



Arts In Reach

ANNUAL REPORT FY 2023



A Note On AIR

In 2023, the mission statement of Arts In Reach was re-written to better reflect the outcomes and impact of our work: *AIR inspires teen girls and gender expansive youth to be brave, elevate their voices, and create the lives they imagine.* It still sometimes gives me chills.

Shortly after, the first post-COVID Youth Risk Behavior Survey results showed that teens are facing challenges no generation before ever did. Adolescents today need the inclusive, accessible, trauma-informed, and completely free programs at AIR more than ever.

AIR is rising to meet that need. This year, 26% more teens found the friendships, mentorships, and creative programming that help them know they have something special to offer, that empower them to have choice in their circumstances, and allow them to envision and achieve an aspirational future.

We offered more participation opportunities, through a wider variety of program offerings, and reached teens from more towns than previous years. We welcomed a new program coordinator, our first-ever operations manager, and new board members. The year ended with an ambitious commitment to better respond to the increasing challenges by pursuing AIR's first permanent programming facility.

What we do at AIR is joyful, and full of fun, laughter, beauty, and music. And it is evidence-based, intentional, and profoundly meaningful. It takes all of us to fulfill AIR's critical mission. Thank you for joining us in this exceptional, important work.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jennifer Minicucci". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jennifer Minicucci

Our Programs

AIR programs are designed for two age groups, **ArtVentures** for ages 11-13 and **AIR Artists** for ages 14-18. There are also additional workshops and field trips designed for all of our teens.

Each year, new programs are offered to ensure AIR provides a variety of artistic mediums that are relevant and engaging.

In FY 2023 we led programs and workshops in the following areas:

- *2-D drawing/painting*
- *Acting/stagecraft*
- *Beading/Jewelry making*
- *Comic book creation*
- *Creative writing*
- *Sculpture/Assemblage/Clay*
- *Upcycled fashion design*

All programs are led by paid professional artists who share their craft, creativity, and mentorship with AIR participants.



Program Data

This past year, AIR invested in program innovation, becoming more fully experiential while upholding teens' voices and choices. AIR built new—and strengthened existing—partnerships, offering two in-school programs and five one-day programs with community partners.

We served 26% more teens compared to last year, and we have expanded our reach by 67% in the past four years, with a nearly 100% retention rate. We welcomed back 29 teens who joined AIR programs last year and a further 12 who returned for their third+ year with AIR.



32 towns served

14 program venues



127 unique participants

46% participants joined two or more programs



30 programs offered

9 school vacation week programs

5 after-school multi-week programs

2 school-specific multi-week programs



12 teaching artists

1620 mentorship & instruction hours



4 workshops

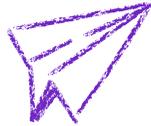
5 community events

5 field Trips

Our Collaborators

Program Collaborations

Bedrock Gardens (hosting art created in June Program)
Dover Coalition for Youth
Dover Public Library
NH Art Association (hosted exhibition)
Riverwoods Exeter
Robert J. Lister Academy
Seacoast Outright
Somersworth Youth Connection
Storycamp Dangercamp



Program Venues

Capital Center for the Arts
Community Campus, Portsmouth Recreation Dept
Community Church of Durham
Crackskulls Coffee and Books1
Dover Public Library
Garrison Players Art Center
Mall at Fox Run1
Monarch School of New England
Museum of New Art
New Hampshire Theatre Project
Newmarket Millspace
Riverwoods Exeter
Storycamp Dangercamp
The Music Hall

Organizational Affiliations

Affirming Spaces Project
Dover Mental Health Alliance
Dover Youth Coalition
Greater Portsmouth Youth Wellness Coalition
KEY Collective
Recovery Friendly Workplace
Seacoast Mental Health Center
Strafford County Prevention Leadership Group
Recovery Friendly Workplace Initiative
Wrong Brain





AIR Donors

People like you enable AIR to fulfill its mission. We are grateful to the 200+ people who made 400+ donations last year. Thank you!

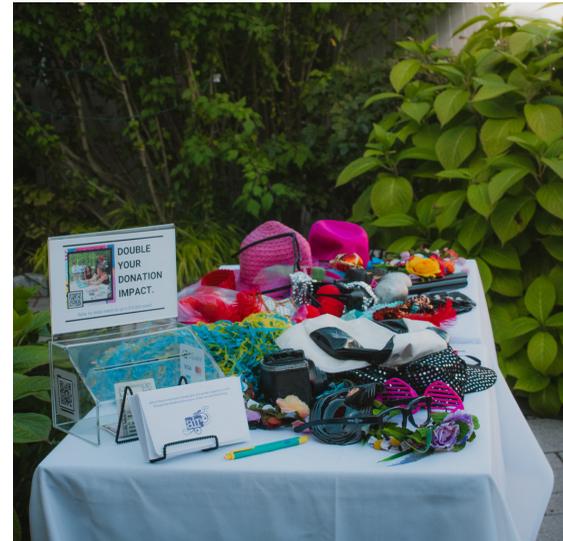
Anonymous (8)
Margaret Aldrich
Andrea Allen
Karen Andronaco†
Dr. Dick Aplin
Jane Bagnell
Arthur Balderacchi
Susan Baldini*
Gilman Barndollar
Stephen and Karin Barndollar*
Beverly Barney†
Elyse Barry
Drs. Cynthia and Robert Bear†
Meghann Beauchamp
Shannon Berray
Connie Bielas
Rachel Bradt McCann†
Dan Brown
Mary Buese

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Michael and Betty Burnell†
Cara Cabral
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Maureen and John Convery
Elise and Warren Daniel*
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Madeline DeSantis

Sandy and Greg DeSisto
Amy Desrosiers
Meg Devers-Connors
Diane DeVries
Gwendlyn DeYoung-Martin
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Mary Christine Dwyer
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Russell and Katie Grazier
David and Rebecca Greene*
Ernie Greenslade
Jacinthe Grote*
Kelly Guterl
Laura Harper Lake
Alison Harville
Tim Hayes
Tory Hayes
Phyllis Heilbronner
Anne Hodsdon†
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Karen Johnson
Marlene Jones*
Stephanie Kadnar†
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Mary Nelson*

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Anne Williamson
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Mara Witzling
Diane Woods
Lena Wyand
Dimitri Yiannacopoulos
Karen Zaramba
Jonathan and Katyanne Zink*

**Among these, tribute gifts were made in honor of Karin Barndollar, Cassie Brazeau, Cara Cabral, Sandra Chororos, Maureen Convery, Christin Dorner, Kathi Hardy, Debra Holloway, Glicka Kaplan, caitlin little, Liliana Mangan, MJ Monusky, Laura Portalupi, Haley Searcy, Monique Shevlin, Anne Romney, and Stacey Segil.*

†Among these, tribute gifts were made in memory of Diane M. DeVries, Paul Holloway, Rick Searcy, Mimi Tate, and Denise, sister of Lorraine Towmbly.



AIR Sponsors

As an organization with a local focus, AIR deeply values the support of our community sponsors, who are committed to making a positive impact in Seacoast teens' lives.

ENCOURAGE

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Foundations

In FY2023, AIR was honored to receive the first-ever Terry Morton Award for At-Risk Youth from the Foundation for Seacoast Health.

AIR is also grateful for generous grant awards from:

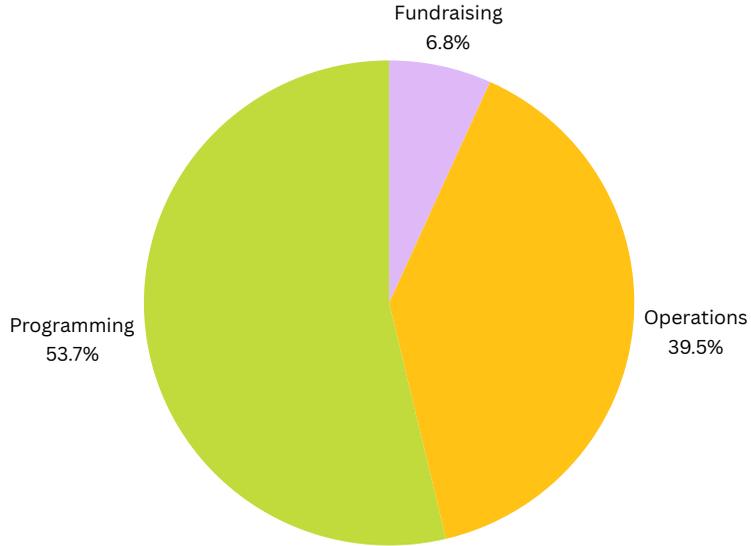
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Financials



Fundraising	\$ 21,631
Operations	\$ 138,198
Programming	\$ 187,880
<i>TOTAL Expenses with Depreciation</i>	\$ 455,816

STAFF



Jennifer Minicucci
Executive Director

Cara Cabral
Program Director

Haley Searcy
Program Manager

Laura Portalupi
Operations Manager

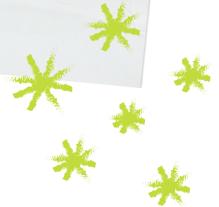
Liliana Mangan
Program Coordinator

Kathi Hardy
Teen Artist Transporter

caitlin little
Marketing & Design

**During FY23 we said a fond farewell to Debra Holloway, Executive Director, and Cassie Brazeau, Assistant Programming Director.*

Our Team



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