DRAFT Timeline Information

May, 1964 The Avon Foundation, created by artist and philanthropist Jerome Hill, submitted Articles of Incorporation to the State of Minnesota, and was recognized as a Nonprofit Corporation by the Secretary of State. The Foundation was given a broad charitable purpose and its duration was to be perpetual.

In its first two meetings, six grants were made, of which three supported filmmakers and filmmaking, an area in which Jerome Hill had experience and to which he was highly committed. The Jerome Foundation has continued that commitment over the past 50 years.

(insert photo below of Jerome Hill. Photographer credit is Julia Knowlton.)

1965

The Foundation made its first grant to an individual, filmmaker Stan Brakhage, in the form of an annual fellowship, and initiated a long period of support for Anthology Film Archives, New York City.

From 1968 to 1972, ten to twenty grants were authorized each year in New York, Minnesota, and other areas of the country to arts and humanities organizations and individuals whom Jerome Hill knew and wished to support.

1968-72 The Foundation provided support for the design and construction of a Film Repertory Theatre in The Public Theatre, New York City. This project was conceived by Anthology Film Archives to show experimental and avant garde film in an optimal viewing environment.

(insert photo of audience in the theater)

November 1972 Jerome Hill died, after completing his cinematic memoir, ***Film Portrait***. (insert photo of Hill editing his film) Photographer credit is Michelangelo Durazzo

1973 The name of the Foundation was changed from Avon to Jerome Foundation.

1974 In its first decade, the Foundation made 180 grants totaling $3,285,580.

The grantmaking program focused on the arts and humanities in Minnesota, surrounding states, and Greater New York City. The Foundation stated an interest in developing promising young artists who have the potential for making significant contributions to the arts and humanities.

1976 The Foundation’s longest record of annual support for one program began with a commitment of $1,800 for playwrights’ fellowships to The Playwrights’ Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Jerome Fellowships for Emerging Playwrights continue to be offered each year by the Center. (insert photo from an early Center reading)

1977 The Foundation’s objectives were the encouragement of experimental, innovative and creative endeavors in the arts and humanities, and the promotion of the arts and humanities as integral parts of American life. The term “emerging” was first used to describe the Foundation’s focus on persons who have the potential for making significant contributions but have not yet achieved recognition in their chosen fields. This focus has continued for 37 years.

1977 The Foundation’s support for emerging filmmakers in New York City was structured as an annual program, with an open application and independent panel review process, which awarded production grant awards to individuals. The New York City Film and Video Program has continued to provide support for 37 years.

1979 The Foundation solidified its focus on the commissioning of new music by emerging composers with a grant to the Minnesota Composers Forum for the Composers Commissioning Program, which has awarded support for the creation of new works for 35 years. Commissioning and supporting new work became a dominant interest of the Foundation in all program areas, continuing to the present day.

1980 In its first 10 years of operation, over 70% of grant dollars were spent in the area of film and video. By 1980, film and video received 21% of grant dollars, creative writing 6%, dance 13%, music 17%, theater 19%, and visual arts 11%

1981 The Foundation began to make grants directly to emerging choreographers and their companies, pairing that with commitments to select major dance presenters for the commissioning and production of new work by emerging choreographers.

Insert photo of E. Streb/B. Miller

1980-81 The Foundation’s support for emerging film and video artists in Minnesota was structured as an annual program, operated by Film in the Cities through 1993, with an open application and independent review process. The program awarded production grants to individuals. Jerome Foundation began operating the program in 1994. The Minnesota Film and Video Program has supported film and video artists for 33 years.

1982 Recognizing that significantly increasing numbers of artists are working in and across multiple arts disciplines, the Foundation signaled its support by creating a multidisciplinary funding category.

1984 In its second decade, the Jerome Foundation made 699 grants totaling $9,456,827, tripling its grantmaking in ten years.

1984-2008 The Foundation focused its humanities funding on arts criticism, including many years of support for the Center for Arts Criticism in Minnesota and the Affiliated Writers Program of Theatre Communications Group, New York City, and its *American Theatre* magazine.

1986 The Travel and Study Grant Program began, a program that awards grants to individuals to travel for the purposes of study, exploration, and growth. The program has provided annual grants for 28 years.

1990 The Foundation defines an emerging artist as one who is at an early stage of career development, one who has not received recognition from other artists and arts professionals, and one who has a limited, yet promising, production record.

1992 The Foundation placed the emerging creative artist at the center of its grantmaking and prioritized programs that were artist-driven.

1994 In its third decade, the Jerome Foundation made 1,260 grants totaling $16,692,750.32.

2004 In its fourth decade, the Jerome Foundation made 1,918 grants totaling $33,262,918.

2010 The Foundation expands its literature funding in New York City through publication, residencies, mentorships, and fellowships.

2013 The Jerome Foundation and the Camargo Foundation, both created by Jerome Hill, began operating under a single governance and integrated management structure. The Foundations share a deep trust in the power and potential of individuals to make significant contributions to the advancement of the arts and humanities. (insert Camargo photo)

2014 In its fifth decade, the Jerome Foundation made 1,267 grants totaling $25,838,247 as of January 2014.

