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President’s Message

Dear NBA Members and Friends,

Now in its 71st year of service, the National Braille Association is the only national organization that exclusively provides continuing education to individuals who transcribe braille. We are honored to have this distinction. Braille is the medium that allows an individual who is blind to have access to the same reading materials as their sighted peers. The work of a transcriber is a crucial link between print and braille, for it is the transcriber who ensures that the braille is an accurate representation of the print. Accurate and properly formatted braille helps individuals who are blind achieve success in their education, their career, and in their daily lives.

As many of you know, implementation of the new Unified English Braille (UEB) code took place in the United States in January of this year. This has created a challenge for teachers of the blind and visually impaired, braille transcribers, braille readers, and anyone else involved in the braille industry. Learning a brand new code is a monumental task. The National Braille Association continues to be impressed by the resolve of transcribers who are dedicating so much time to learning this new code.

As an organization dedicated to the training of braille transcribers, the National Braille Association has spent much of its time over the past two years preparing people for the transition to the new code. But our work is far from over. Even though we are six months into the implementation of UEB, we are still learning about how it impacts the work of the transcriber. We are responding to the ever-changing information by developing and offering new educational opportunities.

In the fall of this year, we will be hosting a professional development conference in St. Louis, Missouri, where transcribers can attend three days of classes on various aspects of the new code. We will be continuing to respond to technical questions through our Ask an Expert Forum; and our professional journal, The Bulletin, will remain informative with new skills articles to provide clarification and recommendations based on the many new guidelines. Additionally, we are excited to announce that we will begin offering webinars this summer as another avenue for obtaining instruction.

Although transitioning to a new code is difficult, the National Braille Association is excited about the opportunity it has given us to serve our purpose. But we cannot do it alone. The cost of providing training to transcribers, especially during this time of change, exceeds the income it generates. It is through the generous donations of our members and friends that our work is possible. By supporting the National Braille Association today with a charitable gift, you will be helping to ensure that the critical work of providing training to transcribers on this new code will continue. I’d like to thank you, in advance, for any contribution you can make.

Sincerely,

Whitney Gregory
President
About Our Board of Directors

The National Braille Association, Inc. is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors which formulates the policies and procedures needed to implement NBA’s programs.

All members of the Board are involved in services which promote braille literacy. They are braille transcribers, teachers of the visually impaired, braille production facility supervisors, coordinators of volunteer groups, rehabilitation teachers, and retired professors. The Board meets twice a year to conduct the business of the organization.

Board members are nominated by the NBA membership. A nominating committee is then responsible for recommending candidates for officer and director positions. Elections are held at the annual membership meeting.

What is truly unique about this board is that it is a working board.

Each member volunteers not only the time needed to attend the meetings, but also performs the tasks his or her position requires. Board members chair administrative committees that oversee fund development, public relations, and the production of the Bulletin and other publications. A Board member is NBA’s meetings planner.

A Board member may also chair one of the skills committees. It is the responsibility of the skills committees to develop and lead workshops and write articles for the Bulletin in the various braille specialties: literary code, textbook format, mathematics and science, music, tactile graphics, computer-assisted transcription, and foreign language. The result of these efforts provides training for transcribers so that they can produce quality braille for the blind and visually impaired.
## NBA Board Roster

### Executive Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>City, State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Whitney Williams</td>
<td>Houston, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Cindi Laurent</td>
<td>Edina, Minnesota</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elected Member from the Board</td>
<td>Robert Beaton</td>
<td>Flat Rock, Michigan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President Elect</td>
<td>Heidi Lehmann</td>
<td>Castorland, New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Diane Spence</td>
<td>Houston, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Jana Hertz</td>
<td>Aliso Viejo, California</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immediate Past President</td>
<td>Jan Carroll</td>
<td>Louisville, Kentucky</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Directors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>City, State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wendy Benckhuysen</td>
<td>Alberta, Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol Greer</td>
<td>Federal Way, Washington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyle DeJute</td>
<td>Betty Marshall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisville, Kentucky</td>
<td>Alberta, Canada</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### National Office Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>City, State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>David Shaffer</td>
<td>Rochester, New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations Manager</td>
<td>Christopher Clemens</td>
<td>Rochester, New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookkeeper</td>
<td>Marty Soderlund</td>
<td>Rochester, New York</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Balance Sheet

December 31, 2015

National Braille Association enjoys the participation of many volunteers who donate their services in a variety of ways. These volunteers assist NBA by serving on its Board of Directors, its Committees and at the National Office in Rochester, New York. Because of the unique quality of the work involved, no objective basis is available to measure the value of donated services. Therefore, no amounts for donated services have been reflected in the accompanying financial statement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and Cash Equivalents</td>
<td>70,253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>1,226,192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Receivable</td>
<td>2,575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventories</td>
<td>2,965</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prepaid Expenses</td>
<td>2,565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fixed Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment</td>
<td>91,641</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Volumes</td>
<td>1,972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less Accumulated Depreciation</td>
<td>(91,724)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Fixed Assets</strong></td>
<td>1,889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>1,306,439</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

### Current Liabilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>2,169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Payroll Taxes</td>
<td>--</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deferred Membership Dues</td>
<td>9,880</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deferred Subscriptions</td>
<td>770</td>
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**Total Liabilities** 12,819

### Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unrestricted</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating</td>
<td>518,761</td>
</tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Board Designated</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archer Fund</td>
<td>3,408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Projects</td>
<td>--</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total Unrestricted** 522,169

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Temporarily Restricted</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Temporarily Restricted** 102,190

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Permanently Restricted</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alice Mann Endowment</td>
<td>669,261</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Net Assets** 1,293,620

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>1,306,439</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The NBA Roll of Honor

NBA is grateful for the monetary and in-kind gifts received from the following individuals and organizations in 2015.

FOUNDATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS WHO MADE A CONTRIBUTION IN 2015

AmazonSmile
Braille Publishers
The Community Foundation
Desert Volunteer Braille Guild (Phoenix, AZ)
ExxonMobil
Bette Fritz Bielefeldt Living Trust
GE Foundation
Sally Hering Trust
Impact Devices
The Manny Fund
Michigan Braille Transcribing Fund
Visual Aid Volunteers (Garland, TX)
Visually Impaired Partnership

FRIENDS OF NBA WHO MADE A CONTRIBUTION IN 2015

Rita Abrams
Erma Akey
Olga Baron
Elaine Betschart
Andrew Biles
Mary Blakemore
Bonnie Jean Bolsen
Peter and Allison Burrows
Barbara Busboom
Mary Daniel
Sheila Gales
Maureen Gillespie
Howard Goldstein
Wendy Hardy
Herbert and Sandra Harrison
Martha Herting
Judy Hornsby
Patricia Hunt
Margaret Jackson
Helen Jacob
David Jenson
Anne Katlic
Ann Kelt
John Koning
Lynne Luxton
Jean Macco
Karen Malver
Kathleen McGrath
Marion Merrill
Robert Miller
Ralph and Mary Lou Penner
Diana Pollack
Andre Pritchett
Edgar and Ruth Riehl
FRIENDS OF NBA WHO MADE A CONTRIBUTION IN 2015, CONTINUED

Edith Riehl  
Bonnie Rothman  
Sandra Rowley  
Ann Schlosser  
Mary Shafer  
Brian Shaffer  
Jim Shaffer  

Kirk Smith  
Lois Spritzer  
Russell Steedley  
Michelle Sterner  
Dick and Sandy Wood  
Mr. and Mrs. Aldo Zordan

MEMBERS OF NBA WHO MADE A CONTRIBUTION IN 2015

Nancy and James Amick  
Lois Andersen  
Reeva Anderson  
Charlotte Arnstein  
Lois Arntzen  
Karin Auckenthaler  
Susan Baker  
Robert Beaton  
Deborah Brown  
William Buending  
Jessie Buzawa  
Kathleen Cantrell  
Lynn Carroll  
Rebecca Cator  
Jo Ellyn Cohen  
Webb Comfort  
Dorothy Davis  
Marilyn Dickey  
David Goldstein  
Wendy Gosselin  
Leon Harkleroad  

Priscilla Harris  
Elizabeth Hazen  
Patricia Herrling  
Fred and Mildred Irwig  
David Jordan  
Lucy Killeen  
Linda Kirchgessner  
Judith Kramer  
Marjorie LaBella  
John Lampert  
Sarah Lappe  
Carol Lawrence  
Debra Leff  
Donna Marhoun  
Keitha Martin  
Jean McNamara  
Jane Minnick  
Virginia Molinaro  
Jean Moritz  
Dr. Kimberly Morrow  
Donald Moser
MEMBERS OF NBA WHO MADE A CONTRIBUTION IN 2015, CONTINUED

Laurie Moynihan
Patsy Neustadt
Edith Nicholson
Jane Perry
Susan Rothman
Sally Saunders
Russell Steedley
Susanne Suchan
Kathleen Talley
Janice Taylor
Theresa Thorpe
Fred Van Ackeren
Robert Wegner
Diana White
Jacqueline Wise

LIFE MEMBERS OF NBA WHO MADE A CONTRIBUTION IN 2015

Kathleen Bloden
Janice Brewer
Jessie Buzawa
Jo Cassidy
Angela Coffaro
Lucinda Collins
Karen Cossman
Elizabeth Doane
Bettie Downing
Janis Falk
Cynthia Fastman
Nancy Fosdick
Alfred and Mary Jo Gilbert
Carmen Gilchrest
Carol Greer
Dawn Gross
Debbie Haberkorn
Helen Hendrickson
Mary Hubbard
Peggy Jackson
Kathleen Bloden
Janice Brewer
Jessie Buzawa
Jo Cassidy
Angela Coffaro
Lucinda Collins
Karen Cossman
Elizabeth Doane
Bettie Downing
Janis Falk
Cynthia Fastman
Nancy Fosdick
Alfred and Mary Jo Gilbert
Carmen Gilchrest
Carol Greer
Dawn Gross
Debbie Haberkorn
Helen Hendrickson
Mary Hubbard
Peggy Jackson
Ellen Kimbrough
Kiko Kimura
Lucinda Kuiper
Shelley Mack
Judy Matsuoka
Sheila McCain
Linda McGovern
Beverly McKenney
Lily Meiners
Nan Mills-Smith
Carol Morrison
Marie Nylen
Darlene Plante
Barbara Rudin
Adam Ruschival
Rodney Rynearson
Dr. Lawrence Smith
Carol Snyder
Karen Stowe
Judy Strauss-Schwartz
LIFE MEMBERS OF NBA WHO MADE A CONTRIBUTION IN 2015, CONTINUED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barbara Taffet</th>
<th>Lisa Vervena</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joyce Van Tuyl</td>
<td>Dorothy Worthington</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GIFTS-IN-KIND IN 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Robert Beaton</th>
<th>Cindi Laurent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wendy Benckhuysen</td>
<td>Betty Marshall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saralyn Borboa</td>
<td>Robinson and Gordon, CPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan Carroll</td>
<td>Diane Spence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyle DeJute</td>
<td>Joanna E. Venneri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol Greer</td>
<td>Dorothy Worthington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitney Gregory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jana Hertz</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How to Make a Gift to NBA

Since National Braille Association’s inception in 1945, individuals, corporations, and foundations have made contributions of all sizes to provide the resources needed for achieving and maintaining our goals. The need for financial and volunteer support continues as we strive to provide for growth, change, and the future.

There are many ways to support NBA:

- **Annual Gift**—Contributions of any size are welcome in cash or securities. Cash gifts may be sent to the National Office at any time or charged to a credit card. Gifts of common stock and other securities may be transferred electronically into our General Investment Fund. It is suggested that you contact the Executive Director to obtain the correct routing numbers before making such a transfer.

- **Bequest**—Designate the National Braille Association, Inc. as a beneficiary of a portion of your estate. You or your attorney may contact the Executive Director for appropriate wording to incorporate into your will.

- **Insurance**—Designate NBA as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy.

- **Memorial or Tribute**—Pay tribute to a living or deceased person with a donation to NBA. Celebrate a birth, wedding, graduation, anniversary, or other special event in the life of someone you know.

- **Employee Matching Plan**—Your employer may have a policy of matching employee contributions to nonprofit organizations. NBA qualifies for most such programs.

- **Loyalty and Credit Card Rewards**—Many Loyalty and Credit Card Reward companies allow you to use your reward points towards a donation to the National Braille Association.

Although unrestricted contributions to the general fund provide National Braille Association with the flexibility to use your gift in the area of greatest need as determined by NBA’s Board of Directors, you have the option to designate your gift to the following special fund:

- **Mary Archer Scholarship Fund**—The purpose of the Mary Archer Scholarship Fund is to provide scholarships equal to the amount of the cost of registration to those attending an NBA conference for the first time.

Every contribution is deeply appreciated as we work together and share our resources with others.

National Braille Association is a nonprofit educational organization. Donations are tax deductible to the extent provided by law.

Our Federal Identification Number is 22-6064715.