

**FLORIDA KEYS COUNCIL OF THE ARTS**

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**JULY 1, 2023 - JUNE 30, 2024**

**WE SUPPORT • WE PROMOTE • WE CONNECT • WE GIVE**

# Florida Keys Council of the Arts

## Vision

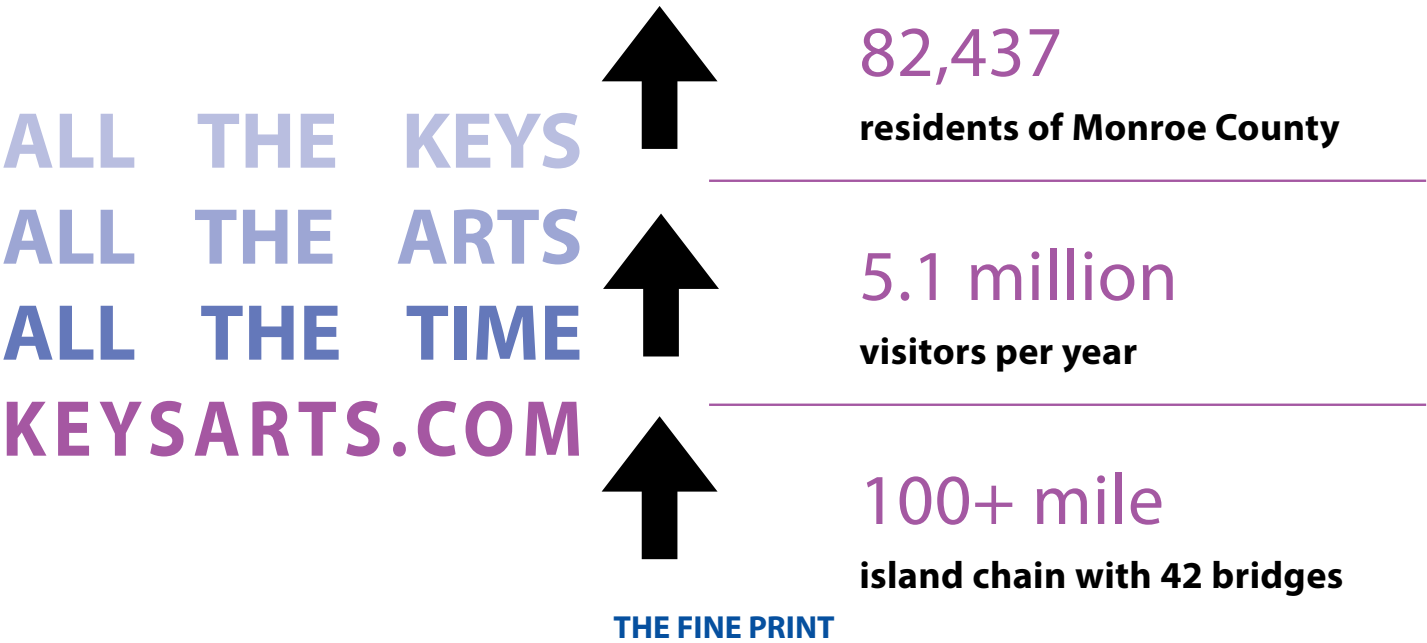
The vision of the Florida Keys Council of the Arts is to enrich the arts and enhance the cultural heritage of the Florida Keys.

## Mission Statement

The mission of the Florida Keys Council of the Arts is to advance the creative development and promotion of the arts in our cultural community by providing excellence in leadership, advocacy, education and financial support for artists, cultural organizations and citizens of Monroe County.

## Cultural Equity Statement

The Florida Keys Council of the Arts is committed to ensuring that everyone in our community has equal access to the arts and the fundamental right to express their culture through the arts. We believe the arts have the power to change hearts and minds, and to inspire social change.



The Florida Keys Council of the Arts is a non-profit, 501 (c) (3) corporation in a public-private partnership with local county government since 1997, serving 82,437 local residents and 5.1 million visitors annually. A nine-member board of directors guides the Council, assisted by three alternate directors, two directors emeritus and advisory members. Daily functions are carried out by the executive director, staff and valued volunteers. FKCA is incorporated with the State of Florida and recognized by the IRS as the Monroe Council of the Arts Corporation, dba Florida Keys Council of the Arts, FEIN 65-0737532. Governing documents, including: the articles of incorporation, bylaws, audit, 990, board handbook and strategic plan are available for review on the arts council's award-winning website, [www.keysarts.com](http://www.keysarts.com)

Funding is provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, The State of Florida, Department of State Division of Arts & Culture, Monroe County Board of County Commissioners, Monroe County Tourist Development Council, City of Key West Board of City Commissioners, the Community Foundation of the Florida Keys, South Florida Cultural Consortium and private donations.

# About the Council

As the Local Arts Agency designated by Florida Statute #265.32, we are committed to our leadership role as the community's umbrella organization for arts and culture.

The Florida Keys Council of the Arts is the leading arts and cultural organization in the Florida Keys. The Arts Council provides services and grants to visual and performing artists, arts organizations, students, and the public, striving to instill a passion for and participation in the arts. To enrich and enhance the arts and cultural community, the Arts Council promotes the Art in Public Places program, and advances the destination for its rich and diverse history. The cultural arts play a fundamental role in the lives of our residents and visitors. The Arts have been and continue to be the signature of what makes our community unique and an international destination. Our focus is to maintain and expand our programming in a diverse, innovative and equitable manner. We strive for results that strengthen the economy, promote active community engagement, and provide support for arts education (FAPAP) initiatives. Our Executive Director is currently Past President of FAPAP, attends monthly meetings and the annual conference,

*The cultural arts play a fundamental role in the lives of our residents and visitors.*

and advocacy. Outreach and advocacy are ongoing activities. We connect the public to a sense of place and community with the Art in Public Places commissioned permanent art collection. We advocate in a leadership role by gaining knowledge through our participation in Americans for the Arts, Florida Association of Local Arts Agencies (FALAA), and Florida Association of Public Art Professionals connecting her to public art trends, and best practices. Arts Council's Board Members and Advisors are engaged, educated and passionate ambassadors for all of the arts. Their commitment to the organization and knowledge of the economic impact of the arts within the County is essential to our advocacy efforts for continued growth and relevance.

**WE SUPPORT:** To date, \$1,282,629 has been directly awarded in local grants. This fiscal year we awarded \$53,965 in grants to artists, teaching artists and arts organizations. Thousands of Monroe County artists and audiences benefit directly from our programming. These grants are funded in part by the State of Florida, Monroe County Board of County Commissioners, membership dues and private donations.

**WE CONNECT:** We focus on connecting the community to the arts. Our efforts included workshops and keywide programming, and expanded email outreach via Constant Contact. We raised awareness and funds for our grant programs throughout the Florida Keys through "The Connections Project: Making Music in the Keys."

**WE PROMOTE:** As the main source of information promoting arts and culture in the Keys, our annual Gallery Guide, Culture Magazine and the KeysArts Quarterly events calendar (produced in cooperation with the Monroe County Tourist Development Council) are distributed at nearly 200 Keys' locations, included in national and international press kits and distributed at travel trade shows. To promote our local artists, we create rotating exhibits for our program, Art in Public Buildings. We are also proud to administer Monroe County and the City of Key West's prestigious 1% for Public Art programs.

**WE GIVE:** Through the Cultural Umbrella, South Florida Cultural Consortium Grant Program, Art in Public Places commissions and our own grant programs, the total distributed through the Art Council's efforts in the Keys' cultural community is over \$9.5 million to date. The annual economic impact of the non-profit arts community in Monroe County is estimated at over \$86 million.



## A Message from Executive Director Elizabeth Young



We spent this year exploring best practices to refresh and reimagine the components of our motto: We Support We Promote We Connect and We Give with programming and outreach to build new and broader audiences for the Keys community. The Board and staff focused on promoting Monroe County artists and arts organizations and expanding our grant programming. Our mission to increase awareness and raise funds for our programs remained an essential part of daily efforts. Our new fiscal year began in July, and we stayed busy on Zoom and more in-person meetings. Board and Advisors worked thoughtfully during our summer workshop, and on committees to create meaningful programming and more events throughout the Keys. We held a new advisor orientation along with a strategic plan revision session in the gorgeous Marathon Library.

We hosted a new exhibit: "Summer Synergy," a collaborative artist show of festive works by over 30 local artist members of The Key West Art Center and Artists in Paradise Gallery of Big Pine Key at the Gato building as part of our important Art in Public Buildings program. And in November, a colorful and fun-filled music themed Members' Show titled, "Living in Harmony" had wonderful participation. "Paint the Music and Dance the Paint", an exhibition of contemporary Cuban Art, curated by Alaen Ledesma Fernandez opened in February at the Gato. The artwork filled the building, originally the Gato Cigar Factory, with accomplished and stunning work.

We celebrated the season kick-off Members Holiday Party at the stunning, secluded tropical paradise home of arts patron, Kate Miano. Wonderful music by Raven Cooper, Skipper Kripitz and Joe Dallas was an extra special treat! We are most appreciative of the support of our many members.

In January, we kicked off the new year with a middle Keys' Annual Membership Meeting at the beautiful and welcoming Crane Point Hammock - this time in the completely restored and award-winning Crane House at the very back of the property. It was an opportunity to report on the important work accomplished by the Council, and spotlight our 2024 focus on performing artists working and living in the Keys. We were thrilled to hear from our guest speakers, Kelly and Nick Norman on the topic, "The Art of Making Music". It was great to hear Nick play a few original songs, and all about the inspiring growth of Rams Head productions, the Key West Theater, and all that is happening at the Key West Coffee Butler Amphitheater from Kelly.

Building audiences and important friend-raising are ongoing goals of our signature programs - The Connections Project and the Gather 'Round Culture Series. A decade of partnering with

so many artists, arts organizations, members and businesses to raise awareness, grow audiences and educate our constituents of all the benefits of a vibrant arts community was extremely rewarding - please see details on pages 20 -25.

Thank you to the Membership Committee under the dynamic leadership of Vice Chair, Jill Miranda Baker, we held five receptions for the Connections Project: Making Music In the Keys, including a fabulous grand opening in Key Largo at the Kona Kai Resort! Thanks also to the Hale Gallery at Ocean Sotheby's International Realty in Islamorada, Marathon's Sparky's Restaurant, Lower Keys Chamber of Commerce in Big Pine Key, and Williams Hall in Key West. We thank our generous business sponsor, Royal Furniture for 11 years of support!

We continued the Gather 'Round Series focused on sharing with our valued members where their support goes in the Arts community. Highlighting our Art Builds Community grantees does just that! Lunch and conversation sessions were held throughout the Keys - please see pages 22-25.

Both Art in Public Places' members (Monroe County and City of Key West) met monthly to work with staff on several important projects and installations. The Monroe County Committee began earnest work on the Supervisor of Elections and Public Defenders newly renovated offices and the phenomenal expansion of the Key West International Airport. Several large projects in the City's program include the Key West Seaport, Clinton and Mallory Squares, the Ramos-Lopez Sculpture Garden (rotating work on loan), and the Frederick Douglass Community Center expansion. See page 26.

In April, my colleagues Susann D'Antonio, Chair, Monroe County Art in Public Places and Katie Holtkamp, Vice Chair of City of Key West Art In Public Places, and I attended the Florida Association of Public Art Professionals conference in Gainesville to stay current with new trends and best practices in the public art field. The conference Included sessions on legal Issues, maintenance and community art and health public art projects.

My heartfelt appreciation for the dedicated and great work and cherished friendships of my colleagues, Martha Resk and Coco Page. We welcomed Mary Martin and Erika Heffernan to the team when Coco retired after 8 years with the Council. Sadly, we also said goodbye to our beloved Chair Emeritus, former Monroe County Mayor, Dr. Shirley V. Freeman. It was an honor to have her so involved with the Arts Council since its inception in 1997. We are proud to work daily with our devoted Board members, advisors and artists to enrich our Keys arts and cultural community. Thank you to my family for their encouragement and love.

## A Message from Chair Joyce W. Burd



The Council is having an exceptional year "reaching out" to the community in a variety of new ways. The organization has historically served Key Largo to Key West and this year, we are truly focused on further expanding our efforts to connect, advocate and support organizations and individuals Keys wide.

### Membership Outreach

There has been an increase in our middle and upper keys membership due to the efforts of our membership committee who have been working diligently to reach out to the community members living in Marathon, Islamorada and Key Largo. Our board meetings are conducted in a hybrid fashion so more members can attend on Zoom if unable to attend in person.

Our annual holiday party for our members was held at the magnificent home of Kate Miano in Key West, attended by more than 250 people, many of whom made the worthwhile trip to Key West. What a wonderful way to kick off the arts season. A perk for the entire membership includes an invitation to the Cultural Series

sponsored for many years by Bill and MaryCarlin Porter. This year, our Cultural series includes a close look at the four ABC (Art Builds Community) grantees. The ABC grants include arts projects that partner with organizations to promote social change and make our community stronger. The series includes a children's outreach performance for Monroe County school students and a Naturalist experience partnering with the College of the Keys.

### Advisor Outreach:

For the first time, three in person advisor orientations were held for Key Largo, Marathon and Key West. The advisors had an opportunity to learn more about the Council and also a chance to get to know each other. At each gathering, a powerpoint was shared, giving each new advisor information about how to become more involved in the organization. Our Advisors also advised on needs and challenges, as well as successes in their region of the Keys.

### Connections Project: Outreach to musicians and the workforce:

Another first for the Arts Council is that the focus of the

popular Keys wide Connections Project included music as well as the visual art. We were honored to receive a grant from the Community Foundation of the Florida Keys (CFFK) to support local musicians at each of our five "Connections" Project receptions. This initiative shines a light on the musicians' creative process, their choice to live and perform in the Keys and how the community can best support them. These events are being marketed to the workforce (law enforcement, firefighters, educators, medical personnel, postal workers) as a free community event. Those are the people who keep our keys communities vibrant and inviting. There will also be small art pieces by local artists for sale which has been the focus of the Connections Project for the past 11 years.

*I want to take this opportunity to thank all the dedicated Board members and advisors for their time, commitment and enthusiasm in making FKCA a vital force for the entire Keys communities.*

One of our grant recipients is the Symphony in the Schools Program. This past year our esteemed Executive Director, Liz Young, and a past Board Chair and Monroe County

Superintendent, Terri Axford were both honored by the Program. We are very proud of Liz and Terri for their commitment to the arts in the schools. Staff and volunteers continue the important work of Art in Public Places for both Key West and Monroe County. Presently the public art for the new expanded Key West airport is a major project. In addition, our Executive Director works with the TDC's Cultural Umbrella Committee promoting the arts and culture of the Keys.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of our dedicated Board members and advisors for their time, commitment and enthusiasm in making the Arts Council a vital force for the entire Keys communities. Special kudos go out to our dedicated Executive Director and staff who keep the focus on the importance of culture in our island paradise.

We look forward to a safe and arts filled 2024.



## Our Executive Committee



### Joyce W. Burd, Chair

Joyce has been a resident of Key West since 2012. She received her undergraduate degree from Ohio State University and her masters degree in Expressive Therapies from Lesley College in Cambridge, MA. She began her professional career as a dance therapist for many years working with a variety of special needs populations. In Philadelphia she was the founder of two nonprofit organizations, Art-Reach, Inc., enabling people with low incomes and disabilities to experience the arts, and Dancing Classrooms Philly, a ballroom dance program for 5th and 8th grade students. What Joyce loves about Key West is the vibrant arts scene and how the Arts Council supports this community. She is a member of Keys Choral Arts. Joyce loves to dance, read, walk, kayak, sail and watch the beautiful Key West sunsets.



### Jill Miranda Baker, Vice Chair

A native of South Florida, Jill graduated from Lynchburg College with degrees in communications/journalism and sociology, and earned her Master of Management Degree from the University of Phoenix. Jill is currently the Business Development Officer for Keys Weekly. Prior work includes Executive Director of Florida Keys History and Discovery Center, working for a State Representative, and as manager, marketing and public relations for Mariners Hospital/Baptist Health. Jill is past president of the Rotary Club, and involved in the Islamorada Chamber, the Good Health Clinic, Treasure Village Montessori Charter School, Florida Keys AHEC, the Rural Health Network and Upper Keys BPW and Leadership Monroe. Jill is married to backcountry fishing guide Duane Baker. They have two college-age children.



### Eric Anderson, Treasurer

Born and raised outside of Chicago, Eric moved to Chicago in 1986, where he worked as an information technology professional for various financial planning firms downtown for over 20 years, first as an employee and then serving as a consultant. He moved to the Keys in 1997. He serves on the Art in Public Places Committee as the appointee for the Monroe County Commissioner Holly Merrill Raschein (District 5). Eric has been involved in several nonprofits in the upper keys, and most recently served on the board for Habitat for Humanity Upper Keys. Eric is married to Dr. Stanley Zuba, and manages his medical office, Florida Keys Pediatric & Adolescent Center, Inc, for the past 4 years. In addition to supporting the Arts, his hobbies include coin collecting and traveling.



### Leslie Calero, Secretary

A Keys resident since 2013, she has a background in fine art history and art conservation, and is fluent in several languages. In 2014, she decided to apply her knowledge and passion in Fine Art and Cultural Heritage to appraising personal property. Leslie specializes in appraising and determining the market value of antiques, fine art, and historical memorabilia. Her hobbies are related to diplomacy, child advocacy and art law. Currently, she is the founder and director of Department of Appraisals, LLC, providing art collection management nationwide, and a passionate Child Advocate for the 16th Circuit Judicial System in Monroe County.

## Board Members

### Nancy Bunch

Nancy is a Keys resident since 1991, Nancy was born and raised in Massachusetts. She has a Bachelor of Arts in History from Emmanuel College, Boston, MA., and a Masters in Business Administration from the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA. After serving in the U.S. Navy for 21 years, she retired from NAS Key West as a Commander. Her post-military career included Director, Institute of Criminal Justice, Florida Keys Community College and Director, Public Safety Program, Pasco-Hernando State College. Nancy currently serves as the Chair, Russel Sullivan Memorial Scholarship, College of the Florida Keys; Director-at-Large, Emmanuel College Alumni Association Board of Directors; District II Representative, TDC Cultural Umbrella Committee; and as the Arts Council's Grant Committee Chair. She considers herself a "Wanna Be Artist" and has turned that desire into supporting the art community in the Florida Keys.



### Barbara Weikel, Past Chair/Advisor

Barbara Weikel received a BA in Mathematics from Winthrop College (now Winthrop University) in South Carolina. Having spent the majority of her career with Eastern Airlines, Barbara has also been a realtor, IT analyst, and office manager. She moved to Key West in 2007 and fell 'in love' with the arts community. Barbara is married to photographer/author, Ralph De Palma. She is co-publisher/co-editor of The Soul of Key West, Volume I & II.



### Beryn Harty

Beryn majored in Biology (Middlebury College, VT) and minored in History of Art. Her professional background was primarily affiliated healthcare: medical research at the University of Miami School of Medicine and Mount Sinai Medical Center, Manager Anatomic and Surgical Pathology, Manager Nursing Unlimited. Other stints included Director Operations, CTM Media and Realtor. She became a local naturalist after she and husband Rick moved to Ramrod Key in 2007. A fan of birds, butterflies, and native plants, her own artistic efforts are usually nature photography, some painting and mixed media. Many Keys visitors and residents have attended her photographic presentations and joined her on nature walks.



### Mark Hedden

Hedden is a photographer, writer, and semi-professional birdwatcher. He has lived in Key West for close to 30 years and may no longer be employable in the real world. He is the ED of the Florida Keys Audubon Society. He writes about birds and artists for Key West Weekly. His own artwork tends to focus on nightscapes, wildlife documentation, and street photography. He did shoot a wedding once and has almost recovered. His photos have appeared in the New York Times, the Miami Herald, and other publications. Mark's had three solo shows at TSKW, won two Knight Arts Challenge grants, several grants from the Anne McKee Fund, and was one of two Monroe County residents who received the 2020 SFCC Award for visual arts.



### Charlotte Palmer

Charlotte received her BS from Salem University, West Virginia, and later earned an M.Ed in Pennsylvania. She taught sixth grade for 36 years in York, PA before moving to the Keys in 2008. Her passion for the arts led her to join the International Egg Art Guild in 1978 inspiring her own creations and those of her many students. Ballet classes were a big part of her life for three decades. In 1990 she began working with stained glass and continues in that genre. For many years she has been serving on DAC II. Charlotte is a member of the Big Pine Key Botanical Society, and several environmental organizations involving the coral reef, recycling, and Key Deer.





## Board & Advisors as of June 30, 2024

### Board Members

Joyce Burd, Chair  
Jill Miranda Baker, Vice Chair  
Eric Anderson, Treasurer  
Leslie Calero, Secretary  
Barbara Weikel, Past Chair  
Nancy Bunch  
Beryn Harty  
Mark Hedden  
Charlotte Palmer

### Board Alternates

Lucy Carleton  
Dr. Betty Powell-Klimock  
Jill Zima Borski  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Comm. Holly Raschein, BOCC Liaison  
June Girard, Chair Emeritus  
Dr. Shirley V. Freeman, Director Emeritus

### Advisors

Theresa Axford  
Susan Baan  
Larry Baeder  
Paige Bethel  
Sally Binard  
Sarah Brawer-Bartus  
Mary Jean Connors  
Sheila Cook  
Nancy Cooper  
Susann D'Antonio  
Allison Delashmit  
Marianne Finizio  
Juliet Gray  
Bonnie Greenberg  
Jody Gross

Erika Heffernan  
Susan Jankowski  
Stephen Kitsakos  
Kate Koler  
Jonelle Kop  
M. Ann Lynch  
Kathryn Lyons  
Dr. Joanne Mahoney  
Michael Marrero  
Kaya McCoy  
Lisa Mongelia  
Claudia Moriarty  
Vivian Morrison  
Seth Mularz  
Madlyn 'Moose' Mussey  
Anne O'Shea Quattrini  
Lucy Paige

Joshua Eli Pancamo  
Valerie Perreault  
MaryCarlin Porter  
Alex Rickert  
Michele Rodriguez  
Maggie Ruley  
Allison Sayer  
Christine Scarsella  
Christopher Shultz  
Diane Whitney Smith  
Joyce Stahl  
Blair Shiver-Nealis  
Sandy Sun  
Jane Tomlinson  
Melissa Trader  
Nancy Truesdale  
GG Weisenfeld

### Special Recognition Unsung Hero 2024



School Superintendent Theresa Axford has championed the arts in Monroe County for decades. She ensures that every school in our district has music and arts programming, and that students and faculty are supported for their creativity in every aspect of their education. Terri is a passionate advocate for Art Builds Community for All the Arts in All of the Keys.

### Arts Council Staff



**Elizabeth S. Young,**  
Executive Director  
**Martha Resk,**  
Business Manager  
**Mary Martin and**  
**Coco Page,**  
Graphic Design and  
Calendar Coordinator  
**Kati Van Aernum,**  
Website Manager

## Cultural Umbrella

The Cultural Umbrella Committee has five members representing the five TDC districts and is administered by the Florida Keys Council of the Arts. The committee works with the TDC's advertising and public relations agencies to promote the Keys as an arts and cultural destination, and makes recommendations for the funding of cultural events. Arts Council staff maintain an artist registry, publish and distribute a weekly eblast, quarterly KeysArts brochure, annual Gallery Guide, and maintain a website at [www.keysarts.com](http://www.keysarts.com) with a comprehensive online Cultural Calendar. Culture Magazine is produced jointly with Tinsley Advertising and the Cultural Umbrella Committee. Committee Members: Trish Hintze, (Chair), Nancy Bunch, Scott Burau, and Barbara Hann.

### Event Funding Recipients 2023-2024

Christa Hunt Productions  
Keys Concerts by Candlelight & Cabaret  
Christopher Peterson's EYECONS  
Community Arts and Culture  
2024 Cortadito Afro Roots Fest  
Florida Keys Community Concert Band  
Pops in the Park  
Florida Keys History of Diving Museum  
Fringe Theater Key West  
Hawks Cay Resort Keys to Country  
I Love Stock Island  
Jumping Joe Productions Randy Roberts LIVE!  
Key West Art & Historical Society  
Cultural Heritage Series  
Key West Botanical Garden Society  
Key West Burlesque  
Key West Business Guild  
Key West Headdress Ball  
Key West Film Society Tropic Cinema  
Key West Garden Club  
Key West Harry S. Truman Foundation  
Tru-ly Amazing Art  
Key West Impromptu Classical Concerts  
Key West Players Waterfront Playhouse  
Lower Keys Chamber of Commerce Island Art Fair and  
40th Annual Underwater Music Festival  
Marathon Community Theatre  
Mel Fisher Maritime Heritage Society  
Morada Way Arts & Cultural District  
Old Island Restoration Conch Shell Blowing Contest  
and Old Island Restoration Home Tours  
PACKW Tennessee Williams Theatre

Red Barn Actor's Studio Red Barn Theatre  
REEF Environmental Education Foundation  
South Florida Symphony Orchestra  
St. Columba Episcopal Church  
Florida Keys Celtic Festival  
The Studios of Key West





## Art Builds Community Grants

**\$33,302 for arts and culture projects that spark conversations, spur social change and make our community stronger.**

To apply for this grant, Florida Keys artists, arts organizations and civic/community-based organizations are encouraged to form alliances and partnerships to strengthen communities through projects that connect the arts with local issues and opportunities for all people.

The ABC grant program fosters relationships between artists, arts organizations and civic organizations within the Florida Keys to generate greater cultural equity. The Council is committed to ensuring that everyone in our community has equal access to the arts and the fundamental right to express their culture through the arts. Many of our residents experience vast disparities in terms of access to and participation in arts and culture activities. We believe the arts have the power to change hearts and minds, and to inspire social change.

## Completed and Funded Grants

**Project Title:** Visual & Musical Arts - Upper Keys  
**Partners:** Friends of the Key Largo Library and Art Guild Purple Isles AGPI  
**Funding:** \$5,000

AGPI and the Friends of the Key Largo Library provided high quality instruction to the community by tapping into the talented retired art teachers among the Guild membership. AGPI promoted the series of classes online and in meetings. Our Arts Council liaison attended each art class and some of the concerts to promote Arts Council. Many of the instructors helped with other classes. This built relationships with students and community members. Streaming the concerts



A well attended batik class in the community room.



Friday night free music was appreciated by many senior citizens.



Afternoon art classes were joyful.

allowed the home bound community to enjoy the performance and with over 3,700 people watching on Facebook, illustrating the interest and need. Art, music and social interaction fulfills many needs: creativity, feeling of accomplishment, sharing ideas and dropping the burdens of the day for a moment - to name a few. Given the excitement at signup time, we really tapped into a need for the over 65 community for both men and women. We heard many words of appreciation. "I'm caring for my mother now and this was so nice to take time for me." "I've never tried this before - but I did well."

There was a real feeling of connecting between the art instructors and the students. We also sent out an email after each class to gather opinion, supply videos to continue what they learned. We reminded students that we included their artwork in our show in March. This strengthened bonds between community and artists and library. The enthusiasm for self-expression and feeling of accomplishment were palatable. And students are over the moon to see their work on display. The concert audience was impressed too.

**Project Title:** Children's Outreach Series  
**Partners:** Tennessee Williams Theatre and Monroe county schools  
**Funding:** \$10,000

Monroe county schools overcame the logistical challenge of bringing students to the Tennessee Williams theatre to see three nationally touring productions. This project exceeded expectations, and showed a glaring need for us to expand the Project to include all of the Florida Keys. We received letters and drawings from students about how much these performances affected them, and we are already seeing an uptick in families and children at other live theatre performances.



Elementary students enthusiastically enter the theatre lobby.



Tennessee Williams Theatre filled with students and support staff await the entertainment.



**Project Title: Key West Characters: True Stories**  
**Partners: Fringe Theater Key West and Williams Hall Key West**  
**Funding: \$10,000**

Fringe Theater and Williams Hall partnered to create this theatrical celebration of Key West's rich and diverse cultural heritage. The project performed two nights at Williams Hall and was acclaimed as an artistic success. Our audience loved the variety of stories presented. The performances were strong, the venue ideal, and the evening built a sense of community among those in attendance. Audience members felt we had captured "the heart of Key West" -- high praise indeed! The first step of our project was to develop the program. By design, our program was to be diverse in every way. So, we chose not to post an open call for scripts, but to seek out writers by invitation. We wanted a mix of writers in every way: gender, orientation, ethnicity, and experience. And we wanted to make sure that the subject matter -- the characters of Key West -- were just as diverse. So, we worked from a curated list of potential writers/performers, and further curated a list of potential Key West Characters.

**Project Title: Arts & Science Celebration II**  
**Partners: Reef Environmental Education Foundation (REEF) and United Way of Collier and the Keys (UWCK)**  
**Funding: \$3,500**

Reef Environmental Education Foundation (REEF) and United Way of Collier and the Keys (UWCK), partnered to provide hands-on art experiences and workshops through the Arts & Science Celebration Series. REEF and UWCK collaborated to determine the best audiences for the workshops. REEF staff then provided art experiences for working community members in service, education, and non-profit sectors of Monroe County.

The workshop series intertwined science with art using invasive lionfish jewelry making. Each workshop included educational and storytelling components that connected participants with the marine and cultural heritage of the Florida Keys, instilling and strengthening a sense of place. This project culminated with a one-day Arts & Science Festival, a free community event, that hosted booths from local artists and environmental organizations, each sharing a unique art or hands-on science activity. The project served Keys businesses whose employees are likely to identify as ALICE populations and whose business services are likely to serve ALICE populations. Much of the workforce of the Florida Keys maintains several jobs to make ends meet, and struggle to meet the rising costs of living. The project will support employees of businesses such as those who serve tourists, advocate for unhoused people and pets, provide



Talented actors bring unique characters to life.



Hands on learning was the focus of REEF's Arts and Sciences series.

education programs, and support marine conservation in the Florida Keys. The Arts & Science Celebration Series is designed to reduce the challenges and income needed to participate in "extraneous activities." This project supported the workforce of the Florida Keys with programs and resources to connect with art and science to nourish their creative side.

As busy working individuals, they enjoyed respite to

participate in cultural arts. The intersection of art and science allows one to broaden their understanding of science while connecting visually to something they are creating. Leonardo da Vinci stated, "To develop a complete mind: Study the science of art; study the art of science. Learn how to see. Realize that everything connects to everything else." Artistic practice and scientific discovery go hand in hand. The project allowed participants to create an artist and

citizen scientist identity.

This project connected residents with the arts in the same way REEF's citizen science programs empower individuals to contribute to scientific research. Science is not just a thing that happens in a lab for people with PhDs; art is not just for creative people with expertise and lots of free time. The project showed participants that arts and science are all around us, easy to access, and fun to engage with.



Upper Keys teens and families create lionfish jewelry during the REEF festival.

**Project Title: Big Night Out 2024 II**  
**Partners: Red Barn Theatre, A.H. Monroe and Take Stock In Children**  
**Funding: \$4,802**

Red Barn Theatre worked with A.H. Monroe, Take Stock in Children of Monroe County and Sister Season Fund. At the beginning of the season in early December 2023 we provided each organization with twenty gift certificates. Each certificate was good for two (2) free tickets to any of Red Barn's four mainstage productions. Tickets could be redeemed online via a unique discount code. Each gift certificate was

worth \$106 as it waived the ticket price (\$49) and all fees. Each partner organization identified clients who were in need or couldn't really afford a night of live theater. The quality-of-life issue addressed was the participants because of income or other circumstances was not likely to attend the theater. In the case of A.H. Monroe and Sister Season Fund, this had mostly to do with income. In the case of Take Stock In Children, all of the teenagers identified were from "at risk" families who also couldn't afford live theater. The community is strengthened by having more people in the community, especially the underserved participate and feel like they are part of our island community.



## Grants Awarded: Artists in Schools/ Special Projects/ Key West Writers Guild/SFCC

**\$20,663 in Direct Arts Funding in 2023-2024: The Arts Council is committed to advancing the creative development and promotion of the arts in our cultural community.**

### Preserving Our Coral Reefs: Teams of Success Grant Awarded: **\$1,500** Teaching Artist: **Donna Wissinger**

The completed project included in-school programs and culminating symphony orchestra concerts. The main purpose of the program was to educate grade 3-5 school students about the dynamic ecosystem that is off their shores and to inspire them to consider STEAM fields of study in order to participate in the preservation of that system. Students were also introduced to the exciting world of the symphony musician and the power of music to communicate energy, wonder, and beauty. As part of the arts integrated program, students learned to notice and correlate the interdependence



Teaching Artist Donna Wissinger leads the learning during the South Florida Symphony performance.

and cooperation of Coral Reefs to the living model of music and the symphony orchestra. Students learned about the science needed to participate in exciting field research; the math, technology, and engineering skills needed to create labs and decipher data; and the communication tools needed to educate others and advocate for environmental preservation. Students learned that Coral Reefs are an essential living

system for the earth's beauty and ability to sustain quality of life for their generation and those to come. Students learned about people who have 'written' and are 'writing' exciting life stories and the character traits that enable their success. Students learned about various ways the cooperation of the coral and symphony 'teams of success' can be models in their schools, community, and futures.

### Schools at The Studios Grant Awarded: **\$1,750** Teaching Artist: **Bria Ansara**

The coordinator for Schools at The Studios is Bria Ansara, a visual and performing artist and former art teacher at May Sands Montessori. Because of her long relationships there, Bria already enjoys the trust and easy communication with the teachers, as well as many of the



Students are engaged during learning at The Studios.

students. This year we expanded the program to include the Basilica School of Saint Mary Star of the Sea. Bria's preparation for each visit includes studying the upcoming exhibitions or artists, devising age-appropriate lesson plans and hands on projects in response to the work, and gathering materials. The students' regular teachers prepped them on museum etiquette so they were prepared for a more adult-oriented environment.



Wonderfully created arts projects glow!

### The Art and Science of Big Bubbles 2.0 Grant Awarded: **\$1,250** Teaching Artist: **Bill Becker**

The aim of this project was to expose students to the unique characteristics of bubbles, have them make their own bubble wands then use them to create the fleeting work of art in a big bubble. Sessions were held with each of the three fifth grade classes over the three-week



Sugarloaf School students are in love with this challenging and artistic science project.



Students enjoy the field trip to the Studios of Key West for art classes.

span in April. The first week session with each class involved a discussion of the chemistry, physics and optics of big bubbles, as well as the variables such as polymers, detergent, wind, sun, dust, bugs and humidity. Students also de-cored the cotton rope in preparation for making the wands in week two. We ended the session with a big bubble demonstration in the courtyard. Week two involved the students, working in teams of two, each making their own bubble wand, using the de-cored cotton rope, 3'bamboo sticks and shrink tubing.

Ms. Hoyt and I agreed that this was better than last year when teams of five made 6' wands that proved to be unwieldy. The week two sessions ended with another outdoor demonstration. Week three involved the students using the wands they made in an outdoor demonstration in the courtyard. The students were asked to do a side-by-side comparison of two bubble mixes: a solution of commercial Bubble Venti (generously donated by the company) and my own favorite mix. The courtyard was filled with big bubbles and laughing kids. Students went home with their wands and enough of the Bubble Venti powder to make two gallons of mix.



### The Hungry Caterpillar Mural at Inez Martin

**Grant Awarded: \$1,913**

**Teaching Artist: Marlene Koenig**

Our beautiful mural has been enjoyed by everyone in the school! The students were captivated by Artist Marlene Koenig's transformation of the blank wall into a beautiful bright mural that tells a story! The story of the "Hungry Caterpillar" written by Eric Carle is the

inspiration behind this mural. This story includes educational themes such as counting, the days of the week, foods, and a butterfly's life stages. These topics are presented discreetly to the children without them even realizing it. The main purpose of the project was to beautify our playground. This mural did just that, it brightened up what once was a dull plain wall. By incorporating our lesson plan centred around the theme of the painting, the children were involved with science, health, and primary education basics all while watching the painting and story come to life!



Advisor Liaison Susann D'Antonio, Artist Marlene Koenig, students, Arts Council's Liz Young, and Wesley House's Grace Epperly proudly pose in front of the completed mural.

### Key West Writers Guild 2024 Award

The Florida Keys Council of the Arts, in conjunction with the Key West Writers Guild, is pleased to announce that Brian "B.J." Condiike has garnered this year's writing award for his manuscript, "Murder in the Family".

While he loves the challenge of packing a complete story into a few pages, his goal is to traditionally publish Murder is Personal, his first full-length mystery novel.



Brian "BJ" Condiike

### South Florida Cultural Consortium 2024 Awardee

We proudly announce that artist Katlin Spain of Key West has been named the recipient of the prestigious 2024 SFCC Visual and Media Artists Award of \$15,000. Her work focuses on abstracting the tropical plants that thrive on her island home and was included in an exhibition featuring 2024 artists.



Katlin Spain

## Grants Awarded: Special Projects

### Stories of Nature in the Florida Keys

**Grant Awarded: \$2,000**

**Kristie Killam**

Kristie wrote and published a book about nature in the Florida Keys. It was a compilation of my photographs and journal writings documenting my experiences and stories over the past 10 years while working as a Park Ranger for the Florida Keys National Wildlife Refuges. Book length is 152 pages with over 70 stories of wildlife, plants, habitats, and landscapes. Stories include fun facts, where to find them, my own personal experiences and how you can help save the precious wildlife of the Keys.



Key deer is an endangered subspecies of the white-tailed deer that lives only in the Florida Keys.



"In Stories From The Florida Keys, I share the tales of the wild Keys' residents, with the hope of inspiring visitors and locals to become stewards of and voices for nature, here in the Keys and wherever they may call home," Kristie Killam.

### One Woman Musical

**Grant Awarded: \$2,000**

**Jessica Wachs- Rumble Productions**

My Special Project is a One Woman Musical with fully original music, use of film to help tell the story, pre-recorded songs, and special media throughout the show. This introspective piece is about one's journey beginning life in Key West amidst self-doubt, traumas, and the housing crisis as well as stories of characters met throughout the journey. This full-length musical will have many moments of the live actor interacting with film and pre-recorded songs so she can duet with herself, have scoring behind her, and create the feeling of full choirs while still performing alone. In regards to this grant, specifically, three vital songs are being funded and created; the I Want Song, Don't Stop Me, the comedic Hemingway Write's the Worst Book in the World dream sequence piece, and the revelation of an antagonist in the Housing Crisis song. I created the Housing Crisis piece with James King playing on keys, who is a local composer and accompanist. We also utilized the help of 5 local singers, Mel Morffi Gonzalez (A High School Student), Steve Crane, Sarah Compton, and Aubrey Urban, who sang backup. The other piece was recorded by the same singer a cappella in a giant layered choir, leaving room for storytelling by the live performer. Both songs were mixed and recorded with local artist and engineer, Scott Forman.



Composer Jessica Wachs in the recording studio.



**Key West Outdoor Movies****Grant Awarded: \$1,000****Jason Hoegle with Key West Outdoor Movies**

The Outdoor Movie Series offers Key West citizens and our visitors a fantastic opportunity to enjoy movies in a safe and community-centric environment. This event is free to the public and is tobacco free, ensuring a family-friendly atmosphere. With entertainment suitable for all ages, even well-behaved pets are welcome to join in the fun. The screenings are on the first and third Friday of every month, starting on October 13 and running through May 17. Grant funds supported outreach and marketing.

**East Martello's new event space hosts outdoor movies.****Drama Club Workshops and Fall Showcase 2023****Grant Awarded: \$2,000****Williams Hall/ Key West High School Drama Club**

Because of this Special Project grant, Williams Hall was able to provide three educational full-day workshops for the Key West High School Drama Club students. These workshops were led by local members of the Key West performing arts community in August and September of 2023. This grant allowed us to hire professional working adults to come in and lead the workshops that took place at Williams Hall. The workshops included: Musical Theater Workshop, The Art of the Audition Workshop, and an Acting Workshop. Additionally, we produced a Fall Showcase in October of 2023, which was a variety-styled production that included varying acts, such as monologues, original works, songs, poetry, and dances that were created and performed by students of the Drama Club. We had student performers, in addition to the stage and tech crew, that were all members of the Drama Club.

**Dive into Art: Coral Creations****Grant Awarded: \$1,000****Art Guild of the Purple Isles (AGPI) members and students throughout the Keys**

HDM partnered with the AGPI, Monroe County School District (MDSC) and five coral restoration organizations throughout the Keys to develop a project bringing art, science and environmental awareness together. They created a featured exhibit that included student art, AGPI member art and educational materials from the organizations. The exhibit opened at HDM in January. AGPI members prepared a project outline with instructions and sent to schools for the start. Teachers indicated if they were able to participate with their classes and were offered a \$150 budget and told how to request supplies. HDM, AGPI and volunteers installed all the pieces and hosted a ribbon cutting with 218 attending the celebration including students, their families, teachers, school administrators, and the Islamorada Chamber of Commerce. Another 6,876 visited the Museum exhibit before it closed.

**History of Diving Museum's outstanding art exhibitions.****Morada Clay Islamorada Revamp****Grant Awarded: \$500****Morada Way Clay**

Grant funds supported maintenance to get the kiln back up and running. This allowed all 5 of the artists at Morada Clay to continue creating daily and showing their work at Morada Clay along with their own websites. An additional exhibit at the Florida Keys History and Discovery Center exists where two of the Morada Clay artists have their work available.

**The Florida Keys Attractions and Environmental Preservation****Grant Awarded: \$1,500****Marcia Brito**

Artist Marcia Brito conducted an in-depth photographic review of the Florida Keys and produced a new series of works that describe the distinctive nature and features of our beautiful Islands for present and future generations. One goal was to contribute to the preservation of the Keys' rich and fragile ecosystems and historic cultural

**Artist Marcia Brito's Opening Reception at the Key Largo Library.**

resources. This project is composed of vibrant images that promote all of the Keys, encourage tourism and additional funding for conservation. The project is two-fold, showcasing the beauty of the Florida Keys while also displaying current environmental degradation and threats to our ecosystems. The contrast on display aims to raise awareness of the threats to our environment and to encourage conservation efforts. I printed 51 photographs for exhibits in our community, including

the main event, a solo photography exhibit at the Key Largo Library with 45 photographs. Additionally, before the main event, a few photographs were included in group exhibits hosted by the Art Guild of the Purple Isle (AGPI) at the History of Diving Museum and the Florida Keys History & Discovery Center in Islamorada, at the Tassell Medical Arts Building, the Our Place in Paradise Gallery and the Garden Club of the Upper Keys in Tavernier, and at the Key Largo Library. The main event at the Key Largo Library had an artist opening reception. During this reception, Marcia gave a slideshow presentation of her photographic documentation of Florida Keys. She also invited local environmentalist Barry Wray, Executive Director of the Florida Keys Environmental Coalition in Islamorada, to add commentary on the environmental issues presented in my slides. Additionally, there was a table for the Florida Keys Council of the Arts membership drive, hosted by Karen Beal and a table for the AGPI hosted by Holly DeMars.

**Party Time - Short Film****Grant Awarded: \$1,000****Michael Marrero**

We produced a short film, "Party Time," utilizing local talent and diverse locations throughout Monroe County. This project brought together actors and crew members from the area, showcasing the region's potential as a backdrop for cinematic storytelling. Filming across multiple Monroe County sites allowed us to highlight its unique landscapes and architectural features, enhancing the visual appeal of our film. This approach not only supported the local creative economy by employing area professionals but also promoted Monroe County as a versatile and attractive filming destination. Grant funds supported local cast members appearing in the film.

**Grant funds supported local cast members appearing in the film.**



## The Connections Project: Making Music in the Keys

The annual Connections Project was reimagined for 2024 to highlight both the musicians and artists who make the local creative community so distinctive. At each of five receptions, cultural enthusiasts enjoyed performances by outstanding local musicians while viewing one of five unique Connections Project murals.



The eclectic and talented Florida Keys arts community comes together each year through the Connections Project to form a large mural made from hundreds of individual paintings by Keys artists. In 2024, the Florida Keys Council of the Arts announced a special edition titled "Making Music in the Keys." The arts council distributed 150 6-by-8-inch canvases, each painted by individual artists and pieced together to form several murals. Once the mosaic mural is assembled, it embarked on a "road show" tour of galleries and other venues around the island chain, with an opening reception at each location: Kona Kai in Key Largo, Hale Gallery in Islamorada, Sparky's in Marathon, Lower Keys Chamber of Commerce Visitor's Center in Big Pine, and Williams Hall in Key West. Grant dollars from Community Foundation of the Florida Keys supported the musicians. Proceeds from "The Connections Project" benefit Keys artists through grants from the Council — making more "connections" that help the creative community continue to enrich and enliven the island chain.



From left: Madlyn Mussey, Liz Young, Susann D'Antonio, Leslie Calero, Marianne Finizio, and Sarah Brawer-Bartus pose next to the mural at Sparky's in Marathon.

## Musicians



Dave Feder at Hale Gallery in Islamorada.



Cory Young, Adrienne Z and John Bartus performed at Sparky's in Marathon.



Gillan Todd at Williams Hall in Key West.



Carmen Rodriguez and Bobby Nesbitt at Williams Hall in Key West.



Brian Roberts and the Mike Bailey Trio at the Lower Key's Chamber of Commerce Visitor's Center grounds.





## *A Culture Series...*

**W**e are thrilled to announce our culture series in a re-imagined, but familiar format. Our focus is to share with you, our valued members, the amazing projects that we fund and support. Thanks to your generosity, these four Art Builds Community grantees are building audiences by emphasizing access to the arts through new collaborations. Gather 'Round, learn and be inspired by these projects that aim to spark conversations, spur social change and make our community stronger. Each session is designed for participation and conversation.

*The series is generously supported by the  
Bill & MaryCarlin Porter Advised Fund*

### 2012

Art @ 830 Gallery  
Island Iron & Ink - Magic Ranch Art Studio  
Key West Literary Seminar  
Red Barn Theatre

### 2013

Fringe Theater of Key West  
Key West Contemporary Dance Co  
Mel Fisher Maritime Museum  
Tropic Cinema

### 2014

Author's Literary Panel  
South Florida Symphony Orchestra  
Truman Little White House  
Waterfront Playhouse

### 2015

Bahama Village Music Project  
Crane Point Museum/Nature Center  
Florida Keys Watercolor Society  
History of the Diving Museum  
Key West Art & Historical Society  
Key West Poetry Guild

### 2016

Art Guild of the Purple Isles  
Dolphin Research Center  
FKCC Keys Chorale  
Fl Keys History & Discovery Center  
KW Tropical Forest/Botanical Garden  
Key West Writers' Guild

### 2017

Grimal Grove  
Key West Garden Club  
Key West Public Library  
Key West Theater  
Marathon Community Theater

### 2018

Impromptu Classical Concerts of KW  
Mote Marine Laboratory  
Tennessee Williams Key West Exhibit  
The Studios of Key West  
Old Island Restoration Foundation

### 2019

Fringe Theater of Key West  
USCGC Ingham Maritime Museum  
Mark Hedden, On The Hook Project  
Key West Film Festival

### 2020

National Weather Service - NOAA  
Artists of Islamorada  
San Carlos Institute  
The Art Studio - postponed

### 2021

Series was not held due to Covid-19.  
Virtual programming highlighted  
Crane Point and Mote Marine

### 2022 Florida Keys Sculpture Trail

Grimal Grove - 5 sculptures  
Truman Waterfront Park - 2 sculptures  
The Lagoon - 6 sculptures

### 2023

Red Barn Theatre  
REEF Environmental Education  
Foundation  
City of Marathon  
Erika Heffernan and MARC

### 2024

Florida Bay Forever  
Fringe Theater of Key West  
Friends of the Key Largo Library  
Tennessee Williams Theatre

## *Florida Bay Forever*

**M**embers came along for a guided tour with Florida Bay Forever through the Green Turtle Hammock Nature Preserve followed by mentored classes

in art and writing techniques. With their professional local scientists, they enjoyed a naturalist experience that increased connection with nature and promotes happy and healthy living through creativity. Over lunch, folks learned about efforts to expand their reach with our partner, College of the Florida Keys.





## *Fringe Theater of Key West*

The folks at Fringe Theatre and Williams Hall partnered to create a theatrical celebration of Key West's rich and diverse cultural heritage. An island favorite with local talent, the show is a collection of short plays directed by a collection of (mostly) emerging directors - Join Rebecca Tomlinson and Michael Marrero for this sneak peek at some of the famous (and infamous) characters in this year's show and learn about the behind-the-scenes process of staging historical narratives.



## *Friends of the Key Largo Library*

The Friends, along with grant partner, Art Guild of the Purple Isles, invited the public to the library for an afternoon with their instructors and other arts organizations. They saw an art exhibit created by participants of six community art classes. They enjoyed refreshments and conversation on the highlights and outcomes of the library's collaboration to present concerts and art classes in the upper Keys. They met staff and visited the Key Largo Branch - the hub of hub of this community and of this grant program.



## *Tennessee Williams Theatre*

Members took a backstage tour of the theatre Tennessee Williams built, they learned about its history and how it became the premier cultural center it is today. TWT's Executive Director, Matthew Rawls, guide, discussed the challenges and joy of bringing Broadway National Tours and performing artists to our island. TWT has partnered with the Monroe County School District to offer students the opportunity to experience live theatre through this ABC grant and shared the details over lunch.





# Art in Public Places

We serve as staff to both the Monroe County Art in Public Places Committee, and the City of Key West's Art in Public Places Board. The AIPP Committee is charged with purchase and installation of artwork under a 1% for public art ordinance in any new major county construction or renovation. The City's program operates similarly with a board appointed by the Mayor and City Commissioners.

**Art in Public Places Committee**

Susann D'Antonio, Chair  
Eric Anderson, Vice Chair  
Leslie Eadeh  
Beth Kaminstein  
Cristy Spottswood



**Key West Art in Public Places Board**

Marianne van den Broek, Chair  
Katie Holtkamp, Vice Chair  
Mechelle Burgohy  
Kendall Camerson  
Mary Jean Connors  
Cori Covertito  
Erin Stover



Heavy Reading by Craig Gray is part of the Sculpture on Loan, Art in Public Places Project. The sculpture was installed in Duval Street Pocket Park in early 2024.



Key Heron by Tim Marshall Curtis on display at Duval Street Pocket Park. The sculpture is made of recycled captain's chair, flats guide push poll, salvaged wood from sailboat wreckage.



Liz Young with Katie Holtkamp (City of Key West AIPP) and Susann D'Antonio (Monroe County AIPP) attend the FAPAP 2024 Conference in Gainesville.

# The Art of Giving 2023- 2024

**Benefactor & Corporate Sponsor - \$5,000+**

Americans for the Arts, National Endowment for the Arts, Florida Department of State - Division of Arts & Culture, Monroe County Board of County Commissioners, Monroe County Tourist Development Council, Robert N. Alfandre Foundation, Audubon House & Tropical Garden, Community Foundation of the Florida Keys, Leslie Eadeh, Florida Keys Media – US1 Radio, Shirley Freeman & Harvey W. Server, Golden Fleece Foundation, Michael Halpern, The Helmerich Trust, Matthew Helmerich & Jeffrey Harwell, The Kawaler Family Charitable Foundation, Gordon & Meridyth McIntosh, The Mitchell Wolfson Family Foundation, Ocean Sotheby's International Realty, John Padget, William & MaryCarlin Porter, Royal Furniture & The Elwell Family, The Sexton Family Foundation, South Florida Cultural Consortium, Louis Wolfson III

**Patron & Corporate Partner - \$1,000+**

Eric Anderson & Stan Zuba, Duane & Jill Miranda Baker, Gary Brownell, Joyce & Ron Burd, First Horizon Bank, First State Bank of the Florida Keys, Carol & Wally Fisk, Nance Frank; Gallery on Greene, Rachel Garreau - SeaSister Island Gallery, C.J. Groth Photography, Beryn & Rick Harty, Stephanie & Eric Hench, Christa Hunt, Tom & Clare Keller, Kate Miano & The Gardens Hotel, Our Place in Paradise

**Curator - \$750+**

Theresa Axford, Sheldon & Susan Davidson, Betty Rubenstein

**Supporter - \$500+**

Acorn Hill Foundation, Inc., Jordan M. Bernstein, Roger M. Bernstein, Judy Blume & George Cooper, Kevin Donohoe, Fausto's Food Palace, George Fernandez, Key West Writer's Guild, Kathryn Lyons; Kona Kai Resort, Bill & Renay REGARDIE, Scott Westfahl

**Business Partner - \$375**

7 Artists & Friends, Alan S. Maltz Gallery, Annamarie Giordano Studios, Art@830, Artists in Paradise Gallery, Audubon House Gallery, Bone Island Graphics, Cocco & Salem Gallery, Croissants de France, Effusion Gallery, Bruce & Kim Elliott- Reef Gallery, Fran Decker, Gingerbread Square Gallery, Guild Hall Gallery, Gytaku by Lisa Lee, Taylor Hale Gallery, Harrison Gallery, Islamorada Art Gallery by Pasta, JAG Gallery, Key Largo Art Gallery, Key West Art Center, Key West Collective, Key West Fine Wine, Key West Gallery, Keys Weekly Newspapers, Maggie Ruley - Island Inspirations Gallery, Michelle Nicole Lowe Gallery, Ocean Sotheby's International Realty Key West, Old Road Gallery, Our Place in Paradise, Sacred Space Key West, Salt Island Provisions, Sandra Lee Photography & Art Studio, Shade Ceramics and Shutter Photography, Shady Palm Gallery, Stone Soup Gallery & Frame Shop, Sunset Celebration & Key West Cultural Preservation Society, The Art Corner, The Studios of Key West, Underwater Photography Gallery, Uniques by Kennedy Studios, Wilson Signature Collections

**Advocate & Non-Profit Organizations - \$250**

Janet & Charles Bengel, Richard & Brenda Bodner, Nancy & Mac Bunch, Julie Burke & Page Anderson, Riona Campbell & Morada Way Arts & Cultural District, Bill Cartledge, Mary Jean Connors & Geoffrey Tomb, Susann & Bobby D'Antonio, Libby & Michael de Caetani, Carol Deford, Ralph DePalma & Barbara Weikel, Joseph J. Fadlovich & Joan C. Wallin, Nancy & Mark Funt, The Key Players, Karen Leonard & Aaron Wechter, Roz & Mike Leszczuk, M. Ann Lynch, Debra Mason, Matt Modist, Lisa Mongelia & History of Diving Museum, Vivian & Greg Morrison, Jack Paul, Timothy Peterson & Brian Wagstaff, Dr. Ray & Michele Rodriguez, Red Barn Theatre, Stephen & Kathy Russ, Bunnie Smith, Linda Shagena, Unique Marine, Inc.

**Contributor - \$100**

Annmari Anderson, Anna Barfield, John & Patty Barnas, Sarah & John Bartus, Barbara & Paul Bernstein, Lance Berry & Chris Anderson, Mary Blackman & Alex Okinczyc, Michael Blades & Kathy Kilroy, John & Patricia Bollinger, Carrie Bregar & Robin Maddox, Lisa & Mickey Brunn, Patricia & David Buccello, Leslie C. Calero & William Knetge, Kathleen Campbell, Lucy Carleton, Anne & James Chambers, Mary K. Clapp, Allison Delashmit, Deborah Dietrich & Mark Bailey, Carrie Disrud & Tom Joris, Marianne Finizio & Robert Stewart, Bob & Lynda Frechette, Todd German, Leslye & Richard Golding, Bill & Beverly Goldner, Craig & Angela Gray, Bonnie Greenberg & Arthur Jansik, Jody Gross & Perk Larsen, Barbara Hann & Bill Foster, Jim & Mary Harty, Monica Haskell & Bill Rowan, John David Hawver & Marcia Kreitman, Stormy & Daniel Hayes, Mark Hedden & Nancy Klingener, Jack Henry & Richard Logan, Gertrudis & Reginald Henry, Cathy & Robert Hesse, LeeAnne Holland & Michael Matthews, Marge & Rick Holtz, Sotey & Doug Jackson, Beth Kaminstein, Betty & Greg Klimock, George Korn & Thomas Livingston, David Lebwohl & Glenda Donovan, Jack Loudon & Lynne Fischer, John & Maribell Maschal, Michelle McClurg & Ray Ryan, Kaya & Mike McCoy, Marilyn Miller & Ed Pitts, Claire Muhm, Seth, Michelle & Kai Mularz, Scott Newman & Gregory Long, Harrell Odom & Barry Cook, Christine & David O'Neill, Dominic Paolillo & Itai Shamir, Valerie Preziosi & Jan Svejkovsky, Bernard Ranellone & Lucia DeRuvo, Holly Merrill Raschein, Virginia & Philip Reinhard, Martha Robinson & Roy Bishop, Leslie & Ray Rogers, Catherine Sembert & Jonathan Ingham, Wallace & Jean Shannon, Anne Shaver & Susanne Woods, Jim & Jolene Scholl, Jeannine & Doug Schrock, Jill Snodgrass, Steven & Carole Sonstein, Pamela Spence & Christopher Smith, Joyce Stahl, Joel Stein, Jeff Sundheim & Gustavo Rodriguez, Nancy & Ed Swift, Dennis & Jan Taylor, Lawrence & Jennifer Thimmesch, Claire & Randall Tuttle, Diane & Bart Vinsh, Rosi & Jeff Ware, GG & Paul Weisenfeld, Louise & Richard Weithas, Todd & Sandra Trupcevic West, MaryAnn Westerlund, Ed & Debbie Willgress, Diane Williams, Dee Wright & Marilyn Castor & Susan Stock



# Statement of Financial Position

for the year ended June 30, 2024

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$159,982
Accounts Receivable:	
Grants and Awards .....	18,728
Inventory- Fine Arts.....	35,110
Prepaid Expenses .....	1,018

TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS..... \$214,838

NONCURRENT ASSETS

Furniture and Office Equipment, Net of Accumulated Depreciation of \$19,547 (Note 8) .....	2,869
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TOTAL ASSETS .....\$217,707

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable .....	\$179
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TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES..... \$179

TOTAL LIABILITIES..... \$179

NET ASSETS:

Unrestricted.....	\$192,528
Donor Restricted .....	\$25,000

TOTAL NET ASSETS .....217,528

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS.....\$217,707

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

REVENUES

Grants & Awards .....	\$233,525
Membership Dues .....	\$51,800
Public Donations .....	\$72,170
In Kind Donations .....	\$22,494
Dividends & Interest.....	\$5,088
Gain/Loss on Value of Short-Term Investments ...	\$10,384

TOTAL REVENUES.....\$395,461

EXPENSES

Program expenses .....	\$304,676
Grants Awarded .....	53,965
Administrative Support .....	\$43,567
Fund Raising.....	\$18,203

TOTAL EXPENSES .....\$ 420,411

Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets..... (\$24,950)

NET ASSETS Beginning of Year .....

NET ASSETS End of Year.....\$217,528

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:

Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets..... (\$24,950)

Adjustments to Reconcile Change in Net Assets to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities

Depreciation.....	\$175
(Increase) Decrease in Grants Receivable .....	\$608
(Increase) Decrease in Inventory- Fine Art-	
(Increase) Decrease in Prepaid Expenses .....	(243)
Increase (Decrease) in Accrued Expenses .....	(541)

Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities ..... (\$24,951)

Investing Activities .....

Net Cash (Used For) Investing Activities.....0

Financing Activities .....

Net Cash (Used for) Provided By Financing activities .....0

Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash..... (\$24,951)

Cash and Cash Equivalents-  
Beginning of the Year .....

Cash and Cash Equivalents-

End of the Year.....\$159,982

# Financial Statement at a Glance

for the year ended June 30, 2024

The Arts Council is governed by Sunshine Laws and conducts all business in public. Accounting and reporting procedures are transparent and readily tracked. Staff provides financial reports to the Board monthly. A financial audit is prepared annually by an independent auditor, and is available on our website.

The cultural tourist serves as a primary illustration of the arts economic impact on area businesses. The most recent

Americans for the Arts economic survey (updated in 2017) shows in Monroe County:

- The Arts represent an \$86.9+ million industry;
- The Arts support 1,764 full-time equivalent jobs;
- The Arts are important to 47% of our target travelers when choosing a vacation destination and;
- The Arts generate \$9.9 million in local/state government revenue.

