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Form 990  Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service	Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations) ▶ Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public ▶ Information about Form 990 and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990	OMB No 1545-0047 2015 Open to Public Inspection
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A For the 2015 calendar year, or tax year beginning 01-01-2015 , and ending 12-31-2015

B Check if applicable ☐ Address change ☐ Name change ☐ Initial return ☐ Final return/terminated ☐ Amended return ☐ Application pending	C Name of organization LOWELL OBSERVATORY		D Employer identification number 86-0098918
	Doing business as		E Telephone number (928) 774-3358
	Number and street (or P O box if mail is not delivered to street address) 1400 W MARS HILL ROAD	Room/suite	G Gross receipts \$ 9,044,031
	City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code FLAGSTAFF, AZ 860014470		
	F Name and address of principal officer JEFF HALL 1400 W MARS HILL ROAD FLAGSTAFF, AZ 860014470		
I Tax-exempt status ☒ 501(c)(3) ☐ 501(c) () ◀ (insert no) ☐ 4947(a)(1) or ☐ 527		H(a) Is this a group return for subordinates? ☐ Yes ☒ No H(b) Are all subordinates included? ☐ Yes ☐ No If "No," attach a list (see instructions) H(c) Group exemption number ▶	
J Website: ▶ WWW.LOWELL.EDU			

Part I Summary

Activities & Governance	1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities LOWELL'S MISSION IS TO PURSUE THE STUDY OF ASTRONOMY, ESPECIALLY THE STUDY OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM AND ITS EVOLUTION, CONDUCT PURE RESEARCH IN ASTRONOMICAL PHENOMENA, PROVIDE QUALITY PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS TO BRING THE RESULTS OF ASTRONOMICAL RESEARCH TO THE PUBLIC		
	2 Check this box ☐ if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets		
	3 Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)	3	1
	4 Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	4	0
	5 Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2015 (Part V, line 2a)	5	139
6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	6	33	
7a Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	7a	0	
7b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34	7b	0	
Revenue	8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	Prior Year	Current Year
	9 Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	5,764,553	3,697,510
	10 Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	1,047,726	3,106,288
	11 Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	408,893	444,998
	12 Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1,371,252	330,260
		8,592,424	7,579,056
Expenses	13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1–3)	0	2,458,233
	14 Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)	0	0
	15 Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5–10)	5,139,271	5,976,391
	16a Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)	0	0
	b Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) <u>702,157</u>		
	17 Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a–11d, 11f–24e)	5,422,193	4,722,952
	18 Total expenses Add lines 13–17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	10,561,464	13,157,576
	19 Revenue less expenses Subtract line 18 from line 12	-1,969,040	-5,578,520
Net Assets or Fund Balances		Beginning of Current Year	End of Year
	20 Total assets (Part X, line 16)	53,149,284	48,545,604
	21 Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	28,470,487	29,682,765
	22 Net assets or fund balances Subtract line 21 from line 20	24,678,797	18,862,839

Part II Signature Block

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	*****						2016-10-05	
	Signature of officer							Date
	ANNE LABRUZZO DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF ADMIN Type or print name and title							
Paid Preparer Use Only	Print/Type preparer's name KAREN K MCCLOSKEY CPA		Preparer's signature KAREN K MCCLOSKEY CPA		Date	Check ☐ if self-employed	PTIN P00099644	
	Firm's name ▶ BEACHFLEISCHMAN PC					Firm's EIN ▶ 86-0683059		
	Firm's address ▶ 2201 EAST CAMELBACK ROAD SUITE 200 PHOENIX, AZ 850163431					Phone no (602) 265-7011		

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? (see instructions) ☒ Yes ☐ No

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part III 5

3 Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes," describe these changes on Schedule O

4 Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations are required to report the amount of grants and allocations to others, the total expenses, and revenue, if any, for each program service reported.

4a (Code) (Expenses \$ 9,798,010 including grants of \$ 2,458,233) (Revenue \$ 2,346,769)

WE CONDUCT RESEARCH IN ALL AREAS OF ASTRONOMY, INCLUDING STUDIES OF THE SUN, ASTEROIDS AND COMETS, THE OUTER SOLAR SYSTEM INCLUDING PLUTO, STARS, AND GALAXIES IN 2015, OUR ASTRONOMERS PUBLISHED ON AVERAGE ONE PAPER PER WEEK, AND THEY REGULARLY PARTICIPATE IN MAJOR ASTRONOMICAL MISSIONS (INCLUDING THE NEW HORIZONS MISSION TO PLUTO AND THE KUIPER BELT) AND FACILITIES AND SCIENCE REVIEWS IN 2015, WE BROUGHT LOWELL'S 4 3-METER DISCOVERY CHANNEL TELESCOPE (DCT) INTO FULL OPERATIONS, DELIVERING 297 SCIENCE NIGHTS TO ASTRONOMERS FROM OUR OWN STAFF AND FROM OUR PARTNERS' WE ALSO FORMED PARTNERSHIPS TO BRING WORLD-LEADING INSTRUMENTATION TO DCT, WHICH WILL STEADILY EXPAND ITS CAPABILITIES IN YEARS AHEAD

4b	(Code	) (Expenses \$	941,889	including grants of \$	) (Revenue \$	759,519)
	OUR OUTREACH PROGRAMS TEACH VISITORS ABOUT GENERAL CONCEPTS IN PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY AND ABOUT PAST AND PRESENT RESEARCH PROJECTS AT LOWELL. IN 2015, MORE THAN 95,000 VISITORS OF ALL AGES AND BACKGROUNDS PARTICIPATED IN THE OBSERVATORY'S OUTREACH PROGRAMS. WE HOSTED A SPECIAL "PLUTO PALOOZA" EVENT DURING THE MONTH OF JULY TO CELEBRATE NEW HORIZONS FLYBY OF PLUTO. THIS EVENT ATTRACTED 6,000 VISITORS IN A SINGLE WEEK. THE LOWELL OBSERVATORY CAMPS FOR KIDS PROGRAMS SERVED OVER 155 PRE-K, ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS AND A NUMBER OF LOCAL TEACHERS. LOWELL ASTRONOMERS AND EDUCATORS INVOLVED IN THE OBSERVATORY'S NAVAJO-HOPI PROGRAM MADE NUMEROUS VISITS TO SCHOOLS ON NAVAJO AND HOPI LANDS TO TEACH LESSONS AND HOST STAR PARTIES.					

[illegible]

4d Other program services (Describe in Schedule O)
(Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4e	Total program service expenses	10,739,899
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Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules

	Yes	No
1 Is the organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 4947(a)(1) (other than a private foundation)? If "Yes," complete Schedule A 	1 Yes	
2 Is the organization required to complete Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors (see instructions)? 	2 Yes	
3 Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I	3	No
4 Section 501(c)(3) organizations. 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	4	No
5 Is the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization that receives membership dues, assessments, or similar amounts as defined in Revenue Procedure 98-19? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III	5	No
6 Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds or any similar funds or accounts for which donors have the right to provide advice on the distribution or investment of amounts in such funds or accounts? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I 	6	No
7 Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space, the environment, historic land areas, or historic structures? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II 	7	No
8 Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III 	8 Yes	
9 Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21 for escrow or custodial account liability, serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X, or provide credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV 	9	No
10 Did the organization, directly or through a related organization, hold assets in temporarily restricted endowments, permanent endowments, or quasi-endowments? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V 	10 Yes	
11 If the organization's answer to any of the following questions is "Yes," then complete Schedule D, Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, or X as applicable		
a Did the organization report an amount for land, buildings, and equipment in Part X, line 10? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VI. 	11a Yes	
b Did the organization report an amount for investments—other securities in Part X, line 12 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VII 	11b	No
c Did the organization report an amount for investments—program related in Part X, line 13 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VIII 	11c	No
d Did the organization report an amount for other assets in Part X, line 15 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IX 	11d	No
e Did the organization report an amount for other liabilities in Part X, line 25? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X 	11e Yes	
f Did the organization's separate or consolidated financial statements for the tax year include a footnote that addresses the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740)? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X 	11f Yes	
12a Did the organization obtain separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI and XII 	12a	No
b Was the organization included in consolidated, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? If "Yes," and if the organization answered "No" to line 12a, then completing Schedule D, Parts XI and XII is optional 	12b Yes	
13 Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E	13	No
14a Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the United States?	14a	No
b Did the organization have aggregate revenues or expenses of more than \$10,000 from grantmaking, fundraising, business, investment, and program service activities outside the United States, or aggregate foreign investments valued at \$100,000 or more? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts I and IV	14b	No
15 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for any foreign organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts II and IV	15	No
16 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of aggregate grants or other assistance to or for foreign individuals? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts III and IV	16	No
17 Did the organization report a total of more than \$15,000 of expenses for professional fundraising services on Part IX, column (A), lines 6 and 11e? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I (see instructions) 	17	No
18 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 total of fundraising event gross income and contributions on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II 	18 Yes	
19 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 of gross income from gaming activities on Part VIII, line 9a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III 	19	No
20a Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities? If "Yes," complete Schedule H	20a	No
b If "Yes" to line 20a, did the organization attach a copy of its audited financial statements to this return?	20b	

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules (continued)

21	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to any domestic organization or domestic government on Part IX, column (A), line 1? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II</i>	21	Yes	
22	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for domestic individuals on Part IX, column (A), line 2? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III</i>	22		No
23	Did the organization answer "Yes" to Part VII, Section A, line 3, 4, or 5 about compensation of the organization's current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J</i>	23	Yes	
24a	Did the organization have a tax-exempt bond issue with an outstanding principal amount of more than \$100,000 as of the last day of the year, that was issued after December 31, 2002? <i>If "Yes," answer lines 24b through 24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to line 25a</i>	24a		No
b	Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception?	24b		
c	Did the organization maintain an escrow account other than a refunding escrow at any time during the year to defease any tax-exempt bonds?	24c		
d	Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year?	24d		
25a	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I</i>	25a		No
b	Is the organization 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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I</i>	25b		No
26	Did the organization report any amount on Part X, line 5, 6, or 22 for receivables from or payables to any current or former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, or disqualified persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II</i>	26		No
27	Did the organization provide a grant or other assistance to an officer, director, trustee, key employee, substantial contributor or employee thereof, a grant selection committee member, or to a 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III</i>	27		No
28	Was the organization a party to a business transaction with one of the following parties (see Schedule L, Part IV instructions for applicable filing thresholds, conditions, and exceptions)			
a	A current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>	28a		No
b	A family member of a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>	28b		No
c	An entity of which a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee (or a family member thereof) was an officer, director, trustee, or direct or indirect owner? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>	28c		No
29	Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in non-cash contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M</i>	29	Yes	
30	Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M</i>	30		No
31	Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I</i>	31		No
32	Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II</i>	32		No
33	Did the organization own 100% of an entity disregarded as separate from the organization under Regulations sections 301.7701-2 and 301.7701-3? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part I</i>	33		No
34	Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part II, III, or IV, and Part V, line 1</i>	34	Yes	
35a	Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?	35a	Yes	
b	If 'Yes' to line 35a, did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2</i>	35b	Yes	
36	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2</i>	36		No
37	Did the organization conduct more than 5% of its activities through an entity that is not a related organization and that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part VI</i>	37		No
38	Did the organization complete Schedule O and provide explanations in Schedule O for Part VI, lines 11b and 19? Note. All Form 990 filers are required to complete Schedule O	38	Yes	

Part V

Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part V

		Yes	No
1a	Enter the number reported in Box 3 of Form 1096. Enter -0- if not applicable.	34	
1b	Enter the number of Forms W-2G included in line 1a. Enter -0- if not applicable.	0	
c Did the organization comply with backup withholding rules for reportable payments to vendors and reportable gaming (gambling) winnings to prize winners?		1c	Yes
2a	Enter the number of employees reported on Form W-3, Transmittal of Wage and Tax Statements, filed for the calendar year ending with or within the year covered by this return.	2a	139
b If at least one is reported on line 2a, did the organization file all required federal employment tax returns? Note. If the sum of lines 1a and 2a is greater than 250, you may be required to e-file (see instructions).		2b	Yes
3a Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year?		3a	No
b If "Yes," has it filed a Form 990-T for this year? If "No" to line 3b, provide an explanation in Schedule O.		3b	
4a At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in, or a signature or other authority over, a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)?		4a	No
b If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: _____ See instructions for filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR).			
5a Was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction at any time during the tax year?		5a	No
b Did any taxable party notify the organization that it was or is a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction?		5b	No
c If "Yes," to line 5a or 5b, did the organization file Form 8886-T?		5c	
6a Does the organization have annual gross receipts that are normally greater than \$100,000, and did the organization solicit any contributions that were not tax deductible as charitable contributions?		6a	No
b If "Yes," did the organization include with every solicitation an express statement that such contributions or gifts were not tax deductible?		6b	
7 Organizations that may receive deductible contributions under section 170(c).			
a Did the organization receive a payment in excess of \$75 made partly as a contribution and partly for goods and services provided to the payor?		7a	Yes
b If "Yes," did the organization notify the donor of the value of the goods or services provided?		7b	Yes
c Did the organization sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of tangible personal property for which it was required to file Form 8282?		7c	No
d If "Yes," indicate the number of Forms 8282 filed during the year.		7d	
e Did the organization receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract?		7e	No
f Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?		7f	No
g If the organization received a contribution of qualified intellectual property, did the organization file Form 8899 as required?		7g	
h If the organization received a contribution of cars, boats, airplanes, or other vehicles, did the organization file a Form 1098-C?		7h	
8 Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds. Did a donor advised fund maintained by the sponsoring organization have excess business holdings at any time during the year?		8	
9a Did the sponsoring organization make any taxable distributions under section 4966?		9a	
b Did the sponsoring organization make a distribution to a donor, donor advisor, or related person?		9b	
10 Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter			
a Initiation fees and capital contributions included on Part VIII, line 12.		10a	
b Gross receipts, included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, for public use of club facilities.		10b	
11 Section 501(c)(12) organizations. Enter			
a Gross income from members or shareholders.		11a	
b Gross income from other sources (Do not net amounts due or paid to other sources against amounts due or received from them).		11b	
12a Section 4947(a)(1) non-exempt charitable trusts. Is the organization filing Form 990 in lieu of Form 1041?		12a	
b If "Yes," enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year.		12b	
13 Section 501(c)(29) qualified nonprofit health insurance issuers.			
a Is the organization licensed to issue qualified health plans in more than one state? Note. See the instructions for additional information the organization must report on Schedule O.		13a	
b Enter the amount of reserves the organization is required to maintain by the states in which the organization is licensed to issue qualified health plans.		13b	
c Enter the amount of reserves on hand.		13c	
14a Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the tax year?		14a	No
b If "Yes," has it filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O.		14b	

Part VI

Governance, Management, and Disclosure

For each "Yes" response to lines 2 through 7b below, and for a "No" response to lines 8a, 8b, or 10b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes in Schedule O. See instructions.

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VI

Section A. Governing Body and Management

		Yes	No
1a	Enter the number of voting members of the governing body at the end of the tax year		
	If there are material differences in voting rights among members of the governing body, or if the governing body delegated broad authority to an executive committee or similar committee, explain in Schedule O		
b	Enter the number of voting members included in line 1a, above, who are independent		
2	Did any officer, director, trustee, or key employee have a family relationship or a business relationship with any other officer, director, trustee, or key employee?		No
3	Did the organization delegate control over management duties customarily performed by or under the direct supervision of officers, directors or trustees, or key employees to a management company or other person?		No
4	Did the organization make any significant changes to its governing documents since the prior Form 990 was filed?		No
5	Did the organization become aware during the year of a significant diversion of the organization's assets?		No
6	Did the organization have members or stockholders?		No
7a	Did the organization have members, stockholders, or other persons who had the power to elect or appoint one or more members of the governing body?		No
b	Are any governance decisions of the organization reserved to (or subject to approval by) members, stockholders, or persons other than the governing body?		No
8	Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following		
a	The governing body?	Yes	
b	Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body?	Yes	
9	Is there any officer, director, trustee, or key employee listed in Part VII, Section A, who cannot be reached at the organization's mailing address? If "Yes," provide the names and addresses in Schedule O		No

Section B. Policies (This Section B requests information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)

	Yes	No
10a		No
b		
11a	Yes	
b		
12a	Yes	
b	Yes	
c	Yes	
13	Yes	
14	Yes	
15		
a	Yes	
b		No
16a		No
b		
16b		

Section C. Disclosure

17	List the States with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed	AZ
18	Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Form 1023 (or 1024 if applicable), 990, and 990-T (501(c)(3)s only) available for public inspection. Indicate how you made these available. Check all that apply. ☒ Own website ☐ Another's website ☒ Upon request ☐ Other (explain in Schedule O)	
19	Describe in Schedule O whether (and if so, how) the organization made its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available to the public during the tax year	
20	State the name, address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the organization's books and records	ANNE LABRUZZO 1400 W MARS HILL ROAD FLAGSTAFF, AZ 860014470 (928) 233-3239

Part VII

Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VII

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

- 1a Complete this table for all persons required to be listed Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year
- List all of the organization's **current** officers, directors, trustees (whether individuals or organizations), regardless of amount of compensation Enter -0- in columns (D), (E), and (F) if no compensation was paid

List all of the organization's **current** key employees, if any See instructions for definition of "key employee "

List the organization's five **current** highest compensated employees (other than an officer, director, trustee or key employee) who received reportable compensation (Box 5 of Form W-2 and/or Box 7 of Form 1099-MISC) of more than \$100,000 from the organization and any related organizations

List all of the organization's **former** officers, key employees, or highest compensated employees who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations

List all of the organization's **former directors or trustees** that received, in the capacity as a former director or trustee of the organization, more than \$10,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations

List persons in the following order individual trustees or directors, institutional trustees, officers, key employees, highest compensated employees, and former such persons

Check this box if neither the organization nor any related organization compensated any current officer, director, or trustee

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W- 2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W- 2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional Trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
(1) PUTNAM W LOWELL TRUSTEE - SOLE	32 00 3 00	X		X				29,094	0	9,986
(2) HALL JEFFREY DIRECTOR	40 00			X				147,996	0	15,586
(3) LABRUZZO ANNE DEPUTY DIR ADMINISTRATION	40 00			X				45,512	0	6,763
(4) DUNHAM EDWARD INSTRUMENT SCIENTIST	40 00					X		144,523	0	14,657
(5) MASSEY PHILIP ASTRONOMER	40 00					X		142,436	0	14,604
(6) SCHLEICHER DAVID ASTRONOMER	40 00					X		135,252	0	14,367
(7) HUNTER DEIDRE ASTRONOMER	32 00					X		134,191	0	14,496
(8) LEVINE STEPHEN DEPUTY DIR TECHNOLOGY/ASTRONOMER	40 00					X		130,979	0	14,098

Part VII

1b	Sub-Total			
c	Total from continuation sheets to Part VII, Section A			
d	Total (add lines 1b and 1c)	909,983	0	104,557

2

3 Did the organization list any **former** officer, director or trustee, key employee, or highest compensated employee on line 1a? *If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual*

4 For any individual listed on line 1a, is the sum of reportable compensation and other compensation from the organization and related organizations greater than \$150,000? *If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual*

5 Did any person listed on line 1a receive or accrue compensation from any unrelated organization or individual for services rendered to the organization? *If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such person*

Section B. Independent Contractors

1

(A) Name and business address	(B) Description of services	(C) Compensation
ROPER SCIENTIFIC DBA PRINCETON INSTRUMEN 3660 QUAKERBRIDGE ROAD TRENTON, NJ 08619	EQUIPMENT SUPPLIER	135,680
NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY PO BOX 4080 FLAGSTAFF, AZ 86011	TECHNOLOGY SERVICES	104,065
STOWEBRIDGE PROMOTION GROUP INC 6280 W ERIE ST CHANDLER, AZ 85226	GIFTSTORE INVENTORY	102,448

2

Part VIII

Statement of Revenue

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VIII

			(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512-514	
Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts	1a	Federated campaigns . . .	1a				
	b	Membership dues	1b	437,838			
	c	Fundraising events	1c	44,639			
	d	Related organizations	1d				
	e	Government grants (contributions)	1e	2,428,084			
	f	All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above	1f	786,949			
	g	Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f \$		1,880			
	h	Total. Add lines 1a-1f		3,697,510			
Program Service Revenue			Business Code				
	2a	TELESCOPE ACCESS FEES	541700	1,539,293	1,539,293		
	b	RESEARCH - GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS	541700	807,476	807,476		
	c	EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS	611600	759,519	759,519		
	d						
	e						
	f	All other program service revenue					
	g	Total. Add lines 2a-2f		3,106,288			
Other Revenue	3	Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts)		110,959			110,959
	4	Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds . .					
	5	Royalties					
	6a	Gross rents		(i) Real	(ii) Personal		
		b	Less rental expenses				
		c	Rental income or (loss)				
	d	Net rental income or (loss)					
	7a	Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory		(i) Securities	(ii) Other		
		1,463,241		19,500			
		b	Less cost or other basis and sales expenses	1,143,058	5,644		
		c	Gain or (loss)	320,183	13,856		
	d	Net gain or (loss)		334,039			334,039
	8a	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ 44,639 of contributions reported on line 1c) See Part IV, line 18					
		a	39,509				
		b	Less direct expenses	44,331			
	c	Net income or (loss) from fundraising events . .		-4,822			-4,822
	9a	Gross income from gaming activities See Part IV, line 19					
		a					
		b	Less direct expenses				
	c	Net income or (loss) from gaming activities . .					
	10a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances . .					
		a	533,842				
b		Less cost of goods sold	271,942				
c	Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory . .		261,900	261,900			
Miscellaneous Revenue		Business Code					
11a	MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	900099	73,182	73,182			
b							
c							
d	All other revenue						
e	Total. Add lines 11a-11d		73,182				
12	Total revenue. See Instructions		7,579,056	3,441,370	0	440,176	

Part IX

Statement of Functional Expenses

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns All other organizations must complete column (A)

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX ☒

Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.		(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	(D) Fundraising expenses
1	Grants and other assistance to domestic organizations and domestic governments See Part IV, line 21	2,458,233	2,458,233		
2	Grants and other assistance to domestic individuals See Part IV, line 22				
3	Grants and other assistance to foreign organizations, foreign governments, and foreign individuals See Part IV, lines 15 and 16				
4	Benefits paid to or for members				
5	Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	1,014,541	759,603	254,938	
6	Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)				
7	Other salaries and wages	4,043,932	3,020,952	712,549	310,431
8	Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions)	149,982	115,670	25,760	8,552
9	Other employee benefits	418,161	304,200	85,220	28,741
10	Payroll taxes	349,775	259,695	67,328	22,752
11	Fees for services (non-employees)				
a	Management				
b	Legal	23,536	14,941	8,595	
c	Accounting	39,600		39,600	
d	Lobbying				
e	Professional fundraising services See Part IV, line 17				
f	Investment management fees	18,007		18,007	
g	Other (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 11g expenses on Schedule O)	192,352	60,473	97,626	34,253
12	Advertising and promotion	128,924		125,859	3,065
13	Office expenses	194,607	93,444	54,446	46,717
14	Information technology	130,174	104,382	19,240	6,552
15	Royalties				
16	Occupancy	331,004	442,735	-134,811	23,080
17	Travel	231,432	194,047	25,408	11,977
18	Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials				
19	Conferences, conventions, and meetings	54,212	7,883	11,278	35,051
20	Interest	662,875	662,875		
21	Payments to affiliates				
22	Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	2,071,367	1,904,100	92,926	74,341
23	Insurance	156,085	136,884	9,239	9,962
24	Other expenses Itemize expenses not covered above (List miscellaneous expenses in line 24e If line 24e amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 24e expenses on Schedule O)				
a	REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	130,493	86,962	36,009	7,522
b	EMPLOYEE RECRUITMENT AN	116,986	27,218	41,358	48,410
c	DUES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS	58,266	2,791	57,928	-2,453
d	TRAINING AND DEVELOPMEN	45,849	17,480	17,704	10,665
e	All other expenses	137,183	65,331	49,313	22,539
25	Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e	13,157,576	10,739,899	1,715,520	702,157
26	Joint costs. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation Check here ☐ if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720)				

Part X

Balance Sheet

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part X

					(A)		(B)
					Beginning of year		End of year
Assets	1	Cash—non-interest-bearing			656,117	1	98,308
	2	Savings and temporary cash investments			261,760	2	887,715
	3	Pledges and grants receivable, net			1,572,399	3	1,115,030
	4	Accounts receivable, net				4	35,368
	5	Loans and other receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees. Complete Part II of Schedule L.					
						5	
	6	Loans and other receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)), persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B), and contributing employers and sponsoring organizations of section 501(c)(9) voluntary employees' beneficiary organizations (see instructions). Complete Part II of Schedule L.					
						6	
	7	Notes and loans receivable, net				7	
	8	Inventories for sale or use			47,517	8	66,019
	9	Prepaid expenses and deferred charges				9	150,221
	10a	Land, buildings, and equipment—cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D.	10a	61,187,676			
	b	Less: accumulated depreciation	10b	17,151,836	45,517,196	10c	44,035,840
	11	Investments—publicly traded securities			4,561,553	11	1,645,941
	12	Investments—other securities. See Part IV, line 11.				12	
	13	Investments—program-related. See Part IV, line 11.				13	
Liabilities	14	Intangible assets				14	
	15	Other assets. See Part IV, line 11.			532,742	15	511,162
	16	Total assets. Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34).			53,149,284	16	48,545,604
	17	Accounts payable and accrued expenses			477,482	17	598,596
	18	Grants payable				18	
	19	Deferred revenue			7,052,690	19	8,169,773
	20	Tax-exempt bond liabilities				20	
	21	Escrow or custodial account liability. Complete Part IV of Schedule D.				21	
	22	Loans and other payables to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons. Complete Part II of Schedule L.					
						22	
	23	Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties			20,415,148	23	20,424,190
	24	Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties				24	
	25	Other liabilities (including federal income tax, payables to related third parties, and other liabilities not included on lines 17–24). Complete Part X of Schedule D.			525,167	25	490,206
	26	Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25.			28,470,487	26	29,682,765
Net Assets or Fund Balances		Organizations that follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here ☒ and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.					
	27	Unrestricted net assets			21,987,058	27	17,789,666
	28	Temporarily restricted net assets			231,971	28	1,073,173
	29	Permanently restricted net assets			2,459,768	29	0
		Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here ☐ and complete lines 30 through 34.					
	30	Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds				30	
	31	Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building or equipment fund				31	
	32	Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds				32	
	33	Total net assets or fund balances			24,678,797	33	18,862,839
	34	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances			53,149,284	34	48,545,604

Part XI Reconciliation of Net Assets

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XI

1	Total revenue (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1	7,579,056
2	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	13,157,576
3	Revenue less expenses Subtract line 2 from line 1	3	-5,578,520
4	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 33, column (A))	4	24,678,797
5	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	5	-125,933
6	Donated services and use of facilities	6	
7	Investment expenses	7	
8	Prior period adjustments	8	-111,505
9	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	9	0
10	Net assets or fund balances at end of year Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 33, column (B))	10	18,862,839

Part XII Financial Statements and Reporting

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XII

	Yes	No
1 Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990 ☐ Cash ☒ Accrual ☐ Other If the organization changed its method of accounting from a prior year or checked "Other," explain in Schedule O		
2a Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant? If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were compiled or reviewed on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both ☐ Separate basis ☐ Consolidated basis ☐ Both consolidated and separate basis	2a	No
2b Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant? If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were audited on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both ☐ Separate basis ☒ Consolidated basis ☐ Both consolidated and separate basis	2b	Yes
2c If "Yes," to line 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant? If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain in Schedule O	2c	Yes
3a As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133?	3a	Yes
3b If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits? If the organization did not undergo the required audit or audits, explain why in Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits	3b	Yes

SCHEDULE A
(Form 990 or 990EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Public Charity Status and Public Support

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

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization LOWELL OBSERVATORY	Employer identification number 86-0098918
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Part I

Reason for Public Charity Status (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 (Form 990 or 990-EZ))
- 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 _____
- 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 (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		
Total						

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)2011	(b)2012	(c)2013	(d)2014	(e)2015	(f)Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any unusual grants)	6,583,239	6,186,895	6,079,770	5,764,553	3,697,510	28,311,967
2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	500,000
4 Total. Add lines 1 through 3	6,683,239	6,286,895	6,179,770	5,864,553	3,797,510	28,811,967
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)						2,178,951
6 Public support. Subtract line 5 from line 4						26,633,016

Section B. Total Support						
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a)2011	(b)2012	(c)2013	(d)2014	(e)2015	(f)Total
7 Amounts from line 4	6,683,239	6,286,895	6,179,770	5,864,553	3,797,510	28,811,967
8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources	100,414	113,960	145,384	192,885	110,959	663,602
9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on					39,509	39,509
10 Other income Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI)	272,031	479,572	664,534	1,371,252		2,787,389
11 Total support. Add lines 7 through 10						32,302,467
12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc (see instructions)					12	3,713,312
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 ▶						

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage		
14	Public support percentage for 2015 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f))	14 82 450 %
15	Public support percentage for 2014 Schedule A, Part II, line 14	15 81 880 %
16a	33 1/3% support test—2015. If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization	☐
b	33 1/3% support test—2014. 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	☐
17a	10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2015. 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	☐
b	10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2014. 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	☐
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	☐

Part IIISupport Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 9 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part II. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part II.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a)2011	(b)2012	(c)2013	(d)2014	(e)2015	(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)2011	(b)2012	(c)2013	(d)2014	(e)2015	(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 VI.)						
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 ▶						

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

15 Public support percentage for 2015 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	15	
16 Public support percentage from 2014 Schedule A, Part III, line 15	16	

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage

17 Investment income percentage for 2015 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	17	
18 Investment income percentage from 2014 Schedule A, Part III, line 17	18	

19a 33 1/3% support tests—2015.If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶

b 33 1/3% support tests—2014.If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3% and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶

20 Private foundation.If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions ▶

Part IV

Supporting Organizations

(Complete only if you checked a box on line 11 of Part I. If you checked 11a of Part I, complete Sections A and B. If you checked 11b of Part I, complete Sections A and C. If you checked 11c of Part I, complete Sections A, D, and E. If you checked 11d of Part I, complete Sections A and D, and complete Part V.)

Section A. All Supporting Organizations

	Yes	No
1 Are all of the organization's supported organizations listed by name in the organization's governing documents? <i>If "No," describe in Part VI how the supported organizations are designated. If designated by class or purpose, describe the designation. If historic and continuing relationship, explain.</i>		
2 Did the organization have any supported organization that does not have an IRS determination of status under section 509(a)(1) or (2)? <i>If "Yes," explain in Part VI how the organization determined that the supported organization was described in section 509(a)(1) or (2).</i>		
3a Did the organization have a supported organization described in section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6)? <i>If "Yes," answer (b) and (c) below.</i>		
b Did the organization confirm that each supported organization qualified under section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6) and satisfied the public support tests under section 509(a)(2)? <i>If "Yes," describe in Part VI when and how the organization made the determination.</i>		
c Did the organization ensure that all support to such organizations was used exclusively for section 170(c)(2)(B) purposes? <i>If "Yes," explain in Part VI what controls the organization put in place to ensure such use.</i>		
4a Was any supported organization not organized in the United States ("foreign supported organization")? <i>If "Yes" and if you checked 11a or 11b in Part I, answer (b) and (c) below.</i>		
b Did the organization have ultimate control and discretion in deciding whether to make grants to the foreign supported organization? <i>If "Yes," describe in Part VI how the organization had such control and discretion despite being controlled or supervised by or in connection with its supported organizations.</i>		
c Did the organization support any foreign supported organization that does not have an IRS determination under sections 501(c)(3) and 509(a)(1) or (2)? <i>If "Yes," explain in Part VI what controls the organization used to ensure that all support to the foreign supported organization was used exclusively for section 170(c)(2)(B) purposes.</i>		
5a Did the organization add, substitute, or remove any supported organizations during the tax year? <i>If "Yes," answer (b) and (c) below (if applicable). Also, provide detail in Part VI, including (i) the names and EIN numbers of the supported organizations added, substituted, or removed, (ii) the reasons for each such action, (iii) the authority under the organization's organizing document authorizing such action, and (iv) how the action was accomplished (such as by amendment to the organizing document).</i>		
b Type I or Type II only. Was any added or substituted supported organization part of a class already designated in the organization's organizing document?		
c Substitutions only. Was the substitution the result of an event beyond the organization's control?		
6 Did the organization provide support (whether in the form of grants or the provision of services or facilities) to anyone other than (a) its supported organizations, (b) individuals that are part of the charitable class benefited by one or more of its supported organizations, or (c) other supporting organizations that also support or benefit one or more of the filing organization's supported organizations? <i>If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI.</i>		
7 Did the organization provide a grant, loan, compensation, or other similar payment to a substantial contributor (defined in IRC 4958(c)(3)(C)), a family member of a substantial contributor, or a 35-percent controlled entity with regard to a substantial contributor? <i>If "Yes," complete Part I of Schedule L (Form 990).</i>		
8 Did the organization make a loan to a disqualified person (as defined in section 4958) not described in line 7? <i>If "Yes," complete Part II of Schedule L (Form 990).</i>		
9a Was the organization controlled directly or indirectly at any time during the tax year by one or more disqualified persons as defined in section 4946 (other than foundation managers and organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or (2))? <i>If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI.</i>		
b Did one or more disqualified persons (as defined in line 9(a)) hold a controlling interest in any entity in which the supporting organization had an interest? <i>If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI.</i>		
c Did a disqualified person (as defined in line 9(a)) have an ownership interest in, or derive any personal benefit from, assets in which the supporting organization also had an interest? <i>If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI.</i>		
10a Was the organization subject to the excess business holdings rules of IRC 4943 because of IRC 4943(f) (regarding certain Type II supporting organizations, and all Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organizations)? <i>If "Yes," answer b below.</i>		
b Did the organization have any excess business holdings in the tax year? <i>(Use Schedule C, Form 4720, to determine whether the organization had excess business holdings).</i>		
11 Has the organization accepted a gift or contribution from any of the following persons?		
a A person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (b) and (c) below, the governing body of a supported organization?		
b A family member of a person described in (a) above?		
c A 35% controlled entity of a person described in (a) or (b) above? <i>If "Yes" to a, b, or c, provide detail in Part VI.</i>		

Part IV

Supporting Organizations (continued)

Section B. Type I Supporting Organizations

	Yes	No
1 Did the directors, trustees, or membership of one or more supported organizations have the power to regularly appoint or elect at least a majority of the organization’s directors or trustees at all times during the tax year? <i>If "No," describe in Part VI how the supported organization(s) effectively operated, supervised, or controlled the organization’s activities. If the organization had more than one supported organization, describe how the powers to appoint and/or remove directors or trustees were allocated among the supported organizations and what conditions or restrictions, if any, applied to such powers during the tax year.</i>		
2 Did the organization operate for the benefit of any supported organization other than the supported organization(s) that operated, supervised, or controlled the supporting organization? <i>If "Yes," explain in Part VI how providing such benefit carried out the purposes of the supported organization(s) that operated, supervised or controlled the supporting organization.</i>		

Section C. Type II Supporting Organizations

	Yes	No
1 Were a majority of the organization’s directors or trustees during the tax year also a majority of the directors or trustees of each of the organization’s supported organization(s)? <i>If "No," describe in Part VI how control or management of the supporting organization was vested in the same persons that controlled or managed the supported organization(s).</i>		

Section D. All Type III Supporting Organizations

	Yes	No
1 Did the organization provide to each of its supported organizations, by the last day of the fifth month of the organization’s tax year, (1) a written notice describing the type and amount of support provided during the prior tax year, (2) a copy of the Form 990 that was most recently filed as of the date of notification, and (3) copies of the organization’s governing documents in effect on the date of notification, to the extent not previously provided?		
2 Were any of the organization’s officers, directors, or trustees either (i) appointed or elected by the supported organization(s) or (ii) serving on the governing body of a supported organization? <i>If "No," explain in Part VI how the organization maintained a close and continuous working relationship with the supported organization(s).</i>		
3 By reason of the relationship described in (2), did the organization’s supported organizations have a significant voice in the organization’s investment policies and in directing the use of the organization’s income or assets at all times during the tax year? <i>If "Yes," describe in Part VI the role the organization’s supported organizations played in this regard.</i>		

Section E. Type III Functionally-Integrated Supporting Organizations

1 Check the box next to the method that the organization used to satisfy the Integral Part Test during the year (see instructions) a ☐ The organization satisfied the Activities Test. Complete line 2 below. b ☐ The organization is the parent of each of its supported organizations. Complete line 3 below. c ☐ The organization supported a governmental entity. Describe in Part VI how you supported a government entity (see instructions).		
2 Activities Test. Answer (a) and (b) below.		
a Did substantially all of the organization’s activities during the tax year directly further the exempt purposes of the supported organization(s) to which the organization was responsive? <i>If "Yes," then in Part VI identify those supported organizations and explain how these activities directly furthered their exempt purposes, how the organization was responsive to those supported organizations, and how the organization determined that these activities constituted substantially all of its activities.</i>		
b Did the activities described in (a) constitute activities that, but for the organization’s involvement, one or more of the organization’s supported organization(s) would have been engaged in? <i>If "Yes," explain in Part VI the reasons for the organization’s position that its supported organization(s) would have engaged in these activities but for the organization’s involvement.</i>		
3 Parent of Supported Organizations. Answer (a) and (b) below.		
a Did the organization have the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the officers, directors, or trustees of each of the supported organizations? <i>Provide details in Part VI.</i>		
b Did the organization exercise a substantial degree of direction over the policies, programs and activities of each of its supported organizations? <i>If "Yes," describe in Part VI the role played by the organization in this regard.</i>		

Part V

Type III Non-Functionally Integrated 509(a)(3) Supporting Organizations

1

Check here if the organization satisfied the Integral Part Test as a qualifying trust on Nov 20, 1970 **See instructions.** All other Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organizations must complete Sections A through E

☐

Section A - Adjusted Net Income		(A) Prior Year	(B) Current Year (optional)
1	Net short-term capital gain	1	
2	Recoveries of prior-year distributions	2	
3	Other gross income (see instructions)	3	
4	Add lines 1 through 3	4	
5	Depreciation and depletion	5	
6	Portion of operating expenses paid or incurred for production or collection of gross income or for management, conservation, or maintenance of property held for production of income (see instructions)	6	
7	Other expenses (see instructions)	7	
8	Adjusted Net Income (subtract lines 5, 6 and 7 from line 4)	8	

Section B - Minimum Asset Amount		(A) Prior Year	(B) Current Year (optional)
1	Aggregate fair market value of all non-exempt-use assets (see instructions for short tax year or assets held for part of year)	1	
a	Average monthly value of securities	1a	
b	Average monthly cash balances	1b	
c	Fair market value of other non-exempt-use assets	1c	
d	Total (add lines 1a, 1b, and 1c)	1d	
e	Discount claimed for blockage or other factors (explain in detail in Part VI) _____		
2	Acquisition indebtedness applicable to non-exempt use assets	2	
3	Subtract line 2 from line 1d	3	
4	Cash deemed held for exempt use Enter 1-1/2% of line 3 (for greater amount, see instructions)	4	
5	Net value of non-exempt-use assets (subtract line 4 from line 3)	5	
6	Multiply line 5 by .035	6	
7	Recoveries of prior-year distributions	7	
8	Minimum Asset Amount (add line 7 to line 6)	8	

Section C - Distributable Amount		Current Year	
1	Adjusted net income for prior year (from Section A, line 8, Column A)	1	
2	Enter 85% of line 1	2	
3	Minimum asset amount for prior year (from Section B, line 8, Column A)	3	
4	Enter greater of line 2 or line 3	4	
5	Income tax imposed in prior year	5	
6	Distributable Amount. Subtract line 5 from line 4, unless subject to emergency temporary reduction (see instructions)	6	
7	Check here if the current year is the organization's first as a non-functionally-integrated Type III supporting organization (see instructions) ☐		

Part V

Type III Non-Functionally Integrated 509(a)(3) Supporting Organizations (continued)

Section D - Distributions	Current Year
1 Amounts paid to supported organizations to accomplish exempt purposes	
2 Amounts paid to perform activity that directly furthers exempt purposes of supported organizations, in excess of income from activity	
3 Administrative expenses paid to accomplish exempt purposes of supported organizations	
4 Amounts paid to acquire exempt-use assets	
5 Qualified set-aside amounts (prior IRS approval required)	
6 Other distributions (describe in Part VI) See instructions	
7 Total annual distributions. Add lines 1 through 6	
8 Distributions to attentive supported organizations to which the organization is responsive (provide details in Part VI) See instructions	
9 Distributable amount for 2015 from Section C, line 6	
10 Line 8 amount divided by Line 9 amount	

Section E - Distribution Allocations (see instructions)	(i) Excess Distributions	(ii) Underdistributions Pre-2015	(iii) Distributable Amount for 2015
1 Distributable amount for 2015 from Section C, line 6			
2 Underdistributions, if any, for years prior to 2015 (reasonable cause required--see instructions)			
3 Excess distributions carryover, if any, to 2015			
d From 2013.			
e From 2014.			
f Total of lines 3a through e			
g Applied to underdistributions of prior years			
h Applied to 2015 distributable amount			
i Carryover from 2010 not applied (see instructions)			
j Remainder Subtract lines 3g, 3h, and 3i from 3f			
4 Distributions for 2015 from Section D, line 7 \$			
a Applied to underdistributions of prior years			
b Applied to 2015 distributable amount			
c Remainder Subtract lines 4a and 4b from 4			
5 Remaining underdistributions for years prior to 2015, if any Subtract lines 3g and 4a from line 2 (if amount greater than zero, see instructions)			
6 Remaining underdistributions for 2015 Subtract lines 3h and 4b from line 1 (if amount greater than zero, see instructions)			
7 Excess distributions carryover to 2016. Add lines 3j and 4c			
8 Breakdown of line 7			
c Excess from 2013.			
d From 2014.			
e From 2015.			

Part VI **Supplemental Information.**

Provide the explanations required by Part II, line 10; Part II, line 17a or 17b; Part III, line 12; Part IV, Section A, lines 1, 2, 3b, 3c, 4b, 4c, 5a, 6, 9a, 9b, 9c, 11a, 11b, and 11c; Part IV, Section B, lines 1 and 2; Part IV, Section C, line 1; Part IV, Section D, lines 2 and 3; Part IV, Section E, lines 1c, 2a, 2b, 3a and 3b; Part V, line 1; Part V, Section B, line 1e; Part V Section D, lines 5, 6, and 8; and Part V, Section E, lines 2, 5, and 6. Also complete this part for any additional information. (See instructions).

Facts And Circumstances Test

Return Reference

Explanation

SCHEDULE D
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Financial Statements

► Complete if the organization answered "Yes," on Form 990,
Part IV, line 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e, 11f, 12a, or 12b.
► Attach to Form 990.

Information about Schedule D (Form 990) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
LOWELL OBSERVATORY

Employer identification number
86-0098918

Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

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

Part II Conservation Easements.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

1

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

☐ Preservation of land for public use (e g , recreation or education) ☐ Preservation of an historically important land area
☐ Protection of natural habitat ☐ Preservation of a certified historic structure
☐ Preservation of open space

2

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

	Held at the End of the Year
a	Total number of conservation easements
b	Total acreage restricted by conservation easements
c	Number of conservation easements on a certified historic structure included in (a)
d	Number of conservation easements included in (c) acquired after 8/17/06, and not on a historic structure listed in the National Register

3

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

4

Number of states where property subject to conservation easement is located ► _____

5

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

☐ Yes ☐ No

6

Staff and volunteer hours devoted to monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year
► _____

7

Amount of expenses incurred in monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year
► \$ _____

8

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

☐ Yes ☐ No

9

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

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

1a

If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), not to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide, in Part XIII, the text of the footnote to its financial statements that describes these items

b

If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide the following amounts relating to these items

(i)

Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1

► \$ _____

(ii)

Assets included in Form 990, Part X

► \$ 400,000

2

If the organization received or held works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets for financial gain, provide the following amounts required to be reported under SFAS 116 (ASC 958) relating to these items

a

Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1

► \$ _____

b

Assets included in Form 990, Part X

► \$ _____

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

Cat No 52283D

Schedule D (Form 990) 2015

Part III

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

(continued)

3

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

a

☒ Public exhibition

b

☐ Scholarly research

c

☐ Preservation for future generations

d

☐ Loan or exchange programs

e

☐ Other

4

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

5

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

☒ Yes

☐ No

Part IV

Escrow and Custodial Arrangements.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 9, or reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21.

1a

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

☐ Yes

☐ No

b

If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII and complete the following table

c

Beginning balance

d

Additions during the year

e

Distributions during the year

f

Ending balance

	Amount
1c	
1d	
1e	
1f	

2a

Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21, for escrow or custodial account liability?

☐ Yes

☐ No

b

If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII Check here if the explanation has been provided in Part XIII

☐

Part V

Endowment Funds.

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

	(a)Current year	(b)Prior year	b (c)Two years back	(d)Three years back	(e)Four years back
1a Beginning of year balance	163,450	160,698	129,726	84,715	95,378
b Contributions					
c Net investment earnings, gains, and losses	5,898	4,309	30,972	1,007,329	-10,663
d Grants or scholarships	168,834				
e Other expenditures for facilities and programs				958,322	
f Administrative expenses	514	1,557		3,996	
g End of year balance		163,450	160,698	129,723	84,715

2

Provide the estimated percentage of the current year end balance (line 1g, column (a)) held as

a

Board designated or quasi-endowment

0 %

b

Permanent endowment

0 %

c

Temporarily restricted endowment

0 %

The percentages on lines 2a, 2b, and 2c should equal 100%

3a

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

(i) unrelated organizations

(ii) related organizations

	Yes	No
3a(i)		No
3a(ii)	Yes	
3b	Yes	

b

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

4

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

Part VI

Land, Buildings, and Equipment.

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' to Form 990, Part IV, line 11a. See Form 990, Part X, line 10.

Description of property	(a)Cost or other basis (investment)	(b)Cost or other basis (other)	Accumulated (c)depreciation	(d)Book value
1a Land		670,434		670,434
b Buildings		22,153,984	6,520,222	15,633,762
c Leasehold improvements				
d Equipment		36,563,905	10,093,055	26,470,850
e Other		1,799,353	538,559	1,260,794
Total. Add lines 1a through 1e (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c).)				44,035,840

Part XI

Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

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

Part XII

Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expenses per Return.

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

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

Part XIII

Supplemental Information

Provide the descriptions required for Part II, lines 3, 5, and 9, Part III, lines 1a and 4, Part IV, lines 1b and 2b, Part V, line 4, Part X, line 2, Part XI, lines 2d and 4b, and Part XII, lines 2d and 4b. Also complete this part to provide any additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
PART X, LINE 2	THE FOLLOWING DISCLOSURE IS RELATED TO THE COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE LOWELL OBSERVATORY, TRUST U/W OF PERCIVAL LOWELL, AND THE LOWELL OBSERVATORY FOUNDATION. THE OBSERVATORY AND THE FOUNDATION ARE EXEMPT FROM INCOME TAXES UNDER BOTH IRC SECTION 501(C)(3) AND ARIZONA INCOME TAX LAWS. THE OBSERVATORY IS CLASSIFIED AS OTHER THAN A PRIVATE FOUNDATION UNDER IRC SEC 509(A)(1). THE FOUNDATION IS CLASSIFIED AS OTHER THAN A PRIVATE FOUNDATION UNDER IRC SEC 509(A)(3) AS A SUPPORTING ORGANIZATION OF THE OBSERVATORY. THE TRUST IS A NON-EXEMPT CHARITABLE TRUST AS DESCRIBED IN IRC SEC 4947(A)(1). THE TRUST QUALIFIES AS AN IRC SEC 509(A)(3) SUPPORTING ORGANIZATION OF THE OBSERVATORY AND IS ENTITLED TO A CHARITABLE INCOME TAX DEDUCTION UNDER IRC SEC 642(C) BECAUSE ALL OF THE GROSS INCOME IS PERMANENTLY SET ASIDE FOR CHARITABLE AND SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES. ACCORDINGLY, NO PROVISION FOR FEDERAL AND STATE INCOME TAXES IS MADE. INCOME FROM CERTAIN ACTIVITIES NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE ORGANIZATION'S TAX-EXEMPT PURPOSE, HOWEVER, MAY BE SUBJECT TO TAXATION AS UNRELATED BUSINESS TAXABLE INCOME (UBTI). GAAP REQUIRES MANAGEMENT TO PERFORM AN EVALUATION OF ALL TAX POSITIONS TAKEN OR EXPECTED TO BE TAKEN IN THE COURSE OF PREPARING THE ORGANIZATION'S TAX RETURNS TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE TAX POSITIONS MEET A "MORE LIKELY THAN NOT" STANDARD OF BEING SUSTAINED UNDER EXAMINATION BY THE APPLICABLE TAXING AUTHORITIES. THIS EVALUATION IS REQUIRED TO BE PERFORMED FOR ALL OPEN TAX YEARS, AS DEFINED BY THE VARIOUS STATUTES OF LIMITATIONS, FOR FEDERAL AND STATE PURPOSES. THE ORGANIZATION IS ONLY SUBJECT TO INCOME TAXES ON UBTI AS APPLICABLE. THE ORGANIZATION IS REQUIRED TO FILE INFORMATIONAL RETURNS FOR FEDERAL AND STATE PURPOSES AND, IF IT HAS UBTI, FEDERAL AND STATE INCOME TAX RETURNS. MANAGEMENT HAS PERFORMED ITS EVALUATION OF TAX POSITIONS TAKEN ON ALL OPEN TAX RETURNS AND HAS DETERMINED THAT THERE WERE NO POSITIONS TAKEN THAT DO NOT MEET THE "MORE LIKELY THAN NOT" STANDARD.

[illegible]

SCHEDULE G
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information Regarding
Fundraising or Gaming Activities

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, lines 17, 18, or 19, or if the organization entered more than \$15,000 on Form 990-EZ, line 6a.
▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

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

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public
Inspection

Name of the organization LOWELL OBSERVATORY	Employer identification number 86-0098918
--	--

Part I Fundraising Activities. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 17.
Form 990-EZ filers are not required to complete this part.

- 1** Indicate whether the organization raised funds through any of the following activities. Check all that apply.
- | | |
|--|---|
| a ☐ Mail solicitations | e ☐ Solicitation of non-government grants |
| b ☐ Internet and email solicitations | f ☐ Solicitation of government grants |
| c ☐ Phone solicitations | g ☐ Special fundraising events |
| d ☐ In-person solicitations | |
- 2a** Did the organization have a written or oral agreement with any individual (including officers, directors, trustees or key employees listed in Form 990, Part VII) or entity in connection with professional fundraising services? ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**
- b** If "Yes," list the ten highest paid individuals or entities (fundraisers) pursuant to agreements under which the fundraiser is to be compensated at least \$5,000 by the organization.

(i) Name and address of individual or entity (fundraiser)	(ii) Activity	(iii) Did fundraiser have custody or control of contributions?		(iv) Gross receipts from activity	(v) Amount paid to (or retained by) fundraiser listed in col (i)	(vi) Amount paid to (or retained by) organization
		Yes	No			
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
Total ▶						

- 3** List all states in which the organization is registered or licensed to solicit contributions or has been notified it is exempt from registration or licensing.
-
-

Part II Fundraising Events.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 18, or reported more than \$15,000 of fundraising event contributions and gross income on Form 990-EZ, lines 1 and 6b. List events with gross receipts greater than \$5,000.

Revenue		(a)Event #1 ANNUAL GALA (event type)	(b)Event #2 (event type)	(c)Other events (total number)	(d) Total events (add col (a) through col (c))
	1	Gross receipts	84,148		84,148
	2	Less Contributions	44,639		44,639
	3	Gross income (line 1 minus line 2)	39,509		39,509
Direct Expenses	4	Cash prizes			
	5	Noncash prizes	10,182		10,182
	6	Rent/facility costs	27,854		27,854
	7	Food and beverages			
	8	Entertainment	4,881		4,881
	9	Other direct expenses	1,414		1,414
	10	Direct expense summary Add lines 4 through 9 in column (d) ▶			44,331
	11	Net income summary Subtract line 10 from line 3, column (d) ▶			-4,822

Part III Gaming.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 19, or reported more than \$15,000 on Form 990-EZ, line 6a.

Revenue		(a)Bingo	(b)Pull tabs/Instant bingo/progressive bingo	(c)Other gaming	(d) Total gaming (add col (a) through col (c))	
	1	Gross revenue				
Direct Expenses	2	Cash prizes				
	3	Noncash prizes				
	4	Rent/facility costs				
	5	Other direct expenses				
	6	Volunteer labor	☐ Yes _____ % ☐ No	☐ Yes _____ % ☐ No	☐ Yes _____ % ☐ No	
7	Direct expense summary Add lines 2 through 5 in column (d) ▶					
8	Net gaming income summary Subtract line 7 from line 1, column (d). ▶					

9 Enter the state(s) in which the organization conducts gaming activities _____

a Is the organization licensed to conduct gaming activities in each of these states? ☐ Yes ☐ No

b If "No," explain _____

10a Were any of the organization's gaming licenses revoked, suspended or terminated during the tax year? ☐ Yes ☐ No

b If "Yes," explain _____

Schedule G (Form 990 or 990-EZ) 2015

11

Does the organization conduct gaming activities with nonmembers?

☐ Yes ☐ No

12

Is the organization a grantor, beneficiary or trustee of a trust or a member of a partnership or other entity formed to administer charitable gaming?

☐ Yes ☐ No

13

Indicate the percentage of gaming activity conducted in

a	The organization's facility	13a	%
b	An outside facility	13b	%

14

Enter the name and address of the person who prepares the organization's gaming/special events books and records

Name ▶

Address ▶

15a

Does the organization have a contract with a third party from whom the organization receives gaming revenue?

☐ Yes ☐ No

b

If "Yes," enter the amount of gaming revenue received by the organization ▶ \$ _____ and the amount of gaming revenue retained by the third party ▶ \$ _____

c

If "Yes," enter name and address of the third party

Name ▶

Address ▶

16

Gaming manager information

Name ▶

Gaming manager compensation ▶ \$ _____

Description of services provided ▶

☐ Director/officer ☐ Employee ☐ Independent contractor

17

Mandatory distributions

a

Is the organization required under state law to make charitable distributions from the gaming proceeds to retain the state gaming license?

☐ Yes ☐ No

b

Enter the amount of distributions required under state law distributed to other exempt organizations or spent in the organization's own exempt activities during the tax year ▶ \$ _____

Part IV

Supplemental Information. Provide the explanations required by Part I, line 2b, columns (iii) and (v); and Part III, lines 9, 9b, 10b, 15b, 15c, 16, and 17b, as applicable. Also complete this part to provide any additional information (see instructions).

Return Reference	Explanation
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As Filed Data -

DLN: 93493285002266

Schedule I
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Grants and Other Assistance to Organizations,
Governments and Individuals in the United States

Complete if the organization answered "Yes," on Form 990, Part IV, line 21 or 22.
▶ Attach to Form 990.

▶ Information about Schedule I (Form 990) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
LOWELL OBSERVATORY

Employer identification number
86-0098918

Part I

General Information on Grants and Assistance

- 1

Does the organization maintain records to substantiate the amount of the grants or assistance, the grantees' eligibility for the grants or assistance, and the selection criteria used to award the grants or assistance?

☒ Yes ☐ No
- 2

Describe in Part IV the organization's procedures for monitoring the use of grant funds in the United States

Part II

Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 21, for any recipient that received more than \$5,000. Part II can be duplicated if additional space is needed.

(a) Name and address of organization or government	(b) EIN	(c) IRC section if applicable	(d) Amount of cash grant	(e) Amount of non-cash assistance	(f) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)	(g) Description of non-cash assistance	(h) Purpose of grant or assistance
LOWELL OBSERVATORY (1) FOUNDATION 1400 W MARS HILL ROAD FLAGSTAFF,AZ 86001	47-2052113	501(C)(3)	59,037	2,121,820	TRADING VALUE	ENDOWMENT FUNDS - STOCKS AND OTHER SECURITIES	THE ENDOWMENT FUNDS WERE TRANSFERRED TO THE LOWELL OBSERVATORY FOUNDATION IN ORDER FOR THE FOUNDATION TO HOLD AND MANAGE THE ASSETS FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF THE OBSERVATORY
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF (2) TECHNOLOGY 77 MASSACHUSETTS AVE NE 18-901 CAMBRIDGE,MA 02139	04-2103594		58,715				COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH ON NASA GRANTS
(3) NEW MEXICO INSTITUTE 801 LEROY PLACE SOCORRO,NM 87801	85-6000411		8,568				SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS
NORTHERN ARIZONA (4) UNIVERSITY PO BOX 4070 FLAGSTAFF,AZ 86011	74-2579628		108,370				SUBAWARDS FOR COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH ON NASA GRANTS
PLANETARY SCIENCE (5) INSTITUTE 1700 E FORT LOWELL RD SUITE 106 TUCSON,AZ 85719	33-0175263		12,366				SUBAWARDS FOR COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH ON NASA GRANTS
(6) UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA 1303 E UNIVERSITY BLVD BOX 3 TUCSON,AZ 85719	74-2652689		12,109				SUBAWARDS FOR COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH ON NASA GRANTS
(7) UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII 2440 CAMPUS ROAD BOX 368 HONOLULU,HI 96822	99-6000354		34,663				SUBAWARDS FOR COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH ON NASA GRANTS
(8) UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND ROOM 4101 CHESAPEAKE BLDG COLLEGE PARK,MD 20742	52-6002033		38,140				COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH ON NASA GRANTS

Part III

Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Individuals. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 22
Part III can be duplicated if additional space is needed

(a)Type of grant or assistance	(b)Number of recipients	(c)Amount of cash grant	(d)Amount of non-cash assistance	(e)Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)	(f)Description of non-cash assistance

Part IV

Supplemental Information. Provide the information required in Part I, line 2, Part III, column (b), and any other additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
PART I, LINE 2	ALL GRANT RECIPIENTS ARE MAJOR UNIVERSITIES, WITH SOPHISTICATED SYSTEMS FOR ADMINISTERING GRANTS OBSERVATORY GRANTS TO THE UNIVERSITIES ARE PAID ON A COST REIMBURSEMENT BASIS THE OBSERVATORY PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR UNDER EACH AWARD CLOSELY COORDINATES RESEARCH EFFORTS WITH THE UNIVERSITY RECEIVING THE SUB AWARD AND REVIEWS EACH INVOICE SUBMITTED BY THE UNIVERSITY PRIOR TO PAYMENT

Additional Data

Software ID:
Software Version:
EIN: 86-0098918
Name: LOWELL OBSERVATORY

Form 990,Schedule I, Part II, Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments.

(a) Name and address of organization or government	(b) EIN	(c) IRC section if applicable	(d) Amount of cash grant	(e) Amount of non-cash assistance	(f) Method of valuation (book, FMV , appraisal, other)	(g) Description of non-cash assistance	(h) Purpose of grant or assistance
LOWELL OBSERVATORY FOUNDATION 1400 W MARS HILL ROAD FLAGSTAFF,AZ 86001	47-2052113	501(C)(3)	59,037	2,121,820	TRADING VALUE	ENDOWMENT FUNDS - STOCKS AND OTHER SECURITIES	THE ENDOWMENT FUNDS WERE TRANSFERRED TO THE LOWELL OBSERVATORY FOUNDATION IN ORDER FOR THE FOUNDATION TO HOLD AND MANAGE THE ASSETS FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF THE OBSERVATORY
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY 77 MASSACHUSETTS AVE NE 18-901 CAMBRIDGE,MA 02139	04-2103594		58,715				COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH ON NASA GRANTS
NEW MEXICO INSTITUTE 801 LEROY PLACE SOCORRO,NM 87801	85-6000411		8,568				SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS

Form 990, Schedule I, Part II, Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments.

(a) Name and address of organization or government	(b) EIN	(c) IRC section if applicable	(d) Amount of cash grant	(e) Amount of non-cash assistance	(f) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)	(g) Description of non-cash assistance	(h) Purpose of grant or assistance
NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY PO BOX 4070 FLAGSTAFF, AZ 86011	74-2579628		108,370				SUBAWARDS FOR COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH ON NASA GRANTS
PLANETARY SCIENCE INSTITUTE 1700 E FORT LOWELL RD SUITE 106 TUCSON, AZ 85719	33-0175263		12,366				SUBAWARDS FOR COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH ON NASA GRANTS
UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA 1303 E UNIVERSITY BLVD BOX 3 TUCSON, AZ 85719	74-2652689		12,109				SUBAWARDS FOR COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH ON NASA GRANTS

Form 990,Schedule I, Part II, Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments.

(a) Name and address of organization or government	(b) EIN	(c) IRC section if applicable	(d) Amount of cash grant	(e) Amount of non-cash assistance	(f) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)	(g) Description of non-cash assistance	(h) Purpose of grant or assistance
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII 2440 CAMPUS ROAD BOX 368 HONOLULU,HI 96822	99-6000354		34,663				SUBAWARDS FOR COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH ON NASA GRANTS
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND ROOM 4101 CHESAPEAKE BLDG COLLEGE PARK,MD 20742	52-6002033		38,140				COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH ON NASA GRANTS

Schedule J
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Compensation Information

For certain Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

▶ Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 23.
▶ Attach to Form 990.

▶ Information about Schedule J (Form 990) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
LOWELL OBSERVATORY

Employer identification number
86-0098918

Part I

Questions Regarding Compensation

	Yes	No
1a Check the appropriate box(es) if the organization provided any of the following to or for a person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a Complete Part III to provide any relevant information regarding these items ☐ First-class or charter travel ☐ Travel for companions ☐ Tax idemnification and gross-up payments ☐ Discretionary spending account ☒ Housing allowance or residence for personal use ☐ Payments for business use of personal residence ☐ Health or social club dues or initiation fees ☐ Personal services (e g , maid, chauffeur, chef)		
b If any of the boxes in line 1a are checked, did the organization follow a written policy regarding payment or reimbursement or provision of all of the expenses described above? If "No," complete Part III to explain		No
2 Did the organization require substantiation prior to reimbursing or allowing expenses incurred by all directors, trustees, officers, including the CEO/Executive Director, regarding the items checked in line 1a?		No
3 Indicate which, if any, of the following the filing organization used to establish the compensation of the organization's CEO/Executive Director Check all that apply Do not check any boxes for methods used by a related organization to establish compensation of the CEO/Executive Director, but explain in Part III ☐ Compensation committee ☐ Independent compensation consultant ☐ Form 990 of other organizations ☐ Written employment contract ☒ Compensation survey or study ☒ Approval by the board or compensation committee		
4 During the year, did any person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a with respect to the filing organization or a related organization		
a Receive a severance payment or change-of-control payment?		No
b Participate in, or receive payment from, a supplemental nonqualified retirement plan?		No
c Participate in, or receive payment from, an equity-based compensation arrangement? If "Yes" to any of lines 4a-c, list the persons and provide the applicable amounts for each item in Part III		No
Only 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations must complete lines 5-9.		
5 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the revenues of		
a The organization?		No
b Any related organization? If "Yes," on line 5a or 5b, describe in Part III		No
6 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the net earnings of		
a The organization?		No
b Any related organization? If "Yes," on line 6a or 6b, describe in Part III		No
7 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization provide any non-fixed payments not described in lines 5 and 6? If "Yes," describe in Part III		No
8 Were any amounts reported on Form 990, Part VII, paid or accrued pursuant to a contract that was subject to the initial contract exception described in Regulations section 53 4958-4(a)(3)? If "Yes," describe in Part III		No
9 If "Yes" on line 8, did the organization also follow the rebuttable presumption procedure described in Regulations section 53 4958-6(c)?		

Part II

Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees. Use duplicate copies if additional space is needed.

For each individual whose compensation must be reported on Schedule J, report compensation from the organization on row (i) and from related organizations, described in the instructions, on row (ii) Do not list any individuals that are not listed on Form 990, Part VII

Note. The sum of columns (B)(i)-(iii) for each listed individual must equal the total amount of Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, applicable column (D) and (E) amounts for that individual

(A) Name and Title		(B) Breakdown of W-2 and/or 1099-MISC compensation			(C) Retirement and other deferred compensation	(D) Nontaxable benefits	(E) Total of columns (B)(i)-(D)	(F) Compensation in column(B) reported as deferred on prior Form 990
		Base (i) compensation	(ii) Bonus & incentive compensation	(iii) Other reportable compensation				
1 HALL JEFFREYDIRECTOR	(i)	141,996	0	6,000	8,050	7,536	163,582	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2 DUNHAM EDWARD INSTRUMENT SCIENTIST	(i)	144,523	0	0	7,350	7,307	159,180	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 MASSEY PHILIP ASTRONOMER	(i)	142,436	0	0	7,100	7,504	157,040	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Part III **Supplemental Information**

Provide the information, explanation, or descriptions required for Part I, lines 1a, 1b, 3, 4a, 4b, 4c, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 7, and 8, and for Part II. Also complete this part for any additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
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SCHEDULE M
(Form 990)

Noncash Contributions

▶Complete if the organizations answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, lines 29 or 30.
▶ Attach to Form 990.
▶Information about Schedule M (Form 990) and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov /form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990)

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization
LOWELL OBSERVATORY

Employer identification number
86-0098918

Part I

Types of Property

	(a) Check if applicable	(b) Number of contributions or items contributed	(c) Noncash contribution amounts reported on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1g	(d) Method of determining noncash contribution amounts
1 Art—Works of art				
2 Art—Historical treasures				
3 Art—Fractional interests				
4 Books and publications				
5 Clothing and household goods				
6 Cars and other vehicles				
7 Boats and planes				
8 Intellectual property				
9 Securities—Publicly traded	X	12	144,529	TRANSACTION VALUE
10 Securities—Closely held stock				
11 Securities—Partnership, LLC, or trust interests				
12 Securities—Miscellaneous				
13 Qualified conservation contribution—Historic structures				
14 Qualified conservation contribution—Other				
15 Real estate—Residential				
16 Real estate—Commercial				
17 Real estate—Other				
18 Collectibles				
19 Food inventory				
20 Drugs and medical supplies				
21 Taxidermy				
22 Historical artifacts				
23 Scientific specimens				
24 Archeological artifacts				
25 Other ▶ (ART POSTER)	X	1	1,500	DONOR VALUED
26 Other ▶ (LAWNMOVER)	X	1	330	DONOR VALUED
27 Other ▶ (TELESCOPE)	X	1	50	DONOR VALUED
28 Other ▶ ()				

29 Number of Forms 8283 received by the organization during the tax year for contributions for which the organization completed Form 8283, Part IV, Donee Acknowledgement

29

30a During the year, did the organization receive by contribution any property reported in Part I, lines 1 through 28, that it must hold for at least three years from the date of the initial contribution, and which is not required to be used for exempt purposes for the entire holding period?

30a

Yes

No

b If "Yes," describe the arrangement in Part II

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

31

Yes

No

32a Does the organization hire or use third parties or related organizations to solicit, process, or sell noncash contributions?

32a

Yes

No

b If "Yes," describe in Part II

33 If the organization did not report an amount in column (c) for a type of property for which column (a) is checked, describe in Part II

Part II

Supplemental Information.

Provide the information required by Part I, lines 30b, 32b, and 33, and whether the organization is reporting in Part I, column (b), the number of contributions, the number of items received, or a combination of both. Also complete this part for any additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
PART I, COLUMN (B)	THERE WERE 12 DONATIONS OF STOCK TO THE OBSERVATORY EACH DONATION HAD VARYING AMOUNTS AND VALUES OF STOCK
PART I, LINE 32B	PUBLICLY TRADED SECURITIES ARE DEPOSITED INTO AN INVESTMENT ACCOUNT OWNED BY THE OBSERVATORY THE SECURITIES ARE SOLD BY A BROKER SHORTLY AFTER

SCHEDULE O

(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury

Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

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

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

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

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization LOWELL OBSERVATORY	Employer identification number 86-0098918
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990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 11	THE FORM 990 DRAFT WILL BE FIRST REVIEWED BY THE DEPUTY DIRECTORY FOR ADMINISTRATION (DDA) FOR ACCURACY. ONCE IT HAS BEEN DEEMED ACCURATE BY THE DDA, IT WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE SOLE TRUSTEE, DIRECTOR AND AUDIT COMMITTEE FOR THEIR REVIEW AND COMMENTS. AFTER ANY QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS HAVE BEEN ADDRESSED, IT WILL BE APPROVED AND A FINAL COPY WILL BE SIGNED AND FILED BY THE DDA.
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 12C	THE ORGANIZATION CONDUCTS WEEKLY REVIEWS OF PAYABLES, INCLUDING POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST, AND FOLLOW-UP OCCURS TO ENFORCE COMPLIANCE WITH THE COMPANY POLICY.
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 15A	COMPENSATION OF THE DIRECTOR FOR LOWELL OBSERVATORY IS DETERMINED BY THE SOLE TRUSTEE OF THE CORPORATION AFTER REVIEW OF INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE HUMAN RESOURCE ADMINISTRATOR AND MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY BOARD WHO ARE OR HAVE BEEN MEMBERS OF THE SCIENTIFIC BUSINESS COMMUNITY. THE HUMAN RESOURCE ADMINISTRATOR REVIEWS THE TOTAL COMPENSATION OF THE DIRECTOR IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATIONS/GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED BY THE IRS AND INDUSTRY BEST PRACTICES. DATA REGARDING SALARIES OF OTHER DIRECTORS (CEOS) AT ORGANIZATIONS OF SIMILAR SIZE, INCLUDING BOTH NON-PROFIT AND FOR-PROFIT COMPANIES, IS ALSO REVIEWED. THE SOLE TRUSTEE, WITH ADVICE FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD, ALSO ESTABLISHES GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE DIRECTOR AND EVALUATES THE PERFORMANCE OF THE DIRECTOR BASED ON THE PRIOR YEAR'S GOALS AND OBJECTIVES.
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION C, LINE 19	WHEN REQUESTED, DOCUMENTS REGARDING THE OBSERVATORY ARE PROVIDED BY THE BUSINESS OFFICE. THE 990 AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE LOWELL OBSERVATORY WEBSITE. THE 990 IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON GUIDESTAR AND CHARITY NAVIGATOR. A SUMMARY OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS IS PUBLISHED ANNUALLY IN AN ANNUAL REPORT AND MAILED TO DONORS.
FORM 990, PART IX, LINE 1	GRANTS AND OTHER ASSISTANCE TO DOMESTIC ORGANIZATIONS: \$2,180,857 IS ATTRIBUTED TO TRANSFERRING ENDOWMENT FUNDS TO LOWELL OBSERVATORY FOUNDATION IN ORDER FOR THE FOUNDATION TO HOLD AND MANAGE THE ASSETS FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF THE LOWELL OBSERVATORY.

SCHEDULE R
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Related Organizations and Unrelated Partnerships

▶ Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 33, 34, 35b, 36, or 37.

▶ Attach to Form 990. ▶ Information about Schedule R (Form 990) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
LOWELL OBSERVATORY

Employer identification number
86-0098918

Part I Identification of Disregarded Entities Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 33.					
(a) Name, address, and EIN (if applicable) of disregarded entity	(b) Primary activity	(c) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(d) Total income	(e) End-of-year assets	(f) Direct controlling entity

Part II Identification of Related Tax-Exempt Organizations Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 34 because it had one or more related tax-exempt organizations during the tax year.							
(a) Name, address, and EIN of related organization	(b) Primary activity	(c) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(d) Exempt Code section	(e) Public charity status (if section 501(c)(3))	(f) Direct controlling entity	(g) Section 512(b)(13) controlled entity?	
						Yes	No
(1)PERCIVAL LOWELL TRUST UW 1400 W MARS HILL ROAD FLAGSTAFF, AZ 86001 04-2007327	TRUST F/B/O LOWELL OBSERVATORY	AZ	4947(A)(1)	LINE 11B, II	LOWELL OBSERVATORY	Yes	
(2)LOWELL OBSERVATORY FOUNDATION 1400 W MARS HILL ROAD FLAGSTAFF, AZ 86001 47-2052113	FOUNDATION F/B/O LOWELL OBSERVATORY	AZ	501(C)(3)	LINE 11A, I N/A			No

Part III

Identification of Related Organizations Taxable as a Partnership

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 34 because it had one or more related organizations treated as a partnership during the tax year.

(a) Name, address, and EIN of related organization	(b) Primary activity	(c) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(d) Direct controlling entity	(e) Predominant income(related, unrelated, excluded from tax under sections 512- 514)	(f) Share of total income	(g) Share of end-of-year assets	(h) Disproportionate allocations?		(i) Code V-UBI amount in box 20 of Schedule K-1 (Form 1065)	(j) General or managing partner?		(k) Percentage ownership
							Yes	No		Yes	No	

Part IV

Identification of Related Organizations Taxable as a Corporation or Trust

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 34 because it had one or more related organizations treated as a corporation or trust during the tax year.

(a) Name, address, and EIN of related organization	(b) Primary activity	(c) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(d) Direct controlling entity	(e) Type of entity (C corp, S corp, or trust)	(f) Share of total income	(g) Share of end- of-year assets	(h) Percentage ownership	(i) Section 512 (b)(13) controlled entity?	
								Yes	No

Part V

Transactions With Related Organizations

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 34, 35b, or 36.

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

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

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

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

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

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

e Loans or loan guarantees by related organization(s)

f Dividends from related organization(s)

g Sale of assets to related organization(s)

h Purchase of assets from related organization(s)

i Exchange of assets with related organization(s)

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

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

l Performance of services or membership or fundraising solicitations for related organization(s)

m Performance of services or membership or fundraising solicitations by related organization(s)

n Sharing of facilities, equipment, mailing lists, or other assets with related organization(s)

o Sharing of paid employees with related organization(s)

p Reimbursement paid to related organization(s) for expenses

q Reimbursement paid by related organization(s) for expenses

r Other transfer of cash or property to related organization(s)

s Other transfer of cash or property from related organization(s)

YesNo

1aNo

1bYes

1cNo

1dYes

1eNo

1fNo

1gNo

1hNo

1iNo

1jNo

1kNo

1lNo

1mNo

1nYes

1oYes

1pNo

1qYes

1rNo

1sNo

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

(a) Name of related organization	(b) Transaction type (a-s)	(c) Amount involved	(d) Method of determining amount involved
(1)PERCIVAL LOWELL TRUST UW	D	98,375	END OF YEAR BALANCE

Schedule R (Form 990) 2015

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

[illegible]

Part VII

Supplemental Information

Provide additional information for responses to questions on Schedule R (see instructions)

Return Reference	Explanation
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