



See a Social Security Number? Say Something!
Report Privacy Problems to <https://public.resource.org/privacy>
Or call the IRS Identity Theft Hotline at 1-800-908-4490



Short Form Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

2014

Open to Public Inspection

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)

▶ Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public.

▶ Information about Form 990-EZ and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

A For the 2014 calendar year, or tax year beginning , and ending	
B Check if applicable	C Name of organization
<input type="checkbox"/> Address change	SPHERE, INC
<input type="checkbox"/> Name change	Number and street (or P O box, if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite
<input type="checkbox"/> Initial return	P.O BOX 1136
<input type="checkbox"/> Final return/terminated	City or town State ZIP code
<input type="checkbox"/> Amended return	RIDGEFIELD CT 06877
<input type="checkbox"/> Application pending	Foreign country name Foreign province/state/county Foreign postal code
	D Employer identification number
	22-2968009
	E Telephone number
	(203) 775-1651
	F Group Exemption Number ▶
G Accounting Method <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Accrual Other (specify) ▶	H Check <input type="checkbox"/> if the organization is not required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF)
I Website: ▶ www.sphereortg.org	
J Tax-exempt status (check only one) — <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 501(c)(3) <input type="checkbox"/> 501(c) () ◀ (insert no) <input type="checkbox"/> 4947(a)(1) or <input type="checkbox"/> 527	
K Form of organization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Trust <input type="checkbox"/> Association <input type="checkbox"/> Other	

L Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II, column (B) below) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ. ▶ \$ **72,983**

Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances (see the instructions for Part I)
Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I .

	Description		Amount
Revenue	1 Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received	1	64,344
	2 Program service revenue including government fees and contracts	2	
	3 Membership dues and assessments	3	5,830
	4 Investment income	4	661
	5a Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory	5a	
	b Less cost or other basis and sales expenses	5b	
	c Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a)	5c	0
	6 Gaming and fundraising events		
	a Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule G if greater than \$15,000)	6a	
	b Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ of contributions from fundraising events reported on line 1) (attach Schedule G if the sum of such gross income and contributions exceeds \$15,000)	6b	
c Less direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events	6c		
d Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c)	6d	0	
7a Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	7a	2,148	
b Less cost of goods sold	7b	2,202	
c Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a)	7c	-54	
8 Other revenue (describe in Schedule O)	8		
9 Total revenue. Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8	9	70,781	
Expenses	10 Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O)	10	101,500
	11 Benefits paid to or for members	11	
	12 Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits	12	4,849
	13 Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors	13	5,165
	14 Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance	14	20,949
	15 Printing, publications, postage, and shipping	15	201
	16 Other expenses (describe in Schedule O)	16	55,837
	17 Total expenses. Add lines 10 through 16	17	188,501
18 Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9)	18	-117,720	
Net Assets	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	362,891
	20 Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	20	
	21 Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 18 through 20	21	245,171

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

SCANNED MAR 3 2015

Part II Balance Sheets. (see the instructions for Part II)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part II

	(A) Beginning of year	(B) End of year
22 Cash, savings, and investments	311,263	206,455
23 Land and buildings		23
24 Other assets (describe in Schedule O)	51,628	38,716
25 Total assets	362,891	245,171
26 Total liabilities (describe in Schedule O)		26
27 Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21)	362,891	245,171

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

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part III.

What is the organization's primary exempt purpose? PROGRAMS FOR DISABLED ADULTS
 Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title

Expenses
 (Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations, optional for others)

28 <u>Advocates and runs programs focused on enriching and enhancing, through education, recreation and the arts, the lives of adults with a broad range of disabilities while fostering and nurturing relationships between our members</u> (Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	28a	87,000
29 _____ (Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	29a	
30 _____ (Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	30a	
31 Other program services (describe in Schedule O) (Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	31a	
32 Total program service expenses. (add lines 28a through 31a)	32	87,000

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

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part IV

(a) Name and title	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC) (if not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Health benefits contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
Lori Berisford Chairwoman of Board	Hr/WK 5.00			
S. Michael Steele Treas	Hr/WK 5.00			
Rebecca Ciota Secretary	Hr/WK 5.00			
Jill Barberie Director	Hr/WK 5.00			
Wendy Lionette Director	Hr/WK 5.00			
	Hr/WK			
	Hr/WK			
	Hr/WK			
	Hr/WK			
	Hr/WK			
	Hr/WK			
	Hr/WK			
	Hr/WK			
	Hr/WK			

Part V Other Information (Note the Schedule A and personal benefit contract statement requirements in the instructions for Part V) Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part V

		Yes	No
33	Did the organization engage in any significant activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," provide a detailed description of each activity in Schedule O		X
34	Were any significant changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the amended documents if they reflect a change to the organization's name. Otherwise, explain the change on Schedule O (see instructions)		X
35 a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year from business activities (such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a, among others)?		X
b	If "Yes," to line 35a, has the organization filed a Form 990-T for the year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O		
c	Was the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III		X
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		X
37 a	Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions ▶ 37a		
b	Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?		X
38 a	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 tax year covered by this return?		X
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		
b	Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities 39b		
40 a	Section 501(c)(3) organizations Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under section 4911 ▶ _____, section 4912 ▶ _____; section 4955 ▶ _____		
b	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year, or did it engage in an excess benefit transaction in a prior year that has not been reported on any of its prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I		X
c	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958 ▶ _____		
d	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization ▶ _____		
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		X
41	List the states with which a copy of this return is filed ▶ CT		
42 a	The organization's books are in care of ▶ S. Michael Steele Telephone no ▶ (203) 775-1651 Located at ▶ 33 Great Heron Lane City Brookfield ST CT ZIP + 4 ▶ 06804		
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)? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country ▶ _____ See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR)	Yes	No
42b			X
c	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside the U.S.? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country ▶ _____		X
42c			X
43	Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041—Check here <input type="checkbox"/> and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year ▶ 43		
44 a	Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ		X
b	Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ		X
c	Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the year?		X
d	If "Yes" to line 44c, has the organization filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O		X
44d			X
45 a	Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?		X
45 b	Did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," Form 990 and Schedule R may need to be completed instead of Form 990-EZ (see instructions)		X
45b			X

46 Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I.

Part VI Section 501(c)(3) organizations only

All section 501(c)(3) organizations must answer questions 47-49b and 52, and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51.

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI

47 Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II
48 Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E
49 a Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?
b If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization?
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

Table with 5 columns: (a) Name and title of each employee, (b) Average hours per week devoted to position, (c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC), (d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation, (e) Estimated amount of other compensation.

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

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

Table with 3 columns: (a) Name and business address of each independent contractor, (b) Type of service, (c) Compensation.

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

52 Did the organization complete Schedule A? Note. All section 501(c)(3) organizations must attach a completed Schedule A.

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.

Sign Here: Signature of officer (S. Michael Steele), Date (3/15/2015), Type or print name and title (S. Michael Steele, Treasurer).

Paid Preparer Use Only: Preparer's name, signature (SELF-PREPARED RETURN), Date, Check self-employed, PTIN, Firm's name, Firm's address, Firm's EIN, Phone no.

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

SCHEDULE A
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Public Charity Status and Public Support

OMB No 1545-0047

2014

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

▶ Information about Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

Name of the organization SPHERE, INC	Employer identification number 22-2968009
-----------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------

Part I Reason for Public Charity Status (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions

The organization is not a private foundation because it is (For lines 1 through 11, check only one box)

- 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)**.
- 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)**.
- 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 in lines 11a through 11d that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 11e, 11f, and 11g
 - a **Type I.** A supporting organization operated, supervised, or controlled by its supported organization(s), typically by giving the supported organization(s) the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the directors or trustees of the supporting organization. **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and B.**
 - b **Type II.** A supporting organization supervised or controlled in connection with its supported organization(s), by having control or management of the supporting organization vested in the same persons that control or manage the supported organization(s). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and C.**
 - c **Type III functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with, and functionally integrated with, its supported organization(s) (see instructions) **You must complete Part IV, Sections A, D, and E.**
 - d **Type III non-functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with its supported organization(s) that is not functionally integrated. The organization generally must satisfy a distribution requirement and an attentiveness requirement (see instructions) **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and D, and Part V.**
 - e Check this box if the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, Type III functionally integrated, or Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organization.
 - f Enter the number of supported organizations 0
 - g Provide the following information about the supported organization(s).

(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 listed in your governing document?		(v) Amount of monetary support (see instructions)	(vi) Amount of other support (see instructions)
			Yes	No		
(A)						
(B)						
(C)						
(D)						
(E)						
Total					0	0

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 or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2010	(b) 2011	(c) 2012	(d) 2013	(e) 2014	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grants")	60,979	54,295	131,069	109,574	70,174	426,091
2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						0
3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						0
4 Total. Add lines 1 through 3	60,979	54,295	131,069	109,574	70,174	426,091
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)						163,920
6 Public support. Subtract line 5 from line 4						262,171

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2010	(b) 2011	(c) 2012	(d) 2013	(e) 2014	(f) Total
7 Amounts from line 4	60,979	54,295	131,069	109,574	70,174	426,091
8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources	104	513	583	260	661	2,121
9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						0
10 Other income Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI)						0
11 Total support. Add lines 7 through 10						428,212
12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc (see instructions)					12	11,099
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 type="checkbox"/>						

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

14 Public support percentage for 2014 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f))	14	61 22%
15 Public support percentage from 2013 Schedule A, Part II, line 14	15	60 17%
16a 33 1/3% support test—2014. 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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
b 33 1/3% support test—2013. If the organization did not check a 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 <input type="checkbox"/>		
17a 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2014. 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 VI 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—2013. 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 VI 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"/>		

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

OMB No 1545-0047

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

2014

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

**Open to Public
Inspection**

▶ Information about Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization

SPHERE, INC

Employer identification number

22-2968009

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 10, Grants Paid: Activity Employment for Disabled, Grantee:

Prospector Theater Prospect Street Ridgefield CT 06877, Cash Grant 100,000, Relationship:

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses, Meals and entertainment: 318

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses, Fundraising: 204

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses: Equipment rental and maintenance: 138

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses: Supplies: 308

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses, Depreciation: 12,912

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses, ART PROGRAM: 1,306

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses: BANK FEES: 76

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses, WEB SITE SUPPORT: 104

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses, COMMUNITY PROGRAMS: 1,070

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses: FILM PRODUCTION: 4,513

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses, LEGAL: 100

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses: ADMISTRATION: 721

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses, MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE PROGRAMS: 921

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses, INSURANCE: 1,622

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses: PUBLICITY: 622

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses, MISCELLANEOUS: 823

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses, COOKING CLUB: 489

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses: INTRO TO FILM: 745

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses, JEWELRY PROGRAM: 209

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses: TAXES: 1,101

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses: SALES EXPENSE: 50

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses, WALKING CLUB PROGRAM: 1,051

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses, BUS EXPENSES: 26,434

Form 990-EZ, Part II, Line 24, Other Assets: 22 Passenger Bus Beginning of year 51,628, End

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990 or 990-EZ.

Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) (2014)

