

2022

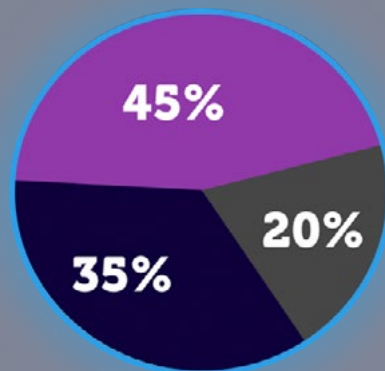
Quarter 3

**Erie Arts
& Culture**

IMPACT REPORT

Financials

HERE IS HOW FUNDING WAS
DISPERSED ACROSS ERIE ARTS
& CULTURE'S FOUR PILLARS
OF PROGRAMMING DURING
Q3 OF 2022.



- Capacity Building
- Arts in Lifelong Learning
- Preserving and Promoting Diverse Cultures
- Placemaking and Placekeeping



Capacity Building
\$127,654.76

Arts in Lifelong Learning
\$58,001.58

Placemaking
\$98,539.45

Preserving Diverse Cultures

Honoring Diverse Cultures is infused into all our programming, not a separate funding stream. Every placemaking, capacity building, and education initiative is grounded in the culture and life experiences of the participants and many celebrate and amplify the rich diversity of our region.

CAPACITY BUILDING

What is it?

Capacity building is developing and strengthening the skills, instincts, abilities, processes, and resources of an individual or organization so they are better able to produce, perform, or deploy their work or mission.

Q3 Stats

6

We hosted 6 educational, networking, and training events. (In-person and virtual.)

140

We provided learning and other opportunities to 140 individuals through these events.

20

We promoted 20 opportunities for artists on our Resource webpage.

73

We promoted 73 sector events through our digital channels.

1:1

GUIDANCE

Our team spent a total of 213 hours providing 1:1 guidance to organizations and individuals.



Celebrating CREATIVE ENTREPRENEURS

The Creative Entrepreneur Accelerator Program matches eligible creative entrepreneurs with existing, free, local, small business consulting services and financial resources ranging from \$500 to \$2,000 to help them grow their businesses, audiences, and revenue. Over two cycles, Erie Arts & Culture has provided **1:1 consulting and financial support to over 25 local entrepreneurs**, empowering artists to open brick and mortar storefronts, enroll in business courses, promote their work digitally and in print, and invest in equipment to increase their efficiency. The application for next cycle of funding is available until Dec. 31, 2022.

Please visit our blog for more information and a list of past recipients.



Northwestern PA ARTS RECOVERY GRANTS



We distributed

\$46,419

as part of the

**Northwestern PA Arts
Recovery Grant Program
in Quarter 3**

Updates!

The Northwestern PA Arts Recovery is a new grant program offered by Erie Arts & Culture that distributes American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds to local artists and supports the broader arts and culture sector in its response to and recovery from the COVID-19 crisis.

The grant provides stipends to individual artists for the production of community-based workshops or presentations that are accessible to a wide audience, which are designed to expand community access to the arts by (a) demystifying artistic practice and increasing the accessibility of arts programs to communities—especially communities that may have been under-served in the past by federal arts funding.

Six individual artists received grant awards for a total of \$14,000.

Grants range from \$2,000 to \$2,500 dollars. Many of these artists had never before applied for an arts grant.

Artists: Jermaine Beason, Niecey Davis, Joseph Glarner, André Jones, Thasia Anne Lunger, Barbara Yerace

Artists are based in the following counties: Erie (5) Warren (1)

The grant also awards ARP funds to eligible arts and cultural non-profit organizations to help support jobs in the arts sector and maintain day-to-day operations, maintaining or furthering community access to the arts.

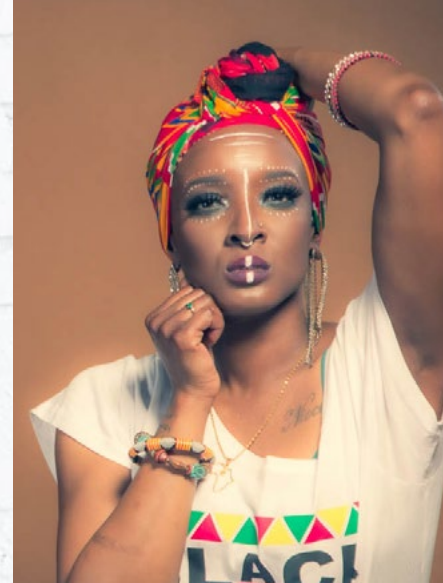
Seven arts organizations received grant awards for a total of \$32,419.

Grants range from \$3,000 to \$5,000 dollars.

Organizations: Arts & Education at the Hoyt, Erie Contemporary Ballet Theatre, Community Access Media, Film Society of Northwestern Pennsylvania, Main Street Art Center Corporation, Seiche Dance Collective, Warren County Summer Music School

These arts organizations are based in the following counties: Erie (5) Warren (1) Lawrence (1)

We are **Capacity Builders.**



We spent over **150 hours** guiding individuals and **63 hours** guiding organizations.

Erie Arts & Culture helps artists, culture bearers, art educators, and non-profit leaders develop and implement project, career, and organizational plans. During these consultations, we determine potential obstacles and constraints, identify critical resources, facilitate introductions to build beneficial relationships, and define desired objectives and outcomes. Through these efforts, we empower our stakeholders to approach their work with agency and intentionality. Below are statistics related to the number of consultations we provided this past quarter as well as a few testimonials from stakeholders we served. Visit our blog to read several testimonials.



TEAMING UP: EAC and the Parking Authority carve out a new space for creatives

Christopher Friday, the Executive Director of the Erie Parking Authority, contacted Erie Arts & Culture in May to inquire about activating vacant, ground floor commercial spaces located on West 9th Street in Downtown Erie. The EPA predicted that the properties would sit vacant through the remainder of 2022. The EPA was interested in leveraging the creative skillset of Erie-based artists to create unique experiences and raise awareness of the potential of 9th Street to further serve as a commercial corridor.

DaVona Pacley, Community Outreach and Engagement Associate, facilitated an introduction between EPA and Britty Lea (filmmaker) and André Jones (fashion designer). Britty is actively working to transform the space into an interactive exhibition titled "You, the Viewer," which will be open to the public on Friday, November 11th from 7 pm -10 pm. There is a \$5 entry fee to help offset the cost of building the exhibition and advanced tickets can be purchased online.

André pivoted and will be showcasing the MINT Art Installation at the Cashier's House, Saturday, November 26 from 7 pm -11 pm. We invite you to come through, enjoy some good music and great company! This is a free event.



YOU, THE VIEWER

Britty Lea (filmmaker)



RABBIT 3

André Jones (fashion designer)

ARTS IN LIFELONG LEARNING

What is it?

Learning through the arts establishes and reinforces the soft skills necessary to live an enriched life in today's ever-changing world. For this reason, Erie Arts & Culture envisions a region where every person has access to meaningful experiences that utilize the arts as a tool for personal development, both in academic and communal environments.

Erie Arts & Culture is one of 14 organizations across the state that formally partners with the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts to administer an Arts in Education (AIE) program. As a partner, we leverage funds provided by the Commonwealth to support in-depth arts experiences for youth and adults within six counties of Northwestern Pennsylvania, including: Erie, Crawford, Mercer, Venango, Warren, and Lawrence.

Q3 Stats

\$11,150
in teaching artist
stipends distributed

5

Total Teaching
Artist Residencies

3

Unique disciplines
taught

440

Total number of
individuals directly
served

5

Artists provided with
paid opportunities

Teaching Artist Feature:

DONNA LITTLE

Thank you to **ERIE INSURANCE!**

Erie Arts & Culture is excited to announce that we received an Investing in Our Future grant from Erie Insurance for a second consecutive year. The \$75,000 grant will allow us to partner with each of the community schools in the city of Erie to provide arts integration residencies. In these programs, EAC teaching artists will collaborate with educators to present meaningful experiences that utilize the arts as a tool for personal and academic development, acting as creative catalysts and empowering students to express themselves through a variety of artistic media and techniques. We are grateful to Erie Insurance for their continued support of this work.



Welcoming our new **ROSTERED TEACHING ARTISTS**

In September of 2022, Erie Arts & Culture welcomed eight new teaching artists to its roster. These artists will expand our roster through their diverse artistic disciplines, educational expertise, and lived experiences. Visit our blog to read more about the artists.

HONORING DIVERSE CULTURES

What is it?

Cultural diversity is the range of cultures present within a community. Honoring diverse cultures means respecting the full range of cultural demonstrations, even those different from one's own. Preserving diverse cultures entails valuing integration over assimilation and enabling communities to sustain and pass down practices from one generation to the next.



Kelly Armor
FOLKLORIST
IN RESIDENCE

Q3 Stats

Connected with

8

DIFFERENT CULTURES

6

Paid Opportunities

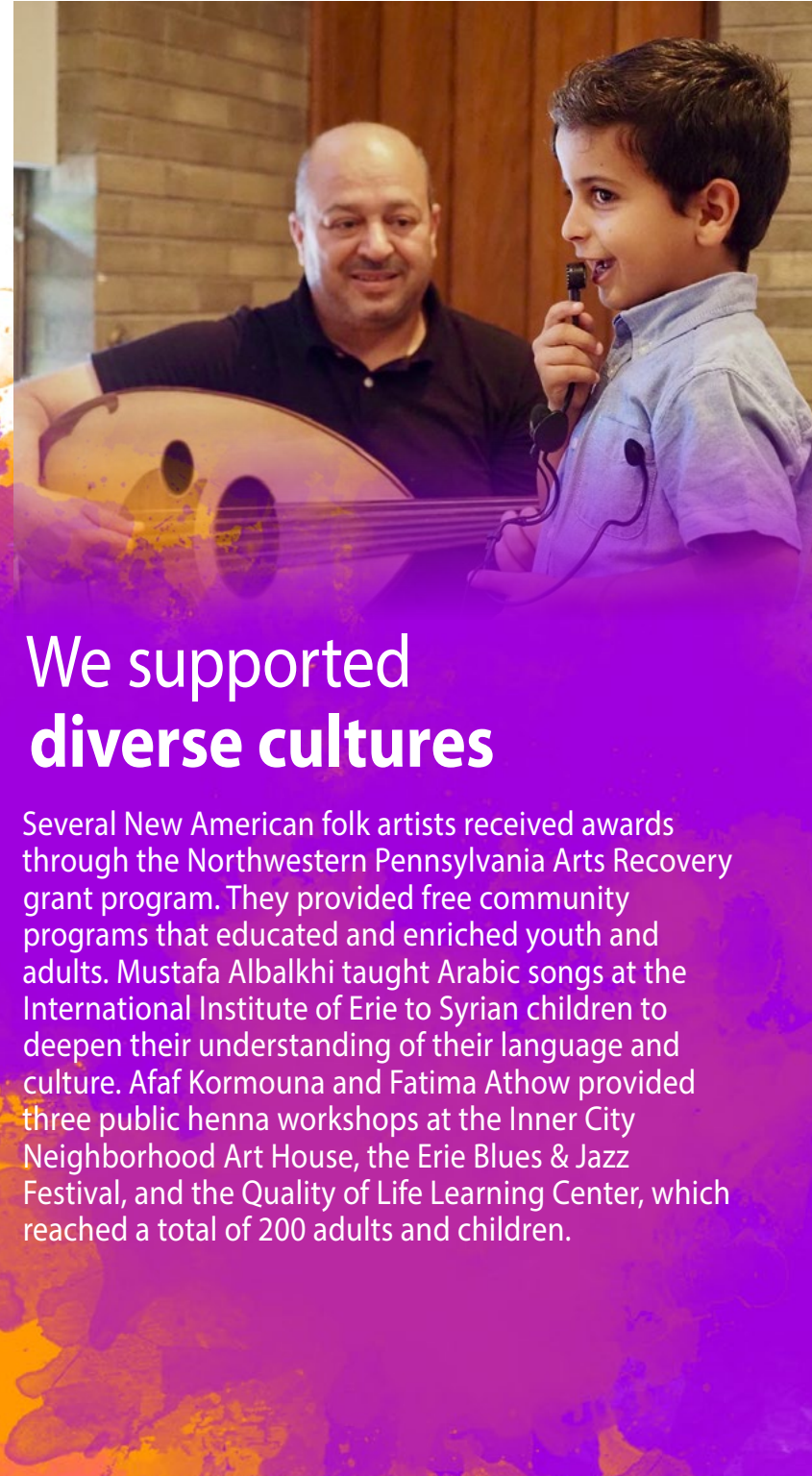
Awarded to Folk Artists

1:1

GUIDANCE

20 HOURS

Our Folklorist in Residence dedicated 20 hours to consulting and referrals with 11 individuals and 8 organizations.



We supported diverse cultures

Several New American folk artists received awards through the Northwestern Pennsylvania Arts Recovery grant program. They provided free community programs that educated and enriched youth and adults. Mustafa Albalkhi taught Arabic songs at the International Institute of Erie to Syrian children to deepen their understanding of their language and culture. Afaf Kormouna and Fatima Athow provided three public henna workshops at the Inner City Neighborhood Art House, the Erie Blues & Jazz Festival, and the Quality of Life Learning Center, which reached a total of 200 adults and children.



We supported

Erie's AmeriMasala and the Blues and Jazz Festival

After a 2-year hiatus, Erie's AmeriMasala festival returned to Perry Square in July. AmeriMasala is a multi-disciplinary and multi-cultural art festival founded by Lynn Johnson in 1996 to promote unity and celebrate Erie's diverse cultures.

The Festival features a parade led by larger than life puppets, cultural performances, community workshops, and world food vendors. This year's festival highlighted performances by Batala, a samba-reggae project, and Tam Tam Magic, a Senegalese drumming and dance project. AmeriMasala seeks to foster a community philosophy which promotes the value and nobility of all people and encourages dialogue across the lines of race, ethnicity, gender, and class, making Erie a city where all community members can share their voice.

In August, the Erie Blues & Jazz Festival marked its 30th anniversary with a weekend-long celebration in Frontier Park. An all-media arts festival, the Blues & Jazz Festival



elevates local voices and national trailblazers to showcase African American contributions to world music. Produced in collaboration with artists, arts organizations, and environmental groups, the 2022 Festival showcased dance, films, poetry, and art, and was headlined by cross-generational saxophone duo Person2Person, blues-rock-folk artist Davy Knowles, and soul-blues songwriter Grady Champion.

Together, AmeriMasala and Erie's Blues & Jazz Festival preserve and celebrate Erie's cultural diversity, inviting community members across the region to celebrate their differences, embrace new traditions, and experience the rich cultural art forms alive in our area.

Erie Blues & Jazz Festival and AmeriMasala's community puppet-making workshop were funded in part by the 2021-2022 Clarence E. Beyers Music Performance Fund of the Erie Arts Endowment.

REPRESENTATION IN MURALS

"Mama, that's me!"



COMMUNITY

"My two year old daughter, August, who is part super hero and part princess, looks at the screen and yells 'Mama that's me' ... 'It's me Mama! I glanced at the screen and saw a beautiful Brown girl on a very large mural and replied 'yes, baby that is you!'" - Cathryn Esterling

In the summer of 2022, Erie Arts & Culture commissioned artist and art educator Christina Wolfe to create a mural through Purposeful Placemaking. This initiative calls for strategic investments to be made in public art along the routes that students use when walking between home and school. Christina was assigned a wall located at the intersection of East Lake Road and Marne Road, which falls on a walking route to Edison Elementary School. Christina's mural depicts three young children, two of whom are persons of color (POC). The central figure is a small girl with brown skin. She is standing in a classic superhero pose with her hands on her hips while wearing a cape, domino mask, and floral patterned wrist cuffs. After its completion, a local news segment featured the mural, showing images of the completed work and interviewing the artist. The following day, Erie Arts & Culture received a moving email from a mother in the community. That mother, Cathryn Esterling, gave us permission to share her words, which are in the feature article.

PLACEMAKING + PLACEKEEPING

What is it?

Placemaking – Multi-faceted approach to the planning, designing, and building out of spaces that are accessible to the general public. These people and place-based design strategies are intended to create emotional bonds between people and the spaces they occupy. Community engagement and participation are critical steps in the placemaking process, as investments need to be centered on community members and their needs, aspirations, desires, and visions. Placemaking capitalizes on a local community's existing assets, inspiration, and potential, with the intention of creating shared spaces that promote community health, cohesion, and well-being.

Placekeeping – The active care and maintenance of space after a sense of place has been established.



We added several new **Purposeful Placemaking Murals.**

Purposeful Placemaking is a collaborative initiative between Erie Arts & Culture and the United Way of Erie County. This initiative is centered around strategically creating large-scale murals along routes that students use when walking to and from one of the five community schools located within the City of Erie. Purposeful Placemaking leverages the transformational power of public art to enhance the visual landscape in our neighborhoods by addressing conditions of disrepair and combating predatory advertising.



Featuring regional makers



Western Pennsylvania
MAKER MARKET

**Nov 19 from 10 am - 3 pm at FEED
(1307 State Street)**

Leading into the 2022 Holiday Season, Erie Arts & Culture invites you to the second annual Western Pennsylvania Maker Market - a one-day pop-up marketplace that is an alternative to mainstream retail. To create value to you, the consumer, Erie Arts & Culture curates a diverse selection of vendors, highlighting the quality handmade objects created by artists and artisans from throughout western Pennsylvania. This is an excellent opportunity to support small and build your community.

This year's event will be held at FEED Media Arts (1307 State St), one of the newest additions to Erie's arts ecosystem. By attending, you'll have the opportunity to both support Pennsylvania-based makers while also receiving early access to FEED.

Thank you to the Erie Downtown Partnership for their support and to PNC for their sponsorship.

STAFF



Patrick Fisher
Executive Director



Jade Mitchell
Creative Director



DaVona Pacley
*Community Outreach and
Engagement Associate*



Ethan Hayden
*Program Officer of Arts
and Learning*



Casey Corritore
*Program Officer of
Capacity Building*



Nat Richmond
Marketing Assistant

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Retired, Mercyhurst University
Term Expiration: 2023

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Erie Downtown Development
Corporation
Term Expiration: 2023

Adrecia Milsap - Secretary
Erie Insurance
Term Expiration: 2023

George Espy - Immediate Past Chair
Retired, Erie Community Foundation
Term Expiration: 2023

Bryan Timm
Organ Supply Industries
Term Expiration: 2024

Keith Kennedy
Erie Insurance
Term Expiration: 2023

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Term Expiration: 2023

Tom New
WQLN Public Broadcast
Term Expiration: 2024

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Parker Lord
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Lincoln Electric
Term Expiration: 2025

Lauren Holler
MacDonald, Illig, Jones & Britton LLP
Term Expiration: 2025

Lori Lindley, PhD
Gannon University
Term Expiration: 2025

SUPPORT

Kelly Armor
Folklorist in Residence

Linda Graff
Administrative Support Volunteer

*This report was designed
in-house by Erie Arts &
Culture's Creative Director,
Jade Mitchell.
All photographs were
taken by EAC unless
otherwise specified.
We hope you've enjoyed
learning more about our
mission and impact!*



Erie Arts & Culture

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