If we could pick just one word to capture SAL’s 2015/16 year, it would be **momentum**.

We celebrated record-breaking attendance—our subscribers almost doubled from the prior year, and overall attendance was more than one-and-a-half times the attendance two years ago. We attracted many new partners to invest in our work, and individual donors grew by 67%. And, most importantly, we engaged the Puget Sound community in the most important conversations of our time.

From Claudia Rankine, who reminded us all of the importance of staying proximate and being active in the ethical structure of our lives; to Ta-Nehisi Coates, who spoke wrenchingly of the legacy and present-day realities of violence against African Americans; to Anthony Doerr, who reminded us of the importance of artistic failure, it was a year filled with conversation, inspiration, and community. “Writing is about testimony,” Teju Cole mused, “about being present in the world” and then asked: “How do we speak to the miracle of our shared space?”

Whether we are bringing the best writers to SAL stages or to classrooms around our region, we are proud to be actively building the miracle of shared spaces in which we may read closely, listen deeply, and talk together. We are profoundly grateful to all of you who joined us in this important work.

In gratitude and onward,

Tim Griffith  
Ruth Dickey  
**BOARD PRESIDENT**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

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**INCOME & EXPENSES: 2015/16 OVERVIEW**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>23%</strong> WITS</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>18%</strong> Literary Arts Series</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>10%</strong> SAL Presents</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5%</strong> Poetry</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5%</strong> Women You Need to Know</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1%</strong> Hinge</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>24%</strong> In-Kind</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>12%</strong> Fundraising</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4%</strong> Administrative</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL INCOME** $1,923,709  
**TOTAL EXPENSES** $1,876,175

84¢ of every dollar goes directly to programs.

64% of every dollar goes directly to programs.

$1,923,709

It comes from charitable gifts.

84¢ of every dollar goes directly to programs.

64% of income comes from charitable gifts.

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**2015/16 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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**CONTACT**  
340 15th Ave E., #301 Seattle, WA 98112  
206-621-2230  
www.lectures.org  
@SeattleArtsAndLectures  
@SeaArtsLectures  
@salblog.org
Since 1987, SAL has brought the leading writers and thinkers of our times to the Puget Sound region. Our vision is a future in which imaginative acts such as reading, writing, and creative thinking are indispensable to a curious, engaged, democratic society.

**SEATTLE ARTS & LECTURES CHAMPIONS THE LITERARY ARTS...**

“Seattle is a thinking town, and I love that SAL supports critical thinking, learning, reading and community engagement between citizens.”

- SAL PATRON

**BY ENGAGING AND INSPIRING READERS AND WRITERS...**

Writers in the Schools (WITS) matches accomplished creative writers with local K-12 public schools for yearlong writing residencies. WITS students discover their authentic voices, build community, and develop writing skills that will support them throughout their lives.

“WITS brings students out of their shells—to find their voices and become new people, not just better-prepared students.”

- WITS TEACHER

**22,689 ATTENDEES**

Attendance increased by 163% since 2013/14

- Of attendees said they talked about the event with a friend or acquaintance
- “It’s by writing—by stepping back to look at the real thing—that we are most fully present.”
  - ALISON BECHDEL

**2015/16 SEASON**

15 EVENTS

29 EVENTS

**6,704 STUDENTS**

- Of students say they had fun writing
- Say they believe they can continue to get better at writing

“WITS brings students out of their shells—to find their voices and become new people, not just better-prepared students.”

- WITS TEACHER

**91%**

Of teachers say their students are stronger writers

**84%**

Say their students’ overall self-confidence increased

**91% of teachers say they have/will put WITS lessons into their teaching**

**SUBSCRIPTIONS SOLD increased by 133% since 2013/14**

**OF ALL GENERATIONS IN THE GREATER PUGET SOUND REGION.**