



October 13, 2025

Board of Directors
Hamilton Wood Type & Printing Museum
1816 10th Street
Two Rivers, Wisconsin 54241

Dear Members of the Board,

Windgate Foundation has been a committed partner to Hamilton Wood Type (HWT) for more than 20 years, supporting the organization through grants for programs, facilities, operations, and capacity building. Our investment in HWT's future culminated in the establishment of a \$10 million named, designated endowment in 2022 at the Arkansas Community Foundation, which currently provides annual support of \$414,668. In addition, two of our members, John and Robyn Horn, have personally supported the Museum for many years.

It is with deep concern that we now address the current state of the organization. The abrupt cancellation of programming and the resulting backlash from the letterpress and printing communities have raised serious concerns. While we understand the original decision may have been made with good intentions, subsequent actions have only escalated the situation, ultimately resulting in the cancellation of Wayzgoose, the resignation of a board member, significant strain on staff, and the alienation of much of the printing community.

This is no longer a temporary challenge. It has become a full-blown crisis. The ongoing suspension of programming appears to be causing a loss of 25–30% in earned revenue, in addition to an undetermined decline in donor support. This trajectory is not sustainable.

We are also increasingly concerned about the lack of transparency. On August 6, we requested the organization's most recent audited financials and a current budget. While we received the 2023 audited financials and June 2024 Form 990 on September 23, our follow-up request that same day, for a current budget and year-to-date actuals, remains unanswered. Additionally, discrepancies we identified in the accounting of funding from Windgate versus the Arkansas Community Foundation in both 2023 and 2024, also remain unacknowledged.

We believe the Museum is now relying heavily on support from Windgate's endowment. However, it was never our intention for the endowment to become the primary or sole source of support for HWT, even on a temporary basis. Relying heavily on endowment proceeds while programming and earned income are diminished is not a healthy or responsible financial strategy. Additionally, the named designation of the endowment held at the Arkansas Community Foundation may be changed, and future payments may be withheld or cancelled at

Windgate's discretion. As such, the endowment should not be viewed as a guaranteed or unlimited source of operating funds.

At this point, we believe the Board is failing in its fiduciary responsibility to protect the long-term viability of the organization. Immediate corrective action is necessary.

Consequently, Windgate will withhold future endowment payments until the following steps are taken:

1. The immediate resignation of the current Executive Committee members: Tracy Honn, Angela Spinazze, and Jerome Fox
2. A formal commitment to engage an external consultant to assess and guide the organization's recovery
 - o This should include consideration of a committee composed of members from the printing community
3. A clear plan to restore programming at the earliest opportunity, in order to rebuild earned income and organizational stability
4. A commitment to prioritize the addition of new board members from underrepresented racial groups, ensuring broader perspective in board leadership

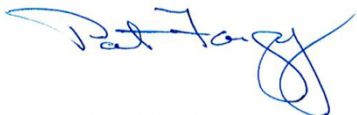
If payments are reinstated, we will also require the submission of regular progress reports to Windgate, including updated budgets and financials.

Please understand that this is in not a reflection on the prior dedication of the board or any individual members. However, these steps are imperative to allow the Museum to recover and continue its important role in the printing community.

We are truly saddened to see Hamilton Wood Type at this critical juncture and this letter is written from a place of long-standing support and genuine care for the organization. We believe HWT still has the potential for a strong future, if the board chooses to act swiftly and responsibly in its best interest.

We respectfully request a unanimous, written response from the full board sent to me via email, including a detailed plan to move forward, within 30 days of the date of this letter.

Sincerely,



Patricia Forgy
Executive Director
pforgy@windgatefoundation.org