



LANESBORO ARTS

2017 ANNUAL REPORT



As we reflect on 2017, we celebrate our community and are grateful for their participation and support! Here are a few examples of the joys we were able to share:

- We celebrated the diversity of programs that brought a meaningful collective vision around water. Volunteers, local businesses, and neighboring nonprofits collaborated and made Water/Ways possible.
- We celebrated our community's strength and commitment after a storm hit Lanesboro the day before our annual fine arts festival. One of our artists who participated in the festival said, *"The most awesome part was realizing that the community was ravaged by storms and, yet, your community dropped all the clean up you faced at your own homes/yards and focused on Sylvan Park clean up ... Your example of people working together means more than you could ever know."*
- We celebrated emerging artists and arts administrators by hosting an exceptional emerging artist exhibition and high school show with the help of four fabulous interns.
- We celebrated the creativity and innovation of community members that came together to brainstorm and paint the community mural on the back of the St. Mane Theatre.
- We celebrated walkability and beautification with Viterbo College. Students worked with community members on a service project after learning about the Lanesboro Arts Campus and community development efforts in Lanesboro.
- We celebrated continued learning as staff members. We attended conferences and professional development workshops such as the Blandin Community Leadership Program, Springboard for the Arts Train-the-Trainer Intensive: Work of Art and Community Development, Rural Arts and Culture Summit, ArtPlace America Summit, Keeping It Rural Conference, and more.

All of these celebrations are the result of hard work and commitment on the part of many individuals and groups. To our sponsors, members, supporters, partners, patrons, and community members: thank you for your dedication to the arts in Lanesboro.



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2017

ASSETS

Current Cash & Other Assets	\$ 41,862
Property & Equipment	\$695,492
TOTAL ASSETS	\$737,354

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Current Payables & Other Liabilities	\$262,223
Net Assets	\$475,131
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$737,354

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

SUPPORT & REVENUE

Art Sales	\$148,618
Foundations & Government	\$105,664
Memberships & Contributions	\$ 44,156
St. Mane Theatre	\$ 18,200
Fundraising Activities & Other Programs	\$ 50,455
Art Loft Rental Income	\$ 13,718
Lanesboro Community Theater	\$ 9,554
TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUE	\$390,365

EXPENSES

Program Expense	\$282,263
Management & General Expense	\$111,948
Fundraising Expenses	\$ 19,677
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$413,888

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS (\$23,523)

MISSION STATEMENT

LANESBORO ARTS serves as a regional catalyst for artistic excellence and educational development in providing diverse art experiences for people of all ages.

STAFF *as of January 21, 2018*

John Davis, Executive Director
Adam M. Wiltgen, Program Director
Robbie Brokken, Gallery Director
Kara Maloney, Advancement Director
Julie Schreiber, Bookkeeper
Dave Harrenstein, St. Mane Facility Manager
Betsy Holbrook, Fran Sauer, and Anne Flynn, Gallery Sales Associates

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Elaine Edwards, Vice Chair
Eric Miehlich, Treasurer
Michael Augustin, Secretary
Renee Bergstrom
Ashley Hanson
Steve Harris
Stephanie Hatzenbihler
Ryan Kling-Punt

as of January 21, 2018

\$50,326

*Raised through 2018 Reach for the Arts annual fund campaign
+
2017 Fall Gala tickets,
auctions, sponsors & donations.*

22,549

*Visitors to the
Lanesboro Arts Juried
Sales and Exhibition
Galleries in 2017*

2,499

*Patrons to 'Over the
Back Fence' & Perform-
ing Arts Series events at
the St. Mane Theatre in
2017*

2017

YEAR IN REVIEW

SMITHSONIAN WATER/WAYS

2017 began with a splash as 18 months of planning and relationship-building with local & regional partners came to fruition with the opening of the Smithsonian Water/Ways Traveling Exhibition & Community Engagement Initiative on January 7. The following six weeks featured a wave of activities and programs throughout Lanesboro designed to reconnect Minnesotans to our water and encourage all to become more actively involved in its protection by using, in addition to science, the tools of story, history, faith, ethics, and -- of course -- the arts. Highlights included a snow sculpture of a bass fish at Sylvan Park, a water blessing with interfaith leaders at the Lanesboro Dam, and an exhibition in our gallery entitled "Currents of Change" that had regional artists interpret historical water-related photos of Lanesboro courtesy of the Lanesboro Museum.



ART IN THE PARK

After several years of evaluation and consideration, the annual Art in the Park fine art festival took place on the Saturday of Father's Day weekend in 2017, in an effort to attract more artists, attendees & volunteers. A severe wind storm with rain ripped through Lanesboro the evening prior and knocked down branches and trees throughout town, including Sylvan Park, and casted doubts on whether the event would even take place at all. A large, 100-year-old tree even fell on top of a pavilion where we normally serve homemade pies. Even though people had damage to clean up in their own yards, volunteers came together and cleaned the park until well past sundown & left it looking like new.



"It was actually the Mayor, Autumn Johnson, who was in our neighborhood looking at the damage," Theresa Coleman, one of the helpers, said to KTTC News. "She made a comment about grabbing some work gloves and coming on down to the park. So we regrouped and that's what we did."



The community response was overwhelming to us and we are forever grateful! A volunteer appreciation concert with music by the Foot-Notes of Decorah was held in Sylvan Park the next month.

ARTIST RESIDENCIES

2017 was a transformative year for our artist residency program, as it was the culmination of a process began in 2015 to re-align the program with our place-based, arts campus approach. Now funded by the Jerome Foundation, the number of applications received doubled and residencies were offered to the following amazing artists: Tatiana Pandiani and Jacinta Clusellas (two weeks) of NYC, Annie Hejny (four weeks) and Bailey Cahlander (two weeks), both of Minnesota.

The proposed projects of each artist/collective applied their experience and practice to bring people together, address a community challenge, and honor the place, while also allowing the Lanesboro experience to affect the direction of their artistic work. Tati & Jaci worked closely with area women on a documentary theater piece, Annie ceremoniously created new paintings with community members using water and sediment from the Root River, and Bailey made a glass mosaic mural with the help of visitors & residents.

While the artist selection process was thorough and deliberate, we can't help but think how lucky we were to host such talented and high caliber emerging artists in 2017.



EXHIBITION GALLERY

In addition to the aforementioned "Currents of Change" group exhibit during the Smithsonian Water/Ways initiative, 2017 exhibitions included the annual juried High School Art Show, which featured the work of over 80 students from five area schools, as well as individual artist shows by printmaker Betsy Bowen of Grand Marais, painter Patricia Canelake of Knife River, sculptor Bruce Howdle of Mineral Point, and painter Sara Lubinski of Brownsville.

The exhibits of work by Canelake and Howdle both included large scale pieces that made an incredible impact in our space. Bowen's exhibit included picture books and paintings and those pieces, along with her iconic woodcut prints, served as a compiled view of various parts of the places Bowen has lived. The exhibit of Lubinski's work showed another side of the landscape painter's work by changing scales and focusing on the smaller things.



ST. MANE THEATRE

The 2017 performing arts series included a pair of stellar vocal performances by acclaimed opera singers: "Our Mighty Mississippi," a show with a multi-media component that coincided with Smithsonian Water/Ways, by baritone Steven Marking; and "Women of the West" by soprano Christie Conover, who returned to Lanesboro after a 2014 performance thanks to support from the Rudolf E. Wilhem Fund.

Developed in partnership with literary artist Caren Stelson, the "In Peace, With Honor" program utilized art & cultural exchanges as a platform for storytelling, understanding & reconciliation through a 10 day series of powerful films, literary events, art & history exhibitions, discussions, and educational activities about war and peace at the St. Mane.

2017 also marked the launch of a multi-year initiative by Lanesboro artist Catherine Glynn, called Audacious Raw Theater, that focuses on fostering the creation and development of new works with a troupe of guest performers. The result was a pair of inspiring, surprising and delightful performances that provided insight into the creative process.

Other 2017 highlights include concerts by Wisconsin folk singer Johnsmith, the Scandinavian group Ole Olsson's Oldtime Orkestra, and Mpls. roots trio The Lowland Lakers. Annual events with the Rhubarb Sisters, Frozen River Film Festival, the 23rd season of "Over the Back Fence" and productions by Lanesboro Community Theater attracted new & diverse audiences, while providing a creative outlet for area residents.



SURPRISE SCULPTURE & COMMUNITY MURAL

Our acclaimed summer youth arts education program celebrated its 5th year in 2017! Project highlights included a yarn mandala in Gateway Park, Burma Shave-style poetry signs along the state bike trail and fabric weaving on the chain link fence around the former skate park.

A grant from the National Association of Realtors, along with support from the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation, made it possible for artists from Goodspace Murals (who specialize in community engagement) to collaborate with residents in both the design and creation of a community mural called "The Colors of Bluff Country" on the back of the St. Mane Theatre. Completed over the course of a few days in July, over 75 students and community members contributed to the multi-layered, paint-by-numbers painting process!



2017

DONORS

PROGRAM SPONSORS

ST. MANE THEATRE

The Rudolf E. Wilhelm Fund of the Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan,
Walter Bradley - Thrivent Financial, Commonweal Theatre, Inspire(d) Magazine

EXHIBITION GALLERY

F & M Community Bank, Commonweal Theatre, KTTC Television, Inspire(d) Magazine, Davies Printing

ART IN THE PARK

Wisconsin Public Radio and The City of Lanesboro

FALL GALA

The City of Lanesboro, POET Biorefining, F & M Community Bank, Krage Insurance Agency &
Preble Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Co., KTTC Television, Merchants Bank and O'Leary's Bed & Breakfast

OVER THE BACK FENCE

Batstone CPA, Bluff Country Computer Works, The Bite Restaurant, Cedar Valley Resort, Coffee Street Fitness
Center, Eagle Bluff Skills School, F & M Community Bank, Granny's Liquor, Great River Shakespeare Festival,
Green Gables Inn, High Court Pub, Lanesboro Public Library, Merchants Bank, Niagara Cave, Pedal Pushers
Café, Preston Foods Rushford Foods & Harmony Foods IGA Stores, Thomas Manion Law Office,
Visit Bluff Country Magazine and Windy Mesa Jewelry & Art

SURPRISE SCULPTURE

National Association of Realtors, Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation, Roberta Felker, E2 Boutique &
Amish Experience, Pedal Pushers Café, Cottage House Inn, and Essence of Harmony ReStore

SMITHSONIAN WATER/WAYS

Minnesota Humanities Center, Lanesboro American Legion, POET Biorefining, Bolton & Menk,
Davies Printing, Stone Mill Suites, Lanesboro Area Chamber of Commerce, High Court Pub,
Iron Horse Outfitters, and A Guest Hus Motel

IN PEACE, WITH HONOR

Lanesboro American Legion and Kim & Caren Stelson

GOVERNMENT & FOUNDATION



Rochester Area
Foundation



Lanesboro Arts programs
are made possible by the
voters of Minnesota through
Minnesota State Arts Board
Operating Support, thanks
to a legislative appropriation
from the arts and cultural
heritage fund.

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