



ANNUAL REPORT 2017

SAACA's targeted programming and mission are vital to helping build a better future for our community.

2017 HIGHLIGHTS

- NEW ARTS & HEALTHCARE PROGRAMMING INVESTMENTS
- INNOVATIVE ARTS & BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS
- DYNAMIC COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS



Sustainability Team at the Devour Culinary Classic



Phoenix Chalk Art Festival

YEAR IN REVIEW

Each year, the Southern Arizona Arts & Cultural Alliance makes its impacts through advocacy, diverse arts and cultural programming, opportunities for artists, and creative community engagement.

In 2017, key aspects of our work remain foundational to our success. We are excited to share some of the most impactful pieces that made the year especially exceptional.

Each year, the Southern Arizona Arts & Cultural Alliance connects residents to thousands of events and programs that take place throughout Arizona. These offerings enrich our quality of life by bringing people together to celebrate the things that make our community a unique place to live.

We are pleased to share some of our greatest successes.

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

In 2017 we celebrated our 20th anniversary serving our community! Founded in 1997 as the Greater Oro Valley Arts Council, our core work has always remained in grassroots community arts and cultural development. **Over the past two decades, the organization has provided services and programming for over 700,000 artists, organizations and individuals throughout Southern Arizona.**

CONNECTING ART TO OUR COMMUNITY

This past year, our programs engaged a record 100,000+ individuals in meaningful arts experiences. Through the Creative Aging program, well over 3,000 underserved Veterans and seniors were provided with multi-disciplinary arts therapy sessions and new opportunities for life changing experiences. We connected a growing number of artists directly to the classrooms and added an innovative partnership with Community Share.

SUPPORTING ARTISTS & MAKERS

SAACA engaged and directly supported more than 700 local visual and performing artists, providing them an opportunity to showcase their work at annual festivals, culinary events, community galleries, performances, arts therapy and educational experiences.

CREATIVE PLACEMAKING

SAACA Creative Placemaking programs helped leverage the power of arts, culture and community to drive a broader agenda for change, growth and transformation in a way that also builds character and quality of place. **Through cross-sector collaborative partnerships, we invested over \$300,000 in unique arts and cultural programs, which helped to shape the social, physical, cultural and economic identity of our communities.** The programs, events and temporary arts installations spurred economic development, and created stronger social cohesion.



La Encantada Fine Art Festival



Chefs at the Devour Culinary Classic

ANNOUNCING THE AZ BUSINESS COMMITTEE FOR THE ARTS

In 2017, SAACA celebrated the expansion of our arts and business partnership arm to provide services throughout the State. The newly expanded Arizona Business Committee for the Arts will now have impact in communities throughout the State, with the implementation of innovative arts and business partnerships. These partnerships will continue to expand the presence and power of the arts in our communities, through dynamic private sector collaborations. Through business supported galleries, integrated arts experiences in the workplace, and unique teambuilding programs, our business and arts partnerships have helped transform the way we serve our artists and community each day.

ARTS ADVOCACY

SAACA Staff, Board of Directors and Volunteers participated in year round advocacy efforts at the National and Local level, promoting sustained support for the arts.

Through the publishing and distribution of over 20,000 copies of the inaugural issue of the Undercover Arts Magazine, SAACA supported over 1,200 emerging and established artists, in over 30 mediums, by providing a dynamic platform for engagement and promotion. The 84-page free publication provided a much-needed platform to tell the story of the scale and impact our artists and creative industries bring to Southern Arizona.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

In 2016, SAACA adopted a cultural equity statement, which renewed and refocused our commitment to using the arts as a tool to create more diverse, equitable and inclusive communities. **Over the past year, we have continued to stay true to our commitment, through the investment of programming and intentional outreach to serve our changing community populations, challenges and needs.** We are committed to the active and ongoing engagement of new populations, demographics and individuals from diverse cultures and backgrounds. This is reflected in our rural arts programming, Arts and Healthcare, youth developmental programs, and supporting and advocating for policies and procedures which encourage diverse representation of voices in the decision-making process.

We believe and invest in collaborative programs which provide access to the arts for all people, everywhere. In addition, we formed our programming to reflect the diversity in our multi-disciplinary arts practices.

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

SAACA made a major investment in infrastructure in 2017, growing our core programming staff, and expanding the role each of us play in the communities we serve. **In addition, we added new Board Leadership in the sectors of cultural development and healthcare, to lend new voices to the intentional direction future program development.** This will include expansion of our Healthcare and Arts program, as well as programming to support building healthy communities, where people thrive.

This year, SAACA surpassed an annual operating budget of over one million dollars for the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year, reflecting a milestone for community arts investment.



SAACA Staff & Board of Directors at Arizona Arts Congress



Live Music at the Salsa, Tequila & Taco Challenge



Attendees at the SAVOR Food & Wine Festival

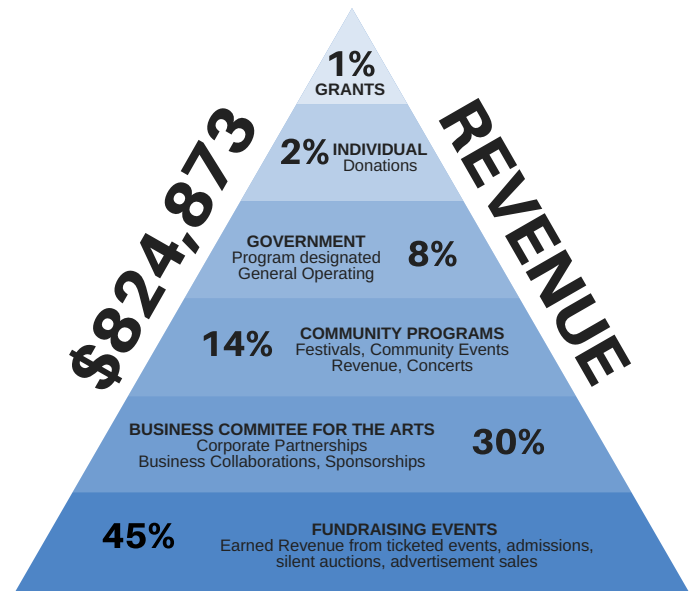
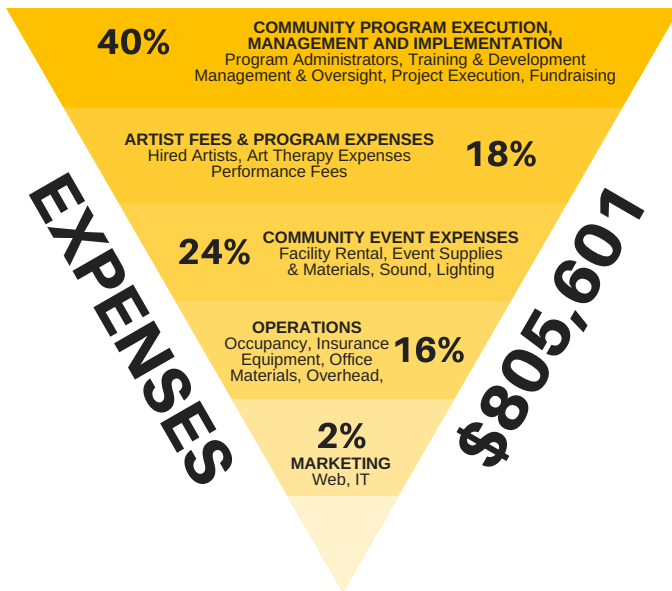


Veterans Art Therapy

FY 16/17 STEWARDSHIP OF PUBLIC FUNDS

Over the past several years the organization has diversified funding streams and in-kind opportunities by:

- Expanding work in rural communities, and throughout the State.
- Collaborating with non-arts sector organizations and non-profit partners to create innovative programs to address emerging community needs.
- Strengthening the internal governance policies and procedures.
- Expanding arts therapy, lifelong learning and youth based arts programming



SAACA achieved our 2015-2020 Strategic Plan goal nearly 3 years ahead of schedule, and surpassed an annual operating budget of over one million dollars for the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year. This mile marker comes at an important time for the organization, as 100% of our budget is raised locally from individual donations, business partnerships, grants, and earned revenue. Revenue is invested directly back into our local community, in the form of new programming, expanded arts experiences, and piloted arts programs. The growth in our annual budget is an important testament to the faith in our work, provided by those who support us.

THE COMMUNITY WE ENVISION

Your support will make 2018 look even brighter. The addition and launch of new resource programs for artists, professional development opportunities, an expansion of arts based economic and creative placemaking projects, means our work has only begun.

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Arts Integration Coordinator
Matt Rolland

Video & Content
David Seeber

VOLUNTEERS

Special Thanks to the hundreds of volunteers, interns and leaders who have tirelessly served the arts in Southern Arizona and who help us reach our community outreach and program goals year after year.

**DONATE
PARTICIPATE
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WWW.SAACA.ORG

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