

A Year of Preservation, Performance, and Community Power

**Home Rule Music
and Film Preservation Foundation**

2025 Annual Report



Letter from the Executive Director

This year was a transformational year for the Home Rule Music and Film Preservation Foundation. As our programs expanded across performance, preservation, youth education, and documentary filmmaking, we strengthened our commitment to celebrating and sustaining Washington, DC's cultural heritage.

The Home Rule Music Festival grew into its most successful season, drawing nearly nine thousand people across three major events. We advanced the Oral History Project documenting the lived experiences of DC's jazz musicians at Westminster Presbyterian Church. We also launched the Uptown Arts Project with the George Ferris Boys and Girls Club located in the Petworth neighborhood, and we made major progress toward completing our documentary on the life and legacy of Georges Collinet.

We also celebrated the expansion of our Board of Directors with the addition of Phil DeCola, Marvin Randolph, and Bill Dempsey. Phil played an essential role in supporting the Foundation by hosting two important fundraising gatherings that strengthened our community and financial foundation.

As we look to 2026 and the Sun Ra Cosmic Celebration, we do so with gratitude and a renewed sense of purpose. Thank you to every partner, artist, youth participant, supporter, and neighbor who helped make this year our most impactful yet.

Charvis Campbell
Executive Director

About the Foundation

The Home Rule Music and Film Preservation Foundation was founded in 2021 to preserve, support, and celebrate Washington, DC's rich musical and cultural heritage. Through performance, education, storytelling, and advocacy, we work to ensure that the city's artistic legacy remains alive and influential.



Our work spans four focus areas:

1

PERFORMANCE AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

2

FILM AND ARCHIVAL PRESERVATION

3

YOUTH ARTS EDUCATION

4

CULTURAL ADVOCACY AND PARTNERSHIPS

I. Performance and Community Celebration



The 2025 Home Rule Music Festival

The Home Rule Music Festival continued its mission to uplift DC's history across jazz, go go, soul, funk, hip hop, and experimental music. Thousands of residents from across the city participated in a celebration rooted in culture, community, and artistic excellence.

Festival Impact:



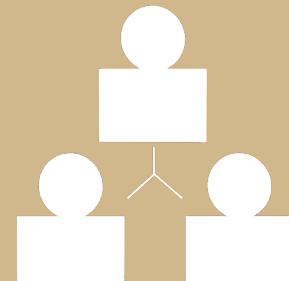
8,500–9,000
Total attendance



40+
**Artists and youth
performers**



80+
**Local vendors
and partners**



30+
**Community
organizations engaged**

Festival Events:

Rooted in Rhythm: Youth Showcase

June 13, 2025

Woolly Mammoth Theatre

Attendance: approximately 350

A showcase of young musicians from SEED PCS, Girls Rock DC, and other programs.

Home Rule Music Festival at The Parks at Walter Reed

June 21, 2025

Attendance: approximately 5,500

A full day experience featuring mainstage performances, a record fair, food and retail vendors, wellness activities, and family programming.

Home Rule Music Festival at Alethia Tanner Park

October 4, 2025

Attendance: 3,500–4,000

A fall community gathering with live music, wellness sessions, local vendors, and activities for all ages.

Economic Impact



Direct Audience Spending

- Walter Reed:
 $5,500 \text{ attendees} \times \$79 \text{ average} = \$434,500$
- Alethia Tanner Park:
 $3,500 \text{ attendees} \times \$50 \text{ average} = \$175,000$
- Total direct spending: \$609,500

Indirect and Induced Impact

Accounting for transportation, dining, retail, and lodging: \$915,000 in additional economic output

Foundation Production Investment

HRMF invested \$175,000 in payments to artists, youth interns, local vendors, and production workers.

Total Impact

These two events generated **\$1.08 million** in combined economic value for the DC community.



Home Rule Music Festival Stats

36% OF ATTENDEES
PARTICIPATED FOR THE FIRST TIME

64% RETURNING PARTICIPANTS

4.75 out of 5
Average satisfaction



94%
Vendor satisfaction

100%
Sponsor satisfaction

Participants consistently praised the inclusive atmosphere, high quality performances, and the professionalism with which the events were produced.

II. Preservation and Storytelling



A. Oral History Project: Jazz at Westminster Presbyterian Church

HRMF continued documenting the lived experiences of jazz musicians who perform at Westminster Presbyterian Church, a cornerstone of the DC jazz community.

2025 Accomplishments:

- New interviews with veteran and emerging musicians
- A deeper focus on musicians' personal histories and cultural impact
- Continued archiving and organization of recorded materials
- Planning for a future public presentation and digital release

B. Documentary Film Program

Documentary on Georges Collinet



2025 Accomplishments:

- Completion of all principal filming
- Rough cut assembly
- Interviews with colleagues, musicians, and cultural scholars
- Preparation for a 2026 release and festival tour





III. Education and Youth Development

The Uptown Arts Project

Launched with the Boys and Girls Club in Petworth, the Uptown Arts Project offers youth a place to develop skills in:

- Film and photography
- Music production
- Visual art
- Digital media
- Stagecraft and event work



IV. Leadership and Governance

Board of Directors

In 2025 the Foundation expanded its Board of Directors to support its growing mission, operations, and programs.

Executive Leadership

- Charvis Campbell — Executive Director

Board Members

- Dr. Tina Brower Thomas
- Rachel Wilson
- Brett Allen
- Dr. Lawrence Clark
- Phil DeCola (joined 2025)
- Marvin Randolph (joined 2025)
- Bill Dempsey (joined 2025)

Board Members Emeritus

- Doug Carn
- James “Plunky” Branch

V. Fundraising and Development

Two Successful Fundraisers Hosted by Phil DeCola

Board Member Phil DeCola hosted two private fundraising concerts at his home that played an essential role in expanding the Foundation's donor community.



Spring Gathering

- Featured a live jazz performance
- Introduced new supporters to HRMF's mission
- Helped launch the Board's annual matching gift campaign

Fall Gathering

- Celebrated the successful 2025 Festival season
- Included a preview discussion of the Georges Collinet documentary
- Supported youth programming and year end planning
- These gatherings made a meaningful difference in advancing the Foundation's programs and financial stability.

VI. Media and Public Recognition

HRMF received extensive media coverage in 2025, including features in:

- NBC4
- The Washington Post
- Washingtonian
- WAMU
- Washington City Paper
- Washington Business Journal
- Eye On Annapolis
- The Washington Informer
- WJLA
- GW Today

This visibility elevated the Foundation's profile and brought new attention to our mission.

VII. Year-End Financial Statement

Home Rule Music & Film Preservation Foundation

Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2025

The Home Rule Music & Film Preservation Foundation closed Fiscal Year 2025 in a position of financial strength, operational stability, and strategic growth, reflecting disciplined fiscal management and sustained community investment in our mission to preserve, celebrate, and advance Washington, D.C.'s musical and cultural legacy.

Revenue Overview

In Fiscal Year 2025, the Foundation generated \$319,076.53 in total revenue and support, reflecting a diverse and balanced funding base that included \$115,000 in public and philanthropic grants, \$88,500 in corporate and community sponsorships, \$38,855.40 in individual contributions, \$36,721.13 in earned revenue from ticket sales, event fees, and merchandise, and \$40,000 in in-kind support that offset key production, venue, and technical costs.

Public grants and philanthropic funding remained a cornerstone of the Foundation's financial model, supporting major programmatic initiatives throughout the year. Individual giving increased over the course of the year, particularly in the fourth quarter, reflecting a growing base of supporters committed to sustaining the Foundation's work.

Earned revenue from ticket sales, event fees, and merchandise demonstrated continued public demand for accessible, high-quality cultural programming, while community and corporate sponsorships provided critical flexible support across multiple programs.

In-kind contributions played a vital role in offsetting production, venue, and technical costs, enabling the Foundation to maximize programmatic impact while responsibly managing cash expenditures.

Expense Allocation

Total expenses for the year were \$312,407.42, with the majority of spending directly supporting program services, including:

- The Home Rule Music Festival (multiple sites)
- Youth and student music showcases
- Educational workshops and masterclasses
- Documentary film and oral history projects
- Community-based performances and partnerships

Administrative and general expenses were carefully managed to support organizational infrastructure, staffing, and compliance, while targeted fundraising and marketing investments strengthened visibility, audience reach, and donor engagement.

Operating Results

After accounting for all revenues and expenses, the Foundation closed Fiscal Year 2025 with a net cash increase of \$6,669.11, reflecting prudent financial planning, disciplined cost controls, and the strategic use of both earned and contributed resources. This positive operating result was achieved in a year that included significant one-time programmatic expenditures, including the October Alethia Tanner Park festival.

Financial Position

As of December 31, 2025, the Foundation reported cash and net assets totaling \$6,692.10, providing a stable foundation for future programming, fundraising growth, and continued investment in D.C.'s creative community. The year-end financial position reflects strong cash management, responsible use of resources, and alignment between financial planning and mission delivery.

We remain deeply grateful to our donors, sponsors, public funders, artists, and community partners whose support made this impactful year possible.

VIII. 2025 Partners & Affiliations

- AARP
- Afro News
- Anxo Cider
- Art of Noize
- Black Fire Records
- blackfilm.com
- Butterfly Mixtures
- CapitalBop
- Chrysis Entertainment
- Chuck Levin's Music Center
- DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities (CAH)
- DC OCTFME (Office of Cable Television, Film, Music & Entertainment)
- DC Odd Fellows
- Decades DC
- Destination DC (Washington.org)
- Eaton Workshop (Eaton DC)
- Everyday Sundae
- Events DC
- Flock-DC
- Go-Go Museum & Cafe
- HR Records
- HumanitiesDC
- June Berry Garage
- Levitt Foundation
- Mayor's Office on African American Affairs (MOAAA)
- Monumental Sports & Entertainment
- NoMa BID
- Petworth News
- Soulmega
- Takoma Radio WOWD
- The Parks at Walter Reed
- Uptown Main Street
- WHUR 96.3 FM
- Woolly Mammoth Theatre
- Workers United — MARJB
- WPFW 89.3 FM



IX. Looking Ahead to 2026

In 2025, the Home Rule Music and Film Preservation Foundation advanced its mission to preserve, support, and celebrate Washington, D.C.'s musical and cultural legacy through public performance, education, and storytelling.

From large-scale community festivals to youth development, oral history preservation, and documentary filmmaking, our work reflects a belief that culture is both a public good and a shared responsibility.

As we move into 2026, we are building on this momentum.

Our next chapter includes the Space Is the Place: Sun Ra Cosmic Celebration, expanded youth education and creative workforce pathways, and the release of our documentary on the life and legacy of Georges Collinet. These efforts deepen our commitment to honoring the past while investing in the future of D.C.'s creative community.

You can be part of what comes next. Your support helps ensure that:

- Artists and cultural workers are paid fairly
- Young people gain access to creative tools and professional pathways
- D.C.'s cultural history is preserved and shared
- Public programs remain accessible, inclusive, and community-centered

Whether you attend an event, partner with us, make a contribution, or help share our work, your involvement strengthens a living cultural ecosystem rooted in place, equity, and creativity. Together, we sustain D.C.'s culture, not just for today, but for generations to come.