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Return of Private Foundation

or Section 4947(a)(1) Trust Treated as Private Foundation

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Information about Form 990-PF and its separate instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990pf.

2015

Open to Public Inspection

For calendar year 2015 or tax year beginning

, and ending

Name of foundation THE HELEN COBURN MEIER AND TIM MEIER CHARITABLE FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS		A Employer identification number 26-4204237
Number and street (or P O box number if mail is not delivered to street address) 915 LINDEN AVE.	Room/suite	B Telephone number 847-251-0149
City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code WILMETTE, IL 60091-2712		C If exemption application is pending, check here ☐
G Check all that apply: ☐ Initial return ☐ Final return ☐ Address change ☐ Initial return of a former public charity ☐ Amended return ☐ Name change		D 1. Foreign organizations, check here ☐ 2. Foreign organizations meeting the 85% test, check here and attach computation ☐
H Check type of organization: ☒ Section 501(c)(3) exempt private foundation ☐ Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust ☐ Other taxable private foundation		E If private foundation status was terminated under section 507(b)(1)(A), check here ☐
I Fair market value of all assets at end of year (from Part II, col (c), line 16) \$ 416,567.	J Accounting method: ☒ Cash ☐ Accrual ☐ Other (specify) _____	F If the foundation is in a 60-month termination under section 507(b)(1)(B), check here ☐

Part I Analysis of Revenue and Expenses (The total of amounts in columns (b), (c), and (d) may not necessarily equal the amounts in column (a).)		(a) Revenue and expenses per books	(b) Net investment income	(c) Adjusted net income	(d) Disbursements for charitable purposes (cash basis only)
Revenue	1 Contributions, gifts, grants, etc., received	200,000.			
	2 Check ☐ if the foundation is not required to attach Sch. B				
	3 Interest on savings and temporary cash investments	27.	27.		STATEMENT 1
	4 Dividends and interest from securities				
	5a Gross rents				
	b Net rental income or (loss)				
	6a Net gain or (loss) from sale of assets not on line 10				
	b Gross sales price for all assets on line 6a				
	7 Capital gain net income (from Part IV, line 2)		0.		
	8 Net short-term capital gain				
	9 Income modifications				
10a Gross sales less returns and allowances					
b Less Cost of goods sold					
c Gross profit or (loss)					
11 Other income					
12 Total. Add lines 1 through 11	200,027.	27.	0.		
Operating and Administrative Expenses	13 Compensation of officers, directors, trustees, etc	0.	0.	0.	0.
	14 Other employee salaries and wages				
	15 Pension plans, employee benefits				
	16a Legal fees STMT 2	10,539.	0.	0.	0.
	b Accounting fees				
	c Other professional fees				
	17 Interest				
	18 Taxes				
	19 Depreciation and depletion				
	20 Occupancy				
	21 Travel, conferences, and meetings				
	22 Printing and publications				
	23 Other expenses STMT 3	6,054.	0.	0.	1,039.
	24 Total operating and administrative expenses. Add lines 13 through 23	16,593.	0.	0.	1,039.
25 Contributions, gifts, grants paid	160,000.			160,000.	
26 Total expenses and disbursements. Add lines 24 and 25	176,593.	0.	0.	161,039.	
27 Subtract line 26 from line 12:					
a Excess of revenue over expenses and disbursements	23,434.				
b Net investment income (if negative, enter -0-)		27.			
c Adjusted net income (if negative, enter -0-)			0.		

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**THE HELEN COBURN MEIER AND TIM MEIER
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS**

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Part II Balance Sheets		Beginning of year		End of year	
		(a) Book Value	(b) Book Value	(c) Fair Market Value	
Assets	1 Cash - non-interest-bearing	4,950.	24,462.	24,462.	
	2 Savings and temporary cash investments	100,039.	392,105.	392,105.	
	3 Accounts receivable ▶				
	Less: allowance for doubtful accounts ▶				
	4 Pledges receivable ▶				
	Less: allowance for doubtful accounts ▶				
	5 Grants receivable				
	6 Receivables due from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons				
	7 Other notes and loans receivable ▶				
	Less: allowance for doubtful accounts ▶				
	8 Inventories for sale or use				
	9 Prepaid expenses and deferred charges				
	10a Investments - U.S. and state government obligations				
	b Investments - corporate stock				
	c Investments - corporate bonds				
	Liabilities	11 Investments - land, buildings and equipment basis ▶			
Less: accumulated depreciation ▶					
12 Investments - mortgage loans					
13 Investments - other					
14 Land, buildings, and equipment basis ▶					
Less: accumulated depreciation ▶					
15 Other assets (describe ▶)					
16 Total assets (to be completed by all filers - see the instructions. Also, see page 1, item I)		104,989.	416,567.	416,567.	
17 Accounts payable and accrued expenses					
18 Grants payable					
19 Deferred revenue					
20 Loans from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons					
21 Mortgages and other notes payable					
22 Other liabilities (describe ▶)					
23 Total liabilities (add lines 17 through 22)	0.	0.			
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Foundations that follow SFAS 117, check here ☐ and complete lines 24 through 26 and lines 30 and 31.				
	24 Unrestricted				
	25 Temporarily restricted				
	26 Permanently restricted				
	Foundations that do not follow SFAS 117, check here ☒ and complete lines 27 through 31.				
	27 Capital stock, trust principal, or current funds	0.	0.		
	28 Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, bldg., and equipment fund	0.	0.		
29 Retained earnings, accumulated income, endowment, or other funds	104,989.	416,567.			
30 Total net assets or fund balances	104,989.	416,567.			
31 Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances	104,989.	416,567.			

Part III Analysis of Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances

1 Total net assets or fund balances at beginning of year - Part II, column (a), line 30 (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	104,989.
2 Enter amount from Part I, line 27a	23,434.
3 Other increases not included in line 2 (itemize) ▶ SEE STATEMENT 4	288,144.
4 Add lines 1, 2, and 3	416,567.
5 Decreases not included in line 2 (itemize) ▶	0.
6 Total net assets or fund balances at end of year (line 4 minus line 5) - Part II, column (b), line 30	416,567.

**THE HELEN COBURN MEIER AND TIM MEIER
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Part IV Capital Gains and Losses for Tax on Investment Income

(a) List and describe the kind(s) of property sold (e.g., real estate, 2-story brick warehouse; or common stock, 200 shs. MLC Co.)		(b) How acquired P - Purchase D - Donation	(c) Date acquired (mo., day, yr.)	(d) Date sold (mo., day, yr.)
1a				
b	NONE			
c				
d				
e				

(e) Gross sales price	(f) Depreciation allowed (or allowable)	(g) Cost or other basis plus expense of sale	(h) Gain or (loss) (e) plus (f) minus (g)
a			
b			
c			
d			
e			

Complete only for assets showing gain in column (h) and owned by the foundation on 12/31/69

(i) F.M.V. as of 12/31/69	(j) Adjusted basis as of 12/31/69	(k) Excess of col. (i) over col. (j), if any	(l) Gains (Col. (h) gain minus col. (k), but not less than -0-) or Losses (from col. (h))
a			
b			
c			
d			
e			

2 Capital gain net income or (net capital loss) { If gain, also enter in Part I, line 7
If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 7 }

3 Net short-term capital gain or (loss) as defined in sections 1222(5) and (6):
If gain, also enter in Part I, line 8, column (c).
If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 8

Part V Qualification Under Section 4940(e) for Reduced Tax on Net Investment Income

(For optional use by domestic private foundations subject to the section 4940(a) tax on net investment income.)

If section 4940(d)(2) applies, leave this part blank.

Was the foundation liable for the section 4942 tax on the distributable amount of any year in the base period?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes," the foundation does not qualify under section 4940(e). Do not complete this part.

1 Enter the appropriate amount in each column for each year; see the instructions before making any entries.

(a) Base period years Calendar year (or tax year beginning in)	(b) Adjusted qualifying distributions	(c) Net value of noncharitable-use assets	(d) Distribution ratio (col. (b) divided by col. (c))
2014	100,813.	85,983.	1.172476
2013	99,999.	88,042.	1.135810
2012	99,999.	90,328.	1.107065
2011	99,999.	50,554.	1.978063
2010	135,700.	13,992.	9.698399

2 Total of line 1, column (d)	2	15.091813
3 Average distribution ratio for the 5-year base period - divide the total on line 2 by 5, or by the number of years the foundation has been in existence if less than 5 years	3	3.018363
4 Enter the net value of noncharitable-use assets for 2015 from Part X, line 5	4	361,865.
5 Multiply line 4 by line 3	5	1,092,240.
6 Enter 1% of net investment income (1% of Part I, line 27b)	6	0.
7 Add lines 5 and 6	7	1,092,240.
8 Enter qualifying distributions from Part XII, line 4	8	161,039.

If line 8 is equal to or greater than line 7, check the box in Part VI, line 1b, and complete that part using a 1% tax rate.
See the Part VI instructions.

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Part VI Excise Tax Based on Investment Income (Section 4940(a), 4940(b), 4940(e), or 4948 - see instructions)

1a Exempt operating foundations described in section 4940(d)(2), check here ☐ and enter "N/A" on line 1. Date of ruling or determination letter: _____ (attach copy of letter if necessary-see instructions) b Domestic foundations that meet the section 4940(e) requirements in Part V, check here ☐ and enter 1% of Part I, line 27b c All other domestic foundations enter 2% of line 27b. Exempt foreign organizations enter 4% of Part I, line 12, col. (b). 2 Tax under section 511 (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only. Others enter -0-) 3 Add lines 1 and 2 4 Subtitle A (income) tax (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only. Others enter -0-) 5 Tax based on investment income. Subtract line 4 from line 3. If zero or less, enter -0- 6 Credits/Payments: <table style="width:100%;"> <tr> <td style="width:60%;">a 2015 estimated tax payments and 2014 overpayment credited to 2015</td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: center;">6a</td> <td style="width:30%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>b Exempt foreign organizations - tax withheld at source</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6b</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>c Tax paid with application for extension of time to file (Form 8868)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6c</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>d Backup withholding erroneously withheld</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6d</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> 7 Total credits and payments. Add lines 6a through 6d 8 Enter any penalty for underpayment of estimated tax. Check here ☐ if Form 2220 is attached 9 Tax due. If the total of lines 5 and 8 is more than line 7, enter amount owed 10 Overpayment. If line 7 is more than the total of lines 5 and 8, enter the amount overpaid 11 Enter the amount of line 10 to be: Credited to 2016 estimated tax ☐ Refunded ☐	a 2015 estimated tax payments and 2014 overpayment credited to 2015	6a		b Exempt foreign organizations - tax withheld at source	6b		c Tax paid with application for extension of time to file (Form 8868)	6c		d Backup withholding erroneously withheld	6d		<table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="border: none;">1</td><td style="border: none;">1.</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">2</td><td style="border: none;">0.</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">3</td><td style="border: none;">1.</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">4</td><td style="border: none;">0.</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">5</td><td style="border: none;">1.</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">7</td><td style="border: none;">0.</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">8</td><td style="border: none;"></td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">9</td><td style="border: none;">1.</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">10</td><td style="border: none;"></td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">11</td><td style="border: none;"></td></tr> </table>	1	1.	2	0.	3	1.	4	0.	5	1.	7	0.	8		9	1.	10		11	
a 2015 estimated tax payments and 2014 overpayment credited to 2015	6a																																
b Exempt foreign organizations - tax withheld at source	6b																																
c Tax paid with application for extension of time to file (Form 8868)	6c																																
d Backup withholding erroneously withheld	6d																																
1	1.																																
2	0.																																
3	1.																																
4	0.																																
5	1.																																
7	0.																																
8																																	
9	1.																																
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11																																	

Part VII-A Statements Regarding Activities

	Yes	No
1a During the tax year, did the foundation attempt to influence any national, state, or local legislation or did it participate or intervene in any political campaign?	☐	☒
1b Did it spend more than \$100 during the year (either directly or indirectly) for political purposes (see instructions for the definition)? <i>If the answer is "Yes" to 1a or 1b, attach a detailed description of the activities and copies of any materials published or distributed by the foundation in connection with the activities</i>	☐	☒
1c Did the foundation file Form 1120-POL for this year?	☐	☒
d Enter the amount (if any) of tax on political expenditures (section 4955) imposed during the year: (1) On the foundation. \$ 0. (2) On foundation managers. \$ 0.		
e Enter the reimbursement (if any) paid by the foundation during the year for political expenditure tax imposed on foundation managers. \$ 0.		
2 Has the foundation engaged in any activities that have not previously been reported to the IRS? <i>If "Yes," attach a detailed description of the activities</i>	☐	☒
3 Has the foundation made any changes, not previously reported to the IRS, in its governing instrument, articles of incorporation, or bylaws, or other similar instruments? <i>If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the changes</i>	☐	☒
4a Did the foundation have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year?	☐	☒
b If "Yes," has it filed a tax return on Form 990-T for this year?	☐	☐
5 Was there a liquidation, termination, dissolution, or substantial contraction during the year? <i>If "Yes," attach the statement required by General Instruction T</i>	☐	☒
6 Are the requirements of section 508(e) (relating to sections 4941 through 4945) satisfied either: • By language in the governing instrument, or • By state legislation that effectively amends the governing instrument so that no mandatory directions that conflict with the state law remain in the governing instrument?	☐	☒
7 Did the foundation have at least \$5,000 in assets at any time during the year? <i>If "Yes," complete Part II, col (c), and Part XV</i>	☒	☐
8a Enter the states to which the foundation reports or with which it is registered (see instructions) IL		
b If the answer is "Yes" to line 7, has the foundation furnished a copy of Form 990-PF to the Attorney General (or designate) of each state as required by <i>General Instruction G</i> ? <i>If "No," attach explanation</i>	☒	☐
9 Is the foundation claiming status as a private operating foundation within the meaning of section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5) for calendar year 2015 or the taxable year beginning in 2015 (see instructions for Part XIV)? <i>If "Yes," complete Part XIV</i>	☐	☒
10 Did any persons become substantial contributors during the tax year? <i>If "Yes," attach a schedule listing their names and addresses</i> STMT 5	☒	☐

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**THE HELEN COBURN MEIER AND TIM MEIER
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS**

Part VII-A Statements Regarding Activities (continued)

	Yes	No
11 At any time during the year, did the foundation, directly or indirectly, own a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," attach schedule (see instructions)		X
12 Did the foundation make a distribution to a donor advised fund over which the foundation or a disqualified person had advisory privileges? If "Yes," attach statement (see instructions)		X
13 Did the foundation comply with the public inspection requirements for its annual returns and exemption application? Website address ► <u>WWW.MEIERFOUNDATION.ORG</u>	X	
14 The books are in care of ► <u>HELEN MEIER AND TIM MEIER</u> Telephone no. ► <u>847-251-0149</u> Located at ► <u>915 LINDEN AVE., WILMETTE, IL</u> ZIP+4 ► <u>60091-2712</u>		
15 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-PF in lieu of Form 1041 - Check here and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year	15 N/A	
16 At any time during calendar year 2015, did the foundation have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a bank, securities, or other financial account in a foreign country? See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114. If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country ►	16	X

Part VII-B Statements Regarding Activities for Which Form 4720 May Be Required

File Form 4720 if any item is checked in the "Yes" column, unless an exception applies.

	Yes	No
1a During the year did the foundation (either directly or indirectly):		
(1) Engage in the sale or exchange, or leasing of property with a disqualified person?	☐ Yes ☒ No	
(2) Borrow money from, lend money to, or otherwise extend credit to (or accept it from) a disqualified person?	☐ Yes ☒ No	
(3) Furnish goods, services, or facilities to (or accept them from) a disqualified person?	☐ Yes ☒ No	
(4) Pay compensation to, or pay or reimburse the expenses of, a disqualified person?	☒ Yes ☐ No	
(5) Transfer any income or assets to a disqualified person (or make any of either available for the benefit or use of a disqualified person)?	☐ Yes ☒ No	
(6) Agree to pay money or property to a government official? (Exception. Check "No" if the foundation agreed to make a grant to or to employ the official for a period after termination of government service, if terminating within 90 days.)	☐ Yes ☒ No	
b If any answer is "Yes" to 1a(1)-(6), did any of the acts fail to qualify under the exceptions described in Regulations section 53.4941(d)-3 or in a current notice regarding disaster assistance (see instructions)? Organizations relying on a current notice regarding disaster assistance check here	1b	X *
c Did the foundation engage in a prior year in any of the acts described in 1a, other than excepted acts, that were not corrected before the first day of the tax year beginning in 2015?	1c	X *
2 Taxes on failure to distribute income (section 4942) (does not apply for years the foundation was a private operating foundation defined in section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5)):		
a At the end of tax year 2015, did the foundation have any undistributed income (lines 6d and 6e, Part XIII) for tax year(s) beginning before 2015? If "Yes," list the years ►	☐ Yes ☒ No	
b Are there any years listed in 2a for which the foundation is not applying the provisions of section 4942(a)(2) (relating to incorrect valuation of assets) to the year's undistributed income? (If applying section 4942(a)(2) to all years listed, answer "No" and attach statement - see instructions.)	N/A	
c If the provisions of section 4942(a)(2) are being applied to any of the years listed in 2a, list the years here. ►	2b	
3a Did the foundation hold more than a 2% direct or indirect interest in any business enterprise at any time during the year?	☐ Yes ☒ No	
b If "Yes," did it have excess business holdings in 2015 as a result of (1) any purchase by the foundation or disqualified persons after May 26, 1969; (2) the lapse of the 5-year period (or longer period approved by the Commissioner under section 4943(c)(7)) to dispose of holdings acquired by gift or bequest; or (3) the lapse of the 10-, 15-, or 20-year first phase holding period? (Use Schedule C, Form 4720, to determine if the foundation had excess business holdings in 2015)	N/A	
4a Did the foundation invest during the year any amount in a manner that would jeopardize its charitable purposes?	4a	X
b Did the foundation make any investment in a prior year (but after December 31, 1969) that could jeopardize its charitable purpose that had not been removed from jeopardy before the first day of the tax year beginning in 2015?	4b	X

*See Attachment 1

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Part VII-B Statements Regarding Activities for Which Form 4720 May Be Required (continued)

5a During the year did the foundation pay or incur any amount to:

- (1) Carry on propaganda, or otherwise attempt to influence legislation (section 4945(e))? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- (2) Influence the outcome of any specific public election (see section 4955); or to carry on, directly or indirectly, any voter registration drive? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- (3) Provide a grant to an individual for travel, study, or other similar purposes? ☒ Yes ☐ No
- (4) Provide a grant to an organization other than a charitable, etc., organization described in section 4945(d)(4)(A)? (see instructions) ☐ Yes ☒ No
- (5) Provide for any purpose other than religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals? ☐ Yes ☒ No

b If any answer is "Yes" to 5a(1)-(5), did **any** of the transactions fail to qualify under the exceptions described in Regulations section 53.4945 or in a current notice regarding disaster assistance (see instructions)?

Organizations relying on a current notice regarding disaster assistance check here ☐

c If the answer is "Yes" to question 5a(4), does the foundation claim exemption from the tax because it maintained expenditure responsibility for the grant? **N/A** ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "Yes," attach the statement required by Regulations section 53.4945-5(d)

6a Did the foundation, during the year, receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract? ☐ Yes ☒ No

b Did the foundation, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?

If "Yes" to 6b, file Form 8870

7a At any time during the tax year, was the foundation a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? ☐ Yes ☒ No

b If "Yes," did the foundation receive any proceeds or have any net income attributable to the transaction? **N/A**

5b		X
6b		X
7b		

Part VIII Information About Officers, Directors, Trustees, Foundation Managers, Highly Paid Employees, and Contractors

1 List all officers, directors, trustees, foundation managers and their compensation.

(a) Name and address	(b) Title, and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation (if not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Expense account, other allowances
HELEN COBURN MEIER 915 LINDEN AVE. WILMETTE, IL 60091	PRESIDENT AND	DIRECTOR		
	1.00	0.	0.	0.
TIM MEIER 915 LINDEN AVE. WILMETTE, IL 60091	DIRECTOR			
	1.00	0.	0.	0.
JONATHAN EDELMAN 2 N. LASALLE STREET, 13TH FLOOR CHICAGO, IL 60602	DIRECTOR			
	1.00	0.	0.	0.

2 Compensation of five highest-paid employees (other than those included on line 1). If none, enter "NONE."

(a) Name and address of each employee paid more than \$50,000	(b) Title, and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Expense account, other allowances
NONE				

Total number of other employees paid over \$50,000 ☐ 0

Part VIII Information About Officers, Directors, Trustees, Foundation Managers, Highly Paid Employees, and Contractors *(continued)*

3 Five highest-paid independent contractors for professional services. If none, enter "NONE."

[illegible]

Total number of others receiving over \$50,000 for professional services

Part IX-A	Summary of Direct Charitable Activities
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List the foundation's four largest direct charitable activities during the tax year. Include relevant statistical information such as the number of organizations and other beneficiaries served, conferences convened, research papers produced, etc.

List the foundation's four largest direct charitable activities during the tax year. Include relevant statistical information such as the number of organizations and other beneficiaries served, conferences convened, research papers produced, etc.		Expenses
1	N/A	
2		
3		
4		

Part IX-B	Summary of Program-Related Investments
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Describe the two largest program-related investments made by the foundation during the tax year on lines 1 and 2.

Describe the two largest program-related investments made by the foundation during the tax year on lines 1 and 2.		Amount
1	N/A	
2		
All other program-related investments. See instructions.		
3		
Total. Add lines 1 through 3		0

Form **990-PF** (2015)

**THE HELEN COBURN MEIER AND TIM MEIER
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS**

Part X Minimum Investment Return (All domestic foundations must complete this part. Foreign foundations, see instructions)

1 Fair market value of assets not used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc., purposes:		
a Average monthly fair market value of securities	1a	0.
b Average of monthly cash balances	1b	367,376.
c Fair market value of all other assets	1c	
d Total (add lines 1a, b, and c)	1d	367,376.
e Reduction claimed for blockage or other factors reported on lines 1a and 1c (attach detailed explanation)	1e	0.
2 Acquisition indebtedness applicable to line 1 assets	2	0.
3 Subtract line 2 from line 1d	3	367,376.
4 Cash deemed held for charitable activities. Enter 1 1/2% of line 3 (for greater amount, see instructions)	4	5,511.
5 Net value of noncharitable-use assets. Subtract line 4 from line 3. Enter here and on Part V, line 4	5	361,865.
6 Minimum investment return. Enter 5% of line 5	6	18,093.

Part XI Distributable Amount (see instructions) (Section 4942(j)(3) and (j)(5) private operating foundations and certain foreign organizations check here ☐ and do not complete this part.)

1 Minimum investment return from Part X, line 6	1	18,093.
2a Tax on investment income for 2015 from Part VI, line 5	2a	1.
b Income tax for 2015. (This does not include the tax from Part VI.)	2b	
c Add lines 2a and 2b	2c	1.
3 Distributable amount before adjustments. Subtract line 2c from line 1	3	18,092.
4 Recoveries of amounts treated as qualifying distributions	4	0.
5 Add lines 3 and 4	5	18,092.
6 Deduction from distributable amount (see instructions)	6	0.
7 Distributable amount as adjusted. Subtract line 6 from line 5. Enter here and on Part XIII, line 1	7	18,092.

Part XII Qualifying Distributions (see instructions)

1 Amounts paid (including administrative expenses) to accomplish charitable, etc., purposes:		
a Expenses, contributions, gifts, etc. - total from Part I, column (d), line 26	1a	161,039.
b Program-related investments - total from Part IX-B	1b	0.
2 Amounts paid to acquire assets used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc., purposes	2	
3 Amounts set aside for specific charitable projects that satisfy the:		
a Suitability test (prior IRS approval required)	3a	
b Cash distribution test (attach the required schedule)	3b	
4 Qualifying distributions. Add lines 1a through 3b. Enter here and on Part V, line 8, and Part XIII, line 4	4	161,039.
5 Foundations that qualify under section 4940(e) for the reduced rate of tax on net investment income. Enter 1% of Part I, line 27b	5	0.
6 Adjusted qualifying distributions. Subtract line 5 from line 4	6	161,039.

Note. The amount on line 6 will be used in Part V, column (b), in subsequent years when calculating whether the foundation qualifies for the section 4940(e) reduction of tax in those years.

**THE HELEN COBURN MEIER AND TIM MEIER
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS**

Form 990-PF (2015)

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Part XIII Undistributed Income (see instructions)

	(a) Corpus	(b) Years prior to 2014	(c) 2014	(d) 2015
1 Distributable amount for 2015 from Part XI, line 7				18,092.
2 Undistributed income, if any, as of the end of 2015				
a Enter amount for 2014 only			0.	
b Total for prior years:		0.		
3 Excess distributions carryover, if any, to 2015:				
a From 2010	135,000.			
b From 2011	97,471.			
c From 2012	95,483.			
d From 2013	95,597.			
e From 2014	96,514.			
f Total of lines 3a through e	520,065.			
4 Qualifying distributions for 2015 from Part XII, line 4: ▶ \$	161,039.			
a Applied to 2014, but not more than line 2a			0.	
b Applied to undistributed income of prior years (Election required - see instructions)		0.		
c Treated as distributions out of corpus (Election required - see instructions)	0.			
d Applied to 2015 distributable amount				18,092.
e Remaining amount distributed out of corpus	142,947.			
5 Excess distributions carryover applied to 2015 (If an amount appears in column (d), the same amount must be shown in column (a))	0.			0.
6 Enter the net total of each column as indicated below:				
a Corpus Add lines 3f, 4c, and 4e Subtract line 5	663,012.			
b Prior years' undistributed income. Subtract line 4b from line 2b		0.		
c Enter the amount of prior years' undistributed income for which a notice of deficiency has been issued, or on which the section 4942(a) tax has been previously assessed		0.		
d Subtract line 6c from line 6b. Taxable amount - see instructions		0.		
e Undistributed income for 2014. Subtract line 4a from line 2a. Taxable amount - see instr.			0.	
f Undistributed income for 2015. Subtract lines 4d and 5 from line 1. This amount must be distributed in 2016				0.
7 Amounts treated as distributions out of corpus to satisfy requirements imposed by section 170(b)(1)(F) or 4942(g)(3) (Election may be required - see instructions)	0.			
8 Excess distributions carryover from 2010 not applied on line 5 or line 7	135,000.			
9 Excess distributions carryover to 2016. Subtract lines 7 and 8 from line 6a	528,012.			
10 Analysis of line 9:				
a Excess from 2011	97,471.			
b Excess from 2012	95,483.			
c Excess from 2013	95,597.			
d Excess from 2014	96,514.			
e Excess from 2015	142,947.			

**THE HELEN COBURN MEIER AND TIM MEIER
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS**

Form 990-PF (2015)

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Part XIV Private Operating Foundations (see instructions and Part VII-A, question 9) N/A

- 1 a** If the foundation has received a ruling or determination letter that it is a private operating foundation, and the ruling is effective for 2015, enter the date of the ruling ▶
- b** Check box to indicate whether the foundation is a private operating foundation described in section ☐ 4942(j)(3) or ☐ 4942(j)(5)

	Tax year	Prior 3 years			(e) Total
	(a) 2015	(b) 2014	(c) 2013	(d) 2012	
2 a Enter the lesser of the adjusted net income from Part I or the minimum investment return from Part X for each year listed					
b 85% of line 2a					
c Qualifying distributions from Part XII, line 4 for each year listed					
d Amounts included in line 2c not used directly for active conduct of exempt activities					
e Qualifying distributions made directly for active conduct of exempt activities. Subtract line 2d from line 2c					
3 Complete 3a, b, or c for the alternative test relied upon:					
a "Assets" alternative test - enter:					
(1) Value of all assets					
(2) Value of assets qualifying under section 4942(j)(3)(B)(i)					
b "Endowment" alternative test - enter 2/3 of minimum investment return shown in Part X, line 6 for each year listed					
c "Support" alternative test - enter:					
(1) Total support other than gross investment income (interest, dividends, rents, payments on securities loans (section 512(a)(5)), or royalties)					
(2) Support from general public and 5 or more exempt organizations as provided in section 4942(j)(3)(B)(iii)					
(3) Largest amount of support from an exempt organization					
(4) Gross investment income					

Part XV Supplementary Information (Complete this part only if the foundation had \$5,000 or more in assets at any time during the year-see instructions.)

1 Information Regarding Foundation Managers:

- a** List any managers of the foundation who have contributed more than 2% of the total contributions received by the foundation before the close of any tax year (but only if they have contributed more than \$5,000). (See section 507(d)(2).)

NONE

- b** List any managers of the foundation who own 10% or more of the stock of a corporation (or an equally large portion of the ownership of a partnership or other entity) of which the foundation has a 10% or greater interest.

NONE

2 Information Regarding Contribution, Grant, Gift, Loan, Scholarship, etc., Programs:

Check here ☐ if the foundation only makes contributions to preselected charitable organizations and does not accept unsolicited requests for funds. If the foundation makes gifts, grants, etc. (see instructions) to individuals or organizations under other conditions, complete items 2a, b, c, and d.

- a** The name, address, and telephone number or e-mail address of the person to whom applications should be addressed:

SEE ATTACHMENT 2

- b** The form in which applications should be submitted and information and materials they should include:

SEE ATTACHMENT 2

- c** Any submission deadlines:

SEE ATTACHMENT 2

- d** Any restrictions or limitations on awards, such as by geographical areas, charitable fields, kinds of institutions, or other factors:

SEE ATTACHMENT 2

**THE HELEN COBURN MEIER AND TIM MEIER
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS**

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Part XV **Supplementary Information** (continued)

3 Grants and Contributions Paid During the Year or Approved for Future Payment				
Recipient Name and address (home or business)	If recipient is an individual, show any relationship to any foundation manager or substantial contributor	Foundation status of recipient	Purpose of grant or contribution	Amount
a Paid during the year				
DAN RAMIREZ 2260 WEST 113TH STREET CHICAGO, IL 60643	NONE		UNRESTRICTED	40,000.
JAMES MORROW 71A LORING AVE. SALEM, MA 01970	NONE		UNRESTRICTED	40,000.
DAMON LOCKS 2707 N. LAWDALE AVENUE, FIRST FLOOR REAR CHICAGO, IL 60647	NONE		UNRESTRICTED	40,000.
ERIC STEPHENSON 2737 N. FRANCISCO AVE. CHICAGO, IL 60647	NONE		UNRESTRICTED	40,000.
Total			3a	160,000.
b Approved for future payment				
NONE				
Total			3b	0.

Form 990-PF (2015)

523611
11-24-15

Part XVII Information Regarding Transfers To and Transactions and Relationships With Noncharitable Exempt Organizations

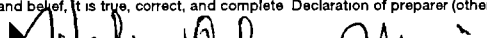
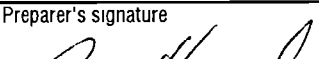
Exempt Organizations		Yes	No
1	Did the organization directly or indirectly engage in any of the following with any other organization described in section 501(c) of the Code (other than section 501(c)(3) organizations) or in section 527, relating to political organizations?		
a	Transfers from the reporting foundation to a noncharitable exempt organization of:		
	(1) Cash	1a(1)	X
	(2) Other assets	1a(2)	X
b	Other transactions:		
	(1) Sales of assets to a noncharitable exempt organization	1b(1)	X
	(2) Purchases of assets from a noncharitable exempt organization	1b(2)	X
	(3) Rental of facilities, equipment, or other assets	1b(3)	X
	(4) Reimbursement arrangements	1b(4)	X
	(5) Loans or loan guarantees	1b(5)	X
	(6) Performance of services or membership or fundraising solicitations	1b(6)	X
c	Sharing of facilities, equipment, mailing lists, other assets, or paid employees	1c	X
d	If the answer to any of the above is "Yes," complete the following schedule. Column (b) should always show the fair market value of the goods, other assets, or services given by the reporting foundation. If the foundation received less than fair market value in any transaction or sharing arrangement, show in column (d) the value of the goods, other assets, or services received.		

[illegible]

2a Is the foundation directly or indirectly affiliated with, or related to, one or more tax-exempt organizations described in section 501(c) of the Code (other than section 501(c)(3)) or in section 527? ☐ Yes ☒ No

b If "Yes," complete the following schedule.

(a) Name of organization	(b) Type of organization	(c) Description of relationship
N/A		

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 taxpayer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge				May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown below (see instr)? ☒ Yes ☐ No		
	 Signature of officer or trustee		13-15-2016 Date			PRESIDENT Title	
Paid Preparer Use Only	Print/Type preparer's name		Preparer's signature		Check ☐ if self-employed	PTIN	
	CASE HOOGENDOORN		 3/11/16			P01410705	
	Firm's name ▶ HOOGENDOORN & TALBOT LLP					Firm's EIN ▶ 36-3350821	
	Firm's address ▶ 122 S MICHIGAN AVE STE 1220 CHICAGO, IL 60603					Phone no. 3127862250	

Schedule B

(Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service**Schedule of Contributors**

▶ Attach to Form 990, Form 990-EZ, or Form 990-PF.
▶ Information about Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF) and
its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Name of the organization

THE HELEN COBURN MEIER AND TIM MEIER
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS

Employer identification number

26-4204237

Organization type (check one)

Filers of:

Section:

Form 990 or 990-EZ

☐ 501(c)() (enter number) organization☐ 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust **not** treated as a private foundation☐ 527 political organization

Form 990-PF

☒ 501(c)(3) exempt private foundation☐ 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust treated as a private foundation☐ 501(c)(3) taxable private foundationCheck if your organization is covered by the **General Rule** or a **Special Rule**.**Note.** Only a section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) organization can check boxes for both the General Rule and a Special Rule. See instructions.**General Rule**

- ☒ For an organization filing Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF that received, during the year, contributions totaling \$5,000 or more (in money or property) from any one contributor. Complete Parts I and II. See instructions for determining a contributor's total contributions.

Special Rules

- ☐ For an organization described in section 501(c)(3) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that met the 33 1/3% support test of the regulations under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi), that checked Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ), Part II, line 13, 16a, or 16b, and that received from any one contributor, during the year, total contributions of the greater of (1) \$5,000 or (2) 2% of the amount on (i) Form 990, Part VIII, line 1h, or (ii) Form 990-EZ, line 1. Complete Parts I and II.
- ☐ For an organization described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that received from any one contributor, during the year, total contributions of more than \$1,000 *exclusively* for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals. Complete Parts I, II, and III.
- ☐ For an organization described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that received from any one contributor, during the year, contributions *exclusively* for religious, charitable, etc., purposes, but no such contributions totaled more than \$1,000. If this box is checked, enter here the total contributions that were received during the year for an *exclusively* religious, charitable, etc., purpose. Do not complete any of the parts unless the **General Rule** applies to this organization because it received *nonexclusively* religious, charitable, etc., contributions totaling \$5,000 or more during the year ▶ \$ _____

Caution. An organization that is not covered by the General Rule and/or the Special Rules does not file Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF), but it **must** answer "No" on Part IV, line 2, of its Form 990, or check the box on line H of its Form 990-EZ or on its Form 990-PF, Part I, line 2, to certify that it does not meet the filing requirements of Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).

LHA For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF. Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF) (2015)

Name of organization THE HELEN COBURN MEIER AND TIM MEIER CHARITABLE FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS	Employer identification number 26-4204237
--	---

Part I Contributors (see instructions). Use duplicate copies of Part I if additional space is needed

(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
1	TIM AND HELEN COBURN MEIER 915 LINDEN AVE. WILMETTE, IL 60091-2712	\$ 200,000.	Person ☒ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☐ (Complete Part II for noncash contributions)
			Person ☐ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☐ (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
			Person ☐ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☐ (Complete Part II for noncash contributions)
			Person ☐ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☐ (Complete Part II for noncash contributions)
			Person ☐ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☐ (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
			Person ☐ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☐ (Complete Part II for noncash contributions)
			Person ☐ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☐ (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
			Person ☐ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☐ (Complete Part II for noncash contributions)

Name of organization THE HELEN COBURN MEIER AND TIM MEIER CHARITABLE FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS	Employer identification number 26-4204237
--	---

Part II Noncash Property (see instructions) Use duplicate copies of Part II if additional space is needed.

(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (see instructions)	(d) Date received
		\$	
		\$	
		\$	
		\$	
		\$	
		\$	
		\$	
		\$	
		\$	

Name of organization THE HELEN COBURN MEIER AND TIM MEIER CHARITABLE FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS	Employer identification number 26-4204237
--	---

Part III Exclusively religious, charitable, etc., contributions to organizations described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) that total more than \$1,000 for the year from any one contributor. Complete columns (a) through (e) and the following line entry. For organizations completing Part III, enter the total of exclusively religious, charitable, etc., contributions of \$1,000 or less for the year (Enter this info. once) ▶ \$ _____

Use duplicate copies of Part III if additional space is needed

(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
	(e) Transfer of gift		
	Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee
	(e) Transfer of gift		
	Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee
	(e) Transfer of gift		
	Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee
	(e) Transfer of gift		
	Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee
	(e) Transfer of gift		
	Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee

FORM 990-PF INTEREST ON SAVINGS AND TEMPORARY CASH INVESTMENTS STATEMENT 1

SOURCE	(A) REVENUE PER BOOKS	(B) NET INVESTMENT INCOME	(C) ADJUSTED NET INCOME
CHASE	27.	27.	0.
TOTAL TO PART I, LINE 3	27.	27.	0.

FORM 990-PF LEGAL FEES STATEMENT 2

DESCRIPTION	(A) EXPENSES PER BOOKS	(B) NET INVEST- MENT INCOME	(C) ADJUSTED NET INCOME	(D) CHARITABLE PURPOSES
LEGAL FEES	10,539.	0.	0.	0.
TO FM 990-PF, PG 1, LN 16A	10,539.	0.	0.	0.

FORM 990-PF OTHER EXPENSES STATEMENT 3

DESCRIPTION	(A) EXPENSES PER BOOKS	(B) NET INVEST- MENT INCOME	(C) ADJUSTED NET INCOME	(D) CHARITABLE PURPOSES
AWARD BANQUET	1,039.	0.	0.	1,039.
FILING FEE	15.	0.	0.	0.
WEB DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT	5,000.	0.	0.	0.
TO FORM 990-PF, PG 1, LN 23	6,054.	0.	0.	1,039.

FORM 990-PF OTHER INCREASES IN NET ASSETS OR FUND BALANCES STATEMENT 4

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
REIMBURSEMENT FOR CONSULTING FEES PREVIOUSLY PAID	288,000.
ACCOUNT SERVICE FEE REIMBURSEMENT	144.
TOTAL TO FORM 990-PF, PART III, LINE 3	288,144.

FORM 990-PF

LIST OF SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTORS
PART VII-A, LINE 10

STATEMENT 5

NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR

ADDRESS

TIM AND HELEN MEIER

915 LINDEN AVE.
WILMETTE, IL 60091-2712

THE HELEN COBURN MEIER AND TIM MEIER
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS
FEIN: 26-4204237
2014 Form 990-PF

Attachment 1

Clarifications regarding Part VII-B Questions:

1a(6): The Helen Coburn Meier and Tim Meier Charitable Foundation for the Arts (“Foundation”) did not intentionally agree to pay money or property to a government official during the year. The Meiers originally had hired Michele E. Smith (“Ms. Smith”) in 2009 as a personal assistant to help them manage the Foundation’s books and records, assess art and artists, provide publicity and media relations, and give strategic guidance to the Foundation on an as-needed basis. Because Ms. Smith was providing services to the Foundation, the Foundation’s accountant recommended that the Foundation pay her directly and take the compensation as a Foundation expense. Later, in 2011, Ms. Smith was elected as an alderman for the City of Chicago. Neither Ms. Smith, the Foundation directors, nor their accountants were aware that this made Ms. Smith a “government official” and barred her from receiving compensation from the Foundation. In early 2015 the Foundation and Ms. Smith became aware that payments to Ms. Smith, even for her personal services to the Foundation entirely outside of her scope of governmental work, were considered an act of self-dealing since she was an alderman for the City of Chicago which made her a government official. Immediately upon discovering that this was an act of self-dealing, Ms. Smith resigned as a director and returned all of her compensation received from the Foundation for all years. She received no further compensation once she determined it was self-dealing.

Since Ms. Smith returned all of her compensation from the Foundation and received no further compensation once she became aware that it was self-dealing, the Foundation believes there should not be any imposition of tax caused by these acts. For this reason, the Foundation is not filing Form 4720.

1b: As explained above, the Foundation ceased payments to Ms. Smith as soon as they became aware it was self-dealing, so the Foundation believes it was not violating any rules and does not need to qualify for an exception.

1c: As explained above, the Foundation immediately ceased payments to Ms. Smith once it found out it was considered self-dealing, so it immediately corrected the act once it became a problem.

THE HELEN COBURN MEIER AND TIM MEIER
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS
FEIN: 26-4204237
2014 Form 990-PF

Attachment 2

Answers to Part XV, Questions 2a-d:

- 2a: Applications Addressed to Whom: The Foundation does not accept applications from artists for the awards. The Foundation receives nominations from a group of individuals interested in the art world. The board of nominators began as a group of non-artists, but now is made up of previous Foundation award winners who all are very active in various aspects of the art world.
- 2b: Form of Application: As explained above, the Foundation does not accept applications, so there is no form and no materials to submit. The board of nominators comes up with artists to consider and submits a list to the board of directors. The board of directors then views artists' works on line and in person without letting the artist know he or she is being considered for the award. After reviewing the artists' works, the board of directors votes on the awards.
- 2c: Deadlines: As explained above, there are no submissions allowed, so there are no deadlines.
- 2d: Restrictions on Awards: The awards are given to Chicago-area artists in music, theater, visual arts, literature and dance who are in mid-career and have demonstrated both talent and persistence in pursuing their craft. Special emphasis is placed on overlooked or under publicized talent who are "pushing the envelope," that is, continuing to innovate, as well as community involvement.