THE INDEPENDENT INSTITUTE

2013 Annual Report



Enlightening ideas for public policy









he Independent Institute is a non-profit, non-partisan, scholarly research and educational organization that sponsors in-depth studies of critical social and economic issues. Our mission is to boldly advance peaceful, prosperous, and free societies grounded in a commitment to human worth and dignity.

This work is conducted in conjunction with a series of educational centers on: Culture and Civil Society, Educational Excellence, Entrepreneurial Innovation, Global Prosperity, Health and the Environment, Law and Justice, and Peace and Liberty.

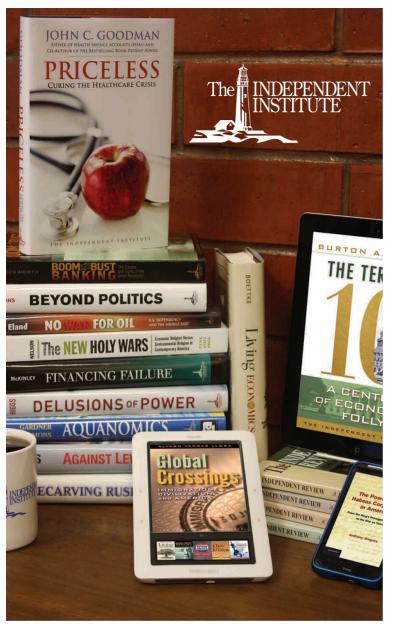
We invite your support in this crusade for freedom.



Contents

- **3** A Message from the President
- 5 Research and Studies | Economics
- 7 Research and Studies | Healthcare Policy
- 9 Research and Studies | LIBERTY FOR THE WORLD
- 11 Research and Studies | THE INDEPENDENT REVIEW
- 13 Student Programs
- 14 Events
- 17 Media
- 19 Financials
- 20 Staff, Senior Fellows, and Board of Directors
- 21 Thank You







Highlights

- Eight new books and dozens of eBooks
- Received two Eric Hoffer Book **Awards**
- Two IPPY Awards for Best Book
- Fellows testified before congressional committees
- Record combined reach across Internet and news media
- Presence in video and social media
- New Independent Watch YouTube Channel



"They win support precisely because they are not for sale."

— The Wall Street Journal

A Message from the President



hen I founded the Independent Institute in 1986, America's national debt was about \$2 trillion. Today, it is over \$17 trillion—more than triple the debt in 2001. Despite runaway federal spending and debt and an explosion of new federal regulations and mandates, President Barack Obama's second inaugural address called for even greater government spending and power: "preserving our individual freedoms ultimately requires collective action."

Does this mean that we are destined for fiscal ruin and further loss of liberty? On the contrary! Polls indicate that Americans are increasingly skeptical of Big Government schemes at home and abroad. And we agree.

The Independent Institute sees this as a time of tremendous opportunity for winning the vital battle of ideas—supplying clear thinking in redirecting and redefining the public debate, with a fresh consideration of solutions consistent with individual liberty, personal responsibility, civic virtue, free markets, and the rule of law. After twenty-seven years, our growing reputation for principled studies of today's most pressing issues is taking hold in the public square.

Senior Fellow Robert Higgs's early work on government growth and regime uncertainty has gained attention in the mainstream media. His prescient book, *Crisis and Leviathan: Critical Episodes in the Growth of American Government*, is now available in a 25th Anniversary Edition.

During this past year, we produced eight new books and dozens of eBooks; received two Eric Hoffer Book Awards and two IPPY Awards for Best Book; had Fellows testify before congressional committees; conducted our popular **Challenge of Liberty Summer Seminars for Students**; and achieved a record combined reach of 4 billion across Internet and news media!

We also made a strategic commitment to increase our presence in video and social media, and it is paying off! We have posted hundreds of videos online and are producing a new video series on issues of the day, called *Independent Watch*. Our Google Ad Grant has generated more than 400,000 new site visits to date, and we have grown our Facebook fans to 390,000 and our Twitter followers to 9,000, and through them we are reaching 3.5 million per month!

We strive to make the Independent Institute's program among the most cost-effective of any educational or public-policy organization; with G&A accounting for only 7% and Fundraising 8% of expenses, nearly 85¢ of every dollar go directly to Program Services to produce and broadly disseminate our award-winning analysis and solutions.

I invite you to enjoy this report's summary of the Independent Institute's work for fiscal year 2013, and thank you for your interest in building popular, informed support for liberty and in reestablishing the moral and cultural imperative that attains the free, prosperous, and peaceful society America's Founders intended.

David J. Theroux

Founder and President





Top: Research Fellows David Beckworth (L) and Scott Sumner (R) talk before Congress in Washington, D.C. **Bottom left:** Research Fellow Vern McKinley speaks about the financial crisis. Bottom right: Research Fellow Peter J. Boettke is interviewed by Luis Figueroa of UFM on his journey as a free-market economics teacher and on his book Living Economics: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow.

"Sumner just might have permanently shifted U.S. monetary policy." — Foreign Policy



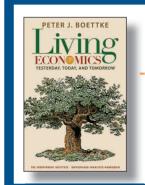
Research and Studies | Economics

Financial Crisis

After the financial meltdown of 2008, the Independent Institute's Center on Entrepreneurial Innovation began work on a series of studies to examine the causes and solutions to the crisis.

Financing Failure: A Century of Bailouts by Research Fellow Vern McKinley was published in early 2012 and unveiled the policy decisions behind the bailouts during the crisis and explained why government regulators continue to favor this approach. We promoted this work and McKinley heavily during the ensuing year, generating additional book reviews and media on this important topic.

In October 2012, we published *Boom and* Bust Banking: The Causes and Cures of the Great Recession, edited by Research Fellow David Beckworth. Addressing a lack of critical studies of recent Federal Reserve policy, this insightful book reveals the Federal Reserve's hand in the economy's deterioration. As part of our promotional campaign, Beckworth and Research Fellow Scott Sumner briefed Congressional staff members on the role of the Federal Reserve in causing the Great Recession. Professor Sumner was named #15 of Foreign Policy's Top 100 Global Thinkers for his insight into U.S. monetary policy.



LIVING ECONOMICS

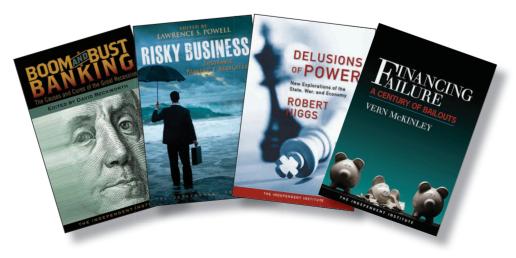
Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow by Peter J. Boettke, Research Fellow

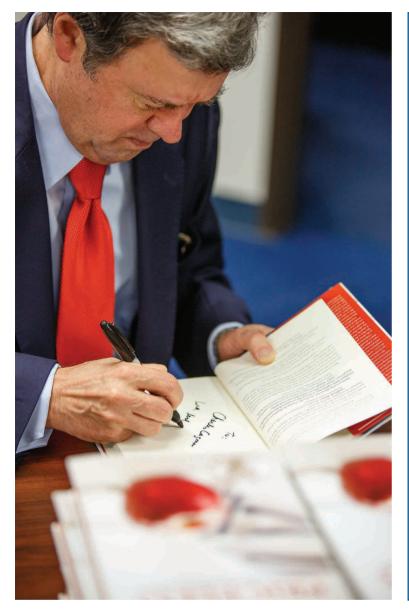
∞-WINNER-∞

2012 FOUNDATION FOR ECONOMIC **EDUCATION BEST BOOK AWARD BY THE** SOCIETY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF Austrian Economics

Insurance Regulation

Released in 2013, Risky Business: Insurance Markets and Regulation, edited by Research Fellow Lawrence S. Powell and with contributions by leading scholars in risk management, addresses some of the most important questions about state and federal regulation of the property and casualty insurance industry. This project also spans several years of work, including a number of policy reports released in 2012 and additional plans for promotion in the coming year.





Accomplishments

- **6,000** Priceless copies sold
- Featured by Fox News, CNN, PBS, the Wall Street Journal, Investor's Business Daily, and National Review
- Generated more than 42 million print, 75 million radio and television, and 840 million web impressions
- Created the **Healthcare Contract with America**
- **Briefed Congressional Committees**
- Senior Fellow John Goodman spoke about *Priceless* at over **30 national events** for the year!



"This book is a call to arms. . . . You should read this book if you want to be an informed participant in the debate over the future of healthcare in this country."

—Peter R. Orszag, former Director, Congressional Budget Office

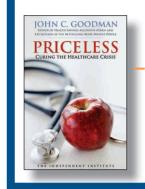
Top: Senior Fellow John C. Goodman signs copies of *Priceless* at the Independent Institute's Policy Forum on healthcare in Oakland, California. **Bottom:** Dr. Goodman speaking on Fox News.

Research and Studies | Healthcare Policy

merica's healthcare system is broken and remains one of the biggest issues facing this country. Seeing the need for a thoughtful and intelligent critique of the current system, the Independent Institute joined forces with Senior Fellows John C. Goodman (President, NCPA), John R. Graham, and Lawrence J. McQuillan, to produce and promote a new book by Dr. Goodman reviewing the state of healthcare policy and measures for reforming it.

In advance of a Supreme Court decision, the June 2012 release of *Priceless: Curing the Healthcare Crisis* by Dr. Goodman coincided with the launch of a full-throttled media campaign to bring his insights on healthcare policy to a broad audience.

Our concerted, multi-media campaign to "Repeal and Replace Obamacare" featured practical, workable solutions to the problems of affordability and access. Dr. Goodman



PRICELESS

Curing the Healthcare Crisis by John C. Goodman, Senior Fellow

⊘-GRAND PRIZE FINALIST → ⊙

Eric Hoffer Book Award and

℘~WINNER⊸ஒ

Silver Medal Independent Publisher Book (IPPY) Award for 2013

has spoken to over 30 policy, business, and academic groups as well as a packed audience at our conference center in Oakland, California; testified before the Congressional Health Care Caucus, which posted our "Healthcare Contract with America" on its website; and addressed the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. Our campaign has reached almost 1 billion across all media.



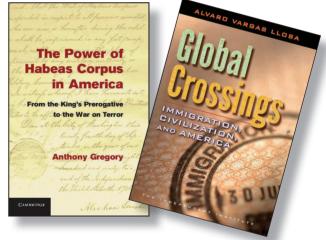


Top: Senior Fellow John R. Graham speaks on the cost of health care reform on Fox News. **Right:** Senior Fellow and Director of the Center on Entrepreneurial Innovation Lawrence J. McQuillan speaks on the new *Independent Watch* YouTube Channel.



"This book is so well researched and written, it will soon become the bible on all things Habeas Corpus for generations."

- Andrew P. Napolitano, Senior Judicial Analyst, Fox News Channel





Top and bottom right: Senior Fellow Alvaro Vargas Llosa discusses immigration policy on various media outlets. Left: Senior Fellow Ivan Eland appears on GBTV's Real News.

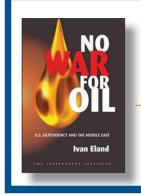


Research and Studies | Liberty for the World

n addition to our main initiatives on the financial crisis, government spending and debt, and healthcare, the Independent Institute also pursued and promoted several other projects.

The Power of Habeas Corpus in America: From the King's Prerogative to the War on Terror by Anthony Gregory was published in April 2013 in conjunction with Cambridge University Press and weighs in on the controversial and wide-ranging history of the writ of Habeas Corpus as a government power. A regular contributor to the Huffington Post, Mr. Gregory is Research Fellow with our Center on Law and Justice and has spoken to audiences eager to learn about civil liberty at events such as: Freedom Fest in Las Vegas; the Ron Paul Festival in Tampa; and Students For Liberty in Washington, D.C. Although early in its promotional campaign, the book has received glowing reviews for its wide-ranging history of the writ of Habeas Corpus as a government power from legal scholars and magazines such as Reason and The Freeman.

The recent reawakening of the long-standing debate about immigration has evoked intense emotion. *Global Crossings: Immigration, Civilization, and America* by Alvaro Vargas Llosa,



NO WAR FOR OIL
U.S. Dependency
and the Middle East
by Ivan Eland, Senior Fellow

⊚-WINNER-•⊚

GOLD MEDAL IPPY AWARD IN 2013

Senior Fellow with our Center on Global Prosperity, was released in June 2013 and stands out as a thoughtful and personal story addressing the facts and misconceptions that dominate the issue. The Independent Institute has undertaken a major educational initiative based on the book, which kicked off with a feature on *Wall Street Journal Live*, and appearances at policy organizations such as the Cato Institute and the Heritage Foundation. *Global Crossings* built on Vargas Llosa's prior successes working with the *Washington Post* Writers Group, *Miami Herald*, and National Geographic Channel, and his earlier publications such as *Lessons From the Poor*, winner of the 2010 Templeton Freedom Award.



Ahead of the Curve in Spanish Outreach

El Instituto Independiente, our Spanish language website and blog, played a facilitating role in the community of Latin American free-market thinkers. Last year, Director Gabriel Gasave (pictured left) introduced and translated hundreds of articles and features, which generated over 4.5 million views and an accompanying large Facebook and Twitter follower base. With top reach in Spain, Mexico, Argentina, and Colombia, this site has enabled us to more than double our reach to the Spanish-speaking world. In addition, Mr. Gasave has begun hosting a weekly FM radio show, El Libertad, in Argentina.











Clockwise from top left: Senior Fellow and Editor-at-Large Robert Higgs addresses students and supporters at our forum, "Lessons From the Great Depression and Recession" at Notre Dame de Namur University in Belmont, California; The Independent Review Co-Editors: Christopher J. Coyne, Michael C. Munger, and Robert M. Whaples.

"Robert Higgs is a true treasure on every level, and my colleagues and I at the Independent Institute are deeply privileged to have the opportunity to work with him."

— David Theroux, The Independent Review, Fall 2013

Research and Studies | The Independent Review

ince 1996, the Independent Institute has published The Independent Review, a quarterly interdisciplinary journal devoted to the study of political economy and the critical analysis of government policy. For seventeen years, Robert Higgs served as the journal's meticulous editor, overseeing all aspects of its content and working closely with its authors to ensure high scholarly quality and uncommonly lucid prose.

A year ago, Dr. Higgs suggested that it was

time to bring in a new editorial team. We were fortunate to enlist three highly capable scholars to act as co-editors: Christopher J. Coyne of George Mason University, Michael C. Munger of Duke University, and Robert M. Whaples of Wake Forest University. This spring, they took over in a smooth and seamless transition. Professor Whaples leads the team as Managing Editor, and Dr. Higgs continues to contribute his ever-popular and insightful column "Etceteras" as Editor-at-Large.

The INDEPENDENT REVIEW

THE INDEPENDENT REVIEW

☞-FINALIST-▼

2012 SIR ANTONY FISHER AWARD recognizing the publication's contribution to public understanding of a free society.

Robert Higgs

In the course of his career, Robert Higgs has authored nine books, edited six, written more than one hundred articles and reviews for scholarly journals, and contributed essays to

twenty-five collected volumes. But his output stretches even farther, including 600 articles in newspapers, magazines, and blogs; interviews on Fox, NPR, NBC, ABC, C-SPAN, and elsewhere; and lectures at more than one hundred colleges and universities as well as dozens of professional academic organizations.

Two of his books continue to generate widespread attention. The Independent Institute's re-release of Higgs's Crisis and Leviathan

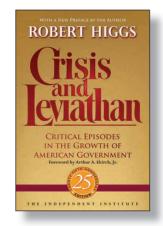
in the fall of 2012 could not have been more timely. As influential economist Price Fishback noted: "In Crisis and Leviathan he documents a 'ratchet effect' in the scope of government

authority associated with the major crises of the twentieth century, the world wars and the Great Depression." This highly regarded book provides lessons that become more relevant with each

> passing day and remains a favorite among scholars and for course adoptions.

As described in his book Depression, War, and Cold War: Challenging the Myths of Conflict and Prosperity, Higgs also coined "regime uncertainty" to explain how the U.S. government prolonged and deepened the Great Depression. Such uncertainty is now a well-recognized cause of economic malaise and has

become the basis for important work across the freedom movement—including work by analysts at Cato Institute, Mackinac Center, Ludwig von Mises Institute, and George Mason University.





Over 50% more students attended our 2013 summer seminars!



Top and bottom left: Students at the Challenge of Liberty Seminars. Right: Teaching Fellow Gregory Rehmke and Senior Fellow Robert Higgs with students.





Student Programs

ew students have the opportunity to learn the basic ethical and economic principles of open markets and free societies. Our Challenge of Liberty Summer Seminars teach students to integrate the principles of liberty with today's challenges in order to affect change in school, work, and throughout life. In 2013, we expanded our program, adding a college seminar in Colorado to our long-established college and high school seminars in the San Francisco Bay Area. Our thriving program trained students from 16 states, 7 countries, and 37 universities this summer!



José J. Yulo teaching at the Challenge of Liberty Student Seminars.

What Students Had to Say

"What I can really appreciate about a lot of these speakers is that they are able to break down these complex situations and theories."

"I hadn't really done a lot of economic work before this seminar. I, for instance, had no idea really how the business cycle and how the real estate market worked.... I had only known what happened, not the background and all the economic information."



Kyle Marchini leading a discussion group at the Challenge of Liberty Seminars.



Students attending a Challenge of Liberty Seminar in Colorado Springs, CO.

Intern Kyle Marchini was featured on Free Talk Live Radio, discussing our exciting high school and college Challenge of Liberty Summer Seminars. In our recent newsletter, Kyle described his experience working on the Seminars:

"Since I plan to go into teaching economics, I find working with the students not only enjoyable, but also instrumental in developing my abilities to effectively explain critical concepts."

Events

o create high impact on key areas of public policy, the Independent Institute hosted and participated in numerous events around the nation. Event topics included healthcare reform, Second Amendment rights, the financial crisis, and civil liberties, and engaged audiences ranging from students to members of Congress.

SAMPLE EVENTS IN ASSOCIATION

American Knee Sur

> Oakland, CA: Senior Fellow Robert Higgs and Fellow Anthony Gregory, moderated by Mary L. G. Theroux, spoke on "Civil Liberties and Security in an Age of Terror" to a large audience in our Oakland conference center, which was also viewed by countless others on live stream and on C-SPAN.

Colorado Springs, CO: The Independent Institute hosted its first ever seminar in Colorado **Springs** this year, significantly increasing our outreach to students.

Belmont, CA: Students and supporters came together to learn at our summer forum, "Lessons from the Great Depression and Recession" featuring Senior Fellow Robert Higgs, at a combined VIP and student seminar event at Notre Dame de Namur University.

Las Vegas, NV: Senior Fellow John C. Goodman spoke at **FreedomFest** and with C-SPAN in Las Vegas on the Institute's publication, Priceless: Curing the Healthcare Crisis.

Heartland

Manhattar

Maui, HI: Author and Research Fellow Peter J. Boettke, The Independent Review Co-Editor Christopher J. Coyne, and Research Fellow Benjamin W. Powell spoke at the Association of Private Enterprise Education to promote *Living* **Economics** and other Institute publications.

VITHTHE INDEPENDENT INSTITUT

IL: Books by Research Fellow Stephen Halbrook, The Founders' Second Amendment and Securing Civil Rights, were cited six times by the U.S. Supreme Court and assisted the Illinois Supreme Court decision to strike Illinois's punitive gun control law.

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New York, NY: Senior Fellow Alvaro Llosa spoke at the **Manhattan Institute** promoting the release of the Institute publication, Global Crossings.

Washington, D.C.: Author David Beckworth and Research Fellow Scott Sumner briefed Congressional staff members on the role of the Federal Reserve in causing the Great Recession.

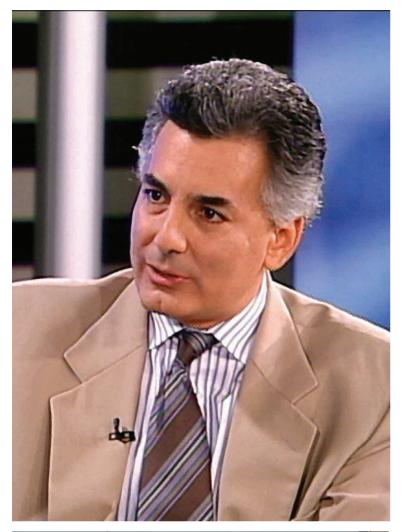
Washinton, D.C.: Senior Fellow John C. Goodman testified before the **U.S. House Committee** on Oversight and Government Reform on "Examining the Impact of Obamacare on Job Creators and the Economy" and Congressional Health Care Caucus on "The Response to the Current State of Health Care."

Washington, D.C.: Fellows Anthony Gregory, Ivan Eland, Peter Boettke, and Donald Boudreaux spoke to the next generation of leaders at the International Students For Liberty Conference, which was attended by over 1,000 students.

Washington, D.C.: Senior Fellow Alvaro Vargas Llosa spoke about **Global Crossings** and solutions for immigration reform at the Cato Institute and Heritage Foundation.

Tampa, FL; Amelia Island, FL: Senior Fellow John C. Goodman was honored as keynote speaker at the State Policy Network Conference and spoke at P.A.U.L. Festival along with David. J. Theroux and Anthony Gregory.

Dallas, TX: Senior Fellow John C. Goodman spoke with health organizations including American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons, Association of American Physicians and Surgeons, and Dallas Association of Health Underwriters.





Clockwise from top: Senior Fellow Alvaro Vargas Llosa on Oppenheimer Presenta; Research Fellow Art Carden on Stossel discusses the topic "What you think you know...may not be so"; Senior Fellow Ivan Eland discusses the use of chemical weapons by the government of Syria and the ongoing civil war on CTV News Channel.

We lead the way in winning hearts and minds for liberty by:

- Utilizing the world-class research of more than 120 Research Fellows who are noted experts in their fields
- Offering innovative pro-freedom solutions to the world's most pressing challenges
- Reaching out to a variety of media to target policy makers, industry leaders, academics and students, opinion leaders, and the general public



Media

he start of something big . . . that's how we would describe this past year in our media growth. Our Fellows are actively promoting bold solutions on outlets such as Fox News, Fox Business, CNN, CBS, PBS, CNBC, NPR, C-SPAN, Wall Street Journal, Forbes, The Hill, National Review, Huffington Post, and USA Today!

YEARLY REACH

PLACEMENT REACH

360 120,000,000

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PRINT

1,531 3,000,000,000

Totaling over 3.5 billion impressions in the last year!

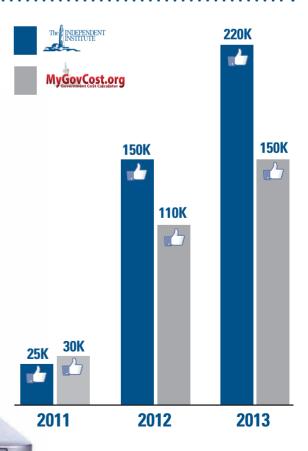


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Trending Now . . . Freedom

While print publication remains the backbone of our research program, our digital and social media campaigns have enabled us to bring our message to huge new audiences. With more than 390,000 fans on Facebook, 300 YouTube videos, and 9,000 followers on Twitter, we are reaching 3.5 million viewers per month.

FACEBOOK PAGE LIKES



The Beacon was named #1 Libertarian Blog by the Washington Times

Our weekly email newsletter, The Lighthouse, offers synopses of recent commentaries by Institute Fellows, announcements of new books and journals, news of Institute events, and updates of our student programs. With a mailing list of 57,000, it is one of our most important tools for disseminating information about Institute publications and programs. It also serves as an effective portal, directing readers to the voluminous material on the Institute's blogs and websites.

The Washington Times

1. The Beacon is the flagship blog of the Independent Institute. Marked by a calm demeanor, it features over forty authors - Art Carden, Anthony Gregory, and Robert Higgs among the most well known of them - covering topics from healthcare to privacy and everything in between.

Unemotional yet unique, The Beacon is a must-read for all libertarians - young or old, monarchist or anarchist, Austrian or Public Choice. A delicate balance of positive and normative analysis, together. with unrivaled consistency in quality, elevates this blog above the rest.

Independent

Independent Watch and Video Outreach

Our online video presence has jumped dramatically during the past year. We currently host more than 300 videos on our website independent.org and YouTube channel.

In the second half of the year, we set up a new in-house studio for producing brief, timely video interviews with our Fellows. With seed funding from Atlas Education Foundation and consultation by L.A. film professionals of Taliesin Nexus, we produced several twominute Independent Watch videos, spotlighting current issues and making the clips available for distribution on the web. Our YouTube channel, Independent Watch, generated more than 4,000 views and 100 likes for our episode with Anthony Gregory on Rand Paul's Senate filibuster. We plan to produce one or two videos every month in the coming year.

What Is Washington's Spending **Costing You?**

We continued to update and promote our Government Cost Calculator at MyGovCost.org, which provides a powerful picture of the personal impact that the growing national debt has on each of us. Over the past two years, the Calculator's Facebook fans quadrupled to more than 150,000, and our release of a new iPhone app is imminent.



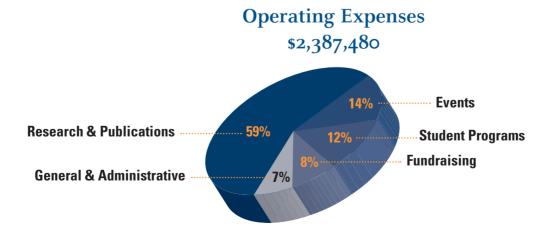
Financials

We are one of the most cost-effective non-profit organizations: with G&A accounting for only 7%, and Fundraising expenses only 8%, 85¢ of every dollar spent go *directly* to Program Services.

The Independent Institute Fiscal Year 2013

Net Assets	\$ 5,011,791
Liabilities	(125,669)
Total Assets	\$ 5,137,460
Fixed and Other Assets	304,001
Promise to Give to Endowment	625,000
Cash & Investments	\$ 4,208,459





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Businesswoman

Thank You

our valued support has helped make possible our tremendous gains of the past year, and we hope you share our excitement about these achievements. Thanks to our generous supporters, the Independent Institute is having a tremendous impact. With your help, we are optimistic about the future of freedom. Your continued investment in our work is fueling the ideas of liberty that are fostering opportunity and prosperity across the globe. Below we've honored our **Gold Supporters Group**, donors who gave significant foundational contributions this year:

GOLD SUPPORTERS GROUP

Adolph Coors Foundation

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Atlas Economic Research Foundation

Beach Foundation

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Sheppard Foundation

Stiles-Nicholson Foundation

David J. and Mary L. G. Theroux Foundation

Triad Foundation

William K. Bowes, Jr. Foundation

Woodford Foundation for Limited Government

The Lighthouse Logo

The 1991 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences was awarded to the late Ronald H. Coase (1910–2013), Clifton R. Musser Professor Emeritus of Economics at the University of Chicago. Coase's pioneering microeconomic forays into law, sociology, history, and other social sciences developed important insights for industrial organization and antitrust, tort law, economic and environmental regulation, property rights, zoning and land use controls, and many other issues.

The Independent Institute's logo was inspired by Ronald Coase's renowned 1974 essay in the *Journal of Law and Economics*, "The Lighthouse in Economics" (reprinted in the book, *The Firm*, the Market and the Law, by Ronald Coase). Until that time, conventional wisdom from John Stuart Mill to Paul Samuelson

had claimed that the lighthouse was the quintessential "public good," which allegedly could be supplied only by government due to the inherent free-riding of those who could not be charged for the services being provided. Coase showed, however, that in Britain, "contrary to the belief of many economists, a lighthouse service can be provided by private enterprise The lighthouses were built, operated, financed, and owned by private individuals, who could sell a lighthouse or dispose of it by bequest. The role of the government was limited to the establishment and enforcement of property rights in the lighthouse." Only later did the British government consolidate all lighthouse services under its own monopoly in order to eliminate competition and directly reap the financial benefits developed by private entrepreneurs.

In addition to exposing the fallacies of a favorite public-goods rationalization, Coase's essay rescued the lighthouse as a symbol of courage, enlightenment, and independence.

