2015 REPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY

CONNECTION
CREATIVITY &
COMMUNITY

Cuyahoga
Arts & Culture
strengthening community
ABOUT CUYAHOGA ARTS & CULTURE

CAC is the region’s public arts and culture agency, helping hundreds of organizations connect residents and visitors to millions of cultural experiences each year – in museums and performance halls, in nature and public spaces, in neighborhoods and online. Through grants, CAC supports the arts and culture organizations that give our community a unique identity and make it an enjoyable place to work, live and visit.

CAC is a responsible steward of public funds, investing more than $140 million in more than 300 organizations since 2008.

2015 Cuyahoga Arts & Culture Finances

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenues</td>
<td>$16,133,646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts and Cultural Grantmaking</td>
<td>$15,666,393</td>
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<td>General and Administrative</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$16,262,854</strong></td>
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<td>Change in Net Position</td>
<td>($129,208)</td>
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<td>Net Position Beginning of Year</td>
<td>$21,941,100</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NET POSITION END OF YEAR</strong></td>
<td><strong>$21,811,892</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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About the Data

The fiscal year 2014 data used for this report was provided by DataArts (previously known as the Cultural Data Project), a nonprofit organization that empowers the arts and cultural sector with high-quality data and resources in order to strengthen its vitality, performance, and public impact. Any interpretation of the data is that of Cuyahoga Arts & Culture, not DataArts. For more information, visit www.culturaldata.org.

Additional data provided by grant recipients to Cuyahoga Arts & Culture.

COVER: Omid Tavakoli, Waterloo Sculpture Garden, Cleveland.

BACKGROUND: Spoken word artist Donte Clark discusses his role in the film *Romeo is Bleeding* with Cleveland Heights High students.
DEAR RESIDENTS OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY,

When we think of all of the attributes that make our community an attractive place to work, live and visit, our arts and culture scene surely tops the list. Arts and culture experiences help us form connections to people, places and things, and they help us define who we are, what we want to be, what we value, and what memories we want to create for future generations.

For more than 100 years, our community has made commitments to ensure we all can plug into arts and culture in ways that feel comfortable to us – or push us out of our comfort zones.

One of the largest collective commitments to arts in our community is through Cuyahoga Arts & Culture (CAC). Since 2008, CAC has supported more than 300 organizations with $140 million in tax dollars. In November 2015, voters renewed that support for an additional 10 years — but our work isn't done.

As we move forward, we will focus our work on listening to residents throughout Cuyahoga County.

We need to better understand how residents connect with arts and culture so that we can determine the best way to serve you.

Our connection to the community and to each other through arts and culture is undeniable, as you will see in the stories on the following pages. Through your support, we are able to continue our support of arts and culture organizations in Cuyahoga County so they can help individuals reconnect with their pasts, reimagine their futures, discover something new about themselves, and make the community a better place for all of us.

ISSUE 8 PASSES
THANK YOU, VOTERS!

Last year, Cuyahoga County again said “yes” to arts and culture by overwhelmingly supporting issue 8 – sending a clear message that our region values creativity and connection. This renewal provides CAC with 10 more years to invest millions in the local arts community while supporting thousands of cultural events each year.

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When 12-year-old Ata Farah, a student at Buhrer Dual Language Academy in Cleveland, heard he was going to a museum for a field trip, he had one thought: BORING! That was until he stepped foot into the Crawford Auto-Aviation Collection Museum.

The Museum features two floors of classic cars, planes, and the gondola from a Goodyear blimp. His favorite vehicle? The 1981 DeLorean DMC-12, the first DeLorean model produced. “It was an all-out amazing journey through the cars,” Ata says. “I never thought a museum would be like this.”

Ata’s love of cars runs deep, thanks to his dad, Rod Farah. On the weekends, they go to classic car shows or take Rod’s 1975 fire-engine red Chevy Chevelle for a ride. It will become Ata’s when he’s old enough to drive, and the pair have worked together to restore it. The Crawford Museum’s Youth Entrepreneurship program, supported by CAC, naturally appealed to Ata’s interests.

During the program, Ata’s class learned about the economy, Cleveland-made classic cars, the roots of the industry in Northeast Ohio, and role-played as industrial era entrepreneurs. Ata became Theodore Kundtz, the first entrepreneur to make car bodies, and put together a plan for a company he invented called “Autobots.” The program allowed Ata to connect his family’s love of cars with a possible future career.

“No all kids can have this experience. The whole thing was amazing. Now I know how the old days were,” Ata says. “I’m going to collect cars when I get older.”
CREATIVE LEARNING

Funding from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture supports education and learning opportunities for all ages. From field trips to museums to student programming and distance learning at senior centers, CAC helps connect Cuyahoga County residents with programs that offer education for everyone.

1,478,000 CHILDREN were served by CAC-supported programming

19,426 CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS offered throughout the county in the past year

647 INTERNSHIPS AND APPRENTICESHIPS made possible through support from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture

366,192 RESIDENTS attended classes and workshops in Cuyahoga County

PICTURED ABOVE Ata’s letter to Jennifer Graham, a Museum Educator at the Western Reserve Historical Society.

PHOTOS BY TIM HARRISON

REPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY 3
Each year, Cuyahoga Arts & Culture connects residents to tens of thousands of events and programs that take place throughout Cuyahoga County. These offerings enrich our quality of life by bringing people together to celebrate the things that make Cuyahoga County a unique place to live. For all the latest, visit ClevelandArtsEvents.com.

6,866,305 PEOPLE SERVED by CAC-funded organizations

926,624 MORE VISITORS AND RESIDENTS reached by CAC groups than in the previous year

50% FREE ADMISSION FOR ATTENDEES of programming supported by Cuyahoga Arts & Culture

25,000 VOLUNTEERS donated their time to help connect more people with the arts.

I tell the ladies that drumming and dancing are not actually what I teach. I teach life. I teach it through the drums.

At the center is Sister Yvetta Eley of Shaker Heights, a statuesque woman who wears flowing white clothes to match her flowing locks of hair. A grandmother to 18, a great-grandmother to 11, and a mother figure to the hundreds of women who have participated in the “Rejoice in Recovery” women’s drum circle, Sister Yvetta knows the power of music. She teaches the women that when they’re playing the drums using their right and left hands, it balances the synapses in the brain. For women whose drug of choice slowed their natural rhythm, playing the drum forces them to keep up. For those whose drug of choice sped them up, they have to slow to match the group’s rhythm. Drumming is a tool to help in their recovery.

“I teach them how to develop themselves and their character,” she says. “I just happen to do it through drumming and dancing.”

Jessica Farrell, a member of the drum circle, says that it helps her focus on her recovery. “For me, it’s a form of meditation. It helps me relax my mind and think about what I need to think about,” she says. “Sister Yvetta teaches you to love yourself and not let other people get you down. It’s very helpful.”

Delilah Boudreau participates because it makes her feel better. “It gives me a sense of peace, and it’s a way of keeping me motivated,” Delilah says. While the synchronized rhythms of the drum focus her mind, it’s the sisterhood of the members in the circle and Sister Yvetta’s words that heal her soul. “I figured out that I could love myself without having anyone love me. The fact that I could find happiness in something as simple as a drum speaking to me is awesome. She helps us be able to better ourselves and our recovery. The emotions we have when we are together are just awesome.”

As for Sister Yvetta, she gains just as much as her students do through the drum circle, which is sponsored by the Broadway School of Music and Arts, a CAC cultural partner.

“I learn as much as I teach, if not more,” she says. “It makes me feel good when I lay my head on my pillow at night that I make a difference.”
For the past 17 years, Vera Yudovina has lived in Solon, Ohio, but she grew up in St. Petersburg, Russia. Her grandfather, a professional artist named Solomon Iudovin, died before she was born, yet through his woodcut works, she got to know about him.

"Art makes your life so much brighter and bigger,” she says. “In the case of my grandfather’s photography, it connects you to your past.”

100-year-old images were misplaced for decades, and neither Vera nor her family members had ever seen them. When she read that the photographs were coming to North America for the first time, Vera called the Jewish Federation of Cleveland to tell them she, Solomon’s only granddaughter, was living in Cleveland. She rushed to take her children and grandchildren to see the exhibit.

Growing up in Russia, the arts were always important to Vera’s family, with her parents taking her to visit the fine museums in Leningrad. It is a passion that has passed from her grandfather to Vera, and from Vera to her children and grandchildren.

It was through “The Way We Were: Photographs of Shtetl Life,” a 2015 exhibit of Russian images presented by the Jewish Federation’s Cleveland Israel Arts Connection and supported by CAC, that Vera made a connection to another part of Solomon’s life – the years he spent photographing the daily social, educational, and cultural traditions in pre-Revolutionary Russia’s Pale of Settlement. The

PICTURED AT RIGHT SELECTIONS FROM SOLOMON IUDOVIN’S IMAGES FEATURED IN THE EXHIBIT
The arts also enrich the lives of business owners and visitors to Coventry. That’s why Steve works with other businesses as part of the Coventry Village Special Improvement District to bring free cultural experiences to residents and guests each summer.

The Coventry Village Special Improvement District enriches the quality of life for residents, celebrates the community’s artistic talents, attracts visitors and creates economic benefits for local merchants. Through its Summer Series, supported in part by CAC, residents and visitors experience activities ranging from live music and exhibitions to outdoor movies and yoga in the park.

“The series brings together people who share a common belief that life is better because of the arts. Not everyone can afford to go to a movie, see a band, or listen to poetry reading. The key is for it to be free and accessible to all,” Steve says. “If we have 10 people or 10,000, we make an impact through our programming.”

Steve says the series has an undeniable local economic benefit. “It brings people out to appreciate what the business community has done to bring life to the commercial district. Our hope is that they will shop at a local business, grab a milkshake or a sandwich when they come out to a movie or a performance.”

The arts have been a big part of Steve Presser’s life. The owner of Big Fun toy store and a lifelong Cleveland Heights resident, Steve is married to an artist and loves to take in live music in Coventry Village and around the region.
I like the feel of arts community here; you feel like you are part of something. People are doing cool things and you can be a part of it.

PATTY EDMONSON

Patty Edmonson is the Museum Advisory Council Curator of Costume and Textiles at the Cleveland History Center, which is supported by CAC. Patty has worked at some of the largest museums in the world, but her heart has always been connected to Cleveland. She returned to give residents a glimpse into the fabric of Northeast Ohio’s history.

READ THE REST OF HER STORY AND SEE MORE AT REPORT.CACGRANTS.ORG

VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

Through grants, Cuyahoga Arts & Culture helps cultural institutions of all sizes become resilient so they can continue to adapt and change to the needs of residents – and make an impact on the local economy. Visitors from down the street and across the globe enjoy our world-class arts and culture. In fact, companies based in Northeast Ohio cite Cuyahoga County’s vibrant cultural offerings as key to attracting and retaining talented employees.

$383,789,115 SPENT IN TOTAL by CAC-funded organizations

$158,565,415 IN TOTAL SALARY paid out by these groups

10,000 EMPLOYEES IN NORTHEAST OHIO work for organizations that receive CAC funds

122 REGIONAL ARTISTS Named Creative Workforce Fellows by the Community Partnership for Arts and Culture, with CAC support

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MORE AT HTTP://FBL.ME/GUERRILLAART

MORE AT HTTP://FBL.ME/ROOMSTOLET

ARTS FOR ALL NORTHEAST OHIO

UNION MILES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BRITE WINTER FESTIVAL

VERB BALLET

READ THE REST OF HER STORY AND SEE MORE AT REPORT.CACGRANTS.ORG

MORE AT HTTP://FBL.ME/GUERILLAART

MORE AT HTTP://FBL.ME/ROOMSTOLET
In 2016, Cuyahoga Arts & Culture is funding 210 organizations based in Cuyahoga County.

**Arts Services**
- Community Partnership for Arts and Culture Foundation for New Creative Projects
- ICA - Art Conservation
- NorthShore's Development Corp.

**Dance**
- DANCECleveland
- Dancing Wheels
- DufyLit
- GroundWorks DanceTheater
- Ink’d Dance Theatre
- Morrison Dance
- Verb Ballets

**Education**
- America SCORES Cleveland
- Art House
- Art Therapy Studio
- Artistic By Design Center
- Baldwin Wallace University
- BA Yarts
- Beck Center for the Arts
- Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Cleveland
- Broadway School of Music and the Arts
- The Arts Bank
- Brooklyn Heights Service Clubs
- Building Bridges
- Campus District, Inc.
- Carolyn L. Farrell Foundation for Brain Health
- Case Western Reserve University
- Catholic Charities, Fatima Center
- Center for Arts-Inspired Learning
- Chagrin Arts
- Chagrin Valley Rec Center
- Children’s Museum of Cleveland
- City Ballet of Cleveland
- School of Cleveland Ballet
- Cleveland Comedy Festival
- Cleveland Institute of Art
- Cleveland Institute of Music
- Cleveland Leadership Center
- Cleveland Print Room
- Cleveland Rape Crisis Center
- Cleveland Treatment Center
- Cleveland UMDAQP
- Dancing Classrooms Northeast Ohio
- Elias Bryant Village
- Famocos Foundation
- Family Connections
- Foluke Cultural Arts Center
- Golden Figures
- Greater Cleveland Neighborhood Centers
- Hospice of the Western Reserve
- Jewish Family Service Association
- Jones Road Family Development Corp.
- Joyful Noise Music School
- Karamu House
- Kulture Kids

Lake Erie Ink: a writing space for youth
Lexington Bell Community Center
May Dugan Center
Morgan Art of Papermaking Conservatory and Educational Foundation
Negative Space Gallery & Studio
NewBridge Cleveland Center for Arts & Technology
Notre Dame College
Omega Psi Phi
Open Doors Academy
Pink Tutu Outreach Company
Progressive Arts Alliance
Rainey Institute
Reaching Heights
Roots of American Music
Scenarios USA
Shore Cultural Center
StandUP! For Change
The Music Settlement
The Musical Theater Project
The Parma Area Fine Arts Council
The Roberto Ocasio Foundation
Thea Bowman Center
University Hospitals Health System
Valley Art Center
West Side Catholic Center
West Side Community House

**Fairs & Festivals**
- A Day at the Chalet (Arts in Strongsville)
- Art Walks (Little Italy Redevelopment Corp.)
- Artistic Journeys Concert Series (Berea Arts Fest)
- Arts in August (Tremont West Development Corp.)
- Brite Winter Festival
- Cedar Fairmount Summer Festival (Cedar Fairmount Business District)
- Chagrin Documentary Film Festival
- Cleveland International Film Festival (OCA Cleveland)
- Cleveland International Film Festival
- Clifton Arts and Music Fest Plus (Cudell Improvement)
- Coventry Village Summer Series (Coventry Village Special Improvement District)
- EarthFest (Earth Day Coalition)
- Festival of New Works (Friends of Cleveland School of the Arts)
- Front Porch Concert Series (LakewoodAlive)
- Gordon Square Performing Arts Fest (Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization)
- Greater Cleveland Urban Film Festival
- Halloran Park Summer Arts Series (Westtown Community Development Corp.)
- Heights Music Hop (FutureHeights)
- Hungarian Scout Festival (American Hungarian Friends of Scouting)
- IngenuityFest (Ingenuity Cleveland)
- Jewish Film Fest (Mandel Jewish Community Center of Cleveland)
- 

**Larchmere Porch Fest**
- Latino Arts and Culture Celebration (Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center)
- Love the EARTH Festival (Arts for All Northeast Ohio)
- Music at the Market (North Union Farmers Market)
- Ohio City Street Festival (Ohio City Inc.)
- One World Day (Cleveland Cultural Gardens Federation)
- Rooms to Let: CLE (Slavic Village Development)
- Shaker Heights Arts & Music Festival (Shaker Arts Council)
- Southeast Cleveland Arts & Jazz (Union Mill Development Corp.)
- Sparx City Hop (Downtown Cleveland Alliance)
- Summer Arts & Entertainment Series (Kamins’ Corners Development Corp.)
- Thyagaraja Festival (Aradhana Committee)
- Tremont Arts & Cultural Festival (Merrick House)
- Unity in the Community (St. Malachi Center)
- Ward 5 Community Family Fest (Burten, Bell, Carr Development)
- Warehouse District Street Festival (Historic Warehouse Development Corp.)
- WOW! Wade Oval Wednesdays (University Circle Inc.)

**History & Cultural Heritage**
- Baseball Heritage Museum
- Beachwood Historical Society
- Bedford Historical Society
- Cleveland Contemporary Chinese Culture Association
- Cleveland Grays Armory Museum
- Cleveland Restoration Society
- Historic Gateway Neighborhood Corp.
- Lakewood Historical Society
- Matz Museum of Jewish Heritage
- National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame
- Old Brooklyn Community Development Corp.
- Restore Cleveland Hope
- Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum
- Schupplattler und Trachtenverein Bavaria
- Shaker Historical Society
- Ukrainian Museum-Archives
- Western Reserve Historical Society
- Westlake Chinese School
- Woodland Cemetery Foundation

**Music**
- Apollo’s Fire
- Arts Renaissance Tremont
- BlueWater Chamber Orchestra
- Caviari String Quartet
- ChamberFest Cleveland
- Choral Arts Society of Cleveland
- CityMusic Cleveland
- Cleveland Blues Society
- Cleveland Chamber Collective
- Cleveland Chamber Music Society
- Cleveland Chamber Symphony
- Cleveland Classical Guitar Society
- Cleveland International Piano Competition
- Cleveland Jazz Orchestra
- Cleveland Opera Theater

Cleveland Philharmonic Orchestra
Cleveland POPS Orchestra
Cleveland TOPS Swingband
Cleveland Women’s Orchestra
Contemporary Youth Orchestra
Good Company: A Vocal Ensemble
Heights Chamber Orchestra
Les Délècs
Local 4 Music Fund
M.U.S.I.C.
Music and Art at Trinity Cathedral
NO EXIT
North Coast Men’s Chorus
Opera Circle
Quire Cleveland
Singing Angels
Suburban Symphony Orchestra
Symphony West Orchestra
The Cleveland Orchestra
The Singers’ Club of Cleveland
The West Shore Choral

**Nature & Science**
- Cleveland Botanical Garden
- Cleveland Museum of Natural History
- Doan Brook Watershed Partnership
- Great Lakes Science Center
- Green Triangle
- Lake Erie Nature & Science Center
- Nature Center at Shaker Lakes

**Theater**
- Brecksville Theater on the Square
- Cassidy Theatre
- Cesar’s Forum
- Chagrin Valley Little Theatre
- Cleveland Play House
- Cleveland Public Theatre
- Cleveland Shakespeare Festival
- convergence-continuum
- Dobama Theatre
- Ensemble Theatre
- Great Lakes Theater
- Heights Youth Theatre
- Mamai Theatre Company
- Mercury Theatre Company
- Near West Theatre
- Playhouse Square
- Talespinner Children’s Theatre
- Theater Ninjas
- UpStage Players

**Visual & Media Arts**
- Artists Archives of the Western Reserve
- Belleaire Punnas Development Corp.
- Cleveland Museum of Art
- HeightsArts
- ideastream
- Jewish Federation of Cleveland
- LAND studio
- Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland
- SPACES
- The Sculpture Center
- Zygo Press
In 2015, Cuyahoga Arts & Culture funded 194 organizations based in Cuyahoga County. Those organizations offered programs in nearly every community – helping to ensure that all residents have access to arts and culture close to home. In 2015, these organizations offered activities in more than 1,200 unique locations in Cuyahoga County – including schools, libraries, senior centers, theaters, parks, hospitals and neighborhood streets.
I CAN’T TAKE CREDIT FOR THE IDEA, I ALWAYS KNEW IT WAS HERE.  

Omid Tavakoli  
Visual Artist and Garden Director

The Waterloo Sculpture Garden hosts a wide range of community events in Cleveland’s Collinwood neighborhood. From rain barrel painting to free yoga classes, each event brings together area residents to create and connect.

This project was co-funded by Cuyahoga Arts & Culture and Neighborhood Connections.

Cuyahoga Arts & Culture’s mission is to inspire and strengthen the community by investing in arts and culture.