

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Financial Statements

For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

With the Independent Auditor's Report

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Financial Statements

Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

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RSM US LLP

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Trustees
John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation (the foundation), which comprise the statements of financial position as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the foundation as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the foundation and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the foundation's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are issued or available to be issued.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the foundation's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the foundation's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

RSM US LLP

Miami, Florida
May 17, 2024

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Statements of Financial Position

	Dec. 31	
	2023	2022
Assets		
Investments:		
Investment assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 71,902,644	\$ 65,020,365
Interest, dividends and other investment receivables	39,480,753	50,680,922
Futures contracts	3,491,617	(1,796,607)
U.S. government and agency obligations	193,947,706	177,599,850
Government-sponsored enterprises obligations	61,989,928	86,325,808
Corporate bonds and other obligations	126,178,801	113,442,593
Equity securities	436,540,977	418,490,517
Hedge fund investments	584,537,457	565,083,968
Alternative equity investments	925,840,587	907,613,757
Real estate investments	65,175,378	56,854,843
Total investments	2,509,085,848	2,439,316,016
Program-related investments, net	-	625,702
Beneficial interest in remainder trusts	67,351,929	60,087,231
Pension and other postretirement plan assets	2,054,033	1,071,300
Fixed assets, net of accumulated depreciation of \$254,696 and accumulated amortization of \$516,963, at Dec.31, 2023 and, net of accumulated depreciation of \$124,176 and accumulated amortization of \$232,950, at Dec.31, 2022	3,820,326	3,932,019
Right-of-use asset	18,405,709	20,179,895
Other assets	2,462,615	4,422,845
Total assets	<u>\$ 2,603,180,460</u>	<u>\$ 2,529,635,008</u>
Liabilities and net assets		
Liabilities:		
Grants payable	\$ 224,538,309	\$ 156,603,320
Pension liability	-	2,248,682
Deferred taxes payable	7,126,041	5,503,336
Lease liability	20,585,032	22,464,703
Other liabilities	3,997,728	3,445,947
Total liabilities	<u>256,247,110</u>	<u>190,265,988</u>
Net assets:		
Net assets without donor restrictions	2,279,581,421	2,279,281,789
Net assets with donor restrictions:		
Beneficial interest in remainder trusts	67,351,929	60,087,231
Total net assets	<u>2,346,933,350</u>	<u>2,339,369,020</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 2,603,180,460</u>	<u>\$ 2,529,635,008</u>

See accompanying notes.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Statements of Activities

	Year Ended Dec. 31	
	2023	2022
Changes in the net assets without donor restrictions:		
Total investment income (loss), net of expenses:	\$ 217,849,843	\$ (410,526,981)
Grants approved and expenses:		
Communities and National grants	38,590,123	27,056,899
Learning and Impact grants	44,556,306	14,715,342
Journalism grants	43,203,072	54,038,391
Arts grants	74,614,683	28,823,400
Other grants	3,399,790	1,839,748
Grant forfeitures and other	(1,756,461)	(1,037,084)
Change in grant payable discount	(15,841,226)	(16,812,434)
Direct charitable activities	10,386,658	11,630,317
General and administrative expenses	18,741,181	18,189,003
Investments administration and monitoring	1,194,754	1,246,202
Federal excise and other taxes expense (benefit), net	1,780,035	(6,136,392)
Total grants and expenses	218,868,915	133,553,392
Decrease in net assets without donor restrictions from operating activities	(1,019,072)	(544,080,373)
Pension and postretirement changes other than net periodic pension and postretirement costs	1,318,704	(1,673,136)
Increase/(decrease) in net assets without donor restrictions	299,632	(545,753,509)
Changes in net assets with donor restrictions:		
Change in value of beneficial interest in remainder trusts	7,264,698	(13,605,957)
Increase/(decrease) in net assets with donor restrictions	7,264,698	(13,605,957)
Change in net assets	7,564,330	(559,359,466)
Net assets at beginning of year	2,339,369,020	2,898,728,486
Net assets at end of year	\$ 2,346,933,350	\$ 2,339,369,020

See accompanying notes.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Statements of Cash Flows

	Year Ended Dec. 31	
	2023	2022
Operating activities		
Change in net assets	\$ 7,564,330	\$ (559,359,466)
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash used in operating activities:		
Net realized gain on sale of investments	(46,485,332)	(29,338,205)
Other income	(20,330,792)	(15,005,708)
Net change in fair value of investments	(136,287,581)	465,267,450
Change in value of beneficial interest in remainder trusts	(7,264,698)	13,605,957
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Interest, dividends, other investment receivables and other assets	7,872,175	(22,698,711)
Depreciation	130,520	124,176
Amortization	284,013	232,950
Disbursements for program-related investments	(500,000)	(1,000,000)
Program-related investments recoveries	25,000	25,000
Conversion of program-related investment to an LP/grant	1,141,827	624,687
Valuation allowance – program-related investments	(837,503)	491,148
Program-related investments write-off due to dissolution	796,379	-
Grants payable	67,934,989	7,568,325
Deferred taxes payable	1,622,705	(4,961,488)
Pension and postretirement liability	(3,231,415)	2,267,687
Right-of-use asset	1,774,186	1,916,606
Lease liability	(1,879,671)	(927,670)
Other liabilities	551,781	(4,201,719)
Net cash used in operating activities	(127,119,087)	(145,368,981)
Investing activities		
Proceeds from sale of investments	1,110,641,779	1,390,417,679
Purchases of investments	(976,337,574)	(1,207,219,688)
Purchases of fixed assets	(302,839)	(1,443,929)
Net cash provided by investing activities	134,001,366	181,754,062
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	6,882,279	36,385,081
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	65,020,365	28,635,284
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$ 71,902,644	\$ 65,020,365
Supplemental data		
Federal and state taxes (refunded)/paid	\$ (3,007,224)	\$ 4,307,635

See accompanying notes.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements

1. The Organization

The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation (the foundation), a nonprofit corporation, is a national foundation with strong local roots. The foundation invests in journalism, research in the area of media and democracy, the arts, and the success of cities where brothers John S. and James L. Knight once published newspapers. The foundation's goal is to foster informed and engaged communities, which it believes are essential for a healthy democracy.

2. Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting applicable to not-for profit organizations in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP).

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are composed of various operating accounts and highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

Investments

The foundation's investments are stated at fair value. Certain of the foundation's investments are reported at net asset value (NAV) as provided by the investment managers and is used as a practical expedient to estimate fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. See Note 3 for discussion of fair value measurements. Realized and unrealized gains and losses are recognized as changes in net assets in the period in which they occur and investment income is recognized as revenue in the period earned.

Knight Enterprise Fund LLC

In 2011, the foundation established Knight Enterprise Fund LLC (Knight Enterprise), a single member Delaware limited liability company, to assist in the execution of its mission through a small number of direct investments in innovative media/technology companies which represent less than .1% of investments. The foundation's last direct investment was in 2019. The results of Knight Enterprise's activities are consolidated with the foundation's financial statements and all inter-entity activities are eliminated.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

2. Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Capitalization Policy

The foundation records all furniture and equipment with a useful life of more than one year and a unit acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more is capitalized. When the foundation acquires a group of fixed assets to be used in one area/location and placed in service together and the total acquisition cost exceeds \$5,000, then the total acquisition costs are capitalized. The foundation expenses the full acquisition cost of furniture and equipment below these thresholds in the year of purchase.

In 2023, the foundation capitalized leasehold improvements, furniture, fixtures and equipment of approximately \$300,000 in addition to the capitalization of similar items for its new office space in 2022. Total capitalized assets were \$4.59 million and \$4.29 million by the end of 2023 and 2022, respectively. For its new offices, the foundation started recognizing depreciation and amortization expense during 2022 when they were placed in service. Depreciation and amortization are recorded using the straight-line method based on estimated useful lives of the particular assets, estimated as follows: leasehold improvements over the shorter of the term of the lease or the life of the asset, furniture and equipment seven years and computer equipment five years. The foundation recognized depreciation and amortization of approximately \$415,000 for the year ended December 31, 2023 and \$357,000 for the year ended December 31, 2022.

Program-Related Investments (PRIs)

In accordance with Section 4944 of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code), the foundation is permitted to make Program Related Investments (PRIs) that are related to its philanthropic programs. A PRI is defined as an investment: (i) whose primary purpose is to further the exempt objectives of the foundation, (ii) where the production of income or appreciation in property is not a significant purpose, and (iii) which is not used to lobby or support lobbying. The foundation's PRIs consist of convertible promissory notes, limited partnership interests, and amortizing loans. These PRIs are anticipated to have a return lower than market. In the year of the investment, the foundation receives a credit toward its distribution requirement. To the extent the investment is recovered by the foundation, the recovery is recognized as a negative distribution, increasing its distribution requirement, in the year it is received. PRIs are recorded at their net realizable value on the Statements of Financial Position. Valuation allowances are recorded in the Statements of Activities as a reduction of "Investment income, net of expenses." Recoveries of the convertible promissory notes are reflected as an increase in "Investment income, net of expenses" in the Statements of Activities as their value is fully reserved. Recoveries of the limited partnership interests are reflected in the appropriate category of investment income in the Statements of Activities. Recoveries of the amortizing loans are reflected as a reduction of the principal and an increase of "Investment income, net of expenses" for that portion related to the valuation allowance. The foundation recovered \$25,000 in 2023 and 2022. Any costs associated with originating these investments are expensed in the year incurred. Management regularly reviews

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

2. Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

the collectability of these investments and determines any valuation allowance based on several factors including the borrower/investee's underlying business conditions and risks and performance of the investment. The foundation will discontinue the accrual of interest if interest payments are over 90 days past due.

Use of Estimates

The presentation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. The most significant estimate involves the determination of the fair value of the investments. Estimates also affect the reported amounts of investment activity and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Direct Charitable Activities (DCAs)

The foundation conducts certain activities, which are recorded as DCAs in the Statements of Activities. Those activities include holding conferences, such as the Knight Media Forum and INFORMED, which build the field and promote charitable issues. The foundation also conducts challenges, such as the Knight Arts Challenges in Detroit, Akron and Miami, to deal with charitable topics, which promote its charitable purpose. DCAs also include educational activities such as research and evaluation studies and reports and technical assistance to foundation grantees, improving their ability to implement their projects and the promotion of these activities in order to raise public awareness and increase their educational value.

As recommended by the Internal Revenue Service, "compensation and travel expenses of employees and officers directly engaged in an activity" are accounted for as DCA. The foundation allocates a portion of its staff costs to DCA. The allocation is based on staff's estimate of actual time spent implementing a DCA initiative.

Income Taxes

The foundation follows the policy of providing for federal excise tax on the net appreciation (both realized and unrealized) of investments. The deferred federal excise tax in the accompanying financial statements represents tax provided on the net unrealized appreciation of investments. Tax on unrelated business income is recorded based on the best available estimates. No deferred taxes are provided for unrelated business income on unrealized appreciation as such amount cannot be estimated.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

2. Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Grants and Grant Commitments

The foundation as a grantor records grants in full as expenses when approved unless there are donor-imposed conditions in accordance with Subtopic 958-605-25-5A of Topic 958, *Not-for-Profit Entities*. A donor-imposed condition must have both: a) One or more barriers that must be overcome before a recipient is entitled to the assets transferred or promised b) A right of return to the contributor for assets transferred or a right of release of the promisor from its obligation to transfer assets. Only grant payments with matching requirements are considered to have donor-imposed conditions. The payments subject to said restrictions are not included in grant payable until the condition has been met.

Subsequent Events

The foundation has evaluated subsequent events through May 17, 2024, noting no impact on the foundation's financial statements.

Reclassifications

Certain amounts in the prior year's financial statements have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.

Net Asset Accounting

The foundation reports information regarding its financial position and activities according to the following two classes of net assets:

- Net assets without donor restrictions represent the portion of net assets of the foundation that is not restricted by donor-imposed stipulations or time restrictions. Net assets without donor restrictions include expendable funds available for support of the foundation.
- Net assets with donor restrictions are subject to donor-imposed stipulations. As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, net assets with donor restrictions consist of the foundation's beneficial interest remainder trusts, which are discussed further in Note 11.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

2. Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Leases

All of the foundation's leases are operating leases. The majority of those leases are for the use of office space. The foundation recognizes a lease liability for the obligation to make rental lease payments. The foundation also recognizes a right-of-use (ROU) asset for the corresponding right to use the leased assets. The foundation elected not to recognize ROU assets and lease liabilities for office space leases with a lease term of 12 months or less. As a practical expedient, the foundation elected to account for the non-lease components with the related lease components as a single lease unit.

The lease liability is measured at the present value, using a risk-free discount rate, of the lease payments over the lease term. The ROU asset is measured at the lease liability amount, adjusted for lease prepayments or accruals.

Investment Income

The foundation presents investment returns net of external and direct internal expenses, and investment expenses allocated from general and administrative expenditures. Direct internal investment expenses include salaries, benefits, travel and other costs associated with the board, officer and staff responsible for the development and execution of investment strategy. Allocable investment costs, which include a percentage of salaries, benefits, travel and other costs, are based on the estimated time spent for investment management and monitoring of external investment management firm.

3. Investments

The investment goal of the foundation is to invest its assets in a manner that will achieve, over the long-term, a total rate of return sufficient to replace the assets utilized for grants and expenses and to recoup any value lost due to inflation and to increase the spending power of the portfolio while adhering to the risk and asset allocation parameters established by the investment committee.

To achieve this goal, some investment risk must be taken. To minimize such risk, the foundation diversifies its investments among various financial instruments and asset categories and uses multiple investment strategies and investment managers. Key decisions in this regard are made by the foundation's investment committee, which has oversight responsibility for the foundation's investment program. The investment committee identifies appropriate asset categories for investments, determines the allocation of assets to each category and approves the investment strategies employed. The foundation has engaged Cambridge Associates LLC (Cambridge), an independent consulting firm, to execute the investment program, including the engagement of investment managers, legal advisers and to advise the foundation on strategic allocations to index

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

3. Investments (continued)

funds and limited partnerships. All financial assets are held in custody for the foundation in proprietary accounts by BNY Mellon, a major commercial bank, or are invested in limited partnerships, hedge funds or in certain products with multiple investors, such as index funds, all of which have separate custodial arrangements appropriate to their legal structure.

Highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less are reported as cash equivalents. Cash equivalents may include U.S. treasuries, repurchase and government-sponsored enterprise obligations.

As required by Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 820, Fair Value Measurements, investments except for those that are valued using NAV as a practical expedient, are measured and reported at fair value in one of the following categories based on valuation inputs:

Level 1 – Quoted prices are available in active markets for identical investments as of the reporting date. The types of investments that are included in Level 1 include listed equity securities, commingled funds traded in active markets with daily pricing.

Level 2 – Pricing inputs are observable for the investment, either directly or indirectly, as of the reporting date but are not the same as those used in Level 1. Fair value is determined through the use of models or other valuation methodologies. The types of investments included in this category are all other commingled funds, publicly traded securities in less active markets or with restrictions on disposition, fixed income securities and cash equivalents such as cash management accounts custodied and traded by BNY Mellon.

Level 3 – Pricing inputs are unobservable for the investment and include situations where there is little, if any, market activity for the investment.

The foundation uses the NAV of the hedge funds and limited partnerships as a practical expedient for fair value except where certain conditions exist. Those conditions include, changes to key personnel, material amendments to key terms, material pending litigations, imposition of gates and redemption fees. Investments recorded at NAV are not classified in the fair value hierarchy.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

3. Investments (continued)

The following tables summarize the levels in the ASC 820 fair value hierarchy into which the foundation's investments fall as of December 31, 2023 and 2022:

Description	Total	Fair Value Measurement at the end of Dec. 31, 2023 Using		
		Quoted Prices	Significant	Significant
		in Active	Other	Significant
		Markets for	Observable	Unobservable
	Identical Assets	Inputs	Inputs	
	(Level 1)	(Level 2)	(Level 3)	
Cash equivalents	\$ 113,701,164	\$ -	\$ 113,701,164	\$ -
Futures contracts	3,491,617	-	3,491,617	-
U.S. government and agency obligations	(a) 193,947,706	-	193,947,706	-
Government-sponsored enterprises obligations	(a) 61,989,928	-	61,989,928	-
Corporate bonds and other obligations	(a) 126,178,801	-	126,178,801	-
Equity securities	(a)(b) 436,540,977	123,777,213	312,763,764	-
<u>Hedge fund investments</u>	(c)			
Multi-strategy and credit focused measured at NAV ²	(d) 71,830,302	-	-	-
Open mandate measured at NAV ²	(e) 94,941,012	-	-	-
Global and regional long/short measured at NAV ²	(f) 417,766,143	-	-	-
<u>Alternative equity investments</u>	(g)			
Private equity ¹	(h) 1,347,037	-	-	1,347,037
Private equity measured at NAV ²	(h) 788,243,134	-	-	-
Private natural resources measured at NAV ²	(i) 136,250,416	-	-	-
Real estate investments measured at NAV ²	(g)(j) 65,175,378	-	-	-
Total investments measured at fair value	2,511,403,615	\$ 123,777,213	\$ 812,072,980	\$ 1,347,037
Cash (net, outstanding checks)	(41,798,520)			
Interest, dividends and other				
Investment receivables	39,480,753			
Total investments	<u>\$2,509,085,848</u>			

¹ Excludes investments measured at NAV per share.

² In accordance with ASC Subtopic 820-10, *Fair Value Measurements*, certain investments that are measured at fair value using the NAV per share practical expedient have not been classified in the fair value hierarchy. The fair value amounts presented in this table are intended to permit reconciliation of the fair value hierarchy to the amounts presented in the statements of financial position.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

3. Investments (continued)

Description	Total	Fair Value Measurement at the end of Dec. 31, 2022 Using		
		Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Cash equivalents	\$ 61,572,936	\$ -	\$ 61,572,936	\$ -
Futures contracts	(1,796,607)	-	(1,796,607)	-
U.S. government and agency obligations	(a) 177,599,850	-	177,599,850	-
Government-sponsored enterprises obligations	(a) 86,325,808	-	86,325,808	-
Corporate bonds and other obligations	(a) 113,442,593	-	113,442,593	-
Equity securities	(a)(b) 418,490,517	146,322,773	272,167,744	-
<u>Hedge fund investments</u>	(c)			
Multi-strategy and credit focused measured at NAV ²	(d) 72,660,941	-	-	-
Open mandate measured at NAV ²	(e) 119,449,628	-	-	-
Global and regional long/short measured at NAV ²	(f) 372,973,399	-	-	-
<u>Alternative equity investments</u>	(g)			
Private equity ¹	(h) 1,547,358	-	-	1,547,358
Private equity measured at NAV ²	(h) 776,613,236	-	-	-
Private natural resources measured at NAV ²	(i) 129,453,163	-	-	-
Real estate investments measured at NAV ²	(g)(j) 56,854,843	-	-	-
Total investments measured at fair value	2,385,187,665	\$ 146,322,773	\$ 709,312,324	\$ 1,547,358
Cash (net, outstanding checks)	3,447,429			
Interest, dividends and other				
Investment receivables	50,680,922			
Total investments	<u>\$2,439,316,016</u>			

¹ Excludes investments measured at NAV per share.

² In accordance with ASC Subtopic 820-10, Fair Value Measurements, certain investments that are measured at fair value using the NAV per share practical expedient have not been classified in the fair value hierarchy. The fair value amounts presented in this table are intended to permit reconciliation of the fair value hierarchy to the amounts presented in the statements of financial position.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

3. Investments (continued)

The following tables summarize the foundation's investments as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, whose fair value is calculated using NAV per share:

Description		Fair Value	Unfunded	Redemption	Redemption
		December 31, 2023	Commitments	Frequency (If Currently Eligible)	Notice Period
<u>Hedge fund investments</u>					
Multi-strategy and credit focused	(d)	\$ 71,830,302	N/A	Monthly-every 2 years	45-90 days
Open mandate	(e)	94,941,012	N/A	Monthly-every 2 years	60-180 days
Global and regional long/short	(f)	417,766,143	N/A	Monthly-every 2 years	30-184 days
<u>Alternative equity investments</u>					
Private equity	(h)	788,243,134	\$ 181,662,396	N/A	N/A
Private natural resources	(i)	136,250,416	31,668,843	N/A	N/A
Real estate investments	(j)	65,175,378	17,561,107	N/A	N/A
Total investments		<u>\$ 1,574,206,385</u>	<u>\$ 230,892,346</u>		

Description		Fair Value	Unfunded	Redemption	Redemption
		December 31, 2022	Commitments	Frequency (If Currently Eligible)	Notice Period
<u>Hedge fund investments</u>					
Multi-strategy and credit focused	(d)	\$ 72,660,941	N/A	Monthly-every 2 years	45-90 days
Open mandate	(e)	119,449,628	N/A	Monthly-every 2 years	60-180 days
Global and regional long/short	(f)	372,973,399	N/A	Monthly-every 2 years	30-184 days
<u>Alternative equity investments</u>					
Private equity	(h)	776,613,236	\$ 166,491,455	N/A	N/A
Private natural resources	(i)	129,453,163	32,354,741	N/A	N/A
Real estate investments	(j)	56,854,843	36,795,573	N/A	N/A
Total investments		<u>\$ 1,528,005,210</u>	<u>\$ 235,641,769</u>		

(a) Approximately 33% of the foundation's total investments at December 31, 2023 and 2022 were invested in institutional mutual funds or publicly traded securities that are listed on national and international exchanges, treasury and agency bonds of the U.S. government, and investment and non-investment grade corporate bonds for which trading markets exist. Investment in U.S. government and agency obligations and government-sponsored enterprises obligations are 100% domestic. As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, 100% of corporate obligations were invested in domestic obligations. Such assets are valued at quoted closing prices at year-end in accordance with GAAP and are classified as Level 1 or Level 2. Realized gains and losses and increases and decreases in fair value on such investments are reflected in the Statements of Activities as part of investment income, net of expenses.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

3. Investments (continued)

- (b) The class consists of publicly traded equity securities that are listed on national and international exchanges including amounts in less active markets which are classified as Level 2. On the basis of its analysis of the nature, characteristics, and risks of the securities, the foundation has determined that presenting them as a single class is appropriate. As of December 31, 2023, 59.1% of these assets were invested in international equities and 40.9% were invested in domestic equities. As of December 31, 2022, 68.3% of these assets were invested in international equities and 31.7% were invested in domestic equities.
- (c) Approximately 23.3% and 23.2 % of the foundation's total investments at December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively, were invested in hedge funds. These investments are not publicly listed or traded and are not liquid investments. Investments in hedge funds are generally subject to a lock up period of between 12 and 36 months from the date of investment. During that period, funds may not be withdrawn from the fund. The redemption terms of hedge funds may vary, but in general terms after the lock up period, redemption requests may be made by the foundation on a pre-set basis as specified in each hedge fund's operating agreement. As of year-end 2023 and 2022, no additional restrictions on redemptions were implemented by hedge funds within the foundation's portfolio. Each fund's investment manager calculates the fair value of investments on a monthly basis using the valuation guidelines stipulated in the respective investment agreement in accordance with fair value methods accepted under GAAP less related liabilities.

The NAV, as provided by the investment manager is used as a practical expedient to estimating fair value. This practical expedient is not used when it is determined to be probable that the fund will sell the investment for an amount different than the reported NAV. All hedge funds are audited annually by independent certified public accounting firms. Realized gains and losses and increases and decreases in fair value on the investments in hedge funds and derivative instruments are reflected in the Statements of Activities as part of total investment income, net of expenses.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

3. Investments (continued)

- (d) Multi-strategy funds generally invest in event-driven securities (both debt and equity) which seek to exploit situations in which announced or anticipated events have inefficiencies in the pricing of securities. These funds invest in the securities of companies involved in mergers, agreed upon and unsolicited, spin-offs, recapitalizations, etc. Also included are securities of companies experiencing financial distress that are attempting to complete an out-of-court restructuring, are involved in a bankruptcy or similar proceeding, and/or are involved in substantial litigation. Some multi-strategy funds also invest in value equities where there is a perceived mispricing that will be corrected in a defined period of time. The value equity book in these funds generally has very low net exposure, with shorts offsetting most of the longs. These funds employ leverage in that longs plus shorts generally exceed more than 100% of capital.

Credit focused funds generally attempt to generate equity-like returns while taking fixed income-type risk. Focus is generally on long/short credit, and event-driven opportunities, including distressed, stressed, and out-of-favor situations, capital structure trades, shorting investment grade or high yield debt, etc. These funds can invest in a range of credit instruments at any level of an issuer's capital structure including bank debt, corporate bonds, trade claims, credit-default swaps, equities, options and other derivative instruments. These funds employ leverage in that longs plus shorts generally exceed more than 100% of capital.

- (e) Open mandate funds take an opportunistic approach seeking to invest in investment opportunities that provide the best risk-adjusted returns. While these funds may focus principally on debt or equity investments, at any given point in time, they might consist entirely of debt, either distressed or stressed, long or short equities or new asset classes, such as carbon credits. Balance sheets are generally levered in that longs and shorts total more than 100% of capital. When equities are in the portfolio, net exposure is generally less than 50%.
- (f) Global and regional long/short funds invest primarily in publicly traded equity securities. Longs consist of investing in companies that appear to be trading at a discount to their intrinsic value and shorts consist of selling companies that appear to be trading at a premium to their intrinsic value. Longs and shorts are generally not paired, and net exposures range from 30% to 60% net long. Global funds will search for equity securities around the world, while regional fund will focus on securities of a specific geographic region (e.g., Asia, Europe, etc.). These funds frequently employ leverage in that longs plus shorts exceed more than 100% of capital.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

3. Investments (continued)

- (g) Approximately 39% and 40% of the foundation's total investments at December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively, were invested in alternative equity investments including private equity, private natural resources and real estate with numerous partnerships, in which the foundation is a limited partner. Following the investment period, the general partner will generally attempt to sell the assets of the partnership over the partnership's remaining term and distribute funds to the partners as mandated in the partnership agreements. The value of such investments is determined by the partnerships' general partners, who must follow the valuation guidelines, such as appraisals and comparable public company trade data, stipulated in the respective limited partnership agreements and in accordance with fair value methods prescribed under GAAP less related liabilities (the NAV). The NAV, as provided by the investment manager, is used as a practical expedient in estimating fair value. This practical expedient is not used when it is determined to be probable that the foundation will sell the investment for an amount different than the reported NAV. The fair values of the investments in this class have been estimated using the net asset value of the foundation's ownership interest in partners' capital. The foundation's interests in the funds are not redeemable. Instead, distributions from each fund will be received as the underlying investments of the funds are disposed and liquidated by the fund management.

Realized gains and losses and increases and decreases in fair value on the investments in limited partnerships and direct investment are reflected in the Statements of Activities. All limited partnerships are audited annually by independent certified public accounting firms.

- (h) Private equity includes a number of investment strategies, primarily described as buyout, venture capital, growth equity, credit/distressed and secondary funds that invest in U.S. and international companies.

Leverage is often used by private equity managers to help finance the acquisition of a company. Typically, a private equity manager employs leverage to buy mature, cash-flowing businesses. According to information compiled by Standard & Poors, the 2023 average "debt multiple" of private equity companies (total debt on a company's balance sheet divided by that company's annual EBITDA) was 5.1x. Individual companies can have higher or lower levels of leverage depending on the specific situation and the health / cash-flow characteristics of the underlying business. For venture capital and growth equity transactions, leverage is typically much lower (often no debt at all for venture companies, or certainly below the industry averages for high-growth companies sought by growth equity managers). The average leverage level described for each strategy below is based on this average debt multiple.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

3. Investments (continued)

Investments in buyout funds were approximately \$136,495,000 (18%) at December 31, 2023 and approximately \$133,397,000 (17%) at December 31, 2022. Buyout includes illiquid opportunistic funds that typically take majority and/or control-oriented equity ownership of companies. A buyout fund can employ leverage ranging in level from minimal to high, depending on its specific strategy. If these funds were held, it is estimated that the underlying assets of the funds would be liquidated over 3 to 10 years.

Investments in venture capital funds were approximately \$474,953,000 (62%) at December 31, 2023 and approximately \$496,396,000 (64%) at December 31, 2022. Venture capital includes illiquid funds that invest in equity securities of companies typically in the early stage of their lifecycle (pre-revenue, pre-profitability or post-profitability but still small in scale relative to the majority of other private and public companies). These funds and the underlying companies generally employ no or minimal leverage. If these funds were held, it is estimated that the underlying assets of the funds would be liquidated over 3 to 10 years.

Investments in growth capital funds (growth equity) were approximately \$94,883,000 (12%) at December 31, 2023 and approximately \$87,181,000 (11%) at December 31, 2022. Growth equity includes illiquid funds that invest in equity securities of private companies typically with established business models, products, and customers, and are still positioned for meaningful growth. These funds primarily seek to acquire minority equity ownership of companies that have typically not raised institutional capital previously. At the initial investment date, growth equity funds generally employ no leverage or low leverage. If these funds were held, it is estimated that the underlying assets of the funds would be liquidated over 3 to 10 years.

Investments in credit/distressed funds were approximately \$56,152,000 (7%) at December 31, 2023 and \$52,188,000 (6%) at December 31, 2022. Credit/distressed includes opportunistic funds that typically invest in debt and/or equity securities. A credit/distressed fund can employ leverage ranging in level from minimal to high, depending on its specific strategy. If these funds were held, it is estimated that the underlying assets of the funds would be liquidated over 1 to 7 years.

Secondaries include illiquid opportunistic funds that primarily purchase Limited Partner interests of illiquid partnership funds and/or side-pocket investments. Investments in secondaries were approximately \$6,655,000 (1%) at December 31, 2023 and approximately \$7,452,000 (1%) at December 31, 2022. These funds may also occasionally make direct commitments to illiquid funds or invest directly in securities. Secondary funds typically employ minimal leverage. If these funds were held, it is estimated that the underlying assets of the funds would be liquidated over 1 to 10 years.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

3. Investments (continued)

Private equity also includes direct investments of approximately \$1,347,000 and \$1,547,000 (.1%) at December 31, 2023 and 2022 in private companies that are typically in the early stages of their lifecycle (pre-revenue, pre-profitability, or post-profitability but still small in scale relative to the majority of other private and public companies). Direct investments are held at cost rather than NAV. Valuations are adjusted based on information received from investors and as a result of subsequent financing events. Due to the nature of the investments, an estimated liquidation period cannot be provided.

Beginning in 2014, in response to ASU 2015-07, Level 3 investments that are measured at the fair value using the net asset value per share as a practical expedient are not included in the following tables:

	Level 3 Reconciliation Fair Value Measurements Using Significant Unobservable Inputs Private Equity	
	\$	
Opening balance, Jan. 1, 2023	\$	1,547,358
Purchases		-
Sales and settlements		(3,355)
Total gains or losses for the period included in changes in net assets		(196,966)
Closing balance, Dec. 31, 2023	\$	1,347,037
Change in unrealized gains or (losses) for the period included in changes in net assets for assets held at the end of the reporting period	\$	(103,750)

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

3. Investments (continued)

	Level 3 Reconciliation Fair Value Measurements Using Significant Unobservable Inputs Private Equity
Opening balance, Jan. 1, 2022	\$ 2,236,385
Purchases	-
Sales and settlements	(143,827)
Total gains or losses for the period included in changes in net assets	(545,200)
Closing balance, Dec. 31, 2022	\$ 1,547,358
 Change in unrealized gains or (losses) for the period included in changes in net assets for assets held at the end of the reporting period	 \$ (684,193)

- (i) Private natural resources include funds that invest in U.S. and international (with the primary focus in the U.S.) upstream oil and gas assets and royalties, midstream energy companies, oilfield service companies, mining and metals companies, power generation assets and companies, and timber and infrastructure assets. A private natural resources fund can employ leverage ranging in level from minimal to high, depending on its specific strategy. It is estimated that the underlying assets of the fund will be liquidated over 3 to 10 years.

- (j) Private real estate includes funds that invest in equity and/or debt securities of U.S. and international (primarily in the U.S.) real estate. A private real estate fund can employ leverage ranging in level from moderate to high, depending on its specific strategy. It is estimated that the underlying assets of the fund will be liquidated over 3 to 10 years.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

4. Derivative Financial Instruments

Some investment managers retained by the foundation have been authorized to use certain derivative financial instruments in a manner set forth by the foundation's written investment policy, specific manager guidelines or partnership/fund agreement documents. Specifically, derivative financial instruments may be used for the following purposes: (1) currency forward contracts and options may be used to hedge non-U.S. dollar exposure in foreign investments; (2) covered call options may be sold to enhance yield on major equity positions; (3) futures contracts may be used to equitize excess cash positions, rebalance asset categories within the portfolio, adjust risk exposures within the portfolio, or to rapidly increase or decrease exposure to specific investment positions in anticipation of subsequent cash trades; and (4) futures contracts and options may be used by hedge fund managers to hedge or leverage positions in portfolios in their respective funds. Authorization to use these derivative financial instruments currently is restricted to 21 hedge fund managers, who manage investments totaling approximately \$614,742,000.

Cambridge is also authorized to use derivatives to execute certain investment strategies. Derivative financial instruments are recorded at fair value in the Statements of Financial Position with changes in fair value reflected in the Statements of Activities.

The foundation, at Cambridge's direction, participates in an overlay program with an outside investment manager to utilize exchange-traded futures to equitize excess cash positions, thereby efficiently rebalancing asset categories to meet the foundation's investment target allocation objectives. Based on the recommendation of the overlay investment manager, the foundation established a pool of cash and/or other physical financial collateral equal to at least 15% of the mark-to-market market value of the exchange-traded futures.

5. Liquidity

The foundation structures its financial assets to be available as its grants, general expenditures, liabilities, and other obligations come due. To achieve this, the foundation forecasts its future cash flows and monitors its liquidity on a monthly basis. Cash and cash equivalents may also serve as collateral for futures contracts as described in Note 4. In addition, as part of its liquidity management, the foundation invests cash in excess of daily requirements in various short-term investments, including certificates of deposit and short-term treasury instruments.

The foundation's investment policy states that an amount equal to at least one year's worth of anticipated expenditures including grant disbursements will be invested in a combination of separately managed accounts and vehicles that can be redeemed within 40 days.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

5. Liquidity (continued)

The following table summarizes the foundation's financial assets available for general expenditure and grant obligations within one year after December 31.

Financial assets at year-end:	2023	2022
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 71,902,644	\$ 65,020,365
Interest, dividends and other investment receivables	42,972,370	48,884,315
Investments	2,394,210,834	2,325,411,336
Program-related investments, net	-	625,702
Other assets	2,462,615	4,422,845
Beneficial interest in remainder trusts	67,351,929	60,087,231
Total financial assets	2,578,900,392	2,504,451,794
Less amounts not available to be used within one year:		
Non-liquid investments	(1,060,542,905)	(1,055,089,997)
Program-related investments, net	-	(625,702)
Beneficial interest in remainder trusts	(67,351,929)	(60,087,231)
Financial assets not available to be used within one year	(1,127,894,834)	(1,115,802,930)
Financial assets available to meet general expenditures within one year	\$ 1,451,005,558	\$ 1,388,648,864

6. Charitable Distributions

Charitable distributions include grants, DCAs and PRIs. All charitable distributions are made to promote the charitable purpose of the foundation and are “qualifying distributions” as defined by the IRS. The foundation made charitable distributions of approximately \$129,821,000 and \$113,141,000 in 2023 and 2022, respectively.

The foundation records grants in full as expenses when approved. With the exception of one grant that is discounted at the grantee's estimated internal borrowing rate, grants payable at December 31, 2023 and 2022, represent the present value of multiyear grants using a 8.5% and 7.50% discount rate, respectively, based on the U.S. prime rate as of the financial statement date. The foundation made grant payments of approximately \$118,909,000 and \$100,698,000 in 2023 and 2022, respectively.

As the result of adopting ASU 2018-08, *Clarifying the Scope and the Accounting Guidance for Contributions Received and Contributions Made*, the foundation had conditional commitments of approximately \$7,640,000 and \$17,966,000 at December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively, that will be due and payable when the conditions are satisfied.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

6. Charitable Distributions (continued)

As of December 31, 2023, the foundation had grant commitments, which are scheduled for payment in future years as follows:

2024	\$ 95,005,870
2025	73,594,377
2026	46,034,462
2027	26,872,771
2028	12,910,267
Thereafter	15,746,667
	<hr/>
	270,164,414
Discounted to present value	(45,626,105)
Grants payable	<hr/> <hr/>
	\$ 224,538,309

The foundation made DCA payments of approximately \$10,464,000 and \$11,873,000 in 2023 and 2022, respectively, of which approximately \$1,490,000 and \$1,534,000, respectively, were allocated from general and administrative expenditures.

PRIs in the Statements of Financial Position consist of one limited partnership interest with a cost basis of approximately \$1,893,000 and 7 convertible promissory notes representing a maximum potential investment and outstanding principal of \$2,180,000.

The limited partnership represents an ownership interest in a public media business incubator that is meant to be a demonstration project for the field. The general partner makes capital calls specified under the terms of the partnership agreement. As a reflection of the below-market return expected on this investment, the foundation fully reserved the value of this investment and as a result it is reported at zero value on the Statements of Financial Position at December 31, 2023.

The convertible promissory notes have a five-year term and do not bear interest. The notes are convertible to equity at a premium to the company valuation established by a third-party investor as part of a qualifying future round of investment. The premium declines over the term of the note. The foundation has fully reserved the value of these notes and as a result they have a zero value on the Statements of Financial Position.

The foundation made payment of \$500,000 to one PRI payments in 2023. In 2023, the foundation converted approximately \$1,142,000 of its investment in one promissory note to equity investment. The foundation made \$500,000 PRI payment in 2022.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

7. Natural and Functional Expenses

ASU 2016-14, *Presentation of Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Entities*, requires the foundation to provide an analysis of expenses by both natural and functional classification. Natural expenses are defined by their nature, such as salaries, rent, supplies, etc. Functional expenses are classified by the type of activity for which expenses were incurred, for example, management and oversight and direct program costs. Program administration includes costs directly attributable to the implementation and monitoring of the foundation’s programmatic strategy and charitable mission. Investment administration and monitoring include costs that are not directly attributable to investment strategy or oversight, but needed to support investment functions (for example, staff and office costs for investment recordkeeping and financial reporting). Expenses were allocated by function using a reasonable and consistent approach that was primarily based on the percentage of staffing costs directly attributable by function.

The table below presents expenses by both their nature and their function for fiscal year 2023.

	Grants	Charitable Activities	Program Administration	Total Programs	General Administration	Investment Administration	Total Grants and Expenses
Grants	\$ 204,363,974	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 204,363,974	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 204,363,974
Forfeitures and discounts	(17,597,687)	-	-	(17,597,687)	-	-	(17,597,687)
Staff costs (salaries, taxes and benefits)	-	1,489,718	6,234,817	7,724,535	5,589,445	411,500	13,725,480
Travel and entertainment	-	305,299	364,446	669,745	133,775	4,783	808,303
Meetings	-	2,203,836		2,203,836			2,203,836
Sponsorships	-	731,863	947,750	1,679,613			1,679,613
Technology	-	-	548,447	548,447	484,031	42,908	1,075,386
Rent and furniture	-	-	676,963	676,963	1,117,020	115,521	1,909,504
Professional services	-	5,530,942	655,260	6,186,202	196,832	379,726	6,762,760
Trustee fees and board costs	-	-	359,731	359,731	485,742	212,047	1,057,520
Other	-	125,000	482,445	607,445	464,477	28,269	1,100,191
Total	\$ 186,766,287	\$ 10,386,658	\$ 10,269,859	\$ 207,422,804	\$ 8,471,322	\$ 1,194,754	\$ 217,088,880

The above schedule does not include an allocation of federal excise and other taxes, net, which totals approximately \$1,780,000.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

7. Natural and Functional Expenses (continued)

The table below presents expenses by both their nature and their function for fiscal year 2022.

	Grants	Charitable Activities	Program Administration	Total Programs	General Administration	Investment Administration	Total Grants and Expenses
Grants	\$ 126,473,780	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 126,473,780	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 126,473,780
Forfeitures and discounts	(17,849,518)	-	-	(17,849,518)	-	-	(17,849,518)
Staff costs (salaries, taxes and benefits)	-	1,534,319	6,021,948	7,556,267	5,201,839	555,600	13,313,706
Travel and entertainment	-	341,919	366,199	708,118	114,745	3,626	826,489
Meetings	-	846,395	-	846,395	-	-	846,395
Sponsorships	-	555,955	518,138	1,074,093	-	-	1,074,093
Technology	-	-	510,859	510,859	449,924	40,901	1,001,684
Rent and furniture	-	-	940,143	940,143	1,568,385	128,069	2,636,597
Professional services	-	8,097,090	614,950	8,712,040	280,958	352,503	9,345,501
Trustee fees and board costs	-	-	254,984	254,984	300,502	132,516	688,002
Other	-	254,639	479,118	733,757	566,311	32,987	1,333,055
Total	\$ 108,624,262	\$ 11,630,317	\$ 9,706,339	\$ 129,960,918	\$ 8,482,664	\$ 1,246,202	\$ 139,689,784

The above schedule does not include an allocation of federal excise and other taxes, net, which totals approximately (\$6,136,000).

8. Federal Excise Taxes and Other Taxes, net

The foundation qualifies as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code and, with the exception of unrelated business income from debt-financed, passive investments, is not subject to federal or state income tax. However, as a private foundation, the foundation is subject to a 1.39% federal excise tax of net investment income.

For the year ended December 31, 2023, the foundation made estimated excise and other tax payments, net of refunds, of approximately \$3,007,000. For the year ended December 31, 2022, the foundation received refunds, net of estimated excise and other tax payments, of approximately \$4,308,000. The foundation recognized an increase of approximately \$1,623,000 and a decrease of approximately \$4,961,000 in its deferred tax liability in 2023 and 2022, respectively. The deferred tax liability is recorded using 1.39% excise tax rate at December 31, 2023 and 2022. No deferred taxes are provided for unrelated business income on unrealized appreciation as such amount cannot be estimated.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

8. Federal Excise Taxes and Other Taxes, net (continued)

The foundation recorded prepaid taxes of approximately \$375,000 at December 31, 2023 and prepaid taxes of approximately \$2,815,000 at December 31, 2022.

9. Employee Pension Plan and Other Postretirement Benefit Plans

The foundation sponsors a pension plan with defined benefit and cash balance features for its eligible employees. The pension benefits for all employees hired prior to January 1, 2000, will be the greater of the benefits as determined under the defined benefit feature of the pension plan or the cash balance feature of the pension plan. The pension benefits for all employees hired on or subsequent to January 1, 2000, will be determined under the cash balance feature of the pension plan. The foundation also sponsors postretirement medical and life insurance benefit plans. During 2016, the foundation amended its postretirement medical and life insurance benefit plans, restricting access for certain future retirees.

The following table sets forth the pension and other postretirement benefits plans' funded status and amounts recognized in the foundation's Statements of Activities and Financial Position:

	Pension Plan		Other Postretirement Benefit Plan	
	Year Ended December 31		Year Ended December 31	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Funded status				
Fair value of plan assets	\$ 16,498,196	\$ 12,521,654	\$ 2,870,859	\$ 2,420,096
Benefit obligation	(15,986,375)	(14,770,336)	(1,328,645)	(1,348,796)
Funded status of the plan	<u>\$ 511,821</u>	<u>\$ (2,248,682)</u>	<u>\$ 1,542,214</u>	<u>\$ 1,071,300</u>
Prior service credit	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 54,485
Accumulated (loss) gain	<u>(3,713,214)</u>	<u>(4,217,604)</u>	<u>519,462</u>	<u>422,832</u>
Pension and postretirement changes other than net periodic pension and postretirement costs	(3,713,214)	(4,217,604)	519,462	477,317
Cumulative employer contribution in excess of net periodic benefit costs	<u>4,225,035</u>	<u>1,968,922</u>	<u>1,022,752</u>	<u>593,983</u>
Accrued benefit (liability) recognized in the Statements of Financial Position	<u>\$ 511,821</u>	<u>\$ (2,248,682)</u>	<u>\$ 1,542,214</u>	<u>\$ 1,071,300</u>
Additional year-end information for pension plans with benefit obligations in excess of plan assets				
Projected benefit obligation	N/A	\$ 16,948,951	N/A	N/A
Accumulated benefit obligation	N/A	\$ 16,495,863	N/A	N/A
Fair value of plan assets	N/A	\$ 16,772,695	N/A	N/A

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

9. Employee Pension Plan and Other Postretirement Benefit Plans (continued)

	Pension Plan		Other Postretirement Benefit Plan	
	Year Ended December 31		Year Ended December 31	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Components of net periodic benefit cost				
Service cost	\$ 593,052	\$ 616,325	\$ 3,216	\$ 5,157
Interest cost	758,069	464,756	68,006	50,251
Expected return on plan assets	(1,183,413)	(975,936)	(232,442)	(178,321)
Amortization of prior service cost	-	-	(54,485)	(54,488)
Recognized actuarial loss/(gain)	76,179	355,673	(204,083)	(58,349)
Net periodic benefit cost	<u>\$ 243,887</u>	<u>\$ 460,818</u>	<u>\$ (419,788)</u>	<u>\$ (235,750)</u>
Actual return (loss) on plan assets	\$ 2,240,858	\$ (3,276,558)	\$ 477,890	\$ (622,439)
Employer contributions	2,500,000	-	8,979	26,931
Employee contributions	-	-	-	8,949
Benefits paid	764,316	974,483	36,106	67,174
Actuarial assumptions				
Discount rate	5.14%	5.42%	5.15%	5.42%
Expected return on plan assets	7.75%	6.75%	8.25%	6.50%
Rate of compensation increase	3.00%	3.00%	4.00%	3.00%
Cash balance interest crediting rate	4.00%	4.00%	N/A	N/A
Health care cost trend rate assumptions				
Initial trend rate	N/A	N/A	7.04%	6.30%
Ultimate trend rate	N/A	N/A	4.00%	4.00%
Year ultimate trend is reached	N/A	N/A	2048	2047

The expected long-term rate of return on plan assets for determining net periodic pension cost is chosen by the foundation from a best estimate range determined by the actuary by applying anticipated long-term returns and long-term volatility for various asset categories to the target asset allocation of the plan.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

9. Employee Pension Plan and Other Postretirement Benefit Plans (continued)

During the year ended Dec. 31, 2023 the Pension's plan actuarial loss of approximately \$629,000 on the benefit obligations included a loss of approximately \$378,000 due to the decrease in the discount rate from 5.42% to 5.14%, and a loss of \$265,000 due to the census data updates. The actual return on the market value of assets in 2023 was a gain of approximately \$2,241,000 compared to an assumed return of \$1,183,000, resulting in a gain of approximately \$1,058,000.

During the year ended Dec. 31, 2022, the Pension's plan actuarial gain of approximately \$2,285,000 on the benefit obligations included approximately \$4,147,000 gain due to the increase in the discount rate from 2.81% to 5.42%, a loss of \$1,333,000 due to the increase in the cash balance interest crediting rate from 2% to 4% and a loss of \$463,000 due to the census data updates. The actual return on the market value of assets in 2022 was a loss of approximately \$3,277,000 compared to an assumed return of \$976,000, resulting in a loss of approximately \$4,253,000.

During the year ended Dec. 31, 2023, Postretirement Medical and Life plan's net actuarial gain of approximately \$55,000 on the benefit obligations included a gain of approximately \$61,000 due to new census data, a gain of approximately \$34,000 due to actual versus expected net benefit payments and a loss of approximately \$38,000 due to the decrease in the discount rate from 5.42% to 5.15%. The actual return on the market value of assets in 2023 was a gain of approximately \$478,000 compared to an assumed return of approximately \$233,000 resulting in a gain of approximately \$245,000.

During the year ended Dec. 31, 2022, Postretirement Medical and Life plan's actuarial gain of approximately \$456,000 on the benefit obligations included approximately \$451,000 gain due to the increase in the discount rate from 2.84% to 5.42%. The actual return on the market value of assets in 2022 was a loss of approximately \$622,000 compared to an assumed return of approximately \$178,000, resulting in a loss of approximately \$800,000.

Pursuant to ASU 2017-07, *Compensation—Retirement Benefits (Topic 715): Improving the Presentation of Net Periodic Pension Cost and Net Periodic Postretirement Benefit Cost*, the foundation recognized service cost component of net benefit cost in the same line as other compensation costs for employee services. The components of net periodic benefit cost other than the service cost component of approximately \$772,000 and approximately \$396,000 is included in general and administrative expense line on the Statements of Activities for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

9. Employee Pension Plan and Other Postretirement Benefit Plans (continued)

The calculations related to other postretirement benefit plans do not anticipate any savings from the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003.

Expected benefit payments are as follows:

	Pension Plan	Other Postretirement Benefit Plan
2024	\$ 1,099,185	\$ 73,801
2025	1,227,027	82,118
2026	1,117,299	87,237
2027	1,141,088	92,750
2028	880,347	96,328
2029-2033	7,113,108	506,942

During 2023, the foundation made a \$2.5 million contribution to the pension plan. The foundation will be required to make a contribution of approximately \$73,800 to the other postretirement benefit plan and may choose to make additional contributions to either plan during 2024.

The investment goal for plan assets is to provide sufficient liquidity to meet payout requirements while maintaining safety of principal through prudent diversification. During 2023 and 2022, asset allocation targets for the pension plan were domestic equities, 35%; international equities, 28%; emerging market equities, 7%; and fixed income, 30%. During 2023 and 2022, asset allocation targets for the postretirement benefit plan were domestic equities, 55%; international equities, 25%; emerging market equities, 10%; and fixed income, 10%.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

9. Employee Pension Plan and Other Postretirement Benefit Plans (continued)

A detail of the fair value of plan assets by investment class follows:

	Pension Plan				Other Postretirement Benefit Plan			
	December 31				December 31			
	2023	%	2022	%	2023	%	2022	%
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 65,533	-	\$ 55,689	-	\$ 40,150	1.00	\$ 4,850	-
Interest, dividends and other investment receivables	174	-	84	-	184	-	11	-
U.S. government and agency obligations	1,598,490	10	1,188,762	10	246,331	9	234,160	10
Corporate bonds and other obligations	3,303,338	20	2,478,571	20	-	-	-	-
Equity securities	11,530,661	70	8,798,548	70	2,584,194	90	2,181,075	90
Total	<u>\$ 16,498,196</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>\$ 12,521,654</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>\$ 2,870,859</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>\$ 2,420,096</u>	<u>100</u>

The pension plan and other postretirement benefit plan invest principally in collective trust investments of a major bank which are categorized as Level 2 within the fair value hierarchy of ASC 820, Fair Value Measurements.

In addition, the foundation sponsors a defined contribution plan for its eligible employees for which it has no fixed liabilities. Effective January 1, 2002, the foundation's defined contribution plan was amended to add an employer matching contribution component. The foundation made contributions to the defined contribution plan of approximately \$362,000 and \$343,000 during 2023 and 2022, respectively.

10. Leases

Net rental expense for office leases for 2023 and 2022, was approximately \$1,758,000 and \$2,489,000, respectively. The foundation leases offices in Miami, Florida and other U.S. cities. During 2020, the foundation entered into a fifteen-year lease agreement for new office space of approximately 22,000 square feet in Miami, Florida with the lease commencement date in 2021. The foundation has two options of sixty months each to extend the lease term. In 2019, the foundation signed an amendment to the lease of its prior Miami office space of approximately 22,800 square feet extending the lease term until 2026. The foundation subleased its prior Miami office space beginning in August 2022, offsetting rental expense with sublease income of approximately \$994,000 and \$409,000 in 2023 and 2022, respectively. The remaining sublease rents total approximately \$2,127,000 and \$3,057,000 at December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

10. Leases (continued)

Pursuant to ASU 2016-02, *Leases*, the foundation has recorded a ROU asset of \$18,406,000 and lease liabilities of \$20,585,000 as of December 31, 2023 and ROU asset of \$20,180,000 and lease liabilities of \$22,465,000 as of December 31, 2022. Future minimum lease payments were discounted at U.S. Treasury note rates of 1.63% and 1.13% displayed below along with minimum sublease income:

	Leases	Sublease	Net
2024	\$ 2,207,583	\$ 959,744	\$ 1,247,839
2025	2,269,255	990,478	1,278,777
2026	1,647,459	176,965	1,470,494
2027	1,459,209	-	1,459,209
2028	1,502,936	-	1,502,936
Thereafter	13,118,859	-	13,118,859
Discounted to present value	(1,620,270)	-	(1,620,270)
	<u>\$ 20,585,031</u>	<u>\$ 2,127,187</u>	<u>\$ 18,457,844</u>

11. Beneficial Interest in Remainder Trusts

The foundation has a beneficial interest in charitable remainder trusts established by John S. Knight. Under the terms of the trusts, distributions are made from the trusts to designated beneficiaries for the remainder of their lives. The remainder of the assets in the trusts will be transferred to the foundation. All of the assets of the trusts are administered and held in the custody of Northern Trust. The trusts were established in 1975 and became irrevocable in 1981.

The foundation values its interest in the trusts using the methodology described in the *Financial Reporting Whitepaper: Measurement of Fair Value for Certain Transactions of Not-for Profit Entities*, issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. This methodology is a two-step process starting with the fair market value of the assets. The first step uses a 5% payout rate, life expectancy based on IRS Mortality Tables and assumed investment returns to determine the value of the interest at its projected termination. The second step discounts this future value using an estimated investment return rate of 7.75% for the year ended December 31, 2023 and 6.75% for the year ended December 31, 2022. As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the value of the foundation's estimated interest in the remainder trusts reported on the Statements of Financial Position was approximately \$67,352,000 and \$60,087,000, respectively. This compares to a current fair market value of the trusts of approximately \$94,500,000 and \$86,301,000 in December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

11. Beneficial Interest in Remainder Trusts (continued)

Trust distributions made in the same year when distributions are received are reported as released from restrictions. During 2023 and 2022, the foundation didn't receive trust distributions.

For the purposes of applying ASC 820, Fair Value Measurements, all beneficial interest in remainder trust assets are classified as Level 3 for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022. The changes in beneficial interest in remainder trust assets classified as Level 3 are as follows for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022:

Level 3 Reconciliation

	<u>Remainder Trust</u>
Beginning Balance, January 1, 2022	\$ 73,693,188
Distributions	-
Change in value of beneficial interest in remainder trusts	(13,605,957)
Ending Balance, December 31, 2022	<u>\$ 60,087,231</u>
Beginning Balance, January 1, 2023	\$ 60,087,231
Distributions	-
Change in value of beneficial interest in remainder trusts	7,264,698
Ending Balance, December 31, 2023	<u>\$ 67,351,929</u>

Change in value of beneficial interest in remainder trusts are included in "Changes in net assets with donor restrictions" in Statements of Activities for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022.