

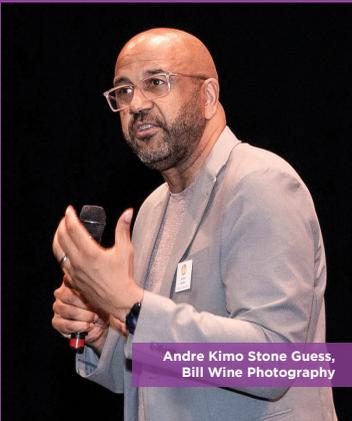
Move. Listen. See. at Republic Bank
Performance Village 2024,
Bill Wine Photography



FUND FOR THE ARTS

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

LETTER FROM THE **PRESIDENT & CEO**



Dear friends,

I am writing this letter from a place of deep, unmitigated gratitude. Over the past year, we have seen the state of arts funding, already on shaky ground, thrown into chaos. Every dollar seems to be harder to come by, and every year, our artists and arts organizations are asked to do more with less.

Yet despite this challenging climate, thousands of donors, whether they be corporations, foundations, or individuals giving at every level, still stepped up and donated to support our arts ecosystem. I cannot overstate how much that investment means, not just to this organization, but to the nonprofit arts institutions, artists, community organizations, students, and neighbors we work to support every day.

Your investment in the Fund for the Arts goes beyond believing that the arts should exist. By investing in the Fund, you are helping to bring arts programming to the youngest members of our community through 5x5/Teacher Arts Grants and Cultural Pass, welcoming them into their artistic identities from the very beginning, planting the seeds of imagination, creative problem solving, and critical thinking. You are helping your neighbors develop engagement opportunities through the Community Event Mini-Grant, bringing people together to celebrate, heal, and create. And you are uplifting our local arts nonprofits through the Sustaining Impact Grant, making it easier for them to make art, facilitate experiences, serve our community, and maintain their mission, staff, and space with integrity.

So long as there are people, there will be artists, and so long as they have feeling, there will be art. Art is the only tool we have for reflecting on our human experience, and it is through art that we discover how much more connects us than divides us. When we at the Fund say that art is good food and good medicine, when we say that it is the key to healthier communities, that's not just talk. We mean it. When you sit in an audience at a play and collectively gasp, when you catch someone else studying the same painting at the art museum, when you move your shoulders to the same song at a concert or read a poem in a moment of grief that perfectly captures the way that loss sits in your chest, you are reminded that we exist in this world for each other.

Our largest pool of funding every year comes from thousands of individuals giving small allotments of their paycheck every month. Every dollar makes a difference, but added together, those dollars make meaningful change in our arts ecosystem. It's an invaluable investment, and stewarding that on behalf of our community is a privilege. We hope that this annual report helps give some sense of the impact all of those individuals make.

Thank you for investing in art, and for trusting us with that investment.

Andre Kimo Stone Guess
President and CEO of Fund for the Arts



OUR MISSION

At the Fund for the Arts, we believe that art is a right, not a privilege, because art is a fundamental expression of the human condition.

FFTA supports, promotes, and develops arts, artists, and arts organizations to help create a healthy and vibrant community for all. Since our founding in 1949, we have raised over a quarter billion dollars that have directly and indirectly benefitted millions of people and scores of organizations in our community.



Photo courtesy of Speed Art Museum

Vision | The **community** we want to live in

We envision a healthy and vibrant community where:

Everyone embraces the art that exists in our lives every day,
Everyone contributes to the well-being of our arts community,
and it is understood that
Everyone belongs to the arts community

Mission | How we create and sustain that **community**

We contribute to the overall health and well-being of our community by:

Generating resources for, **investing** in, and **supporting** our local arts, artists, and arts organizations

Values | Guiding principles for our organizational **community**

Equity | Listen to, engage with, invest in, and support historically excluded individuals, groups, and communities

Belonging | Create a safe and welcoming environment for engagement where an invitation is not required

Accountability | Be who we say we are, and do what we say we will do for each other and the community we support

Stewardship | Manage the resources that have been entrusted to us equitably and responsibly

Gratitude | Value one another and the community we support

Storytelling | Tell the stories of arts, artists, and arts organizations in our community however, whenever, and to whomever we can

Learning | Continue to be curious and seek opportunities to expand our knowledge and understanding

Strategies | The specific work we do in the **community**

We Generate Resources for arts, artists, and arts organizations in our community

We Invest in arts, artists, and arts organizations in our community

We Support arts, artists, and arts organizations in our community



Celebration of the Arts 2025, Bill Wine Photography



Republic Bank Performance Village 2024, Photographer Marvin Young



Textile artwork from Beth Anderson



Courtesy of Louisville Visual Art

“Arts join communities and allow for shared experiences and expressions that other mediums cannot provide. Whether a creator or observer, **arts benefit everyone and providing funding for more shared experiences is something everyone should support.**”

- Beth Anderson, Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, FY25 Workplace Co-Chair of the Year

GENERATING RESOURCES

FY25 DONOR STATS



Workplace Campaign Participating Industries:

- Accounting
- Architects & Engineers
- Banking
- Brokers & Finance
- Communications
- Contractors & Construction
- Education
- Food & Beverage
- Government
- Health Services
- Insurance
- IT
- Legal Services
- Manufacturing
- Non-profit
- Printing
- Real Estate
- Utilities

“My reasons for supporting the arts are so our youth and teens can participate, interact and be inspired by arts; help procure tourism for our city; create jobs and provide meaningful entertainment for residents and tourists alike.

On a personal level, I am an artist, creating mixed media art using my photography, fiber, and acrylic ink and paint. Some of my work is shown and sold at Gallery 104 in LaGrange, KY, as well as Barry Wooley Designs in Louisville, KY. After retirement next year, I would love to work with youth in our community who may not otherwise engage in art, so they can experience how art can inspire and play an integral role in their life.”

- Beth Mattingly, Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, FY25 Workplace Co-Chair of the Year



Beth Mattingly (left) at HorseSensing Fall Festival

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

ARTS IN INSTITUTIONS

Sustaining Impact Grant

The Sustaining Impact Grant (SIG) provides mission-based operating support to Greater Louisville nonprofit arts organizations to ensure the organizations' ongoing capacity to drive community impact.

This grant program is part of the Fund for the Arts' annual investment plan and has been since the Fund was founded. As unrestricted operating grants, these funds support staff members, artists, programs, and facilities. With very few operating grants available, arts nonprofits need this type of support, and it is made possible by our community and thousands of donors who value the arts.

The arts institutions supported by the Sustaining Impact Grant have a massive impact on our community's overall health and well-being, and they are a vital part of what makes this a vibrant place to live and work. The Sustaining Impact Grant is an investment from the full spectrum of Fund for the Arts donors, not only in the futures of these institutions, but in our entire arts ecosystem.



27

Sustaining Impact Grant Recipients



\$1.875 Million

Invested via the Sustaining Impact Grant



Artistic disciplines represented in FY25:

Dance, Folk & Traditional Arts, Literary Arts, Media Arts, Museums, Music, Opera, Presenting and Multidisciplinary Arts, Theater, and Visual Arts.

The Sustaining Impact Grant is guided by the mission of the Fund for the Arts as well as community-driven priorities within Imagine Greater Louisville 2025.

"The Sustaining Impact Grant is essential in supporting the ongoing work of KMAC Contemporary Art Museum. **As funding from the private sector continues to dwindle for arts & cultural attractions, the Fund for the Arts is THE champion for those of us that know ART IS ESSENTIAL for every community and for a vibrant city!**

- KMAC Contemporary Art Museum



"The Sustaining Impact Grant support from Fund for the Arts supported our organization greatly, providing important monthly general operating support, making all of our programs and operations possible. **Having this solid foundation of regular support as something we were able to rely on, on a monthly basis, was vital in our operations and executing our mission.**"

- Kentucky Shakespeare

"This year the support from the Sustaining Impact Grant alongside the generosity of our community **has allowed us to provide the most free programs to the Louisville area in our history.**"

- Little Loomhouse



COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

ARTS IN INSTITUTIONS

FY25 Sustaining Impact Grantees



LVA Screen Printing at CFAC Centennial Family Fun Day, Photo courtesy of Louisville Visual Art

ORGANIZATION NAME	GRANT AMOUNT
★ Actors Theatre of Louisville	\$209,965
★ Amped	\$72,399
★ Arts Alliance of Southern Indiana	\$11,932
★ Bunbury Theatre Company	\$4,229
★ IDEAS xLab	\$69,978
★ Kentucky Opera	\$109,331
★ Kentucky Shakespeare	\$113,956
★ KMAC Contemporary Art Museum	\$105,317
★ Little Loomhouse	\$11,696
★ Looking for Lilith Theatre Company	\$16,500
★ Louisville Academy of Music	\$53,986
★ Louisville Ballet	\$192,503
★ Louisville Chorus	\$2,404
★ Louisville Folk School	\$19,345
★ The Louisville Leopard Percussionists, Inc.	\$23,262
★ Louisville Orchestra	\$267,291
★ Louisville Story Program	\$37,800
★ Louisville Visual Art	\$72,528
★ Louisville Youth Choir, Inc.	\$8,115
★ Louisville Youth Orchestra	\$30,634
★ Pandora Productions	\$21,522
★ Portland Museum	\$28,174
★ Queer Kentucky	\$25,282
★ Speed Art Museum	\$240,860
★ Squallis Puppeteers	\$7,071
★ StageOne Family Theatre	\$97,770
★ Young Authors Greenhouse Inc.	\$21,150

In FY25, SIG recipients supported



2,494,759
Arts experiences



4,338
Artists



120
Counties across KY



\$ 307,015
Paid admissions



205,380
Free admissions



Portland Museum, Photo courtesy of Christa Iwu



Louisville Leopard Percussionists, Kriech-Higdon Photography

“The Fund for the Arts’ Sustaining Impact Grant stands as a cornerstone of support, critically enabling Louisville Ballet to fulfill its mission of creating moving art and fostering profound community impact across Greater Louisville. **This vital funding directly underpins our operational capacity, allowing us to not only sustain our artistic excellence but also to significantly expand our educational and outreach initiatives,** reaching tens of thousands of individuals annually.”

- Louisville Ballet



Summer Reading and Cultural Pass Kickoff 2025, Zachary Burrell Photography



Summer Reading and Cultural Pass Kickoff 2025, Zachary Burrell Photography

Cultural Pass

Celebrating the NEW Cultural Pass App



2025 marked the 12th summer of Cultural Pass and the first summer of the Cultural Pass App! For 12 years, Cultural Pass has offered FREE admission for individuals ages 0 - 21 and their guardians to

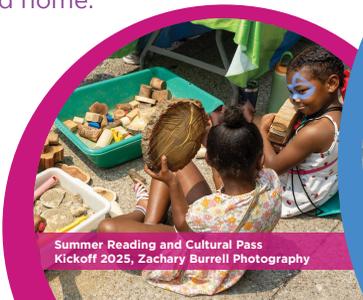
arts and cultural events across Greater Louisville and Southern Indiana. Designed to prevent summer learning loss and inspire young people to engage in their local arts and culture sector, Cultural Pass is a one-of-a-kind program that touches every part of our community!

With the new Cultural Pass App, Passholders and their guardians can more easily explore the 100+ events via a phone or tablet. Communications, check-in, and attendance reporting became easier than ever.



“Thanks to Cultural Pass, Portland Museum more than usual proved a place where elders could teach the younger members of their families about their personal history. Our exhibit covering the history of the Portland neighborhood brought its fair share of grandparents looking to teach their children and grandchildren about the place they once called home.”

- Portland Museum



Summer Reading and Cultural Pass Kickoff 2025, Zachary Burrell Photography



Summer Reading and Cultural Pass Kickoff 2025, Zachary Burrell Photography

“With Cultural Pass being an invaluable resource for many families, **every Cultural Pass performance we offered filled our 153 seat black box theatre to capacity** with excited audience members.”

- StageOne Family Theatre

“We were absolutely ecstatic to see the number of Cultural Passholders—that had never been to our Gardens—that visited us for the first time this season. Our interpretive guides/volunteers love to interact with all our Cultural Pass guests. This year—we were able to connect families to our bonsai collection, teach them about the different styles of bonsai, the history of the artform, and the tools that are used to by bonsai hobbyists.”

- Waterfront Botanical Gardens

2025 Cultural Pass Partners:

21c Museum Hotel
 Actors Theatre of Louisville
 Ambo Dance Theatre
 Angles Selfie Museum
 ARTxFM
 Arts Alliance of Southern Indiana
 Bernheim Forest and Arboretum
 Blackacre Conservancy
 Conrad-Caldwell House Museum
 Corydon Capitol State Historic Site
 Culbertson Mansion State Historic Site
 The Falls of the Ohio State Park
 Farmington
 The Filson Historical Society
 Flamenco Louisville
 The Floyd County Carnegie Library
 Cultural Arts Center
 The Food Literacy Project
 Frazier History Museum
 Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana
 Guru Vandana Academy, Inc.
 Harrison County Discovery Center
 Historic Locust Grove
 Jeffersonville Public Art: NoCo
 Art Center
 Kentucky Derby Museum
 Kentucky Science Center
 Kentucky Shakespeare
 KMAC Contemporary Art Museum
 Little Loomhouse
 Looking for Lilith Theatre Company
 The Louisville Ballet School
 The Louisville Leopard Percussionists
 Louisville Nature Center
 Louisville Philharmonia
 - The Musicians' Orchestra
 Louisville Visual Art
 Louisville Water Tower
 Louisville Youth Choir
 Louisville Zoo
 Lovely-Allen Art, LLC
 Maker13
 Muhammad Ali Center
 The Parklands of Floyds Fork
 Portland Museum
 Riverside, the Farnsley-Moremeyn
 Landing
 Roots-101 African American Museum
 Side by Side
 Speed Art Museum
 StageOne Family Theatre
 Waterfront Botanical Gardens
 Yew Dell Botanical Gardens



“My family absolutely loves the Cultural Pass! We would not be able to do most of the things if not for Cultural Pass. **It opens a whole world to children.**”

- Guardian of Passholder

“**We attended every event and partner on the list** and met inspiring people and places!”

- Guardian of Passholder

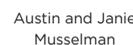
“My kids enjoyed their experiences that **they wouldn't have otherwise had without the Pass!**”

- Guardian of Passholder

Highlight: Senior Pass

With support from the Humana Foundation and the University of Louisville Envirome Institute, Fund for the Arts hosted the second year the Senior Cultural Pass Pilot Program for ages 65+! Participants filled out a survey before and after using their Senior Pass via the Cultural Pass App, helping to gather data on how engagement with arts and culture programming helps combat loneliness and improve overall health in seniors.

Cultural Pass Partners & Sponsors



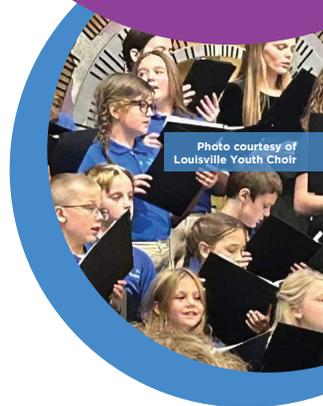
COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

ARTS IN LEARNING

Fund for the Arts supports curriculum-based arts in learning programs to schools and community centers across the region, expanding access to the arts for all students. FFTA serves as a connector between teachers and out-of-school educators to arts organizations that will best suit the needs of their students.

Arts in Learning initiatives include:

- 5x5 and Teacher Arts Grants (TAG)
- The Fund for the Arts Teacher Award & Barbara Sexton Smith 5x5 School Award, Presented at the Baird Teacher Excellence Awards
- Elev8 Student Learning Center Artist Residencies
- Scholastic Art Awards Registration Scholarships



FY2025



30,503
Experiences provided



457
Grants awarded



24
Arts organizations led programs



140
Schools participated



7
Counties served
(KY: Bullitt, Jefferson, Oldham, and Shelby; IN: Clark, Floyd, and Harrison)



1,402
Teachers participated

“This program gave students the opportunity to engage with familiar and unfamiliar stories in a new and exciting way.

Watching the stories come to life through live performance captivated all students and deepened their connection to the material.”

- **Locust Grove Elementary** about **Storytellers Live!** from **StageOne Family Theatre**

“125 students were able to put on a double casted musical for four total performances. The teacher often feels overwhelmed and alone in teaching this massive program, but with **the expertise of Kentucky Shakespeare coming in and helping with the hardest aspects of the staging and learning, this task was manageable.** The students loved the learning and felt fully prepared to perform.”

- **Jefferson County Traditional Middle School** about **Acting Fundamentals** from **Kentucky Shakespeare**

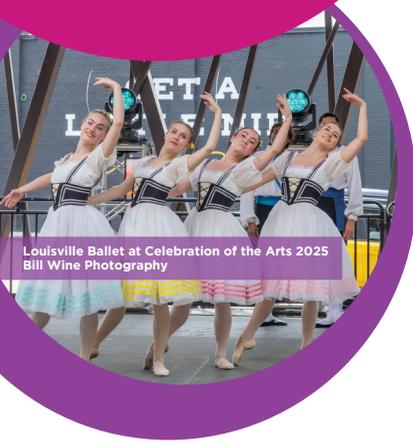




Kentucky Shakespeare at the Republic Bank Performance Village 2024, Photographer Melissa Passons



Hui Kaululehua at the Republic Bank Performance Village 2024, Photographer Marvin Young



Louisville Ballet at Celebration of the Arts 2025 Bill Wine Photography

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

ARTS IN NEIGHBORHOODS

Arts in Neighborhoods **Event Series**

Fund for the Arts hosted two performance villages in FY25, celebrating artists and arts organizations from across the community and giving them a chance to share their artwork with new audiences as part of community art festivals.

Republic Bank Performance Village at the St. James Court Art Show in Old Louisville, October 4 - 6, 2024

- Performances and engagement from Ambo Dance Theatre, Cody Clark Magic, Drag Daddy Productions , Drama by George, FaithWORKS Performing Arts, Hui Kaululehua, Keen Dance Theatre, Kentucky Shakespeare, KMAC Contemporary Art Museum, Louisville Academy of Music, Louisville Folk School, MOVE., na Skylark, Performing Arts Louisville, University of Louisville African American Theatre Program, Urban X Dance

Celebration of the Arts at the Spring into Derby Art Festival in Christy's Garden at Paristown

- Performances from DESTINED Dance, Drag Daddy Productions, Keen Dance Theatre, Kentucky Shakespeare, Louisville Ballet, Louisville Folk School, na Skylark, River Lotus Lion Dance, University of Louisville African American Theatre Program
- Programming from Little Loomhouse



Keen Dance Theatre at the Republic Bank Performance Village 2024, Bill Wine Photography



Louisville Academy of Music at Republic Bank Performance Village 2024, Bill Wine Photography



Louisville Folk School at the Republic Bank Performance Village 2024, Photographer Melissa Passons



Photo courtesy of Louisville Ballet



Photo courtesy of Rhythm Science Sound at Beechmont Community Center

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

ARTS IN NEIGHBORHOODS

HeARTS: Healing Through the Arts

Fund for the Arts once again facilitated the HeARTS: Healing Through the Arts program, a Louisville Metro Government initiative in community centers across the city, offering free, intergenerational arts programs and workshops designed to facilitate healing.



3,460
Arts experiences



22
Residencies



21
Unique sites



56
Artists involved in the program through residencies, the Art of Healing event, and creative industry contractors



Invested in 6 individual teaching artists, 1 collective, and 14 arts organizations.



HeARTS took place in 12 Louisville Metro Parks and Recreation Community Centers and 9 additional community spaces.

“At the start of the HeARTS program, Max was often non-verbal and refused to participate, but went on to become **fully immersed in the classes, repeating words, and participating fully in every activity.**”

– Louisville Ballet at VIPS

“You all are doing more than drama here. **My daughter has never felt so confident and seen in any other program.**”

– Parent of a student in Looking for Lilith Theatre Company’s HeARTS program at Highview Arts Center

“The spaces have been meaningful and healing for the youth. During week 3, two of our students were able to have **space to peer-to-peer discuss the challenge and systemic racism they face in school and the world at-large as Black autistic young people.**”

– Rhythm Science Sound on their HeARTS program at Beechmont Community Center



Louisville Center for Therapy and Personal Sustainability, Photo courtesy of the Teaching Artist



Portland Museum
Sergio Cabrera,
Momentos Photography

Louisville Book Festival 2024, Photo courtesy of Bowen Elementary

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

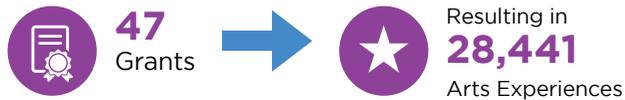
ARTS IN NEIGHBORHOODS

Community Event Mini-Grant

The Community Event Mini-Grants support arts organizations, businesses, neighborhood associations, individual artists, groups of artists, non-arts nonprofits, and community-based organizations with project expenses associated with presenting multigenerational, free community gatherings incorporating arts components.



In FY25, Community Event Mini-Grants supported:



“Louisville UnFair is a tradition that’s become a staple of the fall calendar—something locals look forward to year after year. **This grant from Fund for the Arts helps us grow in ways we’ve only dreamed of, while staying true to our roots.** It allows us to remove barriers for underrepresented artists and keep bold, accessible art at the heart of Louisville’s creative scene.”

— Louisville UnFair Board President Nick Knight

FALL 2024

- Sarabande Books: Poetry Carnival at the Sarabande Books offices
- Kentucky Educational Television (KET): Be My Neighbor Day at E.P. Tom Sawyer Park
- The Food Literacy Project: Healing Week and Art Therapy Day at the Food Literacy Project Farm on Paradise Lane
- Zoom Group, Inc.: ZG Art Carnival at ZG | StudioWorkZ
- Garvin Gate Association: Garvin Gate Blues Festival in Old Louisville’s Central Park
- MaybeltsFate: Community Art Connection grand opening event
- Youngblood Harmonizing Arts: Take Care - A Day of Healing Arts at 1718 Jefferson Street
- Louisville Book Festival at the Kentucky International Convention Center
- All Together Now at Shelby Park
- Ensembles and the City of Charlestown Parks and Rec Department: Charlestown Jazz in the Park at Greenway Park

WINTER 2025

- Project Ricochet: The ETHER Art Gallery at the Roots 101 African-American Museum
- Adah School of Art: ArtistGiving Holiday Celebration at Stella’s Venue
- Ambo Dance Theatre: *The Graham Cracker: A Nutcracker Parody* for the Dance students from Lincoln Performing Arts School, Noe Middle School, and Grace James Academy of Excellence at Actors Theatre of Louisville
- Louisville Public Media and Amped Music Academy: Youth Open Mic Night at The Monarch Music & Arts Community
- Louisville Civic Orchestra: Signature 2: Ravishing Russian Romantic at Bellarmine University and at Springdale Presbyterian Church
- Kiara Brewer-Carroll: Raise Your V.O.I.C.E. (vocalizing one’s inner creativity and esteem) at University of Louisville, Red Barn



Steam Exchange Feminist Fashion Show 2025, Photo courtesy of Steam Exchange

SPRING 2025

- Saw Peep: “Hanuman, The Monkey King” A Shadow Puppet Opera in partnership with the former Chapel of St. Philip Neri
- HHN2L, Hip Hop into Learning: T'D Up Showcase at the Bomhard Theatre at the Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts
- Kentucky Shakespeare: Shakespeare in the Parks: *Macbeth* at Shawnee Park and Wilkinson Park in Sellersburg, Indiana
- Steam Exchange and Rhythm Science Sound: 6th Annual Feminist Fashion Show with music from Rhythm Science Sound at ACME Artworks
- Hui Kaululehua: Aloha Lou, a Polynesian Cultural Festival in Central Park in Old Louisville
- Drag Daddy Productions and Andrew Newton (aka May O'Nays): DRAG REVIVAL at Highlands Community Ministries
- Kentucky Refugee Ministries and the Speed Art Museum: World Refugee Day Celebration at St. Agnes Catholic Church
- Katheryn D Higgins and Dean Otto (Curator of Film, Speed Art Museum): Juneteenth: Celebrated in Film via The CineBus Mobile movie screen in the Historic Russell Neighborhood

SUMMER 2025

- Change Today, Change Tomorrow: Youth Advisory Council Event Series in California Park
- Cathy Batscha: Community Jazz Jam and Potluck at The Monarch Music & Arts Community
- NouLou Chamber Players: “Helen and Nora: A Musical Journey and Hands-On Adventure” at Oxmoor Farm
- Bernheim Forest and Arboretum and Kentucky Refugee Ministries: Solstice L+A+N+D Public Activation Day
- Vashti Proctor: Hip Hop In The Park at Alberta O. Jones Park
- Glenn MacRae: “The Biz” – Music Business Workshop Series for Louisville Music Creators at The Monarch Music & Arts Community
- OneWest and The Healing Walls Project: “Taste the Future: A Celebration of Culture, Business, and Progress” along the corridor between Broadway and Muhammad Ali Boulevard
- Mary Jefferson and See A Need, Fill A Need Corporation (SANFAN): “It’s a Family Affair: Dance Movement” at the Louisville Free Public Library Main Branch
- ChoZen Inc and Side by Side Studios: “Unbroken: Women Rising Through Resistance & Healing,” at Side by Side Studio, Algonquin Village, and Petersburg Park
- She Dreams Entertainment: Kentuckywood Festival of Film Stuffs at MaybeltsFate
- Shively Farmers & Artisans Market and Luminary Comity: the Shively Farmers & Artisans Market Community Fun Days
- West End Women’s Collaborative and the Chickasaw Neighborhood Federation: 8th of August Emancipation Day Celebration at the New Covenant Baptist Church and ELAhouse
- Dasia Woods: Soul of the Renaissance: A Celebration of Black Art
- Breath of the Wild and Mindful Moments: Sacred Flow: An Immersive Art and Healing Experience at MaybeltsFate
- Waterfront Botanical Gardens: 3rd Annual Kaleidoscope Family Festival
- Louisville Central Community Centers Inc.: LCCC Kids Education and Arts Academy 2025 Summer Showcase at the Grand Lyric Theatre
- Harvey & Hurston and Partners: Joyride! at Shawnee Park
- Frazier History Museum and La Casita Center: Free Family Day at the Frazier
- México Lindo and Kentucky Performing Arts: “México, A Resilient Nation Built on Dances and Traditions” at the Bomhard Theatre at the Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts
- Louisville UnFair Inc: 2025 Louisville UnFair at Magnolia Bar
- Janan Sarwar of Salaam Storytime Inc. and Latasha Brown of Global Lofts: Louisville International Table at the Ntaba Coffee House
- Louisville Makes Games and RunJumpDev: Game Harvest at the Art Sanctuary
- Sonya Hensley: One Woman Show at the MeX Theater in the Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts

“Joyride! is a homecoming, an installation of the joy that once was in the Shawnee neighborhood. It is a day to reclaim our community, build new memories, and share the old ones from Fontaine “Fountain” Ferry Roller Rink. **This grant elevates West End residents’ desire and need of recreational third spaces for our leisure and joy.**”

- Maya White, Owner and Leader of Harvey and Hurston



Amped Youth Open Mic Night
Photography by Tyler Frank



NeXt! Ambassadors Class of 2025, Bill Wine Photography

NeXt! Graduation Event, Bill Wine Photography

SUPPORT

NeXt! Ambassador Program

The NeXt! Ambassador program is dedicated to preparing a new generation of emerging professionals for volunteer leadership roles within the Greater Louisville and Southern Indiana arts community. The program leads ambassadors through an immersive experience in which they develop necessary skills, build diverse relationships, apply lessons learned, and volunteer with local arts organizations.

Stock Yards Bank & Trust returned as the Presenting Sponsor of the NeXt! Ambassador program with a commitment to building transformative arts leaders of the future. Thanks to their generosity, the five-month program was free for all participants.

The 2025 NeXt! Ambassadors:

Devon Allgeier,
Brown-Forman
Lyndsey Bell,
Spalding University
Aaron Bullitt,
Bullitt Consulting LLC
Jack Brynes,
Humana
Sara Cahill-King,
Stock Yards Bank & Trust
Jennifer Davis,
Charter Communications

Jessica Denney,
Coppermoon Cleaning
Co. LLC
Heather Funk Gotlib,
Belle of Louisville Riverboats
Donovan Gibbs,
Stites & Harbison, PLLC
Lauren Givhan,
Deloitte
Grace Henderson,
Revelry Boutique Gallery
Brittany Hill-Whitehead,
Amped

Cherrice Johnson,
Human Resources
Jordan Lienhoop Crump,
Sojourn Arts & Misc.
Goods Co.
Colleen Parga,
Dentons Bingham
Greenebaum
Vashti Proctor,
Amped
Brittany Ruehling,
Yum! Brands

Elizabeth Ruwe,
Metro United Way
Grady Shiftlet,
Fifth Third Bank
Charlie Todd,
Stored Value Solutions
Chelsea Watson,
Louisville Metro Government
Courtney Wileman,
Operations and Marketing
Professional
Shane Wohlschlegel,
Capitalis Planning Partners

FINANCIALS | FY25 CAMPAIGN PLEDGES AND OTHER REVENUES

Net Revenue **\$4,825,133**

Community Investment & Support

Community Grants	\$3,437,796
Program Expenses	\$822,947
Initiatives & Program Expenses *	\$4,260,743
Fundraising Expenses	\$719,940
Management and General Expenses	\$309,081

Total Community Investment & Support **\$5,289,764**

Net Assets-End of Year **\$7,324,663**

80% of \$\$ spent invested in investment initiatives & programs

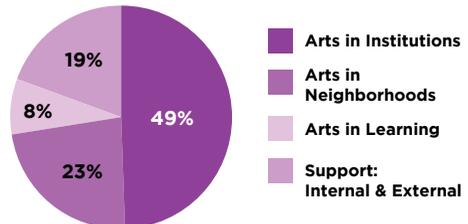
12%
8%

100%

Total NET ASSETS to invest in community

*Initiatives & Program Expenses

Arts in Institutions	\$2,105,800
Arts In Neighborhoods	\$1,000,275
Arts in Learning	\$332,200
Support: Internal & External	\$822,468
	\$4,260,743



I AM AN ARTIST: LAUREN GIVHAN

For as long as I can remember, art has played a meaningful role in my life. From an early age, I was drawn to art history books and enjoyed adventures through art museums. I was fortunate to have History and the Arts based classes taught in high school, college, and law school. These courses highlighted the importance of art throughout history not only as a visual expression of the cultures and societies we studied, but also as a reflection of the historical context in which it was created. From the various cities I've lived in and in my travels abroad, art became the one constant - a universal thread providing connection to the places I visited, roots to the places I've called home, and a common language with the people I've met along the way. While I've always considered myself a student and patron of the arts, I was several years into my photography journey and never identified myself as an artist until the Fund for the Arts workplace initiative presented the "I Am An Artist." campaign and asked us to reflect on our own forms of creative expression.

As an avid learner with an eye for detail, I have pursued photography with the same passion and dedication that brought me to the practice of law. My love for photography was instilled at an early age from my uncle and professional photographer, Rick Lombardo, but it was not until his sudden passing that my self-taught journey began.

Early on, I found myself looking for the "extra in the ordinary" as I photographed the city's art, architecture, and events. However, a chance adventure on the backside of Churchill Downs changed the trajectory of my photo adventures. I was quickly captivated by how much work went in to getting a horse across the finish line and I quickly took every opportunity to capture all aspects of the horse racing industry. I'm incredibly grateful to the trainers, track workers, owners, jockeys, fans, and media who have entertained my curiosity and for the track family that continues to welcome me back time and time again.

My camera and the photos I've captured has served as a catalyst for connection and community, celebrating the places and people I've met along the way. When I found myself in a hybrid work from home and travel role, I once again turned to the arts seeking connection to our community. As a Class of 2025 NeXt! Ambassador, I'm prepared and excited to find a new way to support the arts in Louisville through board leadership!

"While I've always considered myself a student and patron of the arts, **I was several years into my photography journey and never identified myself as an artist until the Fund for the Arts workplace initiative presented the "I Am An Artist." campaign** and asked us to reflect on our own forms of creative expression."

- Lauren Givhan, NeXt! Class of 2025



Lauren Givhan at Churchill Downs



Mystik Dan with jockey Brian Hernandez Jr. Wins 150th Kentucky Derby, Photographer Lauren Givhan



Thunder Over Louisville, Photographer Lauren Givhan



Lauren and her uncle at the track

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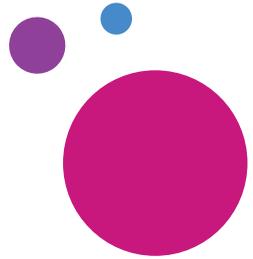
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Aloha Lou! 2025
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Louisville Youth Orchestra
Presto Strings Winter Showcase,
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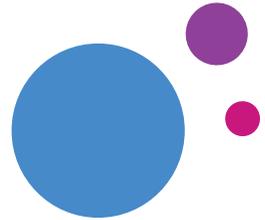
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Louisville Leopard Percussionists Drum Circle,
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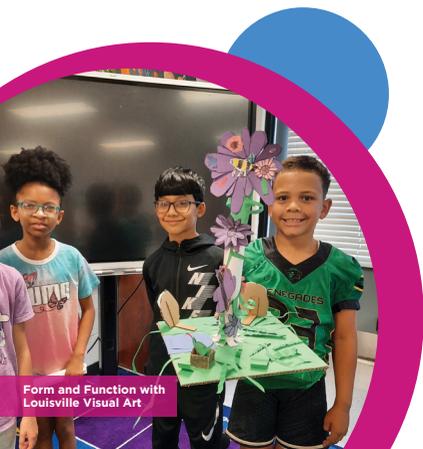
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