



*Connect.  
Create.  
Experience.*



# Annual Impact Report

2020 -  
2021



**Young Audiences  
Western New York**  
*Arts for Learning!*



**“For me, Arts in Education is about communication and collaboration. We’re making these connections through art, but still doing things that are academic. It just proves what art can do, it can make these kinds of connections for children and adults that can make history come alive.”**

Michele Agosto, Director of Arts for Buffalo Public Schools

Dear Supporter,

**The 2020-2021 Fiscal Year presented our staff, Teaching Artists, and students served with new challenges and opportunities as we continued to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic.**

Virtual education dominated the first half of the fiscal year to ensure the safety of all students and artists while outdoors and in-person programs began to become available in Spring of 2021.

**As the youth in our community continue to rise to each new challenge, the importance of social emotional learning, racial equity, and social justice practices continue to guide our approach to serving the community.**

In response to these needs, and in conjunction with our newly ratified 2021-2023 Strategic Plan, Young Audiences has designed a training series for staff, Teaching Artists, and the Board of Directors to better equip us as individuals and a team to meet the needs of local youth.

Participants in this training series are learning from local and national experts on topics that include trauma informed care, racial equity, social justice, modifying or adapting lesson plans to meet these needs of students with learning differences, allyship for LGBTQ+ youth, and so much more. Skills and knowledge gained through these facilitated sessions will influence policy and programmatic decisions to ensure Young Audiences of WNY is an equitable and inclusive organization. Furthermore, Teaching Artists will incorporate new techniques and principles into lessons that will deepen the experience for all participants.

*Your support continues to provide transformative experiences for youth across all eight counties of WNY.*

With our new Strategic Plan as a guiding force, we will work towards fulfilling our mission and provide our community with high-quality, arts-integrated education programs for the next 60 years and beyond!

Sincerely,

Amelia Schrader  
Executive Director

Laura Douglas  
Board of Directors, Chair

# Testimonials



Sasha B.,  
Letchworth  
Central School  
Student  
Participant

“Thank you so much for organizing the grant to have a Google Meet with two musicians from the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra through APL. It was very interesting, and I learned new things about the French horn, oboe, and English horn. It was a new way of seeing someone, it worked well. We really appreciate your generosity, our small school doesn't get a lot of arts programming so again, it was appreciated. Thank you for everything you do to help smaller schools that don't get a lot of access to the arts.”

The  
Summit  
Center  
Educator

“Thank you so much for the opportunity to share all your love with music to our students! I know everyone loved the performances over the week! So many staff members came down to express how much they loved the performances and how much the students were engaged! The middle school/high school had 56 total students participate and our grade levels are from 5-12th grade, and each will remember this experience forever.”

**Board and Staff** Just as essential to our work is our committed Board of Directors and staff who dedicate their time and heart in service to our mission and champion our cause.

## BOARD

Laura Douglas, *President*  
Daycia Clarke, *Vice President*  
Michael Thomas, *Treasurer*  
Valerie Stanek, *Secretary*  
Karen Camp  
Robin Hibbert  
Jim Howe  
Mike Leslie  
Arlow Linton, *Esq.*  
Nujhath Naeema  
Nyeema Quinniey  
Kyle Young  
Anthony Billoni, *Emeritus*  
Susan Levy, *Emeritus*  
Wendy Pierce, *Emeritus*

## STAFF

Amelia Schrader, *Executive Director*  
Beth Ireland, *Director of  
Development & Marketing*  
Allison Rabent, *Director of Programs*  
Tony Hahn, *Finance & Data  
Administrator*  
Jessica Berner, *Education &  
Communications Coordinator*  
Jesi Miller, *Programs Coordinator*  
Netanya Thompson,  
*ArtWorks Assistant Coordinator*  
Brianna Grieff,  
*AmeriCorps VISTA Member*

# Strategic Goals



## Mission

To inspire, expand learning, and strengthen our community through engagement with the arts.

## Vision Statement

A world where the arts empower the community and transform young lives.

## Core Values

- Collaboration
- Creativity
- Integrity
- Racial Equity and Social Justice
- Transformative Power of the Arts

*“During my time in ArtWorks, I learned more about myself, how to work hard, and how to communicate better with others.”*

- Poe Si Poe,  
Summer 2021  
ArtWorks  
Participant

In the spring of 2021, Young Audiences’ Board of Directors ratified the 2021-2023 Strategic Plan highlighting Five Key Priority Areas:

### Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Innovation (JEDII)

Harnessing the power of the arts, we will provide ourselves, our teaching artists, and our community with JEDII resources with which to learn and take action on racial justice, social equity, diversity, and inclusion which encompass the multiple lived experiences of all people and the need to build justice and equity for all.

### Arts Education Community Resource

Develop a strong brand identity as a WNY leader in Arts Education and the convenor of WNY arts-integrated educational organizations, to ensure the creation of high impact, JEDII-guided, customizable arts educational programming that is fully relevant to regional needs and opportunities, and the professional development of arts teachers and teaching artists.

### Financial Sustainability

Generating the revenue needed to develop and sustain its programs and services, build the necessary levels of organizational capability and capacity, and invest in its own growth through diversified funding streams, strong financial discipline, and donor stewardship.

### Teaching Artist Growth and Role Clarity

Being the lead WNY organization for Teaching Artists’ professional development, credentialing, promotion of their field/s and connection to the community.

### Professional Integrity

Support, develop and empower staff, board, and Teaching Artists through standardized onboarding procedures and human resources policies, professional development opportunities and clear communication methods to increase employee, board, and Teaching Artist retention.

# Our Teaching Artists

## DANCE

Akruti Babaria  
Benjamin Berry  
Charis Humphrey  
Cindy Hanna  
Devi Bollywood Dance  
Le Ballet Touba  
PUSH Physical Theatre  
Sarah Haykel  
Stacey VanBlarcom  
Verve Dance Studio

## LITERARY

Sherry Robbins

## FASHION

Rashaad Holley

## MEDIA ART

Aitina Fareed Cooke  
Alex Fernandez

## MUSIC

Ancient Voices  
Bee True to You  
Diaspora Drumming  
Doug Yeomans  
Hill Brothers  
Karim Nagi  
Kevin McCarthy  
Mohamed Diaby  
Nancy Baun  
Ringo Brill  
Susie Rozler  
Taylor Made Jazz  
Van Taylor  
Vincent Nunes

## THEATER

Airigami  
Andy Parker –  
Weather Machine  
Ashely Tobias  
Defiant Monkey Improv  
In Jest with Nels Ross  
Janice Spagnola  
Lorna Czarnota  
Melissa Kate Miller  
Ted Baumhauer  
The Wondermakers

## VISUAL ART

Cartoons By Cadle  
Cassandra Argeros  
Christy Zucarelli  
Courtney Haeick  
Doug Rougeux  
Fotini Galanes  
Jeremy Stock  
Kristin Brandt  
Martha Schermerhorn  
Mette Hata  
Phyllis Thompson

***“We need Young Audiences in our community; the kids need you in order to access arts programming in our community. Thank you for all you do.”***

- Rashaad Holley,  
YA-WNY  
Teaching Artist



**Young Audiences**  
Western New York

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**Our mission is to inspire, expand learning, and strengthen the community through engagement with the arts.**

# Program Spotlight

## Maryvale Central School District After-School Programming

For 6-8 weeks, ten YA-WNY Teaching Artists provided virtual residencies for Maryvale Primary and Intermediate students, grades K-5. Throughout these residencies, students learned Indian dance, yoga, theatre, creative movement, cartooning, visual art, music, and hip-hop dance.

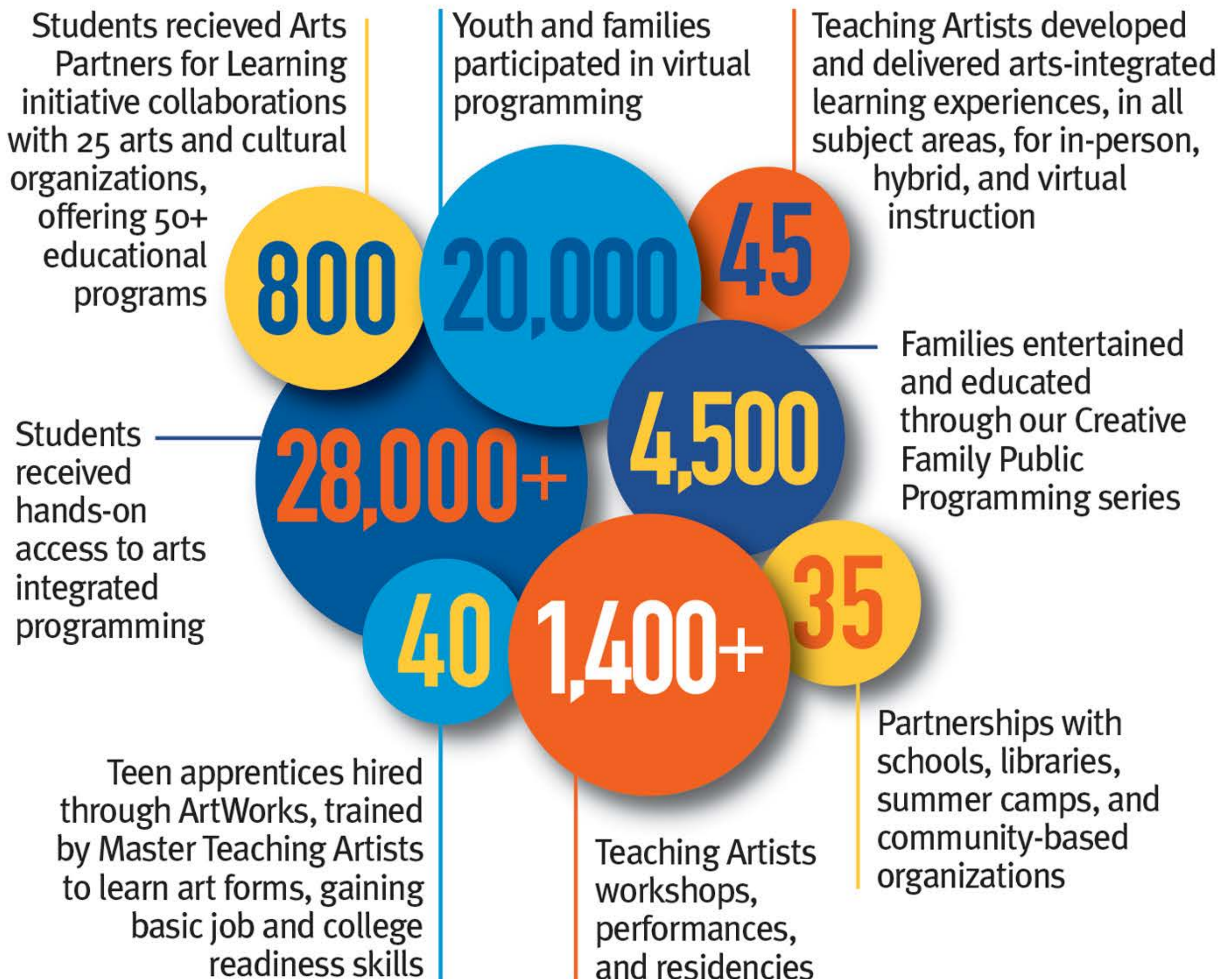
## Buffalo Public Schools Saturday Academies

Throughout the year, students, families, and community members were invited to our free Saturday Academy programming. Through this initiative, seven community schools across Buffalo learned about Bollywood dance, yoga, fashion, quilting, and local history from our roster of Teaching Artists.

## Buffalo Public School #31 Harriet Ross Tubman School Virtual Assemblies

Over 500 students in grades PreK-8 participated in a day of virtual assemblies at BPS # 31 Harriet Ross Tubman School. Three Young Audiences Teaching Artists – The Wondermakers, In Jest with Nels Ross, and Aitina Fareed Cooke – presented virtual programs that included folk tales from around the world, character education, and the Power of Words.

# Impact by the Numbers



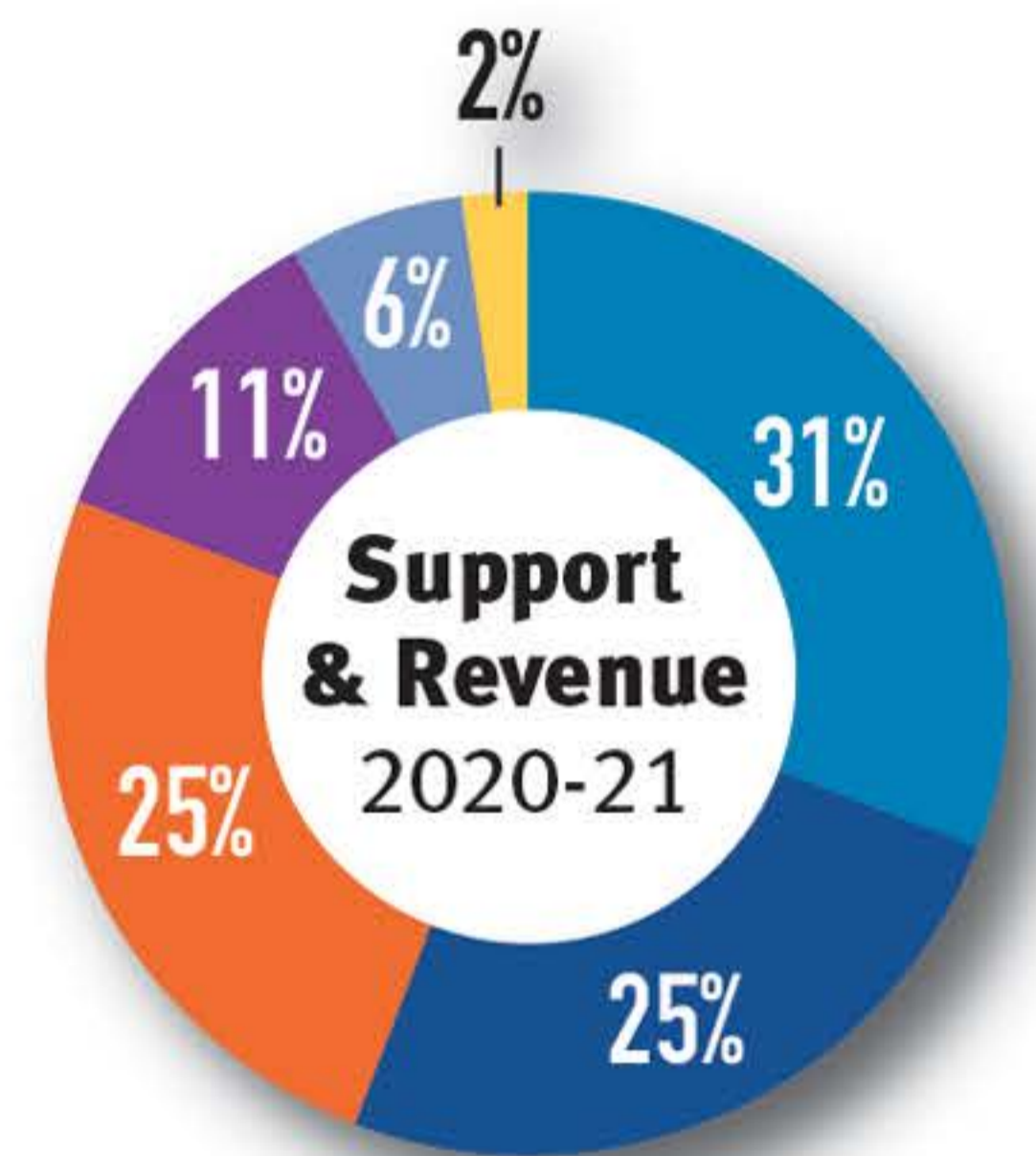
# Funding at a Glance

## We could not do it without you

At Young Audiences, transformation in the lives of children is only possible thanks to our community of generous supporters – individuals, foundations and partners – who, together, contribute to the revenue necessary to fund our programming.

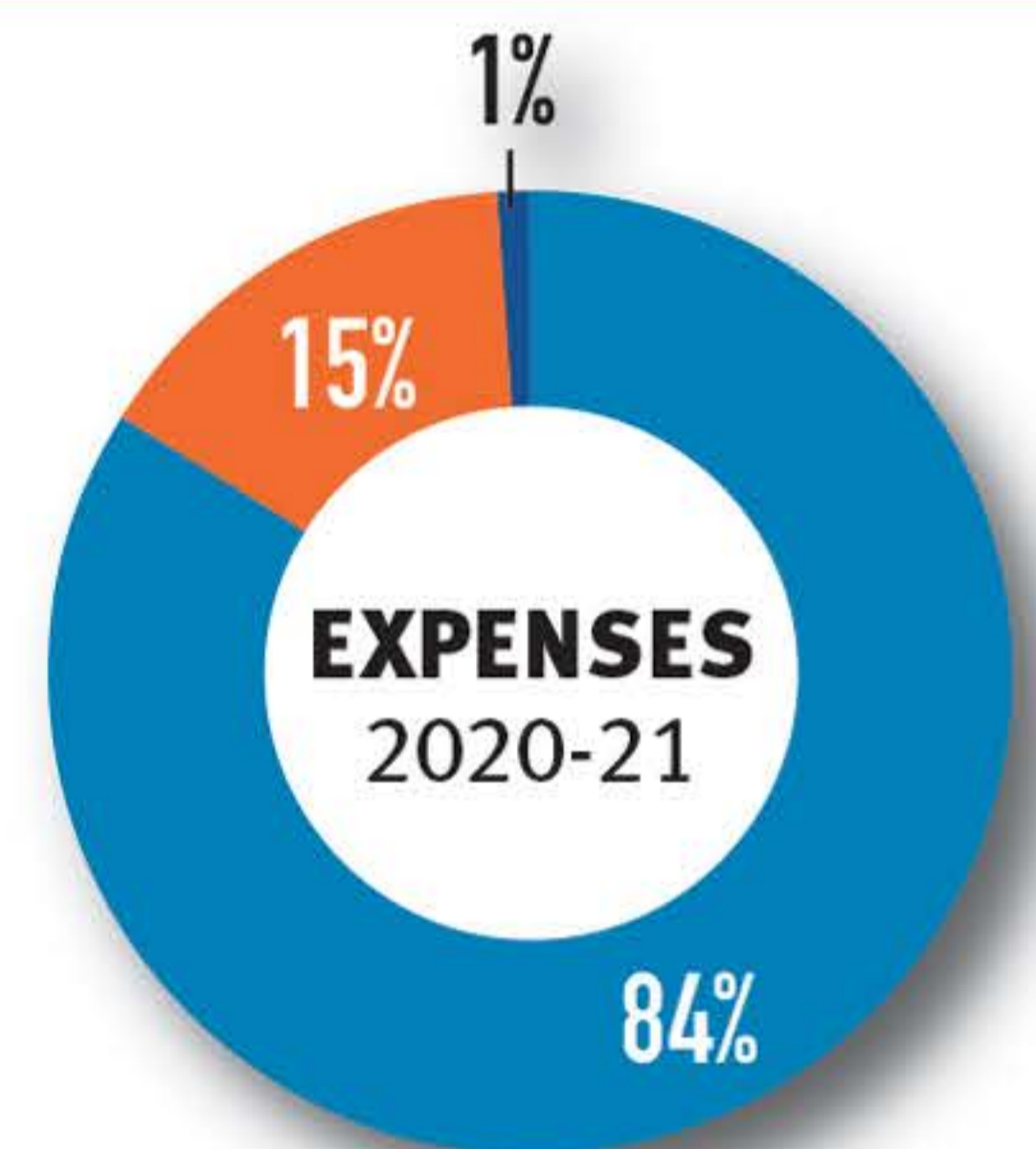
### SUPPORT AND REVENUE

	2020-2021
Contract Income	\$166,411
Government Grants	\$134,927
Foundation Grants	\$134,000
Miscellaneous Income	\$58,682
Contributions	\$32,727
Program Grants	\$11,764
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$538,511</b>



### EXPENSES

Programs And Services	\$340,604
Management	\$61,793
Fundraising	\$2,241
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$404,638</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$133,873</b>



# Our Supporters

## **\$25,000+**

Erie County Department  
of Mental Health  
Erie County Department  
of Youth Services  
First Niagara Foundation  
Fund for the Arts  
New York State Council  
on the Arts

## **\$10,000-24,999**

Erie County Department of  
Environment & Planning  
The Peter & Elizabeth C. Tower  
Foundation  
Mitch Nowakowski,  
Buffalo Common Council  
Molina Healthcare  
Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation  
David A. Rivera, Buffalo Common  
Council Majority Leader  
United Way of Buffalo &  
Erie County

## **\$5,000-9,999**

Conable Family Foundation  
M&T Charitable Foundation  
National Fuel

## **\$1,000-4,999**

Anonymous  
Buffalo Teachers Federation  
Karen Camp  
Children's Foundation  
of Erie County  
Joel P. Feroletto,  
Buffalo Common Council  
Joseph Golombek, Jr.,  
Buffalo Common Council  
Jim Howe  
Humanities NY  
Arlow Linton, Esq.  
Premier Wine & Spirits  
Simple Gifts Fund

## **\$500-999**

Anonymous  
Bruce & Susan Baird  
Laura Douglas  
Erie Canal Harbor  
Development Corporation  
IBM

Michael Leslie  
Laura Linton  
Northwest Bank  
Phyllis Wendt Pierce  
Valerie Stanek  
Michael Thomas  
Zenger Group

## **\$250-499**

Connie Campanaro & David Kraus  
Daycia Clarke  
Cindy Hanna  
Sanford & Margery Nobel  
Stephen Rabent  
Uniland Development Company  
Kyle Young

## **UP TO \$249**

Anonymous  
Natalie & Morton Abramson  
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Charles Balbach  
Barbara Baker  
John & Anita Ballow  
Rosemarie Banks  
Robert & Elizabeth Booth  
Anthony & Barbara Cassetta  
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Mary Anne Rokitka  
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Heidi Salva  
Mark Shepard  
Nicklas Schwartz  
Maria Scrivani & John Lipsitz  
Robert & Kathleen Shaw  
Eric Spriegel  
Jane Swinton  
Anne R. Tirone  
Denise Towey  
Lucy Tretiak-Caruso  
Kelly Weaver

## **IN HONOR OF**

John & Anita Ballow honoring  
Alexandria Matthews  
Thomas & Karen Rabent  
honoring Allison Rabent  
Denise Towey honoring Allison  
Rabent  
CCS Fundraising honoring  
Daniel Hart

## **IN MEMORY OF**

Arlene Goldstein by  
Mitch Flynn & Ellen Goldstein  
Jean M. Rumpl by  
Mary Jean & Larry Jakubowski  
Judy by Mary Anne Rokitka



# Our Partners

## SCHOOLS

Alden High School  
BPS 18 Dr. Antonia Pantoja Community School of Academic Excellence  
BPS #198 Internation Prep  
BPS #207 Lafayette High School  
BPS #3 D'Youville Porter Campus School  
BPS #30 Frank A. Sedita Academy  
BPS #31 Harriet Ross Tubman School  
BPS #45 International School  
BPS #50 North Park Community School  
BPS #59 Charles Drew Magnet School  
BPS #61 Arthur O. Eve School of Distinction  
BPS #74 Hamlin Park Academy  
BPS #94 West Hertel Academy  
Byron-Bergen Senior High School  
Country Parkway School  
Elba Central School  
Elmwood Village Charter School  
Franklinville Junior/Senior High School  
Holland Central School  
Keshequa Elementary School  
Letchworth Central School District  
Maryvale high School  
Maryvale Primary  
Maryvale Union Free District  
Northwood Elementary School  
Notre Dame Academy  
Pittsford Mendon High School  
Reach Academy Charter School  
Riverview Elementary School  
Silver Creek Middle School  
Stanley Makowski Early Childhood  
Westminster Community Charter School  
Winchester Elementary School

## COMMUNITY

Arts Council for Wyoming County  
Aracade Free Library  
Best Self Behavioral Health  
Boston Free Library  
Buffalo & Erie County Public Library  
Buffalo State College  
Canalside  
Clarence Public Library  
Clearfield Branch Library  
Cordelia Green Library  
Corning Museum of Glass

Eden Library  
Erie 1 BOCES  
Family Help Center  
Frank E. Merriweather Library  
Grand Island Memorial Library  
Hamburg Public Library  
Jericho Road Community Health Center  
Kenan Center  
Kenilworth Branch Library  
Lake Shore Branch Library  
Lancaster Public Library  
Matt Urban Center  
Northwest Buffalo Community Center  
Police Athletic League  
Say Yes to Education Buffalo  
The Anne Frank Project  
The Belle Center  
West Seneca Library and Community Center  
Youth Empowerment & Leadership (YEL) - North Buffalo  
Youth Empowerment & Leadership (YEL) - South Buffalo

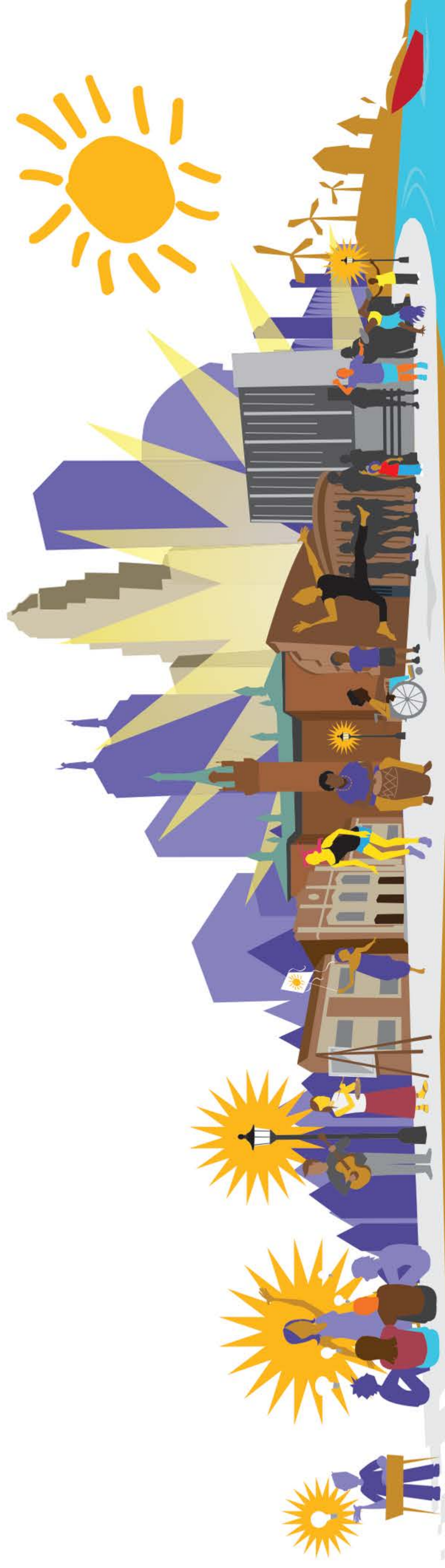
## APL

Albright-Knox Art Gallery  
Arts Services Initiative, Inc.  
Buffalo Architecture Foundation  
Buffalo Audubon Society  
Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village  
Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra  
Buffalo Zoo  
Burchfield Penney Art Center  
Chautauqua Institution  
Explore Buffalo  
Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum  
Infinity Performing Arts  
Martin House  
Roycroft Campus  
Shakespeare in Delaware Park  
Shea's Performing Arts Center  
Squeaky Wheel Film and Media Art Center  
Starlight Studio and Art Gallery  
Theatre of Youth  
Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site  
Tift Nature Preserve  
Ujima Theatre Company  
Western New York Book Arts Center



# Young Audiences Western New York *Arts for Learning!*

1 Lafayette Square  
Buffalo, NY 14203



Council on  
the Arts



100 YEARS  
WORKING TOGETHER  
1917-2017



FUND  
FOR THE  
ARTS



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