

Form **990-PF****Return of Private Foundation**

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

OMB No. 1545-0052

2017

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury

Internal Revenue Service

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

Go to www.irs.gov/Form990PF for instructions and the latest information.

For calendar year 2017 or tax year beginning

, and ending

Name of foundation

**MT. CUBA ASTRONOMICAL FOUNDATION
C/O ASHFORD CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, INC.**

A Employer identification number

20-5012202

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

Room/suite

ONE WALKERS MILL ROAD

B Telephone number

302-655-1750

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code

WILMINGTON, DE 19807C If exemption application is pending, check here ☐D 1. Foreign organizations, check here ☐2. Foreign organizations meeting the 85% test, check here and attach computation ☐E If private foundation status was terminated under section 507(b)(1)(A), check here ☐F If the foundation is in a 60-month termination under section 507(b)(1)(B), check here ☐

G Check all that apply:

☐ Initial return☐ Initial return of a former public charity☐ Final return☐ Amended return☐ Address change☐ Name change

H Check type of organization:

☒ Section 501(c)(3) exempt private foundation☐ Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust☐ Other taxable private foundation

I Fair market value of all assets at end of year

(from Part II, col. (c), line 16)

J Accounting method:

☒ Cash☐ Accrual☐ Other (specify)**\$ 16,812,983.** (Part I, column (d) must be on cash basis.)**Part I Analysis of Revenue and Expenses**

(The total of amounts in columns (b), (c), and (d) may not necessarily equal the amounts in column (a).)

(a) Revenue and expenses per books

(b) Net investment income

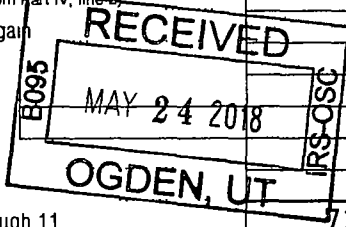
(c) Adjusted net income

(d) Disbursements for charitable purposes (cash basis only)

Revenue	1	Contributions, gifts, grants, etc., received			N/A	
	2	Check ☒ If the foundation is not required to attach Sch. B				
	3	Interest on savings and temporary cash investments				
	4	Dividends and interest from securities	32,759.	32,759.		
	5a	Gross rents				
	b	Net rental income or (loss)				
	6a	Net gain or (loss) from sale of assets not on line 10	675,958.			
	b	Gross sales price for all assets on line 6a	5,858,489.			
	7	Capital gain net income (from Part IV, line 9)		675,958.		
	8	Net short-term capital gain				
	9	Income modifications				
	10a	Gross sales less returns and allowances				
Operating and Administrative Expenses	b	Less: Cost of goods sold				
	c	Gross profit or (loss)				
	11	Other income	5,076.	0.		STATEMENT 1
	12	Total. Add lines 1 through 11	713,793.	708,717.		
	13	Compensation of officers, directors, trustees, etc.	0.	0.		0.
	14	Other employee salaries and wages				
	15	Pension plans, employee benefits				
	16a	Legal fees				
	b	Accounting fees STMT 2	1,575.	0.		1,575.
	c	Other professional fees STMT 3	178,697.	149,697.		29,000.
	17	Interest				
	18	Taxes STMT 4	1,217.	1,192.		25.
	19	Depreciation and depletion				
	20	Occupancy				
	21	Travel, conferences, and meetings	2,692.	0.		2,692.
	22	Printing and publications				
	23	Other expenses STMT 5	3,152.	2,528.		624.
	24	Total operating and administrative expenses. Add lines 13 through 23	187,333.	153,417.		33,916.
	25	Contributions, gifts, grants paid	557,298.			557,298.
	26	Total expenses and disbursements. Add lines 24 and 25	744,631.	153,417.		591,214.
	27	Subtract line 26 from line 12:				
	a	Excess of revenue over expenses and disbursements	-30,838.			
	b	Net investment income (if negative, enter -0-)		555,300.		
	c	Adjusted net income (if negative, enter -0-)			N/A	

03/04

SCANNED JUL 16 2018



MT. CUBA ASTRONOMICAL FOUNDATION

Form 990-PF (2017)

C/O ASHFORD CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, INC.

20-5012202

Page **2**

Part II Balance Sheets		Attached schedules and amounts in the description column should be for end-of-year amounts only		Beginning of year	End of year	
				(a) Book Value	(b) Book Value	(c) Fair Market Value
Assets	1	Cash - non-interest-bearing		13,284.	57,146.	57,146.
	2	Savings and temporary cash investments		1,134,554.	17,771.	17,771.
	3	Accounts receivable ▶				
		Less: allowance for doubtful accounts ▶				
	4	Pledges receivable ▶				
		Less: allowance for doubtful accounts ▶				
	5	Grants receivable				
	6	Receivables due from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons				
	7	Other notes and loans receivable ▶				
		Less: allowance for doubtful accounts ▶				
	8	Inventories for sale or use				
	9	Prepaid expenses and deferred charges				
	10a	Investments - U.S. and state government obligations				
	b	Investments - corporate stock	STMT 6	4,663,541.	5,705,624.	16,738,066.
	c	Investments - corporate bonds				
	Liabilities	11	Investments - land, buildings, and equipment basis ▶			
		Less: accumulated depreciation ▶				
12		Investments - mortgage loans				
13		Investments - other				
14		Land, buildings, and equipment basis ▶				
		Less: accumulated depreciation ▶				
15		Other assets (describe ▶)				
16		Total assets (to be completed by all filers - see the instructions. Also, see page 1, item I)		5,811,379.	5,780,541.	16,812,983.
17		Accounts payable and accrued expenses				
18		Grants payable				
Net Assets or Fund Balances	19	Deferred revenue				
	20	Loans from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons				
	21	Mortgages and other notes payable				
	22	Other liabilities (describe ▶)				
23	Total liabilities (add lines 17 through 22)		0.	0.		
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Foundations that follow SFAS 117, check here ▶ ☐					
	and complete lines 24 through 26, and lines 30 and 31.					
	24	Unrestricted				
	25	Temporarily restricted				
	26	Permanently restricted				
	Foundations that do not follow SFAS 117, check here ▶ ☒					
	and complete lines 27 through 31.					
	27	Capital stock, trust principal, or current funds		5,811,379.	5,780,541.	
28	Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, bldg., and equipment fund		0.	0.		
29	Retained earnings, accumulated income, endowment, or other funds		0.	0.		
30	Total net assets or fund balances		5,811,379.	5,780,541.		
31	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances		5,811,379.	5,780,541.		

Part III Analysis of Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances

1	Total net assets or fund balances at beginning of year - Part II, column (a), line 30 (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	1	5,811,379.
2	Enter amount from Part I, line 27a	2	-30,838.
3	Other increases not included in line 2 (itemize) ▶	3	0.
4	Add lines 1, 2, and 3	4	5,780,541.
5	Decreases not included in line 2 (itemize) ▶	5	0.
6	Total net assets or fund balances at end of year (line 4 minus line 5) - Part II, column (b), line 30	6	5,780,541.

Form **990-PF** (2017)

MT. CUBA ASTRONOMICAL FOUNDATION

Form 990-PF (2017)

C/O ASHFORD CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, INC.

20-5012202

Page **3**

Part IV Capital Gains and Losses for Tax on Investment Income

(a) List and describe the kind(s) of property sold (for example, real estate, 2-story brick warehouse; or common stock, 200 shs. MLC Co.)		(b) How acquired P - Purchase D - Donation	(c) Date acquired (mo., day, yr.)	(d) Date sold (mo., day, yr.)
1a WTC SUMMARY		P	VARIOUS	12/31/17
b WTC SUMMARY		P	VARIOUS	12/31/17
c				
d				
e				

(e) Gross sales price	(f) Depreciation allowed (or allowable)	(g) Cost or other basis plus expense of sale	(h) Gain or (loss) (e) plus (f) minus (g)
a 3,564,483.		3,320,096.	244,387.
b 2,294,006.		1,862,435.	431,571.
c			
d			
e			

Complete only for assets showing gain in column (h) and owned by the foundation on 12/31/69.			(i) Gains (Col. (h) gain minus col. (k), but not less than -0-) or Losses (from col. (h))
(i) FMV as of 12/31/69	(j) Adjusted basis as of 12/31/69	(k) Excess of col. (i) over col. (j), if any	
a			244,387.
b			431,571.
c			
d			
e			

2 Capital gain net income or (net capital loss) { If gain, also enter in Part I, line 7 If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 7 }		2	675,958.
3 Net short-term capital gain or (loss) as defined in sections 1222(5) and (6): If gain, also enter in Part I, line 8, column (c). If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 8		3	N/A

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

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

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

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

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

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

(a) Base period years Calendar year (or tax year beginning in)	(b) Adjusted qualifying distributions	(c) Net value of noncharitable-use assets	(d) Distribution ratio (col. (b) divided by col. (c))
2016	626,563.	12,068,955.	.051915
2015	569,951.	12,019,982.	.047417
2014	486,103.	11,956,788.	.040655
2013	311,455.	11,144,811.	.027946
2012	528,491.	8,724,312.	.060577

2 Total of line 1, column (d)	2	.228510
3 Average distribution ratio for the 5-year base period - divide the total on line 2 by 5.0, or by the number of years the foundation has been in existence if less than 5 years	3	.045702
4 Enter the net value of noncharitable-use assets for 2017 from Part X, line 5	4	15,084,741.
5 Multiply line 4 by line 3	5	689,403.
6 Enter 1% of net investment income (1% of Part I, line 27b)	6	5,553.
7 Add lines 5 and 6	7	694,956.
8 Enter qualifying distributions from Part XII, line 4 If line 8 is equal to or greater than line 7, check the box in Part VI, line 1b, and complete that part using a 1% tax rate. See the Part VI instructions.	8	591,214.

MT. CUBA ASTRONOMICAL FOUNDATION

Form 990-PF (2017)

C/O ASHFORD CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, INC.

20-5012202

Page 4

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

1a Exempt operating foundations described in section 4940(d)(2), check here ☐ and enter "N/A" on line 1. Date of ruling or determination letter: _____ (attach copy of letter if necessary-see instructions)			
b Domestic foundations that meet the section 4940(e) requirements in Part V, check here ☐ and enter 1% of Part I, line 27b		1	11,106.
c All other domestic foundations enter 2% of line 27b. Exempt foreign organizations, enter 4% of Part I, line 12, col. (b).			
2 Tax under section 511 (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only; others, enter -0-)		2	0.
3 Add lines 1 and 2		3	11,106.
4 Subtitle A (income) tax (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only; others, enter -0-)		4	0.
5 Tax based on investment income. Subtract line 4 from line 3. If zero or less, enter -0-		5	11,106.
6 Credits/Payments:			
a 2017 estimated tax payments and 2016 overpayment credited to 2017	6a	6,000.	
b Exempt foreign organizations - tax withheld at source	6b	0.	
c Tax paid with application for extension of time to file (Form 8868)	6c	0.	
d Backup withholding erroneously withheld	6d	0.	
7 Total credits and payments. Add lines 6a through 6d	7	6,000.	
8 Enter any penalty for underpayment of estimated tax. Check here ☐ if Form 2220 is attached	8	0.	
9 Tax due. If the total of lines 5 and 8 is more than line 7, enter amount owed	9	5,106.	
10 Overpayment. If line 7 is more than the total of lines 5 and 8, enter the amount overpaid	10		
11 Enter the amount of line 10 to be: Credited to 2018 estimated tax ☐ Refunded ☐	11		

Part VII-A Statements Regarding Activities

	Yes	No
1a During the tax year, did the foundation attempt to influence any national, state, or local legislation or did it participate or intervene in any political campaign?		X
1b Did it spend more than \$100 during the year (either directly or indirectly) for political purposes? See the instructions for the definition. If the answer is "Yes" to 1a or 1b, attach a detailed description of the activities and copies of any materials published or distributed by the foundation in connection with the activities.		X
1c Did the foundation file Form 1120-POL for this year?		X
d Enter the amount (if any) of tax on political expenditures (section 4955) imposed during the year: (1) On the foundation. ☐ \$ 0. (2) On foundation managers. ☐ \$ 0.		
e Enter the reimbursement (if any) paid by the foundation during the year for political expenditure tax imposed on foundation managers. ☐ \$ 0.		
2 Has the foundation engaged in any activities that have not previously been reported to the IRS? If "Yes," attach a detailed description of the activities.		X
3 Has the foundation made any changes, not previously reported to the IRS, in its governing instrument, articles of incorporation, or bylaws, or other similar instruments? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the changes		X
4a Did the foundation have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year?		X
b If "Yes," has it filed a tax return on Form 990-T for this year?		
5 Was there a liquidation, termination, dissolution, or substantial contraction during the year? If "Yes," attach the statement required by General Instruction T.		X
6 Are the requirements of section 508(e) (relating to sections 4941 through 4945) satisfied either: • By language in the governing instrument, or • By state legislation that effectively amends the governing instrument so that no mandatory directions that conflict with the state law remain in the governing instrument?	X	
7 Did the foundation have at least \$5,000 in assets at any time during the year? If "Yes," complete Part II, col. (c), and Part XV	X	
8a Enter the states to which the foundation reports or with which it is registered. See instructions. ☐ <u>DE</u>		
b If the answer is "Yes" to line 7, has the foundation furnished a copy of Form 990-PF to the Attorney General (or designate) of each state as required by General Instruction G? If "No," attach explanation	X	
9 Is the foundation claiming status as a private operating foundation within the meaning of section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5) for calendar year 2017 or the tax year beginning in 2017? See the instructions for Part XIV. If "Yes," complete Part XIV		X
10 Did any persons become substantial contributors during the tax year? If "Yes," attach a schedule listing their names and addresses		X

N/A

Form 990-PF (2017)

Part VII-A Statements Regarding Activities (continued)

	Yes	No
11 At any time during the year, did the foundation, directly or indirectly, own a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," attach schedule. See instructions		X
12 Did the foundation make a distribution to a donor advised fund over which the foundation or a disqualified person had advisory privileges? If "Yes," attach statement. See instructions		X
13 Did the foundation comply with the public inspection requirements for its annual returns and exemption application? Website address N/A	X	
14 The books are in care of SUE SWEENEY Telephone no. 302-655-1750 Located at ONE WALKERS MILL ROAD, WILMINGTON, DE ZIP+4 19807		
15 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-PF in lieu of Form 1041 - check here and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year	15	N/A
16 At any time during calendar year 2017, did the foundation have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a bank, securities, or other financial account in a foreign country? See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114. If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country	16	X

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

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

	Yes	No
1a During the year, did the foundation (either directly or indirectly): (1) Engage in the sale or exchange, or leasing of property with a disqualified person? ☐ Yes ☒ No (2) Borrow money from, lend money to, or otherwise extend credit to (or accept it from) a disqualified person? ☐ Yes ☒ No (3) Furnish goods, services, or facilities to (or accept them from) a disqualified person? ☐ Yes ☒ No (4) Pay compensation to, or pay or reimburse the expenses of, a disqualified person? ☐ Yes ☒ No (5) Transfer any income or assets to a disqualified person (or make any of either available for the benefit or use of a disqualified person)? ☐ Yes ☒ No (6) Agree to pay money or property to a government official? (Exception. Check "No" if the foundation agreed to make a grant to or to employ the official for a period after termination of government service, if terminating within 90 days.) ☐ Yes ☒ No		
b If any answer is "Yes" to 1a(1)-(6), did any of the acts fail to qualify under the exceptions described in Regulations section 53.4941(d)-3 or in a current notice regarding disaster assistance? See instructions Organizations relying on a current notice regarding disaster assistance, check here	N/A	1b
c Did the foundation engage in a prior year in any of the acts described in 1a, other than excepted acts, that were not corrected before the first day of the tax year beginning in 2017?		1c X
2 Taxes on failure to distribute income (section 4942) (does not apply for years the foundation was a private operating foundation defined in section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5)): a At the end of tax year 2017, did the foundation have any undistributed income (lines 6d and 6e, Part XIII) for tax year(s) beginning before 2017? ☐ Yes ☒ No If "Yes," list the years		
b Are there any years listed in 2a for which the foundation is not applying the provisions of section 4942(a)(2) (relating to incorrect valuation of assets) to the year's undistributed income? (If applying section 4942(a)(2) to all years listed, answer "No" and attach statement - see instructions.)	N/A	2b
c If the provisions of section 4942(a)(2) are being applied to any of the years listed in 2a, list the years here.		
3a Did the foundation hold more than a 2% direct or indirect interest in any business enterprise at any time during the year? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
b If "Yes," did it have excess business holdings in 2017 as a result of (1) any purchase by the foundation or disqualified persons after May 26, 1969; (2) the lapse of the 5-year period (or longer period approved by the Commissioner under section 4943(c)(7)) to dispose of holdings acquired by gift or bequest; or (3) the lapse of the 10-, 15-, or 20-year first phase holding period? (Use Schedule C, Form 4720, to determine if the foundation had excess business holdings in 2017.)	N/A	3b
4a Did the foundation invest during the year any amount in a manner that would jeopardize its charitable purposes?		4a X
b Did the foundation make any investment in a prior year (but after December 31, 1969) that could jeopardize its charitable purpose that had not been removed from jeopardy before the first day of the tax year beginning in 2017?		4b X

Form 990-PF (2017)

Part VII-B Statements Regarding Activities for Which Form 4720 May Be Required (continued)**5a** During the year, did the foundation pay or incur any amount to:

(1) Carry on propaganda, or otherwise attempt to influence legislation (section 4945(e))?

☐ Yes ☒ No

(2) Influence the outcome of any specific public election (see section 4955); or to carry on, directly or indirectly, any voter registration drive?

☐ Yes ☒ No

(3) Provide a grant to an individual for travel, study, or other similar purposes?

☐ Yes ☒ No

(4) Provide a grant to an organization other than a charitable, etc., organization described in section 4945(d)(4)(A)? See instructions

☐ Yes ☒ No

(5) Provide for any purpose other than religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals?

☐ Yes ☒ No**b** If any answer is "Yes" to 5a(1)-(5), did **any** of the transactions fail to qualify under the exceptions described in Regulations section 53.4945 or in a current notice regarding disaster assistance? See instructions

N/A

5b

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

☒**c** If the answer is "Yes" to question 5a(4), does the foundation claim exemption from the tax because it maintained expenditure responsibility for the grant?

N/A

☐ Yes ☐ No

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

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

6b

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

X

If "Yes" to 6b, file Form 8870.

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

7b

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

N/A

Part VIII Information About Officers, Directors, Trustees, Foundation Managers, Highly Paid Employees, and Contractors**1** List all officers, directors, trustees, and foundation managers and their compensation.

(a) Name and address	(b) Title, and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation (If not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Expense account, other allowances
THEODORE H. ASHFORD	TRUSTEE			
ONE WALKERS MILL ROAD				
WILMINGTON, DE 19807	1.00	0.	0.	0.
IRENEE DU PONT, JR.	TREASURER			
ONE WALKERS MILL ROAD				
WILMINGTON, DE 19807	1.00	0.	0.	0.
THEODORE H. ASHFORD, III	ASSISTANT TREASURER			
ONE WALKERS MILL ROAD				
WILMINGTON, DE 19807	1.00	0.	0.	0.
DANIEL D. FRIEL, JR.	SECRETARY			
ONE WALKERS MILL ROAD				
WILMINGTON, DE 19807	1.00	0.	0.	0.

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

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

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

0

Form 990-PF (2017)

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

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

(a) Name and address of each person paid more than \$50,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
ASHFORD CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, INC., ONE WALKERS MILL ROAD, WILMINGTON, DE 19807	INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT	149,697.

Total number of others receiving over \$50,000 for professional services 0

Part IX-A Summary of Direct Charitable Activities

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

Part IX-B Summary of Program-Related Investments

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

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

1	Fair market value of assets not used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc., purposes:		
a	Average monthly fair market value of securities	1a	14,780,002.
b	Average of monthly cash balances	1b	534,456.
c	Fair market value of all other assets	1c	
d	Total (add lines 1a, b, and c)	1d	15,314,458.
e	Reduction claimed for blockage or other factors reported on lines 1a and 1c (attach detailed explanation)	1e	0.
2	Acquisition indebtedness applicable to line 1 assets	2	0.
3	Subtract line 2 from line 1d	3	15,314,458.
4	Cash deemed held for charitable activities. Enter 1 1/2% of line 3 (for greater amount, see instructions)	4	229,717.
5	Net value of noncharitable-use assets. Subtract line 4 from line 3. Enter here and on Part V, line 4	5	15,084,741.
6	Minimum investment return. Enter 5% of line 5	6	754,237.

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

1	Minimum investment return from Part X, line 6	1	754,237.
2a	Tax on investment income for 2017 from Part VI, line 5	2a	11,106.
b	Income tax for 2017. (This does not include the tax from Part VI.)	2b	
c	Add lines 2a and 2b	2c	11,106.
3	Distributable amount before adjustments. Subtract line 2c from line 1	3	743,131.
4	Recoveries of amounts treated as qualifying distributions	4	0.
5	Add lines 3 and 4	5	743,131.
6	Deduction from distributable amount (see instructions)	6	0.
7	Distributable amount as adjusted. Subtract line 6 from line 5. Enter here and on Part XIII, line 1	7	743,131.

Part XII Qualifying Distributions (see instructions)

1	Amounts paid (including administrative expenses) to accomplish charitable, etc., purposes:		
a	Expenses, contributions, gifts, etc. - total from Part I, column (d), line 26	1a	591,214.
b	Program-related investments - total from Part IX-B	1b	0.
2	Amounts paid to acquire assets used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc., purposes	2	
3	Amounts set aside for specific charitable projects that satisfy the:		
a	Suitability test (prior IRS approval required)	3a	
b	Cash distribution test (attach the required schedule)	3b	
4	Qualifying distributions. Add lines 1a through 3b. Enter here and on Part V, line 8; and Part XIII, line 4	4	591,214.
5	Foundations that qualify under section 4940(e) for the reduced rate of tax on net investment income. Enter 1% of Part I, line 27b	5	0.
6	Adjusted qualifying distributions. Subtract line 5 from line 4	6	591,214.

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

Part XIII Undistributed Income (see instructions)

	(a) Corpus	(b) Years prior to 2016	(c) 2016	(d) 2017
1 Distributable amount for 2017 from Part XI, line 7				743,131.
2 Undistributed income, if any, as of the end of 2017				
a Enter amount for 2016 only			556,897.	
b Total for prior years:		0.		
3 Excess distributions carryover, if any, to 2017:				
a From 2012				
b From 2013				
c From 2014				
d From 2015				
e From 2016				
f Total of lines 3a through e	0.			
4 Qualifying distributions for 2017 from Part XII, line 4: ▶ \$ 591,214.				
a Applied to 2016, but not more than line 2a			556,897.	
b Applied to undistributed income of prior years (Election required - see instructions)		0.		
c Treated as distributions out of corpus (Election required - see instructions)	0.			
d Applied to 2017 distributable amount				34,317.
e Remaining amount distributed out of corpus	0.			
5 Excess distributions carryover applied to 2017 (if an amount appears in column (d), the same amount must be shown in column (a))	0.			0.
6 Enter the net total of each column as indicated below:				
a Corpus Add lines 3f, 4c, and 4e Subtract line 5	0.			
b Prior years' undistributed income. Subtract line 4b from line 2b		0.		
c Enter the amount of prior years' undistributed income for which a notice of deficiency has been issued, or on which the section 4942(a) tax has been previously assessed		0.		
d Subtract line 6c from line 6b. Taxable amount - see instructions		0.		
e Undistributed income for 2016. Subtract line 4a from line 2a. Taxable amount - see instr.			0.	
f Undistributed income for 2017. Subtract lines 4d and 5 from line 1. This amount must be distributed in 2018				708,814.
7 Amounts treated as distributions out of corpus to satisfy requirements imposed by section 170(b)(1)(F) or 4942(g)(3) (Election may be required - see instructions)	0.			
8 Excess distributions carryover from 2012 not applied on line 5 or line 7	0.			
9 Excess distributions carryover to 2018. Subtract lines 7 and 8 from line 6a	0.			
10 Analysis of line 9:				
a Excess from 2013				
b Excess from 2014				
c Excess from 2015				
d Excess from 2016				
e Excess from 2017				

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

- 1 a If the foundation has received a ruling or determination letter that it is a private operating foundation, and the ruling is effective for 2017, enter the date of the ruling ▶
- b Check box to indicate whether the foundation is a private operating foundation described in section ☐ 4942(j)(3) or ☐ 4942(j)(5)

	Tax year		Prior 3 years		(e) Total
	(a) 2017	(b) 2016	(c) 2015	(d) 2014	
2 a Enter the lesser of the adjusted net income from Part I or the minimum investment return from Part X for each year listed					
b 85% of line 2a					
c Qualifying distributions from Part XII, line 4 for each year listed					
d Amounts included in line 2c not used directly for active conduct of exempt activities					
e Qualifying distributions made directly for active conduct of exempt activities.					
Subtract line 2d from line 2c					
3 Complete 3a, b, or c for the alternative test relied upon:					
a "Assets" alternative test - enter:					
(1) Value of all assets					
(2) Value of assets qualifying under section 4942(j)(3)(B)(i)					
b "Endowment" alternative test - enter 2/3 of minimum investment return shown in Part X, line 6 for each year listed					
c "Support" alternative test - enter:					
(1) Total support other than gross investment income (interest, dividends, rents, payments on securities loans (section 512(a)(5)), or royalties)					
(2) Support from general public and 5 or more exempt organizations as provided in section 4942(j)(3)(B)(iii)					
(3) Largest amount of support from an exempt organization					
(4) Gross investment income					

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

1 Information Regarding Foundation Managers:

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

NONE

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

NONE

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

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

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

JAMES LANG, ADMINISTRATOR, 302-540-6389
PO BOX 4556, GREENVILLE, DE 19807

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

- c Any submission deadlines:

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

MT. CUBA ASTRONOMICAL FOUNDATION

Form 990-PF (2017)

C/O ASHFORD CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, INC.

20-5012202 Page 11

Part XV Supplementary Information (continued)**3 Grants and Contributions Paid During the Year or Approved for Future Payment**

Recipient Name and address (home or business)	If recipient is an individual, show any relationship to any foundation manager or substantial contributor	Foundation status of recipient	Purpose of grant or contribution	Amount
a Paid during the year				
CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY 10900 EUCLID AVENUE CLEVELAND, OH 44106-7215	N/A		GENERAL	33,400.
LOWELL OBSERVATORY 1400 WEST MARS HILL ROAD FLAGSTAFF, AZ 86001	N/A		GENERAL	56,774.
MT. CUBA ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY- VERNON LECTURE 1610 HILLSIDE MILL ROAD WILMINGTON, DE 19807	N/A		GENERAL	8,953.
W.M. KECK OBSERVATORY 65-1120 MAMALAHOA HWY KAMUELA, HI 96743	N/A		GENERAL	245,000.
AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY 200 CENTRAL PARK WEST NEW YORK, NY 10024	N/A		GENERAL	78,700.
Total	SEE CONTINUATION SHEET(S)			557,298.
b Approved for future payment				
NONE				
Total				0.

Form 990-PF (2017)

Enter gross amounts unless otherwise indicated.		Unrelated business income		Excluded by section 512, 513, or 514		(e) Related or exempt function income
	(a) Business code	(b) Amount	(c) Exclu- sion code	(d) Amount		
1 Program service revenue:						
a _____						
b _____						
c _____						
d _____						
e _____						
f _____						
g Fees and contracts from government agencies						
2 Membership dues and assessments						
3 Interest on savings and temporary cash investments						
4 Dividends and interest from securities			14	32,759.		
5 Net rental income or (loss) from real estate:						
a Debt-financed property						
b Not debt-financed property						
6 Net rental income or (loss) from personal property						
7 Other investment income						
8 Gain or (loss) from sales of assets other than inventory			18	675,958.		
9 Net income or (loss) from special events						
10 Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory						
11 Other revenue:						
a EXCISE TAX REFUND				5,076.		
b _____						
c _____						
d _____						
e _____						
12 Subtotal. Add columns (b), (d), and (e)		0.		713,793.		0.
13 Total. Add line 12, columns (b), (d), and (e)						
						13 713,793.

(See worksheet in line 13 instructions to verify calculations.)

[illegible]

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

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

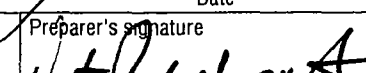
[illegible]

2a Is the foundation directly or indirectly affiliated with, or related to, one or more tax-exempt organizations described in section 501(c) (other than section 501(c)(3)) or in section 527?

☐ Yes ☒ No

b If "Yes," complete the following schedule.

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

Sign Here	Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than taxpayer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.				May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown below? See instr. ☒ Yes ☐ No	
	 Signature of officer or trustee		5/14/18 Date	TRUSTEE Title		
Paid Preparer Use Only	Print/Type preparer's name VICTOR S. PELILLO, CPA		Preparer's signature 	Date 04/26/18	Check ☐ if self-employed	PTIN P00176177
	Firm's name ▶ ALBERO, KUPFERMAN & ASSOCIATES, LLC				Firm's EIN ▶ 26-0645306	
	Firm's address ▶ 1701 SHALLCROSS AVE, STE D WILMINGTON, DE 19806				Phone no. (302) 230-7171	

Form **990-PF** (2017)

FORM 990-PF	OTHER INCOME		STATEMENT	1
DESCRIPTION	(A) REVENUE PER BOOKS	(B) NET INVEST- MENT INCOME	(C) ADJUSTED NET INCOME	
EXCISE TAX REFUND	5,076.	0.		
TOTAL TO FORM 990-PF, PART I, LINE 11	5,076.	0.		

FORM 990-PF	ACCOUNTING FEES		STATEMENT	2
DESCRIPTION	(A) EXPENSES PER BOOKS	(B) NET INVEST- MENT INCOME	(C) ADJUSTED NET INCOME	(D) CHARITABLE PURPOSES
ACCOUNTING FEES	1,575.	0.		1,575.
TO FORM 990-PF, PG 1, LN 16B	1,575.	0.		1,575.

FORM 990-PF	OTHER PROFESSIONAL FEES		STATEMENT	3
DESCRIPTION	(A) EXPENSES PER BOOKS	(B) NET INVEST- MENT INCOME	(C) ADJUSTED NET INCOME	(D) CHARITABLE PURPOSES
CONSULTING FEES	29,000.	0.		29,000.
INVESTMENT ADVISORY FEES	149,697.	149,697.		0.
TO FORM 990-PF, PG 1, LN 16C	178,697.	149,697.		29,000.

FORM 990-PF	TAXES		STATEMENT	4
DESCRIPTION	(A) EXPENSES PER BOOKS	(B) NET INVEST- MENT INCOME	(C) ADJUSTED NET INCOME	(D) CHARITABLE PURPOSES
FRANCHISE TAX	25.	0.		25.
FOREIGN TAX	1,192.	1,192.		0.
TO FORM 990-PF, PG 1, LN 18	1,217.	1,192.		25.

FORM 990-PF	OTHER EXPENSES			STATEMENT	5
DESCRIPTION	(A) EXPENSES PER BOOKS	(B) NET INVEST- MENT INCOME	(C) ADJUSTED NET INCOME	(D) CHARITABLE PURPOSES	
OFFICE EXPENSES	721.	97.		624.	
BANK FEES	2,431.	2,431.		0.	
TO FORM 990-PF, PG 1, LN 23	3,152.	2,528.		624.	

FORM 990-PF	CORPORATE STOCK		STATEMENT	6
DESCRIPTION	BOOK VALUE	FAIR MARKET VALUE		
WILMINGTON TRUST 77306	5,705,624.	16,738,066.		
TOTAL TO FORM 990-PF, PART II, LINE 10B	5,705,624.	16,738,066.		