

Burning Man 2016
Annual Report



Burning Man 2016 Annual Report



Message from the CEO

Creative inspiration as it is found in Black Rock City is singular in its persistence. More than twenty years ago, that inspiration leapt the event's boundaries, carried home by hand and heart into the year-round lives of its participants, and later, picked up and localized by Burners who never set foot in that desert city. Our organization strived to keep up with and report on all the manifestations of that inspiration, and to support them with resources and intercommunication to help them grow. Many of the programs and projects that Burning Man supports today began as responses to requests received back then.

Transitioning to a nonprofit has been like adding rocket fuel to the flame, launching us into a whole new era of Burning Man. Today, Black Rock City is but one node in a global network of participants, collaborations, and organizations. Civic actions, nonprofit partnerships, events, public art, community support efforts, and education initiatives are just some of the current manifestations of this unfolding worldwide culture. While we still sprint as fast as ever to keep up with this constant creative and social evolution, today we are proud to say that Burning Man is truly a platform for creative participation all over the world.

Warmly,
Marian Goodell
CEO/Chief Engagement Officer, Burning Man

Message from the Chief Transition Officer:

Burning Man's legacy is built upon a volunteer-driven ethos, which invites many voices to be heard and to influence our very nature: our day-to-day operations, our communications and collaborations with others, and even our development in the global arena. It remains imperative that we stay true to these roots so that volunteerism will continue to thrive. I'm pleased that in 2016 we were able to revitalize our commitment to volunteerism and nurture its influence on our growth in the world.

In 2016, we developed an action plan for strengthening our support for volunteers, including improving communication, developing training resources, examining tools and processes, and creating new opportunities for engagement. We created the Volunteer Leadership Council as an independent body, to nourish the spirit of participation and volunteerism. To further anchor us in our mission, we also forged new relationships and deepened others with like-minded institutions, programs and cities. We officially affiliated with Burning Man Netherlands and continued our engagement with The White House's Nation of Makers initiative. We also further developed our Fellows program and refined our fiscal sponsorship work to support and extend our efforts, at home and abroad.

Sincerely,
Harley K. DuBois
Chief Transition Officer, Burning Man



Arts & Civic Engagement

Burning Man Project's Art and Civic Engagement Department reflects Burning Man's commitment to creative expression and community activation. The team exists to support the movement as it gains momentum worldwide. We get to explore the influences of Black Rock City as it pertains to art, active community engagement, and civic participation. As we build our own awareness of what is possible, we find ourselves able to extend from the experimental and temporary space of Black Rock City out into the world, where we do such things as develop secure shelters in refugee camps, stimulate interactive and collective art practice in cities, and provide celebrations that enhance social connectedness.

BWB spotlight:

The 'Protectors Alliance' Project: From Black Rock to Standing Rock
Representatives from BWB joined forces at Standing Rock with Becca Dakini and helped incubate the Protectors Alliance, which, in close collaboration with the Standing Rock Sioux Tribal council, joined forces with other invited groups and spent five weeks building out and winterizing the new composting toilet infrastructure for the Water Protectors. The Standing Rock Compost Toilet Winterization Project served a population of up to 2,000 throughout the winter.

2016 gave us a huge opportunity to examine what we do through the lens of creating improvements to support for artists, extending our work through Burners Without Borders, and setting the building blocks in place that allow us to share our work through civic arts and community events. All of this is possible due to the hundreds of engaged Burning Man participants and community leaders worldwide who give their time, thought, and passion to this work and collaborate with those of us on the Arts and Civic Engagement team.

2016 HIGHLIGHTS:

A \$15,000 honoraria helped Jon Sarriguarte and Kyrsten Mate's Serpent Twins and Android Jones' Samskara to participate by invitation in Maker Faire Nantes, at the world-renowned Les Machines de l'île Festival, a celebration of larger-than-life artworks and wild mechanical wonders, attended by thousands.

Las Fallas in Valencia, Spain: A Burner delegation of artists and staff accepted an artist exchange and co-learning project with Las Fallas, a traditional Mediterranean celebration of art, fire, and community dating back to the Middle Ages. The celebration features hundreds of burnable sculptures communally built by neighborhoods all across the historical city of Valencia. And similar to the role of fire in our desert home, residents of all ages and backgrounds are brought together by the common allure of fire. In September, representatives and artists from Las Fallas came to Black Rock City, further deepening the cultural connection between these two communities.

Global Arts Grants: Our Global Arts Grants support community-driven works of art across an array of creative disciplines. All over the world, this program funds works that are highly interactive, accessible to the public, and civic in scope, engagement, and creation. We support art that prompts the viewer to act. Since 2003, the Global Art Grants program has awarded over \$650,000 to 144 projects in 21 countries and 29 different U.S. States. (approximately 20% of projects are international). In 2016, \$78,250 was awarded to 17 global projects.

In 2016, now well integrated into the Art and Civic Engagement department, Burners Without Borders (BWB) helped people around the world organize and take action to produce vital and creative civic projects.

Between August 11 and August 14, 2016, more than two feet of rain fell across Southern Louisiana, affecting more than 150,000 homes. BWB coordinated more than 70 volunteers in the region to assist with disaster relief and long-term recovery. BWB created an innovative mobile maker space called the Mobile Resource Unit (MRU), a 20-foot refurbished shipping container filled with tools, advanced manufacturing equipment, and supplies for making prototypes and art. The MRU can be easily shipped to areas in need, such as disaster relief zones, impoverished neighborhoods, or refugee camps. With the right tools, technology, knowledge, and human power available, infrastructure and cultural connection can recover more quickly, paving the way for self-reinforcing development in areas where it is greatly needed.

BWB participated in the world's first Humanitarian Maker Faire in Kathmandu, Nepal, a city in recovery from a devastating earthquake in 2015. BWB's participation included building long-term tool and educational resources to the city by helping to build a maker space for our partner organization in Nepal, Communitere. Community support for Burners Without Borders helped to create a micro-grant that provided funds and labor to finish the flooring and doors of the space, which was presented at the Maker Faire.

BWB issued a call at the Global Leadership Conference for a Global Wave of Service in 2016. 12 regional groups answered, leading to multiple civic service events including a graffiti cleanup in Austin, a street store in Detroit, a beach cleanup in Florida, and even a musical street jam in locations around usually-conservative Shanghai.


🌸 **28 official regional Burners Without Borders groups**

🌸 **\$17,500 in grants & microgrants**

🌸 **19 grants in 11 countries**



Education & Philosophical Center



Burning Man's Education programs support our extended community's efforts to reflect, compile, and share its immeasurable collective knowledge about organizing for community, creativity and civic involvement all around the world. The Philosophical Center is "the conscience and collective memory of Burning Man," with a collaborative mission of cultural stewardship, scholarship, and community discourse. Informed by the Ten Principles but more fully revealed in our actions, it informs every aspect of our work in the world.

Fellowship Programs:

Our Fellowship Program, designed to stimulate innovation and invest in people, continues to grow. Global Fellow Misa Rygrova completed her fellowship in 2016 after 2 years. Misa conducted research within the European Community, and collaborated with various Burning Man teams to create the event leads mentorship program in 2016. Last year, we also awarded our first Storytelling Fellowship to Tony "Coyote" Perez-Banuet. A tenacious writer and talented storyteller, Tony captures richly-detailed stories of Burning Man's early years for sharing with our community through books, podcasts, and other media.

2016 HIGHLIGHTS:

Redesigned for 2016, the Theme Camp Leadership Summit brought together 125 in-person participants in San Francisco and another hundred online to share best practices and educational materials on the trials and triumphs of Theme Camp organization. The event's presentations were captured on video and shared with the larger theme camp community and the public via Burning Man's YouTube Channel.

As in 2015, the annual Desert Arts Preview event was preceded by a daylong Artist Network Symposium, bringing together over 100 new and experienced artists from across the Burning Man community for panel discussions, moderated talks, presentations, and an open session for networking and connecting. At day's end the crowd swelled to 367 participants for the always-popular sneak-peak at 2016 Honorary art at the Desert Arts Preview. These events, too, were captured for sharing with the broader community via our YouTube channel.

Each year we are inundated with requests for speakers, interviews and presentations as the world seeks to understand and learn from our culture and the event that spawned it. In 2016 we received 149 such requests, including an invitation for our CEO Marian Goodell to join the Vatican for an onstage conversation at Web Summit 2016 in Portugal, Europe's largest web conference. We were also honored with invitations to give presentations and participate in panels related to community-building, creative self-expression, working with local governments, visual arts, music, and more. Events included the Moscow Urban Forum, the Bureau voor Reuring in the Netherlands, Italy's IF! Italians Festival and TEDx Roma, Maker Faire France, and dozens more international and domestic engagements.

Burning Man's YouTube Channel, now with over 28,000 subscribers, continued to grow its collection of documentary content celebrating Burning Man's history, ethos, educational events, and growing year-round culture. Through the power of the moving image, viewers can experience the story of Burning Man's evolution in the world; it is here that we share reminders of the past, landmarks for the present, and inspiration for the future. In 2016 our volunteer Documentation Team added some exceptional videos, including the latest installment of our volunteering appreciation series, the LOVE project, focusing on BRC's Lamplighters. The Profiles in Dust crew also produced a short documentary about the youngest members of the Burning Man community, called "Kids at Burning Man".

Burners are social learners, and thrive in face-to-face, peer-to-peer learning environments. And yet as the culture expands, the logistics of this become increasingly complex, and we face capacity challenges. Our investments in video and e-learning are meant to offset this imbalance and make Burning Man educational programs available to more people in more time zones.

In October, we convened our first Philosophical Center event, "Sustainable Creative Communities: A Burning Man Symposium." This three-day co-learning event, held at the Esalen Institute on the California coast, convened a deep discussion of art, money, placemaking, generosity, and the future of creative communities. More than 100 invitees participated, including leadership from business organizations, intentional communities and nonprofits, as well as futurist authors, impact investors, crypto-currency experts, creative placemakers, rebel entrepreneurs, and leaders and artists from the Burning Man community and beyond.

The Philosophical Center helped launch the 2016 event season with a blog series exploring themes around "Art, Money, and the Renaissance," a year-long exploration of the Black Rock City event theme Da Vinci's Workshop, created by Founder and Chief Philosophical Officer Larry Harvey and Education Director Stuart Mangrum. This weaving together of intellectual exploration and the art theme introduced a deepening level of discussion around the meaning of Burning Man, and the relevance of those philosophies to the everyday lives of our creative community.

The Philosophical Center also presented a plenary session at the 2016 Global Leadership Conference, bringing Larry Harvey, Stuart Mangrum, and resident scribe and philosopher Caveat Magister to the stage for a lively discussion of how this Renaissance theme might color our understanding of art, money, and community in Black Rock City and around the global community.



Global Network

With outposts now in the hundreds, this program of volunteerism and local community building is a global phenomenon like no other. Through involvement in both locally independent initiatives and those organized under the auspices of the Project and its support for the Global Network, individuals and groups have brought Burning Man to life year round and all over the world.

Burning Man in Latin America:

Burning Man culture has found its way to Latin America. In addition to meetups and gatherings around Brazil and Argentina, in March, Fuego Austral became the first ever official Regional Burn event held in Latin America. The event, held in a field near Buenos Aires, was attended by 300 people, and included five art installations and 18 Theme Camps. Latin America was also solidly represented in Black Rock City in August, including several major Mutant Vehicles and Theme Camps, and a lively and well-attended Latin American Burner meetup during the week.

Among the highlights from around the Network in 2016:

The 10th Annual Global Leadership Conference (GLC), “Workshopping the Future: Leaving a Positive Trace” drew 519 participants to San Francisco in Spring 2016 (up about 20% from 2015) and included 129 active or alumni Regional Contacts and other community leaders and collaborators. 30 percent of the attendees participated by presenting or facilitating a session, and 152 attendees participated in the Unconference that was held during the event. The number of global participants served by the leadership gathered at this collaborative learning event is estimated to be over 100,000.

Europe’s thriving Global Network contingent organized their third European Leadership Summit in February in Barcelona, Spain, bringing together 135 organizers and leaders from 21 countries (up from 100 in 2015); the event also coincided with the Barcelona Maker Faire. Burners Without Borders presented a Civic Ignition Grant to the event hosts [freespace], to help them realize their vision of creating an open space in Barcelona’s Raval neighborhood.

Leaders from the US Eastern Seaboard convened their first Mid-Atlantic Leadership Conference. 45 leaders representing Burner communities and events from the area gathered in our nation’s capital for this weekend mindshare event, timed to coincide with D.C. Burners’ Catharsis on the Mall.

Southern Burners organized as well, creating a Southeastern Leadership Burning Man Roundtable near Atlanta, Georgia, convening leadership from 17 different Regional Burns.

Europe’s 13th Nowhere event received approval from local authorities to increase its attendance cap from 1,500 to 2,000, drawing participants who spoke a total of 27 different languages. For the first time in 13 years the event included fire, since Spanish authorities allowed Nowhere to build and burn an effigy.

Finnish Burners brought massive art to the playa and held their first-ever Decompression event in Helsinki, Finland. Other event locations included Moscow, Japan, Israel, Western Australia, New Zealand, Austria, the Netherlands, Africa, Denmark, and Sweden, in addition to dozens of events and experiences all over North America.

And finally, for the first time in our organization’s history, we licensed the use of the name “Burning Man” to a Regional group. Burning Man Netherlands (BMNL) will serve as a springboard for their community projects, Regional Events, and civic activation efforts. BMNL functions similarly to other independent entities across the network, but is a little more closely connected to Burning Man Project. We are learning from this experimental affiliation, and look forward to sharing our learnings more broadly in the future.

FISCAL SPONSORSHIP

Burning Man’s Fiscal Sponsorship Program allows Burning Man to apply our 501(c)3 status to facilitate funds for art and civic engagement projects, by allowing qualified affiliates to utilize the benefits of nonprofit status for their own fundraising. Our experience with fiscal sponsorship more than 10 years ago, when The Black Rock Arts Foundation first achieved nonprofit status, enabling it to extend a fundraising helping hand to dozens of global projects every year. Over the past two years, with BRAF’s programs and essential wisdom now integrated under Burning Man Arts, the Program Services team has

been building on a fiscal sponsorship program that is self-sustaining and can help projects not only get to Black Rock City, but further the mission of Burning Man all over the world.

Today, not just art, but civic projects, Burners Without Borders initiatives, and fledgling nonprofit organizations are eligible for fiscal sponsorship. In 2016, 14 Black Rock City-bound projects applied for fiscal sponsorship, with a combined fundraising goal of over \$480,000. 2017 already shows promise for many more supported creative collaborations in Black Rock City and beyond.

✿ **286 volunteer regional contacts and meta regional contacts**

✿ **In 123 regions**

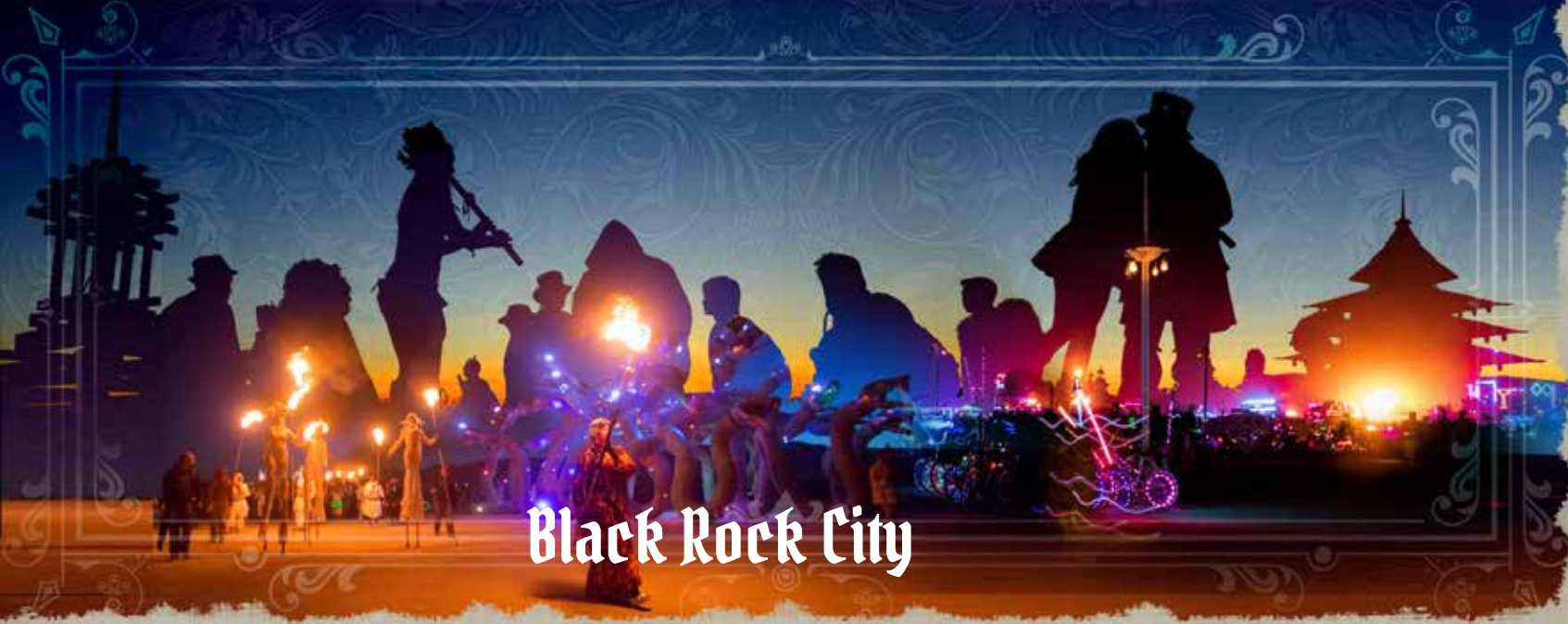
✿ **In 35 countries**

✿ **67 official regional events**

✿ **Hundreds of other gatherings**

✿ **Thousands of connections**

✿ **Millions of possibilities**



Black Rock City

Surrounding and extending beyond the Man were art installations conceived of and built by new and experienced artists from across the spectrum of the Burning Man community. In addition to thousands of random acts of creativity ranging from performances and parties to costumes and conversations, there were 316 placed art installations on the playa in 2016. This included 58 that received honoraria grants from Burning Man Project, totaling \$1.2 million in BRC arts funding.

By all accounts, 2016 was a year of Herculean art; the Catacomb of Veils, the Black Rock Lighthouse Service, Helios, and the Temple were shining examples of large, complex, beautifully crafted structures which offered an in-depth experience within and without. But as anyone who's been to a Burn knows, there's magic in the smaller art. The pieces that catch you by surprise in the deep outer playa or on a backstreet of BRC. There were plenty of those in 2016 as well, reminding us that everyone is invited to share their creative vision with the Burning Man community (yes, including you!).

In 2016 we were once again graced with a stunning Temple designed by the one-and-only David Best. His tenth Temple for Black Rock City, aptly named The Temple Project, this one took a departure in style and materials from many of his past creations. Instead of the usual intricately cut, filigreed wood, this one was made from lumber aged to look weathered and old. The result was a visually striking piece that more than fulfilled its promise to serve as the spiritual home of our city.

2016 Facts and Figures

67,290 participants collaborated to create yet another vibrant city in the dust.

FIRE: 18 burning art projects, 36 flame effects projects, and 12 pyro projects lit up the city's skyline.

Mutant vehicles are the roaming art projects we love to explore brc aboard. In 2016 we received 891 applications and approved 800. 172 were a no-show and 7 didn't meet specifications at inspection, resulting in a total of 624.

210 volunteer lamplighters kindly and methodically lit the city's 917 lanterns each night.

We added 300 new yellow bikes, for a total of 686 bikes participating in our participant created and supported bike share program.

CAMPS: black rock city's placement team placed a total of 1,359 camps:

- 892 theme camps
- 68 villages
- 90 art support camps
- 27 work support camps
- 48 mutant vehicle camps

Recycle camp had its biggest year ever, recycling approximately 3 3/4 tons or 7,500 lbs. of aluminum. this produced a rebate of close to \$2000, which was donated to the local schools in gerlach.

Lost & found received over 2,400 items in 2016. thanks to the diligent and generous attention of a team of volunteers, this process returned 75% of ids, 63% of phones and 50% of backpacks lost in black rock city.

316 Placed Art Installations

\$1.2 million in BRC Arts funding

67,290 Participants

1,359 Camps

892 Theme Camps

624 Mutant Vehicles

18 Burning Art Projects

Jedi Dog Temple:

The *Vinci's Workshop* was the annual art theme in 2016, and Black Rock City rose as imagined through the Italian Renaissance of the 15th and 16th centuries. This poignantly philosophical theme sought to combine "Burning Man art, maker culture and creative philanthropy to make Black Rock City the epicenter of a new renaissance."

The Man in the center of our city stood atop a public square lined with workshops ("guilds") which provided space for interactive manufacturing and creative spaces hosted by artisans and makers from across the United States and around the world. The Man itself, beautifully reimaged in the style of the Vitruvian Man, was designed to display on a rotating machine, reminiscent of many of Leonardo's machines and drawings. While mechanical difficulties prevented its rotation, it was fixed in place, assuredly no less wondrous to behold.

5-year-old Sagan Bocskor of Las Vegas was the artist of "The Jedi Dog Temple (Everyone is Welcome)," a ten-foot tall, child-oriented temple structure he first began designing with blocks when he was only 4. A lifelong Burner whose parents first brought him to Black Rock City at 6 weeks old, Sagan the temple builder is the youngest-ever Burning Man Honorarium grantee.





Fly Ranch

In June of 2016, Burning Man Project purchased the Fly Ranch property, 3,800 acres of land located twenty-one miles north of Gerlach in Washoe County, Nevada. You may be asking yourself, “What does this mean for us? What can we do with this? How will this benefit the community?” These answers will unfold slowly. We’re a long way from defining exactly what will happen at Fly Ranch, but it’s not too early to begin dreaming of the potential.

We’re inspired by this milestone and hope you are too.

How do we take the same Burning Man principles and foster a lasting connection? Work together? Carry on beyond the event? A culture is an evolving organism. We can do it all year round. Fly gives us a vehicle that can take us further and allow us to do more.

-PING FU BURNING MAN PROJECT BOARD MEMBER AND FLY RANCH DONOR

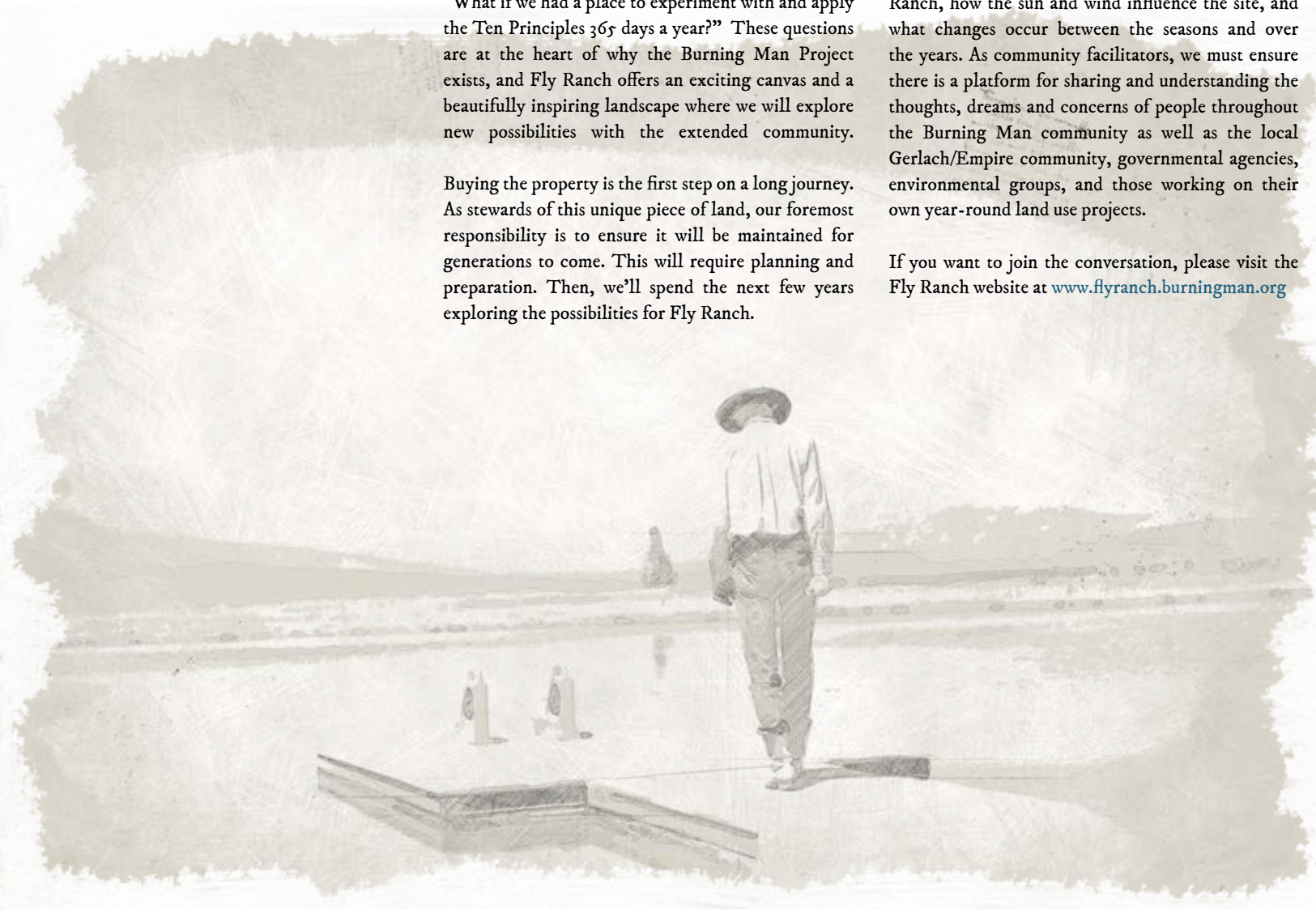
Those who have been deeply affected by a Burning Man event or experience have often asked, “How can we bring this beyond the event?” This desire has persisted throughout our history, and our drive to support those efforts has always led us to wonder, “What if we had a place to experiment with and apply the Ten Principles 365 days a year?” These questions are at the heart of why the Burning Man Project exists, and Fly Ranch offers an exciting canvas and a beautifully inspiring landscape where we will explore new possibilities with the extended community.

Buying the property is the first step on a long journey. As stewards of this unique piece of land, our foremost responsibility is to ensure it will be maintained for generations to come. This will require planning and preparation. Then, we’ll spend the next few years exploring the possibilities for Fly Ranch.

As we go forward, one of our highest priorities will be listening. Listening to the land and listening to people.

As environmental stewards, we must intimately understand what plants and animals coexist at Fly Ranch, how the sun and wind influence the site, and what changes occur between the seasons and over the years. As community facilitators, we must ensure there is a platform for sharing and understanding the thoughts, dreams and concerns of people throughout the Burning Man community as well as the local Gerlach/Empire community, governmental agencies, environmental groups, and those working on their own year-round land use projects.

If you want to join the conversation, please visit the Fly Ranch website at www.flyranch.burningman.org





Gifting: Engagement and Contributions



Gifting is one of the many ways that people participate in Burning Man. All gifts, whether big or small, are cherished equally because each gift helps amplify and extend the Burning Man culture. Gifts within the community were plentiful in 2016. Among the thousands of acts of gifting, many chose to make a monetary gift to Burning Man Project because they believe in Burning Man's ability to affect positive change on the world. We received generous support from individuals, foundations, matching gift programs, organizations, theme camps, and more. These donations helped water the budding garden of Burning Man's programs.

Burning Man's global programs—Burners Without Borders, the Regional Network, Civic Arts, Global Art Grants, and our Education programs—were born from the culture created at Black Rock City. These programs continue to be guided by the community and the culture. And now with increased financial support from generous donors, they can continue scaling to meet the ever-increasing demand from our growing cultural movement. That means we can provide more resources, education, and support to empower and inspire our global citizenry of artists, volunteers, regional leaders, and participants to create meaningful change within themselves and their communities.

Now more than ever we need organizations like Burning Man that promote community, diversity and kindness.

-JOHN MARX

As stewards and servants to this global community, we send you our enormous gratitude for every single one of the gifts you share. Thank you.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Stefan Ackermann | Cheryl Edison | Nicholas Kothari | Eleanor and Bob Preger |
| Ryan Adams | Element 11 | Roberto Kriete | Garrett Price |
| Takeo Aikawa | Mary Emery | La Vida Feliz Foundation | Brian Pridham |
| Towfik Al Swaidi | Kendall Ermshar | Guy Laliberté | Bruce Raben |
| Kristie Allen | Cord Ernst | Tim Larson | Jen & Frances Rainin |
| Mary Allen | Bruce Erkin | Wendy Lawler | Jennifer Raiser |
| Raymond Allen | Jonathan Farber | League of Extraordinary Albertans | Michelle Ramatici |
| Amazonsmile Foundation | Erroll Fielding | Jason Lee | Jesus Ramirez |
| Patrick D. Ashmore | Heather Fisher | Mark Leeds | Danger Ranger |
| Caroline Auxier | Robin Fisher | Christian Lechow | Katie Rapozo |
| Thomas Banahan | Sarah Fisk | David Levin | Kathy Ray |
| Travis Batzer | Matt Follett | Mark Levitin | Anet Redmer |
| Robert Becker | Suzannah Forbes | Andrew S. Levy | Rouven Reiff |
| Thomas Becker | Mike Forman | Dylan Lewis | Sean Rhea |
| Barbara Beerstein & George Badger | Brent M. Forsberg | Jonahan & Shiloh Lewis | Ricardo |
| Zach Bell | Alexander Freedland | Libra Foundation | Matthew Roberds |
| Carol Benson | French Burners | Bill Linton | Randy Robison |
| Christopher Bently | Nicholas Friedman | Vikuna Lion | Parker Roe |
| William Berard | Ping Fu | Julia Lorenceau | Brendan Roof |
| Jerry Bernie | Heather (CameraGirl) Gallagher | Candice Love | Rotary Club Reno |
| Christy Berry | Annabelle Garcia | Lumina Foundation | Ana Roth |
| Brandon Bert | Gina Garoogian | Gayle Maccia and Tillman Pearce | Jack Rubinson |
| David Best | Shane Garrett | Kevin Mahaffey | Sven Ruetti |
| Garry Bledsoe | Catherine "Trixy" Geanuracos | Steve Malik | Marissa Sackler |
| Peter Blitz | Joe Gebbia | David Markman | Gustav Sallander |
| Eddie Bonner | Mark Gerhart | Edward Marks | Saltamantis |
| Nora Borealius | Bryan Gilchrist & Gregory Filardi | Michael Martin | San Francisco Grants |
| Lauren Brand | Amanda Gisko | Rexanne Martin | for the Arts |
| Eric Brisson | Sam Gittings | Mercedes Martinez | Christina Sanini |
| Nancy Bronstein | Tomas Gizas | John Marx & Nikki Beach | Alex Sapir |
| Hayley Brown | Natalia Gola | Hank Mastain | Bobby Sarnoff |
| Charlotte Burns | Matt Goldberg | Johannes Matthee | David Sayer |
| Michael Butt | Rob & Kristin Goldman | Phoebe McAfee | Kristin Scagliotti |
| Keli Cadenhead | Simon Goldman | Mike McGurk | Andy Schilling |
| Matt Capucilli | Marian Goodell | Bill Meacham | Bullfrog Schlinger |
| Ron Carn | Kari Gregg & Kevin Cheng | Bentley Mecker | Graham Schneider |
| Loren Carpenter | Terry Gross | Marc Mehli | Paul Schreier |
| John Cassidy | Christian Grossmann & Susan Monce | Shawn McLamed | Joe Schwan |
| Bob & Joanne Casteel | Roshan R. Habarakada | Josette Melchor | Bart Seidler |
| Gerald Castro | Chad Hagle | John Michael | Justin Shaffer |
| Damien Cavallucci | Kimberley Haley | Michael Mikel | Patricia Shao |
| Charlotte Chamberlin-Taylor | Larry Harvey | William Millichap | Darian Shapiro |
| Aditya Chellaram (Yu Chooz) | Frances Hellman & Warren Breslau | Affinity Mingle | Lisa Simon |
| Julie Cherry | Sharma Hendel | Alex Moradi | Jeff Smith |
| Bryan Christie | Alvis Hendley | Uwe Morawe | Jeffrey Smith |
| Douglas Cleck | Kevin Herbert | Nick & Sloane Morgan | Frank Somma |
| Gabriel Coeli | Brian Herman | Ryan Moriarty | Keith Starkey |
| George Cogan & Fannie Allen | Graham Hill | Kay Morrison | John Stayton |
| Thomas Coghill | Julian Hills | Margie Motorboat | Matthew Stepka |
| Eyal Cohen | David Hover | John Mueller | Benjamin Stern |
| Samantha Coker | Lawrence Howell | Marion Müller | Duane Stilller |
| Chip Conley | William Hulsey | Nikki Mumolo | Rebecca Stillwell |
| Mary Jane Connell | Burt Humberg | Paul Munro | Trevor Stone |
| Jeremy Grandell | Leah Hunter | MacKenzie Murphy | Kirk & Mary Strawn |
| Nelson Crespo | Marquis Hyatt | Christine Neumeier | Scott Struthers |
| Jesse Crowe | Thomas I | Walter New | Rudi Stumpf |
| Stephen Crozier | David Iseli | Jen Jen Oldland | Tonya Surman |
| Thomas Dadier | Thelma Summer Jarman | Brooke Oliver & Elba Rivera | Mark Suva |
| Courtney Dallaire | Amanda & Tomas Jegous | Kay Omeara | Ryan Sweat |
| Seth Dallaire | Catherine Jochai | Devin Osborne | Greg Taggart |
| Darren & Karin | Christopher Johnson | Grace Paglen | Dorothy Tecklenburg |
| Ingrid Daubechies | Sanj Kakar | Emmanuel Panther | Tecovas Foundation |
| Wayne & Breanna de Geere | Katherine & Satoru Boyles & Ogawa | Dorne Pentes | Lance & Karyn Tandler |
| Bow DeBey | Otho Kerr | Bertrand Perrodo | Jonathan Teo |
| Mark Decm | Kenneth Kharma | Crimson Peterson | Amber Terry |
| Denver Decompression | Alex Khawam & Noor Fares | Will Roger Peterson | The Jeffrey A. Altman Foundation |
| John Dietrich | Laura Kimpton | V Pizzuto | Michael Veneziano |
| Matthew Drye | Elisabeth King | Scott Platsky | Martin Vesper |
| Harley K. Dubois | Ahrin Koppel | Miriam Post | Rachel Tos |
| Theresa Duncan | Michael Korcuska | Scott Potter | Frederico Victorino |
| | | | Ron Vidal |
| | | | Transformus |
| | | | Ross Tweedy |



Christopher Tweit
Tyler Vadeboncoeur
Marten van de Sanden
Hugo van der Goes
Tom Van Dyck
Sebastiaan van Kempen
Rob Van Nieuwerkerk
Maria Velasquez
John Whiakker
Nicky Thompson
Rachel Tos
Ron Vidal
Vicki Vinton

Amy & Chip Vitarelli
Mark Walick
Darby & David Walker
John Warmerdam
Martha Watson
Paul Weinberg
Ruthi Wertheimer
Megan Wheeler
Michael Veneziano
Martin Vesper
Frederico Victorino
Ron Vidal
John Wilson

Mike Wilson
Lion Wintemute
Amanda Wolf
Anthony Wood
Roger Wu
Alex Young
Ko Yu
Marc Yvanis
James Zhang
Anonymous (13)



About the Organization

✿ Mission:

The mission of the Burning Man organization is to facilitate and extend the culture that has issued from the Burning Man event into the larger world.

✿ Vision:

The Burning Man organization will bring experiences to people in grand, awe-inspiring and joyful ways that lift the human spirit, address social problems and inspire a sense of culture, community and personal engagement.

✿ Burning Man Project Board of Directors as of December 31, 2016

Chip Conley

Crimson Rose
SECRETARY

David Walker

Dennis M. Bartels

Harley K. DuBois
FOUNDING BOARD MEMBER

Jennifer Raiser
TREASURER

Kay Morrison

Larry Harvey
PRESIDENT

Leo Villareal

Marian Goodell
FOUNDING BOARD MEMBER
& BURNING MAN PROJECT CEO

Matt Goldberg

Mercedes Martinez

Micheal Mikel
VICE PRESIDENT

Mike Farrah

Ping Fu

Rae Richman

Terry Gross
VICE PRESIDENT

Will Roger
CHAIR



Assets December 31, 2015

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$7,090,795
Accounts receivable	\$9,169
Refunds receivable	\$151,105
Grants receivable	\$20,000
Other receivables	\$11,369
Inventory	\$34,985
Prepaid expenses	\$258,024
Total current assets	\$7,575,447
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT - net	\$2,933,198
OTHER ASSETS	
Deposits	\$82,544
Goodwill	\$4,231,063
Total other assets	\$4,313,607
Total assets	\$14,822,252

Liabilities and Net Assets December 31, 2015

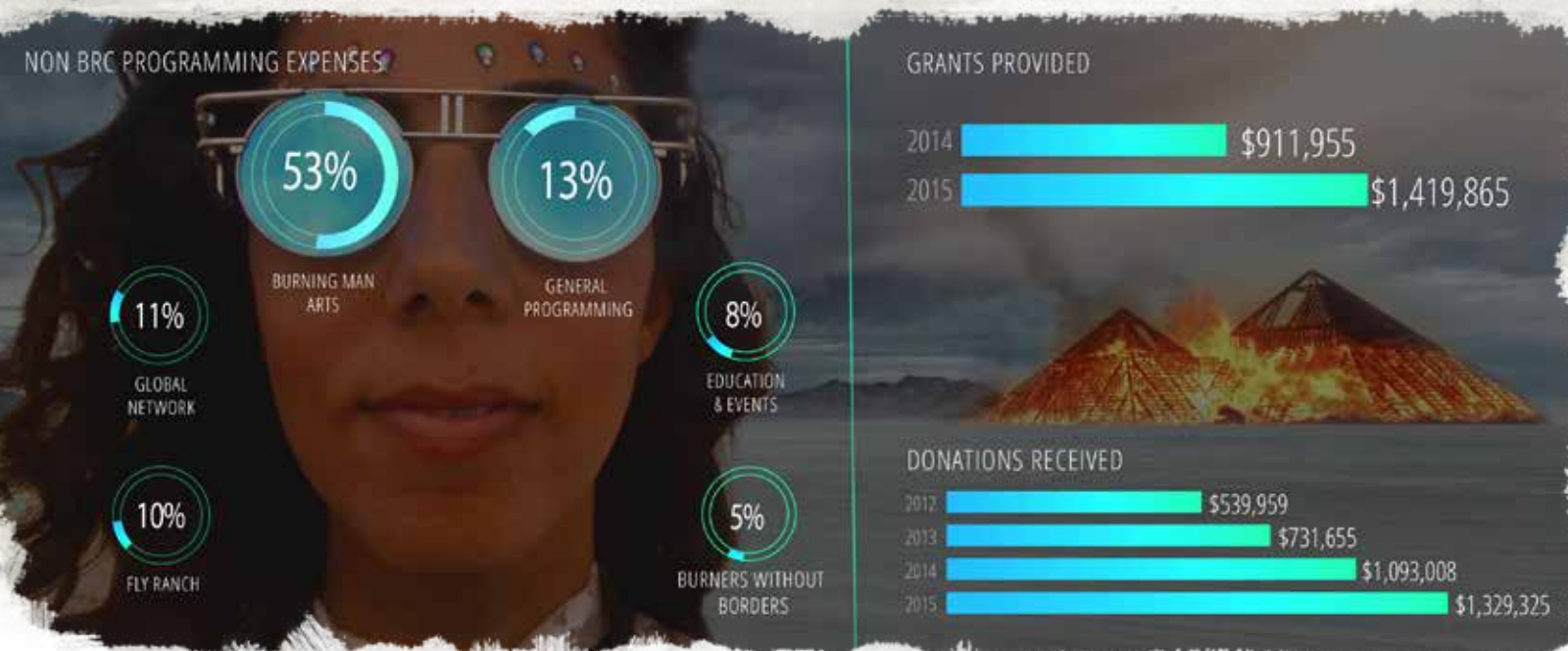
CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$2,636,084
Notes payable - current portion	\$500,000
Total current liabilities	\$3,136,084
OTHER LIABILITIES	
Notes payable	\$625,000
Deferred rent	\$343,924
Total other liabilities	\$968,924
COMMITMENTS	0
NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted	\$10,628,866
Temporarily restricted	\$88,378
Total Net Assets	\$10,717,244
Total liabilities and net assets	\$14,822,252



While Burning Man has long been committed to transparency, with our transition to nonprofit status, this voluntary commitment becomes a mandate for an even deeper level of financial reporting and auditing.

Please Note: The data included here in our 2016 Annual Report is our most recent fully audited data, which is from 2015. We encourage readers to return to our website in the fall, when we will publish financial information for the 2016 fiscal year.



Consolidated Statement of Activities Year ended December 31, 2015

REVENUES AND SUPPORT	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
Burning Man annual event	\$35,578,074	-	\$31,459,816
Contributions, gifts and grants	\$682,768	\$131,910	1,029,865
Other program revenue	\$156,215	-	\$156,215
Fundraising events - (net of direct expenses of \$327,818)	\$314,081	-	\$314,081
Interest Income	\$8,754	-	\$8,754
Other Income	\$21,196	-	\$21,196
Subtotal	\$36,761,088	\$669,943	\$37,431,031
Net assets released from restrictions	\$723,156	(\$723,156)	-
Total revenues and support	\$37,484,244	\$(53,213)	\$37,431,031
EXPENDITURES			
Program Expenses	\$30,454,146	-	\$30,454,146
Management and general	\$5,510,228	-	\$5,510,228
Fundraising	\$451,414	-	\$451,414
Total Expenditures	\$36,415,788	-	\$36,415,788
Change In Net Assets	\$1,068,456	\$(53,213)	\$1,015,243
Net assets - beginning of year	\$9,560,410	\$141,591	\$9,702,001
Net assets - end of year	\$10,628,866	\$88,378	\$10,717,244

Ten Principles

RADICAL INCLUSION

Anyone may be a part of Burning Man. We welcome and respect the stranger. No prerequisites exist for participation in our community.

DECOMMODIFICATION

In order to preserve the spirit of gifting, our community seeks to create social environments that are unmediated by commercial sponsorships, transactions, or advertising. We stand ready to protect our culture from such exploitation. We resist the substitution of consumption for participatory experience.

LEAVING NO TRACE

Our community respects the environment. We are committed to leaving no physical trace of our activities wherever we gather. We clean up after ourselves and endeavor, whenever possible, to leave such places in a better state than when we found them.

RADICAL SELF-EXPRESSION

Radical self-expression arises from the unique gifts of the individual. No one other than the individual or a collaborating group can determine its content. It is offered as a gift to others. In this spirit, the giver should respect the rights and liberties of the recipient.

COMMUNAL EFFORT

Our community values creative cooperation and collaboration. We strive to produce, promote and protect social networks, public spaces, works of art, and methods of communication that support such interaction.

CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY

We value civil society. Community members who organize events should assume responsibility for public welfare and endeavor to communicate civic responsibilities to participants. They must also assume responsibility for conducting events in accordance with local, state and federal laws.

GIFTING

Burning Man is devoted to acts of gift giving. The value of a gift is unconditional. Gifting does not contemplate a return or an exchange for something of equal value.

PARTICIPATION

Our community is committed to a radically participatory ethic. We believe that transformative change, whether in the individual or in society, can occur only through the medium of deeply personal participation. We achieve being through doing. Everyone is invited to work. Everyone is invited to play. We make the world real through actions that open the heart.

RADICAL SELF-RELIANCE

Burning Man encourages the individual to discover, exercise and rely on his or her inner resources.

IMMEDIACY

Immediate experience is, in many ways, the most important touchstone of value in our culture. We seek to overcome barriers that stand between us and a recognition of our inner selves, the reality of those around us, participation in society, and contact with a natural world exceeding human powers. No idea can substitute for this experience.



WELCOME HOME.

☺☺ *A special thank you to the worldwide Burning Man community
for its tireless commitment and inspiration.*

C R E D I T S :

We're especially grateful for the photographers and artists whose work brings the story of Burning Man to life in the pages of this piece.

Photography: Keith Aeschliman, Susan Becker, Elena Bolshakova, John Chandler, Jonathan Clark, John Curley, DustToAshes, Mark Hammon, Bill Klemens, Rand Larson, Lung Liu, Zipporah Lomax, Scott London, Mark Mennie, David Nelson-Gal, Mark Nixon, Grant Palmer, Jamen Percy, Raphael Pincas, George Post, Niv Shafran

Photography credits page: www.annualreport2016.burningman.org/credit

Artists: David Best, The Black Rock Lighthouse Service, Sagan Boeskor & Team, Kevin Clark, The Man Build Crew, Android Jones, Laura Kimpton, La Victrola Society, The Pier Group, Phoenix Rising, Jonny and Max Poynton, Jeff Schomberg, Matthew Schultz, Dan Sullivan, Andy Tibbetts, Jessika Welz, Wrecking House

Content: Burning Man Communications Team & Andie Grace

Design: Silvia Stephenson, Tanner Boeger



Burning Man
Annual Report 2016

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🌀 *Burning Man is a nonprofit 501(c) organization with a mission to facilitate and extend the culture that has issued from the Burning Man event into the larger world.*