

**Nebraska Cultural Endowment  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND  
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
For the year ended December 31, 2025**

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Directors  
Nebraska Cultural Endowment

### **Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Nebraska Cultural Endowment (a nonprofit organization), herein referred to as the Organization, which comprise the statement of assets, liabilities, and net assets – modified cash basis as of December 31, 2025, and the related statement of support, revenue, expense, and changes in net assets – modified cash basis, functional expenses – modified cash basis, and cash flows – modified cash basis for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization as of December 31, 2025, and the changes in net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting as described in Note A.

### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Organization and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### **Basis of Accounting**

We draw attention to Note A of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to that matter.

## **Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting as described in Note A, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

## **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements, including omissions, are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

### **Supplementary Information**

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The schedule of trust fund investments – modified cash basis on page 25 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

### **Report on Summarized Comparative Information**

We have previously audited the Organization’s 2024 financial statements, and we expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those audited financial statements in our report dated May 21, 2025. In our opinion, the summarized comparative information presented herein as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements from which it has been derived.

*Hayes & Associates, LLC*

Hayes & Associates, L.L.C.  
Omaha, Nebraska  
May 21, 2026

Nebraska Cultural Endowment  
STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES, AND NET ASSETS - MODIFIED CASH BASIS  
December 31, 2025  
(With comparative totals as of December 31, 2024)

	2025			2024
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	Total
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Current assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 169,725	\$ 329,502	\$ 499,227	\$ 601,375
Investments				
Trust fund investments (Note B)	683,144	20,494,422	21,177,566	18,886,458
Other	56,310	-	56,310	58,546
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 909,179</b>	<b>\$ 20,823,924</b>	<b>\$ 21,733,103</b>	<b>\$ 19,546,379</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>				
Liabilities				
Payroll related liabilities	\$ 1,847	\$ -	\$ 1,847	\$ 2,322
Annuity obligations (Note E)	56,310	-	56,310	58,546
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>58,157</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>58,157</b>	<b>60,868</b>
Net assets				
Without donor restrictions	851,022	-	851,022	570,740
With donor restrictions	-	20,823,924	20,823,924	18,914,771
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>851,022</b>	<b>20,823,924</b>	<b>21,674,946</b>	<b>19,485,511</b>
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>\$ 909,179</b>	<b>\$ 20,823,924</b>	<b>\$ 21,733,103</b>	<b>\$ 19,546,379</b>

See accompanying notes and independent auditor's report.

Nebraska Cultural Endowment  
STATEMENT OF SUPPORT, REVENUE, EXPENSES, AND CHANGE IN NET ASSETS - MODIFIED CASH BASIS  
For the year ended December 31, 2025  
(With comparative totals as of December 31, 2024)

	2025		2024	
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	Total
<b>REVENUE, SUPPORT, AND RECLASSIFICATIONS</b>				
Revenues and public support				
Contributions by the public	\$ 369,709	\$ 494,442	\$ 864,151	\$ 649,721
Nebraska Arts Council	4,000	-	4,000	4,000
Nebraska Cultural Preservation Endowment Fund	-	1,070,466	1,070,466	976,585
Humanities Nebraska	4,000	-	4,000	4,000
Foundation support	-	350,000	350,000	330,000
Net investment income	84,632	2,447,811	2,532,443	1,999,774
Net assets released from restrictions	<u>2,453,566</u>	<u>(2,453,566)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total revenue, support, and reclassifications	<u>2,915,907</u>	<u>1,909,153</u>	<u>4,825,060</u>	<u>3,964,080</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Program services	2,281,698	-	2,281,698	1,660,440
Management and general	152,086	-	152,086	137,711
Fundraising	<u>201,841</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>201,841</u>	<u>124,264</u>
Total expenses	<u>2,635,625</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,635,625</u>	<u>1,922,415</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	280,282	1,909,153	2,189,435	2,041,665
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>570,740</u>	<u>18,914,771</u>	<u>19,485,511</u>	<u>17,443,846</u>
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 851,022</u>	<u>\$ 20,823,924</u>	<u>\$ 21,674,946</u>	<u>\$ 19,485,511</u>

See accompanying notes and independent auditor's report.

Nebraska Cultural Endowment  
STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES - MODIFIED CASH BASIS  
For the year ended December 31, 2025  
(With comparative totals as of December 31, 2024)

	2025				2024
	Program Services	Management & General	Fundraising	Total	Total
Salaries and related expense	\$ 34,332	\$ 57,679	\$ 135,201	\$ 227,212	\$ 184,664
Data project expense	199,575	-	-	199,575	17,500
Dues and subscriptions	600	900	1,500	3,000	2,343
Insurance	507	760	1,267	2,534	1,630
Marketing expense	17,771	26,656	44,427	88,854	37,745
Miscellaneous	3,044	4,565	7,609	15,218	12,549
Fundraising events	-	-	1,464	1,464	375
Postage and Delivery	12	24	83	119	314
Printing	363	545	908	1,816	466
Professional Fees	23,713	55,329	-	79,042	75,780
Rent	725	1,088	1,814	3,627	3,813
Supplies	487	730	1,217	2,434	1,910
Telephone	560	839	1,399	2,798	2,662
Travel and entertainment	1,981	2,971	4,952	9,904	7,207
Trust fund disbursements					
CPEF - Nebraska Arts Council	920,812	-	-	920,812	652,831
CPEF - Humanities Nebraska	452,617	-	-	452,617	331,206
Nebraska Arts Council	186,458	-	-	186,458	176,405
Humanities Nebraska	186,787	-	-	186,787	176,612
Holland Fund	85,915	-	-	85,915	80,687
John W. Carson Donor-Advised Fund	75,969	-	-	75,969	73,320
Omaha Symphony Association Fund	89,470	-	-	89,470	79,432
Thomas C. Woods, III Governor's Art Award Fund	-	-	-	-	2,964
Total expenses	<u>\$ 2,281,698</u>	<u>\$ 152,086</u>	<u>\$ 201,841</u>	<u>\$ 2,635,625</u>	<u>\$ 1,922,415</u>

See accompanying notes and independent auditor's report.

Nebraska Cultural Endowment  
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS - MODIFIED CASH BASIS  
For the year ended December 31, 2025  
(With comparative totals as of December 31, 2024)

	2025	2024
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Change in net assets	\$ 2,189,435	\$ 2,041,665
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash from/(used in) operating activities:		
Realized and unrealized (gain)/loss on operating investments	(2,067,637)	(1,424,172)
Endowment net investment (return)/loss	(464,806)	(575,602)
Decrease in payroll tax liability	(475)	995
Decrease in annuity obligations	(2,236)	(2,021)
Net cash from/(used) in operating activities	(345,719)	40,865
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash from/(used in) investing activities:		
Distributions from trust fund investments	1,087,642	1,011,431
Purchases of trust fund investments	(846,307)	(798,608)
(Increase)/decrease in other investments	2,236	28,131
Net cash from investing activities	243,571	240,954
NET CHANGE IN CASH	(102,148)	281,819
CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS AND RESTRICTED CASH, BEGINNING OF YEAR	601,375	319,556
CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS AND RESTRICTED CASH, END OF YEAR	\$ 499,227	\$ 601,375
SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE OF CASH FLOW INFORMATION		
Cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash at yearend consisted of:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 169,725	\$ 59,929
Restricted cash	329,502	541,446
Total	\$ 499,227	\$ 601,375

See accompanying notes and independent auditor's report.

Nebraska Cultural Endowment  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – MODIFIED CASH BASIS  
For the year ended December 31, 2025

NOTE A. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies of the Nebraska Cultural Endowment.

1. Nature of the Organization

The Nebraska Cultural Endowment, a non-profit 501(c)(3), is a partnership between the Nebraska Arts Council and Humanities Nebraska created to support the arts and humanities in Nebraska. The governing body of the Cultural Endowment is a statewide twenty (20) member board of directors.

In 1998, the Nebraska Legislature appropriated \$11 million dollars to create and build the Nebraska Cultural Preservation Endowment Fund (CPEF) to stabilize funding for the arts and humanities in Nebraska through Humanities Nebraska and the Nebraska Arts Council. Income from the CPEF is available for distribution to Humanities Nebraska and the Nebraska Arts Council when matched by private contributions. The Nebraska Cultural Endowment was created to raise the private match to access the income from and to facilitate the increases in the public fund, the CPEF.

The Nebraska Legislature has appropriated an additional \$10 million dollars to the CPEF through 2028, provided the Cultural Endowment match the increase with private contributions. At December 31, 2025, the Cultural Endowment has received contributions totaling \$6,881,178 which are eligible to meet the matching requirements of the scheduled \$10 million dollar increase in the CPEF.

On April 4, 2022, the Legislative bill (LB 1012) approved by the Governor to amend section 82-331, revised statutes cumulative supplement, 2020: to change provisions relating to a fund transfer limit and a termination date; and to repeal the original section. This amends the Nebraska Cultural Endowment Fund to extend transfer from the General Fund from 2028 to 2030. This is a technical correction from the 2021 enacted budget. An amount not to exceed one million dollars from the General Fund to the Nebraska Cultural Preservation Endowment Fund annually on December 31, beginning in 2021 and continuing through December 31, 2030.

2. Related Parties

**Humanities Nebraska**

The Humanities Nebraska (HN), a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, is funded through a combination of federal grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, private donations from individuals, foundations, and businesses, an appropriation from the State of Nebraska, and the Nebraska, and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment.

Nebraska Cultural Endowment  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – MODIFIED CASH BASIS – CONTINUED  
For the year ended December 31, 2025

NOTE A. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

2. Related Parties - Continued

**Humanities Nebraska - Continued**

Humanities Nebraska creates and supports thought-provoking opportunities for Nebraskans to learn, think and explore our shared history and culture to inspire a better future. HN is served by dedicated volunteers on two boards: the Nebraska Humanities Council (20 members) and the Nebraska Foundation for the Humanities (24 members, one-third of whom are Council members), which raises funds and advocates for HN's programming. HN reaches 350,000 Nebraskans a year by providing grants, speakers bureau programs to schools and other organizations, family reading programs in libraries and schools, Chautauqua programs, touring museum exhibitions, and many other humanities-based programs that reach communities of all sizes and people from all walks of life.

**The Nebraska Arts Council**

The Nebraska Arts Council (NAC) was established in 1974 by the Nebraska Legislature and is governed by a board of fifteen Nebraska citizens appointed by the Governor. NAC is funded by the State of Nebraska, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment. The Nebraska Arts Council's mission is to promote, cultivate, and sustain the arts for the people of Nebraska. The Nebraska Arts Council's primary means of supporting the arts is through a variety of grant programs that cover all disciplines and fields of creative expression. Over 350 artists, art organizations, schools and community groups use NAC funds and technical support to carry out a variety of art experiences statewide.

3. Basis of Presentation

The Organization reports information regarding its assets, liabilities, net assets, revenues and expenses based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. This is accomplished by classification of net assets into two classes: without donor restrictions and with donor restrictions. Descriptions of the two net asset categories and the types of transactions affecting each category follow:

- Without Donor Restrictions – Net assets available for use in general operations and not subject to donor (or certain grantor) restrictions. The governing board has designated, from net assets without donor restrictions, net assets for an endowment.
- With Donor Restrictions – Net assets subject to donor- (or certain grantor-) imposed restrictions. Some donor-imposed restrictions are temporary in nature, such as those that will be met by the passage of time or other events specified by the donor.

Nebraska Cultural Endowment  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – MODIFIED CASH BASIS – CONTINUED  
For the year ended December 31, 2025

NOTE A. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – CONTINUED

3. Basis of Presentation - Continued

Other donor-imposed restrictions are perpetual in nature, where the donor stipulates those resources be maintained in perpetuity. Gifts of long-lived assets and gifts of cash restricted for the acquisition of long-lived assets are recognized as revenue when the assets are placed in service. Donor-imposed restrictions are released when a restriction expires, that is, when the stipulated time has elapsed, when the stipulated purpose for which the resource was restricted has been fulfilled, or both.

We report donor restricted contributions as increases in net assets with donor restrictions. When a restriction expires, (that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished) net assets are reclassified from net assets with donor restrictions to net assets without donor restrictions.

4. Comparative Financial Information

The financial statements include certain prior year summarized comparative information in total but not by asset class. Such information does not include sufficient detail to constitute a presentation in conformity with the modified cash basis of accounting. Accordingly, such information should be read in conjunction with the Organization's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2024, from which the summarized information was derived.

5. Basis of Accounting

The Organization's policy is to prepare its financial statements on the modified cash basis of accounting; consequently, certain revenues are recognized when received rather than when earned or pledged, and certain expenses and purchases of assets are recognized when cash is disbursed rather than when the obligation is incurred. The Organization has recorded investments and annuity obligations on the statement of assets, liabilities, and net assets – modified cash basis rather than recognizing their activity as cash receipts and disbursements on the statement of support, revenue, expenses, and changes in net assets – modified cash basis. In addition, payroll tax liabilities are recognized when the related payroll is paid.

6. Contributions

Contributions received are recorded as either without donor restrictions or with donor restriction, depending on the existence and/or nature of any donor restrictions.

Nebraska Cultural Endowment  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – MODIFIED CASH BASIS – CONTINUED  
For the year ended December 31, 2025

NOTE A. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – CONTINUED

7. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with the modified cash basis of accounting requires management to make estimates and assumptions that could affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

8. Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Organization defines its cash and cash equivalents to include only cash on hand and demand deposits with original maturities of three months or less.

9. Investments

The Nebraska Cultural Endowment carries investments in marketable securities with readily determinable fair values and all investments in debt securities at their fair values in the statement of assets, liabilities, and net assets – modified cash basis. Money market accounts and other cash equivalents inside of investment accounts are classified as investments in the statement of assets, liabilities, and net assets – modified cash basis. Unrealized gains and losses are included in the change in net assets in the statement of support, revenue, expenses, and change in net assets – modified cash basis. Investment income and gains or losses on investments are recorded as either with or without donor restrictions depending on the restrictions placed on the underlying investments generating the income, gain or loss.

10. Expense Allocation

Expenses are charges to the program and supporting services on the basis of periodic time and expense studies. Management and general expenses include those expenses that are not identifiable with any other specific function; but provide for the overall support and direction of the Organization.

11. Income Taxes

The Nebraska Cultural Endowment is exempt from federal and state income taxes under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3). Accordingly, no provision for income taxes is included in these financial statements. The Organization is not classified as a private foundation by the Internal Revenue Service. As of December 31, 2025, the Organization had no uncertain tax positions that would require the financial statement recognition, de-recognition, or disclosure. The Organization's Form 990 is subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service for a period of three years.

Nebraska Cultural Endowment  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – MODIFIED CASH BASIS – CONTINUED  
For the year ended December 31, 2025

NOTE A. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – CONTINUED

12. Concentration of Credit Risk

The Organization maintains its cash in bank deposit account which, at time, may exceed federally insured limits. Cash balances uninsured by the FDIC at December 31, 2025 in amount of \$150,529. However, there may be also cash balances in investment accounts that are uninsured. The Organization had significant unrealized gains in 2025.

NOTE B. INVESTMENTS

Investments are stated at fair value. Fair values and unrealized appreciation/(depreciation) at December 31, 2025 are summarized as follows:

	Cost	Fair Value	Unrealized Gain/(Loss)
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 376,914	\$ 376,914	\$ -
Mutual funds/EFTs - equity	10,631,984	11,441,505	809,521
Mutual funds/EFTs - fixed income	4,951,967	4,934,520	(17,447)
Mutual funds/EFTs - global	2,853,970	3,013,600	159,630
Mutual funds/EFTs - real estate	1,436,609	1,411,027	(25,582)
Total investments	<u>\$ 20,251,444</u>	<u>\$ 21,177,566</u>	<u>\$ 926,122</u>

The following schedule summarizes the investment return and its classification in the statement of support, revenue, expenses, and changes in net assets – modified cash basis for the year ended December 31, 2025:

Interest and dividend income	\$ 522,578
Net realized gains	2,659,259
Net unrealized gains/(losses)	(591,622)
Advisory fee	<u>(57,772)</u>
Net investment return	<u>\$ 2,532,443</u>

NOTE C. ANNUITY OBLIGATIONS

Under the Organization’s charitable gift annuities program, liabilities are recorded for the present value of the estimated future payments expected to be made to the donors or other life beneficiaries, or both. The excess of contributed assets over the annuity liability is recorded as a contribution without donor restrictions. Upon termination of a life interest, the share of the corpus attributable to the life interest holder becomes available to the Organization.

Nebraska Cultural Endowment  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – MODIFIED CASH BASIS – CONTINUED  
For the year ended December 31, 2025

NOTE C. ANNUITY OBLIGATIONS – CONTINUED

Changes in the expectancy of the donor or beneficiary, amortization of the discount, and other changes in the estimates of future payments are recognized annually by the Organization based on actuarially determined valuations. The discount rate used to value split-interest agreements, at December 31, 2025, ranged from 3.8 percent to 5.4 percent.

As of November 20, 2023, the Organization initiated contracts with Nationwide to manage the remaining lives of the gift annuities. Nationwide will continue to disburse the quarterly annuity payments to the Organization which will pass through to the annuitants. For the year ended December 31, 2025, the remaining present values of the annuity assets and liabilities are net zero.

NOTE D. NET ASSETS WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS

Net assets with donor restrictions consist partially of the accumulative earnings of the permanently restricted endowment that have not been disbursed and gifts temporarily restricted for a specific purpose. Other net assets are permanently restricted and consist of matching funds raised for an endowment under Nebraska Legislative Bills 799, 1165, and 316 to support the Nebraska Arts Council and Nebraska Humanities Council.

Net assets with donor restrictions are restricted for the following purposes:

Subject to expenditure for specified purpose:

Educational purposes	\$ 220,710
General support of Nebraska Arts Council/Nebraska Humanities	2,900,091
Support of the Omaha Symphony	1,931,205
Support of the Omaha Symphony and Opera Omaha	1,857,238
Humanities Programming Fund	1,284,187
Support for Data Project	86,694
School Bus for the Arts Fund	62,879
	<hr/> 8,343,004

Permanent Endowments:

Subject to appropriation and expenditure when a specified event occurs:

Support of the Governor's Arts Awards	34,612
General support of Nebraska Arts Council/Nebraska Humanities	2,290,986
Federal matching National Endowment for the Humanities	803,712
	<hr/> 3,129,310

Nebraska Cultural Endowment  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – MODIFIED CASH BASIS – CONTINUED  
For the year ended December 31, 2025

NOTE D. NET ASSETS WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS - CONTINUED

Subject to endowment spending policy and appropriation:	
Support of Nebraska Arts Council/Nebraska Humanities	\$ 8,614,483
Educational purposes	16,183
Donor restricted for general support for Nebraska Humanities	20,847
Support of Nebraska Public Television	558,335
ASL interpretation	141,762
	9,351,610
Total Permanent Endowments	12,480,920
Total net assets with donor restrictions	\$ 20,823,924

Net assets were released from donor restrictions by incurring expenses satisfying the purpose restrictions or by occurrence of the passage of time or other events specified by donors as follows:

<u>Restricted purpose spending rate distributions and appropriations:</u>	
CPEF - Nebraska Arts Council	\$ 920,812
CPEF - Humanities Nebraska	452,617
Opera Omaha and Omaha Symphony Association	85,915
Omaha Symphony Association Fund	92,145
Data Project	208,925
Nebraska Arts Council and Humanities Nebraska endowment earnings:	
Nebraska Arts Council fund disbursements	295,315
Humanities Nebraska fund disbursements	308,525
John W. Carson Donor-Advised Fund disbursements	89,312
Total net assets released from donor restrictions	\$ 2,453,566

NOTE E. FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Organization reports its fair value measures using a three-level hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs used to measure fair value. This hierarchy, established by GAAP, requires that entities maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. The three levels of inputs used to measure fair value are as follows:

Nebraska Cultural Endowment  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – MODIFIED CASH BASIS – CONTINUED  
For the year ended December 31, 2025

NOTE E. FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – CONTINUED

Level 1: Quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets to which the organization has access at the measurement date.

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly. Level 2 inputs include:

- quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
- quoted prices for identical or similar assets in markets that are not active;
- observable inputs other than quoted prices for the asset liability (for example, interest rates and yield curves); and
- inputs derived principally from, or corroborated by, observable market data by correlation or by other means.

Level 3: Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability. Unobservable inputs should be used to measure the fair market value to the extent that observable inputs are not available.

When available, the Organization measures fair value using Level 1 inputs because they generally provide the most reliable evidence of fair value. The primary use of fair value measures in the Organization's financial statements is the recurring measurement of investments.

The Organization used the following methods and significant assumptions to estimate fair value:

*Money market funds:* Determined by the published net asset value per unit at the end of the last trading day of the year, which is the basis for transactions at that date.

*Equity securities traded on national securities exchanges:* Determined by the closing price on the last business day of the fiscal year.

*Open-end mutual funds:* Determined by the published net asset value per unit at the end of the last trading day of the fiscal year, which is the basis for transactions at that date.

*Cash surrender value of life insurance:* Determined by the cash surrender value provided by the insurance carrier.

*Annuity obligations:* Determined by the present value of expected future payments based on life expectancy of the annuitant.

Nebraska Cultural Endowment  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – MODIFIED CASH BASIS – CONTINUED  
For the year ended December 31, 2025

NOTE E. FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – CONTINUED

Assets and liabilities measured at fair value on recurring basis are summarized below.

	Total	Fair Value Measurements at December 31, 2025		
		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Assets:				
Investments:				
Money market funds	\$ 376,914	\$ 376,914	\$ -	\$ -
Mutual funds/EFTs - equity	11,441,505	11,441,505	-	-
Mutual funds/EFTs - fixed income	4,934,520	4,934,520	-	-
Mutual funds/EFTs - global	3,013,600	3,013,600	-	-
Mutual funds/EFTs - real estate	1,411,027	1,411,027	-	-
Total investments	21,177,566	21,177,566	-	-
 Total assets	 \$ 21,177,566	 \$ 21,177,566	 \$ -	 \$ -
 Liabilities:				
Annuity obligations	\$ 56,310	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 56,310

NOTE F. RELATED PARTIES

The Organization has common board members with the Nebraska Arts Council (NAC), Nebraska Arts Council Development Corporation (NACDC) and the Humanities Nebraska (HN). During the year, the Organization paid NAC and NHC \$829,236 and \$507,818, respectively and received \$4,000 and \$4,000 from NAC and HC, respectively.

NOTE G. ENDOWMENT

The Organization’s endowment includes donor-restricted endowment funds. As required by the modified cash basis of accounting, net assets associated with endowment funds are classified and reported based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. However, the specific purpose of these assets is to provide distributions to the Humanities Nebraska, the Nebraska Arts Council, Opera Omaha, Inc., and the Omaha Symphony Association, as well as, to afford some portion of the Organization’s annual administrative expenses, all while preserving the real purchasing power of the corpus.

The Organization has established six endowment funds. A description and the purpose of each are as follows:

Nebraska Cultural Endowment Fund – The Nebraska Cultural Endowment Fund was created to raise a matching private endowment and distribute the annual income, public and private, exclusively to the Nebraska Arts Council and Nebraska Humanities Council.

Nebraska Cultural Endowment  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – MODIFIED CASH BASIS – CONTINUED  
For the year ended December 31, 2025

NOTE G.      ENDOWMENT - CONTINUED

Arts and Humanities Education Fund – The Arts and Humanities Education Fund was established specifically to segregate monies for arts-in-education and humanities-in-education programs and projects. These named funds have been established honoring their commitments to philanthropy and their respective contributions to Nebraska. In 2002, the D.B “Woody” Varner Fund and the Thomas C. “Chip” Woods Fund were established by the Cooper Foundation, and the E.N “Jack” Thompson Fund was established by the Woods Charitable Fund. In 2022, the Suzanne Wise Education Fund was established.

Holland Fund – The Holland Fund was created to support Opera Omaha, Inc. and the Omaha Symphony Association.

Omaha Symphony Association Fund – The Omaha Symphony Association Fund was established to support the Omaha Symphony Association.

John W. Carson Donor-Advised Fund – The John. W Carson Donor Advised Fund was established to support the programs and projects of the Nebraska Arts Council and/or the Nebraska Humanities Council.

Thomas C. Woods III Governor’s Arts Awards Fund – The Thomas C. Woods III Governor’s Arts Award Fund was established to support the artist’s commission for awards at the Nebraska Arts Council’s Arts Award Ceremony.

Interpretation of Relevant Law

The Organization has interpreted the Nebraska Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (NUPMIFA) as requiring the preservation of the fair value of the original gift as of the gift date of the donor-restricted endowment funds absent explicit donor stipulations to the contrary. As a result of this interpretation, the Organization classifies as permanently restricted net assets, the original value of gifts donated to the permanent endowment and the original value of subsequent gifts to the permanent endowment. The remaining portion of the donor-restricted endowment fund that is not classified in permanently restricted net assets is classified as temporarily restricted net assets until those amounts are appropriated for expenditure by the Organization in a manner consistent with the standard of prudence prescribed by NUPMIFA. In accordance with NUPMIFA, the Organization considers the following factors in making a determination to appropriate or accumulate donor-restricted endowment funds:

1. The duration and preservation of the endowment fund,
2. The purpose of the institution and the endowment fund,
3. General economic conditions,
4. The possible effect of inflation or deflation,
5. The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments,
6. Other resources of the institution, and
7. The investment policy of the institution.

Nebraska Cultural Endowment  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – MODIFIED CASH BASIS – CONTINUED  
For the year ended December 31, 2025

NOTE G. ENDOWMENT - CONTINUED

Endowment Activity

The Organization’s endowment had the following activity as of December 31, 2025:

	Board - designated	With donor restrictions	Total
<b>Changes in Endowment Net Assets for the Year Ended December 31, 2025</b>			
Endowment net assets, beginning of year	\$ 513,068	\$ 18,373,391	\$ 18,886,459
Net investment return	80,409	2,446,016	2,526,425
Funds Transfer	(12,621)	(264,379)	(277,000)
New investment	-	-	-
Contributions	120,054	674,499	794,553
Appropriations of endowment assets for expenditures	(17,766)	(735,105)	(752,871)
Endowment net assets, end of year	\$ 683,144	\$ 20,494,422	\$ 21,177,566

**Endowment Net Asset Composition by Type of Fund  
as of December 31, 2025**

Donor-restricted endowment funds	\$ -	\$ 20,494,422	\$ 20,494,422
Unrestricted, board-designated	683,144	-	683,144
	\$ 683,144	\$ 20,494,422	\$ 21,177,566

**Description of Amounts Classified as Net Assets with Donor  
Restrictions (Endowment Only)**

The portion of perpetual endowment funds that is required to be retained permanently either by explicit donor stipulation or NUPMIFA:

Total endowment funds classified as permanent	\$ 12,480,920
Term endowment funds	8,013,502
Total endowment classified as net assets with donor restrictions	\$ 20,494,422

Funds with Deficiencies

From time to time, the fair value of assets associated with individual donor-restricted endowment funds may fall below the level that the donor of NUPMIFA requires the Organization to retain as a fund of perpetual duration. There was no such deficiencies as of December 31, 2025.

Nebraska Cultural Endowment  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – MODIFIED CASH BASIS – CONTINUED  
For the year ended December 31, 2025

NOTE G.      ENDOWMENT – CONTINUED

Return Objectives and Risk Parameters

The Organizations’ investment objectives have been established in conjunction with a comprehensive review of current and projected financial requirements. The investment objectives are:

- To manage the portfolio assets consistent with the Organization’s mission and prudent investor guidelines.
- To preserve the purchasing power of the corpus
- To provide a growing stream of income to be made available per the Organization’s distribution and spending policy.
- Maximize the portfolio’s return within reasonable and prudent levels of risk.
- Maintain an appropriate asset allocation based on a long-term total return strategy that is compatible with the Organization’s distribution and spending policy.

Strategies Employed for Achieving Objective

The desired investment objective is a long-term rate of return on assets and is approximately 8.0%. To satisfy its long-term rate objectives, the Organization relies on a total return strategy in which investment returns are achieved through both capital appreciation (realized and unrealized) and current yield (interest and dividends). The Organization targets a composition of endowment assets as follows:

Equities	64%
Alternatives	6%
Fixed Income	30%

The percentage allocation to each asset class may vary depending upon market conditions.

Spending Policy and How the Investment Objectives Relate to Spending Policy

The earnings on the permanently restricted net assets are released from restricted funds and are used in accordance with donor stipulations. The amount of distribution from endowment funds is at the Board of Directors discretion and may not exceed 5% of the endowment’s most recent three-year average portfolio value less general cash donations received in the previous calendar year. The Holland Fund and the Omaha Symphony Association Fund shall distribute 5% of the net assets in the funds on the first day of each calendar year. The Organization may annually allocate up to 2.5% of the total three-year average portfolio value to cover the administrative expenses of the endowment. This is consistent with the Organization’s objective to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets held in perpetuity or for a specified term, as well as, to provide additional real growth through new gifts and investment return.

Nebraska Cultural Endowment  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – MODIFIED CASH BASIS – CONTINUED  
For the year ended December 31, 2025

NOTE G. ENDOWMENT – CONTINUED

Board-designated funds

The Organization’s board has set aside certain funds for inclusion in the endowment. At December 31, 2025, those funds totaled \$502,940. The Organization’s board has also set aside certain funds for an operating reserve. At December 31, 2025, those funds totaled \$103,206.

NOTE H. OPERATING LEASE

The office lease is entered into as of the 7<sup>th</sup> day of February 2022 by and between Burlington Place, L.L.C., a Nebraska limited liability company (“Landlord”) and Nebraska Cultural Endowment (“Tenant”). Landlord leases to Tenant office space on the lower level containing approximately 225 square feet (the “Premises”) in the building known as “The Historic Burlington Building” located at 1004 Farnam Street, Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska 68102 (the “Building”).

The Lease is effective on the beginning of April 1, 2022 and ending on March 31, 2032. Tenant agrees to pay rent to Landlord in monthly installments in advance, on the first day of each month. For the year ended December 31, 2025, the Organization paid to the Landlord the amount of \$3,627. The minimum future lease payments are as follows:

<u>Year ending December 31,</u>	
2026	3,788
2027	3,882
2028	3,979
2029	4,079
2030	4,181
Thereafter	5,363
Total	<u>\$ 25,272</u>

NOTE I. LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILTY

As of December 31, 2025, financial assets and liquidity resources available within one year for general expenditure, such as operating expenses, scheduled principal payments on debt, and capital construction costs not financed with debt, were as follows:

Financial assets at year end	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 499,227
Board designated	683,144
Restricted cash	<u>(329,502)</u>
Total financial assets available within one year	<u>\$ 852,869</u>

Nebraska Cultural Endowment  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – MODIFIED CASH BASIS – CONTINUED  
For the year ended December 31, 2025

NOTE I. LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILTY - CONTINUED

The Organization’s endowment funds consist of donor-restricted endowments. Income from the donor-restricted endowment can be spent for the same restricted purpose. 2.5% of the administrative fee from the endowment funds can be used for general expenditure within one year.

NOTE J. RETIRMENT PLAN

The Organization, under a permissive aggregation memorandum of understanding with another allied nonprofit organization, offers a tax-deferred annuity plan (the Plan) qualified under IRC Section 401(k) covering substantially all employees. All full-time employees are eligible to participate in the plan. There is no minimum age requirement to make salary reduction contributions, but the participant must be 21 years of age and complete at least 3 months of service to receive employer matching contributions. The Organization contributes 3% of the employee’s compensation whether or not they are making contributions. Participants are eligible to receive an additional matching contribution equal to 100% of the employee’s contribution up to a maximum of 3.5% of the employee’s compensation for the plan year. Employees are fully vested immediately in all employee contributions.

Total matching contributions for the year ended December 31, 2025 were \$3,668. Vesting of employer contributions follows the vesting schedule below:

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Vested Percentage</u>
Less than 1	0%
1	20%
2	40%
3	60%
4	80%
5 or more	100%

NOTE K. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Subsequent to year end, the Nebraska Legislature passed Legislative Bill 1072 (LB1072), which permanently reduced the principal balance of the Cultural Preservation Endowment Fund (CPEF) by \$5.0 million, from \$15.0 million to \$10.0 million. As a result of the reduction in the CPEF principal, future earnings available for distribution from the fund are expected to decrease. Distributions from the CPEF are used to support grantmaking activities for partner organizations, including the Nebraska Arts Council and Humanities Nebraska.

Nebraska Cultural Endowment  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – MODIFIED CASH BASIS – CONTINUED  
For the year ended December 31, 2025

NOTE K.      SUBSEQUENT EVENTS – CONTINUED

Because the CPEF is invested in U.S. stocks and securities that are subject to market fluctuations, management is unable to reasonably estimate the precise financial impact of the reduction in principal on future earnings or distributions.

Management has evaluated subsequent events through May 21, 2026, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

Nebraska Cultural Endowment  
SCHEDULE OF TRUST FUND INVESTMENTS - MODIFIED CASH BASIS  
December 31, 2025

	2025
Restricted funds for Nebraska Arts Council	
Contributions by the public	\$ 5,070,380
Arts/Humanities Education Fund	
In honor of Chip Woods	27,765
In honor of Woody Varner	27,765
Holland Fund for Arts and Humanities	976,436
Nebraskans for Public Television	558,335
School Bus for the Arts Fund	62,879
Suzanne Wise Education Fund	45,424
Governor's Arts Awards	34,612
ASL Interpretation	141,762
Total restricted funds for the Nebraska Arts Council	6,945,358
Restricted funds for the Humanities Nebraska	
Contributions by the public	4,248,170
Federal NEH Challenge Grant	803,712
Donor restricted	20,847
HN Programming Fund - FFF	1,284,187
Holland Fund for Arts and Humanities	976,780
Arts/Humanities Education Fund	
Arts and Humanities Education	16,183
In honor of Chip Woods	27,765
In honor of Jack Thompson	64,226
In honor of Woody Varner	27,765
Total restricted funds for the Humanities Nebraska	7,469,635
Restricted funds for other uses	
Restricted for Omaha Symphony Association	1,352,715
Restricted for Opera Omaha and Omaha Symphony Association	1,857,238
Restricted for Omaha Symphony (Slosburg Fund)	578,490
Total restricted funds for other uses	3,788,443
Donor advised fund	
John W. Carson Donor-Advised Fund	2,290,986
Unrestricted, board-designated fund for future purposes and use	
Nebraska Arts Council	249,857
Humanities Nebraska	253,083
Bob Nefsky Memorial Funds	180,204
Total unrestricted, board designated funds	683,144
Total Trust Fund Investments	\$ 21,177,566

See Independent Auditor's Report