Building Healthy Communities Through the Arts

A Report to the Community

At ArtsFund, we are dedicated to building healthy communities through the arts. Ours is a holistic approach—strengthening arts organizations, educating and empowering nonprofit leaders and volunteers, and advancing community priorities through the arts. In this special print edition of the ArtsFund newsletter, we look back at notable news from 2016, and invite you to join us in looking ahead towards 2017.

2016 was a big year for ArtsFund. We are proud to have supported over 100 cultural organizations and the communities they serve through our grant making, trainings, convenings and additional programs. In addition, through dozens of community conversations and presentations, we shared the findings from our Economic Impact Study of Arts, Cultural & Scientific Organizations, which elucidated how the arts drive economic and community vitality.

One recurring theme that emerged from our survey of 3,500 patrons for the Economic Impact Study was the conviction that the arts help us see the world through the lens of another. This broadened perspective in turn fosters understanding, empathy, and tolerance, and enables us to better understand our differences as well as acknowledge those common ideals and values that bind us. The arts create a safe space for thoughtful and civil debate and discourse, which is ever more important in the current political environment.

Whether through the content on stages and in exhibition halls, cultural events in our parks and neighborhoods, or post-show conversations, the arts remind us of our common humanity and help us make sense of the world around us. As our region continues to experience unprecedented growth and demographic shifts, never has the need—and opportunity—for the arts to unite us been so strong.

This is our commitment to the community, and we invite you to join us by making your gift to Campaign 2017 today.

Did You Know?

The activity of nonprofit cultural organizations and their patrons in King, Kitsap, Pierce and Snohomish Counties has a big impact on our region annually.

$2.4B aggregate sales impacts
30% of sales impacts come from outside of the area
35,376 total jobs supported
13.4M patron visits

Source: ArtsFund’s 2014 Economic Impact Study of Arts, Cultural & Scientific Organizations in the Central Puget Sound. For the full report, visit www.artsfund.org/EIS.
GRANT MAKING

ArtsFund invested $2.4 Million in grants to 53 arts organizations throughout King and Pierce Counties in 2016. These grants helped our grantees put on over 10,000 productions and exhibits reaching more than 9.7 million patrons, fill the gap in arts education by providing over 809,000 students access to the arts, and increase access where cost is a barrier by providing 1.6 million free or discounted tickets. For a full list of organizations supported, visit www.artsfund.org.

PROGRAMMING

ArtsFund’s programming served constituents across the region in 2016. ArtsFund’s Associates Program, the annual volunteer corps that equips individuals with fundraising and leadership skills, had participation from 101 individuals from 70 companies and raised over $415,000 for the 2016 Campaign. Additionally, our Board Leadership Training program, which strengthens arts organizations by teaching the fundamentals of board service and offering practical internships with non-profit boards, trained 54 individuals from ArtsFund’s partner businesses, organizations, and institutions. By participating in ArtsFund’s programming, both of these dedicated groups are empowered to make a positive impact in our community.

POWER2GIVE/PUGET SOUND

ArtsFund’s regional arts crowdfunding platform power2give/PugetSound was presented from October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2016. In a three-year span, the platform generated $1,224,849 in support of 228 projects from 100 multidisciplinary arts and cultural organizations throughout the Central Puget Sound. The program created a significant impact in the community and allowed ArtsFund to build new partnerships. All donations made through the site were matched by ArtsFund’s matching funders, with ArtsFund providing a total of $548,824. Visit www.artsfund.org/p2g for more info.

“In 8 days, we raised $3,000 for new sets and costumes for our touring productions. On behalf of the thousands of audience members across the state, we thank ArtsFund for their leadership in creating this opportunity!”

- John Bradshaw, Seattle Shakespeare Company, on power2give

CONVENINGS

Several times throughout the year, ArtsFund hosted gatherings focused on sharing resources, practices, and perspectives among the broader arts community. On April 11, Turning Data Into Action briefed participants on ArtsFund’s Economic Impact Study, and offered examples for leveraging data to drive support for the arts. Maximizing Online Donor Relationships provided strategies for building and strengthening relationships formed through power2give. ArtsFund also gathered leaders of our partner organizations for A Conversation on Board Diversity, and broadcast the webinar Data Driven Donor Cultivation in partnership with TRG Arts. In 2016, nearly 200 participants from 106 organizations were served through ArtsFund’s convenings series.
ARTSFUND IN THE COMMUNITY

SEATTLE ART FAIR
This August, the Seattle Art Fair returned to CenturyLink Field offering three full days to view, experience, collect, and celebrate arts and culture in the Pacific Northwest. ArtsFund was proud to be a second year cultural partner, and hosted an event for our Associate Volunteers during the fair. President & CEO Mari Horita also served on the fair’s Host Committee, and ArtsFund grantee Seattle Art Museum was named the 2016 designated beneficiary, receiving proceeds from the August 4th preview night.

ARTS NIGHT AT SAFECO FIELD
ArtsFund’s 4th Annual Arts Night at Safeco Field, in partnership with the Seattle Mariners, provided visibility for our regional non-profit arts organizations and a celebratory evening for the community. Guests were greeted with live pre-game entertainment at the gates from Jet City Improv, Music Center of the Northwest’s Centerpiece Jazz Band, and Seattle JazzED’s All Star Girls Combo. Guests were also treated to an on-field performance by Michael Brockman and members of the Seattle Repertory Jazz Orchestra. Sarah Rose Davis from the The 5th Avenue Theatre sang the National Anthem, and Pacific Northwest Ballet Principal Dancer James Moore threw out the Group First Pitch.

BOARD SPEED DATING EVENT
This fall, ArtsFund partnered with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Leadership Tomorrow, Seattle Works, and United Way of King County, to present a board “speed dating” night targeted at professionals seeking board service. Graduates of ArtsFund’s Board Leadership Training program, as well as graduates from our partners’ training programs, were invited to participate. Attendees met with representatives from 18 local non-profits including ArtsFund Cultural Partners Jet City Improv, Seattle Arts & Lectures, Seattle Shakespeare Company, TeenTix, and Three Dollar Bill Cinema.

“Culture expands my understanding of myself and the world I live in.”
-Patron response, ArtsFund’s 2014 Economic Impact Study

28TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS LUNCHEON
Last May, nearly 1,000 supporters from the Puget Sound region’s arts, business, and civic sectors filled the Grand Ballroom of the Westin Seattle for ArtsFund’s 28th Annual Celebration of the Arts Luncheon. Onstage and lobby artists, presenters, and keynote speaker John Maeda (Designer and Technologist) came together in celebration of the synergy of art, design, and technology. John Maeda’s keynote address, From STEM to STEAM: Revealing the Importance of the Arts and Design in the Digital Age, emphasized the relevance creative thinking to business and tech industries. Seventeen year old singer and vocal loop artist ParisAlexa performed, and awardees Mark Morris and the Nesholm Family Foundation provided compelling remarks highlighting the critical role of philanthropy in our arts ecosystem.
2016 ARTSFUND BENEFICIARY GRANTS

DANCE
Pacific Northwest Ballet
Spectrum Dance Theater
Velocity Dance Center
Whim W'Him

FILM & MEDIA ARTS
Northwest Film Forum
Three Dollar Bill Cinema
SIFF

LITERARY ARTS
Richard Hugo House
Seattle Arts & Lectures

MULTIDISCIPLINARY
Artist Trust
Broadway Center for the Performing Arts
EMP Museum
Jack Straw Productions
Meany Center for the Performing Arts
Nordic Heritage Museum
Northwest African American Museum
On the Boards
Seattle Theatre Group
Town Hall Association
Vashon Allied Arts
The Vera Project

MUSIC
Auburn Symphony Orchestra
Early Music Guild
Earshot Jazz Society of Seattle
Northwest Sinfonietta
Seattle Chamber Music Society
Seattle Men’s Chorus/Seattle Women’s Chorus
Seattle Opera
Seattle Pice Musica
Seattle Repertory Jazz Orchestra
Seattle Symphony
Symphony Tacoma
Tacoma Opera

THEATER
5th Avenue Theatre
ACT Theatre
Book-It Repertory Theatre
Intiman Theatre
Jet City Improv
Seattle Children’s Theatre
Seattle Public Theater
Seattle Repertory Theatre
Seattle Shakespeare Company
Tacoma Musical Playhouse
Taproot Theatre Company
Village Theatre

VISUAL ART
Bellevue Arts Museum
Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture
Frye Art Museum
Henry Art Gallery
Museum of Glass
Seattle Art Museum
Tacoma Art Museum

SPECIAL GRANTS
ArtsFund Plestcheef Design and Decorative Arts Grants:
Museum of Glass
Nordic Heritage Museum
Seattle Art Museum

LOOKING AHEAD TO CAMPAIGN 2017

ARTSFUND WELCOMES OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS AND THANKS THOSE WHO ARE STEPPING OFF FOR THEIR SERVICE TO THE ARTS AND CULTURAL COMMUNITY

Incoming Trustees:

- Stephan Coonrod
  K&L Gates

- Kara Hurst
  Amazon

- Emory Thomas
  Puget Sound Business Journal

- Judy Yu
  Seattle University

Outgoing Trustees:

- Judi Beck
  K&L Gates

- Heather Howard
  The Boeing Company

- Bill LaPatra
  Mithun

- Mahi Demissie
  Sellen Construction

- Douglas McCallum
  Financial Resources Group

- Peter Horvitz
  PAH Investments

- Matthew Nickerson
  Liberty Mutual Personal Insurance

- Safeco Insurance

- Glenna Olson
  U.S. Bank

- Sandy McDade
  Weyerhaeuser (retired)

2014-2016 Board Chair:

- Stepn Coonrod
  K&L Gates

- Kara Hurst
  Amazon

- Emory Thomas
  Puget Sound Business Journal

- Judy Yu
  Seattle University

Incoming Board Chair:

- Carol Powell
  Wells Fargo, The Private Bank

SAVE THE DATE: MAY 4, 2017
CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS LUNCHEON

On May 4th, 2017 ArtsFund will present the 29th Annual Celebration of the Arts Luncheon at the Westin Seattle. Join us and 1,000 arts, business and civic leaders as we focus on the impact the arts have in our region.
ARTS ACCESS CALENDAR

ArtsFund’s ArtsAccess discounts are offered to donors at the $250 level and above. Along with our cultural partners, we are pleased to offer the following buy-one get-one-free discounts on tickets to a variety of upcoming performances at the following organizations.

Current offers include:

Join at any time by becoming a $250+ ArtsFund Donor! www.artsfund.org/donate

Already a member? Contact Annemarie Scalzo at annemaries@artsfund.org or 206-788-3049 to receive instructions about how to purchase tickets for the performances you would like to attend using the ArtsAccess discount. Two weeks advance notice is preferred. This offer is subject to availability and can only be used once per presenting organization.