When the arts thrive, communities thrive.

We know the importance of community. For 50 years, the Greater Hartford Arts Council has worked tirelessly to help build a strong arts and culture sector. We are proud to be able to draw on vast experience of adapting to change, and building strong relationships with our donor and corporate partners. More recently, in the effort to aid the rehabilitation of the arts in our region, we have been establishing deeper connections with artists and organizations. Now more than ever before, we have been called upon as a resource and for our knowledge of the sector.

In this report, you will see highlights of our work in 2020 and we have you, our donors, to thank for making it all possible. Thank you for your dedication to supporting arts and culture, and the Greater Hartford Arts Council.

We’re proud to have been able to support the sector during these challenging times, but there is still so much more work to be done. With entire theater seasons lost, museums closed for months on end and educational programs postponed indefinitely, this is time and revenue that arts organizations will never get back. At the same time, musicians and artists whose livelihoods depend on performing, sharing their talents, teaching and collaborating saw their income disappear overnight. Like so many others, they need our help.

We look forward to working with you in the year ahead to continue providing critical support to the arts and culture sector, so that together, we can help make sure the doors will reopen and the lights will shine on.

A year in review.

Published webpages for virtual events and financial resources for artists impacted by COVID-19

City of Hartford-appointed survey of leading arts institutions on projected financial impacts

Participated in city-wide Earth Day 50th Anniversary celebration

Cover photo: Neighborhood Studios: Hartford Stage Breakdancing Shakespeare, Defining Studios
When the arts thrive, communities thrive.

Thank you for making our work possible.
When communities thrive, the arts thrive.  
Thank you for your support this year, we could not have done all of this work without you.
**Vision**
We aspire to create a vibrant, thriving community that is united by art.

**Mission**
Our mission is to inspire all people to participate and invest in the arts.

**Promise**
We will improve lives and transform our community through the arts.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020**

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T’Challa Williams, Hartford’s L.I.T.
Janée P. Woods Weber, William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund

Engaged online audiences in DIY instrument-making

Partnered with Cantor Colburn, LLP on in-demand copyright workshop for artists

Formed first Artist Advisory Committee to inform, support, and educate GHAC in its role as an arts advocate
SUPPORTING THE ARTS IN 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Granting Program</th>
<th>Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Artist Emergency Relief Grants</td>
<td>$66,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts Organization Relief &amp; Recovery Grants</td>
<td>$287,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts + Wellness Grants, using creativity as a tool to enrich lives</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter Grants, providing critical operating support</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hartford Events Grants, creating a vibrant Capital City</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood Studios, helping local teens develop artistic and career skills</td>
<td>$120,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

Granting programs designed to meet critical community needs, support our region’s vibrancy and drive creativity. The following is the 2020 investment by granting program.

- Award 164 grants to artists and organizations
- Distribute 53,000 pieces of PPE
- Produced virtual and socially distanced Make Music Hartford programming
- Produced summer series of virtual performances
- Award $443,000 in emergency relief and recovery funding, artist support and PPE products
- Opened relief grant program for individual artists
- Awarded $46,000 in support of virtual events
- Awarded $66,500 in Artist Emergency Relief Grants
- Awarded $287,500 in Arts Organization Relief & Recovery Grants
- Awarded $12,500 in Arts + Wellness Grants, using creativity as a tool to enrich lives
- Awarded $425,000 in Charter Grants, providing critical operating support
- Awarded $100,000 in Hartford Events Grants, creating a vibrant Capital City
- Awarded $120,000 in Neighborhood Studios, helping local teens develop artistic and career skills
Every year, thousands of people from around the region and beyond gather together for the annual Summer in the City celebrations. Our parks and streets come alive with art, music and cultural festivals that celebrate our vibrancy and diversity. In 2020, while the pandemic caused the postponement or virtual transformation of nearly all Summer events, civil rights protests reaffirmed the need for these celebrations to highlight what makes our city and our people great.

Together with the City of Hartford, we were proud to provide support and advice to our event organizers as they created alternate plans to continue to serve their communities, despite not being able to put on their typical large-scale celebrations. We helped them develop a series of programming that could be viewed safely from home. We can’t wait to celebrate all that our city has to offer, together.

A Virtual Summer in the City

June 14
Puerto Rican Day Parade:
My 2020 Census/Censo Caravana

July 18
GHFJ Virtual Jazz Fest 2020

August 1
Taste of the Caribbean & Jerk Fest Video Recap

August 8
Greater Hartford West Indian Independence Celebration Virtual Event

September 12
Hartford PrideFest Virtual Pride

September 2-10
Riverfront Recapture Virtual Hartbeat Music Festival and Hartbeat Sessions
CREATING OPPORTUNITY

NEIGHBORHOOD STUDIOS

Neighborhood Studios, our arts apprenticeship program for area teens, provides in-depth instruction in a specific artistic medium and career-skills training that readies youth for today’s creative workforce. During the summer of 2020, apprentices came together virtually to create art during a global pandemic. The theme of Neighborhood Studios 2020 was **Power**. Apprentices approached the theme with both grace and resilience, produced stunning work, and formed lasting connections.

2020 Neighborhood Studios Partners:

The Amistad Center for Art & Culture
*SNAP! Photography*

Artists Collective *Youth Jazz Orchestra*

Hartford Stage *Project: Transform*

The Mark Twain House & Museum
*Write to the Point!*

TheaterWorks *Making a Scene*

Real Art Ways *Eye on Video*

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Thank you to our program sponsors!

Ensworth Charitable Foundation,
Bank of America, N.A., Trustee

Charles Nelson Robinson Fund,
Bank of America, N.A., Trustee

Farmington Bank Community Foundation

Berkshire Bank Foundation

Stanley D. and Hinda N. Fisher Fund
at Hartford Foundation for Public Giving
Thank you to our organizational partners:

$500,000+
- Travelers and employees
- Raytheon Technologies and employees

$250,000+
- Hartford Foundation for Public Giving

$75,000+
- Connecticut Office of the Arts
- Hartford Steam Boiler and employees
- Stanley Black & Decker and employees

$50,000+
- Eversource
- VOYA Financial and employees

$30,000+
- KPMG and employees
- Lincoln Financial Group and employees
- Prudential
- The Hartford

$10,000+
- Ensworth Charitable Foundation, Bank of America, N.A. Trust
- Robinson+Cole and employees

United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut
UnitedHealthcare and employees
Webster Bank
Wells Fargo

$5,000+
- Charles Nelson Robinson Fund
- Deloitte and employees
- State of Connecticut, Department of Economic & Community Development

$2,500+
- Alexander & Catherine Maus Wright Charitable Trust
- Berkshire Bank
- Blum Shapiro and employees
- Farmington Bank
- The Stanley D. and Hinda N. Fisher Fund

Opened recovery grant program for small arts organizations

Facilitated entirely virtual Neighborhood Studios and showcase performances

List reflects gifts received between November 2019 and December 2020.
FALL

Kate McOmber leads as Interim CEO

Produced virtual Art Social @ Home Celebration

 thank you!

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Janet Link
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Kevin and Marcia Smith

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James Condren and Ellen Robinson
Katherine and Kevin Conway
Eric and Patricia Daniels
Thomas Daugherty
Smitesh Dave

Developed PPE distribution partnership with the City of Hartford and Hartford Foundation for Public Giving
You make our work possible.

Kate Desimone
Basileus Music and the Diamond Family
Elizabeth Doering
Georgia T. Feigel
Marlene Ferreira
Helen and Henry Frye
Cynthia and Thomas Garten
Christopher Gentile and Danielle Ladd-Gentile
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Karen Olsen
Patricia Pac
Eric Palmer
Elliott and Eileen Pollack
Dante Roccasecca
Douglas and Sara Russell
Lee Russell
Laurie Ann Scotti
Karen Schulitz
Steven J. Sigal
Michael P. Steinberg
Christopher J. Stephens
William S. Fish and Marcia Vannuccini
Jeff and Pam Verney
Paula C. Viscogliosi
Gary and Alexandria Voccio
Diane Whitney
Ronald Williams
Elliott and Doreen Zweig

Launched new PressPlay Music Series sponsored by Travelers, showcasing local musicians

Provided live entertainment to senior living facility residents and staff as part of Make Music Winter

Opened Arts + Wellness grant for programs addressing wellness issues related to COVID-19