



NINA MASON PULLIAM
CHARITABLE TRUST



CONNECTIONS

From the CEO

Welcome to a new year.

In 2018, the Trust will hit two significant milestones as we mark 20 years of grantmaking and surpass \$300 million in grants awarded. It is difficult to imagine the breadth of impact Nina Mason Pulliam's gift has made in her home states of Arizona and Indiana. For the past two decades, our giving has been guided by what was important to Nina. She was a sharp businesswoman, a quiet philanthropist and an astute, humane, progressive woman.

Inspired by Nina's forward-thinking example, we are presenting new elements in the Trust's grantmaking in 2018: this will be our first full year implementing multiyear environmental grants to achieve greater on-the-ground impact; we are introducing an international environmental reporting award; and, announcing a \$3 million grant, our largest to date, to ensure Nina's impact is felt far beyond the Trust's 50-year lifespan.

On the White and Verde Rivers

In June, the Trust awarded [\\$4.9 million](#) in grants to nine Indiana nonprofit organizations to protect and restore the White River. In 2018, the groups, which form the foundation of the Partners for the White River, are rapidly unfolding a host of collaborative projects that will leverage collective impact to improve water quality, increase access and grow appreciation for the value of the White River.

In Arizona, we are working closely with The Nature Conservancy and Verde River stakeholders to bring new approaches to agriculture, water retention and partnerships to help ensure a sustainable Verde River. Last June, we granted more than \$3 million for Verde River initiatives; in the coming months, together with The Nature Conservancy, we will announce the details of these inventive Verde River projects. Stay tuned.

Environmental Reporting and Awards

In 2017, The Arizona Republic and The Indianapolis Star began increasing their environmental coverage as part of a Trust-supported, three-year environmental reporting project. In 2018, we are expanding our commitment to environmental reporting with the introduction of the [Nina Mason Pulliam Award for Outstanding Environmental Reporting](#). This annual international award will be the highest environmental reporting honor presented by the Society of Environmental Journalists and Society of Professional Journalists.

The Trust's roots are in journalism. Nina and her husband, Gene, owned and operated newspapers, including The Republic and The Star, in several states. With the environmental reporting underwriting and journalism award, we bring together two of Nina's greatest passions.

We can't overstate how important an informed and engaged populace is, so we will continue to support free and responsible reporting. You can follow the Republic and Star environmental reporting on our [website](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) channels, and through the newspapers' social channels. We encourage you to share these articles so we may create ever-larger circles of understanding and awareness.

Looking Ahead

While we've highlighted the environment in our look ahead to 2018, the Trust is intently focused on all of our priority areas. In April, we will announce the largest single grant in the history of the Trust, which will change the lives of an inspiring and resilient population of individuals and their families for generations to come. We also remain steadfastly committed to supporting our animal welfare priorities, which, since 2012, have contributed to euthanasia rates decreasing 70 percent in Marion County and 86 percent in Maricopa County. Vigilance is paramount in battling pet overpopulation, so we will persist on behalf of our companion animals.



This year will include leadership changes at the Trust. In June, after 18 years of service and leadership, **Vice President of Programs Bob Berger** will transition to part-time as an Arizona program officer focused on environmental grantmaking. Bob, one of the Trust's longest-standing employees, helped establish the animal welfare and environmental cornerstones of our mission. His experience and knowledge are irreplaceable, so we are grateful Bob will remain with the Trust. We are engaging an external firm to conduct a national search for our new vice president of programs.

As we enter our 20th year of grantmaking, we reflect with both humility and pride on all that Nina Mason Pulliam's generous endowment has brought to pass. Thank you to all who have been a part of the Trust and its work.

Now, onward.



Gene D'Adamo, President and CEO

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