



# **Atlantic Highlands Arts Council**

**2023 Annual Meeting**

# OVERVIEW AND MISSION STATEMENT

The Atlantic Highlands Arts Council (AHArts) is a volunteer organization comprised of a group of core volunteers who make up our Board of Directors, as well as many dedicated volunteers and members who gallery sit and offer their services on committees to keep the organization running.

*Our mission is to strengthen community through the arts.*



# Overview of 2022

In 2022, we kicked off a new three-year lease of our gallery space, digging our heels in here on First Avenue in Atlantic Highlands to ensure the region would have a stable community arts and culture space in our immediate future.

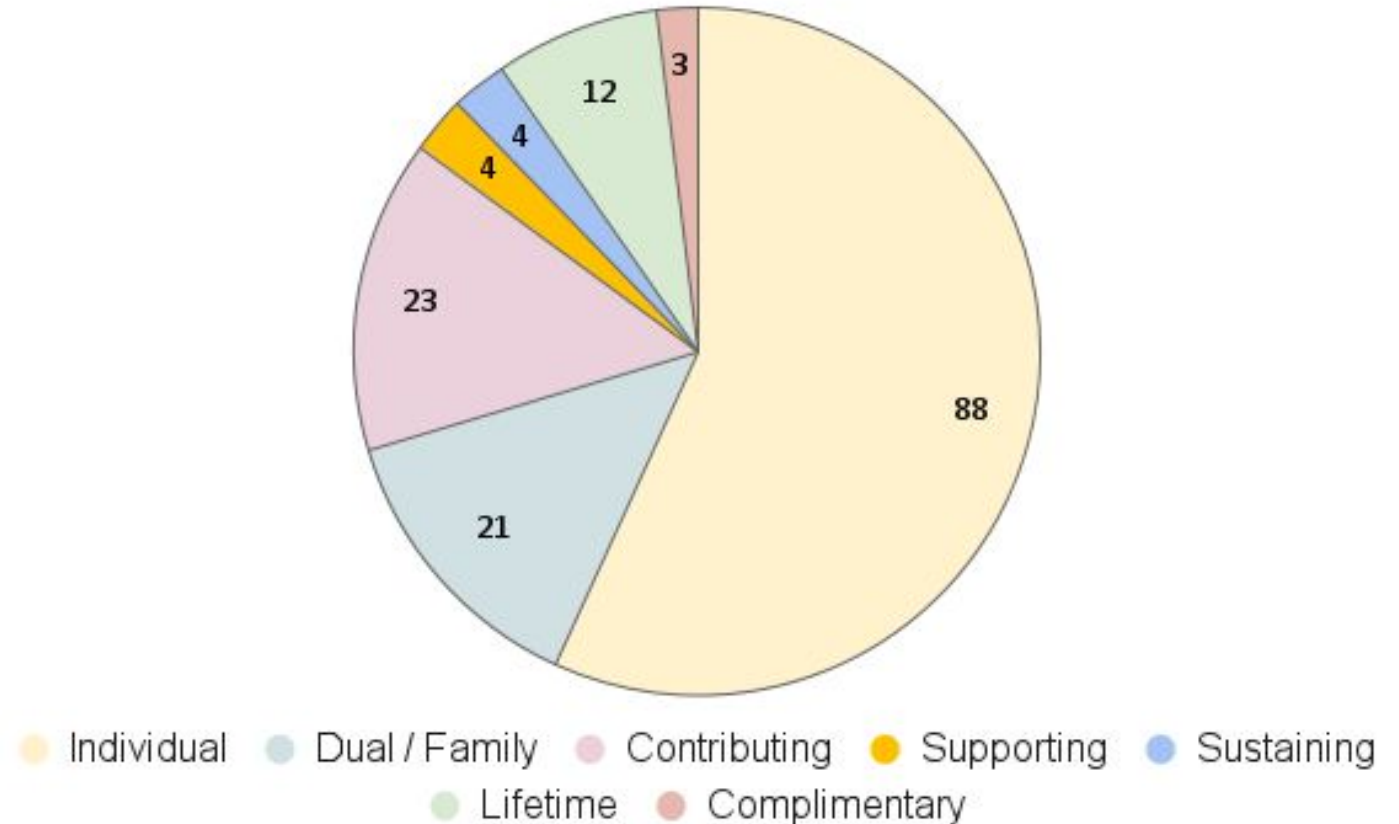
With the ongoing waves of the pandemic, AHArts closed its doors for about a week and a half in January 2022 for the safety of our volunteers and the general public. This was the only time in 2022 that the gallery was shuttered due to the virus, and since then, we've blossomed with free and low cost community events and programs every single month!

AHArts has stayed flexible and adaptable, with strong regional support. This is our strength. But we can't do this work alone. We rely on our committees, volunteers, members, and donors to keep our facility open and programs running.

# COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND FUNDING

We welcomed over 50 new members to the AHArts community in 2022, totaling 155 Members. A new record!

This important revenue stream made up 22% of our income in 2022. Membership is crucial for AHArts sustainability.



# COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND FUNDING

We also spent the year grant writing and fundraising with events and sponsorships:

- General Operating Support - Monmouth Arts
- Arts Education Support - Monmouth County Community Development Block Grant - Free Arts Ed Programs
- Project Support - Monmouth Arts - EcoArt Project
- FilmOneFest Support - Investors Foundation, Citizens Foundation, Pepsi Co., Sponsorships from Local Businesses - along with raising funds through small events to meet the >\$20,000 cost of the event



This program is made possible in part by funds from Monmouth Arts, a partner of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, and the Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners.

## A Special Thanks to all of our Generous Sponsors. Shop Local!



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# COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND FUNDING



We also rely on Individual Donations throughout the year, crowdfunding, and fundraisers.

In 2022, we hosted a Pizza Party Fundraiser at David Burke's *The Goat* restaurant. We raised over \$5,000!

ALL of these fundraising events and income streams are important to allow AHArts to engage communities, offer opportunities for artists and the general public, and in keeping the community space open for all.

# EXHIBITS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS - Our Impact

We held 40 events overall in 2022

- 11 Classes / Workshops
  - Including 6 Free Summer Art Classes
- 16 Free Community Events
  - Including a Community Canoe Build, Paint & Launch
- 5 Ticketed Events
  - Two Film Screenings
  - Broadway Musical Production
  - Comedy Night
- 8 Free Exhibit Receptions



FilmOneFest - 2022 was the 14th year of this annual, international event



FilmOneFest was live and at the Atlantic Highlands Marina once again on July 16th!

We had some rain and continued to adapt during a Covid-19 spike, but AHArts pulled out another amazing event for filmmakers around the world and for the whole State of NJ to enjoy and take part in at no cost!

We also produced the VIRTUAL 24-Hour Film Slam in June leading up to the festival.





# EXHIBITS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS - Our Impact

The Data across All Programs:

- Adult Attendance in 2022 = 3,698
- Youth Attendance in 2022 = 1,015
- Artists Served = 367

Including 1,593+ members of the General Public coming through the gallery doors just to view the exhibiting artists, visit the ArtSHOP, or check out what's going on in the gallery!

Thank you to our street-level, downtown space and amazing volunteers who gallery sit to keep our doors open and the public engaged!

# PLEASE CONSIDER GALLERY SITTING



We can't make these kind of impactful waves without the support of volunteers in the community.

Please consider donating a few hours of your time each month to support our shared Community Art Space.

Without volunteers, we cannot keep this space **ALIVE & THRIVING!**

Please contact us at [info@aharts.org](mailto:info@aharts.org) if you can contribute your time.

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH & PARTNERS

- Partnered on a Summer Canoe Build, Paint, Launch, and Exhibit with Navesink Maritime Heritage Association
- Held free art activities at the summer Farmer's Market, in partnership with the Environmental Commission
- Participated with tables and activities at various Chamber of Commerce events in Atlantic Highlands throughout the year - like Taste of Atlantic Highlands and the EnviroFair
- Partnered with Wild About Atlantic Highlands on a film screening and community event on how a residential yard can become a Certified Wildlife Habitat, alongside a film screening



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH & PARTNERS

- Offered our facility at no cost to the AH Equity and Justice group for their monthly meetings
- Partnered with four elementary and middle schools to distribute free Art Kits for Kids twice a year
- Continued to promote tabling opportunities for artists at the NJ Blind Citizens Association annual artisan market
- Became an official AH Food Pantry collection site in town



# PROMOTING ARTISTS AND PROGRAMS



AHArts made the cover of the Two River Times this year with our collaborative Canoe Project in the summer.

Our exhibits made the cover of the Tri City News twice and a third time within the inner articles.

FilmOneFest and many of our exhibits and events have been highlighted in the local Atlantic Highlands Living magazine, and we're consistently promoted in the biweekly Monmouth Arts Get Out and Get Art email blasts.

The film festival event and submissions process has also been included in the NJ State Council on the Arts events and opportunities eblasts, as well as the statewide Discover Jersey Arts listings.

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

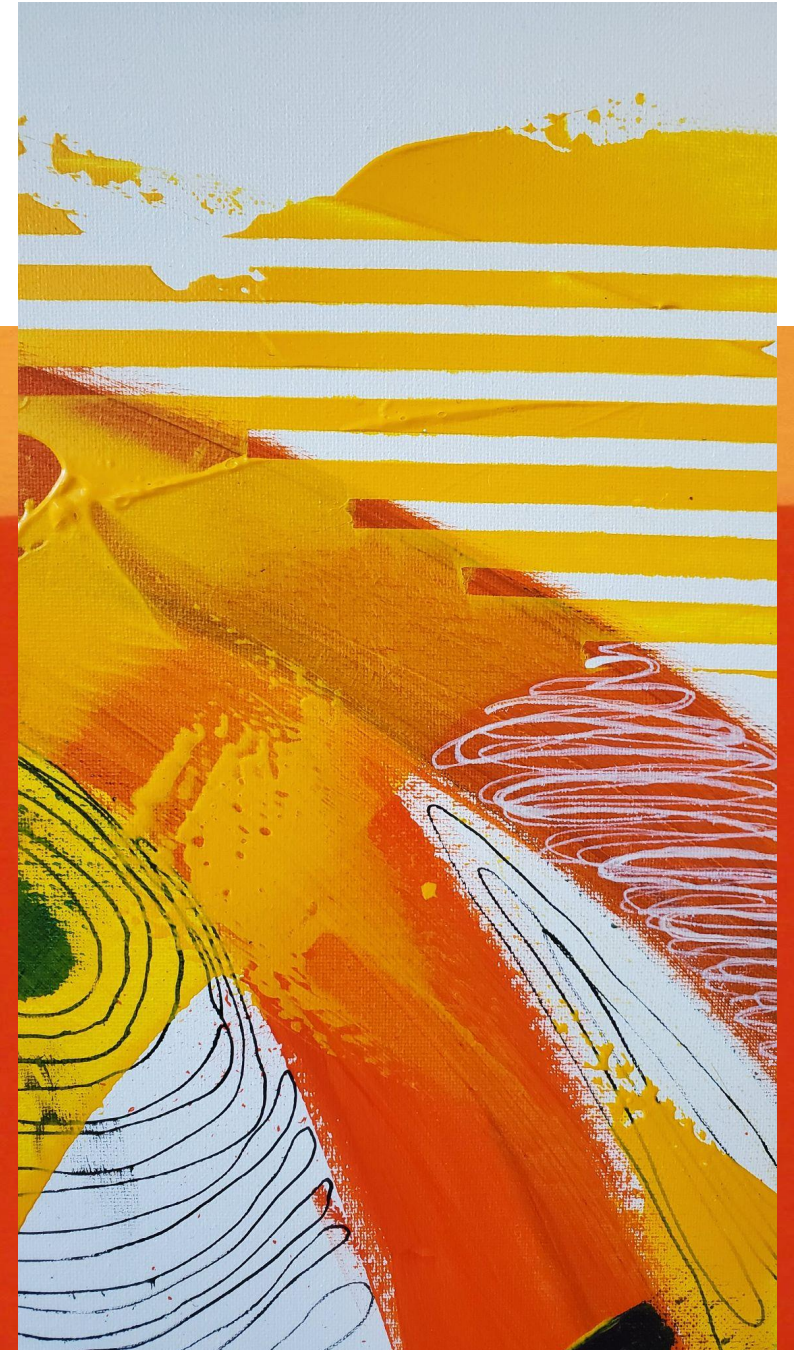
## Atlantic Highlands Arts Council

	<i>2023 Budget</i>	<i>2022 Actual</i>	<i>2021 Actual</i>	<i>2020 Actual</i>
<b>Fundraising</b>				
Membership	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,572	\$ 12,255	\$ 10,310
Contributions	\$ 6,500	\$ 6,412	\$ 6,729	\$ 14,478
Grants	\$ 9,200	\$ 26,860	\$ 9,846	\$ 14,816
Other Fundraising	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,890	\$ 10,205	\$ -
Expenses	\$ (500)	\$ (552)	\$ (705)	\$ (367)
	<u>\$ 32,200</u>	<u>\$ 50,183</u>	<u>\$ 38,331</u>	<u>\$ 39,236</u>
<b>Programs</b>				
Other Income	\$ 48,500	\$ 41,144	\$ 51,744	\$ 26,591
Expenses	\$ (43,500)	\$ (42,231)	\$ (58,629)	\$ (23,098)
	<u>\$ 5,000</u>	<u>\$ (1,088)</u>	<u>\$ (6,886)</u>	<u>\$ 3,494</u>
<b>Operations</b>				
Facility Expenses	\$ (33,990)	\$ (33,242)	\$ (31,144)	\$ (28,962)
Operating Expenses	\$ (9,150)	\$ (5,789)	\$ (6,103)	\$ (6,490)
	<u>\$ (43,140)</u>	<u>\$ (39,031)</u>	<u>\$ (37,247)</u>	<u>\$ (35,452)</u>
<b>Surplus (shortfall)</b>	<u><u>\$ (5,940)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 10,064</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (5,802)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 7,278</u></u>
Year End Cash Reserves	\$ 37,280	\$ 43,220	\$ 33,294	\$ 38,631

# LOOKING AHEAD TO 2023

We're already underway with programs, events, and partnerships in 2023!

- Main Gallery exhibits calendar is starting to fill with open call slots, prime gallery rental, partnership exhibits, and group and solo shows
- Window Galleries are almost completely booked
- Films and Funky Popcorn series launched as we gear up for the FilmOneFest official submission launch in February and our 15th FOF event in July
- Broadway is back on February 4th with "Pure Imagination"
- Free Summer Art Camp and Free Art Kits for Kids are already paid for with grant funding this summer! Look out for likely 8 weeks of free classes for kids in July and August!
- We're growing the Board of Directors
- We're expanding our Committees



# PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING A COMMITTEE

At the core of AHArts are our Volunteers.

You can volunteer your time on the Board of Directors, on a Committee, or as a Gallery Sitter.

ALL of these roles are incredibly important to the lifeblood of this community organization.

Please help us keep this space open and thriving by volunteering. We're asking for more support as we move into 2023 to keep the organization sustainable.

*Please Volunteer*

Board Member

Committee Member

Gallery Sitter

*We Need Your Help.*



*Thank you for your commitment to keeping the arts community  
**ALIVE & THRIVING** in our region!*

