



Fostering the Power of Community, Service and the Arts

## 2002 Annual Report – Return to Active funding

**I**t was with great pleasure that the Rex Foundation announced its 2002 Awards and Grants in November, the first year of substantial grant giving since 1995. This report describes the beneficiaries, the fund raising activities, and the community support which has enabled this. A list of grants since 1984 and updates on current activities are available on the website.

### BILL GRAHAM AWARD

*In memory of pioneering producer and founding Rex board member Bill Graham, himself a refugee, this award is for those working to assist children who are victims of political oppression and human rights violations.*

### Clowns Without Borders

“No child without a smile.” Clowns Without Borders seeks to improve the psychological condition of populations living in refugee camps and areas of conflict by organizing volunteer artist performances, and through performance workshops with children and with educators. CWB also seeks to raise our society’s awareness of affected populations and to promote a spirit of solidarity. Missions specific to this grant in 2003 will be to Chiapas, Mexico, to perform in communities and camps of displaced persons; and a return expedition to Bhutanese Refugee Camps in Nepal (over 100,000 refugees in seven camps).

Moshe Cohen, 540 Alabama Street #215, San Francisco, CA 94110. 415-626-7737



Photo: Moshe Cohen

### JERRY GARCIA AWARD

*In memory of Grateful Dead guitarist and founding Rex board member Jerry Garcia, this award is designed to honor and support individuals and groups that work to encourage creativity in young people.*

### Movimiento de Arte y Cultura Latino Americana, Inc. (MACLA)

MACLA’s mission is to support Latino artists to create and showcase new work in the visual, literary and performance arts to help define, interpret and transform society. While most Latino community based art organizations have concentrated on the preservation and dissemination of traditional art forms, MACLA has been explicitly dedicated to supporting the

work of Latino artists interested in creating symbols and language for a new society and a new time.

510 South First Street, San Jose, CA 95113.  
408-998-2783. [www.maclaweb.org](http://www.maclaweb.org)

### RALPH J. GLEASON AWARD

*In memory of music journalist Ralph J. Gleason, a major figure in the advancement of music in America in the 1960s, whose openness to new music and ideas transcended differences between generations and styles.*

### Save Our Sounds, The Zuni Tapes American Folklife Center

Save Our Sounds is a project of the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress, which strives to preserve and digitize the most endangered sound recordings in the Center’s deteriorating analog media collections. As a result, these song and story collections will be permanently available to the public, researchers and musicologists. The Zuni collection, 400 hours of open-reel audiotape of over 800 stories, is said to be the largest single collection of folklore and folk history recorded concurrently from one Native American nation. The stories were told by 19 elders. The language of the tales, of course, is Zuni, and these recordings reveal a traditional style of oratory, of dramatic pacing, chanting and rhythmic speech, and other devices that mark all great oral literary traditions.

Peggy Bulger, Library of Congress, 101 Independence Ave. SE, Room 613, Washington, D.C. 20540.  
202-707-5510. [www.saveoursounds.org](http://www.saveoursounds.org)



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The Rex Foundation is named after Rex Jackson, a Grateful Dead roadie and later road manager until his untimely death in 1976

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REX FOUNDATION  
P.O. Box 150390  
San Rafael, CA 94915  
(415) 457-3032

[www.rexfoundation.org](http://www.rexfoundation.org)

Federal ID # 68-0033257

## From the Executive Director

*The Healing Power of Music* benefit in 2001 not only launched the renewal of the Rex Foundation in the absence of direct funding from Grateful Dead benefit concerts, it also exemplified the magical combination of community and music. During 2002 we sought to build on this spirit by presenting and engaging in activities that honor *the power of community, service and the arts*. We are grateful that so many people responded to our efforts and take great pleasure in reporting about our sponsored events and broad community of supporters. Because of the success of these efforts we donated \$156,500 to further 20 excellent programs, which are described in the following pages.

As we prepare this report we are mindful of the challenges grassroots programs face given the economic downturn and resulting reductions in overall funding. We know many people are dealing with personal economic constraints and fears about the consequences of the current global instability. So, we start 2003 with our second annual benefit – *Life, Music and the Pursuit of Happiness* – to once again bring people together, especially amid these difficult times, to enjoy great music and share good will. We look forward to another year of successful efforts that foster community and multiply our grant making to support many worthwhile programs.

With thanks and hope,  
*Sandy Sohcot*

## Mission Statement

The Rex Foundation continues to embody the spirit of generosity and concern that evolved in the culture of the Dead Heads and the Grateful Dead, aiming to help secure a healthy environment, promote individuality in the arts, provide support to critical and necessary social services, assist others less fortunate than ourselves, protect the rights of indigent people and ensure their cultural survival, build a stronger community, and educate children and adults everywhere.

## Guiding Principles and Values

- We respect traditional wisdom cultures.
- We respect individual rights and differences.
- We are willing to take risks and trust people.
- We help people who are helping others and are trying to make a difference.
- We help people develop bold new solutions to problems.
- We benefit the broader community and the broader good.
- We practice inclusiveness and open-mindedness.
- We support organizations committed to grassroots action.
- We seek to identify entities doing good work that might otherwise be overlooked.
- Our support helps beyond direct funding by boosting the visibility of the recipient's work.
- We want to be a catalytic agent of change, where our involvement helps leverage greater impact.
- We are non-partisan.
- We promote an active, informed citizenry.
- The Foundation is an efficient conduit for supporting the community.
- Being part of the Rex Foundation is enjoyable.
- We carry on the best of the spirit of the 60's to create a more harmonious world.

## Community of Supporters

We want to acknowledge the invaluable help that the Rex Foundation's often invisible Community of Supporters has provided in many different ways.

Our first thanks goes to all the attendees, charitable and in-kind contributors, host sponsors, musicians, and volunteers who made the 2001 *Healing Power of Music* benefit concert such a success. It is on this model that our current reawakening to full activity is based. In 2002 our thanks go to the following groups and individuals who have given their time and energy – they are our community of supporters.

### Rex Activities. Thanks to:

#### DARK STAR ORCHESTRA

For headlining the April 13, 2002 Rex Benefit concert at the Warfield Theater.

#### THE OTHER ONES

For contributions from the Alpine Valley, Wisconsin, Grateful Dead Family Reunion concerts.

### Thanks to the Musicians Who Performed in Support of Rex:

#### THE FLYING OTHER BROTHERS BAND

January 12, 2002 benefit at the Sweetwater Saloon.

#### FAMOUS LAST WORDS

GROOVE, and MOOD FOOD

August 1, 2002 Rex fundraiser concert.

#### CUBENSIS

Fundraiser concert on August 9, 2002.

#### MOE AND PARTICLE

RELIX MAGAZINE and the JAMMYS

for presenting the October 2, 2002 post JAMMYS Rex Benefit in New York City.

#### STEVE KIMOCK BAND

AARON GADIEL, BOB HOLLIS and JOHN GLYNN

of the Boulevard Cafe – Fundraising concerts in Chicago on November 22 and 23, 2002.

### Thanks to Friends Who Contributed Their Resources to Rex:

#### ATLANTIC PRINTING

for producing printed material for Rex.

#### DAVID GANS

for publicizing the Rex Foundation on *The Grateful Dead Hour* radio show.

#### JAMBASE.COM

for publicizing Rex Foundation events.

#### SONOMA CRUSHERS BASEBALL

for designating Rex beneficiary of Grateful Dead Day.

#### JIM URBAN, PAINTER & ILLUSTRATOR

for creating the Rex Foundation banner.



Special thanks to the many volunteers and workers, our community of supporters, without whom these events would not have been possible.

### Statement of Revenue and Expenses

and changes in Fund Balance  
for Year Ending 12/31/02

INCOME	
Contributions	\$ 51,291
Fundraising Income	66,330
Dividends/Interest	4,785
	<u>\$ 122,406</u>
DISBURSEMENTS	
Grants	\$ 156,500
Operating Expenses	
Administration & Office	44,573
Salaries	63,750
Fundraising Expense	24,002
	<u>\$ 288,825</u>
Excess of expenses over income	\$ (166,419)
Fund balance, start of year	415,625
Fund balance, end of year	<u>\$ 249,206</u>

### How Rex Works

The Rex Foundation has no paid board members. Virtually all of our grant recipients are selected through the personal knowledge of our decision makers – as a result, grant requests are not solicited. We have no application forms and no published guidelines. Grants are made once or twice a year, and our report is published annually.

## REX EVENTS

In 2001 the Rex Foundation began its renewal efforts with *The Healing Power of Music Benefit Concert*. In 2002 Rex presented two events, the second and third in a series which we hope will become a tradition of fostering community through music, joy and creative energy.

### Benefit Concert Featuring the Dark Star Orchestra

Saturday, April 13, 2002, The Warfield Theater, San Francisco

The Dark Star Orchestra, known for their uncanny replication of specific Grateful Dead concerts, treated everyone to a replay of a 1980 Warfield show, including the acoustic first set. During the second set they were joined by Bob Weir, completing the surreal enjoyment of the evening, which eventually was led by Weir into realms not exactly replicable. A sense of the continuity of community was a palpable outcome of the show.

[www.darkstarorchestra.net](http://www.darkstarorchestra.net)

### Building Hope, an Evening with Frances Moore Lappé & Anna Blythe Lappé

Tuesday, October 22, 2002, The Great American Music Hall, San Francisco

The Rex Foundation and The Women's Foundation collaborated to present a special evening with Frances Moore Lappé and Anna Blythe Lappé, who discussed their recent book *Hope's Edge*, a chronicle documenting examples worldwide of successful efforts to provide sustainable resources, protect indigenous communities, and combat hunger. Wild mango performed.

Published in February 2002, *Hope's Edge* is an update to the 1971 revolutionary bestseller, *Diet for a Small Planet* by Frances Moore Lappé.



The Dark Star Orchestra and guest at the Warfield Theater



Bob Weir backstage with, L to R: Kevin Rosen (bass), Dino English (drums), Scott Larned (keyboards), Rob Eaton (rhythm guitar/vocals), Bob Weir, John Kudlecik (lead guitar/vocals), Lisa Mackey (vocals), Rob Koritz (drums)



Patti Chang  
The Women's Foundation



Sandy Sohcot  
Rex Foundation



Anna Blythe Lappé and Frances Moore Lappé



Photos by Susana Millman and Ken Freidman

## 2002 GRANTS

### Magic City Harvest

A prepared and perishable food distribution program of greater Birmingham, helping to alleviate hunger, malnutrition and food waste through the distribution of donated excess foods to programs feeding those in need.

Paulette Van Matre, Exec. Director, P.O. Box 11292, Birmingham, AL 35202. 205-591-3663

### Project Avary

Project Avary is year-round support and enrichment program for Bay Area children, ages 8 to 15, who share the difficulties presented by a parent's incarceration or ongoing involvement with the criminal justice system. Through two primary program components, Camp Avary during the summer, and monthly Adventure Day gatherings throughout the school year, Avary focuses on experiential learning, leadership development, creative arts, and recreation as means of improving opportunities and quality of life for this group of under-served children. The mission is to discourage cycles of violence and criminal activity by providing a consistent, nurturing community in which children may:

- Express themselves creatively,
- Cultivate trusting relationships with peers and adults,
- Build self-esteem and self knowledge,
- Practice managing their emotions in order to achieve productive outcomes, and
- Gain a broadened sense of what is possible in their lives.

Danny Rifkin, Executive Director, 1016 Lincoln Avenue, San Rafael, CA 94901

### Bluegrass Academy for Kids

The Bluegrass Academy for Kids was founded as an adjunct to the Grey Fox Bluegrass Festival in upstate NY to teach young people ages 5-17 to play, sing, write and perform the bluegrass style of American music. Its goals are to stimulate children's interest in music and the preservation of this uniquely American music form, and to serve as a model

for other organizations wishing to establish similar learning programs. Traditional styles of bluegrass, guitar, banjo, mandolin, fiddle, dobro and bass are taught to all levels of school-aged students during an intensive four-day music camp located near Hillsdale, NY.

Grey Fox Educational Fund, Inc., c/o Grey Fox Promotions, 603-523-8330, www.GreyFoxBluegrass.com

### BOSS Urban Gardening Institute (BUGI)

The institute is a training, education and resource-sharing gardening project under the auspices of BOSS (Building Opportunities for Self Sufficiency). BOSS runs a network of shelters in Berkeley and Oakland, as well as medical clinics and job training programs. The Urban Gardening Institute is dedicated to helping the homeless, many of them recovering drug addicts, become self sufficient by using horticulture as therapy and job training. Interns learn how to create and nurture organic gardens in urban environments, and in the process learn how to rebuild their lives and ultimately to find or create their own employment opportunities.

Daniel Miller, Project Director, 2880 Sacramento Street, 510-843-1307. Daniel@urbangardens.org. www.urbangardens.org

### Centro Mujeres, A.C.

Centro Mujeres is a multi-service community health organization dedicated to the health and empowerment of young women and adolescents in Baja California. The organization provides health services, advocates for reproductive and sexual rights, and works to develop leadership skills in young women. The commitment is to marry community-based work with public policy advocacy to achieve social justice for women in Mexico. Centro Mujeres offers psychological counseling services to men and women, legal counseling to women, child-birth education classes, medical examinations and consultations to women, birth control services and

AIDS prevention counseling and workshops. Currently two special projects are Creating Options for Adolescent Development and Orientation (COPADO), which is the only teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease prevention program for junior high school students in Baja, and The Leadership Training Institute in Reproductive Health (PROMISE), a program to train women to be advocates for women's health and reproductive rights.

Teresa Shields Gibson, Ave. Marquez de Leon 480 B, Centro-La, Paz, Baja California Sur. c.p. 23000-Mexico. cmujeres@balandra.uabcs.mx www.bjatravel.com/centromujeres

### Little Kids Rock

The mission of Little Kids Rock (LKR) is based upon its belief that music is a critical component of a well-balanced education. Recognizing that today arts education in general and music in particular are minimal or completely absent in many schools, the organization was founded in 1996 to bring free music instruction to low-income children in public schools. The goal is to enable the students to write their own music and develop a musical voice at a young age. Consequently the emphasis is on composition and performance, rather than notation-based instruction. The focus is on popular music, including rock, funk, blues, rap and hip-hop. Each class culminates with a recording project featuring the LKR students (aged 5-12) playing popular pieces, and singing songs of their own composition. LKR furthers its mission by hosting free teacher workshops that train music mentors who will lead new classes on a volunteer basis outside of normal school hours, with their efforts supported by LKR, which also supplies guitars free of charge for use in the mentors' classes. (Students who successfully complete the first year of the program and commit to a second year get to keep the guitar permanently.)

David Wish, Executive Director, P. O. Box 475303, San Francisco, CA 94147-5303. 510-528-3673. info@littlekidsrock.org. www.littlekidsrock.org

## Standing Ovation Performing Arts

In a neighborhood "where drum rolls are not heard as often as drive-by shootings" and the majority of families live below the California median income, the mission of Standing Ovation Performing Arts (SOPA) program is to provide a quality music education in a nurturing environment. Based on a dedication to fostering aesthetic growth as an essential part of a child's total education, SOPA is a fund that allows an actual music program in a poor community to develop. Music education enhances these underprivileged students' scholastic and life experience, giving them something of which they can be proud.

Helena Moss-Jack, Founder, 7933 Hillmont Drive, Oakland, CA 94605. 510-879-2020. HJackMusic@aol.com. www.geocities.com/pdhines

## Ruckus Society

Ruckus Society provides environmental and human rights organizers with the tools, training and support needed to achieve their goals. The mission is: • To train leadership and teach activism by implementation of nonviolent direct action, • Organize strategic development for campaign goals, • Establish broad coalitions with common objectives, • Teach effective media outreach and internet activism and • Include respect for all living beings and commit to the power of diversity.

Nisha Anand, Development Director, 5111 Telegraph Avenue #326, Oakland, CA 94609 510-763-7068. www.ruckus.org

## Suyá Indians, Mato Grosso Brazil

The Suyá Indian community is a tightly organized indigenous group, known in Brazil as a tribe, that speaks a distinctive language and has established and maintained distinctive cultural identity. The Suyá, through political and judicial action recently recovered 580 square miles of their former territory by a Brazilian government decree. They are working to protect the flora and fauna of that territory and their adjacent territory, as well as to repair damage to their reclaimed lands

caused by Brazilian cattle ranching between 1970 and 1995. The Rex Foundation grant will provide the communication equipment needed to enable the Suyáns to communicate easily among their villages, monitor trespassers and mobilize teams to take action as needed.

Prof. Anthony Seeger, Dept. of Ethnomusicology, 2539 Schoeaber Hall, UCLC, Box 951657, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1657

## The Jaffe Institute

The institute was created to teach people how to live in the essence of divine love, peace and mercy to all people. It is the unfolding of a new paradigm synthesizing traditional medical understandings of the body's anatomy and pathology with the deeper understandings of spiritual healing. It is the medicine that treats the whole being – body, heart, soul and spirit. It is a community of like-minded people showing a new way of what community really means ...living and loving together.

James Cotton, P.O. Box 688, Angwin, CA 94508. 707-965-0400 x33

**T**he first new grants in 2002, resulting from *The Healing Power of Music* benefit concert the previous fall, supported efforts that exemplify how music and the arts help others.

## Bread and Roses

Founded in 1974 by performer Mimi Farina, Bread and Roses brings free, live performances to people isolated in Bay Area institutions. Over 500 shows are produced yearly for a total audience of 19,000 in convalescent homes, hospitals, AIDS facilities, homeless and senior centers, psychiatric, rehabilitation and correctional facilities, as well as centers for abused and neglected children. Over 1,200 performing artists, from amateurs to professionals, donate their time and talents on an annual basis. Mimi Farina passed away in July 2001, a loss touching thousands of people. Though such a loss is profound, Mimi created a vibrant organization and community of perform-

ers and volunteers committed to carrying out her vision to uplift the human spirit with the magic of art and music. The Rex Foundation, a long-standing supporter of Bread and Roses, is grateful to once again contribute to their vital work.

Cassandra Flipper, Exec. Director, 233 Tamalpais Drive, suite 100, Corte Madera, CA 94925, www.breadandroses.org

## Heart, Mind, Body, Soul

A Music Program for Grades K-3 Jim Corbett, known as *Mr. Music* has been teaching music to Sonoma County elementary school students for the past 15 years. This year, Jim initiated the Heart, Mind, Body, Soul program which will present up to 45 minutes for each grade level (K-3) for 32 weeks, covering vocal training, rhythm techniques, dance and movement, and music appreciation. Because of budget restrictions, many schools have eliminated music from their curriculum. With community support, Heart, Mind, Body, Soul can now be brought to hundreds of children.

Jim Corbett, 7869 Washington Ave., Sebastopol, CA 94722, 707-823-5849

## The Solentiname, Nicaragua Friendship Group

The Solentiname, Nicaragua Friendship Group of Western Massachusetts works with the residents of a group of islands in Lake Nicaragua. The Friendship Group helps some 1,200 people turn their artistic talents into a resource by selling their artwork in galleries and craft fairs across New England, creating a self-sustaining indigenous economy. The Group is now expanding the arts program to the children of the islands, including the provision of art supplies, music and musical instruments, and teachers chosen from within the community, bringing opportunities to adults for teaching. Given the need for general education and literacy improvement, the Friendship Group envisions this arts program bringing new stimulus to many other areas, such as ecology.

John Brentlinger, 169 Dudleyville Rd., Leverett, MA 01054, 413-367-2120



Little Kids Rock

## Grant Recipients from the Rex Foundation's 9/11 Fund

**I**n an effort to help those who were directly affected by the events of September 11th, 2001, Grateful Dead band members donated \$50,000 to a special 9/11 Fund. Though some time had passed since that terrible day, the recovery and healing continued and Rex wanted "to be part of this recovery by supporting projects that: • Rebuild Ground Zero communities, • Help families of victims heal and thrive, and • Promote inter-cultural/religious tolerance and understanding."

We deeply appreciate the effort people made to respond to our call for proposals on the DeadNet Conference website. It is because of this effort that we have been able to fund programs that not only directly help people affected by 9/11 but also have risen from that tragedy to create a brighter future for others. We identified the following four recipients:

### Peaceful Tomorrows

Families of 9/11 victims have organized to seek ways to educate, advocate and work toward non-violent responses to terrorism. Their mission is to seek effective non-violent responses to terrorism, and to identify a commonality with all people similarly affected by violence throughout the world. By conscientiously exploring peaceful options in their search for justice, September 11 Families choose to spare additional innocent families the suffering they have already experienced, as well as to break the endless cycle of violence and retaliation engendered by war.

www. [peacefultomorrow.org](http://peacefultomorrow.org)

### The Gift of New York

The Gift of New York is a non-profit initiative that provides the families of those who died in the 9/11 attacks with access, at no cost, to the full range of the New York area's theatrical, artistic, cultural, sports, and live entertainment through April 30, 2003, to help people in their transition from crisis to recovery. The initiative has the support of Mayors Giuliani and Bloomberg, the endorsement of State and City cultural and community affairs officials, and participation by the arts, entertainment and sports communities. Over 2,000 families have registered, representing more than 10,000 people served.

www. [thegiftofnewyork.org](http://thegiftofnewyork.org), 800-528-1499

### ArtistCares

Initiated as an immediate, grass roots response to September 11th, artists from all major disciplines, as well as public relations, marketing, and mental health professionals mobilized to promote healing

through creative expression in times of crisis. The three primary services of ArtistCares are:

- Creative arts healing workshops to promote healing through creative expression;
- Collaborative offerings, created with cultural and other organizations to meet community needs in times of crisis;
- Events where artists from many disciplines share their talents to reconnect communities with the arts.

To date, over 300 organizations have offered assistance and 100 artists and professionals have volunteered their services.

www. [ArtistCares.org](http://ArtistCares.org), 718-658-7400

### Glen Pettit Scholarship Fund

A college scholarship fund to honor 30 year-old Glen Pettit, who lost his life at the World Trade Center while videotaping for the NYPD. As a student with learning challenges, Glen attended BOSES, a public vocational school. Glen connected with his videography class, and not only excelled at BOSES, but also went on to college and became a successful videographer and New York policeman. The Glen Pettit Scholarship fund will help BOSES students continue on to college.

Association of Brookhaven Technical Center Educators (ABTCE), Brookhaven Technical Center, 350 Martha Ave., Bellport, NY 11713, (631) 286-6500



Photo: Courtesy of National Park Service

## Rex Newsletter on Environmental Activism

**A**s part of its reinvention, to resume active funding, the Rex Foundation is publishing a series of newsletters, each devoted to an area of its mission. We wish to understand how best to contribute in these areas and hope that the newsletters will help stimulate a community of ideas, directions, people and organizations.

Given the acute need for public education and effective collective action about environmental health, we decided that the first newsletter would focus on the environment, traditionally strongly supported by Rex grant giving.

We interviewed two colleagues whose lives are deeply integrated with environmental consciousness, and have stories to match – Michael Klein of Rex and Forest Ethics, and Randy Hayes of the Rainforest Action Network. Grassroots efforts can influence powerful economic institutions to do the right thing.

“We can orchestrate a global ecological U-turn within one generation. We must envision a global environment that supports human rights, cultural and ecological diversity, ecological literacy, and true democratic governance for all. As we gain greater understanding of the changes needed to achieve this vision, we must mandate these changes through our purchasing power, voting, and other constructive forms of collective action.” – *Randy Hayes*

“Ultimately, each person’s decision-making process in the course of everyday living – the cars we drive, other ways we conserve energy, the food we eat, and our consciousness about the impact of these decisions – can make all the difference.”

– *Michael Klein*

The fate of the forests is emblematic of environmental degradation. Bob Weir’s perspective shows concern at a personal level, a perspective which underlies the founding values of Rex.

“[On one of our first band trips] we could see a mist rising up from the forested foothills all around us, and when this mist joined with and seeded the clouds passing overhead it turned to rain and snow, which then fell on the mountains to our east. Scientists call this regular phenomenon evapo-transpiration.

It was breathtaking to behold, but as we watched, we had a firm realization that we were witnessing something even more beautiful than our eyes could ever take in.

We saw how the rain falls to the Earth, where it mixes with sun, soil, and air; and there rises the grandest of all life forms – the forest, awesome in its size and complexity. The forest, in turn, holds the moisture until the next storm front comes through, when again the mist will rise, the clouds will seed, and rain will fall. Life causes life. Heaven and Earth dance in this way endlessly, and their child is the forest.” – *Bob Weir*