

arts TOGETHER

ANNUAL REPORT JULY 2020 - JUNE 2021

GROWING WITH CREATIVITY

Dear Arts Together Friends and Family,

This past year, we as individuals, have uniquely felt the effects of the pandemic, economic challenges, political polarization, and racial awakening. Many of us are feeling fatigued. Despite it all, Arts Together was fortunate to rise still. We learned more about pivoting, acceptance, resilience than we knew was possible. We learned that dancing in the grass while far apart and painting virtually still allowed us to be together. We were reminded the art is good for our souls.

*As you review this annual report, you will find that our faculty and staff still curated 120 classes and workshops online, outside, and at the Carriage house despite our financial challenges. Thirty-one preschool students returned to the classroom in the Spring gaining tremendous skills and making new friends. We had two outdoor Rainbow Dance Company performances. Additionally, we increased the diversity of our board, staff, and participants to advance closer to our vision of **"all members of the community have access to engaging and transformative arts experiences."***

As I reflect on this challenging year, I am reminded it was also extraordinarily rewarding and inspirational. I am clear that the "Arts Together magic" is its people! The dedicated faculty, staff, board members, volunteers, participants, and donors are the magic. I hope this annual report inspires you to stay connected with us, invite others to take a class, donate, or volunteer. We are not Arts Together without you!

Still We Rise,

CHERRELYN NAPUE, MNM
Executive Director

"Walking into the Arts Together building is like getting a big, warm hug. Everyone is kind, welcoming, and genuine. You are invited to come as you are, express yourself freely, and maybe leave a little transformed."

ARTS TOGETHER PARTICIPANT

MISSION

To cultivate individual, creative strengths through the arts in a diverse, inclusive, collaborative, and nurturing community.

VISION

All members of the community have access to engaging and transformative arts and experiences.



This year Arts Together served **1,336** participants

CONNECTING THROUGH CREATIVITY

In a year that was full of loss and hard things, we feel incredibly grateful for our strong community who helped us keep our doors open, maintain programs, and even *launch* new ones. This year our Directors of Art and Dance worked closely with Raleigh Housing Authority and Wake County Community in Schools to provide a new program, **Youth SWAY**, which facilitates discovery, connection, and creation. The program ran at Kensington Community Center and Heritage Park Community Center.



Story

Sharing individual experiences: these stories are explored and interpreted through their visual art pieces and movement phrases.

Wellness

These creative experiences help participants to find common ground, acknowledge their joys and fears while feeling supported in a safe, nurturing space.

Art

Individual visual art pieces and movement phrases created by way of storytelling and sharing in a process over product model.

You

The "You" is significant. The youth guide the process for SWAY. They determine the program projects and help create every aspect of the program and find ownership in the process.



of the Arts Together teaching staff identify as BIPOC



of our Pre-K students were on full scholarships

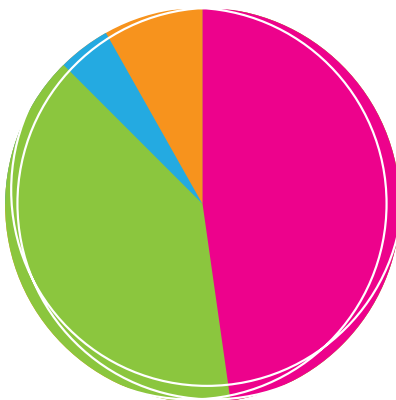
RESTORING CREATIVITY

Arts Together aspires for an equitable future. Our core values have a focus on community and collaboration, and we are working hard to provide access for **everyone in our community** to participate in transformative artistic expression. Because of this, we focus on the "ALL" in our vision statement. Over the past three years, we have made it a priority to offer multi-arts experiences to people that otherwise wouldn't have access to those resources. Since then, we have served *100 kids a year from diverse communities* with organizations like Communities in School, Raleigh Housing Authority, and Dynamic Opportunities, and by strengthening our own scholarship program.



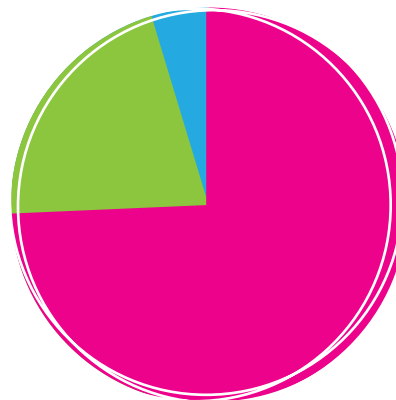
FINANCIALS

While our graphs show that we operated at a small deficit last year, Arts Together survived during a pandemic! With diligent and fiscally responsible leadership, we will continue building that our emergency fund so we can continue rising to meet unexpected challenges.



REVENUE

- PROGRAMS 47%
- GRANTS 39%
- ANNUAL FUND 4%
- OTHER REVENUE 9%



EXPENSES

- PROGRAMS & STUDENT INSTRUCTION
- MANAGEMENT & GENERAL EXPENSES
- FUNDRAISING

Final annually audited expenses and revenue will be available mid-October