

MARYLAND STATE ARTS COUNCIL FY 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

Fellow Marylanders:

It's my pleasure to introduce the Maryland State Arts Council's FY 2023 Annual Report with the exciting news that our state ranks second in the nation in *per capita* public spending on the arts! This historic investment demonstrates this administration's belief that the arts are an essential part of life in Maryland; they're part of what makes our state such a great place to live and work, and they contribute significantly to our economy.

Notable this year was the addition of \$40 million in pandemic recovery funding to MSAC's record regular budget of \$28.9 million. The MSAC team worked diligently, thoughtfully, and tirelessly to deliver funding through its regular programs as well as much needed Arts Relief funds to Maryland's arts sector. These funds have and will help to ensure a robust job market in the arts, as well as a quality of life that bolsters the state's appeal to current Marylanders, visitors, and prospective residents.

I invite you to look through the following pages for the full story about MSAC's recent activities. From the largest arts organization to the ambitious startup to the many artists at work in the studio, every layer of our creative economy has been touched by their work.



Kevin Anderson Secretary

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



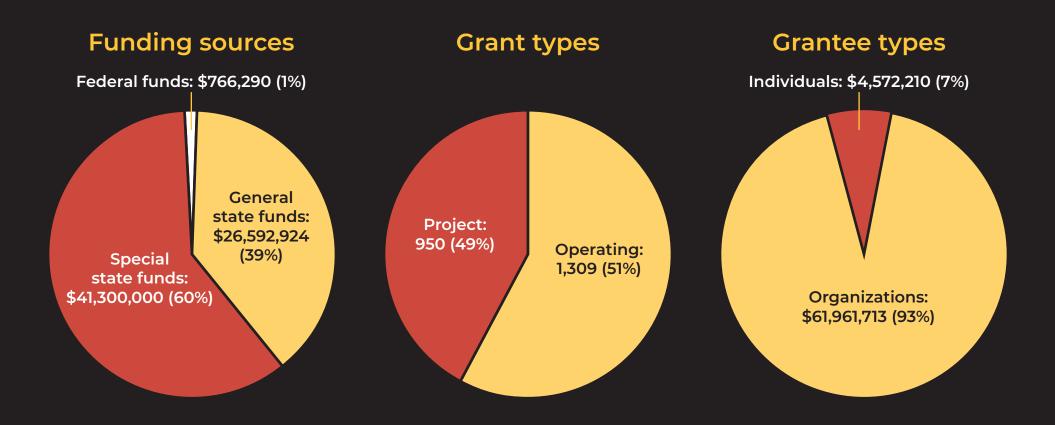
MSAC is an agency of the State of Maryland's Department of Commerce. It provides resources to the state's arts sector through grants, professional development, and other opportunities.

Founded in 1967, MSAC's vision is to play an essential role ensuring every person has access to the transformative power of the arts.

Its mission is to advance the arts in our state by providing leadership that champions creative expression, diverse programming, equitable access, lifelong learning, and the arts as a celebrated contributor to the quality of life for all the people of Maryland.

MSAC is committed to justice in grantmaking. Centering equity, diversity, and inclusion in all decisions ensures that Marylanders have the opportunity to participate in the arts as affirming, enhancing, and necessary life experiences.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Maryland was 2nd in the nation in per capita spending on the arts in FY 2023.

ARTS RELIEF

It has been a busy and rewarding year at MSAC. Our biggest achievement was the successful expenditure of the Arts Relief funding package, \$40 million in state supplemental budget funds provided to help support economic stability as Maryland's arts sector continues to navigate the effects of the pandemic.

I feel honored to have worked with an incredible team to develop a plan that distributed the entirety of the \$40 million dollars equitably through increases in the number and dollar amount of existing grants, as well as the creation and implementation of new grants supporting organizations and artists.

It was MSAC's privilege to steward this funding, which we hope puts our grantees on stable footing as they look toward the future.



Steven Skerritt-Davis Executive Director "I feel so lucky to live in a state with such robust arts support, and so much of that is because of the thoughtful and generous work your team at MSAC does! I'm always so impressed by your systems and care you really stand out amongst funders."

— Kate Reed Petty, writer (Baltimore City)

ARTS RELIEF

\$40 million

Arts Relief General Operating Support: \$34,471,478 *Grants for Organizations:* \$26,621,478 *County Arts Development:* \$6,050,000 *Arts & Entertainment District Operating Support:* \$925,000 *Folklife Network:* \$875,000 Public Art Across Maryland: \$1,760,000 Grants for Artists: \$1,290,000 Creativity: \$1,042,503 Arts in Education: \$796,012 Emergency: \$300,000 Folklife Apprenticeship: \$150,000 Professional Development Opportunity: \$100,000 Special Request: \$90,007 In FY23:



282% increase in operating grants

209%

increase in grants to artists

164%

increase in grants to organizations

55%

increase in project grants

ARTS RELIE GENERAL OPERATIN SUPPORT

\$34,471,478 618 grants

A large portion of this year's Arts Relief funding went toward the creation of the Arts Relief General Operating Support (ARGOS) program, a temporary offering that provided pandemic recovery funds to grantees of MSAC's existing Grants for Organizations, County Arts Development, Folklife Network, and Arts & Entertainment District General Operating Support programs.



Young hip-hop artists holding a street corner performance in Baltimore City.

"The return from the pandemic has been anything but smooth, and the ups and downs and all-over swings of the past two-plus years have been pretty challenging, to say the least. To get this level of support now is a real testament to the importance of the performing arts in Maryland. Thank you for all that you do to promote the value of arts institutions and artists."

— Olney Theatre Center (Montgomery)

GRANTS FORME

\$16,973,738 282 grants

The Grants for Organizations program strengthened and sustained Maryland's arts infrastructure by providing operating support to organizations producing or presenting arts programming for public audiences across Maryland. The increasingly popular program served 30 new grantees in FY 2023. Young dancers with Baltimore City's Cielo Latin American arts and culture group

"We at the Ward Foundation are grateful for the ongoing support of the MSAC — through funding, but also by being mindful of the available resources (personnel, time, etc.) of the nonprofits applying for funds. MSAC has been hands-down the most responsive to the needs and challenges of arts organizations during the pandemic, and we thank you for your work on our behalf!"

— The Ward Foundation (Wicomico)

CREATIVITY

\$1,956,888 449 grants

The Creativity grant supported two kinds of arts activities: general operations for smaller organizations and projects for organizations and artists. Creativity grant funding increased substantially in FY 2023, due to an infusion of Arts Relief support.



COUNTY ARTS DEVELOPMENT

\$4,750,000 24 grants

The County Arts Development program bolstered Maryland's network of county arts agencies with operating funding for the designated government offices and nonprofit organizations supporting local arts activities in each jurisdiction of the state — 23 counties plus Baltimore City. All county arts agencies provide local arts funding opportunities, programming, and other resources.

Garrett County Arts Council

Live music at the Grantsville Days festival, sponsored in part by the Garrett County Arts Council. Photo courtesy of Taylor Lewis Photography.

GRANTS FOR ARTISTS

\$1,620,000 270 grants

Grants for Artists, MSAC's newest program, piloted last year to support working and living expenses for 270 artists making work independently of an organization or institution. The program attracted an unprecedented level of interest and received applications from every jurisdiction in the state. cavaco player poses with her instrument in Prince George's County.

"Thank you so very much for this grant opportunity! It means a lot to be approved for this grant in order to acquire the sewing and quilting tools and services that will help me to continue and to improve the quality of making, sharing, and selling quilt blocks and quilts and other items to Smithsonian Enterprises and the National Museum of African American History and Culture."

— Sylvia G. Stephens, quilter (Prince George's)

PUBLIC ART ACROSS MARYLAND

\$2,519,041 89 New Artworks grants 17 Conservation grants The Public Art Across Maryland program funded the planning, creation, installation, and conservation of publicly accessible art integrated into the everyday experiences of Marylanders statewide.

attend the unveiling of a new mural in St. Mary's County.

In addition, the program supported progress on seven commissioned works at state-owned facilities and introduced the Public Art Roster, a directory easing artists' access to work opportunities and addressing high demand from those wishing to connect with the Public Art Across Maryland program.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS AND POETRY FOUNDATION PRESENT

ETRY

\$1,407,032 247 grants

The Arts in Education program supported the work of teaching artists in school and community settings by funding members of the Teaching Artist Roster, a vetted list of Maryland artists and organizations whose efforts deepen lifelong learning.

ARTS IN EDUCA

The Arts in Education program also administered Poetry Out Loud, a state recitation competition helping students master public speaking skills and build self-confidence. State champion Madison Harris, a freshman from Indian Creek High School in Anne Arundel County, went on to place third in the national Poetry Out Loud competition.

> Madison Harris performing at the national Poetry Out Loud competition. Photo courtesy of James Kegley.

MARYLAND TRADITION

\$985,000 49 Folklife Apprenticeships 8 Folklife Network grants 6 Heritage Awards

Maryland Traditions, MSAC's traditional arts program and the oldest of its kind in the country, provided support for one-onone traditional arts education experiences, long-term achievement in the traditional arts, and a network of eight regional folklife centers raising the profile of the many cultural communities that call Maryland home.



"Having the opportunity to share an art form that I am so passionate about with an aspiring artist and help ensure it continues to be practiced and shared is an exhilarating feeling! Thank you MSAC."

— Colleen Tiefenthal, fiber artist (Cecil)

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICTS

\$444,321 26 grants

Maryland's 29 Arts & Entertainment Districts received support from MSAC in promoting community involvement, tourism, and revitalization through the availability of tax-related incentives. This support included funding to most districts through the Arts & Entertainment District General Operating Support grant.

PRESENTING & TOURING

\$168,393 44 grants

The Presenting & Touring program fostered connections between Maryland's performing artists and performance venues through the Maryland Performing Artist Touring Roster, a listing that encourages connections between the two groups. The program also provided funding to presenting organizations that engage roster artists through the Maryland Touring grant.

NETWORK ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

\$79,182 8 grants

The Network Organizational Development (NOD) grant funded capacity building projects for organizations participating in three MSAC programs: Arts & Entertainment Districts, County Arts Development, and the Folklife Network.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY

\$223,338 119 grants

Professional Development Opportunity (PD Opportunity) grant supported the cost of relevant training and skill-building for artists and organizations seeking to grow their impacts in the arts sector.

SPECIAL REQUEST

\$324,271 7 grants

The Special Request program helped organizations seeking to fund pilot projects, build capacity, and become more responsive to constituent requests.

EMERGENCY

\$590,000 295 grants

Emergency grants supported artists experiencing income losses as a result of the pandemic and other unforeseen circumstances.



"Thank you for your guidance during the application process for the Special Request grant! We are very grateful for this much-needed support, and we could not have successfully made ourselves understood by the review committee without your help."

— Mayur Dance (Montgomery)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MSAC maintains a regular schedule of free virtual and live professional development offerings, including topic-specific workshops, grant application strategy sessions, informal meet-and-greets, and in-person conversations between staff and arts leaders in every region of the state.

Offerings in FY 2023

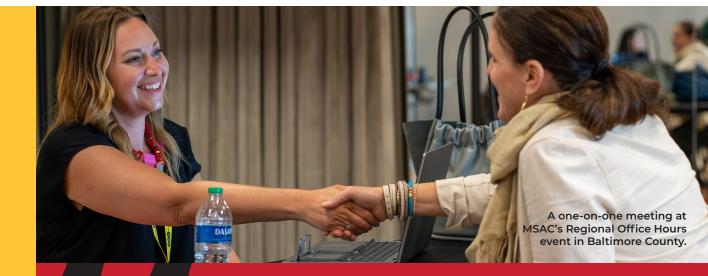


Virtual sessions: 70





People served: 3,029



"I want to express my gratitude to you all and to everyone involved for the outstanding workshop series for administrators! I found it to be a valuable and well-planned program, and I deeply appreciate all the hard work, expertise and wisdom that went into it."

— Cochran Studio, Public Art Across Maryland constituent (Frederick)

EXHIBITIONS

Two exhibitions provided curated virtual and live artistic experiences to the public last year. The first marked the closure of a five-part virtual exhibition series that began in 2021, and the second brought viewers together in person to celebrate the work of MSAC's Arts Directory.

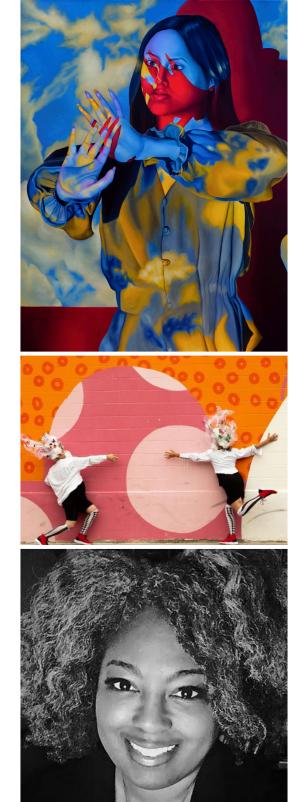
Regional Virtual Exhibition Series #5: Western Maryland

Oct. 21–Dec. 16

The final installment of MSAC's virtual showcase of multidisciplinary artists from each region of the state highlighted visual artists drawing inspiration from the mountain landscapes of Western Maryland.

Arts Directory Triennial Juried Exhibition May 18–June 24

In celebration of the talented and diverse array of artists across the state, and the ever growing scope of the Maryland Arts Directory, MSAC presented this survey of Maryland visual, literary, and performing artists in collaboration with Baltimore City's Maryland Art Place (MAP). All featured artists were drawn from the Arts Directory, a listing of high-caliber art from the Arts Directory, MSAC's free online platform that showcases the work of Maryland artists and is maintained by MAP.



Artists whose ş (Ba irectory Triennial, from looked

FINANCIALS BY JURISDICTION

Allegany

A&E District Operating Support: \$34,179 ARGOS: \$528,070 County Arts Development: \$183,343 Creativity: \$85,053 Emergency: \$8,000 Folklife Network: \$85,000 Grants for Artists: \$36,000 Grants for Organizations: \$44,833 NOD: \$10,000 Presenting and Touring: \$5,000 PD Opportunity: \$3,911 Public Art Across Maryland: \$120,000

Total: \$1,143,388

Anne Arundel

A&E District Operating Support: \$17,089 Arts in Education: \$89,661 ARGOS: \$2,319,025 County Arts Development: \$223,608 Creativity: \$83,406 Emergency: \$52,000 Folklife Apprenticeship: \$15,000 Grants for Artists: \$84,000 Grants for Organizations: \$990,337 NOD: \$10,000 Presenting and Touring: \$12,160 PD Opportunity: \$9,115 Public Art Across Maryland: \$116,621 Special Request: \$48,546

Total: \$4,070,568

Baltimore City

A&E District Operating Support: \$68,357 Arts in Education: \$243.897 ARGOS: \$11,874,828 County Arts Development: \$222,542 Creativity: \$642,244 Emergency: \$190,000 Folklife Apprenticeship: \$55,000 Folklife Network: \$85.000 Grants for Artists: \$450,000 Grants for Organizations: \$8,046,112 Heritage Award: \$20,000 NOD: \$10,000 Presenting and Touring: \$20,509 PD Opportunity: \$77,668 Public Art Across Maryland: \$887,216 Special Request: \$75,725

Total: \$22,969,098

Baltimore County

A&E District Operating Support: \$17,089 Arts in Education: \$96,502 ARGOS: \$1,362,044 County Arts Development: \$243,562 Creativity: \$186,112 Emergency: \$70,000 Folklife Apprenticeship: \$20,000 Folklife Apprenticeship: \$20,000 Folklife Network: \$85,000 Grants for Artists: \$138,000 Grants for Organizations: \$458,086 Heritage Award: \$10,000 Presenting and Touring: \$15,150 PD Opportunity: \$23,110 Public Art Across Maryland: \$87,855 **Total: \$2,812,511**

Calvert

Arts in Education: \$9,347 ARGOS: \$350,794 County Arts Development: \$185,362 Creativity: \$2,500 Emergency: \$2,000 Grants for Artists: \$12,000 Grants for Organizations: \$108,709 Presenting and Touring: \$1,724 PD Opportunity: \$1,345 Public Art Across Maryland: \$10,000

Total: \$683,781

Caroline

A&E District Operating Support: \$17,089 Arts in Education: \$32,116 ARGOS: \$150,911 County Arts Development: \$180,697 Creativity: \$4,000 NOD: \$9,450 PD Opportunity: \$2,000 Public Art Across Maryland: \$60,000

Total: \$456,263

Carroll

Arts in Education: \$7,229 ARGOS: \$489,328 County Arts Development: \$191,521 Creativity: \$12,500 Emergency: \$6,000 Folklife Apprenticeship: \$5,000 Folklife Network: \$85,000 Grants for Organizations: \$41,686 Presenting and Touring: \$5,000 PD Opportunity: \$2,650 Public Art Across Maryland: \$101,019

Total: \$946,933

Cecil

A&E District Operating Support: \$17,089 Arts in Education: \$4,049 ARGOS: \$185,597 County Arts Development: \$186,130 Emergency: \$2,000 Folklife Apprenticeship: \$5,000 Grants for Artists: \$6,000 Grants for Organizations: \$14,806

Total: \$420,671

Charles

Arts in Education: \$7,499 ARGOS: \$40,341 County Arts Development: \$191,123 Creativity: \$16,000 Emergency: \$2,000 Grants for Artists: \$18,000 Grants for Organizations: \$16,265 Public Art Across Maryland: \$10,000

Total: \$301,227

Dorchester

ARGOS: \$220,119 County Arts Development: \$180,628 Creativity: \$3,950 Emergency: \$4,000 Grants for Artists: \$24,000 NOD: \$10,000 Public Art Across Maryland: \$9,615 **Total: \$452,312**

Frederick

A&E District Operating Support: \$17,089 Arts in Education: \$72,608 ARGOS: \$860,557 County Arts Development: \$199,685 Creativity: \$70,406 Emergency: \$16,000 Folklife Apprenticeship: \$15,000 Grants for Artists: \$78,000 Grants for Organizations: \$279,509 Presenting and Touring: \$10,225 PD Opportunity: \$2,449 Public Art Across Maryland: \$180,000 **Total: \$1,801,527**

Garrett

A&E District Operating Support: \$34,179 Arts in Education: \$10,338 ARGOS: \$280,453 County Arts Development: \$180,336 Creativity: \$6,700 Emergency: \$2,000 Grants for Organizations: \$13,421 Presenting and Touring: \$10,000 Public Art Across Maryland: \$16,127

Total: \$553,553

Harford

A&E District Operating Support: \$34,179 Arts in Education: \$18,347 ARGOS: \$471,192 County Arts Development: \$198,386 Creativity: \$27,500 Emergency: \$14,000 Grants for Artists: \$24,000 Grants for Organizations: \$118,610 Presenting and Touring: \$9,000 PD Opportunity: \$5,293 Public Art Across Maryland: \$60,000

Total: \$980,506

Howard

Arts in Education: \$62,553 ARGOS: \$909,634 County Arts Development: \$203,899 Creativity: \$111,996 Emergency: \$16,000 Folklife Apprenticeship: \$10,000 Grants for Artists: \$30,000 Grants for Organizations: \$252,993 PD Opportunity: \$9,800

Total: \$1,606,875

Kent

A&E District Operating Support: \$17,089 ARGOS: \$393,181 County Arts Development: \$179,611 Creativity: \$4,000 Emergency: \$2,000 Grants for Artists: \$12,000 Grants for Organizations: \$86,771 Presenting and Touring: \$12,000 PD Opportunity: \$2,000 Public Art Across Maryland: \$10,000 **Total: \$718.653**

Montgomery

A&E District Operating Support: \$51,268 Arts in Education: \$459,803 ARGOS: \$8,542,234 County Arts Development: \$259,395 Creativity: \$363,072 Emergency: \$62,000 Folklife Apprenticeship: \$70,000 Folklife Network: \$85,000 Grants for Artists: \$258,000 Grants for Organizations: \$4,248,045 Heritage Award: \$10,000 NOD: \$9.732 Presenting and Touring: \$33,400 PD Opportunity: \$59,817 Public Art Across Maryland: \$328,576 Special Request: \$137,514

Total: \$14,977,856

Prince George's

Arts in Education: \$208,855 ARGOS: \$2,212,618 County Arts Development: \$251,728 Creativity: \$206,756 Emergency: \$118,000 Folklife Apprenticeship: \$45,000 Grants for Artists: \$312,000 Grants for Organizations: \$1,202,372 Heritage Award: \$10,000 NOD: \$10,000 Presenting and Touring: \$25,000 PD Opportunity: \$21,237 Public Art Across Maryland: \$160,000 Special Request: \$100,000

Total: \$4,883,566

Queen Anne's

A&E District Operating Support: \$17,089 ARGOS: \$188,050 County Arts Development: \$182,039 Creativity: \$34,600 Emergency: \$2,000 Grants for Organizations: \$3,775 Heritage Award: \$10,000 Public Art Across Maryland: \$10,000

Total: \$447,553

Somerset

A&E District Operating Support: \$17,089 ARGOS: \$152,076 County Arts Development: \$180,020 **Total: \$349,185**

St. Mary's

A&E District Operating Support: \$17,089 Arts in Education: \$10,696 ARGOS: \$346,772 County Arts Development: \$186,944 Creativity: \$45,756 Emergency: \$4,000 Folklife Apprenticeship: \$5,000 Folklife Network: \$85,000 Grants for Artists: \$30,000 Grants for Organizations: \$33,921 Public Art Across Maryland: \$120,000

Total: \$885,178

Talbot

A&E District Operating Support: \$17,089 Arts in Education: \$10,344 ARGOS: \$1,011,661 County Arts Development: \$181,024 Creativity: \$30,495 Emergency: \$2,000 Folklife Network: \$85,000 Grants for Artists: \$12,000 Grants for Organizations: \$452,975 NOD: \$10,000 Presenting and Touring: \$9,450 PD Opportunity: \$2,000 Public Art Across Maryland: \$29,975

Total: \$1,854,014

Washington

Arts in Education: \$10,007 ARGOS: \$836,130 County Arts Development: \$190,062 Creativity: \$30,341 Emergency: \$6,000 Grants for Artists: \$42,000 Grants for Organizations: \$373,231 Presenting and Touring: \$5,000 PD Opportunity: \$2,000 Public Art Across Maryland: \$50,000 **Total: \$1,544,771**

Wicomico

A&E District Operating Support: \$17,089 Arts in Education: \$53,183 ARGOS: \$519,494 County Arts Development: \$186,136 Creativity: \$16,000 Emergency: \$6,000 Folklife Network: \$85,000 Grants for Artists: \$30,000 Grants for Organizations: \$144,940 PD Opportunity: \$944 Public Art Across Maryland: \$54,000

Total: \$1,112,786

Worcester

A&E District Operating Support: \$34,179 ARGOS: \$226,369 County Arts Development: \$182,219 Emergency: \$2,000 Grants for Artists: \$24,000 Grants for Organizations: \$42,340 Presenting and Touring: \$2,000 Public Art Across Maryland: \$48,037

Total: \$561,144

Figures reflect grants awarded in FY23 only.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURES

Income

General funds: \$26,592,924 Special funds: \$41,300,000 Federal funds: \$766,290 **Total income: \$68,659,214**

Expenditures

Grants For Organizations: \$15,974,891 County Arts Development: \$4,750,000 Creativity: \$957,385 Public Art Across Maryland: \$730,547 Folklife Network: \$680,000 Arts in Education: \$611.021 A&E District Operating Support: \$444,321 Grants for Artists: \$330,000 Emergency: \$290,000 Special Request: \$234,264 Presenting and Touring: \$180,368 Maryland Traditions: \$155,000 Professional Development Opportunity: \$127,338 Network Organizational Development: \$89,182 Arts Relief: \$40,000,000 General administration: \$3,104,897 Total expenditures: \$68,659,214*

*Amounts listed on this page reflect FY 2023 actual expenditures. Amounts on previous pages reflect FY 2023 grants awarded.

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State of Maryland

Wes Moore, Governor Aruna Miller, Lieutenant Governor







Sidewalk artists at work in the Downtown Frederick Arts & Entertainment District.

Front cover: Quilters place their hands on a Baltimore album quilt, an applique tradition that won a FY23 Heritage Award.