



FRANCIS FAMILY  
FOUNDATION

*Brighter futures for all generations*



# VISION

The Francis Family Foundation envisions current and future generations of well-rounded individuals who are creative, lifelong learners, striving to achieve their fullest potential within their communities.

Since 1913, when Parker Browne Francis II first launched the Oxygen Gas Company in Kansas City, Missouri, the Francis family has continued to be an inspirational and influential force in the Kansas City metropolitan area. In 1951, as the company grew and developed into a major national manufacturer and supplier of industrial and medical gases, Parker B. Francis II established a foundation bearing his name to help promote education and research in the fields of anesthesiology and related pulmonary sciences. Parker B. Francis III also established a foundation to fund his interests in education, and arts and culture.

Since the two foundations merged in 1989 to become the Francis Family Foundation, the pattern of grantmaking made today still reflects the interests of the founding donors. While John B. Francis and his wife Mary Harris Francis are both deceased, stewardship of the Foundation was passed to their children – Ann F. Barhoum, David V. Francis, J. Scott Francis and Susan Neves – and six non-family Board members – Debby Ballard, Mary Lou Jaramillo, David Oliver, J. Michael Sigler, Susan Stanton and Jean-Paul Wong. Susan Neves has since retired from the Board.

Today, thanks to the vision of Parker B. Francis and his son John B. Francis, the Francis Family Foundation celebrates 68 years of philanthropy, including the funding of the Parker B. Francis Pulmonary Fellowship Program and support of educational and arts programs located within the Kansas City metropolitan area. For more information about the history of the Foundation, please visit [www.francisfoundation.org](http://www.francisfoundation.org).

It is in the context of this history that the 2019 Annual Report honors the accomplishments of 296 grants representing a social investment of more than \$5,476,555 million. This includes 154 discretionary grants for \$902,000 made on behalf of the Foundation's Board of Directors.

# SOCIAL JUSTICE

The Francis Family and Board of Directors of the Francis Family Foundation condemn racism in all its forms and call for our community to address the systemic racism affecting minority communities. Our Foundation has always been against racism and bigotry wherever, and however, it manifests itself in our community and in our country.

We are steadfast in our support of equal opportunity and better education for those who are at risk of being left behind. We believe in creating better futures for everyone, especially minorities who have faced many disadvantages in the past and today. These core beliefs have guided our philanthropy for decades and will continue to do so in the future.

# GRANTMAKING POLICIES

For nearly 70 years, the Francis family has been involved in philanthropy and made large investments in the Greater Kansas City area in education and arts and culture, and across the country in pulmonary research. The Francis Family Foundation has been honored to partner with all the dedicated nonprofit organizations that serve our community.

In 2022, the Foundation structure will transition from a community board to a family board, and the granting priorities and strategies of the Foundation will change with this transition. The future of grantmaking by the family is still under discussion but grants to the pulmonary fellowship program and the small arts fund will continue. The family and board have valued their long relationship with our grantee partners and are committed to providing three years of bridge funding for current grantees during this transition.

# STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

In 2019, the Foundation continued its use of the Strategic Framework approved in 2013, which serves as a path to making this vision a reality. It is built upon strategies that target talented individuals and organizations that strive to provide excellent programs and services within their communities. Specifically, the Foundation focuses its strategies in the areas of pulmonary research, lifelong learning with a particular emphasis on early childhood development, and arts and culture. By focusing support in these areas, the Foundation is committed to making a difference in improving the quality of life through our grantmaking.

The following stories from our grantees illustrate some of their successes in the three focus areas of our Strategic Framework. The stories begin with Arts & Culture and Lifelong Learning locally, and then Pulmonary Research Fellows in the United States and Canada.



**SUPPORTING  
ARTS & CULTURE  
IN KANSAS CITY**

# ARTS & CULTURE

## DESIRED RESULTS

An excellent ecology of the arts grows and is sustained regionally; well-rounded children, youth and adults who can thrive in the 21st Century.

## MEASUREMENT

- Arts and culture organizations and artists using effective and innovative strategies for audience development
- Schools with meaningful Arts in Education experiences integrated in school curricula and aligned with the common core standards
- Establish local public funding streams in the region to support arts and culture organizations and artists

## OVERALL GRANTMAKING STRATEGY 2019

Support and advocate for development of the greater Kansas City area as a creative regional hub for excellence in arts and culture, rich with expression of diverse cultures and affording access to all levels of creative participation. The Foundation continues to support the many arts and culture institutions that “anchor” a strong and vibrant quality of life in Kansas City. At the same time, through our Small Arts Grants Program, the Foundation seeds both new and emerging organizations, and expands access for children and underserved populations throughout the community.

*Francis Family Foundation funding promotes the principle that arts and culture are fundamentally important for all people.*

## 2019 ARTS & CULTURE GRANT HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights from a list of 33 one-year grants (made to large and midsize arts and culture organizations for \$915,000) using a continued emphasis on effective and innovative strategies for audience development are reflected by the following:

- The Lyric Opera received a \$25,000 grant in support that engages area students with student dress rehearsals and in-school activities conducted by Lyric Opera artists and staff; as well as the Apprentice Artists and Resident Artists programs that nurture the next generation of performers.
- The Kansas City Ballet was granted a \$50,000 gift to support operating expenses associated with vital programming, including Repertory Performances and the Kansas City Ballet School, which provides opportunities for children and adults citywide to experience the joy and benefit of dance and cultural growth.

**The Foundation awarded 82 grants totaling \$1,166,250 in support of arts and culture organizations and programs in the Greater Kansas City area.**

**KANSAS CITY BALLET  
PROGRAM/INITIATIVE  
2019 GRANT AMOUNT: \$50,000**

The Kansas City Ballet is a 30-member professional ballet company under the direction of Artistic Director Devon Carney and Executive Director Jeffrey J. Bentley. The professional company, the second company (comprised of KCB II and Trainees), the professional dance school, and many community programs, seek to nurture and develop artists, audiences and students in the values inherent in the creativity, diversity and joy of dance.

The 2019-20 season include five performances of popular ballets, including The Nutcracker and Swan Lake, performed at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts and the Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity at Union Station for a combined estimated audience of more than 60,000 with live accompaniment provided by the Kansas City Symphony. The Kansas City Ballet Community Engagement and Education Department reaches more than 20,000 students and adults each year and the Ballet School provides dance training to more than 2,000 students per year at two locations.



# SMALL ARTS GRANTS FUND

In 2019, the Foundation continued its use of the Strategic Framework approved in 2013, which serves as a path to making this vision a reality. It is built upon strategies that target talented individuals and organizations that strive to provide excellent programs and services within their communities. Specifically, the Foundation focuses its strategies in the areas of pulmonary research, lifelong learning with a particular emphasis on early childhood development, and arts and culture. By focusing support in these areas, the Foundation is committed to making a difference in improving the quality of life through our grantmaking.

The following stories from our grantees illustrate some of their successes in the three focus areas of our Strategic Framework. The stories begin with Arts & Culture and Lifelong Learning locally, and then Pulmonary Research Fellows in the United States and Canada.

## **THE BLACK REPERTORY THEATRE OF KANSAS CITY PROGRAM/INITIATIVE 2019 GRANT AMOUNT: \$10,000**

The Black Repertory Theatre of Kansas City was founded in 2016 by Damron Russel Armstrong, a producer/director/actor who spent his “formative years” in Kansas City performing on area stages, such as The Coterie Theatre, Theatre for Young America and the New Theatre Restaurant to name a few. Mr. Armstrong was educated in New York and applied his knowledge by working on the professional stage. He has performed nationally with a variety of theatre companies in renowned stories, such as A Raisin in the Sun, Dreamgirls and The Full Monty. His return to Kansas City and The Black Repertory Theatre allows him to create stories told through minority perspectives, a view often lacking in the theatre experience. Through these productions, the entire community can appreciate and participate in the success and losses, happiness and sorrow, and fears and triumphs within the lives of African Americans.



# ARTS & CULTURE GRANTS LIST

The following section includes a list of 2019 grantees beginning with Arts & Culture and Lifelong Learning locally, followed by PBF Fellows in the United States and Canada. Capital and endowment campaigns are also included following the Lifelong Learning grants list.

## **ALBRECHT-KEMPER MUSEUM OF ART**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$10,000

## **AMERICAN JAZZ MUSEUM**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$10,000

## **ARTS KC REGIONAL ARTS COUNCIL**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$75,000

## **ARTS TECH**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$20,000

## **CHARLOTTE STREET FOUNDATION**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$40,000

## **COTERIE THEATRE**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$25,000

## **FOLLY THEATER**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$15,000

## **FRIENDS OF CHAMBER MUSIC**

Program/Initiative  
Grant amount: \$15,000

## **HARRIMAN-JEWELL SERIES (William Jewell College)**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$15,000

## **HEART OF AMERICA SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$15,000

## **HEARTLAND MEN'S CHORUS**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$15,000

## **KANSAS CITY ART INSTITUTE**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$30,000

## **KANSAS CITY BALLET**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$50,000

## **KANSAS CITY FRIENDS OF ALVIN AILEY**

General operating support and diversity symposium  
Grant amount: \$30,000

## **KANSAS CITY REPERTORY THEATRE**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$25,000

## **KANSAS CITY SYMPHONY**

Program/Initiative  
Grant amount: \$30,000

## **KANSAS CITY YOUNG AUDIENCES**

General operating support and STEM  
Grant amount: \$60,000

## **KCPT**

Program/Initiative  
Grant amount: \$50,000

## **KCUR FM 89**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$25,000

## **KEMPER MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$15,000

## **LYRIC OPERA OF KANSAS CITY**

Program/Initiative  
Grant amount: \$25,000

## **MATTIE RHODES CENTER**

Latino cultural art program  
Grant amount: \$35,000

## **MESNER PUPPET THEATER**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$15,000

## **METROPOLITAN ENSEMBLE THEATRE**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$20,000

## **MID-AMERICA ARTS ALLIANCE**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$10,000

## **MISSOURI ALLIANCE FOR ARTS EDUCATION**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$40,000

## **NATIONAL WORLD WAR I MUSEUM & MEMORIAL**

Liberty Memorial Association  
Program/Initiative  
Grant amount: \$20,000

## **NELSON-ATKINS MUSEUM OF ART (Nelson Gallery Foundation)**

Program/Initiative  
Grant amount: \$75,000



# ARTS & CULTURE GRANTS LIST

## **PERFORMING ARTS SERIES AT JOHNSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$15,000

## **SPENCER MUSEUM OF ART**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$15,000

## **THE KANSAS ALLIANCE FOR THE ARTS IN EDUCATION**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$40,000

## **UMKC CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC AND DANCE**

Musical Bridges  
Grant amount: \$20,000

## **UNICORN THEATRE**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$15,000

## **SMALL ARTS GRANTS FUND**

Arts & Culture Organizations

## **5-STAR JAZZ**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$2,500

## **ART AS MENTORSHIP**

Mattie Rhodes Center  
Program/Initiative  
Grant amount: \$5,000

## **ARTS ASYLUM**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$5,000

## **ARTS COUNCIL OF JOHNSON COUNTY**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$3,500

## **ARTS IN PRISON**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$8,000

## **ARTS INSPIRED NETWORK**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$2,500

## **BACH ARIA SOLOISTS**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$2,500

## **BAND OF ANGELS, CORP.**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$5,000

## **BLACK REPERTORY THEATRE OF KC**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$10,000

## **CITY IN MOTION DANCE THEATER**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$1,000

## **DO GOOD PRODUCTIONS**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$7,500

## **EMILY A. SILVERMAN MEMORIAL FUND**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$5,000

## **ENSEMBLE IBERICA, INC**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$7,500

## **FISHTANK THEATRE**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$7,500

## **GURUKUL DANCE COMPANY**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$1,000

## **HERITAGE PHILHARMONIC (ISO)**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$1,000

## **HEARTLAND CHAMBER MUSIC**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$8,000

## **JUMPSTART ART, INC**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$1,000

## **KANSAS ACADEMY OF THEATRICAL ARTS**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$2,000

## **KANSAS CITY ARTISTS COALITION**

Exhibition & program support  
Grant amount: \$8,000

## **KANSAS CITY CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$8,000

## **KANSAS CITY WOMEN'S CHORUS**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$7,500

# ARTS & CULTURE GRANTS LIST

## **KC CLAY GUILD**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$4,000

## **KC DANCE FESTIVAL/OWEN-COX**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$8,000

## **MIDWEST MUSIC FOUNDATION**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$8,000

## **NATIONAL AUDIO THEATRE FESTIVALS**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$1,000

## **NO DIVIDE KC**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$1,000

## **REEL IMAGES FILM & VIDEO GROUP**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$7,500

## **RIGHTFULLY SEWN**

Seamstress training program  
Grant amount: \$8,000

## **SPINNING TREE THEATRE**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$10,000

## **SPIRE CHAMBER ENSEMBLE**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$5,000

## **STONE LION PUPPET THEATRE**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$8,000

## **STORLING DANCE THEATER**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$8,000

## **THE RABBIT hole KANSAS CITY**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$8,000

## **THEATRE ATCHISON**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$4,000

## **THEATRE FOR YOUNG AMERICA**

2018-19 Season of education theatre  
Grant amount: \$4,000

## **TRADITIONAL MUSIC SOCIETY**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$7,500

## **WILLIAM BAKER CHORAL FOUNDATION**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$2,500

## **WYLLIAMS/HENRY CONTEMPORARY DANCE STUDIO**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$3,500

## **YOUTH CHORUS OF KC, INC.**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$5,000

## **SMALL ARTS GRANTS FUND**

Non-Arts Organizations

## **CRISTO REY KANSAS CITY**

Program support  
Grant amount: \$2,750

## **GORDON PARKS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Art equipment  
Grant amount: \$2,500

## **KVC BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE KS**

Program support  
Grant amount: \$5,000

## **LITERACY KANSAS CITY**

Writers for Readers  
Grant amount: \$7,000

## **SCUOLA VITA NUOVA CHARTER SCHOOL**

School band instruments  
Grant amount: \$5,000

## **THE PLAZA ACADEMY**

Program support  
Grant amount: \$5,000

## **THE WHOLE PERSON**

Expression art series  
Grant amount: \$3,000

## **WONDERSCOPE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF KANSAS CITY**

Wonder arts  
Grant amount: \$1,000

## **WYANDOT CENTER FOR COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$7,000

# **SUPPORTING LIFELONG LEARNING IN KANSAS CITY**





# LIFELONG LEARNING

Francis Family Foundation funding encourages lifelong learning for people of all ages and socioeconomic backgrounds through innovative, diverse, creative and research proven ways of learning.

## DESIRED RESULTS

Well-rounded children and youth who are creative, flexible, globally competitive, adaptive to a culture of innovation and diversity, passionate about learning, and able to problem solve, in groups and individually, so they can thrive in the 21st Century.

## MEASUREMENT

- Children entering kindergarten school ready
- Children prepared to read on grade level in third grade
- Children and youth actively engaged in achieving high academic standards

## OVERALL GRANTMAKING STRATEGY 2019

Invest in innovative organizations and attract, develop and retain the best teachers, leaders, staff and other people who provide and advocate for a continuum of:

- Quality during a child's earliest learning experiences
- Access to excellence in K-12th grade, especially in the urban core of Kansas City
- The family's role as first teachers in early literacy

The Foundation approved a \$1,057,203 investment in organizations supporting the lifelong learning goals of entering Kindergarten school ready and reading at grade level in third grade.

Quality teaching – Kids entering Kindergarten school ready is critical for their future success in school and beyond. The Foundation continues to support efforts to improve the quality of teaching in many high-quality early learning centers throughout the metro area. Key to this work are the diverse and inclusive efforts of organizations, such as El Centro, Front Porch Alliance, Operation Breakthrough, Reach Out and Read, Start at Zero and United Inner-City Services. All were recipients of continued support from the Foundation in 2019. The Foundation expects these efforts to lay the groundwork for children's success in school, an important benchmark for the community.

Advocacy – Our focus on affecting policy through advocacy efforts remains strong. Foundation resources are limited and supporting direct services can only reach a very limited number of children. As a result, increasing amounts of Foundation lifelong learning funds are focused on advocacy. The Alliance for Childhood Education (ACE), Kansas Action for Children and the Missouri Budget Project were awarded grants in support of their advocacy efforts.

In addition, the Foundation Board approved \$500,000 in capital campaign expenditures to four local organizations: Charlotte Street Foundation, Emmanuel Child Development Center, KCPT – Public Television 19, Inc., and the Wonderscope Children's Museum of Kansas City.

**EL CENTRO**  
**GENERAL OPERATING SUPPORT**  
**GRANT AMOUNT: \$132,203**

El Centro is a non-profit corporation dedicated to strengthening communities and improving the lives of the growing Hispanic population in Wyandotte and Johnson Counties. Founded in 1976, El Centro has evolved into a multi-faceted force for educational, social, and economic change, offering services for more than 12,000 Latino individuals and families each year. The Foundation is proud to support El Centro's Academy for Children preschool, which provides access to quality early childhood education and prepares children to enter Kindergarten on grade level.

The Academy for Children is the only dual language early childhood education program in Kansas City, Kansas and is licensed through the Kansas Department of Health and Education to serve up to 85 children two-and-a-half to five years old. The curriculum follows the one teacher, one language approach, which means that regardless of home language students are exposed to and instructed in English and Spanish throughout the day. The research-based curriculum helps children develop literacy, numeracy, language, and pre-academic skills in two languages. In addition to academic preparedness, the Academy provides emotional support by staffing an early childhood mental health specialist, who enables children to manage feelings and develop important social skills.



# LIFELONG LEARNING GRANTS LIST

## **AlignED (formerly ACE)**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$100,000

## **EL CENTRO**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$132,203

## **FRONT PORCH ALLIANCE**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$25,000

## **KANSAS ACTION FOR CHILDREN, INC.**

Advocacy  
General operating support  
Grant amount: \$50,000

## **KCPT - PUBLIC TELEVISION 19, INC. (Kansas City Public Television)**

Direct Service  
Program/Initiative  
Grant amount: \$25,000

## **MISSOURI BUDGET PROJECT**

Advocacy  
General operating support  
Grant amount: \$50,000

## **OPERATION BREAKTHROUGH**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$150,000

## **PRE-K COOPERATIVE**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$50,000

## **REACH OUT AND READ**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$50,000

## **START AT ZERO**

General operating support  
Grant amount: 50,000

## **THE FAMILY CONSERVANCY**

Professional Development  
General operating support  
Grant amount: \$100,000

## **UNITED INNER CITY SERVICES**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$ 100,000

## **PARTNERSHIP FOR REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL PREPARATION-KANSAS CITY (PREP-KC)**

Professional Development  
General operating support  
Grant amount: \$150,000

## **TURN THE PAGE KC**

General operating support  
Grant amount \$50,000

## **CAPITAL CAMPAIGNS**

### **CHARLOTTE STREET FOUNDATION**

Create a permanent home for Kansas City artists  
Grant amount: \$150,000

### **EMMANUEL CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

Construct a new, 28,000-square foot facility  
Grant amount: \$100,000

### **KCPT – PUBLIC TELEVISION 19, INC.**

for the “Kansas City Picture This – Building for Innovation” capital campaign  
Grant amount: \$100,000

### **WONDERSCOPE CHILDREN’S MUSEUM OF KANSAS CITY**

for the “A New Place for Play – Imagine the Possibilities” capital campaign  
Grant amount: \$100,000



# FUNDING PULMONARY RESEARCH IN NORTH AMERICA



# PULMONARY RESEARCH

Francis Family Foundation funding enables breakthrough solutions in pulmonary medicine leading to the development of enhanced treatments and cures for pulmonary diseases.

## DESIRED RESULTS

New scientists who serve patients with lung diseases through innovative research are supported at a key transition point in their career.

## MEASUREMENT

Increase number of researchers entering and remaining in the pulmonary research field.

## OVERALL GRANTMAKING STRATEGY

Attract, develop and retain the best researchers in the field of pulmonary research through the Parker B. Francis (PBF) Pulmonary Research Fellows Program.

The Foundation created the Parker B. Francis Fellowship Program, a national postdoctoral study in pulmonary research, in 1975. Since then, the Foundation has contributed \$74 million in support of more than 942 Fellows. For more information, visit [www.francisfellowships.org](http://www.francisfellowships.org).

## 2019 PULMONARY RESEARCH GRANT HIGHLIGHTS

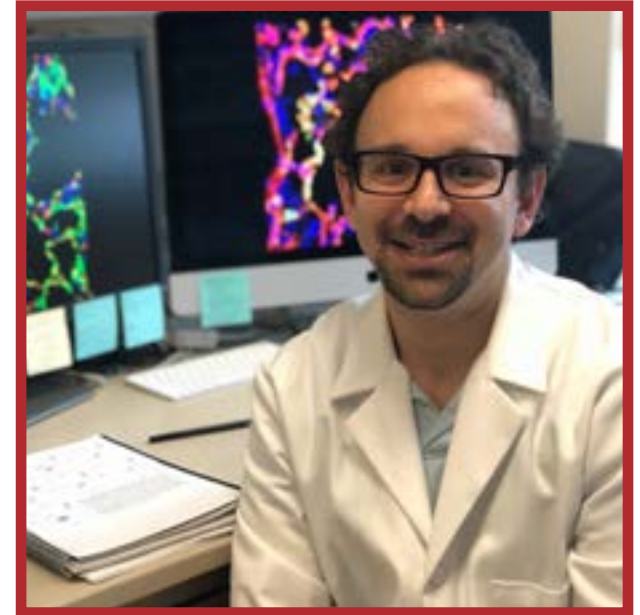
### 2019 PBF FELLOW

**JEREMY B. KATZEN, M.D.**

**MENTOR: MICHAEL F. BEERS, M.D.**

**INSTITUTION: UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA**

Fibrosis Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF) is an incurable lung disease with a median survival of 5 years. A major barrier to discovering effective therapies for IPF are gaps in our understanding of how the disease develops. We have generated a robust and exciting murine model of IPF based on a disease-associated human mutation in the Surfactant Protein C gene (SFTPC). Expression of the mutation causes alveolar type 2 (AT2) cell dysfunction and lung pathology that resembles IPF. The mechanistic link between AT2 cell dysfunction and lung fibrosis is a fundamental gap in our understanding of IPF pathogenesis, and this project will meld epithelial cell biology and regenerative biology to fill this gap and generate novel insights into IPF. Finally, this project will prepare Dr. Katzen for an independent physician-scientist career.



***“The PBF Fellowship was critical to my career development, offering protective time to explore new collaborations and funding opportunities while also bolstering my publication record, which made me a more attractive grant applicant.”***

**MOLLY FRANKE, SCD**  
**Associate Professor, Harvard Medical School**  
**(PBF Fellow, Class of 2011)**

**JO RAE WRIGHT AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE**  
**SATISH K. MADALA, PH.D.**  
**CINCINNATI CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER**  
**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**  
**GRANT AMOUNT: \$5,000**

In 2012, we lost a great researcher, mentor, and friend. Jo Rae Wright, Ph.D. was a creative and tireless educator who was a role model for researchers, educators, and women in science. She will be greatly missed. To honor her spirit, the Foundation established the Jo Rae Wright Award for Excellence in Science given to the top graduating fellow who best exemplifies the values of Dr. Wright. The award celebrates excellence in science and is given to the research home of the fellow for lab supplies to further support their research.

In 2019, the Jo Rae Wright Award for Excellence in Science was awarded to Satish K. Madala, PhD, an associate professor in the Division of Pulmonary Medicine at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. As a Parker B. Francis Fellow, he focused on the study of pulmonary fibrosis, an incurable lung disease due to collagen-producing cells that form scar tissue and impair lung function. The study helped identify disease-causing cell types and their functions responsible for pulmonary fibrosis and determined how these cells can invade the dense tissue matrix of the lung. It sought to identify cells involved in the formation of scar tissue in both the early and late stages of lung disease. The anticipated results will lead to new molecular targets for the development of novel therapeutic agents to be used for the treatment of pulmonary fibrosis.



**PARKER B. FRANCIS RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY AWARD**

In addition, PBF applicants who receive a fundable priority score but relinquish the PBF Fellowship due to receipt of other funding, are given a \$5,000 Research Opportunity Award. There was one ROA awarded in 2019.

**JACQUELINE M. KRUSER, M.D., PH.D.**  
**NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY**  
**GRANT AMOUNT: \$5,000**





**PARKER B. FRANCIS  
FELLOWSHIP  
PROGRAM**

**UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS MEDICAL CENTER  
PBF SUMMER FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM  
DR. NAVNEET DHILLON, MENTOR  
GRANT AWARDED: \$190,237 FOR 2012-19  
GRANT RENEWED: \$ 93,000 FOR 2020-23**

The PBF Summer Fellowship Program provides valuable and unique medical research opportunities for Kansas City area undergraduate students pursuing careers in medicine and medical research. Since 2012, promising full-time graduate students are matched with faculty mentors at the University of Kansas Medical Center for 8-10 weeks of intensive research. Summer Fellows receive a weekly stipend and are mentored by Navneet Dhillon, PhD, Professor in the Department of Medicine and a former PBF Fellow. In addition to their research and bio-weekly meetings with Dr. Dhillon, they participate in eight, one-hour training sessions with medical students on a variety of topics. At summer's end, each student presents their research work at a special PBF Research Presentation Day. In 2019, 6 Summer Fellows successfully completed the program.

The Summer Fellowship Program grant was renewed in 2019 for \$93,000 covering years 2020 to 2023.

NOTE: In 2019, Dr. Dhillon was also named as the Parker B. Francis Lecturer at the International American Thoracic Society meeting. This distinction is awarded to former PBF Fellows who are internationally recognized for their outstanding contributions to scientific research and teaching.

# PULMONARY RESEARCH GRANTS LIST

## **AMERICAN THORACIC SOCIETY**

General operating support  
Grant amount: \$10,000  
Awarded: \$50,000 in 2014

## **THOMAS L. PETTY ASPEN LUNG CONFERENCE**

### **PROJECT: The Parker B. Francis Lectureship**

Description: To support the PBF Lectureship, where lectures are delivered by established, world renowned leaders in the chosen topic related to lung disease, while the abstract presenters usually are young investigators in training.

Grant amount: \$3,500  
Awarded: \$10,500 in 2018

## **CEDARS-SINAI MEDICAL CENTER**

Professional Development  
Dr. Barry Stripp, Mentor  
Dr. Changfu Yao, Fellow  
PROJECT: Senescence as a driver of progenitor cell dysfunction in pulmonary fibrosis  
Grant amount: \$50,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2019

## **COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY**

Professional Development  
Dr. Jahar Bhattacharya, Mentor  
Dr. Rebecca F. Hough, Fellow  
PROJECT: Mitochondrial mechanisms underlying alveolar-capillary barrier regulation  
Grant amount: \$50,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2019

## **JOHNS HOPKINS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**

Professional Development  
Dr. Roy G. Brower, Mentor  
Dr. Sarina K. Sahetya, Fellow  
PROJECT: Driving pressure as a target for lung-protective ventilation in ARDS  
Grant amount: \$50,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2019

## **MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL**

Professional Development  
Dr. Harold C. Ott, Mentor  
Dr. Sarah E. Gilpin, Fellow  
PROJECT: Regenerative potential of airway stem cells in engineering lungs for transplant  
Grant amount: \$27,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2017

## **MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL**

Professional Development  
Dr. Peter Caravan, Mentor  
Dr. Sydney B. Montesi, Fellow  
PROJECT: Novel imaging and biomarker measures of injury to assess IPF disease activity  
Grant amount: \$54,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2017

## **MEDICAL COLLEGE OF WISCONSIN**

Professional Development  
Dr. Matthew R. Hodges, Mentor  
Dr. Gary C. Mouradian, Fellow  
PROJECT: Latrogenic and inherent factors driving greater SIDS risk in premature infants  
Grant amount: \$52,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2018

## **MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

Professional Development  
Dr. Dee W. Ford, Mentor  
Dr. Nandita R. Nadig, Fellow  
PROJECT: The clinical, economic, and psychological impact of inter-ICU transfers  
Grant amount: \$50,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2019

## **NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY**

Professional Development  
Dr. Scott Budinger, Mentor  
Dr. Paul Reyfman, Fellow  
PROJECT: Investigating pulmonary fibrosis pathobiology using single-cell transcriptomics  
Grant amount: \$50,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2019

## **NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY**

Professional Development  
Dr. Navdeep Chandel, Mentor  
Dr. SeungHye Han, Fellow  
PROJECT: Mitochondrial regulation of lung development, injury and repair  
Grant amount: \$25,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2019

## **PRESIDENT & FELLOWS OF HARVARD COLLEGE**

Professional Development  
Dr. Jeffrey J. Fredberg, Mentor  
Dr. Jennifer A. Mitchel, Fellow  
PROJECT: Cell jamming in epithelial migration and repair  
Grant amount: \$50,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2019

## **RYERSON UNIVERSITY**

Professional Development  
Dr. Arthur Slutsky, Mentor  
Dr. Miranda Kirby, Fellow  
PROJECT: Developing and validating CT and MRI small airway disease biomarkers  
Grant amount: \$52,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2018

# PULMONARY RESEARCH GRANTS LIST

## SEATTLE BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Professional Development  
Dr. Kevin B. Urdahl, Mentor  
Dr. Courtney R. Plumlee, Fellow  
PROJECT: A new mouse model of tuberculosis using a physiologic infectious does  
Grant amount: \$54,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2017

## SETTLE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

Professional Development  
Dr. Steven F. Ziegler, Mentor  
Dr. Laurie C. Eldredge, Fellow  
Grant amount: \$52,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2018

## STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Professional Development  
Dr. Paul L. Bollyky, Mentor  
Dr. Elizabeth B. Burgener, Fellow  
PROJECT: Pf bacteriophage in pseudomonas lung infections in cystic fibrosis  
Grant amount: \$52,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2018

## STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Professional Development  
Dr. Mark R. Nicholls, Mentor  
Dr. Ke Yuan, Fellow  
PROJECT: Lung pericytes: a novel source of pathogenic smooth muscle cells in PAH  
Grant amount: \$54,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2017

## UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM

Professional Development  
Dr. Brent Carter, Mentor  
Dr. Jennifer Casey, Fellow  
PROJECT: Cigarette smoke impairs innate immunity in alveolar macrophages  
Grant amount: \$54,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2017

## UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Professional Development  
Dr. Don D. Sin, Mentor  
Dr. Ma'en Obeidat, Mentor  
PROJECT: Integrative genomics to identify novel therapeutics and biomarkers for COPD  
Grant amount: \$27,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2017

## UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Professional Development  
Dr. Richard J.S. Wilson, Mentor  
Dr. Nicholas G. Jendzjowsky, Fellow  
PROJECT: A novel neuronal mechanism of asthmatic bronchoconstriction  
Grant amount: \$50,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2019

## UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO

Professional Development  
Dr. Adithya Cattamanchi, Mentor  
Dr. Priya Shete, Fellow  
PROJECT: From poverty to cure: overcoming socioeconomic barriers to tuberculosis care  
Grant amount: \$54,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2017

## UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER

Professional Development  
Dr. Gregory P. Downey, Mentor  
Dr. Yael Ascher, Fellow  
PROJECT: Mechanisms of fibroproliferative ARDS  
Grant amount: \$45,145  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2017

## UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO (Regents of)

Professional Development  
Dr. Peter M. Mourani, Mentor  
Dr. Aline B. Maddux, Fellow  
PROJECT: Functional recovery after prolonged mechanical ventilation in children  
Grant amount: \$29,186  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2018

## UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER

Professional Development  
Dr. David A. Schwartz, Mentor  
Dr. Jonathan S. Kurche, Fellow  
PROJECT: The epithelial biology of the pulmonary fibrosis risk allele rs35705950  
Grant amount: \$50,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2019

## UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Professional Development  
Dr. Gordon S. Mitchell, Mentor  
Dr. Arash Tadjalli, Fellow  
PROJECT: Modulation of respiratory motor plasticity through neuron-microglia interactions  
Grant amount: \$50,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2019

## UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

Professional Development  
Dr. Joseph Zabner, Mentor  
Dr. Alejandro A. Pezzulo Colmenares, Mentor  
Grant amount: \$36,547  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2017

## UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND COLLEGE PARK

Professional Development  
Dr. Jonathan D. Dinman, Mentor  
Dr. Margaret A. Scull, Fellow  
PROJECT: Dissection of the airway epithelial antiviral response in 3D  
Grant amount: \$27,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2017

# PULMONARY RESEARCH GRANTS LIST

## UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Professional Development  
Dr. Roger D. Cone, Mentor  
Dr. Peng Li, Fellow  
PROJECT: Functional dissection of a sigh integration center  
Grant amount: \$54,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2017

## UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN (Regents of)

Professional Development  
Dr. Bethany Moore, Mentor  
Dr. Stephen Gurczynski, Fellow  
PROJECT: ILC and granulocyte regulation of IL-17-mediated post-HSCT lung pathology  
Grant awarded: \$52,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2018

## UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

Professional Development  
Dr. Michal F. Beers, Mentor  
Dr. Jeremy B. Katzen, Fellow  
PROJECT: Understanding the role of the distal lung epithelium in pulmonary fibrosis  
Grant amount: \$50,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2019

## UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

Professional Development  
Dr. George S. Worthen, Mentor  
Dr. Andrew J. Paris, Fellow  
PROJECT: Neutrophil-derived oncostatin M promotes alveolar epithelial repair  
Grant amount: \$32,522  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2017

## UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

Professional Development  
Dr. Mark T. Gladwin, Mentor  
Dr. Jason J. Rose, Fellow  
PROJECT: Developing an antidotal therapy for carbon monoxide poisoning  
Grant amount: \$39,451  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2017

## UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

Professional Development  
Dr. Fadi Lakkis, Mentor  
Dr. Mark E. Snyder, Fellow  
PROJECT: The impact of t-cell chimerism on rejection following lung transplantation  
Grant amount: \$52,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2018

## UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

Professional Development  
Dr. Steven Shapiro, Mentor  
Dr. Corrine R. Kliment, Fellow  
PROJECT: Role of adenine nucleotide translocase in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease  
Grant amount: \$48,702  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2018

## UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Professional Development  
Dr. Zea Borok, Mentor  
Dr. Ya-Wen Chen, Fellow  
PROJECT: Identification of progenitors in lung organoid from human pluripotent stem cells  
Grant amount: \$52,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2018

## UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER at SAN ANTONIO

Professional Development  
Dr. Jenny Hsieh, Mentor  
Dr. Alvaro G. Moreira, Fellow  
PROJECT: Optimizing mesenchymal stem cell therapy for bronchopulmonary dysplasia  
Grant amount: \$50,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2019

## UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

Professional Development  
Dr. Mark Wurfel, Mentor  
Dr. Eric Morrell, Fellow  
PROJECT: The influence of alveolar macrophage subtype development on ARDS severity  
Grant amount: \$25,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2019

## UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN MADISON

Professional Development  
Dr. Marlowe W. Eldridge, Mentor  
Dr. Kara N. Goss, Fellow  
PROJECT: Bioenergetic impairment causing cardiac dysfunction in young adults born pre-term  
Grant amount: \$52,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2018

## VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Professional Development  
Dr. Susan H. Guttentag, Mentor  
Dr. Jennifer Sucre, Fellow  
PROJECT: Wnt signaling in bronchopulmonary dysplasia  
Grant amount: \$52,000  
Awarded: \$156,000 in 2018



# PULMONARY RESEARCH GRANTS LIST

## **VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY (MEDICAL CENTER)**

Professional Development

Dr. Tina V. Hartert, Mentor

Dr. Christian Rosas-Salazar, Fellow

PROJECT: Infant RSV infection, the airway microbiome, and childhood respiratory outcomes

Grant amount: \$28,000

Awarded: \$156,000 in 2017

## **VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY (MEDICAL CENTER)**

Professional Development

Dr. Eric P. Skaar, Mentor

Dr. Lauren D. Palmer, Fellow

PROJECT: The impact of dietary zinc deficiency on innate immunity to lung infection

Grant amount: \$25,000

Awarded: \$156,000 in 2019

## **VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY (MEDICAL CENTER)**

Professional Development

Dr. Lorraine Ware, Mentor

Dr. Ciara Shaver, Fellow

PROJECT: Cell-free hemoglobin, heme, and macrophage-mediated lung inflammation in ARDS

Grant amount: \$54,000

Awarded: \$156,000 in 2016

## **YALE UNIVERSITY**

Professional Development

Dr. Erica L. Herzog, Mentor

Dr. Changway Rye, Fellow

PROJECT: Mitochondrial DNA as a novel biomarker in idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis

Grant amount: \$52,000

Awarded: \$156,000 in 2018

## **YALE UNIVERSITY**

Professional Development

Dr. Henry K. Yaggi, Mentor

Dr. Andrey V. Zinchuk, Fellow

PROJECT: Novel physiologic predictors of adherent CE to positive airway pressure (NICEPAP)

Grant amount: \$52,000

Awarded: \$156,000 in 2018

# MISSION

The Francis Family Foundation is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for individuals, families and communities with particular commitment to the greater Kansas City metropolitan area. Through the vision, history, interests and values of the Francis Family, we strive to accomplish effective and innovative grantmaking in three main areas: Pulmonary Research, Lifelong Learning and Arts & Culture.

To achieve our mission, we will

- implement best research and best practices;
- focus on community-based initiatives and collaborations;
- support programs that address unmet community needs; and,
- practice focused, proactive grantmaking

# VALUES

## **ACCESSIBILITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVENESS**

Everyone in our communities should have the opportunity to participate fully in educational, cultural and social activities. We seek ways to improve access to these activities for individuals and families of all ages, religions, races, ethnicities, financial abilities and physical and mental abilities. We believe in the rich diversity of the greater Kansas City area and promote inclusiveness in our grant making activities. We seek to celebrate common experiences and concerns through the investments we make.

## **COLLABORATION**

We encourage and model collaboration among funders and community organizations.

## **COMMUNITY**

We embrace and promote a strong sense of community and seek opportunities with great potential for strengthening community life and the urban fabric.

## **EXCELLENCE**

We are committed to standards of excellence in the results of our grant making.

## **INNOVATION & CREATIVITY**

We value the creative process among people of all ages and backgrounds, and we encourage excellence and innovation in our grant making activities.

## **INTEGRITY & SUSTAINABILITY**

We maintain and promote fiscal and program integrity in our operations and grant making activities to ensure the sustainability of organizations that enrich community life.

## **PASSION FOR LEARNING**

We promote a lifelong passion for learning as a key factor in developing active, well-rounded and contributing individuals in our communities.

## **PLANNING & EVALUATION**

We believe in planning and evaluation as critical methods to assess the effectiveness of our grant making so we can make a difference.