Dear MAC Friends,

Another amazing year is now in the record books! During the 2016-2017 fiscal year, more than 80,000 visitors came to the Peggy R. McConnell Arts Center to enjoy work by local artists in our galleries, learn new skills from our talented instructors, attend a film or live performance on our stage, and shop original works at the 25th annual Worthington Arts Festival.

As a thriving multidisciplinary arts center, the MAC provides a gathering place for neighbors to learn from one another, build connections, and bring people together to enjoy art in all its forms. Every class taken, ticket purchased, and donation made provides the dynamic, creative programming you’ve come to enjoy at the McConnell Arts Center. Thank you!

We are truly grateful for all the partners who work with us year-round. From volunteers answering phones at the front desk and taking tickets in the theatre, to talented artists exhibiting and performing their work and serving as class instructors, and patrons who sponsor special events and programs, we couldn’t do it without you! In addition, we have a mighty team of programming partners – including longtime relationships with BalletMet and Columbus Children’s Theatre and new collaborations this year with Hixon Dance and Gateway Film Center, just to name a few.

At the MAC, art is more than something to look at. Art becomes a living, breathing, dynamic experience between the artist, their work, and those who come to enjoy it. Featured in these pages are examples of our friends who connect with art in multiple ways here at the MAC. We appreciate their dedication to the arts in our community and are thankful to them for their hard work. It is through these relationships and connections that we will continue to grow in the future, providing new and creative ways to interact with neighbors and artists.

Thank you for playing your part and for your dedication to the arts in our community!

Sincerely,

Bronwynn Hopton
President, Board of Trustees

Jon Cook
Executive Director

The board of trustees opened a new endowment fund at the Columbus Foundation this past year. As a member of the Legacy Society, donors and stakeholders can now include the McConnell Arts Center in their estate plans and support the organization in perpetuity. For more information, call 614-431-0329.
IMPACT

In the 2016-2017 year:

84,000 visitors

600 works of art on view by 185 artists

280 classes offered in 15 disciplines

200 live performances presented in theatre and gallery

$1.3 million in economic impact in our community (source: Americans For the Arts)

Art can be encountered through meeting local artists, taking classes in new media, or attending performances and events. The MAC offers these and many other opportunities for engagement, allowing for interactions of art, artists, and audience. Keep an eye out for this logo in the following pages to see how people Connect the Dots through their involvement with the MAC.
In addition to new faces in the classroom, the MAC enjoys continued support from a core group of students. With enhanced programming, students can repeat classes and engage with multiple instructors to develop their work.

In the last year, the MAC expanded programming in the dance studio which has always been bustling with BalletMet students. In addition to serving as BalletMet’s only remote location, Hixon Dance has joined the team, offering a slate of classes in modern technique at the MAC that has found an immediate response with our community. Classes include Adult Modern Technique, Musical Theatre Movement for teens and Super Movers, a Dr. Seuss inspired movement class for preschoolers.

To further make connections between our visual arts programming and our educational efforts, arts activities for children were added to the 25th Annual Worthington Arts Festival last year. Activities featured a variety of techniques inspired by work that was on view in the galleries by Ed Phillips and Juliette Montague who utilized textured painting, collage and bookmaking in their work. Additionally, Montague offered “Extreme Collage” and “Altered Books and Other Adventures in Bookmaking” workshops where students explored the techniques she uses in her artwork.
· Takes Classes at the MAC
· MAC Instructor
· Member, Friends of the MAC
ON VIEW

The Visual Arts Series is a crucial part of overall programming at the MAC. By providing exhibition opportunities for both established and emerging artists in central Ohio, the MAC continues its commitment to support working artists in our community.

As an added benefit, work on view also inspires other creative programming throughout the MAC. Through docent led tours for Evening Street students, live theatrical performances, family art activities, and more, MAC patrons can connect in meaningful ways to the work in our galleries.

The fall series ushered in a contemplative exhibition of intimate portraits by Joe Anastasi. Choosing subjects from his volunteer work with a local food pantry, Joe’s portraits in pencil and oil captured the strength and determination of the human spirit.

In January, we celebrated the work of local artist Carol Hershey and her passion to provide studio and exhibition space for area artists with the creation of the High Road Gallery. Our gallery featured works from many artists from High Road, with diverse mediums such as oil, pen and ink, intricate wood cabinetry, sculpture, and jewelry.

Rounding out our series were the Governor’s Region 1 Awards and Ed Phillips’ textured abstract works paired with the varied and colorful collages of Juliette Montague.
With the continuation of the Exhibition on Screen series, MAC audiences got an in depth look at the work of artists such as Bosch, Goya, Renoir, and even Beethoven. In addition to the popular documentary series, the MAC partnered with Gateway Film Series for their Hitchcocktober program in October, and with The Ohio State University in November to present “Thinking on Their Feet: Women of the Tap Renaissance.” Jenai Cutcher West, film maker and Ohio native, was on hand for the screening and gave a talk.

- Artist and Art Educator
- MAC Instructor
- Artist on View at the MAC
ON STAGE

In the 2016-2017 year, the Performing Arts Series brought nearly 200 diverse and engaging programs and performances to the stage and galleries of the McConnell Arts Center.

The MAC Chamber Orchestra returned for a fourth season, featuring guest soloists Katherine Borst Jones (flute), Katherine Rohrer (mezzo-soprano), and Caroline Hong (piano). MACCO’s rendition of *Rhapsody in Blue* broke attendance records and played to a sold out house in the final concert of the season.

To Broadway and Back featured local Thomas Worthington graduates Stanley Bahorek and Lindsay Nicole Chambers who are now working and performing on Broadway. The two came home for a sold out event in March to share their experiences in show biz and grace the audience with many of Broadway’s greatest hits.

Jazz at the MAC expanded last year in partnership with Aaron Scott. His performance of Blue Eyed Sunday, a tribute to Frank Sinatra, with Bobby Floyd, Phil Clark, and Derek DiCenzo played to a full house.
Mad Mad Men returned to the MAC with their Rat Pack Crooners Christmas show – to keep up with demand we added a second performance!

Songs at the Center is a national public television series that began in 2013 in partnership with the McConnell Arts Center. Taped at the MAC and other select venues, the series showcases singer-songwriters performing “in the round” before a live audience and includes interviews, spontaneous on-stage interaction, and special features. Based at WOSU TV, the series was picked up by American Public Television in 2016, and is now airing on more than 200 stations coast-to-coast.
The Worthington Arts Festival celebrated 25 years June 17-18 on the great lawn in front of the McConnell Arts Center and Thomas Worthington High School.

Kids enjoyed a mini-mural project with the Old Worthington Partnership and a “Feed the Monster” relay with Hixon Dance outside. In addition, a new family activity area featured art projects inspired by the work in our galleries. Families were encouraged to cool off inside and enjoy the Ed Phillips and Juliette Montague exhibitions in the Main and Corridor Galleries, and BalletMet offered drop-in dance classes for kids, teens and adults.

Our second year hosting the festival, McConnell Arts Center staff continue to get positive feedback about the growth and visibility of this time-honored community event.
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- Musician and Music Teacher
- MAC Instructor
- Performs at the MAC
OUR TEAM

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FroMAC (Friends of the McConnell Arts Center)

Members of FroMAC offer important volunteer support at the Center. Quarterly meetings provide fun and informative gatherings including presentations by talented artists.

FroMAC members also award arts scholarships each year to graduating seniors attending a high school in the Worthington Public School District. This year two $750 scholarships were awarded: To Lisa Carey of Thomas Worthington High School and Rinnah Shaw of Worthington Kilbourne High School.

Interns

The MAC internship program accepts qualified students from high school through post graduate level. Last year, more than 10 interns supported the MAC in the areas of exhibitions, educations, marketing, special events, and more.
PARTNERS

Creative collaborations enhance programmatic offerings and audiences, building an integrated curriculum that includes the arts in every form. 2016-17 MAC program partners include:

BalletMet, Carpe Diem String Quartet, Columbus Children’s Theatre, Gateway Film Center, High Road Gallery, Hixon Dance, Jazz Arts Group, Learning Never Ends, Opera Columbus, Songs at the Center, Tiny Picassos, WeJoySing, Worthington Chorus, Worthington Community Theatre, Worthington Libraries.

Outreach

Outreach programming continued at the MAC through docent led exhibition tours for Evening Street Elementary students, live in-school musical performances with MAC’s Chamber Orchestra, and art activities in partnership with the Worthington Resource Pantry.

Outreach programming made possible through generous support provided by:
Record numbers gathered at Arts Enchanted Evening on February 23, 2017 to solve the Mystery at the MAC! Classrooms and galleries were transformed with décor and food inspired by famous detectives. Nearly 200 guests played our very own version of Clue (the board game) to uncover “who dunnit.” More than $36,000 was raised in support of the MAC’s creative and educational programming through this signature fundraiser.

In 2009, The Packard Annex, owned by the City of Worthington, was renovated with more than $5 million in funds raised by the community. The funds raised for the renovation serve as pre-paid rent for the McConnell Arts Center to inhabit the city-owned building.
The Peggy R. McConnell Arts Center is grateful to its loyal supporters, members, and friends for their ongoing support of the arts in our community. Donors listed below reflect gifts or pledges of $250 or more received during our 2016-2017 Fiscal Year (July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017).

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Mission:
To change lives and make memories through creative arts experiences

Vision:
The Peggy R. McConnell Arts Center of Worthington brings people together through experiences that spark learning and explore creative conversations.

777 Evening St · Worthington, OH 43085 · 614-431-0329
www.mcconnellarts.org

Operating support provided by: