

990

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

OMB No. 1545-

0047 2024

Open to Public Inspection

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations) Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public.

Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.

Form

Department of the Treasury

Internal Revenue Service

A For the 2024 calendar year, or tax year beginning 01-01-2024, and ending 12-31-2024

- B Check if applicable: Address change, Name change, Initial return, Final return/terminated, Amended return, Application pending

C Name of organization: Tennessee Aquarium. Doing business as. Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite: One Broad Street PO Box 11048. City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code: Chattanooga, TN 37402

D Employer identification number: 58-1837154. E Telephone number: (423) 785-2054. G Gross receipts \$ 40,573,072

F Name and address of principal officer: Gordon A Stalans, One Broad Street PO Box 11048, Chattanooga, TN 37402

H(a) Is this a group return for subordinates? No. H(b) Are all subordinates included? No. H(c) Group exemption number

I Tax-exempt status: 501(c)(3)

J Website: www.tnaqua.org

K Form of organization: Corporation

L Year of formation: 1989. M State of legal domicile: TN

Part I Summary

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities: The mission of the Tennessee Aquarium is to connect people with nature and empower them to make informed decisions about water and wildlife.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows 2-7b: 2 (Assets), 3 (Voting members), 4 (Independent voting members), 5 (Employees), 6 (Volunteers), 7a (Revenue), 7b (Income).

Table with 3 columns: Description, Prior Year, Current Year. Rows 8-12: 8 (Contributions), 9 (Program service), 10 (Investment income), 11 (Other revenue), 12 (Total revenue).

Table with 3 columns: Description, Prior Year, Current Year. Rows 13-19: 13 (Grants paid), 14 (Benefits), 15 (Salaries), 16a (Fundraising fees), 16b (Total fundraising), 17 (Other expenses), 18 (Total expenses), 19 (Revenue less expenses).

Table with 3 columns: Description, Beginning of Current Year, End of Year. Rows 20-22: 20 (Total assets), 21 (Total liabilities), 22 (Net assets or fund balances).

Part II Signature Block

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here: Signature of officer Gordon A Stalans CFO, Date 2025-11-14

Paid Preparer Use Only: Print/Type preparer's name, Preparer's signature, Date, Check if self-employed, PTIN, Firm's name, Firm's EIN, Firm's address, Phone no.

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See Instructions. Yes No

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part III

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission:

The mission of the Tennessee Aquarium is to connect people with nature and empower them to make informed decisions about water and wildlife.

2 Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ?

Yes No

If "Yes," describe these new services on Schedule O.

3 Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services?

Yes No

If "Yes," describe these changes on Schedule O.

4 Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations are required to report the amount of grants and allocations to others, the total expenses, and revenue, if any, for each program service reported.

4a (Code:) (Expenses \$ **20,042,399** including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

The Tennessee Aquarium, a highly visited attraction, consistently rates very high in guest satisfaction. After more than 30 years, the Aquarium continues to be a major catalyst for economic development, providing strong fiscal and economic impacts on the region. In 2024, the Aquarium welcomed nearly 752,000 visitors. Guests are immersed in the fascinating stories of life above and below the water within our River Journey and Ocean Journey buildings. Habitats replicating global ecosystems are home to more than 10,000 animals representing 550 species. Many animals are part of species survival plans coordinated by zoos and aquariums across the country. The Aquarium has been continuously accredited by The Association of Zoos and Aquariums for over 30 years, affirming our commitment to the highest standards of animal care. This accreditation also reflects our dedication to the best practices in other facets of our profession. The Aquarium also operates an IMAX 3D theater showing educational and inspiring films daily.

4b (Code:) (Expenses \$ **787,882** including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

The rivers of the southeastern United States harbor some of the highest freshwater diversity on the planet. The Tennessee Aquarium Conservation Institute furthers the mission of the Tennessee Aquarium by conducting scientific studies, restoring and protecting our regions natural ecosystems, and educating the public to take conservation action. Scientific research is performed in a LEED Gold-certified freshwater science center on the banks of the Tennessee River. There, our scientists identify which southeastern waters have the greatest biodiversity. This is vital for conservation planning in the Southeast because it can be used to identify hotspots of diversity that need protection. One signature program is the propagation and reintroduction of Lake Sturgeon to the Tennessee and Cumberland river watersheds. 2025 will mark 25 years of these efforts, and the Tennessee Aquarium and its partners will have released more than 430,000 Lake

4c (Code:) (Expenses \$ **965,367** including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

The Tennessee Aquarium is a leader in environmental and conservation education and has received overwhelming acclaim for its education programs. Frequently honored for its conservation education and research work, the Aquarium has also received awards for its customer service and guest experience, including Conservation Education of the Year from the Tennessee Wildlife Federation, Office of the Governor Environmental Stewardship award, and the North American Conservation award. Aquarium educators have connected more than 2.5 million students with the natural world through the Aquariums dynamic living collection. School groups can select from several activities, including self-guided tours of the Aquarium, standards-based classroom programs, and educational IMAX films. The Aquarium offers complimentary admission and bus transportation for economically disadvantaged students in Title 1 schools.

4d Other program services (Describe in Schedule O.)

(Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4e Total program service expenses **21,795,648**

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules

Table with 3 columns: Question ID, Question Text, Yes, No. Rows include questions 1 through 21 regarding organizational requirements, such as completing schedules A through H, and specific financial reporting rules.

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules (continued)

Table with 3 columns: Question ID, Question Text, and Yes/No columns. Rows include questions 22 through 38 regarding tax-exempt bond issues, excess benefit transactions, and other IRS filings.

Part V Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part V

Table with 3 columns: Question ID, Question Text, and Yes/No columns. Rows include questions 1a, 1b, and 1c regarding Form 1096, Forms W-2G, and backup withholding rules.

Part V Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance (continued)

Table with 10 columns: Question ID, Question Text, Sub-question ID, Answer Field, and three columns for Yes/No/Other responses. Rows include questions 2a through 17 regarding employee reporting, tax returns, foreign accounts, prohibited transactions, and organizational activities.

Part VI Governance, Management, and Disclosure. For each "Yes" response to lines 2 through 7b below, and for a "No" response to lines 8a, 8b, or 10b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes in Schedule O. See instructions. Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VI



Section A. Governing Body and Management

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include: 1a Enter the number of voting members of the governing body at the end of the tax year... 1b Enter the number of voting members included in line 1a... 2 Did any officer, director, trustee, or key employee have a family relationship... 3 Did the organization delegate control over management duties... 4 Did the organization make any significant changes to its governing documents... 5 Did the organization become aware during the year of a significant diversion of assets... 6 Did the organization have members or stockholders... 7a Did the organization have members, stockholders, or other persons who had the power to elect... 7b Are any governance decisions reserved to members, stockholders, or persons other than the governing body... 8 Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions... 8a The governing body? 8b Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body? 9 Is there any officer, director, trustee, or key employee listed in Part VII, Section A, who cannot be reached at the organization's mailing address?

Section B. Policies (This Section B requests information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include: 10a Did the organization have local chapters, branches, or affiliates? 10b If "Yes," did the organization have written policies and procedures governing the activities of such chapters, affiliates, and branches... 11a Has the organization provided a complete copy of this Form 990 to all members of its governing body before filing the form? 11b Describe on Schedule O the process, if any, used by the organization to review this Form 990. 12a Did the organization have a written conflict of interest policy? 12b Were officers, directors, or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts? 12c Did the organization regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with the policy? 13 Did the organization have a written whistleblower policy? 14 Did the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy? 15 Did the process for determining compensation of the following persons include a review and approval by independent persons, comparability data, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision? 15a The organization's CEO, Executive Director, or top management official 15b Other officers or key employees of the organization 16a Did the organization invest in, contribute assets to, or participate in a joint venture or similar arrangement with a taxable entity during the year? 16b If "Yes," did the organization follow a written policy or procedure requiring the organization to evaluate its participation in joint venture arrangements under applicable federal tax law, and take steps to safeguard the organization's exempt status with respect to such arrangements?

Section C. Disclosure

Table with 2 columns: Question, Answer. Rows include: 17 List the states with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed TN 18 Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Form 1023 (1024 or 1024-A, if applicable), 990, and 990-T (section 501(c)(3)s only) available for public inspection. Indicate how you made these available. Check all that apply. 19 Describe in Schedule O whether (and if so, how) the organization made its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available to the public during the tax year. 20 State the name, address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the organization's books and records: Gordon A Stalans 201 Chestnut Street Chattanooga, TN 37402 (423) 785-2054

Part VII Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VII

Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

1a Complete this table for all persons required to be listed. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.

- List all of the organization's **current** officers, directors, trustees (whether individuals or organizations), regardless of amount of compensation. Enter -0- in columns (D), (E), and (F) if no compensation was paid.

- List all of the organization's **current** key employees, if any. See the instructions for definition of "key employee."

- List the organization's five **current** highest compensated employees (other than an officer, director, trustee or key employee) who received reportable compensation (box 5 of Form W-2, box 6 of Form 1099-MISC, and/or box 1 of Form 1099-NEC) of more than \$100,000 from the organization and any related organizations.

- List all of the organization's **former** officers, key employees, or highest compensated employees who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.

- List all of the organization's **former directors or trustees** that received, in the capacity as a former director or trustee of the organization, more than \$10,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.

See the instructions for the order in which to list the persons above.

Check this box if neither the organization nor any related organization compensated any current officer, director, or trustee.

(A) Name and title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)					(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC/1099-NEC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC/1099-NEC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional Trustee;	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee			
(1) Walter K Sanford President, CEO	40.00			X			314,233	0	43,473
(2) Gordon Stalans Vice President, CFO	40.00			X			262,847	0	38,581
(3) Anna George Vice President	40.00				X		172,220	0	33,268
(4) Julie Piper Vice President	40.00				X		183,461	0	16,491
(5) Thom Benson Vice President	40.00				X		160,698	0	29,670
(6) Melanie King Vice President	40.00				X		166,928	0	17,371
(7) Thom Demas Vice President	40.00					X	148,115	0	21,243
(8) Micheal Floyd Vice President	40.00					X	141,757	0	25,564
(9) Pete Burman Director	40.00					X	142,412	0	20,780
(10) Rodney Fuller Director	40.00					X	131,211	0	26,097
(11) Meredith Roberts Director	40.00					X	111,054	0	24,473
(12) Val Armstrong Trustee, Chair	8.00	X		X			0	0	0
(13) Scott Pierce Trustee, Vice Chair	4.00	X		X			0	0	0
(14) Catherine Colby Trustee, Secretary	4.00	X		X			0	0	0
(15) Patrick Stowe Trustee, Treasurer	4.00	X		X			0	0	0
(16) Cameron Doody Trustee	2.00	X					0	0	0
(17) Wade Hinton Trustee	2.00	X					0	0	0

Part VII Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees (continued)

(A) Name and title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)					(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC/1099-NEC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC/1099-NEC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional Trustee;	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee			
(18) Candy Johnson Trustee	2.00	X					0	0	0
(19) Daphne Kirksey Trustee	2.00	X					0	0	0
(20) Harrison Lewis Trustee	2.00	X					0	0	0
(21) Stacy Lightfoot Trustee	2.00	X					0	0	0
(22) Matthew Rasmussen Trustee	2.00	X					0	0	0
(23) Shalin Tejani Trustee	2.00	X					0	0	0
1b Sub-Total									
c Total from continuation sheets to Part VII, Section A									
d Total (add lines 1b and 1c)						1,934,936		297,011	

2 Total number of individuals (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization **12**

	Yes	No
3 Did the organization list any former officer, director or trustee, key employee, or highest compensated employee on line 1a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>		No
4 For any individual listed on line 1a, is the sum of reportable compensation and other compensation from the organization and related organizations greater than \$150,000? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>	Yes	
5 Did any person listed on line 1a receive or accrue compensation from any unrelated organization or individual for services rendered to the organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such person</i>		No

Section B. Independent Contractors

1 Complete this table for your five highest compensated independent contractors that received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.

(A) Name and business address	(B) Description of services	(C) Compensation
Pointe General Contractors LLC 1300 Premier Drive Ste 150 Chattanooga, TN 37421	General Contractor	517,404
Eagle Mechanical LLC 370 Direct Connection Drive Rossville, GA 30741	Maintenance/Repair/Installation	491,857
KONE Inc One KONE Court Moline, IL 61265	Maintenance/Repair/Installation	421,500
Jake Marshall Service Inc 611 W Manning St Chattanooga, TN 37405	Maintenance/Repair/Installation	249,507
PGAV Inc 200 North Broadway Ste 1000 St Louis, MO 63102	Architect, Master Planning	246,298

2 Total number of independent contractors (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization **10**

Part VIII Statement of Revenue

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VIII

		(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512 - 514
Contributions, Gifts, Grants, and Other Similar Amounts	1a Federated campaigns				
	b Membership dues			2,653,273	
	c Fundraising events			43,106	
	d Related organizations				
	e Government grants (contributions)			589,560	
	f All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above			2,598,061	
	g Noncash contributions included in lines 1a - 1f:\$				
	h Total. Add lines 1a-1f				5,884,000

Program Service Revenue	Business Code		(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)
	2a Admissions	712130	20,458,577	20,458,577		
	b Auxiliary sales	712130	2,444,394	2,444,394		
	c Parking fees	712130	1,108,331	1,108,331		
	d Photography fees	712130	783,936	783,936		
	e Education program fees	712130	329,823	329,823		
	f All other program service revenue.					
	g Total. Add lines 2a-2f.		25,125,061			

Other Revenue	3 Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts)		1,579,656			1,579,656	
	4 Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds						
	5 Royalties						
	6a Gross rents	(i) Real	808,224				
		(ii) Personal					
		b Less: rental expenses	413,330				
		c Rental income or (loss)	394,894				
	d Net rental income or (loss)		394,894			394,894	
	7a Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	(i) Securities	5,891,439				
		(ii) Other					
		b Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses	5,746,757				
		c Gain or (loss)	144,682				
	d Net gain or (loss)		144,682			144,682	
	8a Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ 43,106 of contributions reported on line 1c). See Part IV, line 18						
		8a		127,500			
		b Less: direct expenses		42,633			
	c Net income or (loss) from fundraising events		84,867			84,867	
	9a Gross income from gaming activities. See Part IV, line 19						
9a							
b Less: direct expenses							
c Net income or (loss) from gaming activities							
10a Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances							
	10a		140,934				
	b Less: cost of goods sold		153,804				
c Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory		-12,870			-12,870		

Other Revenue Misc Amt	11a Contract services	Business Code				
		561000	214,750		214,750	
	b Sponsorship income	712130	258,674	258,674		
	c Other income	712130	542,834	542,834		
	d All other revenue					
	e Total. Add lines 11a-11d		1,016,258			
12 Total revenue. See instructions		34,216,548	25,926,569	214,750	2,191,229	

Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns. All other organizations must complete column (A).

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX

Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.	(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	(D) Fundraising expenses
1 Grants and other assistance to domestic organizations and domestic governments. See Part IV, line 21	0			
2 Grants and other assistance to domestic individuals. See Part IV, line 22	0			
3 Grants and other assistance to foreign organizations, foreign governments, and foreign individuals. See Part IV, lines 15 and 16.	0			
4 Benefits paid to or for members	0			
5 Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	1,439,241	205,488	1,049,454	184,299
6 Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)	0			
7 Other salaries and wages	10,506,482	8,235,101	1,834,214	437,167
8 Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions)	674,872	456,192	180,116	38,564
9 Other employee benefits	1,284,350	478,457	784,397	21,496
10 Payroll taxes	860,360	614,778	201,483	44,099
11 Fees for services (non-employees):				
a Management	0			
b Legal	3,036		3,036	
c Accounting	24,619		24,619	
d Lobbying	5,092			5,092
e Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17				
f Investment management fees	159,271		159,271	
g Other (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 11g expenses on Schedule O)	1,929,986	994,549	924,937	10,500
12 Advertising and promotion	1,858,223	1,852,903	1,819	3,501
13 Office expenses	80,286	18,849	60,546	891
14 Information technology	1,642,468	154,028	1,488,440	
15 Royalties	503,030	503,030		
16 Occupancy	2,447,003	2,004,149	442,854	
17 Travel	178,388	130,017	41,186	7,185
18 Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials	0			
19 Conferences, conventions, and meetings	153,883	111,889	31,101	10,893
20 Interest	236,034	229,320	6,714	
21 Payments to affiliates	0			
22 Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	4,037,175	3,779,591	257,584	
23 Insurance	314,211		314,211	
24 Other expenses. Itemize expenses not covered above (List miscellaneous expenses in line 24e. If line 24e amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 24e expenses on Schedule O.)				
a Operating supplies	638,905	617,343	21,136	426
b Repairs and maintenance	845,918	845,918		
c Speciman care	305,293	305,293		
d Professional fees and dues	114,824	47,063	63,065	4,696
e All other expenses	498,984	211,690	239,873	47,421
25 Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e	30,741,934	21,795,648	8,130,056	816,230
26 Joint costs. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720).				

Part X Balance Sheet

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX

		(A)		(B)
		Beginning of year		End of year
Assets	1 Cash-non-interest-bearing	1,149,238	1	1,087,665
	2 Savings and temporary cash investments	2,280,082	2	3,789,516
	3 Pledges and grants receivable, net	19,246	3	10,000
	4 Accounts receivable, net	986,960	4	1,544,361
	5 Loans and other receivables from any current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, creator or founder, substantial contributor, or 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons		5	
	6 Loans and other receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)), and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)		6	
	7 Notes and loans receivable, net		7	
	8 Inventories for sale or use		8	
	9 Prepaid expenses and deferred charges	918,604	9	839,374
	10a Land, buildings, and equipment: cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D	10a 142,468,035		
	b Less: accumulated depreciation	10b 94,481,478	45,724,077	10c 47,986,557
	11 Investments—publicly traded securities	35,006,061	11	37,204,805
	12 Investments—other securities. See Part IV, line 11		12	
	13 Investments—program-related. See Part IV, line 11		13	
	14 Intangible assets		14	
	15 Other assets. See Part IV, line 11		15	
16 Total assets: Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 33)	86,084,268	16	92,462,278	
Liabilities	17 Accounts payable and accrued expenses	2,360,474	17	2,585,956
	18 Grants payable		18	
	19 Deferred revenue	1,550,211	19	1,555,203
	20 Tax-exempt bond liabilities	12,653,361	20	11,737,609
	21 Escrow or custodial account liability. Complete Part IV of Schedule D		21	
	22 Loans and other payables to any current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, creator or founder, substantial contributor, or 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons		22	
	23 Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties	234,900	23	70,055
	24 Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties		24	
	25 Other liabilities (including federal income tax, payables to related third parties, and other liabilities not included on lines 17 - 24). Complete Part X of Schedule D	464,634	25	3,024,964
	26 Total liabilities: Add lines 17 through 25	17,263,580	26	18,973,787
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow FASB ASC 958, check here <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27, 28, 32, and 33.			
	27 Net assets without donor restrictions	67,883,368	27	70,851,798
	28 Net assets with donor restrictions	937,320	28	2,636,693
	Organizations that do not follow FASB ASC 958, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 29 through 33.			
	29 Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds		29	
	30 Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building or equipment fund		30	
	31 Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds		31	
	32 Total net assets or fund balances	68,820,688	32	73,488,491
	33 Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances	86,084,268	33	92,462,278

Part XI Reconciliation of Net Assets

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XI

1	Total revenue (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1	34,216,548
2	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	30,741,934
3	Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 2 from line 1	3	3,474,614
4	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 32, column (A))	4	68,820,688
5	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	5	1,193,189
6	Donated services and use of facilities	6	
7	Investment expenses	7	
8	Prior period adjustments	8	
9	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	9	
10	Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 32, column (A))	10	73,488,491

Part XII Financial Statements and Reporting

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XII

		Yes	No
1	Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990: <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accrual <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ If the organization changed its method of accounting from a prior year or checked "Other," explain on Schedule O.		
2a	Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant? If 'Yes,' check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were compiled or reviewed on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both: <input type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis		No
2b	Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant? If 'Yes,' check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were audited on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis	Yes	
2c	If "Yes," to line 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant? If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain in Schedule O.	Yes	
3a	As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Uniform Guidance, 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart F?		No
3b	If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits? If the organization did not undergo the required audit or audits, explain why in Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits.		

Additional Data

Return to Form

Software ID: 24019898

Software Version: 24.0.1.0

Form 990, Special Condition Description:

Special Condition Description

Public Charity Status and Public Support

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.
 Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.
 Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.

Name of the organization
Tennessee Aquarium

Employer identification number
58-1837154

Part I Reason for Public Charity Status (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions.

The organization is not a private foundation because it is: (For lines 1 through 12, check only one box.)

- 1 A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i)**.
- 2 A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)**. (Attach Schedule E (Form 990).)
- 3 A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**.
- 4 A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**. Enter the hospital's name, city, and state:

- 5 An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 6 A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v)**.
- 7 An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 8 A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 9 An agricultural research organization described in **170(b)(1)(A)(ix)** operated in conjunction with a land-grant college or university or a non-land grant college of agriculture. See instructions. Enter the name, city, and state of the college or university:
- 10 An organization that normally receives: (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions—subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975. See **section 509(a)(2)**. (Complete Part III.)
- 11 An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety. See **section 509(a)(4)**.
- 12 An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in **section 509(a)(1)** or **section 509(a)(2)**. See **section 509(a)(3)**. Check the box on lines 12a through 12d that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 12e, 12f, and 12g.
 - a **Type I.** A supporting organization operated, supervised, or controlled by its supported organization(s), typically by giving the supported organization(s) the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the directors or trustees of the supporting organization. **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and B.**
 - b **Type II.** A supporting organization supervised or controlled in connection with its supported organization(s), by having control or management of the supporting organization vested in the same persons that control or manage the supported organization(s). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and C.**
 - c **Type III functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with, and functionally integrated with, its supported organization(s) (see instructions). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A, D, and E.**
 - d **Type III non-functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with its supported organization(s) that is not functionally integrated. The organization generally must satisfy a distribution requirement and an attentiveness requirement (see instructions). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and D, and Part V.**
 - e Check this box if the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, Type III functionally integrated, or Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organization.
 - f Enter the number of supported organizations _____
 - g Provide the following information about the supported organization(s).

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1- 10 above (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization listed in your governing document?		(v) Amount of monetary support (see instructions)	(vi) Amount of other support (see instructions)
			Yes	No		
Total						

Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
 (Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III. If the organization failed to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2020	(b) 2021	(c) 2022	(d) 2023	(e) 2024	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grant.") . . .	7,078,261	13,739,814	3,999,600	4,245,690	5,884,000	34,947,365
2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge..						
4 Total. Add lines 1 through 3	7,078,261	13,739,814	3,999,600	4,245,690	5,884,000	34,947,365
5 The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f) . . .						
6 Public support. Subtract line 5 from line 4.						34,947,365

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2020	(b) 2021	(c) 2022	(d) 2023	(e) 2024	(f) Total
7 Amounts from line 4.	7,078,261	13,739,814	3,999,600	4,245,690	5,884,000	34,947,365
8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources	520,136	691,277	900,034	1,827,556	2,387,880	6,326,883
9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on.		79,813	46,859	44,763	41,033	212,468
10 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.)	755,583	711,025	741,542	755,922	975,225	3,939,297
11 Total support. Add lines 7 through 10						45,426,013
12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions)					12	106,403,079
13 First 5 years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here						<input type="checkbox"/>

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

14 Public support percentage for 2024 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f))	14	76.930 %
15 Public support percentage for 2023 Schedule A, Part II, line 14	15	79.260 %
16a 33 1/3% support test—2024. If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b 33 1/3% support test—2023. If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization		<input type="checkbox"/>
17a 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2024. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization		<input type="checkbox"/>
b 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2023. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization		<input type="checkbox"/>
18 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions		<input type="checkbox"/>

Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 10 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part II. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part II.)

Section A. Public Support

Table with 7 columns: (a) 2020, (b) 2021, (c) 2022, (d) 2023, (e) 2024, (f) Total. Rows include: 1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received; 2 Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed; 3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business; 4 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit; 5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit; 6 Total; 7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons; 7b Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons; 8 Public support.

Section B. Total Support

Table with 7 columns: (a) 2020, (b) 2021, (c) 2022, (d) 2023, (e) 2024, (f) Total. Rows include: 9 Amounts from line 6; 10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources; 10b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975; 11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included on line 10b; 12 Other income; 13 Total support; 14 First 5 years.

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

Table with 2 columns: Description, Percentage. Row 15: Public support percentage for 2024; Row 16: Public support percentage from 2023 Schedule A, Part III, line 15.

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage

Table with 2 columns: Description, Percentage. Row 17: Investment income percentage for 2024; Row 18: Investment income percentage from 2023 Schedule A, Part III, line 17; Row 19a: 33 1/3% support tests-2024; Row 19b: 33 1/3% support tests-2023; Row 20: Private foundation.

Part IV Supporting Organizations

(Complete only if you checked a box on line 12 of Part I. If you checked box 12a, of Part I, complete Sections A and B. If you checked box 12b, of Part I, complete Sections A and C. If you checked box 12c, of Part I, complete Sections A, D, and E. If you checked box 12d, of Part I, complete Sections A and D, and complete Part V.)

Section A. All Supporting Organizations

		Yes	No
1	Are all of the organization's supported organizations listed by name in the organization's governing documents? If "No," describe in Part VI how the supported organizations are designated. If designated by class or purpose, describe the designation. If historic and continuing relationship, explain.		
2	Did the organization have any supported organization that does not have an IRS determination of status under section 509(a)(1) or (2)? If "Yes," explain in Part VI how the organization determined that the supported organization was described in section 509(a)(1) or (2).		
3a	Did the organization have a supported organization described in section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6)? If "Yes," answer lines 3b and 3c below.		
b	Did the organization confirm that each supported organization qualified under section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6) and satisfied the public support tests under section 509(a)(2)? If "Yes," describe in Part VI when and how the organization made the determination.		
c	Did the organization ensure that all support to such organizations was used exclusively for section 170(c)(2)(B) purposes? If "Yes," explain in Part VI what controls the organization put in place to ensure such use.		
4a	Was any supported organization not organized in the United States ("foreign supported organization")? If "Yes" and if you checked box 12a or 12b in Part I, answer lines 4b and 4c below.		
b	Did the organization have ultimate control and discretion in deciding whether to make grants to the foreign supported organization? If "Yes," describe in Part VI how the organization had such control and discretion despite being controlled or supervised by or in connection with its supported organizations.		
c	Did the organization support any foreign supported organization that does not have an IRS determination under sections 501(c)(3) and 509(a)(1) or (2)? If "Yes," explain in Part VI what controls the organization used to ensure that all support to the foreign supported organization was used exclusively for section 170(c)(2)(B) purposes.		
5a	Did the organization add, substitute, or remove any supported organizations during the tax year? If "Yes," answer lines 5b and 5c below (if applicable). Also, provide detail in Part VI , including (i) the names and EIN numbers of the supported organizations added, substituted, or removed; (ii) the reasons for each such action; (iii) the authority under the organization's organizing document authorizing such action; and (iv) how the action was accomplished (such as by amendment to the organizing document).		
b	Type I or Type II only. Was any added or substituted supported organization part of a class already designated in the organization's organizing document?		
c	Substitutions only. Was the substitution the result of an event beyond the organization's control?		
6	Did the organization provide support (whether in the form of grants or the provision of services or facilities) to anyone other than (i) its supported organizations, (ii) individuals that are part of the charitable class benefited by one or more of its supported organizations, or (iii) other supporting organizations that also support or benefit one or more of the filing organization's supported organizations? If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI .		
7	Did the organization provide a grant, loan, compensation, or other similar payment to a substantial contributor (defined in section 4958(c)(3)(C)), a family member of a substantial contributor, or a 35% controlled entity with regard to a substantial contributor? If "Yes," complete Part I of Schedule L (Form 990).		
8	Did the organization make a loan to a disqualified person (as defined in section 4958) not described on line 7? If "Yes," complete Part I of Schedule L (Form 990).		
9a	Was the organization controlled directly or indirectly at any time during the tax year by one or more disqualified persons, as defined in section 4946 (other than foundation managers and organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or (2))? If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI .		
b	Did one or more disqualified persons (as defined on line 9a) hold a controlling interest in any entity in which the supporting organization had an interest? If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI .		
c	Did a disqualified person (as defined on line 9a) have an ownership interest in, or derive any personal benefit from, assets in which the supporting organization also had an interest? If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI .		
10a	Was the organization subject to the excess business holdings rules of section 4943 because of section 4943(f) (regarding certain Type II supporting organizations, and all Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organizations)? If "Yes," answer line 10b below.		
b	Did the organization have any excess business holdings in the tax year? (Use Schedule C, Form 4720, to determine whether the organization had excess business holdings).		

Part IV Supporting Organizations (continued)

		Yes	No
11	Has the organization accepted a gift or contribution from any of the following persons?		
a	A person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described on lines 11b and 11c below, the governing body of a supported organization?		
11a			
b	A family member of a person described on 11a above?		
11b			
c	A 35% controlled entity of a person described on line 11a or 11b above? <i>If "Yes" to 11a, 11b, or 11c, provide detail in Part VI</i>		
11c			

Section B. Type I Supporting Organizations

		Yes	No
1	Did the officers, directors, trustees, or membership of one or more supported organizations have the power to regularly appoint or elect at least a majority of the organization's directors or trustees at all times during the tax year? <i>If "No," describe in Part VI how the supported organization(s) effectively operated, supervised, or controlled the organization's activities. If the organization had more than one supported organization, describe how the powers to appoint and/or remove directors or trustees were allocated among the supported organizations and what conditions or restrictions, if any, applied to such powers during the tax year.</i>		
1			
2	Did the organization operate for the benefit of any supported organization other than the supported organization(s) that operated, supervised, or controlled the supporting organization? <i>If "Yes," explain in Part VI how providing such benefit carried out the purposes of the supported organization(s) that operated, supervised or controlled the supporting organization.</i>		
2			

Section C. Type II Supporting Organizations

		Yes	No
1	Were a majority of the organization's directors or trustees during the tax year also a majority of the directors or trustees of each of the organization's supported organization(s)? <i>If "No," describe in Part VI how control or management of the supporting organization was vested in the same persons that controlled or managed the supported organization(s).</i>		
1			

Section D. All Type III Supporting Organizations

		Yes	No
1	Did the organization provide to each of its supported organizations, by the last day of the fifth month of the organization's tax year, (i) a written notice describing the type and amount of support provided during the prior tax year, (ii) a copy of the Form 990 that was most recently filed as of the date of notification, and (iii) copies of the organization's governing documents in effect on the date of notification, to the extent not previously provided?		
1			
2	Were any of the organization's officers, directors, or trustees either (i) appointed or elected by the supported organization(s) or (ii) serving on the governing body of a supported organization? <i>If "No," explain in Part VI how the organization maintained a close and continuous working relationship with the supported organization(s).</i>		
2			
3	By reason of the relationship described in line 2 above, did the organization's supported organizations have a significant voice in the organization's investment policies and in directing the use of the organization's income or assets at all times during the tax year? <i>If "Yes," describe in Part VI the role the organization's supported organizations played in this regard.</i>		
3			

Section E. Type III Functionally-Integrated Supporting Organizations

1	Check the box next to the method that the organization used to satisfy the Integral Part Test during the year (see instructions):		
a	<input type="checkbox"/> The organization satisfied the Activities Test. Complete line 2 below.		
b	<input type="checkbox"/> The organization is the parent of each of its supported organizations. Complete line 3 below.		
c	<input type="checkbox"/> The organization supported a governmental entity. Describe in Part VI how you supported a government entity (see instructions)		
2	Activities Test. Answer lines 2a and 2b below.		
a	Did substantially all of the organization's activities during the tax year directly further the exempt purposes of the supported organization(s) to which the organization was responsive? <i>If "Yes," then in Part VI identify those supported organizations and explain how these activities directly furthered their exempt purposes, how the organization was responsive to those supported organizations, and how the organization determined that these activities constituted substantially all of its activities.</i>		
2a			
b	Did the activities described on line 2a, above constitute activities that, but for the organization's involvement, one or more of the organization's supported organization(s) would have been engaged in? <i>If "Yes," explain in Part VI the reasons for the organization's position that its supported organization(s) would have engaged in these activities but for the organization's involvement.</i>		
2b			
3	Parent of Supported Organizations. Answer lines 3a and 3b below.		
a	Did the organization have the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the officers, directors, or trustees of each of the supported organizations? <i>If "Yes" or "No", provide details in Part VI.</i>		
3a			
b	Did the organization exercise a substantial degree of direction over the policies, programs and activities of each of its supported organizations? <i>If "Yes," describe in Part VI. the role played by the organization in this regard.</i>		
3b			

Part V Type III Non-Functionally Integrated 509(a)(3) Supporting Organizations

- 1** Check here if the organization satisfied the Integral Part Test as a qualifying trust on Nov. 20, 1970 (*explain in Part VI*). See instructions. All other Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organizations must complete Sections A through E.

Section A - Adjusted Net Income

(A) Prior Year

(B) Current Year
(optional)

- | | | | |
|---|----------|--|--|
| 1 Net short-term capital gain | 1 | | |
| 2 Recoveries of prior-year distributions | 2 | | |
| 3 Other gross income (see instructions) | 3 | | |
| 4 Add lines 1 through 3 | 4 | | |
| 5 Depreciation and depletion | 5 | | |
| 6 Portion of operating expenses paid or incurred for production or collection of gross income or for management, conservation, or maintenance of property held for production of income (see instructions) | 6 | | |
| 7 Other expenses (see instructions) | 7 | | |
| 8 Adjusted Net Income (subtract lines 5, 6 and 7 from line 4) | 8 | | |

Section B - Minimum Asset Amount

(A) Prior Year

(B) Current Year
(optional)

- | | | | |
|--|-----------|--|--|
| 1 Aggregate fair market value of all non-exempt-use assets (see instructions for short tax year or assets held for part of year): | 1 | | |
| a Average monthly value of securities | 1a | | |
| b Average monthly cash balances | 1b | | |
| c Fair market value of other non-exempt-use assets | 1c | | |
| d Total (add lines 1a, 1b, and 1c) | 1d | | |
| e Discount claimed for blockage or other factors (<i>explain in detail in Part VI</i>): | | | |
| 2 Acquisition indebtedness applicable to non-exempt use assets | 2 | | |
| 3 Subtract line 2 from line 1d | 3 | | |
| 4 Cash deemed held for exempt use. Enter 0.015 of line 3 (for greater amount, see instructions). | 4 | | |
| 5 Net value of non-exempt-use assets (subtract line 4 from line 3) | 5 | | |
| 6 Multiply line 5 by 0.035 | 6 | | |
| 7 Recoveries of prior-year distributions | 7 | | |
| 8 Minimum Asset Amount (add line 7 to line 6) | 8 | | |

Section C - Distributable Amount

Current Year

- | | | |
|--|----------|--|
| 1 Adjusted net income for prior year (from Section A, line 8, Column A) | 1 | |
| 2 Enter 85% of line 1 | 2 | |
| 3 Minimum asset amount for prior year (from Section B, line 8, Column A) | 3 | |
| 4 Enter greater of line 2 or line 3 | 4 | |
| 5 Income tax imposed in prior year | 5 | |
| 6 Distributable Amount. Subtract line 5 from line 4, unless subject to emergency temporary reduction (see instructions) | 6 | |

- 7** Check here if the current year is the organization's first as a non-functionally-integrated Type III supporting organization (see instructions)

Part V Type III Non-Functionally Integrated 509(a)(3) Supporting Organizations

(continued)

Section D - Distributions		Current Year
1 Amounts paid to supported organizations to accomplish exempt purposes	1	
2 Amounts paid to perform activity that directly furthers exempt purposes of supported organizations, in excess of income from activity	2	
3 Administrative expenses paid to accomplish exempt purposes of supported organizations	3	
4 Amounts paid to acquire exempt-use assets	4	
5 Qualified set-aside amounts (prior IRS approval required - provide details in Part VI)	5	
6 Other distributions (describe in Part VI). See instructions	6	
7 Total annual distributions. Add lines 1 through 6.	7	
8 Distributions to attentive supported organizations to which the organization is responsive (provide details in Part VI). See instructions	8	
9 Distributable amount for 2024 from Section C, line 6	9	
10 Line 8 amount divided by Line 9 amount	10	

Section E - Distribution Allocations (see instructions)	(i) Excess Distributions	(ii) Underdistributions Pre-2024	(iii) Distributable Amount for 2024
1 Distributable amount for 2024 from Section C, line 6			
2 Underdistributions, if any, for years prior to 2024 (reasonable cause required-- explain in Part VI). See instructions.			
3 Excess distributions carryover, if any, to 2024:			
a From 2019.			
b From 2020.			
c From 2021.			
d From 2022.			
e From 2023.			
f Total of lines 3a through e			
g Applied to underdistributions of prior years			
h Applied to 2024 distributable amount			
i Carryover from 2019 not applied (see instructions)			
j Remainder. Subtract lines 3g, 3h, and 3i from line 3f.			
4 Distributions for 2024 from Section D, line 7: \$			
a Applied to underdistributions of prior years			
b Applied to 2024 distributable amount			
c Remainder. Subtract lines 4a and 4b from line 4.			
5 Remaining underdistributions for years prior to 2024, if any. Subtract lines 3g and 4a from line 2. If the amount is greater than zero, explain in Part VI . See instructions.			
6 Remaining underdistributions for 2024. Subtract lines 3h and 4b from line 1. If the amount is greater than zero, explain in Part VI . See instructions.			
7 Excess distributions carryover to 2025. Add lines 3j and 4c.			
8 Breakdown of line 7:			
a Excess from 2020.			
b Excess from 2021.			
c Excess from 2022.			
d Excess from 2023.			
e Excess from 2024.			

Part VI Supplemental Information. Provide the explanations required by Part II, line 10; Part II, line 17a or 17b; Part III, line 12; Part IV, Section A, lines 1, 2, 3b, 3c, 4b, 4c, 5a, 6, 9a, 9b, 9c, 11a, 11b, and 11c; Part IV, Section B, lines 1 and 2; Part IV, Section C, line 1; Part IV, Section D, lines 2 and 3; Part IV, Section E, lines 1c, 2a, 2b, 3a and 3b; Part V, line 1; Part V, Section B, line 1e; Part V Section D, lines 5, 6, and 8; and Part V, Section E, lines 2, 5, and 6. Also complete this part for any additional information. (See instructions).

Facts And Circumstances Test

Part II Section B Line 10 Miscellaneous revenue as reported on Part VIII Statement of Revenue on Form 990, less net unrelated business income reported on Sch A, Part II, Section B, Line 9 as calculated on our Form 990-T.

Return Reference

Explanation

Additional Data

Return to Form

Software ID: 24019898

Software Version: 24.0.1.0

Schedule of Contributors

▶ Attach to Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF.
 ▶ Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for the latest information.

Name of the organization Tennessee Aquarium	Employer identification number 58-1837154
--	---

Organization type (check one):

Filers of:

Section:

- Form 990 or 990-EZ
 - 501(c)() (enter number) organization
 - 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust **not** treated as a private foundation
 - 527 political organization
- Form 990-PF
 - 501(c)(3) exempt private foundation
 - 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust treated as a private foundation
 - 501(c)(3) taxable private foundation

Check if your organization is covered by the **General Rule** or a **Special Rule**.
Note: Only a section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) organization can check boxes for both the General Rule and a Special Rule. See instructions.

General Rule

- For an organization filing Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF that received, during the year, contributions totaling \$5,000 or more (in money or other property) from any one contributor. Complete Parts I and II. See instructions for determining a contributor's total contributions.

Special Rules

- For an organization described in section 501(c)(3) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that met the 33¹/₃% support test of the regulations under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi), that checked Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ), Part II, line 13, 16a, or 16b, and that received from any one contributor, during the year, total contributions of the greater of (1) \$5,000 or (2) 2% of the amount on (i) Form 990, Part VIII, line 1h, or (ii) Form 990-EZ, line 1. Complete Parts I and II.
- For an organization described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that received from any one contributor, during the year, total contributions of more than \$1,000 *exclusively* for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals. Complete Parts I, II, and III.
- For an organization described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that received from any one contributor, during the year, contributions *exclusively* for religious, charitable, etc., purposes, but no such contributions totaled more than \$1,000. If this box is checked, enter here the total contributions that were received during the year for an *exclusively* religious, charitable, etc., purpose. Don't complete any of the parts unless the **General Rule** applies to this organization because it received *nonexclusively* religious, charitable, etc., contributions totaling \$5,000 or more during the year ▶ \$ _____

Caution: An organization that isn't covered by the General Rule and/or the Special Rules doesn't file Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF), but it **must** answer "No" on Part IV, line 2, of its Form 990; or check the box on line H of its Form 990-EZ or on its Form 990PF, Part I, line 2, to certify that it doesn't meet the filing requirements of Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).

Name of organization
Tennessee Aquarium

Employer identification number
58-1837154

Part I

Contributors (see instructions). Use duplicate copies of Part I if additional space is needed.

(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
RESTRICTED		\$ RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
-		\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
-		\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
-		\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
-		\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
-		\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
-		\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)

Name of organization
Tennessee Aquarium

Employer identification number
58-1837154

Part II Noncash Property (see instructions). Use duplicate copies of Part II if additional space is needed.

(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (See instructions)	(d) Date received
-	_____ _____ _____	_____ \$	_____
-	_____ _____ _____	_____ \$	_____
-	_____ _____ _____	_____ \$	_____
-	_____ _____ _____	_____ \$	_____
-	_____ _____ _____	_____ \$	_____
-	_____ _____ _____	_____ \$	_____
-	_____ _____ _____	_____ \$	_____
-	_____ _____ _____	_____ \$	_____
-	_____ _____ _____	_____ \$	_____

Name of organization Tennessee Aquarium	Employer identification number 58-1837154
--	---

Part III *Exclusively religious, charitable, etc., contributions to organizations described in section 501(c) (7), (8), or (10) that total more than \$1,000 for the year from any one contributor.* Complete columns (a) through (e) and the following line entry. For organizations completing Part III, enter the total of *exclusively* religious, charitable, etc., contributions of **\$1,000 or less** for the year. (Enter this information once. See instructions.) \$ _____
Use duplicate copies of Part III if additional space is needed.

(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
	_____ _____	_____ _____	_____ _____
(e) Transfer of gift			
Transferee's name, address, and ZIP 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee	
	_____ _____	_____ _____	
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
	_____ _____	_____ _____	_____ _____
(e) Transfer of gift			
Transferee's name, address, and ZIP 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee	
	_____ _____	_____ _____	
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
	_____ _____	_____ _____	_____ _____
(e) Transfer of gift			
Transferee's name, address, and ZIP 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee	
	_____ _____	_____ _____	
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
	_____ _____	_____ _____	_____ _____
(e) Transfer of gift			
Transferee's name, address, and ZIP 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee	
	_____ _____	_____ _____	

Additional Data

[Return to Form](#)

Software ID: 24019898

Software Version: 24.0.1.0

SCHEDULE D
(Form 990)

Supplemental Financial Statements

OMB No. 1545-0047

(Rev. January 2025)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

▶ **Complete if the organization answered "Yes," on Form 990, Part IV, line 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e, 11f, 12a, or 12b.**

▶ **Attach to Form 990.**

▶ **Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.**

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
Tennessee Aquarium

Employer identification number

58-1837154

Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

	(a) Donor advised funds	(b) Funds and other accounts
1 Total number at end of year		
2 Aggregate value of contributions to (during year)		
3 Aggregate value of grants from (during year)		
4 Aggregate value at end of year		
5 Did the organization inform all donors and donor advisors in writing that the assets held in donor advised funds are the organization's property, subject to the organization's exclusive legal control?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
6 Did the organization inform all grantees, donors, and donor advisors in writing that grant funds can be used only for charitable purposes and not for the benefit of the donor or donor advisor, or for any other purpose conferring impermissible private benefit?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

Part II Conservation Easements.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

1 Purpose(s) of conservation easements held by the organization (check all that apply). <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation of land for public use (e.g., recreation or education) <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation of an historically important land area <input type="checkbox"/> Protection of natural habitat <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation of a certified historic structure <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation of open space	
2 Complete lines 2a through 2d if the organization held a qualified conservation contribution in the form of a conservation easement on the last day of the tax year.	Held at the End of the Year
a Total number of conservation easements	2a
b Total acreage restricted by conservation easements	2b
c Number of conservation easements on a certified historic structure included in (a)	2c
d Number of conservation easements included in (c) acquired after July 25, 2006, and not on a historic structure listed in the National Register	2d
3 Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, released, extinguished, or terminated by the organization during the tax year ▶ _____	
4 Number of states where property subject to conservation easement is located ▶ _____	
5 Does the organization have a written policy regarding the periodic monitoring, inspection, handling of violations, and enforcement of the conservation easements it holds?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
6 Staff and volunteer hours devoted to monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year ▶ _____	
7 Amount of expenses incurred in monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year ▶ \$ _____	
8 Does each conservation easement reported on line 2(d) above satisfy the requirements of section 170(h)(4)(B)(i) and section 170(h)(4)(B)(ii)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
9 In Part XIII, describe how the organization reports conservation easements in its revenue and expense statement, and balance sheet, and include, if applicable, the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that describes the organization's accounting for conservation easements.	

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

1a If the organization elected, as permitted under FASB ASC 958, not to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide, in Part XIII, the text of the footnote to its financial statements that describes these items.	
b If the organization elected, as permitted under FASB ASC 958, to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide the following amounts relating to these items: (i) Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 ▶ \$ _____ (ii) Assets included in Form 990, Part X ▶ \$ _____	
2 If the organization received or held works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets for financial gain, provide the following amounts required to be reported under FASB ASC 958 relating to these items: a Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 ▶ \$ _____ b Assets included in Form 990, Part X ▶ \$ _____	

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets (continued)

- 3** Using the organization's acquisition, accession, and other records, check any of the following that are a significant use of its collection items (check all that apply):
- a** Public exhibition
 - b** Scholarly research
 - c** Preservation for future generations
 - d** Loan or exchange programs
 - e** Other
- 4** Provide a description of the organization's collections and explain how they further the organization's exempt purpose in Part XIII.
- 5** During the year, did the organization solicit or receive donations of art, historical treasures or other similar assets to be sold to raise funds rather than to be maintained as part of the organization's collection? . . . **Yes** **No**

Part IV Escrow and Custodial Arrangements.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 9, or reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21.

- 1a** Is the organization an agent, trustee, custodian or other intermediary for contributions or other assets not included on Form 990, Part X? **Yes** **No**
- b** If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII and complete the following table:
- | | Amount |
|--|-----------|
| c Beginning balance | 1c |
| d Additions during the year | 1d |
| e Distributions during the year | 1e |
| f Ending balance | 1f |
- 2a** Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21, for escrow or custodial account liability? **Yes** **No**
- b** If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII. Check here if the explanation has been provided in Part XIII

Part V Endowment Funds.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 10.

	(a) Current year	(b) Prior year	(c) Two years back	(d) Three years back	(e) Four years back
1a Beginning of year balance	11,458,726	6,571,415	8,182,744	7,177,157	6,763,501
b Contributions	326,005	3,478,600	5,000		
c Net investment earnings, gains, and losses	1,531,794	1,408,711	-1,323,329	1,267,967	614,656
d Grants or scholarships					
e Other expenditures for facilities and programs			293,000	262,380	201,000
f Administrative expenses					
g End of year balance	13,316,525	11,458,726	6,571,415	8,182,744	7,177,157

- 2** Provide the estimated percentage of the current year end balance (line 1g, column (a)) held as:
- a** Board designated or quasi-endowment ▶ 98.000 %
 - b** Permanent endowment ▶ 2.000 %
 - c** Term endowment ▶
- The percentages on lines 2a, 2b, and 2c should equal 100%.
- 3a** Are there endowment funds not in the possession of the organization that are held and administered for the organization by:
- | | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| (i) Unrelated organizations | | No |
| (ii) Related organizations | | No |
| b If "Yes" on 3a(ii), are the related organizations listed as required on Schedule R? | | |
- 4** Describe in Part XIII the intended uses of the organization's endowment funds.

Part VI Land, Buildings, and Equipment.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11a. See Form 990, Part X, line 10.

Description of property	(a) Cost or other basis (investment)	(b) Cost or other basis (other)	(c) Accumulated depreciation	(d) Book value
1a Land		4,484,445		4,484,445
b Buildings		115,187,745	77,964,101	37,223,644
c Leasehold improvements		133,312	133,312	
d Equipment		22,662,533	16,384,065	6,278,468
e Other				
Total. Add lines 1a through 1e. (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c).) . . . ▶				47,986,557

Part VII Investments - Other Securities.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11b. See Form 990, Part X, line 12.

(a) Description of security or category (including name of security)	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation: Cost or end-of-year market value
(1) Financial derivatives		
(2) Closely-held equity interests		
(3) Other _____		
(A) Financial derivatives and other financial products		
(B) Closely-held equity interests		
(B)		
(C)		
(D)		
(E)		
(F)		
(G)		
(H)		
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col. (B) line 12.)		

Part VIII Investments - Program Related.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11c. See Form 990, Part X, line 13.

(a) Description of investment	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation: Cost or end-of-year market value
(1)		
(2)		
(3)		
(4)		
(5)		
(6)		
(7)		
(8)		
(9)		
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col.(B) line 13.)		

Part IX Other Assets.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11d. See Form 990, Part X, line 15.

(a) Description	(b) Book value
(1)	
(2)	
(3)	
(4)	
(5)	
(6)	
(7)	
(8)	
(9)	
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col.(B) line 15.)	

Part X Other Liabilities.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11e or 11f. See Form 990, Part X, line 25.

1. (a) Description of liability	(b) Book value
(1) Federal income taxes	
Federal income taxes	
Long term portion of operating leases	3,024,964
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col.(B) line 25.)	3,024,964

2. Liability for uncertain tax positions. In Part XIII, provide the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that reports the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740). Check here if the text of the footnote has been provided in Part XIII

Part XI Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return.

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

1	Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements		1	35,860,233
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12:			
a	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	2a	1,193,189	
b	Donated services and use of facilities	2b		
c	Recoveries of prior year grants	2c		
d	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	2d		
e	Add lines 2a through 2d	2e	1,193,189	
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1	3	34,667,044	
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, but not on line 1 :			
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a	159,271	
b	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	4b	-609,767	
c	Add lines 4a and 4b	4c	-450,496	
5	Total revenue. Add lines 3 and 4c . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 12.)	5	34,216,548	

Part XII Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expenses per Return.

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

1	Total expenses and losses per audited financial statements		1	31,192,430
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part IX, line 25:			
a	Donated services and use of facilities	2a		
b	Prior year adjustments	2b		
c	Other losses	2c		
d	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	2d		
e	Add lines 2a through 2d	2e		
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1	3	31,192,430	
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part IX, line 25, but not on line 1 :			
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a	159,271	
b	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	4b	-609,767	
c	Add lines 4a and 4b	4c	-450,496	
5	Total expenses. Add lines 3 and 4c . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 18.)	5	30,741,934	

Part XIII Supplemental Information

Provide the descriptions required for Part II, lines 3, 5, and 9; Part III, lines 1a and 4; Part IV, lines 1b and 2b; Part V, line 4; Part X, line 2; Part XI, lines 2d and 4b; and Part XII, lines 2d and 4b. Also complete this part to provide any additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
XI 4b	Expenses deducted from revenue in 990, Part VIII - Line 10b Cost of Goods Sold 153,804 Line 6b Facility rental expenses 413,330 Line 8b Fundraising event expenses 42,633.
XII 4b	Expenses deducted from revenue in 990, Part VIII - Line 10b Cost of Goods Sold 153,804 Line 6b Facility rental expenses 413,330 Line 8b Fundraising event expenses 42,633.
X 2	The Aquarium is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501c3 of the Internal Revenue Code. The Aquarium believes that it has appropriate support for any tax positions taken, and as such, does not have any uncertain tax positions that are material to the financial statements. The Aquariums federal exempt organization tax returns are subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service, generally for three years after they are filed.

Additional Data

[Return to Form](#)

Software ID: 24019898

Software Version: 24.0.1.0

Supplemental Information Regarding
Fundraising or Gaming Activities

OMB No. 1545-0047

Open to Public
Inspection

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, lines 17, 18, or 19, or if the organization entered more than \$15,000 on Form 990-EZ, line 6a.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

▶ Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization
Tennessee Aquarium

Employer identification number

58-1837154

Part I Fundraising Activities. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 17. Form 990-EZ filers are not required to complete this part.

1 Indicate whether the organization raised funds through any of the following activities. Check all that apply.

- | | |
|---|--|
| a <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mail solicitations | e <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Solicitation of non-government grants |
| b <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Internet and email solicitations | f <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Solicitation of government grants |
| c <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phone solicitations | g <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Special fundraising events |
| d <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In-person solicitations | |

2a Did the organization have a written or oral agreement with any individual (including officers, directors, trustees or key employees listed in Form 990, Part VII) or entity in connection with professional fundraising services? Yes No

b If "Yes," list the 10 highest paid individuals or entities (fundraisers) pursuant to agreements under which the fundraiser is to be compensated at least \$5,000 by the organization.

(i) Name and address of individual or entity (fundraiser)	(ii) Activity	(iii) Did fundraiser have custody or control of contributions?		(iv) Gross receipts from activity	(v) Amount paid to (or retained by) fundraiser listed in col. (i)	(vi) Amount paid to (or retained by) organization
		Yes	No			
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
Total						

3 List all states in which the organization is registered or licensed to solicit contributions or has been notified it is exempt from registration or licensing.

All States

Part II Fundraising Events. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 18, or reported more than \$15,000 of fundraising event contributions and gross income on Form 990-EZ, lines 1 and 6b. List events with gross receipts greater than \$5,000.

Revenue		(a) Event #1	(b) Event #2	(c) Other events	(d) Total events
		<u>Serve and Protect</u> (event type)	_____ (event type)	_____ (total number)	(add col. (a) through col. (c))
Revenue	1 Gross receipts	170,606			170,606
	2 Less: Contributions	43,106			43,106
	3 Gross income (line 1 minus line 2)	127,500			127,500
Direct Expenses	4 Cash prizes				
	5 Noncash prizes				
	6 Rent/facility costs				
	7 Food and beverages	36,230			36,230
	8 Entertainment				
	9 Other direct expenses	6,403			6,403
	10 Direct expense summary. Add lines 4 through 9 in column (d) ▶				42,633
11 Net income summary. Subtract line 10 from line 3, column (d) ▶				84,867	

Part III Gaming. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 19, or reported more than \$15,000 on Form 990-EZ, line 6a.

Revenue		(a) Bingo	(b) Pull tabs/Instant bingo/progressive bingo	(c) Other gaming	(d) Total gaming (add col.(a) through col.(c))
Revenue	1 Gross revenue				
Direct Expenses	2 Cash prizes				
	3 Noncash prizes				
	4 Rent/facility costs				
	5 Other direct expenses				
	6 Volunteer labor	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ % .. <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ % .. <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ % .. <input type="checkbox"/> No	
	7 Direct expense summary. Add lines 2 through 5 in column (d) ▶				
	8 Net gaming income summary. Subtract line 7 from line 1, column (d) ▶				

9 Enter the state(s) in which the organization conducts gaming activities:

a Is the organization licensed to conduct gaming activities in each of these states? Yes No

b If "No," explain: _____

10a Were any of the organization's gaming licenses revoked, suspended or terminated during the tax year? Yes No

b If "Yes," explain: _____

11 Does the organization conduct gaming activities with nonmembers? Yes No

12 Is the organization a grantor, beneficiary or trustee of a trust or a member of a partnership or other entity formed to administer charitable gaming? Yes No

13 Indicate the percentage of gaming activity conducted in:

a	The organization's facility	13a	%
b	An outside facility	13b	%

14 Enter the name and address of the person who prepares the organization's gaming/special events books and records:

Name ▶ -----

Address ▶ -----

15a Does the organization have a contract with a third party from whom the organization receives gaming revenue? Yes No

b If "Yes," enter the amount of gaming revenue received by the organization ▶ \$ _____ and the amount of gaming revenue retained by the third party ▶ \$ _____.

c If "Yes," enter name and address of the third party:

Name ▶ -----

Address ▶ -----

16 Gaming manager information:

Name ▶ -----

Gaming manager compensation ▶ \$ -----

Description of services provided ▶ -----

Director/officer Employee Independent contractor

17 Mandatory distributions:

a Is the organization required under state law to make charitable distributions from the gaming proceeds to retain the state gaming license? Yes No

b Enter the amount of distributions required under state law distributed to other exempt organizations or spent in the organization's own exempt activities during the tax year ▶ \$ _____

Part IV Supplemental Information. Provide the explanations required by Part I, line 2b, columns (iii) and (v); and Part III, lines 9, 9b, 10b, 15b, 15c, 16, and 17b, as applicable. Also provide any additional information. See Instructions.

Return Reference	Explanation
------------------	-------------

Additional Data

Schedule J
(Form 990)

Compensation Information

OMB No. 1545-0047

(Rev. January 2025)

For certain Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

- ▶ **Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 23.**
- ▶ **Attach to Form 990.**
- ▶ **Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.**

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization
Tennessee Aquarium

Employer identification number
58-1837154

Part I Questions Regarding Compensation

1a Check the appropriate box(es) if the organization provided any of the following to or for a person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a. Complete Part III to provide any relevant information regarding these items.

<input type="checkbox"/> First-class or charter travel	<input type="checkbox"/> Housing allowance or residence for personal use
<input type="checkbox"/> Travel for companions	<input type="checkbox"/> Payments for business use of personal residence
<input type="checkbox"/> Tax idemnification and gross-up payments	<input type="checkbox"/> Health or social club dues or initiation fees
<input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary spending account	<input type="checkbox"/> Personal services (e.g., maid, chauffeur, chef)

b If any of the boxes on Line 1a are checked, did the organization follow a written policy regarding payment or reimbursement or provision of all of the expenses described above? If "No," complete Part III to explain

2 Did the organization require substantiation prior to reimbursing or allowing expenses incurred by all directors, trustees, officers, including the CEO/Executive Director, regarding the items checked on Line 1a?

3 Indicate which, if any, of the following the filing organization used to establish the compensation of the organization's CEO/Executive Director. Check all that apply. Do not check any boxes for methods used by a related organization to establish compensation of the CEO/Executive Director, but explain in Part III.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Compensation committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Written employment contract |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Independent compensation consultant | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compensation survey or study |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form 990 of other organizations | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval by the board or compensation committee |

4 During the year, did any person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, with respect to the filing organization or a related organization:

- a** Receive a severance payment or change-of-control payment?
 - b** Participate in, or receive payment from, a supplemental nonqualified retirement plan?
 - c** Participate in, or receive payment from, an equity-based compensation arrangement?
- If "Yes" to any of lines 4a-c, list the persons and provide the applicable amounts for each item in Part III.

Only 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations must complete lines 5-9.

5 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the revenues of:

- a** The organization?
 - b** Any related organization?
- If "Yes," on line 5a or 5b, describe in Part III.

6 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the net earnings of:

- a** The organization?
 - b** Any related organization?
- If "Yes," on line 6a or 6b, describe in Part III.

7 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization provide any nonfixed payments not described in lines 5 and 6? If "Yes," describe in Part III

8 Were any amounts reported on Form 990, Part VII, paid or accrued pursuant to a contract that was subject to the initial contract exception described in Regulations section 53.4958-4(a)(3)? If "Yes," describe in Part III

9 If "Yes" on line 8, did the organization also follow the rebuttable presumption procedure described in Regulations section 53.4958-6(c)?

	Yes	No
1a		
1b		
2		
3		
4a		No
4b		No
4c		No
5a		No
5b		No
6a		No
6b		No
7		No
8		No
9		

Part II Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees. Use duplicate copies if additional space is needed.

For each individual whose compensation must be reported on Schedule J, report compensation from the organization on row (i) and from related organizations, described in the instructions, on row (ii). Do not list any individuals that are not listed on Form 990, Part VII.

Note. The sum of columns (B)(i)-(iii) for each listed individual must equal the total amount of Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, applicable column (D) and (E) amounts for that individual.

(A) Name and Title		(B) Breakdown of W-2, 1099-MISC compensation, and/or 1099-NEC			(C) Retirement and other deferred compensation	(D) Nontaxable benefits	(E) Total of columns (B)(i)-(D)	(F) Compensation in column (B) reported as deferred on prior Form 990
		(i) Base compensation	(ii) Bonus & incentive compensation	(iii) Other reportable compensation				
1 Walter K Sanford President, CEO	(i)	290,185	24,048		22,726	20,747	357,706	
	(ii)	-----	-----	-----	---	-----	-----	---
2 Gordon Stalans Vice President, CFO	(i)	232,243	30,604		19,070	19,511	301,428	
	(ii)	-----	-----	-----	---	-----	-----	---
3 Julie Piper Vice President	(i)	164,424	19,038		12,995	3,495	199,952	
	(ii)	-----	-----	-----	---	-----	-----	---
4 Anna George Vice President	(i)	158,680	13,540		12,757	20,511	205,488	
	(ii)	-----	-----	-----	---	-----	-----	---
5 Melanie King Vice President	(i)	153,770	13,158		11,695	5,676	184,299	
	(ii)	-----	-----	-----	---	-----	-----	---
6 Thom Benson Vice President	(i)	149,612	11,086		11,823	17,847	190,368	
	(ii)	-----	-----	-----	---	-----	-----	---
7 Thom Demas Vice President	(i)	137,245	10,870		10,717	10,526	169,358	
	(ii)	-----	-----	-----	---	-----	-----	---
8 Pete Burman Director	(i)	125,388	17,024		10,278	10,502	163,192	
	(ii)	-----	-----	-----	---	-----	-----	---
9 Micheal Floyd Vice President	(i)	130,013	11,744		10,286	15,278	167,321	
	(ii)	-----	-----	-----	---	-----	-----	---
10 Rodney Fuller Director	(i)	123,402	7,809		9,616	16,481	157,308	
	(ii)	-----	-----	-----	---	-----	-----	---

Part III Supplemental Information

Provide the information, explanation, or descriptions required for Part I, lines 1a, 1b, 3, 4a, 4b, 4c, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 7, and 8, and for Part II. Also complete this part for any additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
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Additional Data

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Note: To capture the full content of this document, please select landscape mode (11" x 8.5") when printing.

Schedule K (Form 990)

(Rev. January 2025)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information on Tax-Exempt Bonds

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part VI, line 24a. Provide descriptions, explanations, and any additional information in Part VI.

Attach to Form 990.

Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
Tennessee Aquarium

Employer identification number

58-1837154

Part I Bond Issues

	(a) Issuer name	(b) Issuer EIN	(c) CUSIP #	(d) Date issued	(e) Issue price	(f) Description of purpose	(g) Defeased		(h) On behalf of issuer		(i) Pool financing	
							Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
A	Industrial Development Board of Hamilton County TN	52-1303489		05-26-2020	15,841,139	Refinancing issue		X		X		X

Part II Proceeds

	A	B	C	D
1 Amount of bonds retired				
2 Amount of bonds legally defeased				
3 Total proceeds of issue	15,841,139			
4 Gross proceeds in reserve funds				
5 Capitalized interest from proceeds				
6 Proceeds in refunding escrows				
7 Issuance costs from proceeds				
8 Credit enhancement from proceeds				
9 Working capital expenditures from proceeds	56,406			
10 Capital expenditures from proceeds				
11 Other spent proceeds	15,784,733			
12 Other unspent proceeds				
13 Year of substantial completion				
	Yes	No	Yes	No
14 Were the bonds issued as part of a current refunding issue of tax-exempt bonds (or, if issued prior to 2020, a current refunding issue)?	X			
15 Were the bonds issued as part of an advance refunding issue of taxable bonds (or, if issued prior to 2020, an advance refunding issue)?		X		
16 Has the final allocation of proceeds been made?	X			
17 Does the organization maintain adequate books and records to support the final allocation of proceeds?	X			

Part III Private Business Use

	A		B		C		D	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
1 Was the organization a partner in a partnership, or a member of an LLC, which owned property financed by tax-exempt bonds?		X						
2 Are there any lease arrangements that may result in private business use of bond-financed property?		X						
3a Are there any management or service contracts that may result in private business use of bond-financed property?		X						
b If "Yes" to line 3a, does the organization routinely engage bond counsel or other outside counsel to review any management or service contracts relating to the financed property?								
c Are there any research agreements that may result in private business use of bond-financed property?		X						
d If "Yes" to line 3c, does the organization routinely engage bond counsel or other outside counsel to review any research agreements relating to the financed property?								
4 Enter the percentage of financed property used in a private business use by entities other than a section 501(c)(3) organization or a state or local government								
5 Enter the percentage of financed property used in a private business use as a result of unrelated trade or business activity carried on by your organization, another section 501(c)(3) organization, or a state or local government								
6 Total of lines 4 and 5								
7 Does the bond issue meet the private security or payment test?								
8a Has there been a sale or disposition of any of the bond-financed property to a nongovernmental person other than a 501(c)(3) organization since the bonds were issued?		X						
b If "Yes" to line 8a, enter the percentage of bond-financed property sold or disposed of.								
c If "Yes" to line 8a, was any remedial action taken pursuant to Regulations sections 1.141-12 and 1.145-2?								
9 Has the organization established written procedures to ensure that all nonqualified bonds of the issue are remediated in accordance with the requirements under Regulations sections 1.141-12 and 1.145-2?								

Part IV Arbitrage

	A		B		C		D	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
1 Has the issuer filed Form 8038-T, Arbitrage Rebate, Yield Reduction and Penalty in Lieu of Arbitrage Rebate?		X						
2 If "No" to line 1, did the following apply?								
a Rebate not due yet?								
b Exception to rebate?								
c No rebate due?	X							
If "Yes" to line 2c, provide in Part VI the date the rebate computation was performed								
3 Is the bond issue a variable rate issue?		X						

Part IV Arbitrage (Continued)

	A		B		C		D	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
4a Has the organization or the governmental issuer entered into a qualified hedge with respect to the bond issue?		X						
b Name of provider								
c Term of hedge								
d Was the hedge superintegrated?								
e Was the hedge terminated?								
5a Were gross proceeds invested in a guaranteed investment contract (GIC)?		X						
b Name of provider								
c Term of GIC								
d Was the regulatory safe harbor for establishing the fair market value of the GIC satisfied?								
6 Were any gross proceeds invested beyond an available temporary period?		X						
7 Has the organization established written procedures to monitor the requirements of section 148?		X						

Part V Procedures To Undertake Corrective Action

	A		B		C		D	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Has the organization established written procedures to ensure that violations of federal tax requirements are timely identified and corrected through the voluntary closing agreement program if self-remediation is not available under applicable regulations?		X						

Part VI Supplemental Information. Provide additional information for responses to questions on Schedule K. (See instructions).

Return Reference	Explanation

Additional Data

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Schedule L

(Form 990)

(Rev. January 2025)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Transactions with Interested Persons

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, lines 25a, 25b, 26, 27, 28a, 28b, or 28c, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 38a or 40b.

Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
Tennessee Aquarium

Employer identification number

58-1837154

Part I Excess Benefit Transactions (section 501(c)(3), section 501(c)(4), and section 501(c)(29) organizations only).

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 25a or 25b, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 40b.

1	(a) Name of disqualified person	(b) Relationship between disqualified person and organization	(c) Description of transaction	(d) Corrected?	
				Yes	No

2 Enter the amount of tax incurred by the organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under section 4958. _____

3 Enter the amount of tax, if any, on line 2, above, reimbursed by the organization \$ _____

Part II Loans to and/or From Interested Persons.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 38a, or Form 990, Part IV, line 26; or if the organization reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 5, 6, or 22

(a) Name of interested person	(b) Relationship with organization	(c) Purpose of loan	(d) Loan to or from the organization?		(e) Original principal amount	(f) Balance due	(g) In default?		(h) Approved by board or committee?		(i) Written agreement?	
			To	From			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No

Total \$ _____

Part III Grants or Assistance Benefiting Interested Persons.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 27.

(a) Name of interested person	(b) Relationship between interested person and the organization	(c) Amount of assistance	(d) Type of assistance	(e) Purpose of assistance

Part IV Business Transactions Involving Interested Persons.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 28a, 28b, or 28c.

(a) Name of interested person	(b) Relationship between interested person and the organization	(c) Amount of transaction	(d) Description of transaction	(e) Sharing of organization's revenues?	
				Yes	No
(1) Blue Cross Blue Shield of TN	COO of BCBS is an officer	1,143,557	Group health insurance premiums		No

Part V Supplemental Information

Provide additional information for responses to questions on Schedule L (see instructions).

Return Reference

Explanation

Additional Data

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SCHEDULE O
(Form 990)(Rev. January 2025)
Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service**Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ****Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.
Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.
Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.**

OMB No. 1545-0047

**Open to Public
Inspection**Name of the organization
Tennessee Aquarium**Employer identification number**

58-1837154

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section B, Line 11	The organization provides a copy of the Form 990 to the Board of Trustees for review.
Form 990, Part VI, Section B, Line 12	The organization requires members of the Board of Trustees to read and sign a conflict of interest policy on an annual basis while disclosing any existing conflict of interest to the rest of the Board.
Form 990, Part VI, Section B, Line 15	Compensation adjustments for the CEO of the organization are approved by the executive committee of the Board after a performance assessment. Market data and competitive salaries are also reviewed when determining the appropriate compensation level. The CEO position is also included in a compensation study that is performed by a third party consultant.
Form 990, Part VI, Section C, Line 19	Governing documents, conflict of interest policy and financial statements are made available to the public upon request. In addition, financial statements are made available on the organizations website and third-party sites.
Form 990, Part XII, Line 2C	The process did not change in 2024.

Additional Data

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