strickland, Museum Director; Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President; Rev. Ann Kansfield, FDNY Chaplain

Firefighter Cook-Off and Fundraiser

On Thursday, November 5th, from 6 – 9 p.m., the Museum hosted a FDNY Cook-Off Fundraiser in which members of the FDNY prepared dishes to be sampled by ticket holders and judged by a panel. The judges included New York Sport's Club Executive Chef, Anthony Walton and City Winery's Executive Chef, Mike Jeanty. There were eight competing Fire Department chefs and numerous corporate sponsors that supported the event's success. The event raised \$12,913.



Easter Egg Hunt

The Museum hosted its second annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 26th, 2015 and it was very well attended. Museum staff hid 2000 plastic eggs filled with candy on the 1st and 2nd floors, offered a coloring station on the 3rd floor along with snacks, and gave guests plastic fire helmets and fire safety coloring books. FDNY's popular mascots, Hot Dog and Siren, also entertained guests. The event raised \$1,975.



NYCFM Kid's Halloween Party

For the second consecutive year, the Museum organized and hosted a NYCFM Kids' Halloween Party. Guests were encouraged to come in costume for a party on the third floor, complete with a coloring station, tattoo station, musical chairs, sack races, a scavenger hunt, and a costume contest. The event raised \$421.



Santa Rescue

On Sunday, December 6, the Museum held its annual Santa Rescue event in which an FDNY ladder truck bravely rescued Santa from the Museum's roof. Once inside, guests were able to visit with Santa and pose for photos. Hot dogs and hot chocolate were available for purchase on the Museum's third floor and Christmas carols were performed live by John Clacher's Fire House Band. FDNY's mascots, Hot Dog and Siren, visited with children. The event raised \$2,434.

Lecture Series

The Museum once again organized and presented a five-part lecture series that included the following presenters and topics: *New York City's Disasters* by James P. Booth, EMT-P, Chief of EMS, FDNY; *The War Years* by Warren Fuchs, FDNY Fire Alarm Dispatcher (Retired); *The First New York Fire Zouaves (11th NY Volunteer Infantry)* by Marc A. Hermann, Fire Bell Club of NY and Zouave Historian; *The 1864 Confederate Plot Against New York City* by Nat Brandt, Author of "The Man Who Tried to Burn New York;" *Lessons Learned – California Wildfires* by James Christian, Diamond Springs-El Dorado Hills Fire District Chief (Retired).

The FDNY Ceremonial Unit supplied flags for the lectures and the FDNY Media Unit set-up the audio/visual equipment and recorded each presentation. The series raised \$615.



Panel discussion after a presentation on "The War Years" comprised of NYCFM Volunteers, Eddie Fusco, Jon Miller, Gary Howard, John Kenny, Wally Malone



Marc Hermann presents on The First New York Fire Zouaves in part of a series of lectures

Blood Drive

In the spirit of the EMS merger with the FDNY, the Museum organized a blood drive in partnership with the New York Blood Center, held on Tuesday, June 28th. The drive was successful and received 25 donors.

 **New York**
Blood Center



SPECIAL EVENTS ATTENDED BY NYC FIRE MUSEUM STAFF

In addition to hosting several special events at the Museum, Museum staff also attended significant historical and FDNY hosted events during fiscal year 2015. These events included:

- FDNY Memorial Day – October 6, 2015
- FDNY Fire Prevention Day – October 8, 2015
- Commissioner Nigro's Holiday Party – December 11, 2015
- Engine 44 Plaque Dedication for the Bronx Flower Factory Fire – April 4, 2016



The NYCFM table at FDNY Fire Safety Day on 10/8/2015



Plaque dedicated to Firefighters who perished in a fire on 4/4/1956

OTHER EVENTS AT THE NYCFM

In addition to events organized and hosted by the Museum, we also hosted several income generating events, including corporate and private parties.

The New York City Fire Museum partnered with the City Reliquary Museum for its annual Collector's Night, for a celebration of ephemera and those who curate it. The event served as a way to collaborate with other NYC museums and network with like-minded collection enthusiasts.

The City Reliquary presents
COLLECTOR'S NIGHT
2016



Please join us the evening of June 10th
from 6.30 - 9.30
at the
NEW YORK CITY FIRE MUSEUM
278 Spring Street

 \$10 general admission
\$5 city reliquary members
\$5 new york city fire museum members



COLLECTIONS

Museum Charter

In November of 2015, the New York City Fire Museum was granted an absolute educational charter by the State of New York, recognizing the Museum as an institution that abides by national standards for collection stewardship and educational programming. The process to obtain the charter was quite lengthy and began by applying for a provisional charter on December 14, 2010. The chartering process for museums in New York was created to foster the evolution of excellent cultural agencies. The NYCFM is now recognized amongst New York's wide range of excellent cultural agencies as one of New York State's most important educational resources by the Board of Regents.

Research and Accession

Our internship program continued, hosting one student from Chelsea Technical High School, a graduate student from Rutgers University, and a graduate from Pratt's Institute of Library Science. These interns have focused their efforts on scanning and cataloging our collection of photographs and archival materials. In FY2016, 2600 photographs and 500 archival materials were completed.

Major acquisitions during FY2016 include silk-screen prints by Allen Salzburg, a prominent mural painter and graphic artist during the 1930s and 40s and a large collection of 16 mm film reels from the FDNY, including training videos, footage of Randall's Island, and other fire and safety related themes.

TEMP EXHIBITS

150 Years of FDNY – Timeline

By Amanda Pietrzykowski

Opened 06/2015. Ongoing.

Historic Firehouses of Manhattan

By Stephen Healy

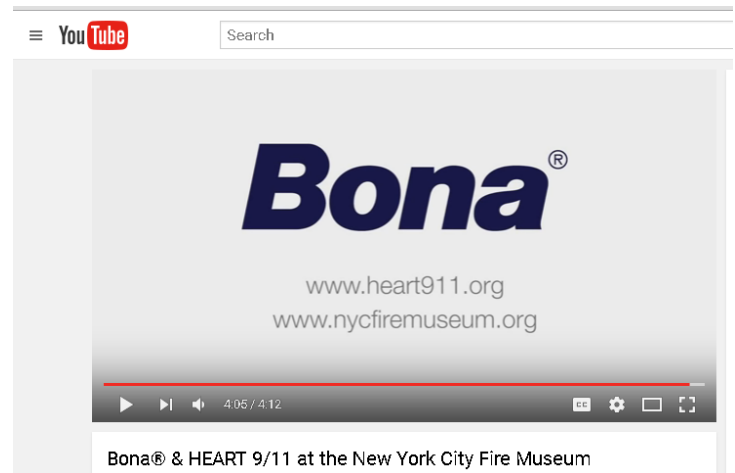
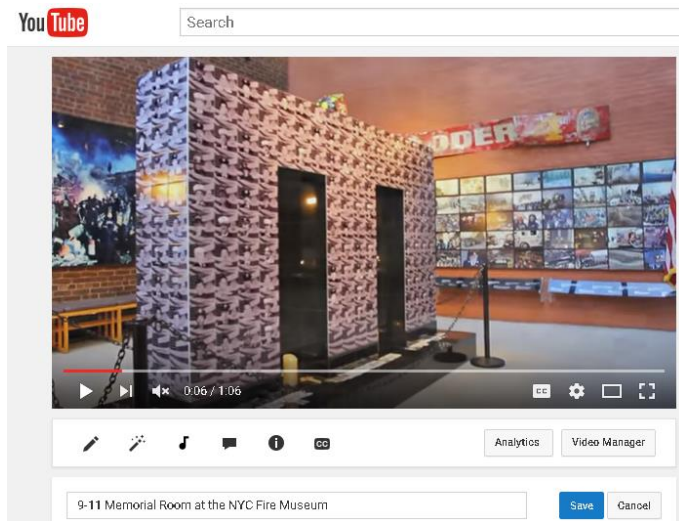
Opened 4/2015. Ongoing.



PUBLICATIONS

The Museum produced two print publications in fiscal year 2016: two editions of *The Housewatch* newsletter.

A special video filmed in the NYCFM 9/11 Memorial Room, commemorating the 14th anniversary of the World Trade Center attacks, featuring Fire Commissioner Daniel A. Nigro, was also created and disseminated electronically via social media.



A promotional video showcasing the collection and mission of the Fire Museum was created by Bona, a worldwide industry leader in hardwood floor care.

BUILDING MAINTENANCE

The FDNY Building Unit installed a brand new heating system in the boiler room in the basement of the Museum. This new system replaced the original heating system that, due to age, was unreliable and often in need of repairs.

The Building Unit also replaced the corroding bathroom partitions with new, more durable walls.

Through the generous support of Heart 9/11 and the donated labor and expertise of New York City District Council of Carpenters Labor Technical College, the hardwood floors of the Commissioner's Room (3rd floor) were sanded and sealed using product donated by Bona.



Security

A complete renovation to the security system was completed in 2015. This included removing the ADT security cameras and fire monitoring system and replacing it with DGA Security equipment, increasing the number of cameras, motion sensors, and panic buttons in the building.

THE FUTURE

The Fire Museum strives to evolve and engage a varied audience from local community members to international visitors. Museum culture is evolving and modernization is the norm as many museums are offering hands-on and interactive exhibits to their visitors. Our strategic vision for the future of the Fire Museum encompasses historical preservation, and enhancing current exhibits, and creating new exhibits, to better serve our visitors. Our goals include increasing our triage/conservation capacity and resourcing, enhancing permanent exhibits, developing new exhibits (FDNY Marine Unit Division, Life of a Firefighter, EMS Division), embarking on an oral history project (recording active and retired FDNY interviews), and incorporating new programming (fire film series, historical bus tour, kids' summer camp). We will also continue to grow our spring lecture series program amongst other community engaging events (FDNY Cook-Off, Santa Rescue, etc.).