

2025-2026

ASHTABULA ARTS CENTER ANNUAL REPORT



A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of the Arts Center,

The fiscal year 2025-2026 came and went, and so did an entirely new year of camps, programming, performances, and events. Throughout this year, we were so incredibly busy both in and out of our facility, bringing arts activities around the county and beyond. We expanded programming; partnered with local businesses and organizations; joined hands with our local schools to offer arts experiences; and so much more.

In 2025 alone, we dove headfirst into our community by offering arts programming offsite at places, such as Spectrum Academy, Harbor-Topky Memorial Library, Dragon Plus Program, ACCOA, and more. We conducted a much-needed community needs assessment to hear of gaps in accessibility and programming, and gained valuable feedback on how people would like to be part of the art. This information is so imperative to our vision of building an inclusive community where creativity thrives, arts are accessible, and diverse voices are celebrated. We wanted to make sure to include our community in our data-driven decision making.

Last year, we produced 25 productions; held 40 classes inside of schools and 296 classes/workshops outside of schools; awarded more than \$21,500 in financial aid and scholarships, held around 2,700 private lessons, and so much more. Our staff worked hard not only delivering arts experiences, but revamped our outdoor spaces through painting, signage, furniture, and our pollinator garden. In November 2025, we opened our fully ADA accessible restroom, equipped with a universal changing table. This restroom breaks down restroom barriers and allows everyone to be able to visit our facility without having to worry about if the restroom is accessible.

From guided tours, free concerts on the lawn, the Ashtabula County of Board of Developmental Disabilities 1st Annual Talent Show, and "Artober," we opened our doors to our community in a big way and will always continue to do so. I can't begin to thank everyone for all the love and support offered to our organization, helping our organization meet its mission last year. Our community is essential to our mission; and its support allows the Arts Center to create a welcoming, inclusive space that celebrates art, culture, and the unique creative spirit of every individual.

We hope you consider joining us this year. Every dollar, every minute volunteered, and every kind word shared with others matters. Thank you for helping to keep the arts alive in Ashtabula.

Artfully Yours,

Lori Starling
Executive Director



A NOTE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear Friends of the Arts Center,

What a year this has been for the Ashtabula Arts Center! We continued to deliver the high quality programming and classes that our community has come to expect from us, while reaching out to new audiences and under-served people in Northeast Ohio. We couldn't have done it without the continued support of our donors, artists, staff, performers, audience members, volunteers and everyone that makes this organization so special.

Looking ahead, I am excited for the following:

- A blockbuster theater season : 13th Street and Straw Hat seasons full of classics and new Broadway hits
- A dance season full of tradition and innovation: Ballet Theatre Ashtabula's Nutcracker and Spring Dance
- The best art in Northeast Ohio & Northwest Pennsylvania: The Paul and Norma Tikkanen Painting Prize

From painting and pottery to violin lessons and dance classes, the Ashtabula Arts Center truly has something for everyone. As always, we are grateful for the support of our community. I look forward to seeing you in the gallery, the classroom, or the theater very soon.

Derek Lebzelter
Board President



OUR VISION

To build an inclusive community where creativity thrives, arts are accessible, and diverse voices are celebrated. We connect people through shared experiences, offer educational opportunities, and provide a welcoming space for cultural exchange.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to create a welcoming, inclusive community that celebrates art, culture, and the unique creative spirit of every individual. We connect and empower people through educational programs, cultural exchanges, and shared experiences that inspire and engage our community through the transformative power of the arts.

BOARD OFFICERS

President | Derek Lebzelter, *INEOS*

Vice President | Nicole Noscal, *Signature Health*

Secretary | Lauren Gloekler, *ARMC*

Treasurer | Sarah Koski Noufer, *Koski Construction*

BOARD MEMBERS

Alex Asteinza, *Vital Spa*

Melissa Brodhead, *Kent State University*

Gary Burlin, *Gary M. Burlin & Co.*

Chris DiGiacomo, *Framed on Main*

Mary Ann Kline, *retired, University Hospitals*

Amanda Mills, *MCC Therapies, LLC*

Judy Mudd, *retired, Buckeye Local Schools*

Kate Reedy

Robinlyn Vogel

STAFF

Lori Starling, *Executive Director*

Kristi Morris, *Director of Operations*

Amanda Frazier, *Marketing & Communications Director*

Clover Robinson, *Director of Dance*

Kimberly Godfrey-Warren, *Director of Theater & Music*

Zach Adkins, *Assistant Director of Theater & Music*

Nancy Nelson-Brotz, *Visual Arts Director*

Doug Bennett, *Technical Director*

Kelsey Febel, *Administrative Volunteer & Donor Coordinator*

Melanie Glee, *Administrative Editorial Assistant*

Czarina Charters, *Administrative Assistant*

FOUNDATION, GRANT, AND SPONSOR SUPPORT

Support from family, community, and corporate foundations is essential for the Ashtabula Arts Center to serve the citizens of Ashtabula County.

We are also grateful to our foundation supporters for the funding of special projects, such as our technology infrastructure upgrade, special programming needs, technical & administrative upgrades, purchase of LED lighting instruments, scholarship funds, set and production infrastructure, and more.

We gratefully acknowledge the support of the following foundations and sponsors:

Albert M. Ford Charitable Trust
Ashtabula Carpet Workroom
Ashtabula County Board of Developmental Disabilities
Ashtabula Arts Center Foundation
Ashtabula Foundation
Ashtabula Senior Center (ACCOA)
Ashtabula YMCA
Blanchard Foundation
Bruce Loomis
The Androse Foundation
The Panevin Foundation
Civic Development Corporation
Coblitz Family Fund
Herzog Family Foundation
KeyBank Foundation
KeyBank-Ashtabula Branch
Robert S. Morrison Foundation
The State of Ohio
Ohio Arts Council
Tikkanen Foundation
VFW Post #943
SPIRE
Walmart Spark for Good
Your Bridge Wealth Management

Thank you to our Community Partners!

Each year, we strive to build stronger connections with other organizations in the community. We strengthened relationships this year with The Ashtabula YMCA, Harbor Topky Library, Dragon Plus Program, Spectrum Academy, Growth Partnership, LEADERship Ashtabula County, Ashtabula Area District Library, Ashtabula Area City Schools, Ashtabula County Animal Protective League, Walking with Memphis Dog Rescue, and more!



SMU DATA ARTS ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Organizational Financial History

	FY 2025
Total revenue	\$1,058,014
Total expenses	\$1,157,516
Change in net assets	-\$99,502
Total net assets	\$1,058,014

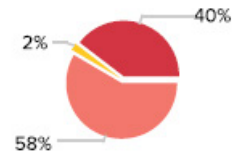
Organizations with expenses under \$50,000 do not have the option to enter net assets.

Revenue & expense summary	FY 2025
Total revenue less in-kind	\$1,049,764
Total expenses less in-kind	\$1,149,266

Unrestricted Operating Revenue by Source

- Earned
- Investment
- Contributed

FY 2025



Operating Expenses by Functional Grouping

- Program
- Management & General
- Fundraising

FY 2025



Workforce

Number of People	FY 2025
Employees: Full-time permanent	8
Employees: Part-time permanent	5
Volunteers	545
Independent contractors	103
Interns and apprentices	0
Total positions	661

SMU DATA ARTS ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Program Activity		
In-person activity	FY 2025	
	Distinct offerings	# of times offered
Productions (self-produced)	25	110
Productions (presented)	0	
Classes/assemblies/other programs in schools	40	40
Classes/workshops (outside of schools)	295	1,039
Field trips/school visits	10	10
Guided tours	20	20
Lectures	2	2
Permanent exhibitions	1	
Temporary exhibitions	12	
Traveling exhibitions (hosted)	0	
Films screened		
Festivals/conferences	1	12
Readings/workshops (developing works)		
Community programs (not included above)	3	3
Additional programs not listed above	0	0



SMU DATA ARTS ANNUAL REPORT 2025



Program Activity	
	FY 2025
Fiscally sponsored projects	1
Amount distributed to fiscally sponsored projects	\$3,117
Residencies	1
Scholarships awarded	95
Amount awarded in scholarships	\$21,578
Other grants awarded	
Amount awarded in grants	
Public art installations	2
Works commissioned	1
Films produced	
World premieres	
National premieres	
Local/regional premieres	
Published works (physical)	500
Published works (digital)	
Private lessons (in-person)	2,700
Private lessons (digital)	
Competitions	1

2025-2026

HIGHLIGHTS:

AWARDED OVER
\$21,500 IN
FINANCIAL AID
AND
SCHOLARSHIPS



LED MORE THAN 296
ARTS
CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

FACILITATED OVER
170 HOURS OF
INSTRUCTION IN
SCHOOLS



2025-2026

HIGHLIGHTS:



DIRECTLY AND
INDIRECTLY
REACHED OVER
31,500
INDIVIDUALS



2025-2026 DONOR LIST

Thank you to all of our donors this
fiscal year!



Center Stage:

- Bruce Loomis
- Kimberly Turner
- Dixie Selip

Director's Circle:

- Bonnie J Benson
- Gary Burlin & Harold Bemis
- Susan Chapman
- Coblitz Family
- John Doherty
- Sally & Pat Flash
- Morgan Griffiths, Jr.
- Glenn & Donna Hadlock
- Grand River Rubber & Plastics
- Casey Hammond
- Terry Hall
- Alix Hill
- Keith Jury
- Bill & Mary Ann Kline
- Beth Koski
- Nancy Krajec
- Andre LaSalle
- Derek & Jessica Lebzelter
- Charlotte Lehto
- Jeff & Chelsea Miller
- Jay & Judy Mudd
- Linda & John Paolillo
- David & Lynn Pontius
- David Powers
- Stephen & Sarah Rhodes
- Ted Robishaw



2025-2026

- Greg & Pat Seymour
- Mr. & Mrs. Schoneman (Schoneman, Inc)
- Ed & Sandi Taylor
- Harlan & Lorraine Waid
- E. Terry & Dorothea Warren

Encore:

- Debra Barrickman
- John & Anna Banks
- Troy & Chris Bailey
- Dwight & Janis Beebe
- Dr. & Mrs. Burkholder
- Jude & Jen Cauwenburgh
- Michael & Emily Cheich
- Jim & Ellen Cufr
- David & Lori Flautt
- Debra Barrickman
- Lauren & Jason Gloekler
- Jeff & Tina Griffiths
- David & Bonita Hayes
- Dr. & Mrs. Shin Huang
- Matt Kanicki
- Christopher & Michelle McClure
- Larry & Jodi Mills
- Cynthia & Allan Richards
- Scot & Debbe Sinkler
- Mardi Snyder
- Sharon Spotts
- Dennis Swaney



Bravo:

- Nanette Adams & Gary Case
- Dr. Jerome Brockway
- Terance Blon
- Cheryle Chiaramonte
- Kelly Copeland
- Robin & Deborah Cumberland
- Nancy Evans
- Maria Fowler
- Bob & Laurie Godfrey
- Lorna Greicius
- Rev. & Mrs. Fred Grimm
- Judith Guscott
- Renee Incorvati
- Beth Jepson
- Carol & Randy Jones
- James & Debra LaPierre
- Bob & Louise Lebzelter
- Cheryl Kimmel
- Allison Milburn
- Sue Miller
- Marybeth Nassief
- Josh Nichols
- John & Nancy Patterson
- David & Joanna Pertz-Anderson
- Linda Profant
- Don Shaughnessy
- Patricia Simpson
- George & Darl Stouffer
- Doug & MaryLou Towner
- Paul Vincent



2025-2026

Cheers:



- Sharon Albert
- Julia Barton
- Rosemary Bernato
- Liesl Blackwell
- Alan Block & Chris Zielski
- Linda Boughton
- Mariana Branch
- Jean Brockway
- Lou Buck
- James & Janice Cook
- William Cornell
- Wesley Crawford
- Chris Digiacomo
- Mattie Dramis
- Bert & Carol Drennen
- Janine & Joel Dimare
- Dennis Dixon
- Sarah Eastman
- Priscilla Folmer
- Alice & Lee Fritts
- Luanna Hale
- Charlotte Hawkins
- Lavette Hennigan
- Patricia Hitchcock
- Nancy Hodge
- Meeghan Humphrey & Ralph Bacon
- Ryan Humphrey
- Nick Iarocci
- Margo Jeanchild
- Kelly Jerome
- David & Marsha King
- Barbara Kiphart
- Chuck & Joy Koski
- Joyce Kren
- Scott Kuhar
- Gerald & Mariel Kujala
- Marcia LeBrecht
- Linda Licate
- Eileen Lopuszynski
- Karey Lunghofer
- Benjamin & Amanda McMurtrie
- Dr. & Mrs. Paul Mechling
- Larry & Alberta Meloro

2025-2026

- Marjorie Milliken
 - Tammy Monday
- Sherry Niederkorn
 - Loan Nguyen
 - Sandra O'Brien
 - Bob & Kay Palmer
- Bill Palmer & Jane Steward
 - Donna Patterson
 - Terry Persily
- David & Kathy Peterson
 - Linda & Will Petric
 - Eugene Pfeifer
 - Mike Primc
- Thomas & Carol Robertson
 - Linda & Randy Schiff
 - Harry Schwentker
 - Steve & Sally Searl
 - Ginny Seifert
- Sara & Randall Shaner
- Nina & David Shevchik
 - Dr. Susan Stocker
 - Marta Stone
 - Rebecca Stowell
 - Debbie Upole
- Joe, Jessica, Trudy & Fred Wise
 - Pam Whelan
- Jean A Wrightnour, OD



Applause:

- Abagale Ibarra-Allhouse
- Linda Artman
- Gary & Linda Benedict
- Jane Brock
- Lois Candela
- Miriam Cartner
- Richard - RC- Rose Davis
- Nancy Gloekler
- Harriet Goodman
- Jerie Greene
- Clark & Deb Hewitt
- Ali Ibarra
- Faythe Jerome
- Karen & Len Jury
- Kathleen Keenan
- Kathleen Kennedy
- Tiffany Kiphart
- Sara Koralewski
- Derek Li
- Kathy Lovas
- Carole Marchand
- Marcus Marshall
- Robyn Maruffo
- David McLaughlin
- Sandy Meely
- Virginia Minick
- Nick
- Bev O'Reilly & Brad Gianell
- Judy Pallutch
- Antoinette Phelps
- Cheryl Regner
- Fran & Cal Robinson
- Frederick Robsel
- Gus & Barbara Saikaly
- Carol Shank
- Lori & Beau Starling
- Ashlyn Supina
- Sue Swigunski
- Nicole Taylor
- Pam & Rick Zack

