For Arts Midwest, as for so many others, 2021 was a year of change.

Disruptions brought on by the pandemic continued to impact our communities and our programs. At Arts Midwest, we deepened our commitment to helping our region recover, disbursing more than $3 million in direct relief aid to Midwest creative organizations on top of our normal granting initiatives. In November 2021, we welcomed a new Board Chair, and in March 2022, we moved into new offices in our hometown of Minneapolis.

In what was perhaps the biggest change of all, Arts Midwest, along with our five sister Regional Arts Organizations, received a historic gift from MacKenzie Scott in June of 2021. We were honored and grateful to be among the 286 recipients of Ms. Scott’s generosity.

Throughout all of these changes, Arts Midwest has not wavered in our commitment to creativity in the Midwest and beyond. In the following pages, you’ll read about key accomplishments from the past year: the grants we’ve awarded to bolster organizations across our region, the artist residencies we’ve produced that brought people together virtually and in person, and the stories we shared that highlight the creative work taking place in Midwestern communities.

Along the way, we’ve been supported by strong partners, donors, advisors, and constituents. They’ve shared their ideas, resources, and feedback to support us in advancing creativity. We are grateful to them, and we are grateful to you.
STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Across the Midwest, creative people and organizations are engaged in exciting and innovative work. Here are a few inspiring stories from the field that we published over the past year.

artsmidwest.org/2021stories

**Grand Forks, North Dakota**
Connecting with New Americans through Art
*Click to view story*

**New York Mills, Minnesota**
Song, Bread, Friendship: Exploring Finnish Heritage through Music
*Click to view story*

**Minneapolis, Minnesota**
Using Art to Bridge Divides and Rebuild
*Click to view story*

**Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan**
Big Read Brings Native American Voices to University Campus
*Click to view story*

**Pine Ridge Reservation**
Building Economic Prosperity and Community Vitality
*Click to view story*

**Des Moines, Iowa**
Using Art to Create Transformative Change for Young Iowans
*Click to view story*

**Iowa City, Iowa**
Workers' Rights and Literature Unite in NEA Big Read
*Click to view story*

**Stevens Point, Wisconsin**
Vibrant Murals Honor Public Spaces in Portage County
*Click to view story*

**Casey, Illinois**
A Creative Road Trip through Southern Illinois
*Click to view story*

**Jeffersonville, Indiana**
Paths Don’t Define Us: Shakespeare and Creative Healing at a Juvenile Detention Center
*Click to view story*
Arts Midwest entered 2021 with a single, guiding goal: to support the creative sector to the very best of our ability as we collectively navigate the COVID-19 pandemic.

As in 2020, we knew that one of the most important things we could do would be to provide financial support to organizations to help them continue their programming and operations. We launched the Grow, Invest, Gather (GIG) Fund, which offers flexible grants to organizations to hire touring artists and build community.

We also partnered with the National Endowment for the Arts and our nine state arts agency members to disburse recovery funds from the American Rescue Plan.

And understanding the toll the past two years have taken on creative workers, we worked with the Bush Foundation to distribute self-care and general operating grants to organizations participating in the Community Creativity Cohort.

The dancers of “KOLADE-XCOPE.” Photo by Sarah Sumbrum, courtesy of DANCECleveland.
As the creative sector rebuilds from a devastating two years, we’re prioritizing supporting the communities and organizations that have been hardest hit due to historic inequities—especially communities of color, Native communities, and rural communities.

In partnership with advisors from across our region, we’re reviewing applications, imagining new programs, and making changes to our grantmaking systems.

Thanks to their insight, we now have a new perspective on how our grant dollars are being distributed across our region. As a result, we have strengthened our connections and support to smaller, historically underserved organizations and communities.

2021 GIG FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Adam DesJardins, Michigan
Anupama Mirle, Ohio
Bethany Gladhill, Minnesota
Brian Kelley, Minnesota
Brianne Sanchez, Iowa
Contessa Lobley, Wisconsin
D. Del Revalda-Jennings, Indiana
David Cotter, Ohio
Hugh Weber, South Dakota
Ipsita Mahapatra, Illinois
Monica Lee Jackson, Michigan
Dr. Terry Whitt Bailey, Indiana
Xela Garcia, Wisconsin
Yolanda Cesta Cursach Montilla, Illinois

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN PARTNER-ADVISORS
Illinois Arts Council Agency
Indiana Arts Commission
Iowa Arts Council
Michigan Arts and Culture Council
Minnesota State Arts Board
North Dakota Council on the Arts
Ohio Arts Council
South Dakota Arts Council
Wisconsin Arts Board
Even as many of our programs and gatherings stayed virtual, we experimented with new initiatives that gave audiences and artists the chance to come together.

After delays due to the pandemic, communities in South Dakota, Iowa, and Indiana launched performing arts residencies through our We the Many program.

We presented a week of virtual and in-person engagements that paired the Finnish ensemble Kardemimmit with community members in New York Mills, Minnesota through our artist residency programs.

Through all these activities, we witnessed moments of creativity, cultural exchange, and understanding.

Our year, and all that we have accomplished together, has only affirmed for us the power of creativity in building community. This truth is at the root of all our work—both in 2021 and in the years to come.
ARTS MIDWEST

FY21 FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVENUE</th>
<th>FY21</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foundation contributions</td>
<td>$1,868,458</td>
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<tr>
<td>MacKenzie Scott contribution</td>
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<td>Individual contributions</td>
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<td>Government grants</td>
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<td>Conference fees</td>
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<td>State arts agencies dues and projects</td>
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<td>Investment and other income</td>
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<td><strong>Total Revenue and Support</strong></td>
<td><strong>15,523,985</strong></td>
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<th>EXPENSES</th>
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<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td>8,806,176</td>
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<td>Management and general</td>
<td>479,112</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>193,857</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,479,145</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Change in Net Assets                  | $6,044,840|

Note: In June 2021, Arts Midwest received an unprecedented, unrestricted gift of $8,000,000 from MacKenzie Scott. We will be allocating those funds to programs, innovation, and infrastructure over the next 5+ years. For more information about this gift, please visit artsmidwest.org/historicgift.
ARMS MIDWEST /////
FY21 FINANCIALS
REVENUE SOURCES

Mr. Adeti, Titambe West African Dance Ensemble performer, guiding the crowd.
Photo by Christine Serobyan, courtesy of African Arts Arena.
ARTS MIDWEST /////
FY21 FINANCIALS
///////// EXPENSES

Mini Lesson at Gregory Daycare.
Photo by Bailey Vesbrna, Prairie Feather Photography.
THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

GOVERNMENT & STATE ARTS AGENCIES

FOUNDATIONS & CORPORATIONS
DONOR LIST (JULY 1, 2020 – PRESENT)

Jessica Abbazio
Veronica Ahern
Torrie Allen
Anonymous, in memory of Colleen McLaughlin
Donald Balfour
Julia Barlow, in memory of Colleen McLaughlin
Catherine Barnett
Alan Becker
Ananda Bena-Weber
Rebecca Biderman
Emma Bohmann
Brian and Kaija Bonde
John Bracey
Chelsea Brown
Peter Capell
Terrence A. Chin-Loy, in honor of Margaret Skoglund
Tom Clareson
Nina Clark
Alex Cousins
Dionne Custer Edwards
Steve Duchrow
Craig Dunn, in memory of Colleen McLaughlin
Marlene Feldman, in memory of Rebecca Biderman
Ken and Penny Fischer
David Fraher
Brian Goesl
Emily Gutknecht
Clay and Sandy Haapala
Ken and Catherine Haastad
Lindsay Hanson
Matthew Harris
Janet Herman Barlow
Stan and Jane Hooper
Alana Horton
Kendra Whitlock Ingram
Yumi Inomata and Carl H. Nilsson
Gina Kastel
Sylvia Kaufman
Moira Keane and Thomas L. Romens
Jill and Bill Klanderaman
Chad Klochko
Melissa Koprek, in honor of Emily and Marcus Wicker
Melissa Koprek, in honor of Erin Cramer
Melissa Koprek, in honor of the Skaja Family
Melissa Koprek, in honor of Mark and Kim Skaja
Kimberly Koran, in honor of Kayla Murphy
Andi Larsen and Bill Youmans
Megan Laudenschlager
Daniel Lawrence
Patti Liberatore, in honor of David Fraher
Marc Lyon
Emily Maltz and Jean-Michel Artigaud, in memory of Colleen McLaughlin
Kymm and Ivan Martinez
David Mayeri
Allithir McGill
Barbara McLaughlin, in memory of Colleen McLaughlin
Rene and Christoph Meyer-Grimberg
Miia and Jonathan Michelsen
Joel Mintzer and Heidi Schneider
Bonnie Monte
Gretta Mosser
Daniel Murphy
Chaitra Nagaraja
Jan Newcomb
Alexandra Nicholis Coon
Jenny Palmer
Michael Pangburn
Adam Perry
Andre and Amanda Perry
Jasper Person
Mary Pickard
Rhoda Pierce
Ashwini Ramaswamy
Leslie Rapp
Jane and John Rasmussen
Clara Reed
Jeffrey Reinhart
Jonathan Riehle and Angela M. Bohmann
Barbara Robinson
Betsy Roder
Anne Romens and Christopher Hill
Laura Ross
Sara Rowley
Jeff Rundgren
Omari Rush
Sandra Schoeder
MacKenzie Scott
Dana Setterholm and Antonio Spargo
Emily Stiehl
Kitty Strauss and Dick Rosenthal
Nicodemus Taranovsky and Sharon Preves
Tammy Tesky Ausen, in memory of Colleen McLaughlin
George Tzougros
Terri and Michael Ulrine
Michael Vinson
Jan Virgin
Gregory Volan and Katarina Topalov
Saymoukda Vongsay, in memory of Sanouthith Vongsay
Robert Wagner
Stanley Wai and Gayle A. Jorgens
Melissa Wales
Matthew Wallace
Alison Watson
Jan Webb
Any Wilkening
Sally Windle
Pernille Wollan

Anne Romens and Christopher Hill
Laura Ross
Sara Rowley
Jeff Rundgren
Omari Rush
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Pernille Wollan
A LEGEND ASCENDS

Arts Midwest was saddened by the passing of Loann Crane on November 9, 2021. Loann was a dedicated member of Arts Midwest’s Board of Directors, serving from 1994 until stepping down in 2019. During her 25 years on the Board, she was an enthusiastic and passionate supporter of Arts Midwest. Her commitment to the organization culminated in a leadership gift of $250,000 to the David Fraher Fund for Innovation in 2019. We are so grateful to Loann for her service, her dedication, and her unwavering belief in the power of Midwestern Creativity.

“Mom loved serving on the Arts Midwest Board. She so enjoyed traveling to Board meetings and felt enriched after every time together with the ‘amazing Board,’ as she described them. Mom loved learning, and through her Arts Midwest experience, she expanded her boundaries beyond Central Ohio.”

—Tanny Crane, Loann’s daughter