



NSCDA-TX/Neill-Cochran House Museum  
2310 San Gabriel Street  
Austin, Texas 78705-5014



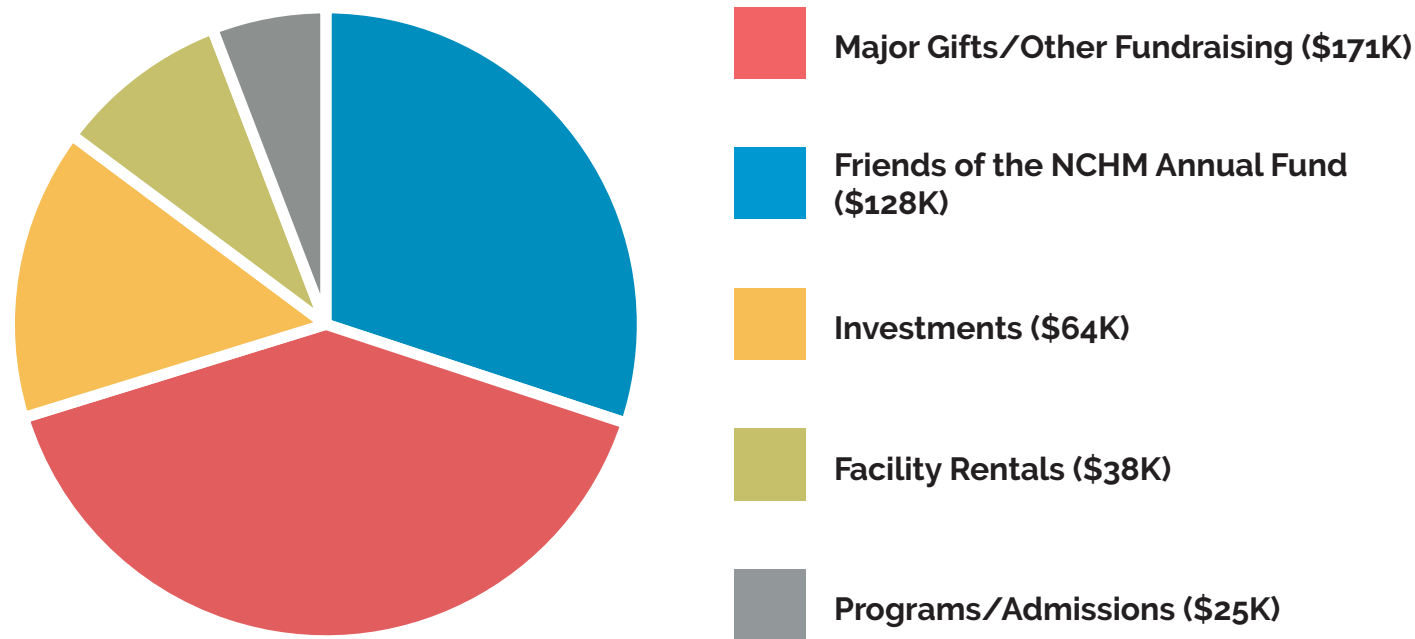
Neill-Cochran House Museum



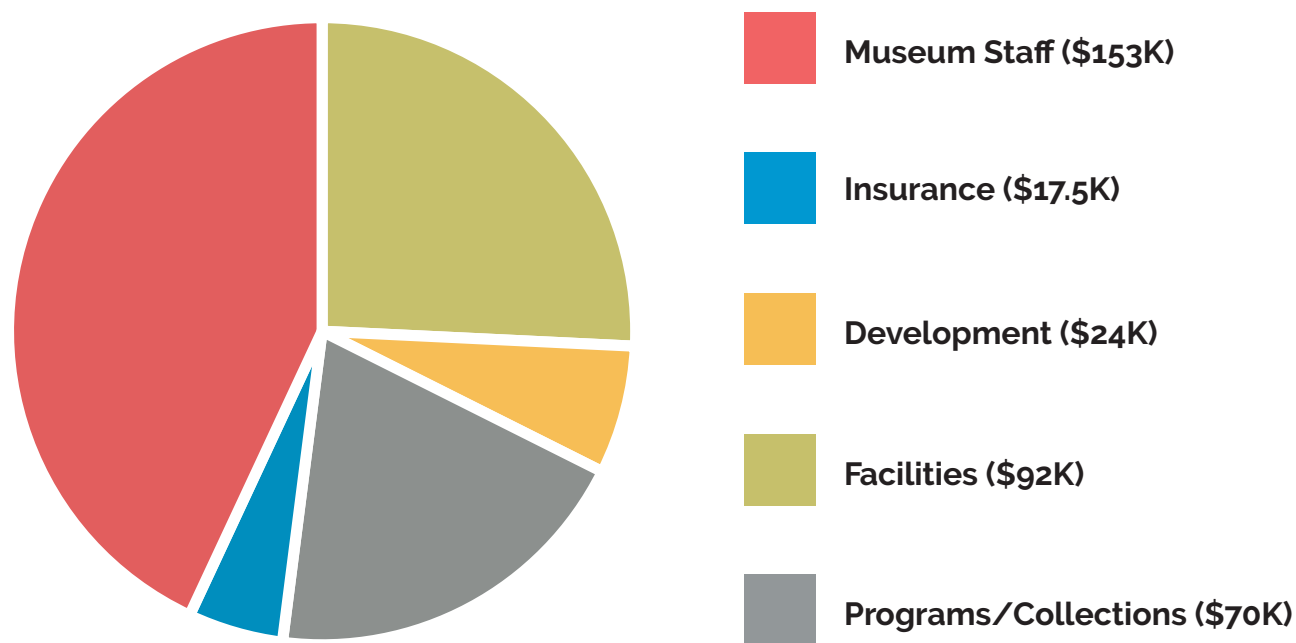
Ginger Geyer,  
*Rise and Shine*, Glazed  
Porcelain (2019)



## Total Income this Fiscal Year: \$426K



## Total Expense this Fiscal Year: \$356.5K



Figures above (and information in this report) for fiscal year beginning June 1, 2019 and ending May 31, 2020.

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**Thank you to all our generous donors. With your support, the Neill-Cochran House Museum brings history to life. Donations are recorded for our fiscal year which runs June 1, 2019 through May 31, 2020. If there is an error or omission, please contact us at 512.478-2335.**

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Members of the Legacy Society pay us the greatest compliment by placing the NSCDA-TX in their future giving plans. Through our Legacy Now or Legacy Later program, we welcome everyone to invest in the long term stability of the Neill-Cochran House Museum. Please contact Ann Flemings at [aflemings@nchmuseum.org](mailto:aflemings@nchmuseum.org) for more information.

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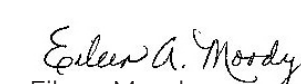
On behalf of the Board of Managers of The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America in Texas and of the Museum's Board and Staff, we are honored to present the Third Annual Report for the Neill-Cochran House Museum, covering June 1, 2019-May 31, 2020. This fiscal year saw many highs, from the opening of the most ambitious exhibition project in the Museum's history to another record-breaking year for the Friends of the NCHM Annual Fund, which raised over \$125K. We also welcomed \$95K in gifts to the NCHM Endowment. However, we also grappled with the COVID-19 pandemic and being closed for the final 2 ½ months of our fiscal year.

The NCHM took a major step towards increased community engagement this year in establishing a Community Advisory Council. Our 11 inaugural members represent varied sectors of the Austin community, will provide input regarding our existing and future programming and interpretation of our site, and will help us to expand our visibility across the city and our engagement with a wider range of Austinites.

The NCHM focused our efforts on two major exhibitions this year. *If These Walls Could Talk* represented the culmination of two years of planning to present to the public the art of visual artist Ginger Geyer, who works in *trompe l'oeil* porcelain. Geyer's work, installed throughout the Museum, disrupted our spaces to encourage conversations about our site and Austin's difficult and complex racial history. Jennifer Cumberbatch, an actor and storyteller, expanded the project by bringing performance to the Museum. Her work, which connected Geyer's installations to the history of our site, connected audiences viscerally with that history in a way that created relevance to contemporary Austin.

At the same time, the Museum embarked on a major project to research our only extant dependency building, originally built as a work and dwelling space for the enslaved people who constructed the House and who were expected to work there after its completion. That work has resulted in *Reckoning with the Past: Slavery, Segregation, and Gentrification in Austin*, an exhibition that places our ongoing research in the context of race relations in Texas from the 16th century up to today. We at the NCHM are in an unique position to provide education and to ask difficult questions about this topic, not only as stewards of the only intact slave quarters in Austin but as neighbors of one of Austin's original freedman communities (Wheatville), a part of town that changed dramatically with the segregationist 1928 City Plan.

Overall, FY20 was a great year for the NCHM. However, COVID-19 affected our work just as it affected all Americans. We closed our doors on March 15, which had a dramatic impact on planned programming, admissions, and rental revenue. When we closed, we shared with our community that, thanks to strong fundraising and museum administration throughout this year, we would weather the storm and come through to the other side stronger. We continue to believe that to be true. However, we face the threat of additional closures during our next fiscal year, and these will limit programming and rentals. It is because of you, our members and donors, that we remain fiscally sound and able to weather this storm. We thank you, we appreciate you, and we count on you to remain with us in the year to come.

  
 Eileen Moody  
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 Karen Pope  
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 Gray Fadden  
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 Rowena Dasch  
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*"You have made these uncomfortable conversations into comfortable productive conversations."*  
-- Mary Teeple



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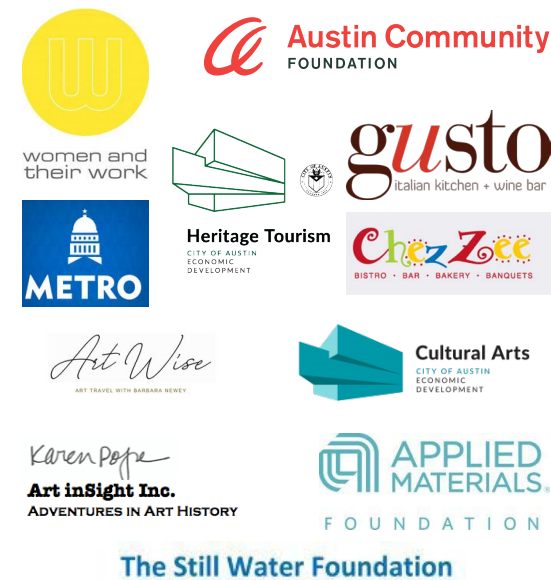
**NSCDA-TX Leadership**

- Karen Pope
- Gray Fadden
- Eileen Moody



*"Moving, impactful, very well thought out and presented in these Covid-19 times."*  
-- Anonymous

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*"My life in Austin is richer for knowing about the vibrant community in Clarksville, with its press, shops, and deep religious life and sadder for knowing about nearly a century of city planning aimed at disrupting that and other communities of color."* -- Carolyn Austin

