NEW YEAR, NEW FORMAT.

We are taking a slightly different approach with our Impact Reports in 2021. We are drastically reducing the text density found in our previous reports and will strive to say more with less. We will use data and pictures to tell stories and communicate our outcomes and impacts. For those who like long-format storytelling, we invite you to visit our blog, which is where we will continue to provide programmatic and operational updates.

Between January 1 and March 31, 2021, Erie Arts & Culture expensed $381,537. Of those dollars, 81.35% directly benefited our community while only 18.65% was expensed for operational overhead. When compared to Q1 2020, we reduced our overhead expenses by $834. It’s worth noting that our FY 19-20 annual audit, which totals $12,000, was expensed in Q1 of 2021 instead of Q4 of 2020. This was due to our audit being delayed and occurring in winter instead of the previous fall. Had this been expensed in Q4, our quarterly savings would have been considerably higher.

6 New donors
$8,597.19 donation totals
$138,218 growth

Erie Arts & Culture welcomed six new donors in the first quarter of the year. Of our new donors, one became a sustaining donor by entering into our monthly giving program. Erie Arts & Culture also received thirteen gifts from returning donors during the first quarter of 2021. These donations totaled $8,597.19.

$138,218 growth

At the close of Q1, the Erie Arts Endowment totalled $4,201,389. This represents a growth of $138,218 since the close of the previous quarter.
CAPACITY BUILDING


David Herbe presented “Filing Taxes for Freelance Creatives” on Feb. 9.

Dustin Harewood presented “Content, Craft, and Purpose” on Feb. 18.

We hosted 3 virtual events:

- Alia Ali on Jan. 14
- Dustin Harewood on Feb. 18
- David Herbe on Feb. 9

We provided learning to 463 individuals:

- We coached 13 organizations and 37 individuals.
- 22 external opportunities were promoted through digital media.

Erie Arts & Culture PRO NETWORK

CAPACITY BUILDING • ARTS IN LIFELONG LEARNING • PRESERVING DIVERSE CULTURES • PLACEMAKING
We hosted 3 VISITING ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE for a total of 62 days.

Touchpoints with our community

- 14 Artist Presentations/Workshops
- 6 Class Visits
- 16 Artist Critiques
- 1 Exhibition of Work
- 3 Erie Businesses Supported
- 6 Erie-based Industry Collaborations
- 5 Erie-based Artists Supported

CHROMA GUILD MEMBERS

Members include:
- Antonio Howard, visual artist
- Fredy Huaman Mallqui, woodcarver
- Alex Staley, videographer
- Armando Reyes, woodworker

The CHROMA Guild organization itself will also receive rebranding.

Mercyhurst University’s Graphic Design students are creating marketing and branding packages for Capacity Building.
WE AWARDED $67,168 TO 28 ORGANIZATIONS THROUGH THE IGNITE ARTS GRANT.

WE AWARDED $56,000 TO 29 THROUGH THE PENNSYLVANIA PARTNERS IN THE ARTS PROGRAM STREAM GRANT IN 5 COUNTIES

CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE GRANTEES
This education was life changing as it highlighted for me "how much I didn’t know I didn’t know." While I have always been committed to diversity, equity and inclusion, I had little awareness of the extent that discriminatory “-isms” are institutionalized throughout our society and the extent to which that leads to disadvantage for so many. I now recognize that commitment to DEI is not just activities that are undertaken, it is a way of being. And, if we are truly expect to live this commitment, all institutional structures must be viewed through an equity lens. As a result, this knowledge will shape my nonprofit service as well as the consulting work I do with organizations. Thank you, Erie Arts and Culture, for making this important education available to the Erie community.

- Debbie Thompson, President and CEO of Strategy Solutions and Board member of The Film Society of Northwestern PA
For many of us throughout the last year, we’ve had to learn to quickly adapt and shift our plans and expectations. This situation was no different for rostered teaching artist Marquis Wallace, who recently completed a residency at the Booker T. Washington Development and Education Center. Although this was not Marquis’ first collaboration with Erie Arts & Culture, it was his first time leading a residency through Erie Arts & Culture’s AIE program.

Marquis collaborated with filmmaker and photographer Alex Staley, dancer, instructor, and choreographer Mariah Johnson, and certified Yoga instructor Katie Adiutori to develop a series of programming for senior citizens.

With these partners, Marquis created a set of 10 different fun and relatable videos that challenged participants in a positive, healthy manner.
VIRTUAL RESIDENCIES MADE A POSITIVE IMPACT IN OUR COMMUNITY.

3,931 individuals directly served

TEACHING ARTIST Stats

8 Teaching Artist Residencies

24 host sites
Served through residencies

16 artists provided with paid opportunities

7 Teaching Artists 9 Guest Artists

$29,400 in teaching artist stipends

VIRTUAL RESIDENCIES MADE A POSITIVE IMPACT IN OUR COMMUNITY.

3,931 individuals directly served
The expERIence Children’s Museum partnered with six New American families and a family from Puerto Rico to create a video series titled “expERIence My Home.” Each video welcomes the viewer to learn about a specific culture, from a child’s eye view. The viewer is invited to learn about the Bosnian pastry called pita, a traditional Syrian wedding dance, the celebration of Diwali, how Congolese carry a baby on their back, traditional Puerto Rican attire, and ancestral drumming from Nepal.
We administered or co-administered 3 PUBLIC ART PROJECTS.

CREATING WITH COMMUNITY
18 artists applied for the opportunity
12 artists were selected

DOWNTOWN ERIE SCULPTURE WALK
60 artists applied for the opportunity
14 sculptures were selected

UPMC PATIENT CARE TOWER
149 artists applied for the opportunity
Panelists will select 3 semi-finalists.
Non-profit cultural organizations are an integral part of Downtown Erie and the urban core, though the programs they administer serve individuals throughout Erie County. The global pandemic has had an impact on the non-profit cultural sector that will be felt beyond 2020 and 2021. Disruptions to operations have resulted in increased expenses, loss of revenue, and staff furloughs or hiring freezes.

The value of the arts and humanities cannot be simplified to merely their economic impact. However, the organizations that comprise the non-profit cultural sector contribute substantially to the economy, both through direct expenditures and indirect multipliers. We are calculating the impact that the pandemic has had on our sector, and thus Erie’s local economy. The preliminary numbers shared in this report represent the impact the pandemic has had on our five Cultural Service Partners, which includes the Erie Philharmonic, the Erie Playhouse, the expERIEnce Children’s Museum, the Flagship Niagara League, and the Hagen History Center.

### STATS:

- **Organizations Polled:** 5
- **Revenue loss from March 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020:** $2,191,676
- **Staff positions furloughed, terminated, or frozen March 2020 through March 2021:** 29
- **Loans or lines of credit accessed from March 2020 through March 2021:** $1,465,092

**Youth and Senior Citizens** were most impacted due to cancelled programs.

Despite the challenges, our Cultural Service Partners created new virtual programming during the pandemic. However, the impact of the pandemic is far from over.

The Erie Playhouse hosted several virtual productions.

The Erie Philharmonic hosted a series of virtual concerts.
The creative and culture sector has experienced significant economic setbacks from COVID-19. Restrictions on gatherings, changes in consumer behavior, and severe unemployment have taken a devastating toll on the sector. The full scope and scale of the impact can be hard to quantify, in part because of the size and diversity of the individuals, occupations, organizations, and events that constitute the creative and cultural sector.

Non-profit cultural organizations have a substantial positive impact on local economies, both through direct expenditures and indirect multipliers. Even in a non-pandemic year, it can be difficult for small-to-mid sized cultural organizations to access unrestricted dollars to support their operations. Unrestricted funds are integral to keeping staff on payroll and compensating artistic and creative talent.

This year, Erie Arts & Culture is asking you to redirect your economic stimulus or tax refund checks to support a new grantmaking program designed to benefit small-to-mid sized cultural organizations and their employees.

Please redirect your check.

Erie Arts & Culture
George Espy - Chair  
Director of Operations | Erie Innovation District

Tauna Hunter - Vice-Chair  
Retired - Professor and Chair-Dept. Dance | Mercyhurst University

Gregory Grasinger - Treasurer  
Managing Attorney | SafeNet Inc.

Bryan Timm - Secretary  
Director of Sales | Organ Supply Industries

Keith Kennedy  
SVP Strategic and Integrated Services | Erie Insurance

Jonathan Riley  
PNC Wealth Management

Walter Iwanenko  
Vice President of Academic Affairs | Gannon University

Richard Scaletta  
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Tom New  
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