



WHIDBEY
• ISLAND •
ARTS
COUNCIL

*Support the arts on
Whidbey Island*

2023 ANNUAL REPORT





Dear Creatives,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my sincerest gratitude for your continued support of the Whidbey Island Arts Council (WIAC). Your commitment to our cause has not gone unnoticed, and we cannot thank you enough for your unwavering support.

Your donations have made a significant impact on WIAC. With your continued support, we have been able to fund and support several arts programs on Whidbey Island. It is because of supporters like you that we are able to continue our mission and improve the non profit island arts organizations.

I also want to take this opportunity personally thank Katrina Hude for her tireless work as former WIAC president. Under her leadership, WIAC is not only financially sound, but growing. Growing and seeking to nurture and support new arts organizations.

Thank you again for your care and support for WIAC. Your support means the world to us, and we are truly grateful for your commitment to this invaluable cause.

Sincerely,

David Hundley
President
Whidbey Island Arts Council

~ Whidbey Island Arts Council 2023 Board of Directors ~

PAST-PRESIDENT - KATRINA HUDE
PRESIDENT - DAVID HUNDLEY
TREASURER - CHRISTIAN HAMMER
SECRETARY - BRITT MCKENZIE

ARTS IN EDUCATION - THERESE KINGSBURY
PROGRAMS COORDINATOR - BECK DIAMOND
IT SUPPORT - QUINN COX
MEMBER AT LARGE - TEKLA CUNNINGHAM
MEMBER AT LARGE - JANE FUNG



OUR MISSION

The purpose of WIAC is to foster local artists and arts organizations by providing support, fiscal management & sponsorship; to engage in community arts outreach, increasing community awareness of the arts and culture of Whidbey Island.

OUR CORE VALUES



Relevance



Community



Equity



Sustainability



Aesthetics



Accessibility

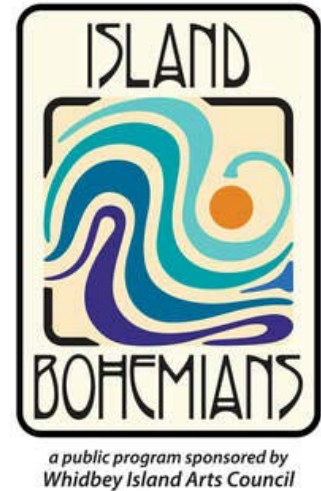


Autonomy
with
Accountability

A YEAR IN REVIEW: PROGRAMS

Island Bohemians

Island Bohemians is an inclusive and dynamic community on Whidbey Island, currently boasting 1,200 members, all of whom are residents of the island. This community is tailored for creative professionals engaged in a variety of fields, including visual arts, music, literature/poetry, theater/film, dance, fine craft, design, culinary arts, and botanical arts.



Langley Arts FUND



Langley Arts Fund

The LAF program primarily focuses on individual art projects, aiming to bring new art installations to Langley. Although the town's population is around 1,200 to 1,600, the exposure of Langley's art installations extends significantly due to tourism, reaching over 100,000 people annually. LAF organized a member artist show in October 2023, providing a platform for local talent to showcase their work, and an opportunity to raise money for the fund. LAF's work contributes to both the artistic and economic aspects of our island community.

Meander Dance Collective

Meander Dance Collective serves 150-300 individuals annually. In 2023, two August weekends featured donation-based shows curated by local dancers, raising \$600. The collective also hosts a Youth Choreographers Camp and a weekly donation-based yoga class on Sundays at the Goosefoot Sears house. MDC received grants from the Whidbey Community Foundation and Island Thrift and a gift from Whidbey Telcom.

Come see their performance at the Annual Concert in the Woods in August.



A YEAR IN REVIEW: PROGRAMS



Whidbey Art Market

The Whidbey Art Market (WAM), the most recent addition to WIAC's programs since March 2023, connected with over 1,000 art enthusiasts this year. Hosting two vibrant weekend shows, each featuring 10-12 talented artists, WAM created a warm and inviting space for the community to savor a diverse array of artistic expressions.

Whidbey Art Trail

The Whidbey Art Trail (WAT) is an ongoing event, with participating members open to guests throughout the year: 25 venues, 16 individual artist studios, six galleries and partnerships with Whidbey Clay Art Center, Price Sculpture Forest, Russell Link Gardens, and Earth Sanctuary. In 2023, the Whidbey Art Trail welcomed an impressive 31,511 visitors, ranging from local residents to art enthusiasts traveling from Europe and Asia. During a Price Sculpture Forest event, 73% of visitors were from Island County, 22% were from out of state, and 41% stayed overnight.



Whidbey Island Music Festival

In 2023, the Whidbey Island Music Festival (WIMF) hosted a total of 14 concerts, including 3 free pop-up events. Additionally, they offered 2 Music + Movement classes (1 yoga, 1 Feldenkrais). Musicians from various locations, including Whidbey Island, Edmonds, Olympia, Seattle, Portland, Oakland, Santa Clarita, San Francisco, Berkeley, CA, New Haven, CT, Maine, Boston, and Amsterdam, contributed to the diverse musical experience.

A YEAR IN REVIEW: PROGRAMS

Whidbey Island Sculpture Experience

In 2023, the Whidbey Island Sculpture Experience (WISE) featured a variety of events, including a local artist showcase, participation in the garden club tour, stone carving classes, live music sessions, a public chili cookout, and private tours upon request.



Whidbey Working Artists

This year's Whidbey Working Artists (WWA) Summer Open Studio Tour showcased 57 artists from Oak Harbor to Clinton, offering a weekend of diverse and vibrant art experiences. WWA's annual event allows the public to witness our creative spirit in action, and enriches the community by cultivating a deeper appreciation for the handcrafted.



Zakin Apprenticeship

COOK ON CLAY

The program honors the spirit and practice of inquiry and learning, of daily and wholly living a creative life, working and living within a community of makers. The Zakin Apprenticeship Program gives young (and perhaps not so young) emerging potters the opportunity to experience living the life of a fulltime studio potter.

The Zakin Apprenticeship has a new apprentice for 2024.



WIAC OVERVIEW

Membership Increase:

In November 2022, WIAC had approximately 90 members, comprising 49 individual, 14 family, and 27 business memberships. Currently, the organization boasts a significant growth, reaching a total of 128 members, representing a remarkable increase of over 42%. The updated membership includes 65 individual, 19 family, and 44 business members.

Monthly Arts & Culture Guide:

WIAC's Monthly Arts & Culture Guide, emailed to nearly 500 subscribers, promotes announcements and events of WIAC members and sponsored programs.

Online Events Calendar:

WIAC maintains an Online Events Calendar featuring numerous Whidbey arts events posted monthly by public users, members, and WIAC staff on behalf of Business members and Sponsored Programs.

Free Arts Classes:

WIAC facilitated six free arts classes for Whidbey Island kids and families, led by six teachers and serving approximately 60 children. The program had a total budget of \$2,550, averaging around \$42.50 per child. Additional grants were awarded for a mural class (\$1,000) and a recycled arts class (\$200).

Hardship Grants:

WIAC distributed four \$200 hardship grants across Whidbey Island. Recipients who were not current members also received a complimentary individual membership for one year.

Development of WIAC Member Grants Program

WIAC is in the process of developing a Member Grants Program, which offers five \$500 grants toward works in progress for WIAC members. Applications and jurying are scheduled for January 2024. The funding for this program came from ArtFund's Community Accelerator Grant.

WIAC OVERVIEW

Grants Received:

The Island County Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC) awarded WIAC \$5000 for the 2023 fiscal year to be used specifically for off-island advertising. ArtsFund awarded WIAC \$5900 of unrestricted funds with the Community Accelerator Grant.

Fundraising Campaigns:

WIAC conducted two successful fundraising campaigns in May (\$2,905) and November (\$650), contributing to the financial sustainability of the organization.

Advertising Campaign:

WIAC initiated a 10-month advertising campaign with KCTS9 and Crosscut, contracted from February through November 2024. The campaign aims to promote the WIAC brand, member and sponsored program events, and arts tourism on Whidbey Island. The initial contract is funded by grant money WIAC received from ArtsFund's Community Accelerator Grant.

Volunteer Program Launch:

WIAC, which had no organized volunteer program prior to 2023, now engages 23 volunteers. This reflects the establishment and growth of a structured volunteer initiative within the organization.

Website Redesign:

In January/February 2023, WIAC underwent a comprehensive website redesign, featuring a refreshed brand identity. The updated site, a vast improvement over the previous decade's version, includes Member Directories, Member Benefits, and enhanced organization of general information. Regular updates have been implemented since the redesign.

Finance and Recordkeeping:

WIAC implemented a restructuring of bookkeeping procedures and successfully onboarded a new bookkeeper for improved financial management and recordkeeping.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

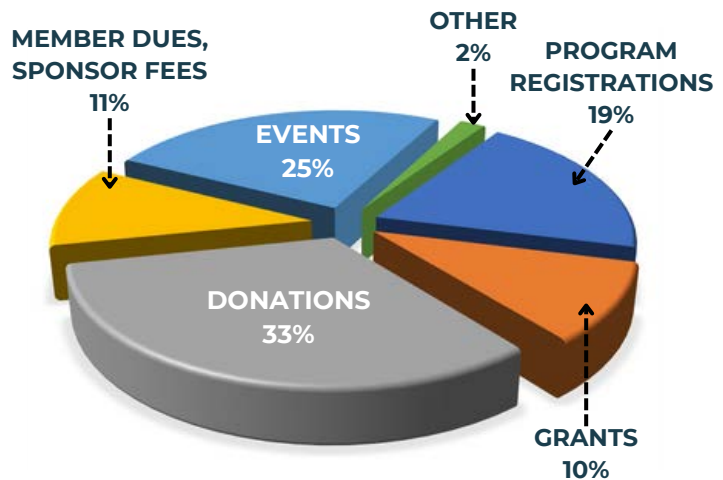
2023 INCOME \$147,291

In 2024, we'll be on the search for bigger and better grant opportunities for WIAC and our programs to broaden our impact in our community.

Two targeted fundraising campaigns are on the horizon, aiming to increase their contribution from 33% to 40% percent of our 2024 budget.

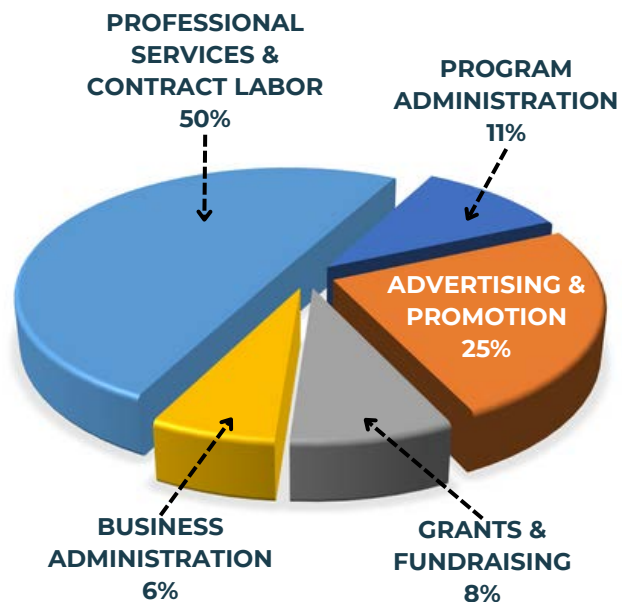
Membership increased in 2023, and we hope to bring more people into the fold in 2024. You can help by sharing information about WIAC to your friends and family:

islandartscouncil.org



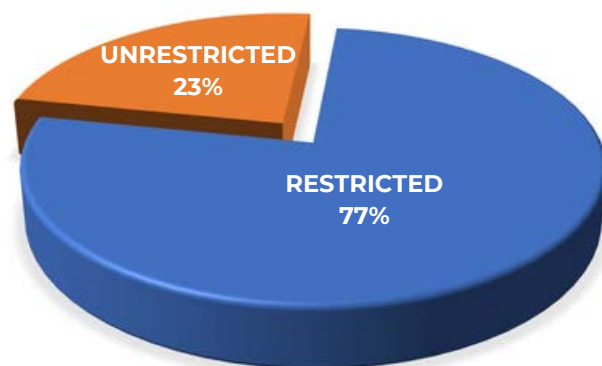
2023 EXPENSES \$146,360

WIAC is proud to contribute to the economic vitality of Whidbey Island, not only by bringing additional tourism dollars to our community with our many events, but by also paying local individuals and businesses for the professional services that keep WIAC in good legal standing.



2023 TOTAL FUNDS \$115,832

WIAC sits nicely in the range of financial efficiency, with 77% of our funding supporting the programs. Of course, there is always room for improvement and our goal is to get closer to the 80% benchmark of gold standard non-profits.



A decorative header with a teal background and a white diagonal shape on the left. The text "LOOKING FORWARD" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font.

LOOKING FORWARD

2024

Sponsored Programs:

As we aim to grow, WIAC is actively seeking to expand our family of programs. Joining us means not only becoming part of a lively community but also enjoying increased visibility and the training you'll need to grow into your own 501(c)(3). As a sponsored program, you contribute to the cultural richness of the island while gaining valuable support for your creative mission.

Closer Partnership with our Programs:


To enhance collaboration with our programs, WIAC will prioritize transparent communication, define clear objectives, and encourage mutual accountability. Key strategies include sharing resources, promoting flexibility, and celebrating successes. Additionally, we're excited to underscore our commitment by jointly producing engaging events that bring our community together.

Collaboration with other Island Non-Profits:

In the upcoming year, WIAC would like to enhance connections with other island nonprofits and explore collaborative initiatives that will strengthen our sense of community. This vision includes joint efforts, partnerships, and shared activities to amplify our collective impact and contribute to the cultural richness of Whidbey Island.

Connecting Through Stories:

We want to bring you into WIAC's story through authentic storytelling from our community. Heartfelt testimonials showcase the real impact WIAC has on Whidbey Island, revealing how access to art touches us all. These stories go beyond words; they're an invitation to join us, celebrate our community, and act on our creative dreams.

A decorative footer with a teal background and a white diagonal shape on the left, matching the header.

A CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS & MEMBERS

New Members:

Become a vital part of our growing arts community on Whidbey Island! Our membership programs cater to individual artists, supporters, families, and businesses, offering a host of exclusive benefits. Enjoy personal listings, event promotions, monthly cultural guides, and be an integral part of the thriving arts scene. WIAC membership is not just about supporting the arts; it's about actively participating and shaping the cultural tapestry of our community. Sign up now and immerse yourself in the rich artistic experiences WIAC has to offer. For more info, email info@islandartscouncil.org.

Volunteers:

Join WIAC in supporting local artists, while developing valuable skills in event coordination, marketing, and communication. Contribute to the success of our vibrant arts programs, strengthen community bonds, and leave a lasting impact on our island's cultural richness. Whether you're a seasoned art enthusiast or exploring your passion for creativity, WIAC offers a fulfilling, flexible opportunity to make a positive impact on the arts, the community at large. For more info, email info@islandartscouncil.org.





As we enter 2024, we invite continued collaboration and support to further enrich our vibrant arts community. Your contributions have made a significant difference, and we look forward to another year of creativity, connection, and cultural enrichment. WIAC wishes you all a wonderful 2024 filled with the inspiration and joy of the arts.

2023 DONORS

ANONYMOUS X 6
CYNTHIA ALBERS
DEBORAH ANDERSON
DONNA AUER
GARY BERNER
PENELOPE CLAYTON
QUINN COX
TEKLA CUNNINGHAM
BECK DIAMOND
PATRICIA DORSEY
JUDY FELDMAN
SHOSHANA CHAGALL
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CAROLYN TAMLER
KIM TINUVIEL
ELIZABETH WALSH
CHERYL WEISZ
JOHN WESLEY
ALAN WOERTINK
TRISH ZAPINSKI



THANK YOU

Contact Us

PO Box 197
Greenbank, WA, 98253
info@islandartscouncil.org

WIAC is a non profit 501(c)(3)

(91-1147736)

All donations are tax deductible.