

Franco-American Centre Franco-américain

Alliance Française de Manchester



2021 Annual Report

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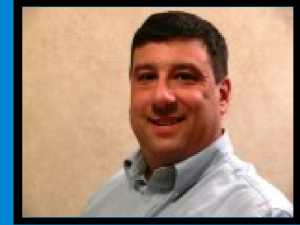
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**FEDERATION OF
Alliances Françaises USA**

The Alliance Française de Manchester is a proud member of the Federation of Alliances Françaises USA and part of the International network of Alliance Françaises.

Details at: AFUSA.org



Benoit Lamontagne
Président/ President



John Tousignant
Directeur exécutif/
Executive Director

A Message from the President and Executive Director

Dear Friends,

It is hard to believe that 2021 started our fourth decade of service to the French communities of NH! Although our classes, activities and events are always evolving, we continue to provide a place where our many friends of diverse backgrounds can come together to celebrate French language, culture and heritage.

As in 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic required us to adapt our classes and activities from the in-person methods to which we had grown accustomed to more creative, remote options. After a dip in class participation during the early stages of the pandemic, we were able to see increased enrollment in our virtual classes which included students from well outside the Greater Manchester area. The launch of the Franco Foods channel which celebrates French-inspired foods from around the world also was effective at bringing new friends from outside of NH to join us in our celebration of French Culture.

We were particularly happy to return to a 6th year of NH PoutineFest in October and found that switching it to a Fall time frame which included a Halloween theme was resoundingly appreciated. In the same way, our Beaujolais Nouveau gala which returned in November after a 2020 hiatus was one of the best attended and successful in recent years.

As we move forward in 2022, we will continue to develop virtual and in-person opportunities to involve Francophones and Francophiles from across the state as well as bringing new members to our board of incorporators and board of trustees. The Centre's future and success will depend on new members and new ideas to help it grow and continue to make a difference in securing French Culture in New Hampshire. With nearly 25% of NH's population having French or French-Canadian heritage, there is plenty to do from Pittsburg to Nashua and Somersworth to Claremont!

Thank you for your continued support as we continue the celebration of our vibrant "French Connections" in NH and beyond!

Sincerely,

Benoit Lamontagne
President

John Tousignant
Executive Director

Message du président et du directeur exécutif

Chers amis,

Il est difficile de croire que 2021 est le début notre quatrième décennie de service aux communautés francophones du New Hampshire! Bien que nos cours, activités et événements soient en constante évolution, nous continuons à offrir un lieu où nos nombreux amis peuvent se réunir pour célébrer la langue, la culture et le patrimoine francophone.

Comme en 2020, la pandémie de COVID-19 nous a obligé à être créatif afin de continuer d'offrir nos cours et nos activités. Nous avons passé des rencontres en personnes aux rencontres virtuelles. Après une baisse de la participation en classe au début de la pandémie, nous avons constaté une augmentation des inscriptions à nos cours virtuels qui comprenaient des étudiants de l'extérieur de la région de Manchester. Le lancement de la chaîne Franco Foods sur YouTube, qui célèbre la nourriture d'inspiration française à travers le monde, a également été efficace pour attirer de nouveaux amis de l'extérieur du NH pour célébrer avec nous la culture francophone.

Nous avons été particulièrement ravi de revenir pour une 6e année du NH PoutineFest en octobre et avons constaté que changer l'événement à l'automne, avec un thème d'Halloween, a été bien accueilli. De plus, notre gala du Beaujolais Nouveau est revenu en novembre après une pause depuis 2020. Il a été l'une des plus fréquentées et des plus réussies ces dernières années.

Tout au long de 2022, nous continuerons de créer des occasions virtuelles et en personnes pour encourager la participation de francophones et de francophiles à travers l'État; ainsi qu'attirer de nouveaux membres aux conseils des incorporateurs et d'administration. L'avenir et le succès du Centre dépendront de nouveaux membres et de nouvelles idées pour l'aider à grandir et continuer à faire une différence dans la sécurisation de la culture francophone au New Hampshire. Avec près de 25 % de la population de NH ayant un héritage français ou canadien-français, il y a beaucoup à célébrer de Pittsburg à Nashua et de Somersworth à Claremont!

Merci pour votre soutien sans faille alors que nous continuons de célébrer « connexions françaises » au NH et au-delà!

Sincèrement,

Benoit Lamontagne
Président

John Tousignant
Directeur exécutif

**Founders of the
New Hampshire Institute
for Franco-American Studies**

Boufford Funeral Home - Clyde & Adèle Boufford Baker

Euclide Gilbert French Language Foundation

St. Mary's Bank

David Jean Beauchesne Réal & Shirley Gilbert

Mayor Emile D. Beaulieu Pauline L. Guay

Marcel L. Beliveau David & Doris Guimont

Mr. & Mrs. Armand Capistran Eugène Holley

Colette Charpentier Raymond W. & Pauline Y. Houle

Richard & Pauline Charpentier Ovide & Elizabeth Lamontagne

Club Richelieu de Nashua Ovide & Jeanne Lamontagne, Sr.

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Robert R. Fournier In Honor of Pauline Moll Tougas

Marie Raiche & Family - In Memory of Bob H. Raiche

Donald & Paulette Auger- In Memory of Donny Auger

In Memory of Joseph and Yvonne Miquelon Mercier

Merci de votre générosité!

Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ending December 31, 2021

(With summarized financial information for the years ending December 31, 2020 & 2019)

	Totals		
	Jan - Dec 2021	Jan - Dec 2020	Jan - Dec 2019
Income			
Forgiveness of Payroll Protection Loan	26,600.00		
Class tuition	31,408.28	26,683.43	33,848.44
Cultural Events Income	6,500.00	460.00	9,158.47
Memberships	13,261.96	14,686.98	7,030.00
NH PoutineFest	48,219.61	3,039.50	62,595.35
Sponsorships	5,750.00	6,250.00	2,565.00
Grants	-	18,119.50	2,750.00
Donations	3,924.62	6,020.19	1,881.57
FACF Donation	2,674.90	2,100.00	852.00
Charitable Gaming	42,755.27	28,445.20	15,587.08
Other Income	20,056.31	773.46	5,357.30
Total Income	201,150.95	106,578.26	141,625.21
Expenses			
French Classes	22,944.24	21,011.13	25,476.37
Cultural Events Expense	4,113.91	699.98	9,758.72
NH PoutineFest Expense	35,848.45	4,877.15	37,165.30
Charitable Gaming Expense	5,448.25	1,600.00	3,798.25
Fundraising Expense	885.03	2,769.34	3,210.56
Staffing Expense	69,402.48	68,116.19	69,576.53
General Operations Expense	13,634.29	15,694.15	11,963.54
Total Expenses	152,276.65	114,767.94	160,949.27
Net Income/ (Loss)	48,874.30	(8,189.68)	(19,324.06)
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	375,554.32	349,969.68	360,269.95
Net Assets - End of Year	423,317.68	375,554.32	349,969.68
Net change	47,763.36	25,584.64	(10,300.27)

Saint Anselm College

The Franco-American Centre offices are located in the Sullivan Arena on the Saint Anselm College campus.

Although the FAC is a wholly independent organization, a collaborative agreement with the school provides for the FAC to utilize many campus facilities for classes, events and other activities.

The FAC works closely with the Modern Languages Department, the Dana Center for the Performing Arts and the Franco-American Collection / Archives at the Geisel Library to encourage and promote French language and heritage studies.

Our mailing address is: Franco-American Centre,

100 Saint Anselm Drive #1798, Manchester, NH 03102

What We Do

What we do... Celebrate!

The FAC's mission is to celebrate French language, culture and heritage in NH and beyond! French-speakers (Francophones) and English-speaking lovers of French (Francophiles) can find plenty of opportunities to enjoy the richness that French brings to our communities.

Language

As part of our ongoing mission to celebrate the French language, the FAC offers classes and engaging conversation groups. Since moving to a virtual environment, we have grown our presence beyond the New Hampshire borders.



Keeping our cultural activities on the forefront in a virtual world continued to be a challenge in 2021.

To expand our virtual reach, we joined the streaming world with a new YouTube Channel. Franco Foods. explores the variety of foods in the Francophonie world while gently educating the viewer. In other words, an edutainment channel.



In the fall, we were excited to bring back NH PoutineFest at Anheuser Busch in Merrimack. Paired with Halloween, it was the most colorful and family fun filled day yet! A truly Spooktacular day!



Classes: Offering virtual classes continues to draw students from a greater geographical area. We continue to attract local students, but also had students from Northern NH able to join and as far as Georgia! Talk about NH and Beyond!

Prêt-à-Parler: Our monthly conversation group continues to engage 15 to 20 participants each month. This year, we were able to bring back some in-person meetings. We continue to monitor the best option to keep all French speakers engaged, locally and throughout the US and Canada.

Teen PAP: French teacher, Rebecca Fortgang, and her students, continued the virtual Teen conversation group. French students from NH and beyond enjoyed a variety of topic to practice French in a fun, supportive and friendly atmosphere.

Culture

In February, we virtually celebrated Mardi Gras with our friends from New Orleans. Thanks to Zoom technology, we recorded and posted the event on our FAC YouTube Channel.

Heritage

Although in-person activities remained a challenge in 2021, summer allowed us to celebrate Acadian Style in August. Families and friends enjoyed games, delicious treats and crafts at Lafayette Park.

In November, we gathered for an evening of delicious food and wine for the return of our annual Beaujolais Nouveau wine pairing gala. So many flavors to experience!



Through partnerships with other organizations who share our passion for our heritage, we offered a variety of talks, concerts and conversations that further celebrate the Franco-American story.

Who We Serve

People of North-American French Heritage who speak French

Whether early visitors from New France or more recent immigrants from Québec or the Acadian portions of the Atlantic Provinces, many people trace their ancestry to Canada. Those who grew up speaking French at home find a warm welcome greeting them at the FAC.



People of North-American French Heritage who speak limited or no French

Although more than 20% of NH's residents can claim French-Canadian heritage, the majority of that group do not speak French fluently. With many activities being offered in English, those who may not understand much French can still appreciate the culture and traditions that continue to add value to our communities.

People with heritage from other parts of the French-speaking world

The face of French heritage is continuously evolving. Many of today's new French-speaking immigrants come from La Francophonie - the 80+ countries that speak French as a first or second language. We welcome them as they bring new French-inspired cultures that enrich our understanding of the world.



People with no French heritage who love some aspect of French culture

Some of our most active members and friends have no French heritage. They are francophiles who love some aspect of a French-inspired culture. Food, fashion and the performing or visual arts draw people to a community that shares a love of "All Things French."

The curious onlookers wondering "What is this 'Joie de Vivre' all about?"

"Joie de Vivre" means "Love of Life". With so many aspects of French to celebrate, who wouldn't want to explore the language, culture and heritage? The curious are welcomed; they often become members and always remain friends.



Bienvenue à tous / Welcome to all!

Who Supports Us

The Franco-American Centre is recognized as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. We draw support from memberships, corporate sponsorships, grants, classes, events and NH's Charitable Gaming program.

The Franco-American Centre Foundation - a separate entity - provides valuable annual support to our operating budget while offering donors tax-advantaged options for making contributions to our long-term sustainability plan.

In 2021, we want to extend our most sincere thanks to the following individuals and organizations:



In-Kind Supporters

Support can be given in many ways. Thank you to those business owners who understand that partnerships are very important to a non-profit organization such as the Franco-American Centre.

Au Bout du Fil



Interested in a sponsorship? Please send inquiry to execdirector@facnh.com

Get Involved!

The FAC is always planning various events and activities. Make sure you don't miss out!

- Sign up to receive our email notifications.
- Like and follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.
- Visit FACNH.com regularly, we're constantly updating our calendar.

Have an idea for an event or activity? Email us at info@facnh.com and join us at our Program Committee.

Volunteer!

The Franco-American Centre is a volunteer driven organization. Dedicated volunteers are at the foundation of our success in promoting French language culture and heritage throughout New Hampshire and beyond. Interested? Contact us at info@facnh.com.

Learn French Today! We offer French language and culture classes for adults and children at all levels of language learning. Click the "Education" tab at FACNH.com for details.



Support the Franco-American Centre today!

Become a member or make a tax deductible donation. To pay with a credit card, please go to www.FACNH.com. Or, mail your donation/ membership (with completed form) with a check made payable to the Franco-American Centre, to: Franco-American Centre 100 Saint Anselm Dr. #1798 Manchester, NH 03102

Annual Memberships

- | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Individual | \$40 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Family | \$60 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Senior / Student | \$35 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Lifetime | \$600 |

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

For family memberships, please provide the names of all the members.

Sustaining Contributors

Sustaining contributors help to promote the FAC mission while providing crucial operating support.

Sustaining options are available for as low as \$10 per month. For detailed information, please go to facnh.com/support/contributor-plans/