ARTSFUND X 500 NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2020

A FUTURE FOR THE ARTS

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CEO



Michael Greer President & CEO

I am honored to be a part of ArtsFund as its next President & CEO, and look forward to working with all of you as we head into the future. My sincere thanks to Sue Coliton for her outstanding work as ArtsFund's Interim President & CEO—her leadership through these times of change has been instrumental.

There is no denying that our community and our sector nationwide is in crisis and ArtsFund is at the forefront of relief with both our grant making and our leadership. Because of our supporters, ArtsFund's grant making will top \$5.3M this year! These grants are more than just a number. They represent rents that can be paid, food in people's stomachs, and hope in people's hearts. And as I'm hearing from our partners, our leadership through data collection, sector-wide advocacy, messaging, and visibility is a much needed complement to the dollars. The recovery will be as important as the relief, and when that time comes, we will be ready. Your leadership today and the support you will give tomorrow will be what defines our sector for generations to come.

While we are rooted in the nonprofit community, our influence in the private and public sectors has allowed us to make real change over the past 50 years. I see ArtsFund as being able to leverage those partnerships to continue making change in the next 50 years. From providing a platform on which new artistic voices can be heard, to growing the proverbial pie so that we can increase our philanthropic reach, ArtsFund is well positioned to be a leader that listens to our sector and advocates for the support it needs for the next half century. Thank you all for allowing us to be where we are today and for positioning us to carry our community into the future.

ARTSFUND GRANTS OVER \$5M

This year, ArtsFund granted over **\$5.3M** across 111 of our region's arts and cultural organizations.

In early response to the pandemic, ArtsFund launched the COVID-19 Arts Emergency Relief Fund in March, in conjunction with a coalition of arts organizations. The fund raised over \$3.1M from 360 supporters. Organizations have shared that grants will be applied to support operations, artist fees, salaries and benefits, as well as the transition to digital programming, and staff training and supplies to prepare for a healthy and compliant reopening. For a list of grant recipients, visit **artsfund.org/CovidRelief**.

The Arts Emergency Relief grants are in addition to the early distribution of \$2.19M in ArtsFund's annual keystone grants. Now in its 51st year, our keystone grant program provides general operating support enabling grant recipients to invest the funds where needed most to advance their missions. For a list of grant recipients, visit **artsfund.org/2020KeystoneGrants.** "This is the biggest relief fund grant we have received thus far, and it will make a remarkable difference for us from any angle: morale, finances, staff retention. Thank you ArtsFund for all you do for the community and the arts."

> -Arts Emergency Relief Fund Grant Recipient

CAMPAIGN 2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS & MORE

Campaign 2020 has been a milestone year in many ways. Beginning in October 2019, this campaign marked **50 years of ArtsFund** strengthening the community by supporting the arts. Thanks to thousands of supporters and partners across the decades, our leadership, advocacy, and grant making programs have been building up the Central Puget Sound region's arts and cultural community since 1969. For more information, visit **artsfund.org/50**.

This year also found ArtsFund **moving to a new home**. After over a decade residing in Lower Queen Anne's Century Building, the office has moved two blocks West to 100 W. Harrison Street, Suite 150. Hundreds of our closest friends helped welcome us to the new space during February's open house.

With our first **Cultural Partners Summit** in September 2019, we brought together members of ArtsFund's Cultural Partners Network for connection building and peer learning around creative solutions to common challenges that arts and cultural nonprofits face. Attendees and presenters got to know colleagues from other organizations of various sizes and disciplines that are working towards similar solutions, expand their network, and share resources with the group.

While our **50th Anniversary Luncheon** was postponed due to the global pandemic, we are excited to share that it is going digital. Please **save the date, September 17, 2020**—though we won't be able to gather in person, we hope you will join us for this live digital event.

RESPONDING TO COVID-19

In early 2020, ArtsFund focused on providing relief for arts and cultural organizations throughout the COVID-19 global pandemic. Staff worked to support the sector through data gathering, information sharing, and galvanizing financial support.

COVID-19 ARTS EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND

In an effort to help stabilize the sector, ArtsFund distributed **\$3,152,500** in Relief Fund grants to 106 organizations between April and June 2020. For more information including a full list of grantees and donors to the fund, visit **artsfund.org/CovidRelief**.

DATA GATHERING & SHARING

ArtsFund surveyed arts, cultural, and scientific nonprofits in the Central Puget Sound region to track the immediate and devastating impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our data captured two moments in the crisis and closures, and we are partnering with regional and statewide colleagues on a joint effort to collect data around recovery plans and efforts so that we can be responsive to the sector's needs. Full findings are available at **artsfund.org/covid-arts-impacts**.

ADVOCACY & PARTNERSHIPS

5,000 arts & cultural workers laid off/ furloughed.

\$135 million projected loss of revenue.

97% of organizations

have canceled programs.*

*According to April 2020 ArtsFund survey data.

ArtsFund worked in coordination with local, regional, and statewide agencies to respond to the crisis to maximize our collective efficacy. Together with Washington Nonprofits, ArtsWA, 4Culture, The Seattle Office of Arts & Culture, Seattle Foundation, Humanities Washington, Inspire Washington, and more, ArtsFund has advocated for the inclusion of cultural nonprofits and workers in stimulus and relief packages and championed the critical role arts will play in community recovery.

YOU MAKE IT POSSIBLE!

ArtsFund is grateful to the thousands of supporters, including our most generous Campaign 2020 organizational donors below, who have made our work possible this year. These gifts helped ArtsFund support over 100 arts and culture nonprofits through grant making, leadership development, capacity-building, and advocacy. THANK YOU!

ORGANIZATIONAL DONORS











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For a full list of Campaign 2020 donors, visit **artsfund.org/2020Donors.** For a full list of Arts Emergency Relief Fund donors, visit **artsfund.org/CovidRelief.**

"The stability and generosity of ArtsFund's support makes it possible for us to focus on our program and output--making a difference in the life of our community and our field through art."

-Staff member, Henry Art Gallery

LAST CHANCE TO GIVE TO CAMPAIGN 2020!

During this particularly challenging year, please consider supporting the ongoing recovery of the sector by making a gift to the annual fund.

Online: Set up a one-time or recurring payment at artsfund.org/donate.By phone: Call us at 206-281-9050.Mail: Send gifts payable to ArtsFund to PO Box 19780, Seattle, WA 98109.

BOARD SPOTLIGHT: TRUSTEE AARON BLANK

Aaron Blank, CEO & President of The Fearey Group, joined the ArtsFund Board in February 2020. As the leader of a public relations agency and as a former radio reporter, anchor, producer, and promoter, Aaron has already put his PR skills to good use at ArtsFund by hosting our first ever **live digital news event** on May 4. During the event, ArtsFund leadership announced the outcomes of our COVID-19 relief efforts, and arts leaders discussed the impacts of COVID-19 on cultural nonprofits in the Puget Sound Region. Thanks to Aaron for lending his expansive vision and experience to ArtsFund!



"Art is the one thing in life that makes me the most comfortable. It gives us the space to be free spirited."

-Aaron Blank

Keep up to date with the latest news coverage of ArtsFund

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ArtsFund has recently been mentioned by news outlets including *American Theatre, Nonprofit Quarterly, The Seattle Times, KING5, KUOW, Crosscut, Puget Sound Business Journal*, and more! Visit **artsfund.org/IntheNews** for links to pieces featuring our work!

ArtsFund

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ArtsFund strengthens the community by supporting the arts through leadership, advocacy, and grant making.

2020 ARTSFUND GRANTEES

5th Avenue Theatre | ACT Theatre | American Asian Performing Arts Theatre | Art with Heart | Artist Trust | Arts Corps | ArtsWest | Asia Pacific Cultural Center Auburn Symphony Orchestra | Bellevue Arts Museum | Book-It Repertory Theatre | Burke Museum | Central District Forum for Arts & Ideas Chamber Music Madness | Chinese Arts and Music Association | Coyote Central | Deaf Spotlight | Densho | Diverse Harmony | Early Music Seattle Earshot Jazz | Edmonds Center for the Arts | Edmonds Driftwood Players | The Esoterics | Federal Way Symphony | Festál | Freehold Theatre | Friends of KEXP Frye Art Museum | Gage Academy of Art | The Grand Cinema | Henry Art Gallery | Hilltop Artists | Intiman Theatre | Jack Straw Productions | Jet City Improv Khambatta Dance Company | Kirkland Arts Center | Kirkland Performance Center | Lakewood Playhouse | Meany Center for the Performing Arts | MOHAI | MoPOP Museum of Glass | Music Center of the Northwest | Music Works Northwest | National Nordic Museum | Northwest African American Museum Northwest Film Forum | Northwest Folklife | Northwest Puppet Center | The Northwest School | Northwest Sinfonietta | Northwest Tap Connection | On the Boards Pacific MusicWorks | Pacific Northwest Ballet | Path With Art | Photographic Center Northwest | Pilchuck Glass School | Pratidhwani | Pratt Fine Arts Center Red Eagle Soaring | Hugo House | Schack Art Center | Seattle Art Museum | Seattle Arts & Lectures | Seattle Asian American Film Festival Seattle Chamber Music Society | Seattle Children's Theatre | Seattle Chinese Chorus | Seattle Choral Company | Seattle JazzED | Seattle Latino Film Festival Seattle Men's Chorus and Seattle Women's Chorus | Seattle Music Partners | Seattle Opera | Seattle Pro Musica | Seattle Public Theater | Seattle Rep Seattle Repertory Jazz Orchestra | Seattle Shakespeare Company | Seattle Symphony | Seattle Theatre Group | Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra Shoreline/Lake Forest Park Arts Council | SIFF | SIS Productions | Snohomish County Music Project | Spectrum Dance Theater | Symphony Tacoma Tacoma Art Museum | Tacoma Arts Live | Tacoma Musical Playhouse | Tacoma Opera | Tacoma Youth Symphony Association | Taproot Theatre | Tasveer Ted Brown Music Outreach | TeenTix | Three Dollar Bill Cinema | Totem Star | Town Hall Association | Unexpected Productions | Vashon Center for the Arts Velocity Dance Center | The Vera Project | Village Theatre | Whim W'Him | Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience | Youth in Focus