

CURIOSITY **SPARKED.**  
CREATIVITY **UNLEASHED.**  
COMMUNITY **ENGAGED.**



2021 - 2022  
**Annual Report**



Peggy R.  
**McConnell**  
**Arts Center**  
of Worthington

# YOU MAKE ART HAPPEN

Dear Arts Lovers,

Creativity, and collaboration flourish at the Peggy R. McConnell Arts Center, even with these challenging times! The 2021-22 season brought new partnerships to our Columbus arts community through On View, On Stage, and In Class programming. With the help of friends and supporters like you, the McConnell Arts Center will continue to bring people together through experiences that spark learning and creative conversations.

The MAC was packed with almost 500 works of art on exhibition in various mediums this year. Artists were encouraged to share insights into their creative processes and inspirations. Each new exhibition inspires local educators to create new programming that complements the work on view.

On Stage, performances won the hearts of Columbus-based residents by presenting a wide array of works that appealed to many audiences. From nights of spoken word, collaborations of music, dance, projections, and live painting to noteworthy documentaries and award-winning musicians, On Stage performances attendance increased by 355% over FY21 and have continued to bring high levels of art to our community.

As a multi-disciplinary arts center dedicated to the appreciation and presentation of art in every form, we are humbled by your unwavering support and encouragement of the MAC. Thank you for your time, attendance, and financial investment in our community's arts.

Please enjoy these highlights from the past year – and know that you help make art happen!

Sincerely,



Jack Miner  
President, Board of Trustees



Kimberlee Goodman  
Interim Executive Director

Operating support provided by:





# MAC IMPACT



**355%**

increase  
in performance  
attendance

**475**

**PIECES OF ART**

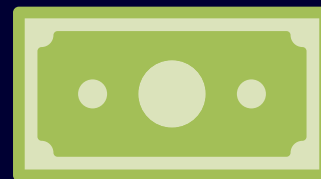
in exhibitions in the Main  
& Corridor Galleries

**208**

**ARTIST'S  
WORKS**

exhibited in the  
Main & Corridor  
Galleries

**TOTAL PAID TO ARTISTS:  
\$93,990.52**



Total Paid to Visual

Artists/Educators ..... **\$36,680.24**

Total Paid to

Performing Artists ..... **\$35,453.58**

Post No Ills total

paid to artists ..... **\$18,513.09**

Artificial Horizon total

paid to artists ..... **\$3,343.60**

**461**

**STUDENTS  
ENROLLED**

in MAC classes,  
workshops, and camps

# MAC 2022 HIGHLIGHTS

**The 2021-2022 season showcased exciting integration across our visual, performing and educational disciplines. This innovation resulted in the MAC's first nomination for a GCAC Columbus Makes Art Excellence Award for Lance Johnson's *Post No Ills*.**



## LANCE JOHNSON, POST NO ILLS

"Art can connect us all." Lance Johnson firmly believes this. In fact, it was this connection among artists that drew Johnson to the art world. When he was 14 years old, his mother showed him a documentary about the Harlem Renaissance. Johnson recalls how he saw visual artists, musicians, writers, painters, and singers all coming together and supporting each other as artists. "I love that idea of being an artist. It planted the seed."

It only made sense, then, that Johnson's exhibition *Post No Ills* highlighted a variety of other mediums in connection with his works. The exhibition opening included a live event in the Bronwynn Theatre featuring the Mark Lomax Trio and poet Scott Woods while Johnson painted on stage. Other events included a meditation and reflection exercise, *Time to Breathe Peace by Piece*, hosted by Tifani K Inspires. Visitors were encouraged to participate in a journaling experience as they viewed the exhibition. The exhibit closed with the show *Phil Maneri: Kaleidoscope*, a blend of music, art, and dance.







### **CELESTE MALVAR-STEWART, ARTIFICIAL HORIZON**

In May of 2022, the MAC welcomed Columbus designer Celeste Malvar-Stewart and her exhibition, *Artificial Horizon*. Inspired by an airplane's tool of the same name that tells the pilot of an aircraft the relationship to the true horizon on the earth's surface, this exhibit explored our relationships and how we see each other. *Artificial Horizon* featured aviation-inspired couture fashion and fiber artwork that celebrate sustainability.

Malvar-Stewart's personal journey began in the Philippines, where she was born. It continued through various cities, including London, San Francisco, Seattle, and New York, before she landed

in Columbus, where she owns a design studio and high-fashion boutique, Hangar 391. As a self-proclaimed city girl, she remembers coming to Columbus and flying alongside her husband in their small single-engine plane over farms and corn fields. Inspired by the land, she reached out to farmers, looking to connect to the animals and textiles. "A lot of times in the fashion industry, there is a big disconnect with the designer and the fabric. We just go buy bolts of fabric, and who knows what mill they came from," Malvar-Stewart explained. When a farmer gave Malvar-Stewart a bag of wool directly from her sheep, it set off a much bigger mission.

The *Artificial Horizon* collection featured pieces using deconstructed and waste materials, natural dyestuff, wool, and alpaca fibre sourced from happy animals living on Ohio family farms. While her works honor the land and animals, they are also meant to acknowledge and celebrate the rich aviation history of Columbus, especially women pilots and Black, Indigenous, and people of color. Coming out of the pandemic, where travel was highly challenging, *Artificial Horizon* looked to take the viewer on a journey of freedom and connectedness and to reexamine and redefine our relationships to our clothing, land, and each other.



### **FARM TO FASHION**

On a bright Summer morning, a dozen students gathered at the MAC to learn about the connection between animals, art, and fashion. The first stop was a presentation by textile artist Celeste Malvar-Stewart who described her artistic process and explained how she creates pieces using natural materials like wool. Students were given up-close access to see gowns in her exhibit *Artificial Horizons*, which featured a variety of colors and textures.

To see where the process began, students caravanned to Bluebird Hill Farms in Springfield, Ohio, where Laurel Shouvin gave a tour of the farm where she raises alpacas. She introduced RaeRae and Sugar—two alpacas who are part of the flock that provides Celeste with the fibers she uses to create her artwork. Then students got the chance to learn how to felt themselves when Celeste taught them the process! Each student made their own scarf while learning about this ancient technique that involves compressing wool fibers into felt by hand.



# ON VIEW

The McConnell Arts Center highlights artists' work throughout the city in various mediums. Whether established or emerging, over 200 talented artists from the Columbus art scene fill our gallery walls with their stories.







### EXHIBITION ON SCREEN:

Exhibition on Screen is a documentary series that works with top international museums and galleries to create films that offer a cinematic immersion into the world's best-loved art, accompanied by insights from the world's leading historians and art critics. The series currently includes 30 films shown in over 66 countries. To host the series in 2021-2022, the MAC partnered with the Gateway Film Center and the Columbus Museum of Art.



# ON STAGE

**We are pleased to report that, despite our industry's challenges this year, we continued providing high-quality arts entertainment to our community.**

This year we hosted a variety of shows on stage in our theatre. Our audiences enjoyed the FLIPPO - Steely Dan show, a Beatles tribute band: Hard Days Night, performances

by our partners Worthington Community Theatre and the Worthington Community Chorus, and Songs at the Center filming.

# IN CLASS

The MAC's classes are led by local artists who help the center offer high-quality arts education. The artist educators help offer multi-week courses and special workshops for beginners through advanced levels for youth and adults. New instructors have provided a greater variety of class offerings, including mixed media, watercolor, fashion, and dance. Chloe Napoletano, from Perennial Movement Group, now offers dance classes for adults over 50. Summer camps provide youth with creative explorations of the arts. This year the MAC served over 450 students.





# MAC PARTNERS

Creative partnerships are critical to programming at the McConnell Arts Center. By partnering with other successful organizations, we can elevate the level of programs offered and provide more diverse experiences for our audiences. 2021-22 programming partners include BalletMet, CATCO, Columbus and Franklin

County Metro Parks, Columbus Children's Theatre, Learning Never Ends, ProMusica Chamber Orchestra, Songs at the Center, VIVO Music Festival, Worthington Chorus, Worthington Community Theatre, Worthington Libraries, Worthington Pools, and Worthington Resource Pantry.



# Worthington ARTS FESTIVAL

Hosted by the Peggy R. McConnell Arts Center



The annual Worthington Arts Festival hosted by the MAC showcases 130+ artists from across the country. These artists work in various mediums, including photography, jewelry, watercolor paintings, wood, metalworking, and more. For the Festival's preview picnic on Friday night, the MAC joined with Stevens Catering to provide a gourmet picnic dinner to more than 150 people. Attendees had the opportunity to dine on fantastic food and mingle with featured artists, getting a first look at what was to come that weekend. Festival days on Saturday and Sunday were filled with art, food, fun, and heat as central Ohioans gathered to buy art and meet artists selling their work. Kids had the opportunity to go on a scavenger hunt for natural materials that could be used in artwork.

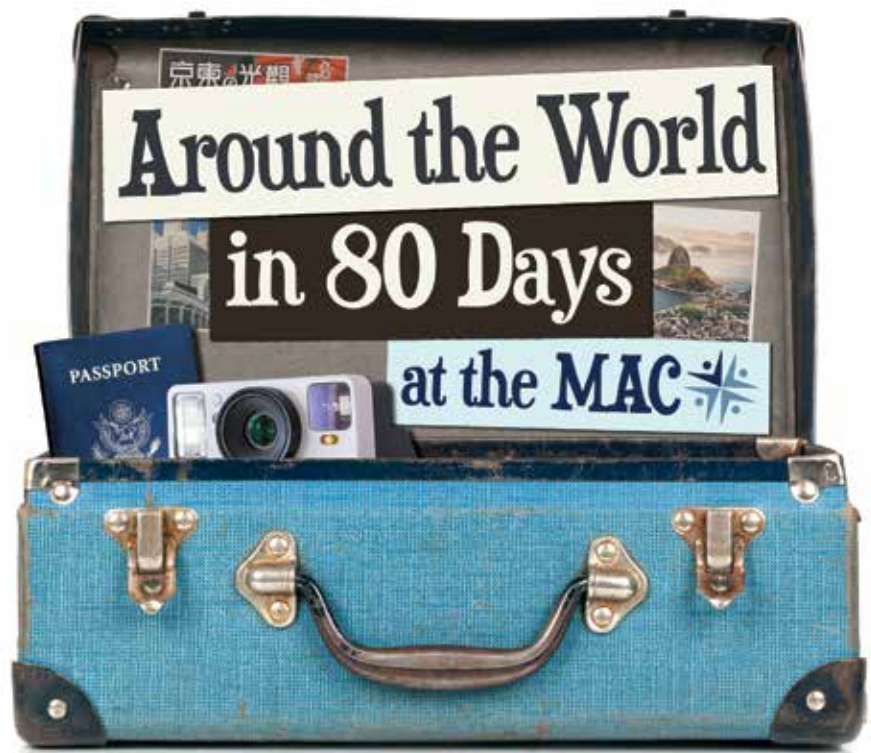




Presenting Sponsor:  
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The MAC's annual Arts Enchanted Evening was held this year under the theme "Around the World in 80 Days." Visitors traveled to Mumbai, Paris, Tokyo, Rio de Janeiro, and New Orleans. The highlight of the evening was the

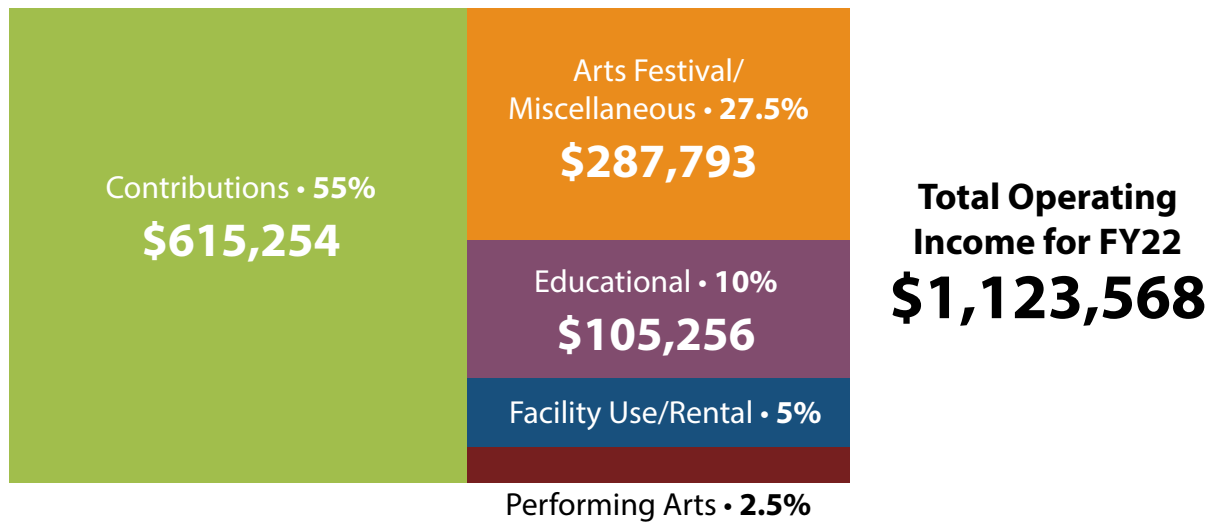
New Orleans-inspired Second Line Parade around the building. In addition to generous sponsorships from companies and individuals, the MAC raised more than \$45,000 with a raffle of art donated by local artists.



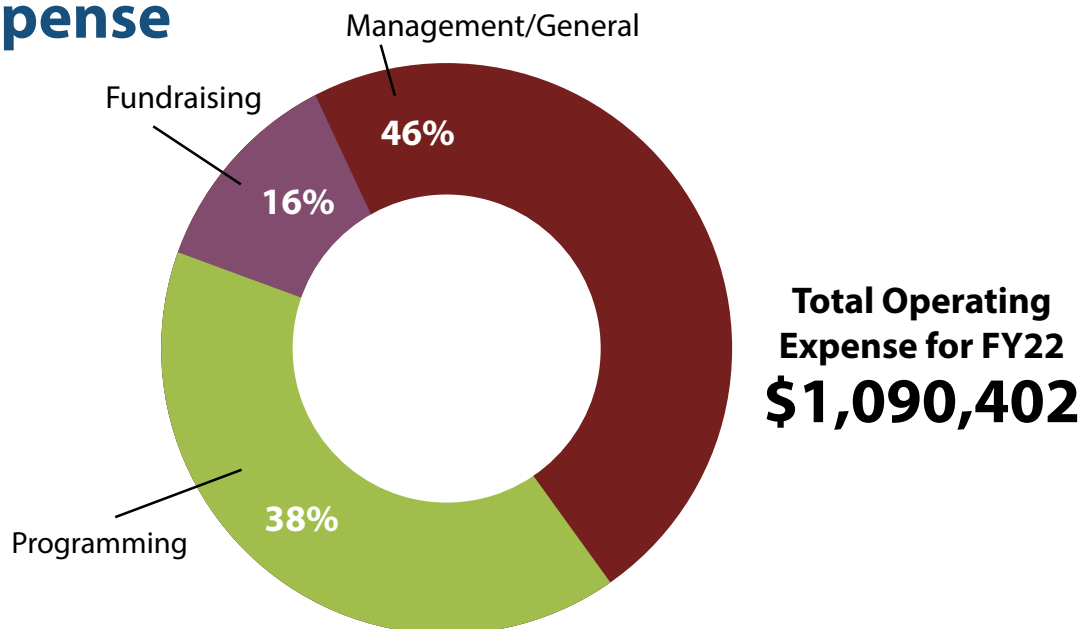


# FINANCIALS

## Income



## Expense



# OUR TEAM

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and Office Administrator

**Wyatt Hall**

Events Coordinator



# THANK YOU

We are so full of gratitude for our tireless board members and community volunteers who show up in ways big and small to ensure the MAC is a vibrant part of the Worthington community. We could not do the work we do without their generous support and the gifts of their time and talents.



# 2021-2022 SUPPORTERS

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 the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022).

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Peggy R.

# McConnell Arts Center of Worthington



**Mission:**

Building Pathways to Experience  
the Joy and Wonder of the Arts

**Vision:**

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

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[www.mcconnellarts.org](http://www.mcconnellarts.org)