



2025

RAPPORT ANNUEL ANNUAL REPORT





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WELCOME



Dear Members, Friends, Benefactors, and Supporters,

Bonjour et bienvenue!

As the Franco-American Centre (FACNH) closes 2025, we have much to be thankful for. Our 35th year saw many opportunities to celebrate French language, culture, and heritage in both new ways and old traditions.

Education continued to be an important focus of our programming. We offered something for learners of all ages and abilities, from French Language Heritage Clubs in elementary schools to online classes for advanced learners. We also partnered with the Manchester School District to raise funds for a French Immersion program, helping to bring the love and knowledge of the French language to a new generation. And with the addition of the new Beliveau Arts Series, we pride ourselves on having inspired the French imagination in New Hampshire.

Our cultural activities were an outstanding success. We heralded the 10th anniversary of New Hampshire PoutineFest, danced the night away at the Cabane-à-Sucre, let good family times roll on Mardi Gras, and donned our best for a Beaujolais Nouveau Benefit Gala. In between these and other special events, the French conversation didn't lag - we hosted no fewer than 71 Prêt-à-Parler French conversation gatherings throughout the state!

In the coming year, we look ahead to continuing to grow our activities, including an inaugural Franco Fest in the summer of 2026. It is an honor and a joy to be part of this great organization. Thank you for your continued support of all things Franco-American in the great state of New Hampshire.

Sincerely,

Benoit Lamontagne

President

John P. Tousignant

Executive Director



SALUTATIONS



Chers membres, amis, commanditaires et partisans,

Bonjour et bienvenue !

Alors que le Centre franco-américain (FACNH) clôture l'année 2025, nous avons de nombreuses raisons d'être reconnaissants. Cette 35e année nous a offert de multiples occasions de célébrer la langue, la culture et le patrimoine français, à travers de nouvelles initiatives tout en perpétuant des traditions bien établies.

L'éducation a continué d'occuper une place centrale dans notre programmation. Nous avons proposé des activités pour les apprenants de tous âges et de tous niveaux, allant des clubs de patrimoine linguistique français dans les écoles élémentaires aux cours en ligne destinés aux apprenants avancés. Nous avons également établi un partenariat avec le district scolaire de Manchester afin de recueillir des fonds pour un programme d'immersion française, contribuant ainsi à transmettre l'amour de la langue française et de la culture francophone à une nouvelle génération. Avec le lancement de la série Béliveau Arts, nous sommes également fiers d'avoir nourri la créativité et l'expression artistique francophones au New Hampshire.

Nos activités culturelles ont connu un succès remarquable. Nous avons célébré le 10e anniversaire du NH PoutineFest, dansé jusque tard dans la nuit à la Cabane à sucre, partagé des moments festifs en famille lors du Mardi Gras et soutenu notre mission à l'occasion du Gala-bénéfice Beaujolais Nouveau. À travers ces événements et bien d'autres, la langue française a continué de rassembler notre communauté. Et la conversation en français n'a pas ralenti : nous avons organisé pas moins de 71 rencontres Prêt-à-Parler à travers l'État!

Au cours de l'année à venir, nous prévoyons de poursuivre notre croissance et de développer nos activités, notamment avec le lancement de la toute première édition de Franco Fest à l'été 2026. C'est un honneur et un privilège de faire partie de cette formidable organisation. Merci de votre soutien continu à la langue, à la culture et au patrimoine franco-américains dans le grand État du New Hampshire.

Amitiés

Benoit Lamontagne

President/ Président

John P. Tousignant

*Executive Director/
Directeur Exécutif*

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

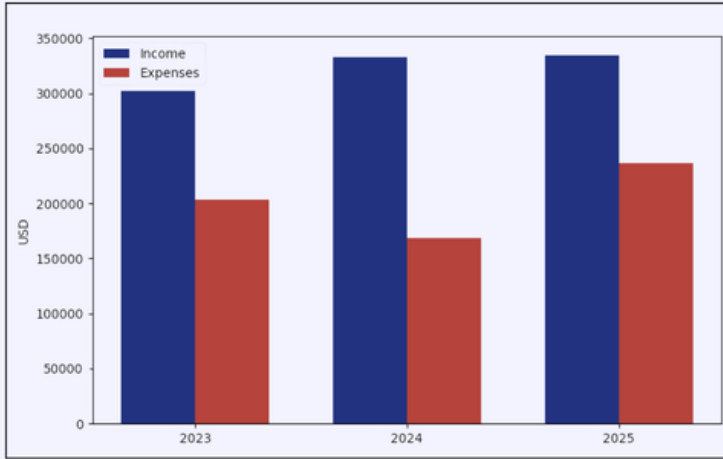
FACNH continued to maintain a strong financial position in 2025, generating \$334,883 in revenue and ending the year with net assets of \$877,573. Strategic investments in programming, staffing, and community engagement supported continued growth while preserving the organization's long-term sustainability.

For the year ending December 31st, 2025

(with summarized financial information of the years ending December 31, 2024 & 2023)

Income	Totals		
	Jan-Dec 2025	Jan-Dec 2024	Jan-Dec 2023
Education	58,275.01	46,550.00	37,675.00
Events	11,512.76	8,610.00	8,030.19
Memberships	9,285.00	9,240.00	13,075.00
NH PoutineFest	79,582.28	28,786.21	80,346.81
Sponsorships & Grants (category-specific since 2025)		2,950.00	29,350.00
Donations	4,072.20	46,805.93	3,147.42
FACF Donation	3,659.26	3,310.87	3,041.11
Charitable Gaming	158,722.10	177,533.33	122,626.61
Other Income	9,774.38	8,836.82	4,891.84
Total Income	334,882.99	332,623.16	302,183.98
Expenses			
Education	34,755.57	35,766.32	35,289.48
Events	11,388.53	10,947.86	13,411.61
NH PoutineFest	52,121.44	3,320.90	48,948.83
Charitable Gaming	3,599.53	2,574.99	7,227.61
Fundraising	6,256.11	869.99	1,027.54
Staffing	102,795.78	94,856.33	78,292.78
General Operations	25,936.89	20,194.09	19,243.38
Total Expenses	236,853.85	168,530.48	203,441.23
Net Income/ (Loss)	98,029.14	164,092.68	98,742.75
<hr/>			
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	723,297.00	537,667.57	413,308.77
Net Assets - End of Year	877,573.21	723,297.00	537,667.57
Net Change	154,276.21	185,629.43	124,358.80

Income vs Expenses 2023-2025



The Franco-American Centre maintained strong revenue and a positive operating surplus in each of the past three years. Although expenses increased in 2025 due to expanded programming, staffing, and event activities, revenue remained strong and continued to support the organization's growth and mission.

The Franco-American Centre benefits from a diverse mix of revenue sources that support its mission. Charitable gaming, NH PoutineFest, and educational programming continue to be the organization's largest revenue generators, helping fund cultural events, language education, heritage preservation, and community outreach initiatives.

2025 Revenue Sources



Saint Anselm College

The Franco-American Centre (FACNH) operates independently from offices located in Davison Hall on the Saint Anselm College campus. Through a longstanding collaborative partnership with the College, FACNH has access to campus facilities that support its educational programs, cultural events, and community initiatives. FACNH works closely with several Saint Anselm College departments and resources, including the Modern Languages Department, the Dana Center, and the Franco-American Collection and Archives housed within the Geisel Library. These partnerships support French language learning, cultural engagement, and the preservation of Franco-American heritage.

Mailing address: Franco-American Centre, 100 St Anselm Drive #1798, Manchester, NH 03102

WHAT WE DO

on fête! Celebrate!

OUR MISSION

The Franco-American Centre celebrates and promotes French language, culture, and heritage in New Hampshire and beyond. By bringing together Francophones, Francophiles, and the broader community through education, cultural programming, and special events, we help ensure that the richness of the French-speaking world remains vibrant, accessible, and relevant for future generations.



FRENCH LANGUAGE

As part of its mission to celebrate and promote the French language, the Franco-American Centre offers classes and conversation opportunities for learners and speakers of all levels. Through virtual learning, our reach continues to extend well beyond New Hampshire, attracting students from across New England and as far away as Texas and Washington State.

Our Prêt-à-Parler (PaPa) French conversation groups continued to thrive in 2025, bringing together French speakers and learners in welcoming, community-focused settings. A highlight of the year was the launch of PaPa Durham, facilitated by local French teacher Heidi Sant, which expanded our in-person presence in the Seacoast region. Combined with our virtual offerings, PaPa groups continue to connect participants across New Hampshire and beyond, fostering language practice, friendship, and a shared appreciation for French and Francophone culture.

We extend our sincere thanks to the facilitators, participants, and supporters whose enthusiasm makes Prêt-à-Parler one of the Franco-American Centre's most vibrant programs.

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."



YEAR IN REVIEW

Throughout 2025, the Franco-American Centre continued to bring people together through a dynamic mix of cultural celebrations, educational programming, and community partnerships. From seasonal traditions and author events to major commemorations and milestone festivals, each gathering reflected our mission to celebrate French language, heritage, and the living connections between Francophone cultures and our region. The year was marked by strong participation, meaningful collaborations, and events that deepened both community engagement and cultural understanding.



Winter

The year began with a strong sense of community and celebration, starting in January with our annual Volunteer Appreciation Lunch, recognizing the dedication of those who support our mission throughout the year.

In February, we gathered for an energetic Mardi Gras family celebration, bringing together families and friends for an afternoon of culture, music, and shared tradition. The celebration culminated in a parade of family Krewe-designed floats.

Extending Our Reach Through Digital Content

The Franco-American Centre's online blog continued to grow in 2025, offering readers engaging articles on French language, culture, history, arts, travel, and Franco-American heritage. Written by interns, volunteers, staff, and community contributors, these articles help bring the richness of the Francophone world to audiences in New Hampshire and beyond.

Topics published in 2025 ranged from the influence of the Napoleonic Code and the legacy of Joan of Arc to contemporary French music, Francophone cultures around the world, and stories highlighting the enduring connections between New Hampshire and the French-speaking world. By sharing educational and culturally enriching content year-round, the Franco-American Centre extends its mission far beyond the classroom and event space.

Learn more : facnh.com/blog

YEAR IN REVIEW



Spring

Spring was marked by signature cultural programming and Francophonie Month celebrations. In March, our annual Cabane à Sucre family-style event welcomed members and guests for an authentic Quebecois experience, highlighted by the visit of Quebec Delegate M. René Sylvestre and his team, who shared in the nostalgia and cultural exchange of the tradition. In April, we hosted an Author's Night with Vermont Writer-Performer Abby Paige, celebrating her Franco-American plays through an engaging evening of discussion and performance.

May brought major milestone programming with Lafayette Day, commemorating the 200th anniversary of the Marquis de Lafayette's visit to New England, joined by dignitaries including Consul General of France in Boston Mustafa Soykurt and a visiting choir from France. The season also included our first participation in the Manchester Taco Tour, highlighting cross-cultural connections within the broader Francophone world.



Summer

Summer programming continued the Lafayette commemoration in June with the symbolic return of the Marquis during his New Hampshire tour, followed by a St. Jean-Baptiste and Canada Day gathering at Diz's Café featuring a special Canadian-inspired menu.

In August, during our charitable gaming period, we supported community partners by providing lunch for Brook staff, with Stark Brewing Company serving food truck fare including poutine, adding a festive and local touch to the outreach effort.

YEAR IN REVIEW



Fall

Fall featured both commemorative and cultural programming that strengthened community engagement. In September, we joined our friends at the 40 and 8 Society for the annual Merci Train celebration, honoring the enduring friendship between the United States and France.



October marked the launch of the Beliveau Arts Series with a concert by Kevin Soucie



October 25th marked the 10th anniversary of NH PoutineFest, a major milestone that brought together vendors, families, and supporters in a vibrant celebration of French-Canadian culture while also serving as a key fundraiser for the Centre.



The season concluded in November with an Author's Night featuring Laura Knoy and Robert Perreault, moderated by Jesse Martineau, followed by our annual Beaujolais Nouveau Benefit Gala, a signature five-course event that closed the year in celebration and support of our mission.



BELIVEAU ARTS SERIES



In 2024, the Franco-American Centre was deeply honored to receive a generous bequest from the Estate of Maurice Beliveau. Gifts such as these are more than financial contributions. They are lasting expressions of confidence in our mission and a reflection of the values, passions, and hopes of those who choose to support the Centre beyond their lifetime.

At the Franco-American Centre, we believe it is important not only to remember the names of those who have included us in their legacy plans, but also to honor the spirit in which their gifts were given. We strive to ensure that their generosity continues to enrich our community in meaningful and lasting ways.

With this commitment in mind, we proudly launched the Beliveau Arts Series in 2025, a tribute to Maurice and Janet Beliveau's lifelong artistic passions, Maurice as a painter and Janet as a devoted pianist. The series celebrates the performing, visual, and literary arts while highlighting the rich diversity of Francophone culture and creativity.

The inaugural event, held in October, featured singer Kevin Soucie, who transported attendees through the rich landscape of Francophone culture with beloved classics and contemporary works celebrating the beauty of the French language.

In November, the series continued with an engaging literary evening featuring Laura Knoy and Robert B. Perreault, who discussed their newest books, *The Shopkeeper of Alsace* and *Courtship in Purgatory*. Following the conversation, attendees had the opportunity to meet the authors and have their books signed. Jesse Martineau, host of the French Canadian Legacy Podcast, served as moderator for the discussion.

As we look toward 2026 and beyond, we are excited to continue growing the Beliveau Arts Series and showcasing the arts through a Francophone lens. Most importantly, we are proud that the Beliveau legacy will continue to inspire, educate, and bring people together for years to come.



FRENCH IN NH SCHOOLS

AFTER SCHOOL FRENCH CLUB



The Franco-American Centre's French Club program began at Webster Elementary School in November 2023. Made possible through the generous support of the Albertine Foundation, the program initially served 15 students ages 8 to 11 through twice-weekly sessions that introduced young learners to the French language and Francophone culture.

Building on its early success, the program expanded in 2025 to include Northwest Elementary School and Bakersville Elementary School. Together, the three schools now serve 45 enthusiastic students.

These programs provide children of all backgrounds with a fun and engaging introduction to French while celebrating its importance as a heritage language in New Hampshire. Looking ahead, the Franco-American Centre plans to bring similar opportunities to additional communities across the state, helping even more young learners discover the French language and Francophone cultures.

MANCHESTER IMMERSION PROGRAM



The Manchester School District's French-English immersion program successfully completed its first year, giving students the opportunity to develop bilingual skills while connecting with the cultures and heritage of the French-speaking world.

The Franco-American Centre and its members proudly supported the program's launch with a \$5,000 gift to help purchase classroom resources. As the program continues to grow, it is helping build a stronger bilingual future for Manchester and New Hampshire while advancing French-language education for the next generation.

FAC IN THE COMMUNITY

Festivals

Throughout 2025, the Franco-American Centre promoted French language and culture through community festivals, commemorations, and regional partnerships. Highlights included participation in the Manchester Taco Tour, the Merci Train Commemoration, and the inaugural Leominster French-Canadian Festival. Other festivals included celebrations in Somersworth, Concord, Keene, Colebrook and Gorham. The FAC also partnered with The Brook on community fundraising efforts that helped strengthen French-language and Francophone cultural programming across New Hampshire.

Together, these initiatives expanded the Centre's reach beyond its traditional programs, strengthened cultural connections, celebrated Francophone heritage, and engaged communities throughout New Hampshire and New England.



Camp Bienvenue

From August 4-7, local Francophone immigrant children took part in Camp Bienvenue, a unique program that combined exploration of the Manchester area with opportunities to build community connections and celebrate their French-language heritage. The camp was offered in partnership with SNHU's Center for New Americans and made possible through the support of the Queen City Rotary Club.

OUR COMMUNITY OF SUPPORT

*Merci
à notre
communauté.*

Through membership, volunteer service, donations, and participation in our programs and events, supporters help ensure that our mission continues to thrive.

We are especially grateful to our Sustaining Contributors, whose monthly gifts provide dependable support throughout the year, and to our Lifetime Members, whose enduring commitment reflects a lasting investment in the future of the FAC.

To every member, volunteer, donor, and friend: thank you. Your support makes our work possible and helps keep Francophone culture vibrant and accessible for future generations.

SUSTAINING CONTRIBUTORS

Gold

- Maurice & Elaine Demers
- Romeo Danais

Silver

- Daniel Chapman
- Richard & Pauline Charpentier
- Nathan Deleault
- Carolyn Maheu
- Ed & Monica Moquin
- Joseph & Joanne Theriault
- John Tousignant

Bronze

- Jo-Ann Belanger
- Vaughn Binuya
- Claude Boucher
- Joanne Craighead
- Roger Dignard
- Nathalie & Thomas Hirte
- Benoit Lamontagne
- Jesse Martineau
- Linda Moreau
- Danielle Pray

LIFETIME MEMBERS

- Lisa Beaudoin
- Adele Boufford Baker
- Tom Colantuono
- Alan & Carrie Côté
- Maurice & Elaine Demers
- Craig Donais
- Nancy Gill
- Richard Girard
- Jen Hollingsworth
- Ray & Pauline Houle
- Cecile Juneau
- Ovide Lamontagne
- Richard Lavallière
- Carolyn Maheu
- James & Lynn Normand
- Adam Schoene
- Emile & Suzanne Tetu
- Joe & Joanne Theriault
- John Tousignant
- Josee Vachon

As of 12/31/2025

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The Franco-American Centre extends its sincere appreciation to the businesses, organizations, and community partners whose generosity helps make our programs and events possible.

Their support strengthens our ability to provide educational opportunities, cultural programming, community celebrations, and outreach initiatives that connect people with French language, culture, and heritage. Through sponsorships, in-kind contributions, venue support, and collaborative partnerships, these organizations play an essential role in advancing our mission.

We are proud to work alongside partners who share our commitment to cultural enrichment, lifelong learning, and community engagement. Together, we are creating opportunities for meaningful connections and ensuring that Francophone traditions continue to thrive.

Thank you for investing in our community and helping us build a stronger future.

Sponsors

- Albertine Foundation
- CarMax
- Consulate General of Canada in Boston
- Consulate General of France in Boston
- Craighead and Martin, PLLC
- Euclide Gilbert
- French Language Foundation
- Franco-American Centre Foundation
- Quebec Government Office in Boston
- Queen City Rotary Club
- Sherwood Insurance Solutions, LLC
- Stebbins Bradley
- The Brook

In-Kind Supporters

ABC Crafts • Avalanche Design Works • Boucher Financial Group
New Hampshire Eats • Osar Barn Wedding Venue • Pitco The Palace Theatres
Pineland Farms Dairy Company • SNHU Center for New Americans • Stark Brewing Co.

Donations from many Members & Friends of the FAC

SUPPORT OUR MISSION

The Franco-American Centre relies on the generosity of members, donors, and volunteers to fulfill its mission of celebrating and promoting French language, culture, and heritage. Whether you volunteer your time or become a member, your involvement helps ensure that our programs and traditions continue to thrive for future generations.



BECOME A MEMBER

Membership is a direct investment in the future of French language, culture, and heritage. Choose an Annual Membership, become a Sustaining Contributor through monthly giving, or make a lasting commitment with a Lifetime Membership.



VOLUNTEER WITH THE FAC

Our volunteers are at the heart of everything we do. From assisting at events and supporting programs to serving on committees, they help bring our mission to life and strengthen our community.



CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS

Businesses and organizations play an important role in sustaining our educational and cultural initiatives. Sponsorship opportunities are available for events, programs, and special projects, providing valuable visibility while supporting the preservation and promotion of French language, culture, and heritage.

**STAY
CONNECTED**



info@facnh.com



FACNH.com

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2025

À L'ANNÉE PROCHAINE!



SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!



COMING IN 2026