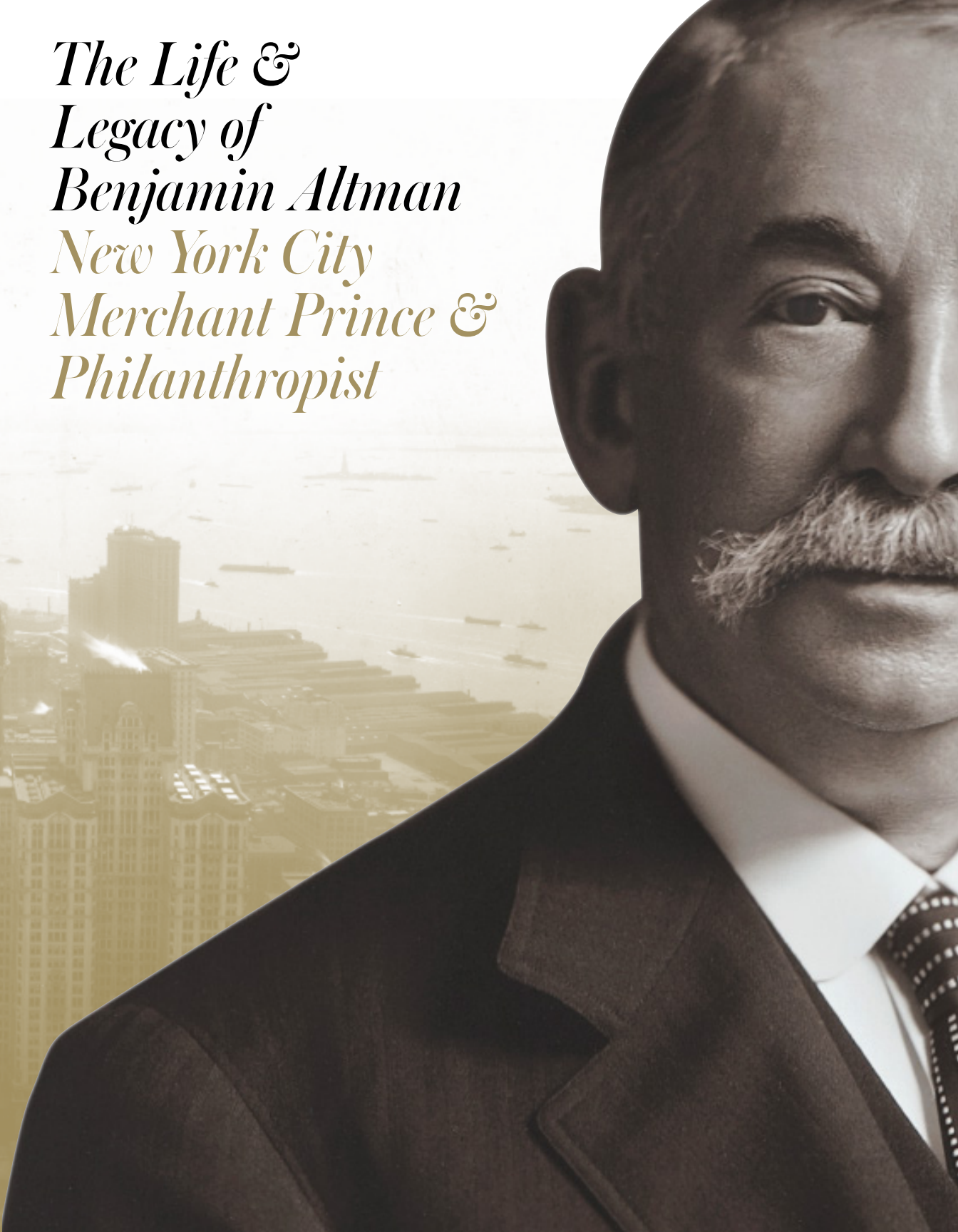


*The Life &  
Legacy of  
Benjamin Altman  
New York City  
Merchant Prince &  
Philanthropist*









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Published by the Altman Foundation  
on the occasion of the 100th anniversary celebration of the Foundation  
October, 2013.

ENDPAPERS:

B. Altman & Co. Flagship Store

B. Altman & Co., Elevators, Main Floor

B. Altman & Co., Central Aisle, Main Floor, 1914

B. Altman & Co.'s Delivery Department, 1914

All illustrations by the Bartlett-Orr Press from the publication,

*B. Altman & Co.'s Enlarged Store*, 1914.

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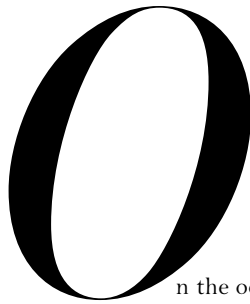
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# *Introduction*

*Jane B. O'Connell*  
*President*



n the occasion of its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Altman Foundation is proud to present a portrait of our founder Benjamin Altman. He was among a handful of emerging leaders who established significant philanthropic foundations in New York City between 1907 and 1913. These include the Russell Sage, Carnegie and Rockefeller Foundations. Altman is the least known of this august group.

We are delighted that Professor Jeanne Abrams has brought a new perspective on the life of Benjamin Altman. Her portrait paints him as a compassionate, hardworking businessman who helped support and raise his widowed sister's children, as well as a man who was way ahead of his time in his understanding of philanthropy. Altman's concern for his employees was rare for his era. His attention to detail, his passion for excellence in all things and his indefatigable work ethic were important aspects of his vision for his foundation as well as his business. Abrams traces Altman's story from his childhood to his death and the establishment of the Foundation. Her history also provides a snapshot into the era of the emergence of the department store—a phenomenon that began in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, spanned most of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and included some of the great names in American business, among them, Oscar Straus, Marshall Field, AT Stewart and Bernard Gimbel.

Abrams's biography is followed by our esteemed philanthropic colleague and *New York Times* editor Jack Rosenthal's summary of the thoughtful work of the Foundation since 1985. We also drew on Rosenthal's editing expertise for the whole document. He focuses on how Altman's values are still alive and highlights a few of the Foundation's programs in modern times. His brief history notes how strategic, carefully established goals and an emphasis on outcomes can help identify and support effective programs and initiatives. Rosenthal touches on some of the recent efforts to collaborate with other funders, leverage assets and strengthen important initiatives. Philanthropy is not as simple as it was when Altman selected his charities. The Foundation staff and trustees continually wrestle with the most effective methods of balancing donor intent, change and compelling need.

Altman's story is the classic American tale of a hardworking son of immigrants achieving prominence, influence and wealth. Although he was an extraordinarily successful retailer, entrepreneur, art collector and a thoughtful and significant

philanthropist, Altman was a shy, retiring man. Little is known about his personal life. Altman, the son of Bavarian immigrants, whose department store was a household word in New York for most of the 20th century, left a legacy beyond his store — two gifts to the people of New York, one that honored his love of beautiful art and is enjoyed by all who visit his collection at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the other that fulfilled his desire to improve the lives of the underserved, his Foundation. His art collection is one of the largest ever given to the Metropolitan. The plaque on the second floor near his collection says it all: “The sagacity of a great merchant was joined to an ardent and discriminating love of art and a noble public spirit dedicated his cherished collection to the benefit of mankind.” Interestingly, several of Altman’s department store peers who became philanthropists and art collectors also shunned the limelight.<sup>1</sup>

Altman surely considered his “mercantile establishment” his greatest accomplishment and might be surprised that the wonderful store on 34<sup>th</sup> Street and Fifth Avenue no longer exists. However, the underlying principles that have inspired the Foundation for 100 years are very much the same values that were the hallmarks of his business. Moreover, the work of the modern Foundation extends his desire to care for New Yorkers to levels he could not have envisioned. In his will, Altman did not leave specific directions to his trustees but charged them to take care of his employees and provide funding for “the benefit of charitable institutions in the City of New York.” His personal giving and his concern for the well-being of his employees continue to offer a roadmap in the areas of education, health, strengthening communities and the arts — the Foundation’s guidelines today. Providing access for the less fortunate is the clear mission.

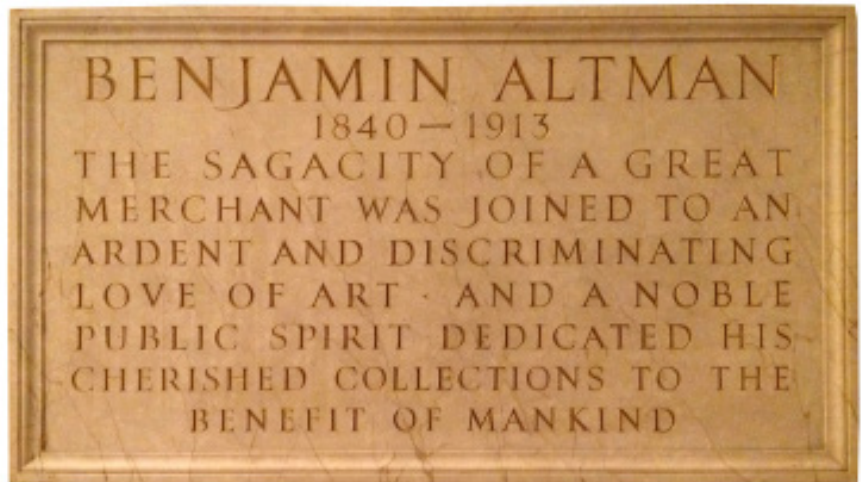


*Interior of executive office.*

*The desk shown in the foreground remains in use in the current Altman offices.*

Each of his successors shared his values. There have been only four Presidents in 100 years and one executive director since 1987 working along with dedicated trustees and staff. This stability has not diminished the Foundation's ability to consider new ideas and to adjust to the extraordinary changes in New York City. There were a number of grantees on the list between 1913 and 1925 that continue to receive funding in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The Foundation has partnered with many of the core providers of service to the underserved in health, education, the arts and communities throughout its history.

It was a little known fact that until the Foundation sold the retail business in 1985, profits from the corporation went to charity — every sale, so to speak, addressed some need of the citizens of New York. In 1985, after the sale of the retail business, with a much larger asset base, the Foundation became a significant player on the philanthropic landscape. Today it makes annual grants totaling 11 to 12 million dollars. Altman would have been astonished at what his city has become, in size, vibrancy and position in the world, but it remains a city of immigrants and the needs of its citizens are perhaps more urgent and compelling.



*Inscription at the Metropolitan Museum of Art dedicating Altman's gift*

Just as Benjamin Altman could not possibly imagine the New York of 2013, we cannot begin to project the issues and challenges that will face the city in the future, but the present Foundation trustees and staff are determined to continue to dedicate our funds to supporting the population Altman cared about so passionately. This will require frequent reexamination of priorities and constant attention to how assets are preserved, grow and invested in new creative vehicles that leverage Foundation dollars, such as Program Related Investments.

21<sup>st</sup>-century New York City is far more dependent on philanthropy than in Altman's time, when charitable giving was not a vital supplement to public support and the non-profit sector did not represent a major sector of its economy. The recent developments in the philanthropic community of public/private partnerships and collaborations are a natural outgrowth of efforts to effect social change. We hope that Altman's example and the longevity of his Foundation will inspire generosity on the part of other

philanthropists. In growing his business, Altman was creative, innovative and a risk taker. To survive in the fast paced 21<sup>st</sup>, century these characteristics will have to be paramount for both funders and the nonprofits they will serve.

Bernard Sachs remarked in his tribute at Altman's funeral at Temple Emmanuel on October 10, 1913:

“That a man of such qualities should have been personally but little known to the community in which he lived, may be a matter of regret; but it was his unusual modesty and the abhorrence of notoriety that kept him from the public gaze. Now that he has gone from among us the veil which he threw about his person may be laid aside for an instant and the greatness of the man revealed for the benefit of those who have a right and the wish to know what sort of man he was.”



Jane B. O'Connell

We hope that this little monograph gives a quick but powerful snapshot of our 100 years and by “setting aside the veil” for a brief moment publically honors Benjamin Altman for the significant impact he made on his beloved city.

On the occasion of the Foundation's centennial, we not only celebrate Altman's legacy but thank all the trustees and staff who have worked over 100 years to preserve his tradition while creatively responding to current needs. Most of all, we honor all the amazing organizations the Foundation has funded since 1913 that strive to make New York a city of opportunity and a community of caring citizens. It is a privilege to be the fourth President to follow Altman's leadership and help continue his legacy. Enjoy Benjamin Altman's story and celebrate his generosity.

Jane B. O'Connell, President  
October 2013

ENDNOTES

- 1 *The World of Department Stores*, Jan Whitaker, The Vendome Press, 2011, pp. 55 to 58.

# *Benjamin Altman And His Enduring Gift to New York*

*Jeanne Abrams,  
Ph.D.*

Dr. Jeanne Abrams is a professor at the University of Denver. She also serves as the Director of the Rocky Mountain Jewish Historical Society and Beck Archives, part of the Center for Judaic Studies and the University Libraries at the University of Denver. Dr. Abrams is the author of four books, including *Jewish Women Pioneering the Frontier Trail: A History in the American West* (New York University Press, 2006) and *Dr. Charles David Spivak, A Jewish Immigrant and the American Tuberculosis Movement* (University Press of Colorado, 2009), and numerous articles and essays in academic and popular journals and magazines. Her latest book, *Revolutionary Medicine: America's Founding Fathers and Mothers in Sickness and Health*, examines the lives of George and Martha Washington, Abigail and John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, and Dolley and James Madison through the lens of personal encounters with illness against the backdrop of 18<sup>th</sup>-century medicine. It was published in September 2013 by New York University Press.

# B

enjamin Altman, creator of a world-famous department store, also created the foundation that has, in the 100 years since his death, spent a quarter-billion dollars to give opportunity to New Yorkers, especially those from under-served communities.

Altman was born in New York City on July 12, 1840, the son of Jewish immigrants from Bavaria. Something of a loner, he was a retailing pioneer. In 1865, at 25, he founded what was to become B. Altman & Company, one of the city's premier department stores. In 1906, he was the first to relocate his store from lower Manhattan to an elite Fifth Avenue site. That set an example for others, as did his store's reputation for quality and service.

He died on October 7, 1913, at 73, by which time B. Altman & Company had become known for retailing excellence. His personal net worth was estimated at \$50 million, about \$1.2 billion in 2012 dollars. Isaac Gimbel, of the famed department store chain, eulogized him as "one of the greatest and ablest businessmen in the country."

Beyond business, his commitment to the public good lives on in the Altman Foundation. Altman formally incorporated it in April, 1913, under a special act of the New York legislature. His stock in the company, valued at \$30 million at the time, was left entirely to the Foundation. Part of its mission was to "promote the social, physical, and economic welfare, of the employees of B. Altman & Company." More important, his will provided funding "for the benefit of charitable and educational institutions in the City of New York." The Foundation turned over profits from the business to charitable purposes until it relinquished ownership of the company in 1985, in compliance with tax law changes. The sale of the department store chain significantly increased the Foundation's assets, enabling it to enlarge its community support.

Altman made generous bequests to family and staff and substantial legacies to social welfare institutions. He bequeathed his art collection to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, at the time the museum's biggest gift ever. But the most lasting beneficiaries of his largesse were — and are — the people of New York City.

The Altman Foundation, now celebrating its centennial, has helped shape the face of philanthropy in New York City. It has been concerned with poverty, immigration, education, public health and the arts. In 1914, it made six grants totaling \$285. Since then,



it has awarded over \$256 million in grants that have helped thousands of New Yorkers become self-sufficient, contributing citizens and enriched the culture of the city.

### *Benjamin Altman's Early Years*

In the 1820's, German Jews began emigrating in search of greater economic opportunity and to escape poverty, persecution and restrictive laws. As writer Leon Harris put it in *Merchant Princes*, "The Kaiser had perhaps made more merchants than the Harvard School of Business."

Philip and Celia Friedsam Altman arrived in New York in about 1836 from Memmelsdorf, Bavaria. Like others, the Altman family used ethnic networks and engaged on merchandising skills they had developed in restrictive European settings.

Benjamin was born on the Lower East Side and attended a local public school, where, according to his obituary in the *New York Evening Journal*, he received a sound basic education and developed his admiration for hard work, democracy and good citizenship. He had two siblings, his older brother Morris Altman, born in 1837, who also attended public schools and worked in the family business, and his sister Sophia Altman Fleishman, born about 1835. Although Benjamin did not go beyond the eighth grade, he became an astute businessman, and by dint of hard work had, by his late 20s, joined the ranks of the city's commercial elite.

Altman was an intensely private man, and few details are known about his personal life. His maternal grandfather, Moses Hirsch Friedsam, was a watchmaker in Memmelsdorf, where he and his first wife Babet raised five children, including Celia Friedsam Altman and her brother Hirsch. One of Hirsch's grandsons, Benjamin's cousin Michael Friedsam, joined the Altman firm in the mid-1870's at the age of 17 after having attended Weston Military Academy in Connecticut. Friedsam became a full partner in the business in 1900, then a vice president and, after Benjamin's death, president of the company.

Benjamin's career began as a 12-year-old, around 1853, when his father Philip opened a modest dry goods or millinery store on New York City's Lower East Side. Benjamin worked behind the counter after school. He received more formal retail training as a young man alongside two other future New York City Jewish merchant princes, Abraham Abraham of Abraham & Straus and Lyman G. Bloomingdale of the famous Bloomingdale's department store. All three clerked at a department store in Newark for, it is said, just a dollar a week each.

Philip Altman died in 1863 when Benjamin was 23. Just two years later, in 1865, at the end of the Civil War, Benjamin opened his own small three-story Dry Goods and Fancy store at 39 Third Avenue on the Lower East Side, using savings from his earlier jobs. He started with a one-year lease for \$40 per month. Rapid urbanization and industrialization in the United States after the Civil War provided unprecedented opportunity for hardworking young men to succeed, and this store flourished. Given his talent for business organization and innovation, he soon expanded next door. It is said that in those early years, Benjamin hand-carried his merchandise to sell in the store.

Morris Altman, too, was listed in the 1868 New York City *Directory* at the Third Avenue store, but he opened his own branch store farther uptown at 331 Sixth Avenue between 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> Streets. The two stores were then listed side by side in the *Directory* as Altman & Brother, or a variation, until Morris's death in 1877. A February 1871 advertisement in *The New York Times* referred to the store, by then occupying both

331 and 333 Sixth Avenue, as Altman Brothers & Co. and advertised merchandise at “astonishingly low prices.” Before Morris’s untimely death from cholera in 1876, at 39, he was known as a respected businessman who employed 200 workers. He was an advocate of the “Early Closing Association,” which pushed for shorter working hours for dry goods clerks, early evidence of the Altman brothers’ concern for social welfare issues.

Around 1856, Benjamin’s sister Sophia married Samuel Fleishman, another Bavarian Jewish immigrant, a peddler and then a merchant in Jackson County, Florida. They had six children. Fleishman worked for the Altman Brothers when they ran their late father’s store for a period during the Civil War when Samuel left the South to escape the draft. After the war, Samuel returned to his wife and family in Florida. He identified himself as the “authorized agent” for the Altman firm, and established an offshoot of the Altman Brothers store in Marianna, Florida. In 1869, during the violent Reconstruction Era, Fleishman, a Republican who was supportive of freed slaves, was murdered by the local Ku Klux Klan.

Benjamin Altman never had children of his own, but evidently felt a keen responsibility for his ten nieces and nephews, the four children of his brother Morris and the six of sister Sophia Fleishman. He provided funds for Sophia’s family and helped raise the children when, after her husband’s brutal death, she returned to New York to live with her widowed mother. Morris Altman’s wife Catherine died less than two years after her husband. By then, Benjamin was running the palatial new Altman store on Sixth Avenue. He took on the care and education of his brother’s children, aged 5 to 12, as their legal guardian. One contemporary observer reported that “he has been as kind as a father” to them and “the tender care bestowed upon these four orphan children cannot be too highly commended.” In his will, Benjamin left his nieces and nephews bequests, ranging from \$100,000 to \$200,000 (approximately \$2.4 million to \$4.8 million in 2012 dollars). The largest bequest was to a trust augmented by Altman’s household goods, including furniture, china, silver and jewelry, left to his favorite niece Lulu Fleishman Heymann, who was present at Altman’s bedside when he died.



*The former building of the Altman's department store on Sixth Avenue and 18<sup>th</sup> Street.*

### *B. Altman & Company Emerges as a Leading Department Store*

Benjamin had unusual insight into the minds of consumers, and he repeatedly reinvested profits to expand his stores. For decades, Altman was a trend setter in women’s fashions. By the early 1870s, Benjamin and Morris had closed their first store on the Lower East Side and began to concentrate on what they early realized would be an up-and-coming shopping district on Sixth Avenue. It appears that the brothers retained an amiable relationship but that Benjamin was the primary force at the large but “unpretentious” store between 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> streets. An advertisement from the spring of 1872 publicized “improvements and alterations” in Benjamin’s renovated operation

“B. Altman & Co., formerly Altman Bro & Co.” By 1874, Morris concentrated on expanding his own new store, M. Altman & Co. at 19<sup>th</sup> Street.

Before long, Morris initiated plans for the even more impressive store, but did not live to see it completed. After Morris’s death, Benjamin relocated his business and became the sole proprietor of his brother’s new enlarged establishment, now known as B. Altman & Company. In 1877, it opened in more spacious block-long quarters designed in the Neo-Grec style at 301 Sixth Avenue, between 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> streets. This four-story (later six-story) gray cast-iron building, dubbed the “Palace of Trade,” was remodeled several times over the next 30 years, reflecting the company’s steady transformation into one of New York’s leading stores.

In his new surroundings, Benjamin Altman worked to outdo his competitors in style and elegance. The store featured an impressive central court, a glass-domed rotunda, mahogany woodwork and carpeted elevators. It was centrally located in the “Fashion Row,” also known as the “Ladies’ Mile,” which drew on women with the means and leisure for frequent shopping excursions. *The New York Times* welcomed the expanded enterprise just a few days after its opening, noting that Altman promised to “keep the old standard, while making prices lower than ever.” Altman realized early on that “bargain” prices would bring in more shoppers. At the same time, the article described the quality, beauty and elegance of the merchandise, praising an elaborate bridal gown, for example, with “showy” details. The building also included lunch and cloak rooms for the convenience of employees, reflecting Altman’s concern for his workers.

An Altman company brochure maintained that the Sixth Avenue store’s “elegant appointments, its atmosphere of refinement, appealed to the most exclusive members of society, not only of its own city, but far afield; while the superiority of its varied merchandise became a household word in the world of fashion.” Beginning in 1886, a lavishly illustrated seasonal trade catalog allowed customers to choose from hundreds of offerings, including home furnishings as well as apparel. In 1904, the *New York Evening Sun* described the Altman’s Sixth Avenue establishment as “one of the greatest stores in the world . . . a *Bon Marché* of the New World.” *Bon Marché*, founded in Paris in 1838, was recognized as the world’s first and finest department store.

B. Altman & Company maintained its reputation for service, reliability, and the latest in fashion, which included luxurious silks, velvets and satins, many imported from France. A check written in 1892 by John D. Rockefeller reflected the store’s prominent clientele. Goods were often delivered in shiny maroon horse-drawn carriages, with uniformed drivers. It is said that at one time Altman kept 500 horses, carefully chosen by Altman and Friedsam, in the stable next to the store. Altman also rented stables in the upper class resorts of Saratoga Springs and the Hamptons so he could provide efficient service to customers on vacation. Altman’s deliveries were later made in company trucks until 1931, when its 127 vehicles were replaced by UPS.

Altman’s customer base continued to grow through the 1890s, and soon Benjamin was looking for an even larger location. He had long recognized the potential of high-class Fifth Avenue and secretly purchased property there, including a commercial building at the northeast corner of 34<sup>th</sup> Street.

### *B. Altman & Company, Fifth Avenue Pioneers*

The store moved there in 1906 after nearly a year of construction. Its rapid success soon prompted other large retail fashion enterprises like Bonwit Teller and Lord &

Taylor to follow. As one commentator put it, Altman undertook “a prophetic breach,” when he moved to the then exclusively residential neighborhood. Another writer observed that Altman’s “store was a major catalyst for the transformation of Fifth Avenue into a boulevard lined with magnificent stores.”

The area was attractive to businesses because of convenient access for shoppers to the El, the elevated rail line near Sixth Avenue. It became even more desirable with the unveiling of plans in 1902 for a new Pennsylvania Station at 34<sup>th</sup> Street and Seventh Avenue and in 1903 for a remodeled Grand Central Terminal at 42<sup>nd</sup> Street and Park Avenue. *The New York Times* called the new site of the B. Altman & Company “an ideal one from the viewpoint of the shopping public.”

The Fifth Avenue store was deluged with thousands of customers when it formally opened on October 15, and the next day the *Times* reported that “from morning until evening there were streams of vehicles coming and leaving the three entrances ... The store adds materially to the beauty of Fifth Avenue.” Goodhue Livingston, of the architectural firm of Trowbridge and Livingston, well known for its work on New York’s St. Regis Hotel and the Hayden Planetarium, designed Altman’s Italian Renaissance-style building, which was dressed in imported French limestone. The neighborhood at the time was still home to New York’s social elite, and the elegant B. Altman & Company edifice was designed to blend in with the impressive residential structures that surrounded it. To this end, the store’s name was omitted from the outside of the building.

Altman personally supervised nearly every business detail and transaction in his company. The store publicity proclaimed that “as an organizer, [Altman] had no superior.” He was known as extremely precise, someone who scheduled appointments to the exact minute. In the Fifth Avenue store, he introduced electricity and elevators to augment “gracefully proportioned stairways.” The store was organized literally by departments: women’s, men’s, and children’s clothing, lingerie, maids’ uniforms, linens, fine lace, and even art objects and rare books and manuscripts, all under one roof. By 1913, Altman’s even featured a large camera department, “liberally stocked with Kodaks of every type.” Altman representatives regularly combed the Far East for antiques, often offering fine rugs at the store’s famous annual Oriental Rug sale for a substantial savings over other vendors.

As the years passed, Altman honed his skills as a taste maker and trend setter and transformed New York City’s broader retail environment through his innovations. He featured ready-to-wear-clothing, which had become popular after the Civil War, and also sold custom men’s shirts and high quality fabrics for custom-made dresses for women who could place orders in the store from skilled seamstresses. The fashion salon provided a luxurious backdrop “which every woman of taste and breeding appreciates.” The Altman store was said to have the most extensive retail fur department in America. It also developed a respected and lucrative interior decoration department.

Altman was one of the first merchants to use large plate glass window displays in his Fashion Row location. In the imposing Fifth Avenue store, he used them to demonstrate his appreciation for European art and design. The store windows included sculptures and ceramic decorative items along with clothing.

In 1909, B. Altman & Company was formally incorporated. A twelve-story addition on Madison Avenue was erected in 1913, adding 50 percent more floor space. Altman died before its completion; at his death, he owned the majority stock in the company plus the full block that his store now occupied, a site alone valued at about \$10 million.



*The façade of the flagship B. Altman Store on Fifth Avenue and 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
(Trowbridge and Livingston Architects), ca.1923.*

After World War I, Altman's became famous for its ingenious holiday window scenes. Its restaurant, the Charleston Garden, which opened in the late 1930s, included the façade of a plantation home. In the earlier years, affluent shoppers arriving by carriage or motor car could be dropped off under a marquee extending from the front door to the curb. On departure, they could wait in comfort for their chauffeurs or carriage drivers in an enclosed portico. In addition, Altman's introduced catalog mail order delivery to his loyal and expanding base of customers. This made shopping convenient for out-of-town Altman's customers or those who lived a distance from the store.

Altman extended credit to his more genteel clientele, unlike his successful competitors the Straus family, which became the sole owners of Macy's in 1887 and maintained a cash and carry policy. It is said that during the Panic of 1907, he allowed some of his strapped customers to draw cash against their accounts to help tide them over. But Altman insisted as a matter of business policy on paying "cash for every bill of goods he purchased," which secured his reputation. To keep his merchandise more affordable, Altman bought directly from manufacturers to eliminate the middleman. This reportedly enabled him to pass onto his customers "the benefit of the saving, and to offer their goods at prices that are frequently far below the actual market values."

The stately Fifth Avenue building included the latest technology of the time. According to a publicity booklet, "Within this immense building every modern improvement known to architectural and engineering science is in active operation . . . it is technically perfect as to light, heat, ventilation and distribution of floor space." A generator in the power plant in the basement supplied all the electricity needed for the lighting, sewing machines and elevators. Brightly lit, spacious, airy display areas attracted shoppers.

The store's fashionable clientele enjoyed the luxurious surroundings and personal attention provided by salespeople trained to cater to their whims. For example, women shoppers were able to view imported gowns in a Parisian-style display room (Altman's maintained a buying office in Paris), and the young men's department displayed "everything that is smart in apparel for the modern young man, for street, sports, or dress wear." Altman's ambitious goal was "a store in which shopping was to become a pleasure instead of a task; a store in which the patron's needs were not merely to be supplied, but anticipated; a store in which the personal comfort, not of patrons only, but of employees also, was to receive the most thoughtful consideration."

He ran his company with a firm hand and dominating personality but was clearly a benevolent employer. He appears to have been motivated by genuine social concerns. He was forward thinking in regard to employee welfare, perhaps influenced by the Progressive Era emphasis on reform as well German traditions of paternalism, which led him to view his employees as part of an extended family. Altman established a plan for their welfare and provided health care services and other benefits. An obituary in the *American Hebrew*, a weekly Jewish newspaper published in New York City, referred to his "plans for the improvement of the condition of his employees. In this respect, the establishment of which he was president was highly regarded by industrial reformers." The newspaper also praised Altman for dispensing "charity and philanthropy in an exemplary modest fashion." One example of his liberal outlook was his early generous support of the National Urban League, created in New York in 1910 to better the working lives and living conditions of African Americans.

Like other successful heads of large businesses of his day, Altman had amassed a great fortune, which, as Dr. Bernard Sachs, Altman's physician and confidant, observed, he felt it was his duty to use "wisely, so that many should benefit by what he had achieved in a great mercantile career." The Fifth Avenue store was the first large-scale retail establishment to offer subsidized meals to employees in their own cafeteria, maintain their own rest rooms and a shorter work week. The store closed early on summer Saturdays and in the rest of the year maintained a shortened business day compared with other leading stores, where normal was 60 hours a week. The store included a medical department with a doctor, two nurses and seven beds. Altman also introduced an unusual business amenity, a classroom for younger employees that offered training in reading, writing and arithmetic.

Altman's strong personality and business philosophy, which emphasized customer satisfaction, quality merchandise and efficient organization, showed in all parts of the store. According to an early store publication, Altman was "an upright, honest merchant who could make fair dealing and impeccable reliability the watchwords of his life." In his eulogy for Altman, Dr. Sachs recalled "in business relations he was the exacting general whose commands must necessarily be obeyed," but at the same time beneath the "stern exterior," there existed "great kindness and sensitivity." In his will, Altman directed that his company be continued on the "principles and plan upon which I directed the same during my lifetime," as well as the "name, style, manner, and system." He expressed the wish that Michael Friedsam, who had served as



Michael Friedsam

his right hand man since the 1870s, be named president of B. Altman & Company after Benjamin's death and be accorded an "important voice" in the affairs of the corporation. The board honored Altman's desire, and Friedsam also became president of the Altman Foundation.

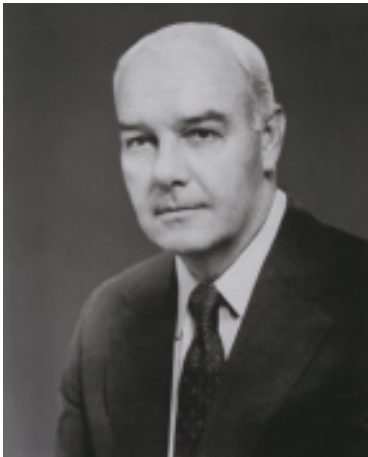
Altman left his personal library to Friedsam, one of the four executors of the Altman estate, and Friedsam's presidential office replicated Altman's library, including the desk. By all accounts, Friedsam was an outgoing personality who ran the company with efficiency and flair and continued to build the enterprise's reputation. Like



John S. Burke, Sr.

Altman, he was active in community service, particularly educational reform, and an art connoisseur. After Altman's death, Friedsam established the Altman Continuation School to help B. Altman & Company employees who had never finished high school earn degrees. When Friedsam died in 1931, he left part of his extensive art collection to the Metropolitan and the rest to the Brooklyn Museum.

Friedsam was succeeded by his protégé John S. Burke, who had begun his career at B. Altman's in 1912 as Friedsam's secretarial assistant. Burke oversaw the store's exterior face lift in the 1930's and established its first branch stores in New York suburbs and New Jersey. He, too, became a leading figure in New York philanthropy. At his death in 1962, he was succeeded by his son John S. Burke, Jr., the last of B. Altman & Company's four leaders and a community leader in his own right.



John S. Burke, Jr.

John Burke, Jr. aptly summarized the fundamental quality of the B. Altman & Company "character" as fidelity. A 1969 tax reform prohibited private foundations from controlling private corporations. Hence, the Altman Foundation relinquished ownership of B. Altman & Company, and the business was sold in 1985. After several transfers of ownership, the department stores declared bankruptcy in 1989, and closed in 1990. Proceeds from the 1985 sale greatly enlarged the Foundation's prior endowment, bringing its assets to over \$100 million.

The flagship Altman's store on 34<sup>th</sup> Street is now occupied by the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, the U.S. office of the Oxford University Press and the Science, Industry, and Business Library of the New York Public Library. When the Library opened that branch in 1996, the Altman Foundation donated \$1 million to endow, as requested by the library, the main delivery desk, as a memorial to Benjamin's commitment to learning and service.

### *Altman's Art Collection*

In his private life Altman appears to have been rather solitary, wedded to his business and art. He was notoriously shy of personal publicity. One writer characterized him as a "silent, strange man." Yet a close friend said he "knew how to be intimate, cordial, and amiable, always putting the real man to the fore instead of the owner of millions." His image appears only in one rare family photograph and in an oil portrait. It shows a







*Benjamin Altman's art collection at his Fifth Avenue home.*

dignified middle-aged man with just a hint of a smile, suggesting gentleness and humor behind the formal exterior.

Altman was brown-eyed, portly and about 5 foot 7. He remained a lifelong bachelor and seems to have been something of a social recluse, perhaps “the most retiring man in New York.” He began collecting art in 1882, when he purchased a fine pair of Chinese enamel vases that cost only \$35. According to *The New York Times*, by the time of his death his collection was estimated to be worth \$15 million, about \$350 million in 2012 dollars. It was called “one of the finest private collections of paintings and porcelain in existence.” From the beginning, Altman assembled this remarkable collection with the intent of someday making it available to the public for posterity.

He first displayed his growing collections in his home at Madison Avenue and 24<sup>th</sup> Street. He moved to the mansion at 626 Fifth Avenue, leased from Columbia University, in 1905 and lived there the final eight years of his life. He reportedly spent most of his free time there, enjoying works that eventually included 13 Rembrandts. On rare occasions, he invited close friends to join him. The paintings were mounted in a straight line over the many glass cases that housed his porcelain and glass collections within two enormous galleries in this mansion. He was secretive about the cost of his art and also liked to remain unnamed in the background in charitable endeavors.



*Dr. Bernard Sachs*

His devotion to business was interrupted only three times: on a year-long world tour in 1888-1889 when he was in his late 40s; a several-month stay in Paris in 1890; and a vacation and art-buying spree in Europe in 1909, when he purchased three Rembrandts. He avidly collected European paintings, Chinese porcelain, glass and silk Persian rugs, and was one of the few Jewish department store owners who could compete even on a modest scale with business magnates like the Mellons and Morgans in collecting masterworks.

Altman acquired most of his collection through prominent New York dealer Joseph Duveen at whose gallery he would meet on Saturday evenings after the close of business. Altman relied on experts for advice when purchasing art works but never bought anything that didn't appeal to him personally. Many of the works were treasures. It was thought that Altman had paid \$1 million dollars for two important portraits by Velasquez and a similar amount for four of his later Rembrandts, then a very considerable sum.

Altman eventually bequeathed to the Metropolitan Museum of Art all of his 13 Rembrandts plus 75 old master paintings by other renowned artists including Holbein, Botticelli, Vermeer, Hals, Velazquez, van Dyck and Giorgione. He also left \$100,000 to the National Academy of Design to encourage American artists through annual prizes. In addition, the Metropolitan received his rare collection of ivories, jades, carved crystal vessels, sculptures, Renaissance tapestries and rugs — altogether about a thousand items. A few days after Altman's death, the director of the Metropolitan called Altman's bequest: “The most splendid gift any citizen has ever made to the people of the city of New York.”

In 1914, the Metropolitan published an illustrated 150-page catalog titled *The Handbook of the Benjamin Altman Collection*, which included this tribute: “Whether from

a pecuniary or an educational standpoint ... the greatest gift ever made by an individual to the Museum, notable alike for the wide range of interest it embraces and the uniformly high quality of its contents in whatever branch of art they represent ... It was Mr. Altman's ambition to leave to the people of the city with which his success in life had been identified, for their perpetual use and enjoyment, a collection of works of art of the highest possible standard."

Altman's mansion also housed an extensive art library, and he kept up a steady correspondence with collectors and dealers around the world. He valued his association with J.P. Morgan and was pleased when Morgan autographed a catalog of his own collection and inscribed it "to my friend, Benjamin Altman." Notwithstanding his usual reticence, Altman loved to show off his collection to visitors, which included such notables as the son and daughter-in-law of England's Queen Victoria.

After his death, Dr. Sachs, long his personal physician and an executor of Altman's estate, observed that his patient had belonged to no social clubs and avoided social gatherings. "Although Mr. Altman's name was well known through his business and art purchases, I doubt if there were 100 persons in this city who knew him by sight." Yet when Altman died, scores of friends, business associates and employees visited his bier to pay last respects.

In his mid-60s, Benjamin suffered from kidney and heart disease and had to walk with a cane. It had been his custom to tour his business daily, but in these later years he rarely left home. Nevertheless, he had full confidence in Friedsam and kept a careful eye on the bustling store from afar. He also employed three full-time secretaries to assist with his correspondence, updating his art and library catalog and overseeing his art collection. During 1913, Altman's health deteriorated precipitously. His two personal physicians, Dr. Sachs and Dr. J. Kaufman, lived in the neighborhood and visited regularly, and Sachs

noted that the day before Altman died was the first time he [Benjamin] had actually taken to his bed." The only relatives left were the surviving children of his deceased siblings, whom he had helped raise, and their offspring.

### *Altman's Benevolence*

Benjamin Altman's passion for his business and art collection was matched by his commitment to philanthropy. In his will, he provided \$50,000 (approximately \$1.2 million in 2012) to the Altman's Employee Benevolent Association and made generous bequests to all employees who had worked in the store for 15 years or more. In addition, he left \$10,000 (approximately \$240,000 in 2012 dollars) each to his personal secretaries; \$5,000 each to nine long-time Altman staff members; \$5,000 to his housekeeper; and more modest legacies to his coachman and others who had been employed in his Fifth Avenue home. In total, more than \$24 million went to 400 employees. That so many of his workers remained in his employment for many years testifies to his fair



*Fifth Avenue and 43<sup>rd</sup> Street, the former site of Temple Emanuel-El. Now the current location of the Altman Foundation at 521 Fifth Avenue.*

wages and fair treatment. In addition to creating the Altman Foundation and giving his rare art collection to the Metropolitan Museum, Altman left generous donations to local hospitals and social service organizations. These bequests helped guide the parameters of the Altman Foundation's grants.

Benjamin Altman was born into a Jewish family, identified as a Jew and was engaged in the wider New York Jewish community. He was a longtime figure in the city's elite German-Jewish "Our Crowd" and belonged to the prestigious Reform Temple Emanuel-El, whose members included prominent New Yorkers like Adolph Ochs, owner of *The New York Times*, and leading attorney and Jewish community leader Oscar Straus, whose brothers owned Macy's. Altman's funeral was held at Temple Emanuel-El on October 10, 1913, and the sanctuary was filled to capacity. Dr. Sachs delivered the eulogy, saying that "whatever [Altman] did he did well. Call him the Prince of Merchants; call him a Prince among art collectors; but let me, who knew him well, call him a "Prince among men!" Altman was buried in an impressive sarcophagus at Salem Fields Jewish Cemetery in Brooklyn, New York.

German Jews like Altman pioneered development of the American department store. Like most German-Jewish immigrants and their children, Altman remained proud of his German-Jewish heritage and maintained ethnic and religious ties. At the same time, he worked toward immigrant acculturation and Americanization. In the 1890s, Altman became an honorary vice president of the local German-American association, where he supported removal of New York's corrupt Tammany Hall government. In 1895, he served on the organizing and reception committee for a major Hebrew Fair held at Madison Square Garden to raise money for Jewish charities.

By 1880, America's Jewish population grew to 250,000, but that exploded over the next decades with the arrival of more than two million Jews from Eastern Europe. Altman left a bequest of \$50,000, \$1.2 million in 2012 dollars, to the New York Hebrew Educational Alliance, of which he had been a founding board member in the 1880s. It is now the non-sectarian Educational Alliance, and what started as a settlement house has since educated and Americanized thousands of new immigrants. Altman's bequests to Mount Sinai Hospital and the German Hospital reflected his enduring ties to both his Jewish and German roots. At the same time, his longtime position as a member of the New York City Chamber of Commerce and his major gift to the Metropolitan Museum spoke to his sense of civic responsibility as an American.

Benjamin Altman created several lasting legacies. The first came from his retailing genius, as one of the first retailers to turn the department store, originated in Paris, into an American institution. His momentous bequest to the Metropolitan Museum every day enriches the culture of his city and the lives of millions of visitors from around the world. The most resounding legacy of all continues every day in the Altman Foundation's work in education, health, arts and culture, and strengthening communities. Benjamin Altman stood tall in the New York of his time. The Altman Foundation, his lengthened shadow, stands tall in ours.



*The Educational Alliance, ca. 1905.*

*The Altman  
Foundation,  
1913–2013  
Benjamin Altman's  
Living Legacy*

*Jack Rosenthal*

Jack Rosenthal, a Pulitzer Prize winner at *The New York Times*, came to appreciate the work of the Altman Foundation through three close collaborations with The New York Times Company Foundation when he was its president, 2000–2010.

# T

o generations of New Yorkers, his name alone meant quality, style and service. Benjamin Altman was a private man, and yet for a half century he was a department store pioneer who transformed shopping in New York.<sup>1</sup> His classical building on Fifth Avenue remains a limestone landmark. So it is striking that now, a hundred years after his death, his most lasting legacy is something else entirely: his contribution to New York and to American philanthropy.

Money is only one way to measure that contribution. The Foundation he took pains to create has, over the years, made a quarter-billion dollars in grants. An equally important measure is how the Altman Foundation has responded to the upheaval since then in the role of private giving. Then, it is fair to say, private giving mainly took the form of churchly charity totaling, at most, millions. But steadily over succeeding decades, Lady Bountiful's holiday baskets have been superseded by the growth of the social safety net supported by public billions.

With government so deeply involved, what should be the role of private philanthropies like the Foundation that Benjamin Altman launched? It was founded on strong personal values, enduring values. These values, coupled with the strategic wisdom of its later leaders, have made the Altman Foundation a model of modern private giving.

What values? Altman made them clear in words and actions. Months before he died, he pressed the New York Legislature to enable him to establish the Foundation "to promote the social, physical and economic welfare of his employees."<sup>2</sup> When he appointed Bernard Sachs, his physician and friend, to oversee the new institution, he wrote, "I expect you to stand up for the outside public. You know our hospitals, colleges and other educational institutions . . ."<sup>3</sup> He urged employees to improve their education, something that his successor institutionalized in the Altman Continuation School at the store with teachers from the then-Board of Education.<sup>4</sup>

The feelings that employees had for the store were preserved in a Foundation booklet, *Memories and Milestones*, published in 2011. A former employee, Jenny Lorusso, called it "my second home." Another said, "Altman's was like your mother; it never disowned you." In her introduction, Jane O'Connell, the Foundation's president, wrote: "For employees, Altman's wasn't just a place where they worked; it was truly a family."

More important than any specific values, was Benjamin Altman's underlying

philosophy of concern. He amassed a fortune that at his death *The New York Times* estimated at \$45 million<sup>5</sup>—\$1 billion in current dollars—and he gave it all away. He donated his priceless art collection to the Metropolitan Museum and turned over to the new Foundation the management and profits of the Altman retail enterprise, eventually to include seven stores.

In the years since he started his first small dry goods store in 1865, the Altman stores and Foundation were overseen by only two families, by him for 48 years; by his cousin Michael Friedsam for 18; and for more than 50 years by John S. Burke, Sr. and John S. Burke, Jr. Then, changes in federal tax law required the Foundation to sell the company, which it did in 1985. Under one and then a second new management, the stores continued through the 1980s. Meanwhile, the sale proceeds enabled the Foundation to greatly enlarge its grants budget.

After Jane B. O’Connell, John Burke, Jr.’s sister, succeeded him as the Foundation’s president in 1995, the trustees continued to channel Benjamin Altman’s values into four sectors:

- Education.
- Health.
- Arts and Culture.
- Strengthening Communities.



*VNSNY nurses outside Kips Bay Office, ca. 1926.*

In addition, the Foundation annually sets aside funds to support select organizations and initiatives that strengthen the nonprofit sector itself. What has evolved over the years is the logic of how grants are made in these sectors. All told the Altman Foundation has awarded over \$250 million in some 5,000 grants, ranging in size from \$5,000 to \$1,000,000, averaging, in recent years, over 150 grants a year totaling approximately \$12,000,000 almost without exception to organizations within the five boroughs of New York City.

The following descriptions illustrate how the Foundation has focused on its priority sectors and the strategic approach it has brought to its work.

## Education

Benjamin Altman believed that education is critical to future success, and he acted forcefully on that belief. Beyond arranging for his workers to take classes at the store, he brought education to many immigrant New Yorkers with his early support for organizations like the Educational Alliance, of which he was a founding board member. Reflecting that same devotion to learning, the Foundation has, as a core program objective, worked continuously to improve access to educational opportunity.

To maximize the effect of its relatively limited resources, the Foundation for much of its life chose not to work directly in the New York City public schools. It has focused instead on nonpublic and independent schools, on community-based organizations that work with students in out-of-school hours, and on collaborations with nonprofit organizations and public schools to strengthen opportunities for all of New York's young people.

Altman grants in this area have supported programs that identify promising young students and help them succeed in demanding educational environments—programs like Prep for Prep and the TEAK Fellowship, and superb small schools such as De La Salle Academy, Harlem Academy and George Jackson Academy. The Foundation has also worked to diversify the faculty and administration of independent schools generally, so students in these schools gain the benefit of multiple perspectives.

In the innercity Catholic schools of the Archdiocese of New York, the Foundation initiated and launched Library Connections. It began, as a later history recalled, “when the President and Executive Director of the Altman Foundation asked a simple question: ‘What is the current state of inner-city elementary school libraries in the Archdiocese of New York?’”<sup>6</sup> A subsequent study found them out of date, underfunded and poorly staffed—triggering a multiyear program that served 11,000 students in 32 innercity Catholic elementary schools. Altman consistently supported the program, including evaluations, providing nearly \$1 million of the \$6 million ultimately raised.

Other grants have been designed to work across systems rather than in individual schools, with collaborations among other funders, nonprofits and government. A leading example, the Immigrant Family Literacy Alliance, was born in 2005 when a consortium of private funders made the New York City government an offer it could not refuse. For the first time in a century, the foreign-born share of the city population was approaching 40 percent and 51 percent of the 3 million immigrants were rated as “limited English proficient.”<sup>7</sup> At a meeting about family literacy at *The New York Times*, which Altman helped to organize, 75 partners created this challenge: Would the city match every dollar in private funding they raised to teach family literacy with two dollars in public funding?

The Alliance partners soon put up \$775,000, \$150,000 from the Altman Foundation alone. The city promptly agreed to put up \$1.8 million annually. Within a month, the Alliance, based at the Literacy Assistance Center and working in tandem with the city's Department of Youth and Community Development, launched literacy training for several thousand families. Immigrant and family literacy continues to be an area supported by the Foundation, as shown in its funding for the Queens Borough Public Library's exemplary programming for new Americans.

Harking back to Benjamin Altman's emphasis on excellence, the Altman Foundation has engaged in other collaborative initiatives to improve educational opportunity more broadly. It was a founding member of the Child Care and Early





*The Trust for Public Land*



*New York Hall of Science*



*George Jackson Academy*



*Education Through Music*



*The TEAK Fellowship, Inc.*



*Summer on the Hill*

Education Fund, created in 2000 to improve child care and early education by using pooled grant making. Grants like that reflect the Fund’s strategy of finding “niches” where private dollars can catalyze public system building.

By 2013, the Fund made approximately \$5 million in grants to several projects, including the NYC Early Childhood Professional Development Institute (PDI), a collaboration of foundations, city agencies, and the City University of New York. PDI’s operating budget grew from \$450,000 in 2004 to approximately \$5 million in 2013, and the agency became a hub for incubating and coordinating new systems. Its accomplishments included the creation, with city and state agencies, of a shared blueprint for a high-quality early education and care system; the development of a workforce registry for early childhood professionals and a trainers’ registry; and the development, piloting, and expansion of QUALITYstarsNY, a quality-rating and improvement program designed to insure high-quality services across early childhood.

## *Health*

As Dr. Jeanne Abrams notes in her Benjamin Altman biography, his will called for the Foundation he created to “promote the social, physical and economic welfare of the employees of B. Altman & Company.” Thus, the Altman store included a medical department with a doctor, two nurses and seven beds, and it was open to shoppers as well as employees. Altman also made generous bequests to New York City hospitals. A century later, some remain Foundation grantees, like the Mount Sinai Medical Center for its superb work in palliative care. The Foundation continues to honor Altman’s concern that people have access to quality care defined broadly rather than through attention to specific diseases, while remaining relevant to changing times.

On occasion, such times demand unexpected responses. The 9/11 Neediest Medical Campaign is a notable example. Many months after the 2001 World Trade Center catastrophe, a subsidiary tragedy began to surface. Scores of people who had been exposed to toxic dust at Ground Zero—residents, first responders and others—developed rare cancers and other life-threatening diseases. Yet they had nowhere to turn for help. The huge federal compensation fund had closed down and, perversely, their illnesses had forced them to quit their jobs, which meant they were no longer covered by health insurance.

Altman early recognized the grim problem. It joined with The New York Times Company Foundation and other donors to provide treatment for these hapless survivors. Altman contributed \$250,000 to a fund that raised almost \$5 million and enabled three New York hospitals to treat 260 survivors in 2007 alone.<sup>8</sup>

Beyond direct relief, this collaboration fulfilled an important function of modern private philanthropy: calling public attention—and dollars—to problems that government can be slow to recognize. In January 2011, after four years of Congressional wrangling, President Obama was finally able to sign the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act, named for a police detective fatally stricken by disease, providing \$7.4 billion for all those eligible.

The Altman Foundation’s response to Hurricane Sandy provides another illustration of responding to sudden need. When Benjamin Altman created his flagship store a century ago, he insisted on including state-of-the-art generators. They were invaluable five decades later during the Great Blackout of 1965. The store was able to stay open, serving as a beacon for all its Midtown neighbors. Immediately after the 2012 hurricane inflicted unimaginable destruction, the Foundation made hundreds of thousands of dollars in grants to relieve affected communities.

Then, in keeping with its focus on vulnerable populations, the Foundation, along with the New York Community Trust, awarded a grant for a study by the New York Academy of Medicine, in collaboration with city’s Department for the Aging and the Housing Authority, to learn about this natural disaster’s impact on frail elderly residents and to propose how to protect them in the future.

This willingness to take a long view characterizes the Foundation’s grant making in general. Altman’s support for the United Hospital Fund (UHF) offers an enduring example, dating from 1923. In 1996, the Foundation made its first grant to support a farsighted new UHF project addressing “Family Caregiving in an Era of Change,” led by Carol Levine, who previously had won Altman funding for her work with children orphaned by the AIDS epidemic. The Foundation noted in an internal document that “family caregiving has always been an essential, and undervalued, sector of health care



*International Center for  
Photography*



*New York Botanical Garden*



*Bowery Residents' Committee*



*Jewish Home Lifecare  
Manhattan*



*Primary Care Development  
Corporation*

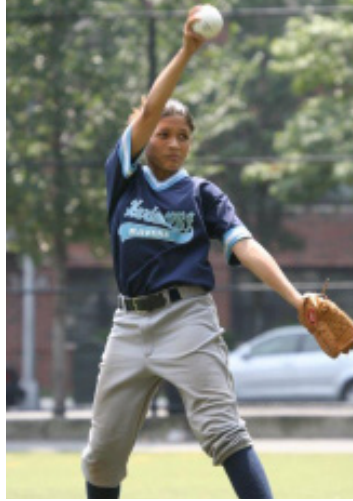
delivery,” one that was likely both to expand and to be ill prepared for the growing expectations and responsibilities involved.

Today, there are more than 42 million unpaid family caregivers in the United States, many performing roles that have “dramatically expanded to include . . . medical/nursing tasks of the kind and complexity once provided only in hospitals.”<sup>9</sup> With support from Altman and other funders, UHF and Carol Levine have tirelessly enlarged public awareness of family caregiving.

In 2012, the Foundation revised its health guidelines, reflecting the new federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, while remaining consistent with its history and Benjamin Altman’s values. He insisted on providing his customers with the best possible products, exceptional service and the lowest possible prices. The “triple aim” of current health care reform—better health outcomes, better health care experiences and lower cost—resonates with that philosophy.



*Rocking The Boat, Inc.*



*Harlem RBI*



*Ballet Tech Foundation, Inc.*



*Queens Museum of Art*



*Figure Skating in Harlem, Inc.*



*The Cooper Union for the  
Advancement of Science and Art*

## *Arts and Culture*

Benjamin Altman, passionate about art, quietly amassed a breathtaking collection. The art world was astounded when this reclusive man bequeathed all of it to the Metropolitan Museum of Art—at that time the single largest and most important gift the museum had received. Experts guessed that it was worth what in today’s dollars would be \$350 million. The paintings alone included at least a dozen Rembrandts, plus priceless sculptures, Persian carpets and porcelains—466 Chinese pieces alone. Altman wanted it all, a collection previously seen only by visitors to his home, to be readily accessible to the public.

In recent years, reflecting the same concern for accessibility, the Foundation has made a series of grants to the museum focusing on young people from underserved communities. Find Yourself at the Met introduces high school students to its cultural riches. The Mentoring Program encourages college juniors from diverse minority backgrounds to pursue museum careers. Other grants bring high-quality arts and cultural activities to underserved New York public school students K - 12 by training educators across disciplines, integrating new training strategies and documenting changes in classroom practice.

The Foundation’s support for the High Line is another example of how it applies its founder’s concern for public access to modern grant making. Only a few years ago, it seemed obvious that there was only one sensible thing to do with the rusty abandoned railroad trestle 30 feet above the streets on the far West Side: tear it down. But that thought horrified some visionary young neighborhood residents. They fought for 10 years to turn it into a spectacular raised park. To the joy of New Yorkers and subsequently millions of visitors, they succeeded—in part because of early support from the Altman Foundation. Its grants not only helped to fund the effort but lent credibility to what had once seemed so implausible.

The Foundation has funded similar pre-opening community outreach at the New York Botanical Garden as it developed its Everett Children’s Adventure Garden in the Bronx, at the Bronx Children’s Museum, and at the Whitney Museum of American Art, prior to the opening of its new home at the lower end of the High Line.

In keeping with Benjamin Altman’s interest in education, the Foundation’s grants have also supported a range of quality youth development programs that combine arts and cultural programming with intensive educational enrichment. These grants help young people explore a spectrum of interests at a range of organizations like the Groundswell Community Mural Project, the CityKids Foundation, Publicolor, Row New York, Harlem RBI, and Figure Skating in Harlem.

Grants for pre-professional training help young people from underserved communities pursue their interest in the arts. In the Altman tradition, the Foundation works to insure that the instruction they receive is of the highest quality. Grantees include the Brooklyn Youth Chorus Academy, Jazz at Lincoln Center, Design Prep at the Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum, Smithsonian Institution, and the Cooper Union’s Saturday and Outreach programs. Other grants support programs at the city’s three library systems, outreach to museums across the city, and arts-in-education advocacy.

## *Strengthening Communities*

As is clear from his biography, even after achieving unimagined wealth, Benjamin Altman never forgot his childhood as an immigrant raised in poverty on the Lower East Side. He was a founding board member of the Educational Alliance, the settlement house that still serves his old neighborhood. Through his lifetime, he remained concerned with New Yorkers in disadvantaged communities. He was an early supporter of the National Urban League. He attended to the needs and career prospects of his employees. And through his Foundation, he inspired a legacy of concern for struggling New Yorkers in general. Organizations like the Community Service Society and UJA-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York received their first Altman grants in 1917 and 1919 respectively; they remain on the Foundation's grant lists today.

The Altman Foundation often collaborates with them, other grantees, fellow funders and city agencies, particularly under the administration of Mayor Michael Bloomberg. It has supported workforce development, parks and open space initiatives, affordable housing, and projects aimed at enabling vulnerable older adults to stay in their homes and communities. Some of its grants cut across these objectives. For instance, the Foundation helped launch the City's Million Trees Training Project, in partnership with the city Parks Department, the Mayor's Center for Economic Opportunities, the New York Restoration Project, and the New York Botanical Garden. This program offered high-quality skills training and real jobs to out-of-school, out-of-work youth aged 18–24. It created a triple win, simultaneously beautifying communities, connecting disconnected youth and developing a workforce capable of caring for the city's precious trees and green spaces in the future.

The Foundation aims to address underlying causes of problems but also responds to specific and immediate needs. The Center for New York City Neighborhoods offers an imaginative illustration. The national housing foreclosure crisis that began in 2007 brought grief to thousands of New York families. Many lost their homes because of ill-advised or specious subprime loans. In some cases, they faced eviction even though they had never missed a rent payment; their *landlords* had defaulted. The crisis created a host of needs: money for arrears; money for relocation; trustworthy counseling and legal assistance; keeping up appearances in neighborhoods where many defaulted properties threatened to undermine housing values on entire streets.

In 2007, in a remarkable coordinated response, public and private agencies joined to create this nonprofit corporation. The Altman Foundation joined with the Department of Housing Preservation and Development, the Open Society, Robin Hood, New York Times Company Foundation and the financial services community. Altman's \$200,000 grant helped the Center open for business.

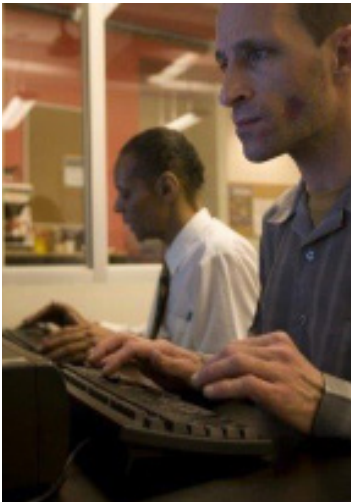
The Center also re-granted more than \$15 million to a 26-member network of organizations that has helped thousands of families. Many have been enabled to reduce monthly payments and retain their homes. Others are educated about the risks of foreclosure and helped to find legal assistance. The Center has been recognized for its work by becoming the contract management and technical assistance partner for the New York State Attorney General's three-year Homeowner Protection Program, which will deploy \$60 million from the 2012 U.S. Department of Justice foreclosure fraud settlement.



*Neighborhood Housing Services  
of New York City, Inc.*



*Bronx River Alliance, Inc.*



*The HOPE Program*



*Center for New York City  
Neighborhoods, Inc.*



*Prospect Park Alliance, Inc.*



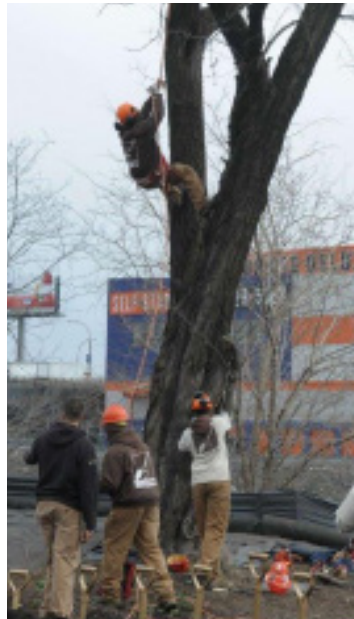
*New York City Coalition Against  
Hunger, Inc.*



*Municipal Art Society*



*Friends of the High Line*



*The Mayor's Fund to Advance  
New York City*



*Fund for Public Advocacy*



*United Neighborhood Houses of  
New York, Inc.*



*New York Community Trust/  
Fund for New Citizens*



*ReServe, Inc.*



## Services to Nonprofit Organizations

The Foundation primarily supports direct services for disadvantaged and marginalized New Yorkers. In addition, as Karen L. Rosa, the executive director, has written, “We look for organizations that exhibit or, often, invent ‘best’ or at least ‘better practices’ in their internal operations.”<sup>10</sup> Hence, the Foundation directs some annual funds to organizations whose work strengthens the whole nonprofit sector.

Grants in this area help nonprofits improve their governance through board recruitment and executive transitions. They help organizations strengthen fundraising, and obtain essential legal advice and services. They provide assistance in exploring mergers and, by helping groups band together with like-minded organizations, advocating for effective service delivery to vulnerable constituents.

The Foundation also seeks improvements at a system-wide level by supporting long-time grantees like the UJA-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, the Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies, Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New York and United Neighborhood Houses. The Campaign for Children illustrates the power of such collaborative effort. In 2012, faced with a city budget proposal that would eliminate public funding for more than 40,000 children in child care and after-school programs, the Citizens’ Committee for Children of New York, Inc. helped form a new coalition, the Campaign for Children. The Campaign tapped the combined strength of the Emergency Coalition to Save Child Care and the New York City Youth Alliance.

Together, they enlisted a hundred organizations to press for early childhood education and after-school services. With funds from Altman and other funders, the coalition engaged a public relations firm to develop a public education strategy. The Campaign for Children was highly successful, securing \$150 million in city tax levy restorations and saving services for 47,000 children and youth. In addition to publishing reports and winning media coverage, the Campaign produced 17,000 emails, 40,000 petition signatures and 4,500 phone calls to elected officials in support of child care and after-school services.

Grants in this area also help create imaginative responses to changing social needs—and perhaps the most important social change in the world today is increasing longevity. Americans are living longer—and stronger—and are not content to settle for golf and grandparenting. They want to do more and contribute more. That is why in 2004 three New Yorkers created ReServe. It matches skilled older adults, ages ranging from 55 well into the 80s, with assignments in public and nonprofit agencies, typically for 15 hours a week and a stipend of \$10 an hour. The Altman Foundation gave ReServe pivotal early support, both in funds and validation.

Through 2012, ReServe made 3,000 placements in New York and dozens more in affiliates in six other cities. ReServists work at a spectrum of jobs, bringing experience and expertise to organizations that could not otherwise afford it. In the process, they fulfill one of the Foundation’s most important goals, one Benjamin Altman surely would applaud: to help older adults remain independent, contributing members of society.

The examples described here, like the full panoply of grants made over the years, reflect the Foundation’s determination to honor Benjamin Altman’s intentions a hundred years ago. New York has changed. Philanthropy has changed. The lyrics have changed. The melody endures.

### ENDNOTES

- 1 *The New York Times*, Oct. 21, 2007: “When a Sixth Avenue Flagship Struck Its Colors”: In an article on early department stores . . . John Crawford Brown [wrote that] “To have the Altman name on your coat or muff or seal collar was equivalent to the hallmark on sterling silver.”
- 2 *The New York Times*, Oct. 8, 1913, page 1ff.
- 3 National Academy Bulletin, November, 1937.
- 4 *New York American*, April 23, 1915.
- 5 *The Times*, *op. cit.*
- 6 “Library Connections” brochure, Archdiocese of New York, undated, page 4.
- 7 Center for Migration Studies, CMS News, Sept. 20, 2011.
- 8 Times Foundation Annual Report, 2007, page 2.
- 9 Reinhard, Levine, and Samis, *Home Alone: Family Caregivers Providing Complex Chronic Care* (2012).
- 10 Altman Foundation Annual Report, 2005, page 7.

# Altman Foundation Grants List

BY YEAR FIRST FUNDED (AS OF SEPTEMBER 2013)

## LEGEND

\* Organization was an Altman grantee at some point prior to the 1985 sale of B. Altman & Co. and has also been a grantee in the years since that transition for the Foundation.

° Organization has received Altman grant(s) totaling \$1 million or more.

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### 1914

Hebrew Orphan Asylum  
Hebrew Technical School for Girls  
Home for Aged and Infirm Hebrews  
Lebanon Hospital / Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center\*  
Library Bureau  
Montefiore Home/Montefiore Medical Center\*°  
St. Mark's Hospital

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### 1917

Allies Bazaar  
American Red Cross in Greater New York\*  
Community Service Society of New York\*  
Greater New York Council, Boy Scouts of America  
Jewish War Relief Committee—New York  
Special Benevolent Society  
St. John's Guild  
St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center\*°  
St. Vincent's Hospital Manhattan\*°

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### 1918

Alpha Epsilon Phi Society  
American Numismatic  
American Prison Association Congress  
Army Relief Society  
Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities  
The Civic Forum  
Council of Jewish Women  
The Economic Club  
Independence Day Celebration  
Knights of Columbus  
Mayors Committee on National Defense  
National Civic Federation  
New York Catholic War Fund  
The New York Foundling Hospital\*°  
New York Hippodrome  
The Peoples Institute  
The Salvation Army of Greater New York  
Strangers Welfare Fellowship  
Vacation Association  
War Work Commission

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### 1919

American Commission for Armenian & Syrian Relief  
American Jewish Commission  
American Relief Comm. for Hungarian Sufferers  
Art in America and Elsewhere  
Auxiliary NY Fire Department  
Auxiliary to the Tuberculosis Division of Bellevue Hospital  
Catholic Centre for Blind  
Dominican Sisters Family Health Service, Inc.\*  
Inter-racial Council  
Jefferson Williams Mayfair Publishers  
Public Schools Athletic League  
Smith College  
St. Ambrose Community Centre  
St. Elizabeth Church  
St. Peters Union for Seamen  
St. Vincent de Paul Asylum

Stadium University Fund  
United Bldg. Fund Campaign of Federated Jewish Institutions  
United Jewish Appeal-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York, Inc.\*°  
The Young Women's Christian Association of the City of New York\*

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### 1920

Cardinal's Committee of the Laity/Archdiocese of New York\*°  
Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New York\*°  
Flower Hospital  
Girl Scout Council of Greater New York, Inc.\*  
Joint Distribution Committee Greater New York Fund  
National Urban League, Inc.\*  
Visiting Nurse Service of New York\*

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### 1921

American Child Health Association  
America's Making, Inc.  
Catholic Actors Guild  
Clinton Prison Dannemora  
Fifth Avenue Hospital  
First Baptist Church of Phoenix, NY  
Fordham University\*  
The Hudson Guild, Inc.\*  
Irvington House  
Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, Inc.\*  
Plattsburg Camp & Military Training Camp Assn.  
St. Joseph's Summer Institute, Inc.  
St. Mary Sisterhood  
Union of American Hebrew Congregations  
Vocational Advisory Service

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### 1922

American Guard-Summer Camp  
Child Study Assn. of America, Inc.  
The First Institute of Podiatry  
Free Milk Fund for Babies—Mrs. W. R. Hearst  
The Graduate School and University Center/The City University of New York\*°  
Hospital Occupation Committee  
The Medford Sanatorium Committee  
The New York Academy of Medicine\*  
New York Campaign for Jewish War Sufferers  
Saranac Lake Day Nursery Community  
St. Joseph's Hospital  
The Town Hall Foundation, Inc.  
Union Settlement Association, Inc.\*  
Vassar College  
Victory Hall Association  
Washington School of New York  
Wells College

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### 1923

American Woman's Association, Inc.  
Catholic Writers Guild  
Children's Welfare Federation of New York City  
East Side House Settlement, Inc.\*  
English Speaking Union

Equity Players, Inc.  
French and Polyclinic Medical School and Health Center  
Girls Service League of America  
Goldman Concerts Band  
Hartman-Homecrest  
Jewish Education Assn.  
Josephine Home, Inc.  
Maternity Center Association  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art\*°  
The National Stage Woman's Exchange  
Neighborhood Circle  
New York American Christmas Relief Fund, Inc.  
The New York Friends of Boys  
New York Guild for Jewish Blind  
New York Heart Association  
The New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children\*  
Stadium Concerts, Inc.  
United Hospital Fund of New York\*°  
Victoria Home  
White Plains Police and Firemen

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### 1924

Architectural League of New York  
Beth Abraham Home for Incurable  
Cardinal Hayes Fund  
Catholic Camp Association  
Child Placing Agency  
Child Welfare Committee of America  
Hospital for Joint Disease  
Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement House, Inc.\*  
Monroe House  
Mount Sinai Medical Center\*  
The New York Genealogical & Biographical Society  
New York Section National Council of Jewish Women  
New York University

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### 1925

American Institute of Operatic Art  
American Legion New York County  
Berkshire Industrial Farm, Inc.  
Blue-Bird Camp  
Brown Catholic Big Brother League  
Cathedral Club  
The Cathedral of St. John the Divine  
Catholic Boys Club of the Archdiocese of New York  
Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York  
The Children's Village, Inc.\*  
Church of Our Lady of Good Council  
Church of Our Lady of the Rosary  
Church of the Holy Innocents  
East Harlem Health Center  
Empire State Legionaire  
Employment Bureau for the Handicapped  
Episcopal Actors Guild  
Fifth Avenue Association, Inc.  
Fire Department Emergency Fund Drive  
Foreign Language Information Service  
Grand Street Boys Association  
Greenwich House, Inc.

Hebrew National Orphan Home  
Hunter College of The City University of New York\*  
Immaculate Conception Church  
Institutional Synagogue  
The Jewish Maternity Hospital  
The Jewish Theatrical Guild of America  
The Jewish Theological Seminary of America\*  
Judson Health Centre  
Knickerbocker Hospital  
The Leake and Watts Children's Home, Inc.\*  
Madonna House  
Museum of French Art  
National Committee for Mental Hygiene  
The Needlework Guild of America, Inc.  
Neighborhood Teachers Assn.  
New York City Visiting Committee  
New York Newspaper Women's Club  
The New York-Presbyterian Hospital\*  
New York Tuberculosis Association, Inc.  
Our Lady of Victory Church  
Playground and Recreation Association of America—New York Section  
Police Conference New York City  
Police Magazine of New York  
Police Relief Fund New York City  
Recreation Rooms and Settlement  
Rockaway Beach Hospital  
School Finance Commission  
Society Women's Treasure Hunt  
St. Christopher's Inn, Inc.  
St. Gregory Church—Brooklyn, NY  
State Education Committee  
Travelers Aid Society of New York  
Vocational Adjustment Bureau for Girls  
Welfare Island Synagogue Committee  
West Side Continuation School

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1926

Actors Fund of America  
The Actors Theatre, Inc.  
American Federation of Arts  
Art in Trades Club  
Association for Aid of Crippled Children  
The Boys' Club of New York\*  
Boys Welcome Hall Association  
Charity Organization Society of the City of Yonkers  
Child Adoption League of State Charities Aid Assn.  
City Federation Hotel  
Community Council Greater New York  
Convent Mt. St. Vincent  
Daughter of Ohio in NYC  
East Side Kiddies Christmas Fund  
Engineering Economics Foundation  
Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America  
Federation of French Veterans of the Great War, Inc., NYC  
French American Opera Comique Co., Inc.  
Frick Art Reference Library  
The George Washington Sulgrave Inst.  
Gouverneur Hospital Social Service Committee  
Helpers of the Holy Souls  
Holy Name Centre for Homeless Men\*  
Italian Welfare League, Inc. NYC  
Jewish Tribune  
Jewish Widows of the Board of Child Welfare  
The League of Mothers Club  
Lighthouse International\*  
Lutheran Hospital of Manhattan  
Merchants Assn. of New York  
Missionary Sisters of St. Francis  
National Child Stage Assn.  
National Child Welfare Assn.  
National Crime Comm.—N. Y. State  
The Neurological Institute of New York  
New York American Playground Fund  
The New York Diet Kitchen Association

New York High School Children  
New York Music Week Association, Inc.  
New York Philanthropic League, Inc.  
New York Plant and Flower Guild  
Our Lady of Mercy Medical Center  
Ramapo Anchorage Camp  
Robert Grier Cooke Memorial  
Save New York Committee  
School Art League  
School Children's Welfare League  
Society of Friends of Music  
Soldiers and Sailors Home  
St. Benedicts Day Nursery  
St. Lawrence University  
St. Matthews Church  
Summer Vacations for Boys & Girls  
Teachers Club of New York, Inc.  
Temple Emanu-El  
Third Order Villa, Garrison, N.Y.  
Welfare Council of New York City  
YMCA of Greater New York\*  
Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity

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1927

The 92nd Street Young Men's and Young Women's Hebrew Association\*  
American Arbitration Association  
Art Alliance NYC  
Arts Council of the City of New York  
Association to Promote Proper Housing for Girls, Inc.  
Barnard College\*  
Broad Street Hospital  
Camp Fire Girls  
Cathedral College of the Immaculate Conception  
Catholic Boys Brigade  
Catholic School  
Committee of Fourteen  
Court Officers Mutual Benefit Assn.  
The Deborah Relief Society of New York  
The Dug Out, Inc.  
The Educational Alliance, Inc.\*  
The Fire Square Club, Inc. NYC  
Hebrew Kindergarten & Orphan Home  
Holy Family Day Nursery  
Holy Name Society  
Home & Hospital of Daughters of Jacob  
Horace Mann School  
Italian Hospital  
Jewish Consumptive Relief Assn.  
Jewish Publication Society  
John F. Ahern Camp Fund  
M. Grieve Co.  
Military Athletic League of N. Y.  
New York Police Tuberculosis Fund  
New York Post Graduate Hospital Assn.  
Northwoods Sanitarium  
Order B'nai Brith—Lodge No. 1  
The Peoples Chorus of New York  
Saint Dominic's Home, Inc.\*  
Seaman's Church Institute of America  
Sisters of the Precious Blood  
Soldiers and Sailors Club of New York, Inc.  
St. Ann's Church  
St. Elizabeth Hospital  
St. Nicholas Democratic Club  
St. Paschal's Day Nursery  
Stevenson's Society, Saranac Lake, N.Y.  
Summer Camps for New York City Children  
Sydenham Hospital—Ear Service  
Timely Aid Society  
West Side Nursery  
Women's Overseas Service League, NYC

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1928

Advisory Committee—Preservations of Washington Square  
The American Society for the Control of Cancer  
Bide-a-Wee Home  
Blind Industrial Workers Assn.

Boys Athletic League of United Neighborhood House  
Bronx Legal Assistance Soc.  
Brooklyn Children's Fresh Air Camp Assn.  
Brother Baldwin Scholarship Fund  
Calvary Hospital, Inc.\*  
Cathedral College Dramatic Society  
The Cenacle of St. Regis  
Cities Census Committee, Inc.  
Civic Repertory Theatre  
Cooperative Committee of Big Sisters  
Council on Adult Education for the Foreign Born  
East Side Orphan Home & Kindergarten  
Emanuel League  
Foster Mothers Assn. of America  
Fund for Needy Children—Charles W. Culkin  
Girls Home Club  
Hebrew Orphan Home  
Home for Undernourished Babies  
Hospital of the Holy Family  
House of the Good Shepherd  
The Junior League of the Hospital for Joint Disease  
The Ladies of Charity of the Catholic Charities  
The Lambs  
The Little Mothers Aid Assn.  
Mrs. Bidwell Brown Vocational & Placement Centre  
The Museum of the City of New York, Inc.\*  
New York City Committee on Mental Hygiene  
New York Federation of Post Office Clerks  
New York Polyclinic Hospital  
New York Safety Committee  
New York University School of Retailing  
Paulist Fathers/Choristers  
Rainbow Division Veterans  
Seton Hospital  
Social Service Exchange-Brooklyn  
Society of the Hillside Hospital  
St. Benedict the Moor Church  
St. Faiths House  
St. Francis Hospital  
St. Theresa's Church, Tarrytown, NY  
Stony Wold Sanatorium  
Student Matinee Committee  
United Parents Assn.  
West Side Neighborhood, Inc.  
Women's Auxiliary of Long Island City

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1929

Albert Gallatin Memorial Committee  
Beth David Hospital—Forty Second Street  
Beth Israel Medical Center\*  
The Carroll Club, Inc.  
Church of the Blessed Sacrament  
Church of the Little Flower  
Columbia University\*  
Committee of Twenty on Street and Outdoor Cleanliness  
East Side Kindergarten & Infant Home  
Georgia Warm Spring Foundation  
The Greater New York Federation of Churches  
Guild of the Infant Saviour  
Jewish Committee on Scouting  
Jewish War Veterans  
Lenox Hill Hospital\*  
Little Theatre Opera Co.  
Medical Society of the County of New York  
Mountain Pass Farm—Fresh Air Camp for Children  
National Conference of Jews & Christians  
New York Nursery & Child Hospital  
The New York Public Library\*  
Orphan Home and Kindergarten  
Police Uniform Fund  
Scio Methodist Church  
Southampton Hospital  
St. Barnabas House  
St. Brigid's Church  
St. Michael's School  
St. Vincent de Paul Institute  
St. Vincent de Paul Society

Vacation Fund for Poor Children (Chas. W. Culkan)  
West Side Jewish Centre  
Woman's Auxiliary of the French Hospital  
Young Women's Christian Association of Yonkers

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1930

Brooklyn Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum  
Calvert Associates  
Carl Schurz Memorial Foundation  
Charles Evans Hughes High School  
Child Education Foundation  
City Mission Society  
Emergency Employment Committee  
Friends Church of Chappaqua, NY  
Greater New York Interfaith Committee  
Madison House Society  
McMahon Memorial Temporary Shelter for  
Children  
Menorah Society of Washington Square (NYU)  
National Committee on Prisons & Prison Labor  
Nazareth Day Nursery  
New York Child Labor Committee  
New York League of Women Voters  
Noise Abatement Commission  
Pallatine Sisters  
Public Education Association  
St. Lucy's Roman Catholic Church  
Strykers Lane Community Center  
Two Hundred and Twelfth Regiment Athletic  
Assn.  
Westchester County Children's Association  
Westchester County Society (For the prevention  
of cruelty to children)  
Westchester County Tuberculosis & Public Health  
Association  
Young Folks League for Aid to Hebrew Infants

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1931

Anshe Chesed Sisterhood  
Brooklyn Hebrew Orphan Asylum  
Good Counsel College White Plains  
Industrial Health Cardiac Shop  
Mrs. Alfred Hess—To provide breakfast for  
undernourished children.  
New York County Council—Veterans of Foreign  
Wars  
The New York Urban League, Inc.\*  
Newman Club of NYU  
Rev. Edward A. Laehr—Church & School Fund  
St. Agnes Hospital\*  
Students Fine Arts Committee  
White Plains Community Chest, Inc.

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1932

American Jewish Congress  
Block Aid Committee  
Edith and Carl Marks Jewish Community House  
of Bensonhurst  
Mayors Unemployment Fund  
Mulberry Community House  
Patrolmen's Benevolent Assn. of the City of  
New York  
Police Athletic League, Inc.\*  
St. Rose of Lima Church  
Uniformed Firemen's Benevolent Ass'n., White  
Plains, N.Y.  
White Plains YWCA  
Yeshiva College

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1933

The Citizens Family Welfare Committee of  
New York City  
Committee on the Cost of Public Education  
Goddard Riverside Community Center\*  
Holy Name Church  
Jewish Conciliation Court of America  
The Philharmonic-Symphony Society of New  
York, Inc.  
Police Benevolent Assn. of White Plains  
Police Women's Endowment Assn.

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St. Bernard's School—White Plains  
Young Women's Christian Assn.—White Plains

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1934

Congress House  
Holy Name Day Nursery  
La Salle Military Academy  
St. Francis Xavier Church  
St. Joseph's Church  
St. Joseph's Day Nursery  
St. Michael's Church  
Union Temple of Brooklyn

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1935

Church of the Resurrection, Rye, NY  
Pauline Consumptive Relief Society, Inc.  
Police & Firemen Relief Fund  
Shrine & Parish Church of the Holy Innocents

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1936

Fireman Relief Fund  
The Maryknoll Fathers  
Scarsdale, N.Y. Community Fund

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1937

New York League for the Hard of Hearing  
Salesian High School  
Young Israel

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1938

Catholic Church of Croton Falls, NY  
Community Hospital  
Ladies Aid Society Fordham M. E. Church  
The Silver Cross Day Nursery  
Vacation Camp & Dormitory for the Blind

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1939

The Academy of Saint Aloysius  
The Art News  
The Gilmory Society  
Greater New York Fund  
Refugee Children's Non-Sectarian Committee  
St. John's University\*  
Temple of Religion

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1940

Bellevue Neurological Service  
Citizens Housing & Planning Council of  
New York, Inc.  
Generosity Thrift Shop, Inc.  
Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc.\*  
New York City Police Department Memorial  
Fund  
Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church

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1941

Bellevue Hospital-Social Service Dept.  
Convent of Mary Reparatrix  
Hadassah, East End Group  
Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital\*

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1942

Army Relief, Second Army Corp.  
Carmelite Monastery Fund  
City Amateur Symphony Orchestra  
Dominican Camp  
Edwards-Perin School  
Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies, Inc.\*  
Police Anchor Club Orphans  
Speech and Hearing Institute  
St. Helena Church  
United Service Organization

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1943

Catholic War Veterans, Inc.  
Centre Symphony Society  
City Center of Music & Drama, Inc.  
Council for Human Rights  
The Fighting 69th Fund  
New York Adult Education Council

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Roosevelt House  
St. Andrew's Convalescent Hospital  
St. Clare's Hospital and Health Center\*  
St. Paul Guild  
Traffic Squad Benevolent Association  
Westside Center for Family Services  
Youth Counsel Bureau, Inc.

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1944

Canterbury School  
Casita Maria Inc.\*  
Catholic Interracial Council of NY, Inc.  
Catholic Youth Organization of the Archdiocese of  
New York, Inc.  
The College of New Rochelle\*  
Dominican Academy of the City of New York\*  
Eymard Seminary—Eymard Preparatory School  
Fireman Honor Emergency Relief Fund  
Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Scarsdale, NY  
Interfaith Committee on Released Time Religious  
Education, Inc.\*  
Manhattan College  
Mayors Committee on Unity  
Novitiate of St. Andrew-on-Hudson  
New Rochelle Hospital  
Our Lady of the Lake Church  
Protestant Council of the City of New York  
School of the Holy Child  
St. Francis of Assisi Church  
St. Peters Church  
St. Stephens Church  
White Plains Hospital  
White Plains YMCA

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1945

Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens\*  
Department of Sanitation, City of New York Welfare  
Fund  
Fifteenth Precinct Coordinating Council  
Henry Street Settlement\*  
Lavelle School for the Blind  
Marymount College, Tarrytown, NY  
National Committee on Housing  
Play Schools Association, Inc.  
Protestant Fund of Greater New York  
Trudeau Sanatorium

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1946

Church of the Assumption  
Euphrasian Residence  
Florence Crittenton League  
Genesis Hebrew Center of Crestwood & Tuckahoe, NY  
Irish Christian Brothers  
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center\*  
Middletown Hebrew Assn. for the Hebrew School  
New York Downtown Hospital\*  
St. Joseph's Seminary

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1947

Collegiate School\*  
Franciscan Friars of the Atonement  
Lexington School for the Deaf/Center for the Deaf\*  
Long Island College of Medicine  
Madison Square Boys & Girls Club, Inc.\*  
Manhattanville College\*  
Sisters of the Good Shepherd  
St. Bonaventure University  
St. Jean Baptist Church  
St. Paul the Apostle Church  
Xavier High School\*

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1948

American Heritage Foundation  
Fashion Institute of Technology  
Goodwill Industries of New York & Northern New  
Jersey, Inc.  
Lawrence Hospital  
Office of the Diocesan Superintendent of Schools  
St. Vincent Ferrer Convent

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1949  
The Alfred E. Smith Memorial Foundation, Inc.\*  
American Youth Hostels, Inc.  
Cardinal Hayes Convalescent Home  
Citizens Planning Council, Inc.  
Fordham School of Social Service  
Nassau County Council of Boy Scouts of America  
New York Archdiocese Union

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1950  
Arthritis & Rheumatism Foundation  
Convent of the Sacred Heart\*  
Fathers of the Blessed Sacrament  
Jewish Conciliation Board of America  
Little Sisters of the Poor  
United Cerebral Palsy of New York City, Inc.\*

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1952  
American Mothers Committee  
Winfield Day Nursery, Inc.

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1953  
Young Women's Christian Association of  
Brooklyn\*

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1954  
Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva  
University\*  
International Center for the Disabled\*  
Kips Bay Boys & Girls Club, Inc.\*  
Sheltering Arms Children's Service\*

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1955  
Briarcliff Congregational Church  
Briarcliff Nursery School  
Council Child Development Center  
Iona Grammar School  
Loyola School\*  
Ridgeview Congregational Church, White Plains

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1956  
Christ the King Seminary  
Citizens Committee to Keep New York City  
Clean, Inc.  
Pony Track—Central Park  
Social Work Recruiting Committee of Greater  
New York, Inc.

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1957  
Rogers College  
St. Peter's School  
Symphony of the Air, Inc.

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1958  
The Cooper Union for the Advancement of  
Science and Art\*  
Department of Parks, Highbridge Park Carillon  
Good Samaritan Hospital—Suffern, NY  
Mary Manning Walsh Home  
Trail Blazers\*

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1959  
Cardinal Spellman's Service Men's Club  
Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Inc.\*  
Manhattanville Community Centers, Inc.  
Ossining Children's Center  
Religion in American Life, Inc.  
Wading River Congregational Church

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1960  
The Cardinal's Educational Fund  
National Resuscitation Soc., Inc.  
The Pierpont Morgan Library\*  
St. John the Baptist Church

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1961  
Child Service League, Inc.  
Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic, Inc.\*

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1962  
Home for the Aged of the Little Sisters of the Poor  
Lincoln Hall  
Nassau Hospital Building Fund  
New York Council on Alcoholism, Inc.  
Northern Westchester Hospital  
Saint David's School\*  
St. Francis College

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1963  
Saint Patrick's School  
St. Barnabas Hospital  
St. Ignatius Loyola Church

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1964  
Better Bellevue Association, Inc.  
Briarcliff College  
Elizabeth Seton College  
Human Resources Center  
Jewish Memorial Hospital  
The John LaFarge Institute  
Ladycliff College, Highland Falls, NY  
New York City Mission Society\*  
St. Vincent's Home for Boys  
Wiltwyck School for Boys

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1965  
Cardinal Spellman's Special Education Program  
Child Adoption Service  
Church of the Incarnation\*  
College of Mount Saint Vincent\*  
Fountain House, Inc.\*  
Greater New York Chapter—National Aid to  
Visually Handicapped  
New York Shakespeare Festival  
Union Theological Seminary\*

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1966  
Alfred University  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of New York City, Inc.\*  
The Dependents Fund—22nd St. Fire 1966  
East Harlem Block Schools\*  
Episcopal Charities of Long Island\*  
The Long Island Jewish Hospital  
New York Diabetes Association  
The Quaker Committee on Social Rehabilitation  
Salem United Methodist Church  
Schervier Nursing Care Center\*  
St. James School  
Tri-Faith Chapels Building Fund

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1967  
All Saints Episcopal Church  
John A. Coleman Catholic High School  
John S. Burke Catholic High School  
National Foundation for Facial Reconstruction\*  
Pace University\*  
Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul of  
New York  
Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament\*  
St. Mary's-in-the-Field

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1968  
B'nai Beshurun Israel Goldstein Religious School  
Fund  
Brooklyn-Cumberland Medical Center  
Congregation B'Nai Israel of Letchworth  
Village—Freeport, LI, NY  
Fordham Preparatory School\*  
Hamilton-Madison House, Inc.\*  
Larchmont-Mamaroneck Comm. on Family  
& Youth  
Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, Stormville, NY  
New York Urban Coalition Housing Group, Inc.  
St. Jerome's Day Nursery  
The Salvation Army—White Plains, NY

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1969  
The Brooklyn Museum—Brooklyn Institute of  
Arts & Sciences

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Full Circle Associates  
March of Dimes—Greater New York Chapter  
Phoenix House Foundation  
Roslyn Day Care Center

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1970  
Marymount Manhattan College\*  
St. Mary's Children and Family Services\*  
St. Patrick's Cathedral

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1971  
The Burke Rehabilitation Center  
Niagara University

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1972  
Clear Pool Camp, Inc.

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1974  
The Catholic Big Sisters & Big Brothers Inc. of the  
Archdiocese of New York\*  
New York University/Catholic Center  
Stanley M. Isaacs Neighborhood Center, Inc.\*

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1976  
Church of St. Thomas More  
The Juilliard School\*  
Marymount School of New York\*

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1977  
Asphalt Green, Inc.\*

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1978  
Prospective

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1979  
Fifth Avenue Community Center of Harlem, Inc.\*  
Hospital for Special Surgery\*  
Learning Leaders, Inc.\*  
Regis High School\*

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1981  
Boys Hope Girls Hope of New York Inc.\*  
Catholic Charities Special Fund for Homeless  
People  
Catholic Guardian Society and Home Bureau\*<sup>o</sup>  
Edwin Gould Services for Children\*  
Partnership with Children, Inc.\*

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1982  
Freedom Institute, Inc.\*  
New York Medical College\*<sup>o</sup>

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1985  
Carnegie Hall  
Community Funds, Inc./The New York  
Community Trust\*<sup>o</sup>  
The Legal Aid Society\*  
Magen David Yeshivah  
The Museum of Stony Brook  
Prep for Prep\*<sup>o</sup>  
Providence House

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1986  
The 52nd Street Project, Inc.  
Advocates for Children of New York, Inc.  
Alliance for the Arts, Inc.  
The Andrew Glover Youth Program, Inc.  
The Big Apple Circus, Ltd.  
Boys & Girls Harbor, Inc.  
The Bronx Committee for the Community's  
Health, Inc.  
Brookdale Center on Aging of Hunter College  
Brooklyn Public Library\*<sup>o</sup>  
Catholic Interracial Council of New York, Inc.  
Citizens' Committee for Children of New York,  
Inc.  
Dance Theatre of Harlem, Inc.  
De La Salle Academy\*<sup>o</sup>  
Dominican Friars' Guild/Dominican Camp

The Education and Research Foundation of the Better Business Bureau of Metropolitan New York, Inc.  
The Floating Hospital  
The Foundation Center  
Good Shepherd Services<sup>o</sup>  
Greater New York Councils/Boy Scouts of America  
The Harlem School of the Arts, Inc.  
The HealthCare Chaplaincy  
The Horticultural Society of New York, Inc.  
The Hospital for Special Surgery  
Human Resource Center  
Lincoln Center Theater  
Medic Alert Foundation International/New York Region  
Mount Saint Ursula Speech Center  
New York Interscholarship Association, Inc.  
Philanthropy New York, Inc.  
Pratt Institute  
Rehabilitation Through Photography, Inc.  
Resources for Children with Special Needs, Inc.  
Settlement College Readiness Program  
St. Aloysius Education Clinic

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1987

The Albert G. Oliver Program, Inc.  
American Reading Council, Ltd.  
Archdiocese of New York<sup>o</sup>  
Association for Mentally Ill Children of Westchester, Inc.  
Ballet Tech Foundation, Inc.  
The Boys Choir of Harlem, Inc.  
The Bronx Museum of the Arts  
Cardinal McCloskey Services  
Catholic Youth Organization—Archdiocese of New York  
Center for Children's Initiatives  
Center for Family Life in Sunset Park  
The Children's Storefront  
Chinese-American Planning Council, Inc.  
The Dalton Schools, Inc.  
DOROT, Inc.<sup>o</sup>  
Flowers With Care  
Habitat for Humanity, Inc.  
Harlem-Dowling Children's Service  
Homes for the Homeless, Inc.  
Jewish Community Council of Greater Coney Island, Inc.<sup>o</sup>  
Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Service, Inc.  
The Manhattan Country School, Inc.  
The National Theatre Workshop of the Handicapped  
Nativity Mission Center, Inc.  
New York Spaulding for Children  
Northside Center for Child Development, Inc.  
NYU/College of Dentistry/Department of Pediatric Dentistry  
Park Slope Neighborhood Family Center  
Prevent Blindness America—New York City Division  
Rena-Coa Multi-Service Center, Inc.  
The Rockefeller University  
Rosalie Hall, Inc.  
Seton Foundation for Learning, Inc.  
St. Christopher's, Inc.  
Tolentine-Zeiser Community Life Center  
Volunteer Consulting Group, Inc.  
The Way To Work (formerly Vocational Foundation, Inc.)<sup>o</sup>  
Women's Advocate Ministry, Inc.

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1988

AFS Intercultural Programs, USA  
All Hallows High School  
American Composers Orchestra, Inc.  
The Astor Home for Children  
The August Aichhorn Center for Adolescent Residential Care  
Ballet Theatre Foundation, Inc.

Bank Street College of Education<sup>o</sup>  
Brooklyn Botanic Garden Corporation  
CAMBA, Inc.  
Cooke Center for Learning and Development, Inc.<sup>o</sup>  
Coro New York Leadership Center  
The Herbert G. Birch Community Service, Inc.  
Inner-City Scholarship Fund, Inc.  
The InterSchool Orchestras of New York, Inc.  
Lower East Side Family Union, Inc.  
Mid-Bronx Senior Citizens Council, Inc.  
Musica Sacra, Inc.  
New York Association for New Americans, Inc.  
The New York Center for Policy on Aging  
New York City Outward Bound Center, Inc.  
Opportunity Resource Institute, Inc.  
Playing To Win, Inc.  
Pratt Institute Center for Community and Environmental Development  
Safe Space  
Simeon Service Foundation, Inc.  
South Bronx Ministry Neighborhood Development Corporation  
St. Anthony School  
St. Augustine School of the Arts  
St. Matthew's and St. Timothy's Neighborhood Center, Inc.  
Steinway Mental Health Committee, Inc.  
The Urban Homesteading Assistance Board, Inc.

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1989

The Ackerman Institute for Family Therapy  
Archdiocese of New York/Office of Educational Development<sup>o</sup>  
Association to Benefit Children  
Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum  
Blueberry Treatment Centers, Inc.  
The Brearley School  
The Bushwick Community Service Society, Inc.  
The Center for Creative Collaboration, Inc.  
The Children's Aid Society  
Children's Express Foundation, Inc.  
Court Appointed Special Advocates, Inc.  
Cultural Council Foundation  
Early Steps, Inc.  
Educational Equity Center at AED  
Family Dynamics, Inc.  
Family Service Association of Nassau County, Inc.  
God's Love We Deliver, Inc.  
Grace Church School  
Harlem Children's Zone, Inc.  
HeartShare Human Services of New York  
Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services, Inc.  
Jewish Home Lifecare Manhattan  
Jobs for Youth, Inc.  
The Leonard Davis Center for the Arts at the CCNY  
Literacy Partners, Inc.  
Little Red School House and Elisabeth Irwin High School  
The Mental Health Association of New York City, Inc.<sup>o</sup>  
Mind-Builders Creative Arts Company, Inc.  
Neighborhood Housing Services of New York City, Inc.  
The New York Botanical Garden<sup>o</sup>  
Project Reach Youth, Inc.  
Project Renewal, Inc.  
Queens Community House, Inc.  
Safe Horizon, Inc.  
Senior Employment Service  
Settlement Housing Fund, Inc.  
Snug Harbor Cultural Center, Inc.  
South Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation  
Sunnyside Community Services, Inc.  
United Neighborhood Houses of New York, Inc.<sup>o</sup>  
The Upward Fund Afterschool  
We Care About New York, Inc.

Westchester Symphony Orchestra, Inc.  
Winston Preparatory School

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1990

Association for the Help of Retarded Children/NYC Foundation  
Banana Kelly Community Improvement Association, Inc.  
Benedictine Health Foundation, Inc.  
The Berkeley Carroll School  
Brooklyn Bureau of Community Service  
Brooklyn Children's Museum<sup>o</sup>  
The Caring Community, Inc.  
Cause Effective, Inc.  
City Harvest, Inc.  
The City University of New York Office of Academic Affairs  
Eureka! Teen Achievement Program  
The Fresh Air Fund  
Friends of Karen, Inc.  
Grand Street Settlement, Inc.  
Grantmakers In Health  
Lower East Side Catholic Area Conference  
National Dance Institute, Inc.  
National Executive Service Corps  
Nontraditional Employment for Women Outreach Project, Inc.  
Queens Museum of Art<sup>o</sup>  
Selfhelp Community Services, Inc.  
South Street Seaport Museum  
St. Francis de Sales School for the Deaf  
St. Ignatius Loyola  
St. Vincent de Paul Residence  
Student/Sponsor Partnership, Inc.  
Valentine Lane Family Practice Center, Inc.  
Women's Action Alliance, Inc.  
The Women's Prison Association and Home, Inc.  
Young Audiences New York, Inc.

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1991

ArtsConnection, Inc.  
Betances Health Center  
Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center  
Cancer Care, Inc.  
Center for Intergenerational Reading  
Charles B. Wang Community Health Center, Inc.  
Corporation for Supportive Housing  
East Harlem Tutorial Program, Inc.  
Federal Law Enforcement Foundation, Inc.  
Friends and Relatives of Institutionalized Aged, Inc.  
Fund for the City of New York, Inc.  
The Futures in Education Foundation, Inc.  
Grand Central Neighborhood Social Services Corporation  
The Hispanic Federation, Inc.  
Institute for Literacy Studies/Lehman College  
LESAC Community Development Corporation  
New York Legal Assistance Group, Inc.  
New York Service Program for Older People, Inc.  
The Orphan Project/ Fund for the City of New York, Inc.  
Paraprofessional Healthcare Institute, Inc.<sup>o</sup>  
Sanctuary for Families, Inc.  
Search for Change, Inc.  
St. Joseph's College  
The St. Mark's Historic Landmark Fund  
St. Pius V High School  
The Venture Fund of the Diocese of New York  
Vietnamese American Cultural Organization, Inc.  
Wartburg Lutheran Services, Inc.

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1992

The 52 Association for the Handicapped, Inc.  
Binding Together Incorporated  
BronxWorks, Inc.  
Child Center of NY  
Citizens Committee for New York City, Inc.  
Claremont Neighborhood Centers, Inc.  
Edenwald-Gun Hill Neighborhood Center, Inc.  
Education Through Music, Inc.

Educational Video Center  
Enterprise Community Partners, Inc.  
Family Math at City Tech  
The Fortune Society  
Franciscan Community Center  
Highbridge Community Life Center, Inc.  
The Institute for Family Health<sup>o</sup>  
Kingsbridge Heights Community Center, Inc.  
New Alternatives for Children, Inc.  
The New-York Historical Society  
The Nonprofit Connection, Inc.  
Nonprofit Coordinating Committee of  
New York, Inc.  
Notre Dame School of Manhattan  
NYU/School of Education, Health, Nursing &  
Arts Professions  
Panis Vitae Fund  
PrimeCare New York, Inc.  
The Project for Psychiatric Outreach to the  
Homeless, Inc.  
Rivertdale Country School, Inc.  
Rivertdale Senior Services, Inc.  
Saint Ann's School  
Siena College  
South Bronx 2000 Local Development  
Corporation  
Support Center for Nonprofit Management, Inc.  
Wave Hill Incorporated  
Women In Need, Inc.  
Women's Housing and Economic Development  
Corporation  
Youth Action Programs & Homes, Inc.

#### 1993

Abyssinian Development Corporation  
Alvin Ailey Dance Foundation, Inc.  
Brookwood Child Care  
Center for Employment Training  
City Parks Foundation, Inc.  
Community Access, Inc.  
Cornelia Connelly Center for Education  
Dominican Women's Development Center  
Encore Community Services  
The Friendly Place/El Sitio Simpatico, Ltd.  
Gateway Community Restoration, Inc.  
Girls Incorporated of New York City  
Hartley House, Inc.  
The Korean-American Family Service Center, Inc.  
Lower East Side Family Resource Center, Inc.  
Morningside Center for Teaching Social  
Responsibility  
New York Alliance for the Public Schools, Inc.  
New York Council on Adoptable Children, Inc.  
One Stop Senior Services, Inc.  
The Phoenix Theatre Company  
Polytechnic Preparatory Country Day School  
Primary Care Development Corporation<sup>o</sup>  
The Queens Borough Public Library<sup>o</sup>  
Third Street Music School Settlement  
University Settlement Society of New York  
Westchester Arts Council

#### 1994

Center for Alternative Sentencing & Employment  
Services, Inc.  
Central Park Conservancy, Inc.  
Common Ground Community H.D.F.C., Inc.  
Community Impact, Inc.  
Council of Senior Centers and Services of New  
York City, Inc.  
Creative Arts Workshops for Kids, Inc.  
Foundation for Children & the Classics, Inc.  
Independent Teaching Project, Inc.  
Iona Preparatory School  
Lower East Side Tenement Museum, Inc.  
Medicare Rights Center, Inc.<sup>o</sup>  
Nursing Home Community Coalition of  
New York State  
Saint Joseph School  
Talbot Perkins Children's Services

The Associated Blind, Inc.  
The Bloomingdale School of Music, Inc.  
The Bridge Fund of New York Inc.  
The East Harlem School at Exodus House  
The New 42nd Street, Inc.  
The Valley, Inc.  
Wildlife Conservation Society

#### 1995

Asian American Federation of New York, Inc.  
Asian Americans for Equality  
Blanton-Peale Institute  
Center for Immigrant Health  
The Children's Oncology Society of New York,  
Inc.  
Columbia Grammar and Preparatory School  
Elaine Kaufman Cultural Center/Lucy Moses  
School for Music & Dance  
Friends Seminary  
The Hudson River Museum of Westchester  
Imani-Altisimo, Inc.  
The Institute for Not-For-Profit Management/  
Columbia University  
Interfaith Neighbors, Inc.  
The Jericho Project, Inc.  
Joint Public Affairs Committee for Older Adults  
The Maura Clarke-Ita Ford Center  
Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter, Inc.  
New York Landmarks Conservancy, Inc.  
Per Scholas, Inc.  
St. Hilda's & St. Hugh's School  
Teachers College, Columbia University<sup>o</sup>  
United Way of New York City<sup>o</sup>

#### 1996

The Allen-Stevenson School  
Brooklyn Youth Chorus Academy, Inc.<sup>o</sup>  
City Volunteer Corps, Inc.  
East New York Urban Youth Corps, Inc.  
Food & Hunger Hotline  
Greater Chinatown Community Association  
Grosvenor Neighborhood House, Inc.  
International Center of Photography  
LEAP, Inc./Brooklyn Workforce Innovations  
New York Asian Women's Center, Inc.  
Phipps Community Development Corporation  
St. Aloysius School

#### 1997

American Museum of Natural History  
Brooklyn Conservatory of Music  
Carroll Gardens Neighborhood Women, Inc.  
The Carter Burden Center for the Aging, Inc.  
The Cathedral School of Saint John the Divine  
Children's Defense Fund—New York  
Children's Museum of Manhattan  
The Coalition of Behavioral Health Agencies, Inc.  
Credit Where Credit Is Due, Inc. dba  
Neighborhood Trust Financial Partners  
Episcopal Charities of the Diocese of  
New York, Inc.  
Graham-Windham  
Hunter College Center on AIDS, Drugs and  
Community Health  
Jamaica Center for Arts and Learning, Inc.  
The Korean Community Services of Metropolitan  
New York, Inc.  
Legal Outreach, Inc.<sup>o</sup>  
Manhattan School of Music  
New York Hall of Science  
The New York Immigration Coalition, Inc.<sup>o</sup>  
Park Slope Geriatric Day Center, Inc.  
The Partnership for Inner-City Education<sup>o</sup>  
Prospect Park Alliance, Inc.  
Public/Private Ventures  
Queens Symphony Orchestra, Inc.  
Regional Plan Association, Inc.  
SCAN-New York Volunteer Parent-Aides  
Association, Inc.  
The Solomon Schechter School of Queens, Inc.

Statewide Youth Advocacy, Inc.  
United Community Centers, Inc.  
The United Methodist City Society  
Young Adult Institute, Inc.  
Youth Service Opportunities Project

#### 1998

The Association for Neighborhood & Housing  
Development, Inc.<sup>o</sup>  
Bronx Independent Living Services, Inc.  
Brooklyn Friends School  
Chess-in-the-Schools, Inc.  
Coalition for Hispanic Family Services  
Community Association of Progressive  
Dominicans, Inc.  
Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum,  
Smithsonian Institution<sup>o</sup>  
Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation, Inc.  
Ethical Culture Fieldston School  
Frederick Douglass Creative Arts Center, Inc.  
Fresh Youth Initiatives, Inc.  
The HOPE Program, Inc.  
I Have a Dream Foundation  
Jumpstart New York  
Just Food, Inc.  
La Salle Academy  
Literacy Assistance Center, Inc.  
New York Cares, Inc.  
New Yorkers for Parks<sup>o</sup>  
Project Ezra  
Saint Thomas the Apostle Church  
The S.L.E. Lupus Foundation, Inc.  
St. Nicholas Neighborhood Preservation Corporation  
St. Vincent's Services, Inc.  
The Studio in a School Association, Inc.  
The TEAK Fellowship, Inc.  
The Town School, Inc.  
Trevor Day School  
The Trust for Public Land  
Urban Justice Center  
US Committee/UN International Year of Older  
Persons  
Youth Communication/New York Center, Inc.

#### 1999

The Abraham Joshua Heschel School  
Amigos del Museo del Barrio, Inc.  
Bottomless Closet  
The Brooklyn Music School  
Child and Family Policy Center/New York  
University School of Education  
Citywide Behavioral Network, Inc.  
Covenant House  
The Fifth Avenue Committee, Inc.  
Freelancers Union  
Harlem Educational Activities Fund, Inc.  
Hope for Families and Children Foundation, Inc.  
Latino Commission on AIDS, Inc.  
MARC After-School Program, Inc.  
Morningside Area Alliance  
The Museum of Modern Art  
The Nature Conservancy of New York Aging in  
America, Inc.  
New York City Opera, Inc.  
New York City Youth Funders  
New York Foundation for the Arts, Inc.  
New York Public Interest Research Group Fund, Inc.  
Partnership for After School Education, Inc.  
Public Policy and Education Fund of New York, Inc.  
Quest Jr. Drum & Bugle Corps, Inc.  
Reach Out And Read of Greater New York, Inc.  
Small Settlement House Collaborative  
St. Raymond Community Outreach, Inc.  
Staten Island Children's Museum  
Summer on the Hill  
TADA! Theatre and Dance Alliance, Inc.

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2000

The Alexander Robertson School  
Brooklyn Cooperative Federal Credit Union  
The Children's Health Fund  
Classroom, Inc.  
Coalition for Asian American Children and Families  
The Coalition for the Homeless, Inc.  
Everybody Wins Foundation, Inc.  
Figure Skating in Harlem, Inc.  
Greater New York Hospital Foundation, Inc.  
The League Treatment Center, Inc.  
Lincoln Square Neighborhood Center  
The Neighborhood Self-Help by Older Persons Project, Inc.  
NPower NY, Inc.°  
Pius XII Youth & Family Services, Inc.  
The Point Community Development Corporation  
Premier HealthCare, Inc.  
Publicolor, Inc.  
Queens Botanical Garden Society, Inc.  
Saint Ignatius School/Hunts Point  
School of American Ballet, Inc.  
Search and Care, Inc.  
Staten Island Mental Health Society, Inc.  
Supportive Housing Network of New York, Inc.  
Training Institute for Mental Health Practitioners

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2001

Brooklyn Kindergarten Society  
Brooklyn Workforce Innovations  
The CityKids Foundation, Inc.  
EPIC—Every Person Influences Children, Inc.  
Friends of the Children New York  
Futures and Options, Inc.  
International Rescue Committee, Inc.  
Job Path, Inc.  
The Mannes College of Music/The New School  
New York Center for Interpersonal Development  
North General Hospital  
Pratt Area Community Council, Inc.  
Randall's Island Sports Foundation, Inc.  
Sakhi for South Asian Women  
StreetSquash, Inc.  
Wildcat Service Corporation

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2002

Bowery Residents' Committee, Inc.  
Brooklyn Arts Exchange, Inc.  
Brooklyn Woods, Inc.  
Citizens Union Foundation, Inc.  
Groundwork, Inc.  
Harlem RBI, Inc.  
Jewish Guild Healthcare  
The Municipal Art Society of New York  
New York City Coalition Against Hunger, Inc.  
Reading Excellence and Discovery Foundation, Inc. dba Read Alliance  
Rocking the Boat, Inc.  
Seedco & The Non-Profit Assistance Corporation°  
Solomon Schechter School of Manhattan  
Sponsors for Educational Opportunity, Inc.°  
Teachers & Writers Collaborative, Inc.  
Whitney Museum of American Art  
The Young People's Chorus of New York City, Inc.

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2003

The Chapin Hall Center for Children  
Food Bank for New York City°  
George Jackson Academy°  
New York City Employment and Training Coalition, Inc.  
New York Jesuit Education Centers  
Public Health Solutions  
Queens Theatre in the Park, Inc.

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2004

Arthur Ashe Institute for Urban Health, Inc.  
Asociación Tepeyac de New York  
Bronx River Alliance, Inc.  
Brooklyn Academy of Music, Inc.  
Cristo Rey New York High School  
Friends of the High Line, Inc.  
Grantmakers for Children, Youth and Families, Inc.  
Jazz at Lincoln Center, Inc.  
Literacy, Inc.  
Neighborhood Family Services Coalition  
New York Youth Symphony, Inc.  
Staten Island Economic Development Corporation  
The What to Expect Foundation, Inc.

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2005

A Better Chance, Inc.  
Careers through Culinary Arts Program, Inc.  
The Center for Independence of the Disabled, New York, Inc.  
City Lore, Inc.: The New York Center for Urban Folk Culture  
Commission on the Public's Health System, Inc.  
Cool Culture, Inc.  
The Crenulated Company, Ltd.  
The Dream Yard Drama Project, Inc.  
Fight Crime: Invest in Kids New York  
Friends of Materials for the Arts, Inc.  
Fund for Public Health in New York, Inc.  
The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History  
Harlem Academy  
League/1199 SEIU Training and Upgrading Fund  
Metropolitan Jewish Health System, Inc.  
Museum of Jewish Heritage: A Living Memorial to the Holocaust  
ReServe Elder Service, Inc.  
Youth Development Institute

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2006

Agenda for Children Tomorrow  
ANCHOR, Inc.  
Ballet Hispanico of New York, Inc.  
Brooklyn Jesuit Prep  
Center for Traditional Music and Dance, Inc.  
Community Health Care Association of New York State  
Community Resource Exchange, Inc.  
Double Discovery Center  
Downtown Community Television Center, Inc.  
Facing History and Ourselves National Foundation, Inc.  
The Fund for Public Schools, Inc.  
Governance Matters, Inc.  
Groundswell Community Mural Project, Inc.  
The HHC Foundation of New York City, Inc.  
Human Services Council of New York City, Inc.  
Maimonides Medical Center  
New Heights Youth, Inc.  
New York City Center for Charter School Excellence  
New York City Industries for the Blind, Inc.  
New York State Tenants & Neighbors Information Service, Inc.  
Nonprofit Finance Fund  
Peter Westbrook Foundation, Inc.  
Riverdale Neighborhood House, Inc.  
Row New York, Inc.  
Saint Jean Baptiste High School  
Trey Whitfield School  
Visual Understanding in Education, Inc.  
Workforce Professionals Training Institute

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2007

BoardAssist  
Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy, Inc.  
The Center for Arts Education, Inc.

City Futures, Inc.  
Collaborative to Advance Funding in Palliative Care/  
Philanthropy NY  
Harlem Children Society  
Hunts Point Alliance for Children  
Mark Morris Dance Group/Disalced Inc.  
The New York Opportunity Network, Inc. dba The Opportunity Network  
The New York Times Neediest Cases Fund  
The Parodneck Foundation for Self-Help Housing and Community Development, Inc.  
Partnership for Children, Youth and Families  
The Posse Foundation, Inc.  
Queens Council on the Arts, Inc.  
TapFound, Inc. dba Taproot Foundation  
The Urban Dove, Inc.  
Weill Cornell Medical College of Cornell University°

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2008

Alzheimer's Association, New York City Chapter  
The B.E.L.L. Foundation, Inc.  
Center for New York City Neighborhoods, Inc.  
Citizen Schools, Inc.  
City Lights Youth Theatre, Inc.  
The Futures in Education Endowment Fund for Brooklyn and Queens°  
Mama Foundation for the Arts, Inc.  
The Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City°  
New York University/Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service  
Rubin Museum of Art  
Year Up, Inc.

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2009

College Summit, Inc.  
Local Initiatives Support Corporation  
Partnership for Palliative Care

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2010

Bronx Children's Museum  
Brooklyn Community Foundation  
MDRC  
National Summer Learning Association, Inc.  
New York Center for Child Development  
The Parent-Child Home Program, Inc.  
PS 214, The Michael Friedsam School

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2011

Breakthrough New York, Inc.  
iMentor  
JobsFirstNYC

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2012

The After-School Corporation  
ALIGN: the Alliance for a Greater New York The Bridge, Inc.  
Council on the Environment, Inc. dba GrowNYC  
The Grace Opportunity Project  
Lawyers Alliance for New York  
Make the Road New York  
SeaChange Capital Partners, Inc.

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2013

Alliance of Resident Theatres/New York, Inc.  
Association of Fundraising Professionals New York City Chapter  
Civic Consulting NYC  
The Fund for Public Advocacy, Inc.  
Graduate NYC!  
Independent Sector  
Jewish Association for Services for the Aged  
Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance, Inc.



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\* Deceased

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## *Acknowledgments*

The Altman Foundation trustees and staff have been anticipating the centennial for several years. Many people contributed ideas, pictures and memories to this monograph about Benjamin Altman and his foundation.

Special thanks go to Dr. Jeanne Abrams and Jack Rosenthal for so eloquently telling Altman's story and outlining his extraordinary contribution to New York City over the past 100 years.

We also wish to thank some of the people behind the scenes, Ann Maldonado, Sonali Mukerjee, and Dori Sama. Paul Carlos, Misael Santos, Maneesha Patel, Nylissa Whitaker and Dana Foti Sharp were enormously helpful during this year.

It is impossible to talk about Benjamin Altman without recognizing the extraordinary gift of his art collection to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. We are grateful for its stewardship and proud to be partners in continuing his legacy.

Over 100 years the trustees and staff of the foundation have kept the focus on the issues that Altman so thoughtfully envisioned. Their understanding of how this mission could change with the times and stay true to the donor's intent is an important contribution to the history of philanthropy in New York City.

Finally, without the energy and commitment of our grantees over 100 years, there would not be a story. They have shaped our history.

Jane O'Connell, President

Karen Rosa, Vice President and Executive Director



