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Form 990-EZ

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Short Form 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)

► Sponsoring organizations of donor advised funds and controlling organizations as defined in section 512(b)(13) must file Form 990. All other organizations with gross receipts less than \$500,000 and total assets less than \$1,250,000 at the end of the year may use this form.
► The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements.

OMB No. 1545-1150

2009

Open to Public
Inspection

A For the 2009 calendar year, or tax year beginning		, 2009, and ending	
B Check if applicable.		C Name of organization	
<input type="checkbox"/> Address change <input type="checkbox"/> Name change <input type="checkbox"/> Initial return <input type="checkbox"/> Terminated <input type="checkbox"/> Amended return <input type="checkbox"/> Application pending		Housatonic Valley Cultural Alliance, Inc. Number and street (or P.O. box, if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite 39 West Street	
<small>Please use IRS label or print or type. See Specific Instructions.</small>		City or town, state or country, and ZIP + 4 Danbury, CT 06810	
D Employer identification number 26-0811232		E Telephone number 203-798-0760	
F Group Exemption Number ►			
G Accounting Method: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Accrual Other (specify) ►			
H Check ► <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> if the organization is not required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).			
I Website: ► www.hvculturalarts.org			
J Tax-exempt status (check only one) — <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 501(c) (3) □ (insert no.) <input type="checkbox"/> 4947(a)(1) or <input type="checkbox"/> 527			
K Check ► <input type="checkbox"/> if the organization is not a section 509(a)(3) supporting organization and its gross receipts are normally not more than \$25,000. A Form 990-EZ or Form 990 return is not required, but if the organization chooses to file a return, be sure to file a complete return.			
L Add lines 5b, 6b, and 7b, to line 9 to determine gross receipts, if \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ ► \$			

Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances (See the instructions for Part I.)

Revenue	1 Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received	1	28580
	2 Program service revenue including government fees and contracts	2	1384
	3 Membership dues and assessments	3	3045
	4 Investment income	4	5
	5a Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory	5a	0
	b Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses	5b	0
	c Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a)	5c	0
	6 Special events and activities (complete applicable parts of Schedule G). If any amount is from gaming, check here ► <input type="checkbox"/>		
	a Gross revenue (not including \$ 10120 of contributions reported on line 1)	6a	3700
RECEIVED	b Less: direct expenses other than fundraising expenses	6b	4966
	c Net income or (loss) from special events and activities (Subtract line 6b from line 6a)	6c	(1266)
	7a Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	7a	0
	b Less: cost of goods sold	7b	0
	c Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a)	7c	0
	8 Other revenue (describe ► S)	8	0
	9 Total revenue. Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6c, 7c, and 8 ►	9	31748
	10 Grants and similar amounts paid (attach schedule)	10	1500
	11 Benefits paid to or for members	11	0
	13 Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors	13	26415
	14 Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance	14	0
	15 Printing, publications, postage, and shipping	15	1363
	16 Other expenses (describe ► Dues, bank charges, insurance, phone, supplies, IT)	16	5158
	17 Total expenses. Add lines 10 through 16 ►	17	34436
	19 Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	19	0
	20 Other changes in net assets or fund balances (attach explanation)	20	6932
	21 Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 18 through 20 ►	21	4244

Part II Balance Sheets. If Total assets on line 25, column (B) are \$1,250,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ.			
(See the instructions for Part II.)			
		(A) Beginning of year	(B) End of year
22 Cash, savings, and investments	0	22	4244
23 Land and buildings	0	23	0
24 Other assets (describe ►)	0	24	0
25 Total assets	0	25	4244
26 Total liabilities (describe ►)	0	26	0
27 Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21)	0	27	4244

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments (See the instructions for Part III.)

What is the organization's primary exempt purpose? **regional promotion, coordination and advocacy of the arts**

Expenses
(Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) trusts; optional for others.)

28	Promotion of the Arts (see attached)			
	(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ► <input type="checkbox"/>	28a	18.919	
29	Building Networks (see attached)			
	(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ► <input type="checkbox"/>	29a	12,361	
30	Professional Development (see attached)			
	(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ► <input type="checkbox"/>	30a	1335	
31	Other program services (attach schedule)			
	(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ► <input type="checkbox"/>	31a	0	
32	Total program service expenses (add lines 28a through 31a)			
		32	32615	

Part IV List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees. List each one even if not compensated. (See the instructions for Part IV.)

Part V Other Information (Note the statement requirements in the instructions for Part V.)

	Yes	No
33 Did the organization engage in any activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," attach a detailed description of each activity	33	✓
34 Were any changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the changes	34	✓
35 If the organization had income from business activities, such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a (among others), but not reported on Form 990-T, attach a statement explaining why the organization did not report the income on Form 990-T.		
a Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more or was it subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements?	35a	✓
b If "Yes," has it filed a tax return on Form 990-T for this year?	35b	
36 Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Schedule N	36	
37a Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions. ► 37a 0	37a	0
b Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?	37b	✓
38a Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the period covered by this return?	38a	✓
b If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved	38b	
39 Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:		
a Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9	39a	0
b Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities	39b	0
40a Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under: section 4911 ► 0 ; section 4912 ► 0 ; section 4955 ► 0		
b Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year or is it aware that it engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person in a prior year, and that the transaction has not been reported on any of the organization's prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I	40b	✓
c Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958 ► 0		
d Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization ► 0		
e All organizations. At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If "Yes," complete Form 8886-T.	40e	✓
41 List the states with which a copy of this return is filed. ► Connecticut		
42a The organization's books are in care of ► Mary Rindfleisch, Treasurer Telephone no. ► 860-350-4390 Located at ► 50 Route 37 East, Sherman, CT ZIP + 4 ► 06784		
b 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)?	42b	✓
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.		
c At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside of the U.S.?	42c	✓
If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: ► 43		
43 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041 —Check here and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year ► 43		
44 Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ	44	✓
45 Is any related organization a controlled entity of the organization within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ	45	✓

Part VI

Section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts only. All section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must answer questions 46–49b and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51.

		Yes	No
46	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	46	✓
47	Did the organization engage in lobbying activities? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II	47	✓
48	Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E	48	✓
49a	Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?	49a	✓
b	If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization?	49b	
50	Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."		

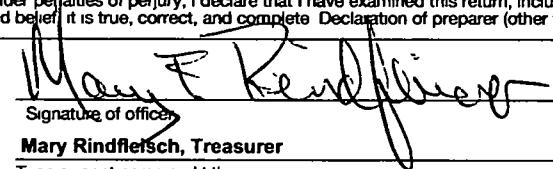
(a) Name and address of each employee paid more than \$100,000	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans & deferred compensation	(e) Expense account and other allowances
None				

f Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000 ► 0

51 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and address of each independent contractor paid more than \$100,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
None		

d Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000 ► 0

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 Mary Rindfletsch, Treasurer Type or print name and title		
Paid Preparer's Use Only	Preparer's signature	Date	Check if self-employed <input type="checkbox"/>
	Firm's name (or yours if self-employed), address, and ZIP + 4	EIN	Preparer's identifying number (See instructions)
May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions ► <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			

Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 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.)
Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2005	(b) 2006	(c) 2007	(d) 2008	(e) 2009	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.")	0	0	0	0	31625	31625
2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 Total. Add lines 1 through 3	0	0	0	0	0	31625
5 The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f)						6234
6 Public support. Subtract line 5 from line 4.						25391

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2005	(b) 2006	(c) 2007	(d) 2008	(e) 2009	(f) Total
7 Amounts from line 4	0	0	0	0	31625	31625
8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources	0	0	0	0	5	5
9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on	0	0	0	0	0	0
10 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.)	0	0	0	0	0	0
11 Total support. Add lines 7 through 10						31630
12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions)					12	1384
13 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here ► <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

14 Public support percentage for 2009 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f))	14	%
15 Public support percentage from 2008 Schedule A, Part II, line 14	15	%
16a 33½% support test—2009. If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33½% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ► <input type="checkbox"/>		
b 33½% support test—2008. If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33½% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ► <input type="checkbox"/>		
17a 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2009. 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 ► <input type="checkbox"/>		
b 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2008. 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 ► <input type="checkbox"/>		
18 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions ► <input type="checkbox"/>		

Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 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) 2005	(b) 2006	(c) 2007	(d) 2008	(e) 2009	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.")						
2 Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose						
3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513						
4 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
6 Total. Add lines 1 through 5						
7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons						
b Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of \$5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year						
c Add lines 7a and 7b						
8 Public support (Subtract line 7c from line 6.)						

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2005	(b) 2006	(c) 2007	(d) 2008	(e) 2009	(f) Total
9 Amounts from line 6						
10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975						
c Add lines 10a and 10b						
11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
12 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.)						
13 Total support. (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12.)						
14 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here ► <input type="checkbox"/>						

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

15 Public support percentage for 2009 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	15	%
16 Public support percentage from 2008 Schedule A, Part III, line 15	16	%

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage

17 Investment income percentage for 2009 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	17	%
18 Investment income percentage from 2008 Schedule A, Part III, line 17	18	%
19a 33 1/3 % support tests—2009. 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 ► <input type="checkbox"/>		
b 33 1/3 % support tests—2008. 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 ► <input type="checkbox"/>		
20 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions ► <input type="checkbox"/>		

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

Part I, Line 20 Other changes in net assets or fund balances

Until the beginning of 2009, HVCA was under the fiscal sponsorship of the Greater Danbury Chamber of Commerce and had no independent financial activity. In January 2009, once HVCA had established independent 501(c) (3) status and opened its own bank account, the Chamber transferred to HVCA \$6,932, which represented the net balance remaining of grants and donations it had received on behalf of HVCA's programs.

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments (continued)

Mission: To support and strengthen the arts, historical and cultural organizations and individuals through collaboration and coordination to further economic development.

28. Promotion of the Arts: HVCA promotes the arts through marketing initiatives, as well as through production of major events and opportunities for individual artists and arts organizations to gain visibility and recognition for their work. In 2009, this included development of a collaborative ad campaign called "It's All Right Here," to promote the cultural offerings of the region; support for the statewide "Locally Grown History" project involving historical societies and museums; coordination of an arts component to of First Night celebrations in Danbury (with prizes awarded to 4 artists); hosting of a Spring Arts Celebration to showcase the work of local photographers, musicians and actors (attended by app. 100 people over three days); and the establishment of an "Accessible Art" model for art exhibits in municipal facilities (with its first shows taking place at Danbury City Hall). The highlight of the year was a juried art show at the local mall, which brought the work of 50 artists to the general public over the course of several weeks; the opening reception was attended by over 400 people, 5 artists were awarded cash prizes and 9 sales took place. This event proved to be a model for future networking and promotion efforts, as it brought together the business community (the mall, caterers and several business sponsors), the local state university (which provided technical assistance and in-kind services), social service agencies (which supplied volunteer docents for the run of the show), the participating artists and many members of the general public.

29. Building Networks: As a regional, cross-disciplinary entity recognized by the State of Connecticut as part of its Local Arts Agency network, HVCA works to bring together artists, arts organizations and businesses around common concerns and goals. In 2009 HVCA convened 6 roundtables for writers, visual artists and executive directors, attended by app. 100 people total. It also worked to develop a new website and begin to put into place an online directory and other tools to connect arts consumers and arts producers throughout the region. The most visible activity contributing to HVCA's network building is its annual Business Supports the Arts awards breakfast. Seeking to bring artists and businesses more closely together, HVCA each year honors businesses that have shown significant generosity and creativity in their support of the arts. In 2009, two local businesses were honored at an event that drew 170 people from all walks of life and all corners of its 10-town service area, fostering connections that are expected to lead to future collaborations.

30. Professional Development: HVCA is dedicated to capacity building among arts organizations and individual artists and to that end hosts frequent workshops and other presentations to enhance skills such fundraising, marketing and networking. In 2009, 3 sessions were held, serving app. 50 people total.

Part IV List of Officers, Directors, Trustees and Key Employees

Executive Director Lisa Scails is treated as an independent contractor and received an annual fee totaling \$25,000 for her management and programmatic services.