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Form 990

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except black lung benefit trust or private foundation)

The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements

OMB No 1545-0047

2008

Open to Public Inspection

A For the 2008 calendar year, or tax year beginning 01-01-2008 and ending 12-31-2008

B Check if applicable

☐ Address change

☐ Name change

☐ Initial return

☐ Termination

☒ Amended return

☐ Application pending

Please use IRS label or print or type. See Specific Instructions.

C Name of organization

LOWELL OBSERVATORY

Doing Business As

Number and street (or P O box if mail is not delivered to street address)

1400 W Mars Hill Road

Room/suite

City or town, state or country, and ZIP + 4

Flagstaff, AZ 860014470

D Employer identification number

86-0098918

E Telephone number

(928) 774-3358

G Gross receipts

\$ 7,809,761

F Name and address of Principal Officer

Eileen Friel
Lowell Observatory
1400 W Mars Hill Road
Flagstaff, AZ 860014470

H(a) Is this a group return for affiliates?

☐ Yes ☒ No

H(b) Are all affiliates included?

☐ Yes ☐ No

(If "No," attach a list See instructions)

H(c) Group Exemption Number

I Tax-exempt status

☒ 501(c) (3) ☐ (insert no) ☐ 4947(a)(1) or ☐ 527

J Web site:

www lowell edu

K Type of organization

☒ Corporation ☐ trust ☐ association ☐ other

L Year of Formation

1946

M State of legal domicile

AZ

Part I Summary			
Activities & Governance	1	Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities Conduct astronomical research and sponsor educational programs related to astronomy	
	2	Check this box ☐ if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its assets	
	3	Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)	1
	4	Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	1
	5	Total number of employees (Part V, line 2a)	88
	6	Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	61
	7a	Total gross unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, line 12, column (C)	0
	b	Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34	0
Revenue	8	Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	
	9	Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	
	10	Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	
	11	Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	
	12	Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	
Expenses	13	Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1–3)	500
	14	Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)	0
	15	Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5–10)	3,596,929
	16a	Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)	0
	b	(Total fundraising expenses, Part IX, column (D), line 25 226,208)	
	17	Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a–11d, 11f–24f)	1,632,125
	18	Total expenses—add lines 13–17 (must equal Part IX, line 25, column (A))	5,229,054
	19	Revenue less expenses Subtract line 18 from line 12	5,094,591
Net Assets or Fund Balances		Beginning of Year	End of Year
	20	Total assets (Part X, line 16)	29,838,588
	21	Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	542,378
	22	Net assets or fund balances Subtract line 21 from line 20	29,296,210

Part II Signature Block

Please Sign Here

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge

Signature of officer

2009-09-28

Date

Robin Melena Secretary/Treasurer

Type or print name and title

Paid Preparer's Use Only

Preparer's signature

Date

Check if self-employed ☐

Preparer's PTIN (See Gen Inst)

Firm's name (or yours if self-employed), address, and ZIP + 4

EIN

Phone no

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? (See instructions)

☐ Yes ☐ No

For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

Cat No 11282Y

Form 990 (2008)

Part IIISTatement of Program Service Accomplishments (See the instructions.)

1

Briefly describe the organization’s mission

The mission of Lowell Observatory is to pursue the study of astronomy, especially the study of the solar system and its evolution, to conduct pure research in astronomical phenomena, and to maintain quality public education and outreach programs to bring the results of astronomical research to the public

2

Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ?

YesNo

If “Yes,” describe these new services on Schedule O

3

Did the organization cease conducting or make significant changes in how it conducts any program services?

YesNo

If “Yes,” describe these changes on Schedule O

4

Describe the exempt purpose achievements for each of the organization’s three largest program services by expenses
Section 501(c)(3) and (4) organizations and 4947(a)(1) trusts are required to report the amount of grants and allocations to others, the total expenses, and revenue, if any, for each program service reported

4a

(Code

) (Expenses \$

3,686,946

including grants of \$

303,170) (Revenue \$

64,996)

Astronomical research 46 publications Research is funded primarily through government grants of \$3,695,769

4b

(Code

) (Expenses \$

554,883

including grants of \$

) (Revenue \$

494,006)

Educational programs related to astronomy the visitors center and outreach programs served an estimated 80,595 visitors and an additional 555 students at offsite programs

4c

(Code

) (Expenses \$

including grants of \$

) (Revenue \$

)

4d

Other program services (Describe in Schedule O)
(Expenses \$ 0 including grants of \$ 0) (Revenue \$ 0)

4e

Total program service expenses \$ 4,241,829 Must equal Part IX, Line 25, column (B).

Form 990 (2008)

Part IV

Checklist of Required Schedules

		Yes	No
1	Is the organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 4947(a)(1) (other than a private foundation)? If "Yes," complete Schedule A 	Yes	
2	Is the organization required to complete Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors? 	Yes	
3	Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I		No
4	Section 501(c)(3) organizations Did the organization engage in lobbying activities? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II		No
5	Section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), and 501(c)(6) organizations Is the organization subject to the section 6033(e) notice and reporting requirement and proxy tax? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III		
6	Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds or any accounts where donors have the right to provide advice on the distribution or investment of amounts in such funds or accounts? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I		No
7	Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space, the environment, historic land areas or historic structures? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II		No
8	Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III 	Yes	
9	Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21, serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X, or provide credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV		No
10	Did the organization hold assets in term, permanent, or quasi-endowments? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V 	Yes	
11	Did the organization report an amount in Part X, lines 10, 12, 13, 15, or 25? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, or X as applicable 	Yes	
12	Did the organization receive an audited financial statement for the year for which it is completing this return that was prepared in accordance with GAAP? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI, XII, and XIII		No
13	Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E		No
14a	Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the U S?		No
14b	Did the organization have aggregate revenues or expenses of more than \$10,000 from grantmaking, fundraising, business, and program service activities outside the U S? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Part I		No
15	Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of grants or assistance to any organization or entity located outside the United States? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Part II		No
16	Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of aggregate grants or assistance to individuals located outside the United States? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Part III		No
17	Did the organization report more than \$15,000 on Part IX, column (A), line 11e? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I		No
18	Did the organization report more than \$15,000 total on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II		No
19	Did the organization report more than \$15,000 on Part VIII, line 9a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III		No
20	Did the organization operate one or more hospitals? If "Yes," complete Schedule H		No
21	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 on Part IX, column (A), line 1? If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II		No
22	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 on Part IX, column (A), line 2? If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III		No
23	Did the organization answer "Yes" to Part VII, Section A, questions 3, 4, or 5? If "Yes," complete Schedule J		No
24a	Did the organization have a tax-exempt bond issue with an outstanding principal amount of more than \$100,000 as of the last day of the year, that was issued after December 31, 2002? If "Yes," answer questions 24b–24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to question 25		No
24b	Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception?		
24c	Did the organization maintain an escrow account other than a refunding escrow at any time during the year to defease any tax-exempt bonds?		
24d	Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year?		
25a	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I		No
25b	Did the organization become aware that it had engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person from a prior year? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I		No
26	Was a loan to or by a current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, highly compensated employee, or disqualified person outstanding as of the end of the organization's tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II		No
27	Did the organization provide a grant or other assistance to an officer, director, trustee, key employee, or substantial contributor, or to a person related to such an individual? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III		No

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules (Continued)

		Yes	No
28	During the tax year, did any person who is a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee		
a	Have a direct business relationship with the organization (other than as an officer, director, trustee, or employee), or an indirect business relationship through ownership of more than 35% in another entity (individually or collectively with other person(s) listed in Part VII, Section A)? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV		No
b	Have a family member who had a direct or indirect business relationship with the organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV	Yes	
c	Serve as an officer, director, trustee, key employee, partner, or member of an entity (or a shareholder of a professional corporation) doing business with the organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV		No
29	Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in non-cash contributions? If "Yes," complete Schedule M	Yes	
30	Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? If "Yes," complete Schedule M	Yes	
31	Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I		No
32	Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II		No
33	Did the organization own 100% of an entity disregarded as separate from the organization under Regulations section 301.7701-2 and 301.7701-3? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part I		No
34	Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Parts II, III, IV, and V, line 1	Yes	
35	Is any related organization a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2		No
36	501(c)(3) organizations Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2		No
37	Did the organization conduct more than 5 percent of its activities through an entity that is not a related organization and that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part VI		No

Part V

Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance

			Yes	No
1a	Enter the number reported in Box 3 of Form 1096, <i>Annual Summary and Transmittal of U.S. Information Returns</i> . Enter -0- if not applicable	1a25		
b	Enter the number of Forms W-2G included in line 1a. Enter -0- if not applicable	1b0		
c	Did the organization comply with backup withholding rules for reportable payments to vendors and reportable gaming (gambling) winnings to prize winners?	1c	Yes	
2a	Enter the number of employees reported on Form W-3, <i>Transmittal of Wage and Tax Statements</i> filed for the calendar year ending with or within the year covered by this return	2a88		
b	If at least one is reported in 2a, did the organization file all required federal employment tax returns? . . . Note: <i>If the sum of lines 1a and 2a is greater than 250, you may be required to e-file this return.</i>	2b		
3a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year covered by this return?	3a		No
b	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 990-T for this year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O	3b		
4a	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in, or a signature or other authority over, a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)?	4a		No
b	If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country _____ See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for Form TD F 90-22.1, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts .			
5a	Was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction at any time during the tax year?	5a		No
b	Did any taxable party notify the organization that it was or is a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction?	5b		No
c	If "Yes," to 5a or 5b, did the organization file Form 8886-T, <i>Disclosure by Tax-Exempt Entity Regarding Prohibited Tax Shelter Transaction</i> ?	5c		
6a	Did the organization solicit any contributions that were not tax deductible?	6a		No
b	If "Yes," did the organization include with every solicitation an express statement that such contributions or gifts were not tax deductible?	6b		
7	Organizations that may receive deductible contributions under section 170(c).			
a	Did the organization provide goods or services in exchange for any quid pro quo contribution of \$75 or more?	7a	Yes	
b	If "Yes," did the organization notify the donor of the value of the goods or services provided?	7b	Yes	
c	Did the organization sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of tangible personal property for which it was required to file Form 8282?	7c		No
d	If "Yes," indicate the number of Forms 8282 filed during the year	7d		
e	Did the organization, during the year, receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract?	7e		No
f	Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?	7f		No
g	For all contributions of qualified intellectual property, did the organization file Form 8899 as required?	7g	Yes	
h	For contributions of cars, boats, airplanes, and other vehicles, did the organization file a Form 1098-C as required?	7h	Yes	
8	Section 501(c)(3) and other sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds and section 509(a)(3) supporting organizations. Did the supporting organization, or a fund maintained by a sponsoring organization, have excess business holdings at any time during the year?	8		
9	Section 501(c)(3) and other sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds.			
a	Did the organization make any taxable distributions under section 4966?	9a		
b	Did the organization make a distribution to a donor, donor advisor, or related person?	9b		
10	Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter			
a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on Part VIII, line 12	10a		
b	Gross receipts, included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, for public use of club facilities	10b		
11	Section 501(c)(12) organizations. Enter			
a	Gross income from members or shareholders	11a		
b	Gross income from other sources (Do not net amounts due or paid to other sources against amounts due or received from them)	11b		
12a	Section 4947(a)(1) non-exempt charitable trusts. Is the organization filing Form 990 in lieu of Form 1041?	12a		
b	If "Yes," enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year	12b		

Part VI Governance, Management, and Disclosure (Sections A, B, and C request information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)

Section A. Governing Body and Management

		Yes	No
<i>For each "Yes" response to lines 2-7 below, and for a "No" response to lines 8 or 9b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes in Schedule O. See instructions.</i>			
1a	Enter the number of voting members of the governing body . . .	1a	1
b	Enter the number of voting members that are independent . . .	1b	1
2	Did any officer, director, trustee, or key employee have a family relationship or a business relationship with any other officer, director, trustee, or key employee?	2	No
3	Did the organization delegate control over management duties customarily performed by or under the direct supervision of officers, directors or trustees, or key employees to a management company or other person? . . .	3	No
4	Did the organization make any significant changes to its organizational documents since the prior Form 990 was filed? . . .	4	No
5	Did the organization become aware during the year of a material diversion of the organization's assets? . . .	5	No
6	Does the organization have members or stockholders?	6	No
7a	Does the organization have members, stockholders, or other persons who may elect one or more members of the governing body?	7a	No
b	Are any decisions of the governing body subject to approval by members, stockholders, or other persons? . . .	7b	No
8	Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following		
a	the governing body?	8a	No
b	each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body?	8b	Yes
9a	Does the organization have local chapters, branches, or affiliates?	9a	No
b	If "Yes," does the organization have written policies and procedures governing the activities of such chapters, affiliates, and branches to ensure their operations are consistent with those of the organization?	9b	
10	Was a copy of the Form 990 provided to the organization's governing body before it was filed? All organizations must describe in Schedule O the process, if any, the organization uses to review the Form 990	10	No
11	Is there any officer, director or trustee, or key employee listed in Part VII, Section A, who cannot be reached at the organization's mailing address? If "Yes," provide the names and addresses in Schedule O	11	No

Section B. Policies

		Yes	No
12a	Does the organization have a written conflict of interest policy? <i>If "No", go to line 13</i> . . .	12a	Yes
b	Are officers, directors or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts?	12b	Yes
c	Does the organization regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with the policy? If "Yes," describe in Schedule O how this is done	12c	Yes
13	Does the organization have a written whistleblower policy?	13	Yes
14	Does the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy?	14	Yes
15	Did the process for determining compensation of the following persons include a review and approval by independent persons, comparability data, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision		
a	The organization's CEO, Executive Director, or top management official?	15a	No
b	Other officers or key employees of the organization?	15b	No
	Describe the process in Schedule O		
16a	Did the organization invest in, contribute assets to, or participate in a joint venture or similar arrangement with a taxable entity during the year?	16a	No
b	If "Yes," has the organization adopted a written policy or procedure requiring the organization to evaluate its participation in joint venture arrangements under applicable Federal tax law, and taken steps to safeguard the organization's exempt status with respect to such arrangements?	16b	

Section C. Disclosure

17	List the States with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed <u>AZ</u>
18	Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Form 1023 (or 1024 if applicable), 990, and 990-T (501(c)(3)s only) available for public inspection. Indicate how you make these available. Check all that apply. ☐ own website ☐ another's website ☒ upon request
19	Describe in Schedule O whether (and if so, how), the organization makes its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available to the public. See Additional Data Table.
20	State the name, physical address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the books and records of the organization. Robin Melena Lowell Observatory 1400 W Mars Hill Road Flagstaff, AZ 860014470 (928) 774-3358

Section A Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

☐ Check this box if the organization did not compensate any officer, director, trustee or key employee

[illegible]

Part VIII

Statement of Revenue

			(A) Total Revenue	(B) Related or Exempt Function Revenue	(C) Unrelated Business Revenue	(D) Revenue Excluded from Tax under IRC 512, 513, or 514	
Contributions, gifts, grants and other similar amounts	1a	Federated campaigns1a	0				
	b	Membership dues	0				
		1b					
	c	Fundraising events	0				
		1c					
	d	Related organizations1d	1,282,732				
	e	Government grants (contributions) 1e	3,695,769				
	f	All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above	1,484,042				
		1f					
g	Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f \$ 448,969						
h	Total (Add lines 1a-1f)	6,462,543					
Program Service Revenue	2a	Sponsor educational programs related to astronomy	611,600	370,546	370,546	0	
	b						
	c						
	d						
	e						
	f	All other program service revenue		0	0	0	
	g	Total. Add lines 2a-2f					
		\$ 370,546					
	Other Revenue	3	Investment income (including dividends, interest other similar amounts)		91,911	0	0
4		Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds		0	0	0	
5		Royalties		0	0	0	
6a		Gross Rents	(i) Real	(ii) Personal			
b		Less rental expenses					
c		Rental income or (loss)	0	0			
d		Net rental income or (loss)					
7a		Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	(i) Securities	(ii) Other			
b		Less cost or other basis and sales expenses	507,111	0			
c		Gain or (loss)	505,833	0			
d		Net gain or (loss)	1,278	0			
8a		Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ _____ of contributions reported on line 1c) See Part IV, line 18 Attach Schedule G if total exceeds \$15,000a					
b		Less direct expensesb					
c		Net income or (loss) from fundraising events					
9a		Gross income from gaming activities See part IV, line 19 Complete Schedule G if total exceeds \$15,000a					
b		Less direct expensesb					
c		Net income or (loss) from gaming activities					
10a		Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowancesa					
b		Less cost of goods soldb	277,000				
c		Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory	153,540				
		Miscellaneous Revenue	123,460	123,460	0	0	
		Business Code					
11a		Telescope access	541,700	64,996	64,996	0	0
b	Miscellaneous	900,099	35,654	0	0	35,654	
c							
d	All other revenue _____		0	0	0	0	
e	Total. Add lines 11a-11d						
	\$ 100,650						
12	Total Revenue. Add lines 1h, 2g, 3, 4, 5, 6d, 7d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e		7,150,388	559,002	0	128,843	

Part IX

Statement of Functional Expenses

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns. All other organizations must complete column (A) but are not required to complete columns (B), (C), and (D).					
Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.		(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	(D) Fundraising expenses
1	Grants and other assistance to governments and organizations in the U S See Part IV, line 21				
2	Grants and other assistance to individuals in the U S See Part IV, line 22	500	500		
3	Grants and other assistance to governments, organizations and individuals outside the U S See Part IV, lines 15 and 16				
4	Benefits paid to or for members				
5	Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	222,448		222,448	
6	Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)				
7	Other salaries and wages	2,871,834	2,212,980		150,344
8	Pension plan contributions (include section 401(k) and section 403(b) employer contributions)	132,297	100,285	24,495	7,517
9	Other employee benefits	270,888	183,691	72,009	15,188
10	Payroll taxes	245,697	176,826	56,807	12,064
11	Fees for services (non-employees)				
a	Management				
b	Legal	7,894	0	7,804	90
c	Accounting	26,500	0	26,500	0
d	Lobbying				
e	Professional fundraising See Part IV, line 17				
f	Investment management fees				
g	Other	26,456	5,013	18,899	2,544
12	Advertising and promotion	62,402	47,200	2,304	12,898
13	Office expenses	271,178	213,710	47,444	10,024
14	Information technology	143,168	76,230	65,539	1,399
15	Royalties				
16	Occupancy	376,235	299,206	74,741	2,288
17	Travel	180,121	156,215	20,667	3,239
18	Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any Federal, state or local public officials				
19	Conferences, conventions and meetings	67,317	44,574	22,743	0
20	Interest				
21	Payments to affiliates				
22	Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	489,108	432,569	54,883	1,656
23	Insurance				
24	Other expenses—Itemize expenses not covered above (Expenses grouped together and labeled miscellaneous may not exceed 5% of total expenses shown on line 25 below)				
a	Sub-contracts	303,170	303,170	0	0
b	miscellaneous/allocations	3,089	-10,340	6,472	6,957
c					
d					
e					
d					
e					
e					
f	All other expenses				
25	Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24f	5,700,302	4,241,829	1,232,265	226,208
26	Joint Costs. Check ☐ if following SOP 98-2 Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation				

Part X **Balance Sheet**

		(A)		(B)		
		Beginning of year		End of year		
Assets	1 Cash—non-interest-bearing	2,461	1	2,375		
	2 Savings and temporary cash investments	1,410,675	2	1,125,379		
	3 Pledges and grants receivable, net	8,904,602	3	6,325,156		
	4 Accounts receivable, net		4			
	5 Receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees or other related parties <i>Complete Part II of Schedule L</i>		5			
	6 Receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B) <i>Complete Part II of Schedule L</i>		6			
	7 Notes and loans receivable, net		7			
	8 Inventories for sale or use	81,952	8	92,231		
	9 Prepaid expenses and deferred charges		9			
	10a Land, buildings, and equipment—cost basis	<table><tr><td>10a</td><td>29,344,532</td></tr></table>	10a	29,344,532		
	10a	29,344,532				
	b Less accumulated depreciation <i>Complete Part VI of Schedule D</i>	<table><tr><td>10b</td><td>6,200,559</td></tr></table>	10b	6,200,559	17,928,073	10c 23,143,973
	10b	6,200,559				
	11 Investments—publicly traded securities	101,400	11	100,115		
	12 Investments—other securities See Part IV, line 11 <i>Complete Part VII of Schedule D</i>	907,074	12	914,255		
	13 Investments—program-related See Part IV, line 11 <i>Complete Part VIII of Schedule D</i>		13			
14 Intangible assets		14				
15 Other assets See Part IV, line 11 <i>Complete Part IX of Schedule D</i>	502,351	15	535,655			
16 Total assets. Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34)	29,838,588	16	32,239,139			
Liabilities	17 Accounts payable and accrued expenses	456,232	17	971,610		
	18 Grants payable		18			
	19 Deferred revenue	86,146	19	572,369		
	20 Tax-exempt bond liabilities		20			
	21 Escrow account liability <i>Complete Part IV of Schedule D</i>		21			
	22 Payable to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons <i>Complete Part II of Schedule L</i>		22			
	23 Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties		23			
	24 Unsecured notes and loans payable		24			
	25 Other liabilities <i>Complete Part X of Schedule D</i>		25			
	26 Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25	542,378	26	1,543,979		
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow SFAS 117, check here ☒ and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.					
	27 Unrestricted net assets	27,511,234	27	30,377,913		
	28 Temporarily restricted net assets	1,671,403	28	199,091		
	29 Permanently restricted net assets	113,573	29	118,156		
	Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117, check here ☐ and complete lines 30 through 34.					
	30 Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds		30			
	31 Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building or equipment fund		31			
	32 Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds		32			
	33 Total net assets or fund balances	29,296,210	33	30,695,160		
	34 Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances	29,838,588	34	32,239,139		

Part XI **Financial Statements and Reporting**

		Yes	No
1	Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990 ☐ cash ☒ accrual ☐ other		
2a	Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant?	2a	No
b	Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant?	2b	No
c	If "Yes" to lines 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant?	2c	
3a	As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133?	3a	Yes
b	If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits?	3b	Yes

SCHEDULE A

(Form 990 or 990EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Public Charity Status and Public Support

To be completed by all section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts.
Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. See separate instructions.

OMB No 1545-0047

2008

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization LOWELL OBSERVATORY	Employer identification number 86-0098918
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Part I Reason for Public Charity Status (to be completed by all organizations) (See Instructions)

The organization is not a private foundation because it is (Please check only **one** organization)

1	☐	A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in Section 170(b)(1)(A)(i).
2	☐	A school described in Section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii). (Attach Schedule E)
3	☐	A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in Section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii). (Attach Schedule H)
4	☐	A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in Section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii). Enter the hospital's name, city, and state
5	☐	An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in Section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv). (Complete Part II)
6	☐	A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in Section 170(b)(1)(A)(v).
7	☒	An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in Section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) (Complete Part II)
8	☐	A community trust described in Section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) (Complete Part II)
9	☐	An organization that normally receives (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions—subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975 See Section 509(a)(2). (Complete Part III)
10	☐	An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety See Section 509(a)(4). (See instructions)
11	☐	An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2) See Section 509(a)(3). Check the box that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 11e through 11h a ☐ Type I b ☐ Type II c ☐ Type III - Functionally Integrated d ☐ Type III - Other
e	☐	By checking this box, I certify that the organization is not controlled directly or indirectly by one or more disqualified persons other than foundation managers and other than one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2)
f	☐	If the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II or Type III supporting organization, check this box
g	☐	Since August 17, 2006, has the organization accepted any gift or contribution from any of the following persons? (i) a person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (ii) and (iii) below, the governing body of the the supported organization? (ii) a family member of a person described in (i) above? (iii) a 35% controlled entity of a person described in (i) or (ii) above?
h	☐	Provide the following information about the organizations the organization supports

	Yes	No
11g(i)		
11g(ii)		
11g(iii)		

(i) Name of Supported Organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1- 9 above or IRC section (See Instructions))	(iv) Is the organization in col (i) listed in your governing document?		(v) Did you notify the organization in col (i) of your support?		(vi) Is the organization in col (i) organized in the U S ?		(vii) Amount of support?
			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Total									

Part II

Support Schedule for Organizations Described in IRC 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
(Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I.)

Public Support						
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2004	(b) 2005	(c) 2006	(d) 2007	(e) 2008	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grants ")	6,874,075	6,412,661	7,859,744	9,441,036	6,362,543	36,950,059
2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge	48,000	98,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	446,000
4 Total. Add line 1-3	6,922,075	6,510,661	7,959,744	9,541,036	6,462,543	37,396,059
5 The portion of total contribution by each person (other than a government unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceed 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f)						8,528,552
6 Public Support subtract line 5 from line 4						28,867,507

Total Support						
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2004	(b) 2005	(c) 2006	(d) 2007	(e) 2008	(f) Total
7 Amounts from line 4	6,922,075	135,401	7,959,744	9,541,036	6,462,543	37,396,059
8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources	108,745	135,401	128,269	130,309	91,911	594,635
9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
10 Other income Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV)	141,557	304,513	309,620	183,333	100,650	1,039,673
11 Total Support (Add lines 7 through 10)						39,030,367
12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc (See instructions)					12	2,836,286
13 First Five Years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here						☒

Computation of Public Support Percentage		
14 Public Support Percentage for 2008 (line 6 column (f) divided by line 11 column (f))	14	73.962 %
15 Public Support Percentage for 2007 Schedule A, Part IV-A, line 26f	15	88 %
16a 33 1/3% Test - 2008. If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization	☒	
b 33 1/3% Test - 2007. If the organization did not check the box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization	☐	
17a 10% Facts and Circumstances Test - 2008. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts and circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts and circumstances" test The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization	☐	
b 10% Facts and Circumstances Test - 2007. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts and circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts and circumstances" test The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization	☐	
18 Private Foundation. If the organization did not check the box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a or 17b, check this box and see instructions	☐	

Part IIISupport Schedule for Organizations Described in IRC 509(a)(2)
(Complete only if you checked the box on line 9 of Part I.)

Section A. Public Support						
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2004	(b) 2005	(c) 2006	(d) 2007	(e) 2008	(f) Total
1Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grants ")						
2Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose						
3Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513						
4Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
5The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
6Total Add lines 1-5						
7aAmounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons						
bAmounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of 1% of the total of lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12 for the year or \$5,000						
cTotal of lines 7a and 7b						
8Public Support (Subtract line 7c from line 6)						

Total Support						
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2004	(b) 2005	(c) 2006	(d) 2007	(e) 2008	(f) Total
9Amounts from line 6						
10aGross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
bUnrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after 30 June, 1975						
cAdd lines 10a and 10b						
11Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
12Other income Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV)						
13Total Support (Add lines 9, 10c, 11 and 12)						
14First Five Years If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here						

Computation of Public Support Percentage			
15	Public Support Percentage for 2008 (line 8 column (f) divided by line 13 column (f))	15	
16	Public Support Percentage for 2007 Schedule A, Part IV -A, line 27g	16	

Computation of Investment Income Percentage			
17	Investment Income Percentage for 2008 (line 10c column (f) divided by line 13 column (f))	17	
18	Investment Income Percentage from 2007 Schedule A, Part IV -A, line 27h	18	
19a	33 1/3% Tests - 2008. If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization		
b	33 1/3% Tests - 2007. If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3% and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization		
20	Private Foundation If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a or 19b, check this box and see instructions		

Part IV

Supplemental Information. Complete this part to provide the information required by Part II, line 10; Part II, line 17a or 17b, or Part III, line 12. Provide and any other additional information. (see instructions)

Facts and Circumstances Test
Form 990, Schedule A, Part II, Line 10 Other Income revenue primarily to cover expenses for telescope use by astronomers from other organizations 2005 included \$135,000 one-time revenues for granting a water-line easement and adjusting receivables balance 2006 included \$123,000 adjustment to Fair Market Value for Charitable Remainder Unit Trust carried on Balance Sheet

SCHEDULE D
(Form 990)

Supplemental Financial Statements

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

OMB No 1545-0047

2008

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
LOWELL OBSERVATORY

Employer identification number
86-0098918

Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

	(a) Donor advised funds	(b) Funds and other accounts
1	Total number at end of year	
2	Aggregate Contributions to (during year)	
3	Aggregate Grants from (during year)	
4	Aggregate value at end of year	
5	Did the organization inform all donors and donor advisors in writing that the assets held in donor advised funds are the organization's property, subject to the organization's exclusive legal control? ☐ Yes☐ No	
6	Did the organization inform all grantees, donors, and donor advisors in writing that grant funds may be used only for charitable purposes and not for the benefit of the donor or donor advisor or other impermissible private benefit? ☐ Yes☐ No	

Part II Conservation Easements. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

1

Purpose(s) of conservation easements held by the organization (check all that apply)

☐ Preservation of land for public use (e g , recreation or pleasure)

☐ Preservation of an historically importantly land area

☐ Protection of natural habitat

☐ Preservation of certified historic structure

☐ Preservation of open space

2

Complete lines 2a–2d if the organization held a qualified conservation contribution in the form of a conservation easement on the last day of the tax year

	Held at the End of the Year
a	Total number of conservation easements
b	Total acreage restricted by conservation easements
c	Number of conservation easements on a certified historic structure included in (a)
d	Number of conservation easements included in (c) acquired after 8/17/06

3

Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, released, extinguished, or terminated by the organization during the taxable year

4

Number of states where property subject to conservation easement is located

5

Does the organization have a written policy regarding the periodic monitoring, inspection, violations, and enforcement of the conservation easements it holds?

☐ Yes☐ No

6

Staff or volunteer hours devoted to monitoring, inspecting and enforcing easements during the year

7

Amount of expenses incurred in monitoring, inspecting, and enforcing easements during the year \$

8

Does each conservation easement reported on line 2(d) above satisfy the requirements of section 170(h)(4)(B)(i) and 170(h)(4)(B)(ii)?

☐ Yes☐ No

9

In Part XIV, describe how the organization reports conservation easements in its revenue and expense statement, and balance sheet, and include, if applicable, the text of the footnote to the organization’s financial statements that describes the organization’s accounting for conservation easements

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

1a

If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116, not to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education or research in furtherance of public service, provide, in Part XIV, the text of the footnote to its financial statements that describes these items

b

If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116, to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide the following amounts relating to these items

(i) Revenues included in Form 990, Part VIII, line 1

\$0

(ii) Assets included in Form 990, Part X

\$400,000

2

If the organization received or held works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets for financial gain, provide the following amounts required to be reported under SFAS 116 relating to these items

a

Revenues included in Form 990, Part VIII, line 1

\$0

b

Assets included in Form 990, Part X

\$0

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Intructions for Form 990

Cat No 52283D

Schedule D (Form 990) 2008

Part III

Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets (continued)

3

Using the organization's accession and other records, check any of the following that are a significant use of its collection items (check all that apply)

a

☒

Public exhibition

b

☐

Scholarly research

c

☐

Preservation for future generations

d

☐

Loan or exchange programs

e

☐

Other

4

Provide a description of the organization's collections and explain how they further the organization's exempt purpose in Part XIV

5

During the year, did the organization solicit or receive donations of art, historical treasures or other similar assets to be sold to raise funds rather than to be maintained as part of the organization's collection?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Part IV

Trust, Escrow and Custodial Arrangements. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 9, or reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21.

1a

Is the organization an agent, trustee, custodian or other intermediary for contributions or other assets not included on Form 990, Part X?

☐ Yes

☐ No

b

If "Yes," explain why in Part XIV and complete the following table

c

Beginning balance

d

Additions during the year

e

Distributions during the year

f

Ending balance

	Amount
1c	
1d	
1e	
1f	

2a

Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21?

☐ Yes

☐ No

b

If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIV

Part V

Endowment Funds. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 10.

	(a)Current Year	(b)Prior Year	(c)Two Years Back	(d)Three Years Back	(e)Four Years Back
1a Beginning of year balance	101,400				
b Contributions	0				
c Investment earnings or losses	-21,388				
d Grants or scholarships	3,798				
e Other expenditures for facilities and programs	0				
f Administrative expenses	0				
g End of year balance	76,214				

2

Provide the estimated percentage of the year end balance held as

a

Board designated or quasi-endowment ▶ 0 %

b

Permanent endowment ▶ 63 %

c

Term endowment ▶ 37 %

3a

Are there endowment funds not in the possession of the organization that are held and administered for the organization by

(i)

unrelated organizations

3a(i)

No

(ii)

related organizations

3a(ii)

No

b

If "Yes" to 3a(ii), are the related organizations listed as required on Schedule R?

3b

4

Describe in Part XIV the intended uses of the organization's endowment funds

Part VI

Investments—Land, Buildings, and Equipment. See Form 990, Part X, line 10.

Description of investment	(a) Cost or other basis (investment)	(b)Cost or other basis (other)	(c) Depreciation	(d) Book value
1a Land	0	213,679		213,679
b Buildings	0	6,074,626	3,236,611	2,838,015
c Leasehold improvements	0	0	0	0
d Equipment	0	3,481,046	2,963,948	517,098
e Other	0	19,575,181	0	19,575,181
Total. Add lines 1a-1e (Column (d) should equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c).) ▶				23,143,973

(a) Description of security or category (including name of security)	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation Cost or end-of-year market value
Financial derivatives and other financial products	914,255	F
Closely-held equity interests		
Other		
Total. (Column (b) should equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 12) ▶	914,255	

(a) Description of investment type	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation Cost or end-of-year market value
Total. (Column (b) should equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 13)		

(a) Description	(b) Book value
Other assets	535,655
Total. (Column (b) should equal Form 990, Part X, col.(B) line 15.)	535,655

(a) Description of Liability	(b) Amount
Federal Income Taxes	
Total. (Column (b) should equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 25)	

Schedule D (Form 990) 2008

Part XI Reconciliation of Change in Net Assets from Form 990 to Financial Statements		
1	Total revenue (Form 990, Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1
2	Total expenses (Form 990, Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2
3	Excess or (deficit) for the year Subtract line 2 from line 1	3
4	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	4
5	Donated services and use of facilities	5
6	Investment expenses	6
7	Prior period adjustments	7
8	Other (Describe in Part XIV)	8
9	Total adjustments (net) Add lines 4 - 8	9
10	Excess or (deficit) for the year per financial statements Combine lines 3 and 9	10

Part XII Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return		
1	Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements	1
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12	
a	Net unrealized gains on investments	2a
b	Donated services and use of facilities	2b
c	Recoveries of prior year grants	2c
d	Other (Describe in Part XIV)	2d
e	Add lines 2a through 2d	2e
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1	3
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, but not on line 1	
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a
b	Other (Describe in Part XIV)	4b
c	Add lines 4a and 4b	4c
5	Total Revenue Add lines 3 and 4c. (This should equal Form 990, Part I, line 12)	5

Part XIII Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expenses per Return		
1	Total expenses and losses per audited financial statements	1
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part IX, line 25	
a	Donated services and use of facilities	2a
b	Prior year adjustments	2b
c	Losses reported on Form 990, Part IX, line 25	2c
d	Other (Describe in Part XIV)	2d
e	Add lines 2a through 2d	2e
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1	3
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part IX, line 25, but not on line 1:	
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a
b	Other (Describe in Part XIV)	4b
c	Add lines 4a and 4b	4c
5	Total expenses Add lines 3 and 4c. (This should equal Form 990, Part I, line 18)	5

Part XIV Supplemental Information

Complete this part to provide the descriptions required for Part II, lines 3, 5, and 9, Part III, lines 1a and 4, Part XIV, lines 1b and 2b, Part V, line 4, Part X, Part XI, line 8, Part XII, lines 2d and 4b, and Part XIII, lines 2d and 4b

Identifier	Return Reference	Explanation
SchD_P03_S00_L04	Schedule D, Part III, Line 4	The collection item consists of a vintage car, which was donated to the Observatory by the sole trustee in 2002. The car was capitalized based on its appraised value at the date of the unrestricted contribution. The Observatory also holds various other collection items which are not capitalized. These items consist of various historical astronomical instruments and similar items which are held for educational, research and curatorial purposes. The items are held in a manner to be protected and preserved.
SchD_P05_S00_L04	Schedule D, Part V, Line 4	This endowment is used to fund summer internships for the Public Program.

Schedule L

(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Transactions with Interested Persons

▶ **Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.**
▶ **To be completed by organizations that answered**
"Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, lines 25a, 25b, 26, 27, 28a, 28b, or 28c,
or Form 990-EZ, Part V lines 38b or 40b.

OMB No 1545-0047

2008

Open to Public
Inspection

Name of the organization
LOWELL OBSERVATORY

Employer identification number

86-0098918

Part I Excess Benefit Transactions (section 501(c)(3) and section 501 (c)(4) organizations only).

To be completed by organizations that answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 25a or 25b, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 40b

1	(a) Name of disqualified person	(b) Description of transaction	(c) Corrected?	
			Yes	No

- 2 Enter the amount of tax imposed on the organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under section 4958 ▶ \$ _____
- 3 Enter the amount of tax, if any, on line 2, above, reimbursed by the organization ▶ \$ _____

Part II Loans to and/or From Interested Persons

To be completed by organizations that answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 26, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 38a

(a) Name of interested person and purpose	(b) Loan to or from the organization?		(c)Original principal amount	(d)Balance due	(e) In default?		(f) Approved by board or committee?		(g)Written agreement?	
	To	From			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Total ▶ \$ _____										

Part III Grants or Assistance Benefitting Interested Persons

To be completed by organizations that answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 27.

(a) Name of interested person	(b)Relationship between interested person and the organization	(c)Amount of grant or type of assistance

Part IV Business Transactions Involving Interested Persons

To be completed by organizations that answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 28a, 28b, or 28c.

(a) Name of interested person	(b) Relationship between interested person and the organization	(c) Amount of transaction	(d) Description of transaction	(e) Sharing of organization's revenues?	
				Yes	No
Nicholas Melena	Family member of Robin Melena, Secretary-Treasurer	13,897	employment		No

SCHEDULE M
(Form 990)

Non-Cash Contributions

To be completed by organizations that answered
"Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, lines 29 or 30.
Attach to Form 990

OMB No 1545-0047

2008

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization
LOWELL OBSERVATORY

Employer identification number
86-0098918

Part I

Types of Property

	(a) Check if applicable	(b) Number of Contributions	(c) Revenues reported on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1g	(d) Method of determining revenues
1 Art—Works of art				
2 Art—Historical treasures				
3 Art—Fractional interests				
4 Books and publications	X		5,250	sale of comparable items
5 Clothing and household goods				
6 Cars and other vehicles				
7 Boats and planes				
8 Intellectual property				
9 Securities—Publicly traded	X	9	177,403	Fair Market Value
10 Securities—Closely held stock	X	1	156,552	sale price
11 Securities—Partnership, LLC, or trust interests				
12 Securities—Miscellaneous				
13 Qualified conservation contribution (historic structures)				
14 Qualified conservation contribution (other)				
15 Real estate—Residential				
16 Real estate—Commercial				
17 Real estate—Other				
18 Collectibles				
19 Food inventory				
20 Drugs and medical supplies				
21 Taxidermy				
22 Historical artifacts				
23 Scientific specimens				
24 Archeological artifacts	X	1	0	no revenue reported
25 Other (describe <u>supplies</u>)	X	4	480	sale of comparable items
26 Other (describe <u>archival records</u>)	X	11	0	sale of comparable items
27 Other (describe _____)				
28 Other (describe _____)				
29 Number of Forms 8283 received by the organization during the tax year for contributions for which the organization completed Form 8283, Part IV, Donee Acknowledgement			29	3

30a

During the year, did the organization receive by contribution any property reported in Part I, lines 1-28 that it must hold for at least three years from the date of the initial contribution, and which is not required to be used for exempt purposes for the entire holding period?

30a

No

b

If "Yes", describe the arrangement in Part II

31

Does the organization have a gift acceptance policy that requires the review of any non-standard contributions?

31

No

32a

Does the organization hire or use third parties or related organizations to solicit, process, or sell non-cash contributions?

32a

No

b

If "Yes", describe in Part II

33

If the organization did not report revenues in Column (c) for a type of property for which Column (a) is checked, describe in Part II

[illegible]

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990

OMB No 1545-0047

2008

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
LOWELL OBSERVATORY

Employer identification number
86-0098918

Identifier	Return Reference	Explanation
F990_P00_S00_L0B	Form 990, Header, Line B	Return amended to add employee in Part VII

Identifier	Return Reference	Explanation
F990_P01_S00_L06	Form 990, Part I, Line 6	Personnel using the services of volunteers record dates and hours worked 2 volunteers - reception duties, 3 volunteers - archival/library duties, 8 volunteers from Teen Works worked in Public Program and did outdoor cleanup of grounds, 48 volunteers - Public Program tour guides 61=Total volunteers

Identifier	Return Reference	Explanation
F990_P06_S0A_L08a	Form 990, Part VI, Section A, Line 8a	The sole trustee will record actions undertaken from time to time, as needed, to document changes in policies or, for example, benefits An example in 2008 is a statement related to the retirement benefit which added the option of a "Roth" type 403B

Identifier	Return Reference	Explanation
F990_P06_S0A_L10	Form 990, Part VI, Section A, Line 10	The Secretary-Treasurer reviews the 990 for both the Trust and Lowell Observatory and signs the 990 for the Observatory The sole trustee signs the 990 for the Trust

Identifier	Return Reference	Explanation
F990_P06_S0B_L12c	Form 990, Part VI, Section B, Line 12c	Review of payables includes consideration of potential conflicts of interest and follow up to enforce compliance with the company policy

Identifier	Return Reference	Explanation
F990_P06_S0C_L19	Form 990, Part VI, Section C, Line 19	Upon request to the Secretary-Treasurer the 990, governing documents, conflict of interest policy and financial statements are made available to the public A summary of the consolidated financial statement is published annually in our newsletter and mailed to donors

Identifier	Return Reference	Explanation
F990_P07_S0A_L02	Form 990, Part VII, Section A, Line 2	Personnel who prepare and review the 990 have full access to books and records of both Lowell Observatory and its only related organization, Percival Lowell Trust UW All Column F Other Compensation for all listed employees was earned from Lowell Observatory during the average hours per week reported in column B

Identifier	Return Reference	Explanation
F990_P11_S00_L02b	Form 990, Part XI, Line 2b	The organization's financial statements were audited by an independent accounting firm on a consolidated basis

SCHEDULE R
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Related Organizations and Unrelated Partnerships

OMB No 1545-0047

2008

Open to Public Inspection

▶ Attach to Form 990. To be completed by organizations that answer "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, lines 33, 34, 35, 36, or 37.
▶ See separate instructions.

Name of the organization
LOWELL OBSERVATORY

Employer identification number
86-0098918

Part I Identification of Disregarded Entities					
(A) Name, address, and EIN of disregarded entity	(B) Primary activity	(C) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(D) Total income	(E) End-of-year assets	(F) Direct controlling entity

Part II Identification of Related Tax-Exempt Organizations					
(A) Name, address, and EIN of related organization	(B) Primary activity	(C) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(D) Exempt Code section	(E) Public charity status (if section 501(c)(3))	(F) Direct controlling entity
Percival Lowell Trust UW 1400 W Mars Hill Road Flagstaff, AZ860014470 04-2007327	Trust F/B/O Lowell Observatory	AZ	4947(a)(1)		N/A

Part III

Identification of Related Organizations Taxable as a Partnership

(A) Name, address, and EIN of related organization	(B) Primary activity	(C) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(D) Direct controlling entity	(E) Predominant income(related, investment, unrelated)	(F) Share of total income	(G) Share of end-of- year assets	(H) Disproporionate allocations?		(I) Code V—UBI amount on Box 20 of K-1	(J) General or managing partner?	
							Yes	No		Yes	No

Part IV

Identification of Related Organizations Taxable as a Corporation or Trust

(A) Name, address, and EIN of related organization	(B) Primary activity	(C) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(D) Direct controlling entity	(E) Type of entity (C corp, S corp, or trust)	(F) Share of total income	(G) Share of end-of-year assets	(H) Percentage ownership

Part V

Transactions with Related Organizations

Note. Complete line 1 if any entity is listed in Parts II, III or IV

1 During the tax year, did the organization engage in any of the following transactions with one or more related organizations listed in Parts II-IV?

a Receipt of (i) interest (ii) annuities (iii) royalties (iv) rent from a controlled entity

b Gift, grant, or capital contribution to other organization(s)

c Gift, grant, or capital contribution from other organization(s)

d Loans or loan guarantees to or for other organization(s)

e Loans or loan guarantees by other organization(s)

f Sale of assets to other organization(s)

g Purchase of assets from other organization(s)

h Exchange of assets

i Lease of facilities, equipment, or other assets to other organization(s)

j Lease of facilities, equipment, or other assets from other organization(s)

k Performance of services or membership or fundraising solicitations for other organization(s)

l Performance of services or membership or fundraising solicitations by other organization(s)

m Sharing of facilities, equipment, mailing lists, or other assets

n Sharing of paid employees

o Reimbursement paid to other organization for expenses

p Reimbursement paid by other organization for expenses

q Other transfer of cash or property to other organization(s)

r Other transfer of cash or property from other organization(s)

Yes

No

1a

1b

1c

1d

1e

1f

1g

1h

1i

1j

1k

1l

1m

1n

1o

1p

1q

1r

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

Yes

No

2 If the answer to any of the above is "Yes," see the instructions for information on who must complete this line, including covered relationships and transaction thresholds

(A) Name of other organization(s)	(B) Transaction type(a-r)	(C) Amount Involved
(1)		
(2)		
(3)		
(4)		
(5)		
(6)		

Schedule R (Form 990) 2008

Provide the following information for each entity taxed as a partnership through which the organization conducted more than five percent of its activities (measured by total assets or gross revenue) that was not a related organization. See instructions regarding exclusion for certain investment partnerships.

[illegible]