



# ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2014

*Catalyzing on Past Success, Enabling Future Expansion*

## TO THE MPS COMMUNITIES

### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

*The Masonic Philosophical Society started with the vision of providing free community based education in every major city throughout the Americas. Though this goal may take many years to fulfill, 2014 was an important time for the expansion of the Society and the ultimate realization of our goal. Not only were 5 Study Centers opened throughout the Western Hemisphere, but the official website for MPS was launched, including a Moderator's Portal. Utilizing the power of the Internet, we have managed to minimize paperwork and maximize efficiency. In addition, social media like Facebook and Meetup.com has allowed the various Study Centers to reach those portions of the population that seek the discussions we are providing.*

*With every Study given at one of our Centers, we are working to cultivate an atmosphere of cultural awareness and tolerance. By discussing the differences between people in regards to their religious values, philosophical ideas and social views, The Masonic Philosophical Society helps to bridge the gap which divides humanity. By providing an educational arena, in which every person is a teacher and student, we are revolutionizing the way people learn.*

*Let us move onward toward 2015 with a single idea in mind: Death to Ignorance!*

*Sincerely,*



*Matias M. Cumsille*

## OUR MISSION AND GOALS

*The mission of the Masonic Philosophical Society is to destroy ignorance through the advancement of research and understanding of the sciences, arts, and humanities. The MPS embraces the concept of learning for life, not just in school, in a community environment where ideas can be shared and debated in an open forum. Through education, our organization seeks to stimulate thinking, reading, and ethical behavior in daily life.*

*With an eye toward the future, the MPS seeks to fulfill its mission through five main goals:*

- 1. To CREATE an open atmosphere which enables cultural exchange of different philosophies, religions, scientific theories, Etc;*
- 2. To EDUCATE all community members who seek knowledge and understanding of the sciences, arts, and humanities;*
- 3. To IMPROVE the public speaking, debate, logical reasoning, and active listening skills of all participants;*
- 4. To PROMOTE community integration, tolerance, and diversity awareness; and*
- 5. To ENCOURAGE the practice of philosophical introspection in an endeavor to increase individual self-awareness.*

## EVALUATION OF SUCCESS

*For the last five years, the MPS staff, volunteers, and board of directors have worked diligently to implement the strategic MPS approach to education and community outreach. In communities in the United States, Brazil, Argentina, and Chile, hundreds of scholars have presented on diverse subject areas, such as: Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle, The Age of Enlightenment, Esoteric Calculus, The Theory of Government, Theism vs. Atheism, Pythagoras' Teachings, Architecture of the Rosslyn Chapel, Classical Music and the Brain, The Judicial Doctrine of Willful Blindness, Egyptian Mythology, and Dante's Inferno.*

*Systematic evaluation of the MPS' educational outreach continues to demonstrate the progressive expansion of objective, subjective, and expressive knowledge. Moreover, MPS presentations and subsequent discussions have prompted substantial growth in knowledge, insight, and understanding. Founded on the precepts of equality and inclusiveness, MPS centers welcome community members regardless of race, gender, and religious affiliation. By fostering cultural awareness and religious tolerance, the MPS participates in building stronger communities in both North and South America.*

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## MEMBERSHIP

*In 2014, MPS membership **more than tripled** in number of subscribed members, as tracked by the organization on Facebook, Meetup.com, and Twitter. As of December 2014, the MPS had 18,743 Facebook subscribed members who receive regular communications from the MPS via social media and meetup.com.*

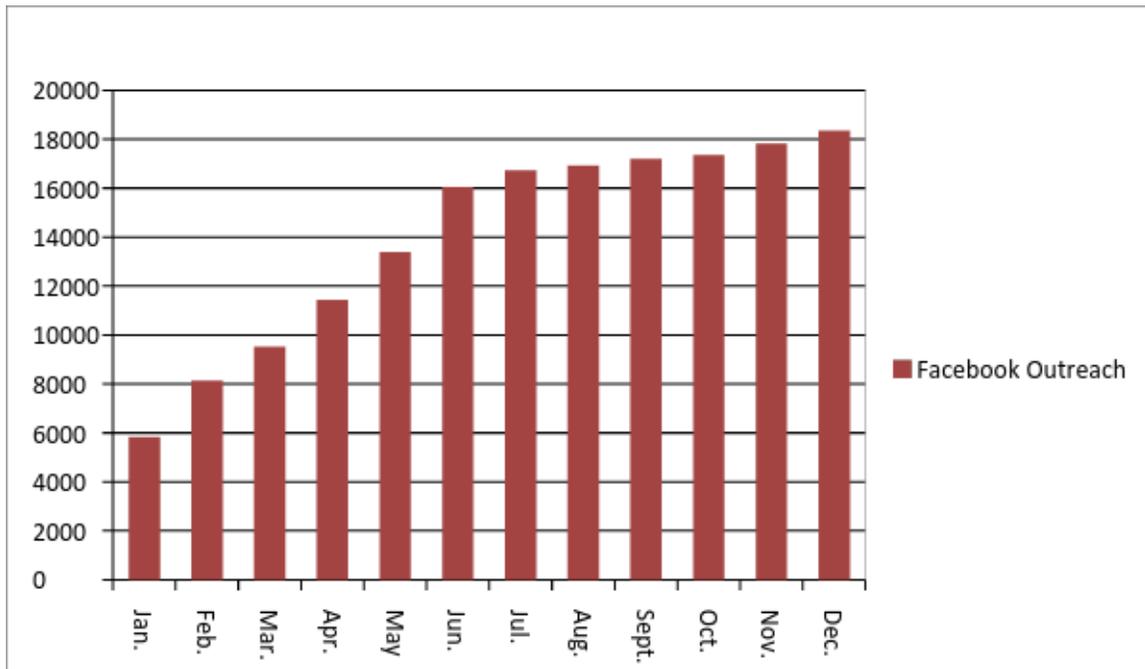


Figure 1. Membership numbers for FY 2014

## REFLECTIONS ON 2014

*2014 was a year of tremendous growth for the Masonic Philosophical Society (MPS). Catalyzing on past successes, the MPS opened 5 new centers located across the country: Los Angeles, California; West Boylston, Massachusetts; Easton, Connecticut; and Miami, Florida. MPS Membership tripled during 2014, from approximately 6,000 subscribed members to more than 18,000 subscribed members by the end of the calendar year. Since opening our first center in 2009, the MPS has expanded its operation to include 25 centers in North and South America. We look forward to the continued growth and expansion of the MPS in 2015 and beyond.*

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## FY 2014 FINANCIALS

### Income

Corporate Sponsorships	\$4,560
Individual Donations	\$63,000
In Kind Donations	\$23,760
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$91,320</b>

### Expenses

Educational Speakers	\$7,920
Advertising and Marketing	\$4,560
Venue Rental	\$600
Travel	\$60,000
Educational Materials	\$15,840
Printing and Copying	\$2,400
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$91,320</b>

### Summary

Total Income	\$91,320
Total Expense	\$91,320
<b>Net Surplus</b>	<b>\$0</b>

FY 2014 FINANCIALS GRAPHIC REPRESENTATION

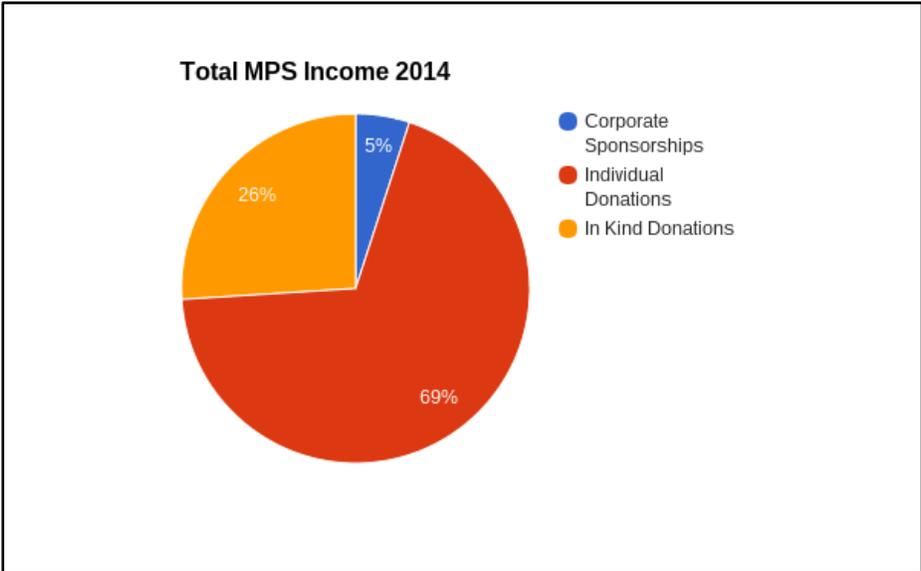


Figure 2. FY 2014 Income Graph

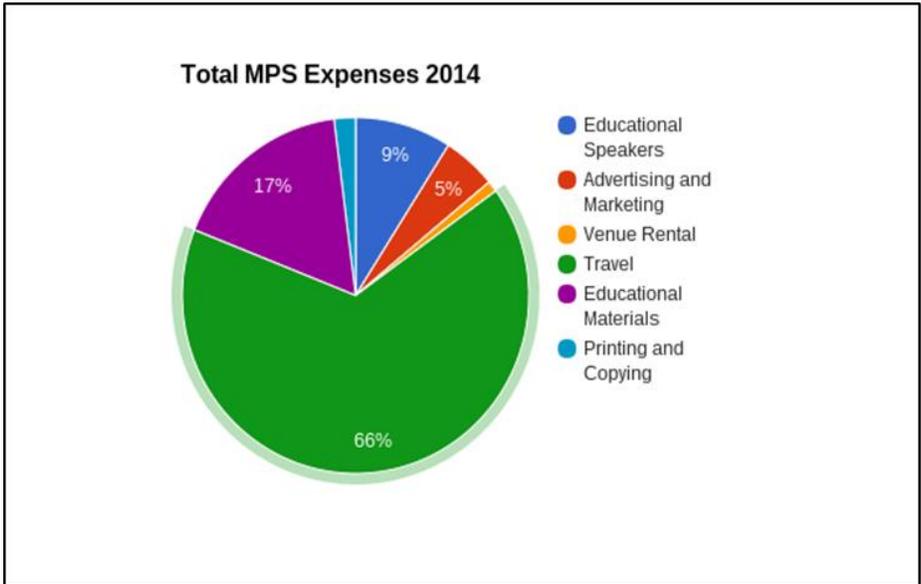


Figure 3. FY 2014 Expense Graph

# MPS ANNUAL REPORT 2014

## SPOTLIGHT EVENT

On December 6th of 2014, the Los Angeles Study Center of the Masonic Philosophical Society was instituted. The event was highly successful with 19 visitors in attendance. Capitalizing on the success of the inaugural event, the Los Angeles MPS continues to thrive with active participation and community involvement.



(Photo from Left to Right: Matias Cumsille, David D'Angelo, Kathy Courtney, Kevin Watson , Felicia Collins, Jamie Shuler, Maria Sattui, Ramona Brown, Amy Palian, and Isaac Levy)

## SPOTLIGHT PRESENTER



### **Dr. Celso Batalha**

*PhD in Astronomy, MS in Physics, Postdoctoral degree from UCLA, Berkeley.*

Dr. Batalha presented at the Santa Cruz MPS Center in 2014. His presentation was entitled, “What is the most effective means of communication?”

The modern languages have stemmed from a long history of development, but language was not always the same. Our current forms of language are useful for its capability to describe complex situations and events in our lives. Besides written and contemporary spoken language, there have been other forms of communication throughout our history. These include oral traditions, hieroglyphs and pictographs, along with other methods of communicating. Modern language, like many other things is symbolic of its true meaning. It is the expression of an abstract idea, which is conveyed through concrete means. Is it possible that there are more accurate ways to convey messages, perhaps in sound, touch or images?

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Donate to the Masonic Philosophical Society

Find An MPS Center Near You

Want To Volunteer or Get More Information

With an all-volunteer staff and board of directors, the MPS could not operate without the support of individuals like you. Whether you gave your time, educational expertise, or financial support, the MPS is grateful for your gift. Your generous donation allows the MPS to provide continued education opportunities to all individuals and build stronger, more tolerant communities. THANK YOU!

## VOLUNTEER STAFF

President -	Matias M. Cumsille
Vice President -	Rosario G. Menocal
Director of Curriculum and Mode rators -	Katie M. Cumsille
Director of Study Center Scheduling -	Sandra M. McKeown
Director of Social Media and Marketing -	Janet C. Espinoza
Grant Writer -	Elaine P. Phelen