

# Al Larvick Conservation Fund

## 2019 Year End Report

*(\*All images in this document are subject to copyright laws)*



*8mm film still: President Nixon, Grand Forks International Airport, ND. 1970. Courtesy Judith Hammer. Collection: College Days Capers: Collegiate Experiences & Capers at UND During "The Revolution" Of The Late 60s & Early 70s.*

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kirsten Larvick, Executive Director; Shane Molander, North Dakota Agent; Dwight Swanson, Secretary; Brianna Toth; Rhonda Vigeant, Board Chair; Laura Zimmerman, Treasurer.

### ADVISORY BOARD

Ina Archer, Jeffery Larvick and Rachael Stoeltje.

### NORTH DAKOTA COMMITTEE

Larry Danielson; Shari Huettl; Tamera Kapaun; Gerald Newborg; Lindsay K. Meidinger; Suzanne Zimmerman.

### MISSION

To preserve historical and cultural heritage through conservation, education and public accessibility of analog American home movie, amateur cinema and community recording collections.



*Photograph: Filmmaker Tim Smith c. 1970s. Courtesy, Oregon Historical Society & Tim Smith. Collection, Tim Smith Moving Image Collection.*

## INTRODUCTION

During its 5th year of existence, the Al Larvick Conservation Fund conducted its usual program activities of grant making, North Dakota programming, community building, as well as education around personal archiving and sharing. Additionally, the fund was pleased to gain a new board member in Brianna Toth and conducted the first successful oral history video interviews with two past Al Larvick North Dakota grant recipients. The fund was also delighted to participate in a panel at the annual conference for the 2019 Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA). This was the first time the fund presented outside of its North Dakota screening and workshop efforts.

## ADMINISTRATIVE

After some comparative research, the Al Larvick Conservation Fund decided to become insured by Nonprofits Insurance Alliance. The fund also incorporates an accounting software service to assist with tracking financials clearly and accurately. And finally, the board voted to begin generating annual reports. The 2018 report was distributed internally and going forward reports will be posted to the website as downloadable documents.



## 2019 GOALS

Last year, the fund's board of directors voted on the following goals to accomplish in 2019:

1. Implement nonprofit insurance
2. Begin generating annual reports
3. Implement accounting software
4. Increase individual support
5. Research additional funding opportunities
6. Strategize new approaches to outreach and for the North Dakota grant and events
7. Expand the Board of Directors

Although new funding opportunities didn't come to fruition, the remaining goals were realized.

## GRANT PROGRAM



*8mm film still: Train station activities, c. 1970s. Courtesy Norfolk & Western Historical Society. Collection, Louis Newton Norfolk & Western Railway Films.*

The 2019 grants supported a range of subject matter regional makers of home movie and amateur film collections - capturing experiences in New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Virginia, Washington DC and beyond!

For the first time the **Al Larvick National Grant** was awarded to a collection that was previously supported. Jim Hubbard's Super 8, 8mm and 16mm films received a 2018 and 2019 national grant. With the 2019 Al Larvick National Grant, Hubbard continued the conservation work of his collection, which documents political and community events in and around the New York City and Washington DC area from 1979-2009. Additionally, this funding makes his work accessible. 2019 national grants were also given to Norfolk Western Historical Society and Oregon Historical Society.



*16mm film still: Candlelight Vigil, New York, NY, 1988. Courtesy, Jim Hubbard. Collection: Jim Hubbard Lesbian/Gay Community Film Footage.*

In 2018 two **Al Larvick North Dakota Grant** applicants received awards. The grantees were individual maker and collection holder, Judith Hammer who filmed her college experiences during the late 1960s and early 1970s with her 8mm camera, and individual collection custodian, Darlene Talbott for her father's 8mm films of family activities from the mid-40s to the late 1950s.

Both 2018 grantees received their conservation and digitizing services in the 2019 calendar year.



*Photograph: Englert family, Valley City, ND, c.1940s. Courtesy, W.L. and D.K. Talbott Trust. Collection, H.E. Englert Family Home Movies.*

The 2019 **Al Lavick North Dakota Grant** recipients are individual family collection custodian Joel Winckler and maker and family collection custodian Frankie Kaiser. This grant is sponsored in collaboration between The MediaPreserve and the Al Larvick Conservation Fund. Grant recipients are chosen by the Al Larvick Fund North Dakota Committee and the decision making process is based on the board's budget review and lab agreement. Decisions were finalized in December 2019. Conservation activities for the two collections will begin in 2020.

To date, through the fund's grant program, 50,000 feet of film recorded by people from all walks of life in the US and abroad has been cleaned, repaired and digitally captured.

2020 will be the first time the fund will have provided support to some magnetic audio reels and cassettes. ALCF has not provided support as of yet to analog videotape formats, although the grant is open to any forms of analog moving image and sound formats it is able to digitize with its partner labs.



## GRANT DIGITIZATION & ACCESS GRAPH

### Al Larvick Fund Grant Program Activities

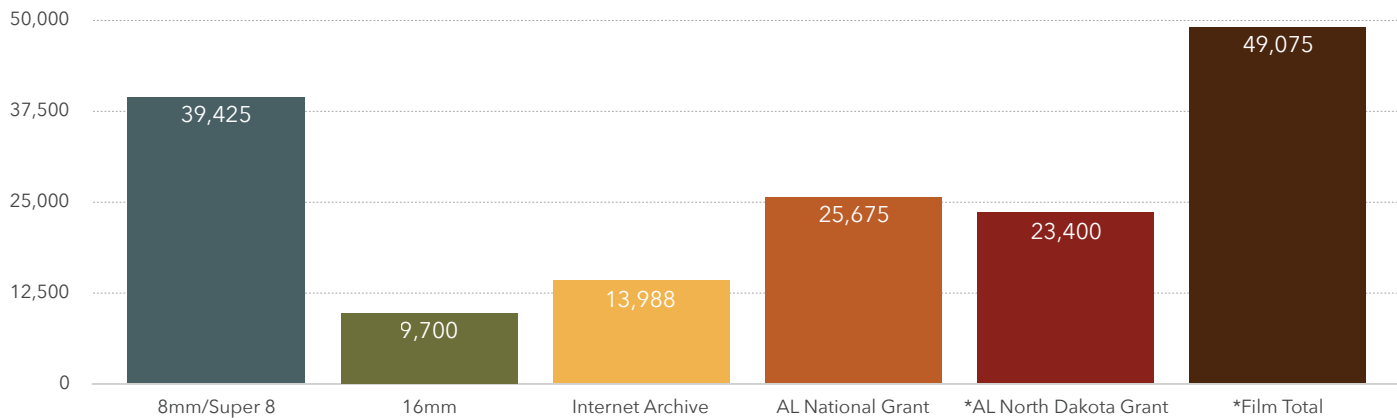
\*ALCF was incorporated in 2014. Its grant program was implemented in 2015.

\*Al Larvick North Dakota Grant footage total represents work completed from the 2015-2018 grant awards. The 2019 grant will be completed in the 2020 calendar year.

Conservation, Scanning & Access Breakdown 2015-2019

FORMAT/GRANT	TOTAL FEET
8mm/Super 8	39,425
16mm	9,700
Videotape	0
Internet Archive	13,988
AL National Grant	25,675
*AL North Dakota Grant	23,400
*Film Total	49,075
Videotape Total	0

Al Larvick Fund Grant Program Chart



## ACCESS

The fund's other grant related activities such as transcribing and uploading collections onto the **Internet Archive** is a challenge to keep up to date. These tasks are time consuming and complex since the process often requires information from, and coordination with, the grant recipients. By the end of 2019, ALCF uploaded two more collections, making a total of 7 collection uploads (53 individual digital files) out of the fund's 16 collections its supported through its grant program to date. The board continues to explore ways to streamline this procedure to increase the accessibility of the collections it supports.

## OUTREACH & EVENTS

North Dakota events are a regular part of the Al Larvick Conservation Fund's outreach. Its 2019 events took place in October at the State Historical Society of North Dakota in Bismarck, Barnes County Historical Society Museum in Valley City and Grand Forks County Historical Society in Grand Forks.



*Photograph: Community digitizing event at The Barnes County Historical Society Museum, Valley City, ND, October 2019. Courtesy, Al Larvick Conservation Fund.*

The Bismarck and Valley City events included the fund's first public digitizing efforts.

Partnering with the State Historical Society of North Dakota and Fargo-based business TK Design, the events offered free digitizing to local community members for VHS videotape, Super 8 and 8mm film.

The services followed screening presentations by Tamera Kapaun, Stephanie Kom, Kirsten Larvick, Shane Molander and Dalles Schneider.

Oral History video interviews were also conducted at the State Historical Society of North Dakota in Bismarck with previous Al Larvick North Dakota Grant recipients Stephanie Kom and Dalles Schneider.

These interviews will be edited together with collection holder home movies and posted to the Al Larvick Fund blog that is set to launch in 2020.

The fund also enjoyed its first event held in Grand Forks, North Dakota and its first partnership with the Grand Forks County Historical Society. It was a screening only event. Partnering with the University of North Dakota's Chester Fritz Library and TK Design, the screening presentations included films recorded by Chester Fritz, as well as selections from TK Design client home movies and previous Al Larvick North Dakota Grant recipients. Presentations were given by Curt Hanson, Tamera Kapaun and Kirsten Larvick.



*Photograph: 2015 Al Larvick North Dakota Grant recipient, Stephanie Kom is interviewed for the fund's Homespun Histories program. Bismarck, ND, October 2019. Courtesy, Al Larvick Conservation Fund.*

Each event brought together individuals and representatives of organizations who were interested in applying for the Al Larvick North Dakota Grant. The two digitizing



events were very popular. Valley City's was especially successful in terms of attendance and the amount of on-site digitizing that was completed. The 2019 Al Larvick North Dakota Grant recipients learned about the grant opportunity through attending our events in Bismarck and Valley City.

**AMIA** marked the Al Larvick Fund's first presentation at the annual summit. The Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA) conference was held in Baltimore, Maryland in November. Dwight Swanson, Center for Home Movies and an ALCF board member, organized and introduced the session Home Movie Digitization and Access: New Models for Outreach. The four presenters included Ina Archer, Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC); Siobhan Hagan, The Memory Lab, DC Public Library; Kirsten Larvick, Al Larvick Conservation Fund; and Patricia Villon, Center for Asian American Media. Presentations offered overviews on the work each organization is doing within their respective communities to support the preservation and sharing of home movies.

**Social Media** has been a slow build, but the fund has maintained its Facebook and Instagram accounts for some time. A Twitter account was created in 2019 with the same handle as ALCF's other accounts, @allarvickfund.



*Photograph: 2017 Al Larvick North Dakota Grant recipient Dalles Schneider and wife, Susan Schneider with their 8mm film equipment. Bismarck, ND, October 2019. Courtesy, Al Larvick Conservation Fund.*

## HOMESPUN HISTORIES

As indicated in the above Outreach and Events section, the fund’s oral history program is underway with its first year of successful video interviews conducted at the State Historical Society of North Dakota’s Home Movie Day event. These interviews will be launched on ALCF’s blog later this year. These oral histories will be used to contextualize home movie histories at future events, on the ALCF website, within promotional material and uploaded onto archive.org.

## FINANCIALS

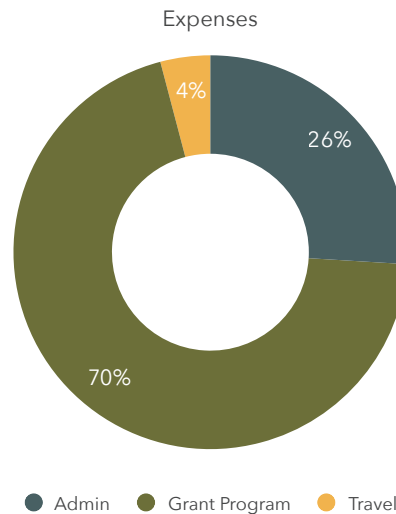
### Al Larvick Conservation Fund FY2019 Income/Expense Report

\*FY, January 1st through December 31st, 2019

INCOME	
Donations	\$8,325
In-Kind	\$3,339
Misc.	\$232
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$11,897</b>

EXPENSES	
Admin	\$2,499
Grant Program	\$6,729
Travel	\$394
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$9,622</b>

MONEY LEFT OVER	
Income minus expenses	\$2,275



\*FY2018 Income: \$10,195 (in-kind not included), Expenses: \$9,773

## 2020 GOALS

This year, the fund’s board of directors’ 2020 goals include:

1. Increase financial support
2. Expand and diversify board and deepen board participation
3. Further implement oral history program
4. Increase collection upload to the Internet Archive
5. Expand exhibition
6. Launch Al Larvick Fund blog to further story sharing around supported collections

## CONCLUSION

The Al Larvick Conservation Fund is able to sustain its core endeavor of grant making each year through its two lab partnerships.

Challenges around fundraising for events, marketing, oral history capture, labor expenses related to transcription and upload continue.

Considering the size of the organization, however, the fund seems to be successful in providing a needed service to personal heritage conservation and story sharing.



*8mm film still: Railway life, c. 1970s. Courtesy Norfolk & Western Historical Society. Collection, Louis Newton Norfolk & Western Railway Films.*