

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



OUR MISSION

Founded in 1976, the French-American Foundation-United States works with its sister organization the French-American Foundation-France to enrich the transatlantic relationship. Because we believe that fostering dialogue among leaders from both sides of the Atlantic is key to addressing common challenges, we organize initiatives and meetings across the US with the goal of promoting a dynamic transatlantic partnership.



Allan Chapin and Emeline Foster

"My role at the French-American Foundation has been a great personal accomplishment. It has enabled me to combine what I love about France and what I have learned so far in the US since moving here nine years ago. 2019 was immensely rewarding for me and my team in so many ways! Assembling leaders from both sides of the Atlantic, contributing to a greater understanding of our two countries, and creating a strengthened transatlantic relationship are some of the many goals we work toward at the Foundation every day. I am grateful for the support of our Chair, our Board of Directors, and our vibrant and growing community."

— Emeline Foster, Executive Director of The French-American Foundation-US

FAF EVENTS IN 2019

SAN FRANCISCO



CHICAGO



NEW YORK



WASHINGTON, DC



LETTER FROM OUR CHAIRMAN AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Since 1976, the French-American Foundation has worked to strengthen the relationship between France and the United States by engaging **global leaders in pragmatic dialogue** surrounding topics of mutual concern for both countries.

We are proud to see the continuation of this work in 2019. The high turnout for our programs reflects the growing interest in transatlantic affairs and the French-American Foundation's role in facilitating ongoing exchange. **We organized 34 events throughout the year**, managed five separate programs, expanded to new cities in the United States, and facilitated debate on American and European politics, climate change, and more.

Our flagship initiative, the **Young Leaders program**, continues to assemble leaders on both sides of the Atlantic to accomplish our mission. After a successful 2019 Young Leaders seminar in Chicago, the 2020 program will take place in October in France. Young Leaders represent excellence in leadership across a variety of fields and come together to discuss issues of common concern and build networks between our two countries.

Our membership-based program, the **Transatlantic Forum**, launched a second chapter in Chicago last year and continues to attract experts to discuss topical issues every month in New York with our participants. Moreover, our **Policy Breakfasts** offered unique opportunities for members of our community to discuss current events in closed-door settings with leaders in politics, business, and academia. In November, we were delighted to welcome French President François Hollande, himself an alumnus of the Young Leaders program, and French Ambassador to the United States Philippe Etienne.

The French-American Foundation and Florence Gould Foundation Annual **Translation Prize** provided, for the 32nd year, translators and their craft with greater visibility among publishers and readers. Lastly, the sixth annual **Cyber Security conference** took place in Washington, DC last fall, where more than 50 experts from both sides of the Atlantic examined cyber security challenges in a transatlantic context.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our generous community for the success of a wonderful year. We worked hard to develop forward-thinking events each month and a detailed plan for what's to come in 2020. We thank our donors for their generous support and commitment to the future of the French-American partnership.

Sincerely,



Emeline Foster
Executive Director
French-American Foundation – US



Allan Chapin
Chairman
French-American Foundation – US



YOUNG LEADERS

Organized in collaboration with our sister organization in France, the Young Leaders program is the flagship program of the Foundation. The program brings together a vibrant group of French and American professionals, aged 30 to 40, from an incredible array of sectors, whose common link is their passion for forging bonds in a globalized world and using their influence for the common good. In this two-year program, alternating each year between France and the United States, a group of 40 Young Leaders spends five days together discussing issues of common concern, meeting with local and global specialists, and getting to know one another. In today's globalized world, where the need for international cooperation and cross-cultural knowledge has never been greater, the program provides an essential environment in which to create productive, lasting links among leaders in both countries.

Alumni of the program include prominent figures from the US and France such as Bill and Hillary Clinton, Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, business leader John Thain (CIT Group), Oscar-winning filmmaker Charles Ferguson, mathematician Cédric Villani, ESA astronaut Thomas Pesquet, French President Emmanuel Macron, and French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe.

The 2019 Young Leaders program took place in Chicago, Illinois from October 16-19. The 2020 Young Leaders seminar will take place in France from October 13-17.

"The Young Leaders program was an unforgettable opportunity! I loved getting to know, and learn from, such a terrific group of people from diverse backgrounds."

— 2019 Young Leaders program participant

“The best and the brightest doesn’t even begin to describe the Young Leaders that make up this unique and impactful group. I know the lasting bonds we formed will forever deepen the relationship between the US and France. I’m thrilled to be part of this important community.”

— Karin Tanabe, 2018 Young Leader



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2019 YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAM IN CHICAGO

- An exploration of entrepreneurship in Chicago with business leader Sam Yagan, co-founder of OkCupid
- A comparative discussion on elections in the US and France featuring Ambassador Bruce Heyman, former US Ambassador to Canada
- A visit to the award-winning Becoming a Man program, led by the nonprofit Youth Guidance, which provides at-risk young men in Chicago with mentoring, counseling, and character development programming
- A discussion on economic and educational inequality with John List, Chair of the Economics Department at the University of Chicago
- A visit to the Art Institute of Chicago
- A comedy show at Second City, one of the US’s premier comedy clubs and schools of improvisation
- A riverboat architectural tour across the city

2019 YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAM IN CHICAGO



47 Young Leaders and staff participating



10 Alumni who returned for Saturday’s reunion activities



12 Chicago-area leaders who shared their expertise

2019 US YOUNG LEADERS FUNDRAISING DRIVE

50 Alumni donors to the 2019 drive

100% Participation rate among Young Leaders who attended the Chicago seminar

TRANSATLANTIC FORUM

Launched in 2017 in New York City, the French-American Foundation's Transatlantic Forum is designed to provide a regular platform to inform and promote frank discussion and debate on transatlantic issues of common concern. The Transatlantic Forum assembles professionals of all backgrounds on a monthly basis to advance crucial dialogue between France and the United States.

Featured speakers have included Dr. Colin McCormick, technologist and data scientist; Gregory Daco, Chief US Economist at Oxford Economics; Bridget G. Brennan, Special Narcotics Prosecutor for the City of New York; and Amy Davidsen, Executive Director North America at the Climate Group.

In April 2019, we launched our first Transatlantic Forum in **Chicago**, hosted by the Consul General of France Mr. Guillaume Lacroix.

“Conversations such as the ones held during the Transatlantic Forum are at the root of diplomacy and a functional democracy.”

— Consul General of France Mr. Guillaume Lacroix

UN INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

The French American Foundation held its second annual Women of the Foundation event the week of the UN International Women's day in March 2019. The celebration featured a panel of four recently published women writers who described with humor and authenticity their personal path as writers, from the very first drafts to the publications of their books.



55 Transatlantic Forum members in New York City



50% French
50% American



50% Women
50% Men



Emeline Foster, Katherine Brown, Clélia Renucci, Michelle Miller, Karin Tanabe

TRANSLATION PRIZE

Since 1986, The Translation Prize promotes French literature in the United States and provides translators and their craft with greater visibility among publishers and readers. The prize also seeks to increase the visibility of the publishers who bring these important French works of literature to the American market in translations of exceptional quality.

In the category of fiction, in 2019, we honored Chris Clarke for his translation of *Imaginary Lives* by Marcel Schwob and Linda Coverdale for her translation of *Slave Old Man* by Patrick Chamoiseau. In the category of nonfiction, we honored Malcolm DeBevoise for his translation of *Good Government* by Pierre Rosanvallon. Our awards ceremony took place on May 14, where we were grateful to hear from guest of honor Mark Polizzotti, translator, author, and Publisher & Editor in Chief at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.



54 Entries to the 2019 Translation Prize



3 Winners of the 2019 prize



\$20,000 Prize money awarded in 2019

“To be recompensed by the prize here is more than I think I ever knew to hope for, and I’m very grateful.... I hope it can be an example to others who are setting out like me.”

— Samuel Martin, Translation Prize winner

“The trip to New York, the awards ceremony, it was like a dream for me. I live a very quiet life, so to be recognized for what I do, to get to give a speech before a group interested in translation, you can’t imagine what that meant to me.... Winning the prize made me feel like I belonged to a larger world.”

— Jane Marie Todd, Translation Prize winner

POLICY BREAKFASTS

The French-American Foundation's Policy Breakfasts welcome guests of honor and subject-matter experts to discuss politically and culturally relevant topics in invitation-only, small-group settings. Breakfast participants include CEOs, finance executives, philanthropists, and Young Leaders alumni. Guests have the opportunity to learn from the speakers, ask questions, and strengthen their network.

Featured speakers at recent breakfasts included Mara Gay, Member of the New York Times Editorial Board; Ambassador Philippe Etienne, newly appointed Ambassador of France to the United States; and François Hollande, former President of France and Young Leader from the class of 1996.



6

Featured Policy Breakfast speakers in 2019



150

Guests attending our Policy Breakfasts

CYBER SECURITY

Through its Cyber Security Program, the French-American Foundation examines emerging cyber security challenges in a transatlantic context. This initiative builds on the earlier work of the French-American Defense Symposia (1996-2013), which provided a unique forum for senior military and government leaders to discuss key defense issues. As challenges related to cyber security become an ever-greater priority, the French-American Foundation has organized an annual international working group on the subject in Washington, DC since 2014. This high-level forum brings together European & US government officials, leaders of industry, and other experts for frank and targeted discussions. Taking place in September, the 2019 conference was titled "Emerging Cyberspace Challenges: From 5G Security Risks to Social Media Governance."





ANNUAL GALA HONORING EXEMPLARY LEADERSHIP

The Foundation's Gala offers a festive occasion to celebrate the French-American relationship and its own efforts over the year with its community of friends and benefactors. It is also the Foundation's opportunity to honor those who have dedicated their time and energy to the lasting partnership between France and the United States. The French-American Foundation was delighted to host its 2019 Gala at the Rainbow Room in New York City under the High Patronage of the President of France and the Ambassador of France to the United States. It was attended by 250 diplomats, business leaders, and members of the French-American community.

2019 HONOREES

Ms. Gina Adams
*Corporate Vice President of Government Affairs
at FedEx Corporation*

Ambassador François Delattre
Ambassador of France to the United Nations

Mr. John Paulson
President of Paulson & Company



**OUR ANNUAL
GALA IS A CRITICAL
COMPONENT OF
THE FOUNDATION'S
OPERATIONS.**

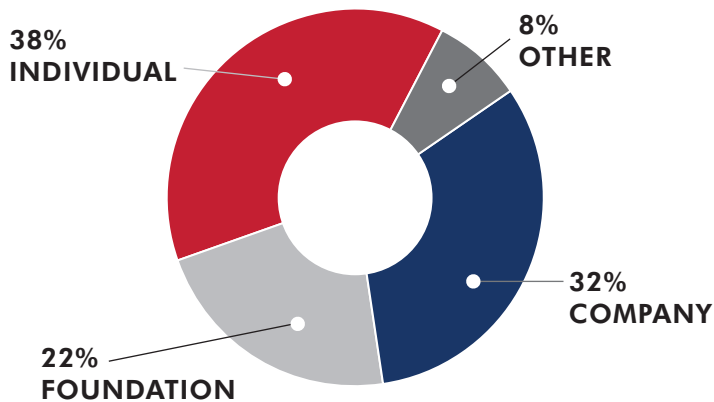
**OVER 40% OF
THE FAF BUDGET WAS
FUNDED BY THE GALA.**

FINANCIAL REPORT

As an American not-for-profit organization, the French-American Foundation is supported by the generous contributions of individuals, corporations, and foundations. These contributions allow the Foundation to advance its goal of promoting solution-oriented dialogue between French and American leaders in business, government, academia, and more.

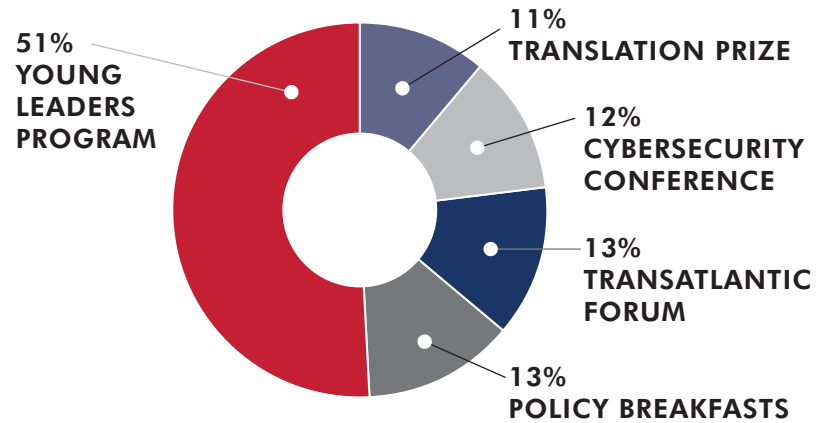
In 2019, the Foundation operated on \$1.3M in revenue, which funded our initiatives and helped us achieve a balanced budget.

REVENUE BY GIVING SOURCE



Source: Unaudited financial statement for 2019

EXPENSES BY PROGRAM



Source: Unaudited financial statement for 2019

Our program activities are made possible by the support of our generous community. We would like to give a special thanks to the Florence Gould Foundation, the American Express Foundation, and Michel David-Weill for their commitment to our mission.

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We would like to recognize the longstanding partnership with our sister organization, the French-American Foundation – France, with whom we collaborate throughout the year.



FRENCH-AMERICAN FOUNDATION

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frenchamerican.org