

2021

Quarter 2



IMPACT REPORT



Save the Date

August 10 is Erie Gives Day.

Erie Arts & Culture is proud of the work we've accomplished since adopting our strategic plan in 2019. On August 10th, you can help us sustain our impact in Erie County by participating in Erie Gives. Please make a donation of \$25 or more to the Erie Community Foundation and name Erie Arts & Culture as a beneficiary. This year, we aim to raise a minimum of \$25,000.

Your support helps us leverage the power of the arts and humanities to address the vital needs and interests of Erie. Together, we can make a positive impact in our community. Can we count on you to help us achieve our goal on August 10th?

We ask that you please keep Erie Gives in mind as you read our Q2 Impact Report.

eriegives.org



WE ARE CAPACITY BUILDERS.



WE FOSTER ARTS IN LIFELONG LEARNING.



WE PRESERVE DIVERSE CULTURES.



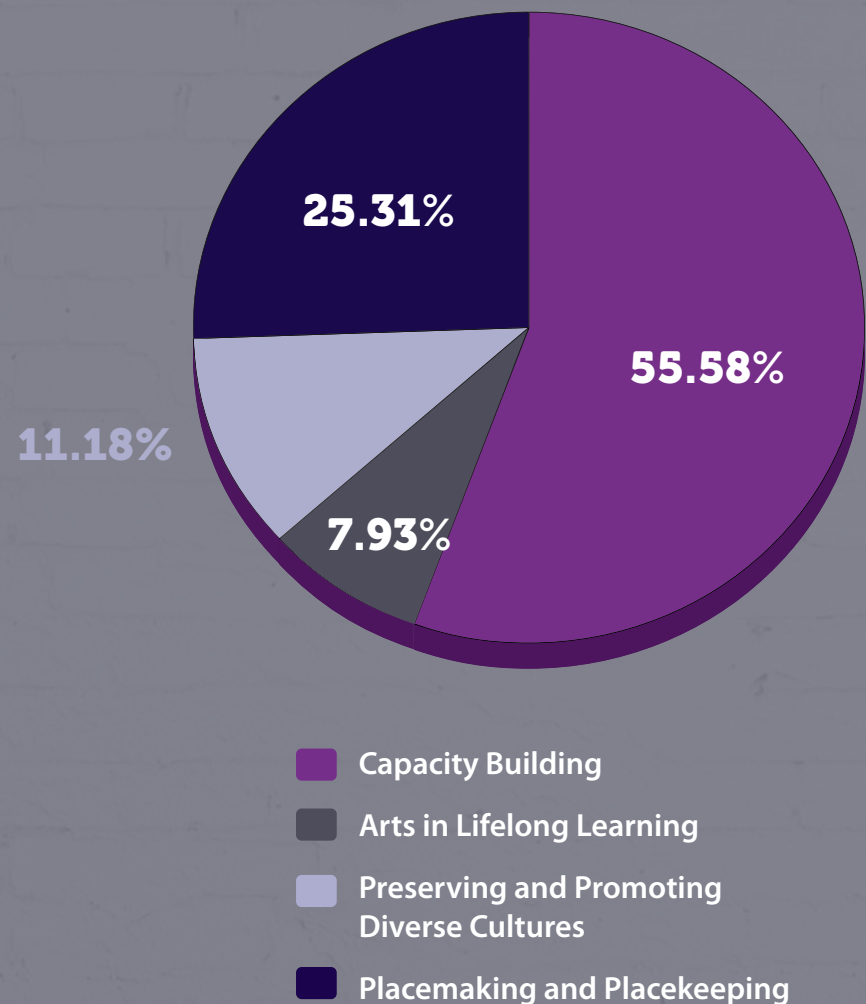
WE ARE PLACEMAKERS.

Financials

Between April 1 and June 30, 2021, Erie Arts & Culture expended **\$111,191**. Of those dollars, **34%** directly benefited our community while **66%** was expensed for operational overhead. When compared to Q2 2020, we reduced our overhead expenses by **\$19,060**.

At the close of Q2, the Erie Arts Endowment totalled **\$4,430,701**. This represents a growth of **\$229,328** since the close of the previous quarter.

HERE IS HOW FUNDING WAS DISPERSED
ACROSS ERIE ARTS & CULTURE'S FOUR
PILLARS OF PROGRAMMING DURING Q2.



CAPACITY BUILDING

Q2 2021



Kedgar Volta
presented "Connected Narratives"
on Thursday, April 29.



Jumping Jack Theatre
hosted a Sensory
Accessibility Workshop to
advance knowledge of
inclusive programming
on June 17.

We hosted 2
Visiting Artists in Residence.
Pictured: David Bordett



Erie Arts & Culture PRO NETWORK

We hosted

2

VIRTUAL EVENTS

We provided learning to
300 INDIVIDUALS

25 external opportunities were
promoted through digital media

1:1

COACHING

We coached

141 individuals and
23 organizations

ARTS *and* AGENCY *week* April 11-17

Now is the
time for action

We can create
a more inclusive
future

Together we
can overcome

Erie Arts & Culture, in collaboration with the CHROMA Guild, hosted the first annual Arts + Agency Week in mid-April. During this week, artists, cultural organizations, and advocacy groups explored the ways the arts are being leveraged to raise awareness of systemic issues, amplify under-represented voices, and generate creative solutions to societal challenges. **EAC hosted a total of 14 virtual presentations.**

Over **280** individuals participated in the talks throughout the week.

The recordings of the videos were viewed over **5,000** times.

Q2 2021



Vedra Chandler



David Tovey



Vanessa German

Q2 2021

ERIE DANCE FILM FEST

LIVE PREMIER AT KELLAR'S



9 FILMMAKERS
10 DANCEMAKERS
1 NIGHT OF
CREATIVE MAGIC

Erie Arts and Culture announced the inaugural Erie Dance Film Festival. The EDFF featured a series of films from five Erie teams of filmmakers and dance-makers who collaborated to create and produce dance-based short films. All films revolved around themes inspired by and embracing diversity, equity and inclusion.

The launching event took place July 8 at Keller's, A Modern Magic and Comedy Club. All ticket proceeds benefited the 2022 Erie Dance Film Festival.

Another screening of the films will take place August 19 at the Sunset Drive In at 7:30 PM. This event is free and open to the public.

ARTS IN LIFELONG LEARNING

Q2 2021



Meet Annie Schmitt

Each month, Erie Arts & Culture highlights one or more of our Teaching Artists. The goal of these monthly posts is to share the wonderful work our TA's accomplish and their impact in our community!

TEACHING ARTIST *Stats*

4

new teaching artists
rostered in 2021/Q2

9 *host sites*

served through residencies

327

core groups and
participants served



Ignite Arts

GRANTEE HIGHLIGHT: The LGBTQ Juried Art Exhibit

The Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE) hosted the 2021 LGBTQ Juried Art Exhibit in June at the Blasco Library. The exhibit featured over 50 artworks from 28 different local LGBTQ artists. Works were created in a variety of mediums including painting, jewelry, mixed media and more. This exhibit provided LGBTQ artists a communal opportunity to celebrate their identities in a visual, artistic expression and educate others in the general community.

PRESERVING DIVERSE CULTURES

WORLD REFUGEE DAY 2021

In honor of World Refugee Day, Erie Arts & Culture ramped up our efforts to amplify the voices of our local refugees and highlight their contributions to our community.

Below we've summed up the highlights:

1. We worked with MenajErie Studio to publish documentaries that highlighted three food markets in the City of Erie owned by former refugees – Almadina Market, Peace African Market, and All in One Market.
2. We published a digital directory that included **63** refugee owned businesses.
3. We recieved national recognition for our hard work! Our Towns Civic Foundation highlighted our efforts on their website in an article penned by Erie's Ben Speggen.





JUNETEENTH 2021

To commemorate Juneteenth, Erie Arts & Culture partnered with Erie's Black Wall Street and the Erie Downtown Partnership to present an updated directory of **101** black-owned businesses in our community.



INTERNATIONAL FOOD MARKET BOXES

We teamed up with Gone Local and the Erie Downtown Partnership to launch curated market boxes featuring local international markets and their unique products. Each box highlights a New American or Refugee owned market and includes an informational brochure.

PDC Stats

Connected with

14

DIFFERENT CULTURES

7 paid opportunities
awarded to folk artists

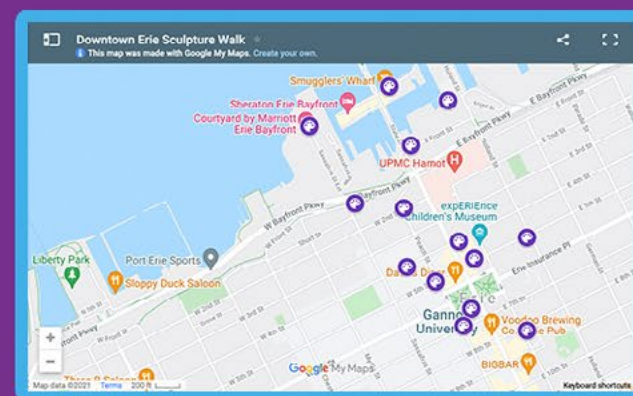
1:1

COACHING

We coached
18 individuals and
4 organizations

Downtown Erie Sculpture Walk

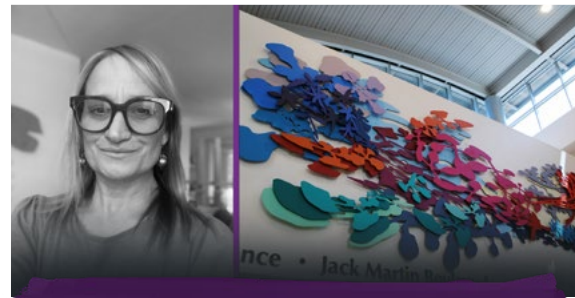
In the summer of 2021, Erie Arts & Culture consulted on the first-ever Downtown Erie Sculpture Walk for the Erie Downtown Development Corporation. This privately funded initiative is a sculptural loan program that is intended to encourage pedestrians to walk throughout Downtown Erie and the Bayfront. In total, 15 sculptures are on exhibit, representing the work of 13 different artists from throughout the United States. The sculptures are on display through August 2023 in Downtown Erie and along the Lake Erie Bayfront. As of August 9, the map has received over **3983** views.



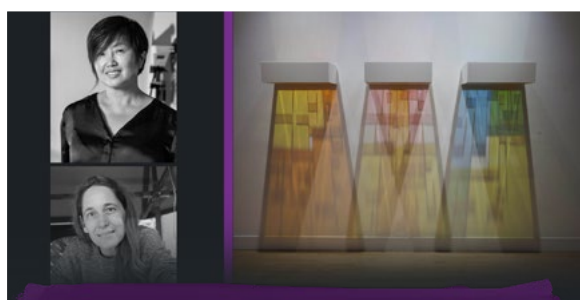
UPMC PATIENT CARE TOWER FINALISTS



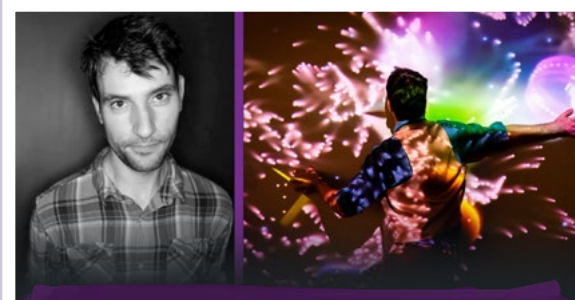
Heather Freitas



Elisabeth Nickles



Alice Könitz and Won Ju Lim



Owen Lowery

In early 2021, Erie Arts & Culture assisted UPMC Hamot with a national call for artists for an opportunity to create an original art installation inside the newly constructed UPMC Hamot Patient Care Tower. Out of hundreds of applicants, the committee selected four artists to move forward with proposals.

The four finalists will submit their proposals for review on August 17, 2021. One artist will be awarded the contract no later than August 24, 2021. The finished artwork will translate UPMC's central values of diversity, equity, and inclusion into a visual narrative and will adorn the first floor hallway which spans approximately 140' in length.

Please keep an eye on our social media accounts for further updates about this project in Quarter 3.



FUTURE PUBLIC ART

Announcing the Bayview Park Basketball Court Mural

Erie Gives is August 10. Leading up to this year's campaign, Erie Arts & Culture announced our next large-scale public art project, which utilizes funds from our 2020 Erie Gives campaign.

In September, we welcome South Florida-based artist Mwaner Pierre-Louis to paint a nearly 11,000 square foot mural on the basketball courts in Erie's historic West Bayfront. This project is supported with an Erie Gives donation from Brian and Linda (Hoehn) Graff, with additional support from the Erie Insurance and the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development through the

Neighborhood Assistance Program, and a special grant from the Erie Community Foundation.

To help execute the project, Erie Arts & Culture will provide two members of the CHROMA Guild with paid opportunities to serve as Mwaner's assistants and learn the art of mural painting directly from the artist.

**Want to see more projects like this in Erie?
Please consider making a gift to Erie Arts & Culture
during Erie Gives on August 10.**





YOUR SUPPORT

*helps us continue
our work in the region.*

Please support EAC on August 10th.
eriegives.org

The Erie Times News recently published an article about charitable giving in the US reaching an all-time high in 2020. According to a Giving USA report, “charitable giving in the United States reached a record \$471 billion in 2020.” Much of the increase was through foundations relaxing their guidelines to help social service and civil rights organizations in the wake of the pandemic and social unrest. Two nonprofit categories reported as experiencing an overall decline were arts & culture and health organizations; partly because so much philanthropy was steered towards vaccine and medical research. Another reason cited was inability to hold fund raising events, which both categories traditionally rely on.

I serve on Erie Arts & Culture’s Fund Development Committee. It’s also an organization that I’ve happily supported as a long-time donor. Last year, Erie Arts & Culture had to cancel Fall for Arts and Culture and other donor engagement events, which historically serve as annual opportunities to raise unrestricted operating funds. Unrestricted funds cover a myriad of operating costs, including programs not otherwise underwritten through state grants or endowment income. Unrestricted funds also allow the organization to be nimble and respond to community needs when they arise, such as when Erie Arts & Culture launched the Emergency Financial Assistance Fund – which provided nearly \$40,000 in support to artists impacted by the pandemic.

Erie Gives 2021 is scheduled for August 10th. This annual community-wide fundraising event facilitated by the Erie Community Foundation is a great way that donors can support Erie Arts & Culture. It’s also a great entry point into philanthropy for members of our community. I am asking that you please include Erie Arts & Culture in your donation on Erie Gives. Your donation to Erie Arts & Culture will support programs and services that continue to evolve Erie’s creative and cultural sector to be both inclusive and representative of our diverse community.

Sincerely,
Donna Douglass

STAFF



Patrick Fisher
Executive Director



Jade Mitchell
Creative Director



Laurel Mitchell
Director of Public Impact



Kristen Weibel
Program Officer



DaVona Pacley
Program Associate

We thank Kristen for her years of experience with EAC and wish her well in her new career with Collegiate Academy!

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