



LANESBORO ARTS

2022 Annual Report



2022 felt like a year to get our feet firmly planted back on the ground, after a few years of upheaval and unpredictable change. Lanesboro Arts stepped into this year with a renewed vigor and continuous commitment to the organization's legacy of supporting our local community and artists through multi-disciplinary arts programming and creative problem solving.

We hit the ground running this year in all of our program areas. Through public art projects, classes, performances, residencies, and gallery exhibitions and sales, Lanesboro Arts worked with over 320 artists and paid artists over \$101,000 in 2022. It was a dynamic, transitional year in the gallery, coming out of the worst of the pandemic and applying new energy to recreating a meaningful physical experience. Our performing arts programs ramped back up to full capacity by the end of 2022, offering diverse and energizing experiences at the St. Mane and out in the community. Our summer education classes sustained beloved programs like Surprise Sculpture, while exploring opportunities for new age groups and activities.

Present through it all was our commitment for justice and equity. Throughout the last couple years of re-committing to social justice through an arts lens, Lanesboro Arts leadership has come to believe that the future of rural communities lies in thoughtful, long-term work built slowly over time through genuine and intentional relationship-building. This commitment was reflected in our programming, which included the second year of community-focused anti-bias workshop series Disrupting the Binding, and the introduction of a Black, Indigenous, Person of Color (BIPOC) Artist Residency that launched its pilot year in winter 2022/23 after months of planning and direction from the BIPOC Artist Advisory Committee.

Lanesboro Arts hired an additional full-time staff member, Program Associate Leah Steding, in 2022. With an expanded and passionate team, a visionary and sustainability-focused board, and a community that continues to support and grow alongside us, we feel more than ready to take on 2023.

As we look back on 2022, Lanesboro Arts is so grateful for the support of our community, who embody our belief that rural communities have the vitality and resilience to grow and support creative minds for generations to come. Thank you for your continued belief in Lanesboro Arts and your steadfast support, especially through both the challenges and celebrations.

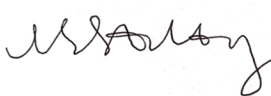
In gratitude,



Kara Maloney



Kris Viesselman



Melissa Wray



Leah Steding

PS: Next year, Lanesboro Arts is commemorating the 30th Anniversary of the Gallery! This anniversary celebrates 30 years of present-day Lanesboro Arts Galleries and its predecessor, Cornucopia Art Center (which merged with the longer-standing Lanesboro Arts Council in 2009). Such a milestone year for the gallery prompts us to reflect on and honor its long history while looking forward to an exciting future. We can't wait for you to join us in celebration!

Statement of Financial Position as of December 31, 2022

ASSETS

Current Cash & Other Assets	\$172,948
Restricted Arts Campus Cash	\$264,886
Property & Equipment	\$483,359
TOTAL ASSETS	\$921,193

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Current Payables & Other Liabilities	\$7,070
Net Assets	\$914,123
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$921,193

Statement of Activities for the Year Ended December 31, 2022

SUPPORT & REVENUE

Foundations & Government	\$174,686
Art Sales	\$96,961
Memberships & Contributions	\$22,299
Fundraising Activities & Other Programs	\$29,616
St. Mane Theatre	\$9,924
Art Loft Rental Income	\$11,825
TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUE	\$345,311

EXPENSES

Program Expense	\$288,681
Management & General Expense	\$64,827
Fundraising Expenses	\$31,239
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$384,747

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS (\$39,436)

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 December 31, 2022*

Kara Maloney, Executive Director
Kris Viesselman, Gallery Director
Melissa Wray, Program Director
Leah Steding, Program Associate
Anastasia Hongerholt, Bookkeeper
JoAnne Agrimson, Gallery Sales Associate
Anne Flynn, Gallery Sales Associate

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Nick Gudmundson, Vice Chair
Sue Pariseau, Treasurer
Jennifer Johnson, Secretary
Renee Bergstrom
Cecilia Cornejo
Elaine Edwards
Steve Harris
Stena Lieb
John Torgrimson

as of December 31, 2022



2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

GALLERY

The Lanesboro Arts Sales Gallery welcomed thousands of visitors, presented six exhibitions, and hosted artist demonstrations. In August, historical artist and illustrator Sven Lindauer shared his artwork and signed copies of his book, *The Arts & Crafts of Ancient Scandinavia*. In November, Catherine Hearing demonstrated her skill in watercolor painting.

The Lanesboro Arts Exhibition Gallery presented an excellent series of beautiful, thought-provoking shows in 2022. In January, the annual Juried High School Show celebrated the artistic talents of students from Chatfield, Fillmore Central, Lanesboro, Rushford-Peterson, and Mabel-Canton schools!

In February, Lanesboro Arts presented "Home: Exploring, Mending, Reimagining," an exhibition led by former artist-in-residence and current board member, Cecilia Cornejo. Twenty-five community members spent the fall of 2020 embroidering audio responses to the prompt "I Know I'm Home When..." In 2021, These works were assembled by Renee Bergstrom, Heidi Dybing, and Cheryl Lamon into a Lanesboro Community Quilt. This quilt is a representation of our relationship to home and envisions a community where all of us are heard, seen, and valued.

This showcase was followed by "A Few Steps Ahead," an exhibition of work by painter and print-maker, Amy Rice. Then, in June and July, the group show, "Take Me to The River," displayed the multifaceted nature of water. Next, from August to October, the gallery hosted "Goddess 2.0," which featured digital photography by Cindy Vondran. Finally, the gallery closed out the year with the ceramic work of Susan Strand-Penman in "Fables from Yesterday." With such exceptional shows, the exhibition gallery continues to presents works that enrich both artist and community by initiating discussion and connection.



PUBLIC ART

Lanesboro Arts celebrated the installation of a new sculpture, Fish/Fence, on Parkway Avenue. Local Artists Don Bell and Anna Loney unveiled the three foot long trout made of copper wire, which arches above a masonry column near Root River Rod Co. The sculpture also incorporates a fence that can be used as an artful place to park bicycles. With a local fish hatchery, trout streams, and a community dedicated to the art of fly fishing, Fish/Fence inhabits the main street in celebration of it all.



ART IN THE PARK

The 41st annual Art in the Park Fine Art Festival attracted thousands of visitors to peruse under the gorgeous shade trees of Sylvan Park. Over 80 vendors sold artwork from paintings to jewelry. Nature photographer Brian Knutson won best in show, while sculptor Mark Lajiness took home the Award of Excellence and woodworker, Kylie Guimont received the Emerging Artist Award. Alongside the art, there was fantastic live music, creative family art activities, and flawless weather.



ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

Lanesboro Art's Emerging Artist Residency program is geared toward emerging artists who are driven to explore ways their work can prompt reciprocal exchange between themselves and Lanesboro's rural community. In 2022, the program brought Twin Cities-based artists-in-residence: Akiko Ostlund and Martha Bird.

Puppeteer, dancer, poet, curator, and performance artist, Akiko Ostlund workshopped her work-in-progress toy theater piece, "Racist Hotline." This comedic puppet piece examined how racism is normalized in daily life through the framework of an imaginary live radio podcast show. Hoping to challenge the oppressive nature of the systems we live in, her performance created a shared language with its audience to cultivate antiracist culture. While in Lanesboro, Ostlund also guest starred on the Location Lanesboro Podcast, and hosted open studio sessions, a puppet-making workshop, and a storytelling workshop!

Martha Bird is a Minneapolis-based artist who specializes in traditional and sculptural basketry. Her month-long residency in August married her artistic practice with her experience as a public health nurse and board certified holistic RN. Martha's project primarily addressed mental health through art and art-based interactions. She encouraged community members to care for their own mental health by investing in hands-on creative art activities. She led discussion groups, a weaving class, willow harvesting, and created a temporary outdoor sculpture, Process of Wholeness. Her work is on view near Sylvan Park!

Lanesboro Arts also launched the BIPOC Artist Residency program after months of careful planning and advising. The first cohort of artists in residence, Rini Yun Matea and Xiaolu Wang came to Lanesboro in December of 2022. The program's pilot year continues into January and February 2023, and will publicly launch later in 2023.



EDUCATION

Summer art education programs saw young artists weaving on giant looms, balancing out-of-this-world wire mobiles, and constructing the dioramas of their dreams in Surprise Sculpture, and exploring new media in Open Studio. Learn to Paint classes included three lessons in acrylic painting from extraordinary artist and educator, Marlene Maloney, as well as classes on felting and alcohol inks from artist and Lanesboro Art teacher Stena Lieb! Maloney also led a trio of evening Learn to Paint classes for adults.

In November, Lanesboro Arts collaborated with the Northfield Arts Guild, Paradise Center for the Arts, and Red Wing Arts to present "Promoting and Marketing your Artwork," the second session in a series of artist development workshops in southeast Minnesota. This event brought together a panel of local artists to share their experiences and expertise.

In the winter, Lanesboro Arts launched the High School Art Club, an after-school opportunity for local highschoolers to create together and learn more about the world of opportunities available to them in the arts.



2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

ST. MANE

Lanesboro Arts presented a wide range of arts performances at the St. Mane Theatre in 2022. The organization started off the year with a slew of wonderful performances in the St. Mane Theatre, originally scheduled for 2020, but rescheduled for 2022. In January, Cecilia Cornejo's documentary film *Ways of Being Home* was shown. This intimate cinematic portrait of two small towns – one in Mexico and one in Minnesota – is an audiovisual meditation on the experience, resilience, and ingenuity of Mexican immigrants living and working in rural America. The screening was followed by a Q&A with the artist!

In February, the Zorongo Flamenco Dance Theatre presented "Casita," an evocative performance inspired by women's stories of homelessness. "Casita" was danced by Zorongo's founder, Susana di Palma and Jeane d'Arc Casas and featured original music performed by Ben Abrahamson, Billy Steele, Tonia Hughes, and Jose Moreno.

The Minneapolis Guitar Quartet performed at the St. Mane Theatre in April. The virtuosic group were joined for half of the program by celebrated flutist, Linda Chatterton.

Lanesboro Arts presented "Nadia," a mesmerizing performance marrying chamber music with theater in May. Actress/singer Maria Jette explored the memories and secrets behind the legendary and charismatic music teacher, Nadia Boulanger. Jette was accompanied by pianist Eric Fung and the Bakken Trio's violinist Stephanie Arado. Also in May, 2021 Artist-in-Residence, Mary Prescott, shared the final version of her performance piece, "Mother Me" via a free, virtual YouTube event and live Q&A!

In July, the St. Mane Theatre hosted local podcast sensations, Location Lanesboro, for a live version of their meandering musings on everything from bike rack etiquette to the meaning of life. This rowdy multimedia live show included live music from local favorites, River Crossing!

Catie Glynn's Audacious Raw Theater returned to the St. Mane Theatre in 2022, with not one, but two weekends of unique live performances! In June, Audacious Raw theater featured Commonweal Theater Alumni, Elizabeth Dunn and Brandt Roberts. In October, Catie Glynn herself, alongside artist Bebe Keith took the stage. For each of these performances, the actors spent a week devising a series of unique embodied dramatic works inspired by this year's running theme: "UNleashed and UNbound: Going Soul-o."

October also saw singer songwriter Laura Lamb wowing the St. Mane with her emotive vocals and top notch band. In November, Progressive and Celtic rock favorites, Lehto & Wright returned to Lanesboro with their explosive sound and versatile guitar talents.

There was simply no place like home for this holiday season. With extreme weather discouraging travel, 16th annual holiday singalong with Dan Chouinard had to be canceled. It was heartbreaking to miss out on this beloved annual tradition but, the singalong's return next year is just another great reason to look forward to another year of St. Mane events in 2023!



RHYTHMS ON THE ROOT

Lanesboro Arts' summer outdoor concert series, Rhythms on the Root, returned for a second year with three incredible musical acts. First, rising twin cities rock stars, Kiss the Tiger, brought folks at Gateway park to their feet with an infectious energetic sound. In July, innovative Midwest Folk band, Good Morning Bedlam wowed the crowd with their joyful improvisational skills. Although rain moved the last Rhythms on the Root concert indoors, Jaedyn James and her soulful band brought the house down at the St. Mane Theatre. The Rhythms on the Root concerts also featured outdoor games and art activities for younger music lovers, thanks to a grant from the Lanesboro Area Community Foundation. Lanesboro Arts is thrilled to be planning a third installment of Rhythms on the Root for 2023.



DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION

In October, Lanesboro Arts partnered with poet and musician Ben Weaver, in collaboration with Walken Schweigert, Strong Buffalo, and Laura LeBlanc, to host the second installment of "Disrupting the Binding: Building Anti-Racist Culture." This free workshop series focused on how white privilege shows up in our daily lives. Participants were encouraged to examine their own places within the layered systems of oppression that define our current culture, and engage curiously and openly with one another to form group connections. The workshop featured discussions of ancestor history, poetic and musical performances, and group storytelling.

Lanesboro Arts also formally adopted a Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion statement in, outlining the organization's goals and commitments to diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice within its rural community and the larger regional rural arts and culture community. Included in this effort was the adoption of a Land Acknowledgement Statement. Recognizing the organization is at the start of a long journey, striving to approach growth in these areas with openness, curiosity, sustained relationship-building, listening, honesty, and action.



FUNDRAISING

In 2022, Lanesboro Arts was supported by 150 members. Their generosity brought in over \$12,500. With the help of talented artists, generous businesses, and enthusiastic bidders, Lanesboro Arts was able to raise over \$7,700 to support year-round arts programming in the third annual Fall Online Auction.

Lanesboro Arts hosted a Fundraiser Happy Hour event at Sylvan Brewing on November 18th. The community support and joy was encapsulated by the collaborative puzzle activity dreamt up by board member and art teacher, Stena Lieb. Lanesboro Arts raised over \$200 dollars at this fun-filled fundraiser, rallied last minute auction bids, and celebrated the community's support for the arts.

Finally, thanks to generous supporters and matching donations from F & M Community Bank, Lanesboro Arts raised \$13,000 for public art, education, performing arts, gallery exhibits, artist residencies, and more in 2023.



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PROGRAM SPONSORS

EXHIBITION GALLERY

F & M Community Bank, Inspire(d) Magazine, Merchants Bank, and Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center

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The City of Lanesboro and Walter Bradley - Thrivent Financial

RHYTHMS ON THE ROOT

VIS Plumbing and Heating, Batstone CPA, Stone Mill Hotel and Suites, Grannys Liquor, Sylvan Brewing, Pedal Pushers, High Court Pub, Inspire(d) Magazine, Great River Shakespeare Festival, Green Gables Inn, Wisconsin Public Radio, Lanesboro Area Community Foundation, and Preble Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Co.

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Lanesboro Area Community Foundation



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