

2022

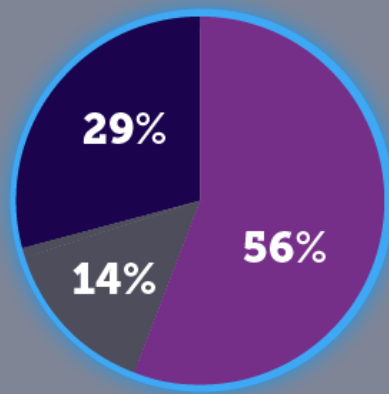
Quarter 4

**Erie Arts  
& Culture**

# IMPACT REPORT

# Financials

HERE IS HOW FUNDING WAS  
DISPERSED ACROSS ERIE ARTS  
& CULTURE'S FOUR PILLARS  
OF PROGRAMMING DURING  
Q4 OF 2022.



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

Capacity Building  
**\$267,575.19**

Arts in Lifelong Learning  
**\$65,899.37**

Placemaking  
**\$139,281.85**

## Honoring 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.

## Q4 Stats

5

We hosted 5 educational, networking, and training events. (In-person and virtual.)

200

We provided learning and other opportunities to 200 individuals through these events.

20

We promoted 20 opportunities for artists on our Resource webpage.

205

Our team spent a total of 205 hours providing 1:1 guidance to organizations and individuals.

1:1

GUIDANCE

# Celebrating EAC's Creative Team



## Nat Richmond Marketing Assistant

Nat assists with creative storytelling and sector-wide event promotion. In 2022, Nat interviewed 31 artists as part of EAC's Friday Features series.

Nat is a musician, world-traveler, writer, and lover of art.



## Jade Mitchell Creative Director

Jade leads EAC's branding and is responsible for our visual storytelling through marketing collateral. Jade leads the digital campaigns for our grant opportunities as well as our programming, fundraising, and events. Jade is proud of designing these quarterly Impact Reports in particular.

Jade is a graphic designer, illustrator, marketer, and acts on the stages of Erie's community theaters.



We distributed  
**\$16,000**  
to the '22 - '23  
**Entry to Program  
Stream**

*Grantees*

And



**\$63,000**  
to the '22 - '23  
**Program Stream**

*Grantees*

## **PENNSYLVANIA PARTNER IN THE ARTS GRANTS**

Erie Arts & Culture is a regranting partner for the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts (PCA) through the Pennsylvania Partner in the Arts (PPA) program. Through the 2022-2023 cycle of the PPA's Entry to Program Stream and Program Stream grants, Erie Arts & Culture awarded \$79,000 to 29 organizations across its 6-county service region. These funds support arts and culture organizations and arts programs whose mission include leveraging the power of the arts and humanities to positively impact the region through creative and cultural programs.

### **Entry to Program Stream 2022-2023 Grantees**

The point of entry for organizations and programs to Program Stream, Entry to Program Stream is a \$2,000 grant that supports eligible organizations and arts programs with at least one year of consistent arts and/or cultural programming.

### **Program Stream 2022-2023 Grantees**

The PPA Program Stream provides \$3,000 grants to support arts organizations and arts programs that conduct ongoing arts activities. Applicants were invited by the PCA to apply to Program Stream.

**Visit our blog for a list of recipients and descriptions of their work.**

# Northwestern PA ARTS RECOVERY GRANTS

Erie Arts  
& Culture

We awarded **6** artists  
**\$14,000**  
and awarded **7** orgs  
**\$32,419**



Jessie Simmons led a sculpture workshop at ECAT's summer program during which students collaboratively created an outdoor sculpture which could be used as a way-finding marker, and will be installed in the spring. Students also created clay pieces which were displayed at December's Student Art Exhibition at ECAT.



## *Celebrating Creative Connections* **FORGED AT THE CREATIVE CROWD**

In 2022, EAC facilitated 11 Creative Crowd meet ups! These monthly meet-ups provide a friendly and casual space to foster stronger personal and professional connections within the creative and cultural sector. Many individuals and host sites were pleased with the turnout and connections forged at the Creative Crowd. We invite you to read the three testimonials below, and please join us for a Creative Crowd meet-up if you haven't already! We thank Brian and Linda Graff and PNC for their financial support of the Creative Crowd in 2022 and PNC for renewing their support in 2023.



## We awarded Fellowships to 3 artists.

**EMERGING** *Niecey Nicole Davis*   **MID CAREER** *Eric Anthony Berdis*   **ESTABLISHED** *Adam Holquist*

In 2016, Erie Arts & Culture saw a need to provide artists with unrestricted grant funding that could be used to assist them in their pursuit of artistic development and professional growth.

This year, four independent panels reviewed a pool of 50 applications. The applicants to this year's Fellowship showcased the breadth of diversity in artistic disciplines, career trajectories, and lived experiences among artists in Erie County. The panels were composed of practicing artists, professors, and arts administrators from across the nation.

Erie Arts & Culture awards Fellowship grants to three artists across three career categories; emerging, mid-career, and established.

Each category provides a cash award of \$2,000, \$3,500, and \$5,500, respectively.

Funding for the Artist Fellowship comes from the Lydia McCain Fund, which was established in 1995 as the first unrestricted contribution to the Erie Arts Endowment. Lydia McBrier McCain was an active member of the Erie community and staunchly served and supported arts and civic organizations and practicing artists in Erie County. A painter and jewelry maker herself, Lydia's commitment to the arts ensured that both artists and arts organizations with a strong vision had the chance to reach their full potential.



## Catch up with 2022's Artist Fellows

Our 2022 Artist fellows were hard at work last year creating beautiful pieces and experimenting with new mediums.

We've recapped the incredible work of Emerging Artist, Britty Lea, and Established Artist, Passle Helminski in our blog posts below.



# 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.

## Q4 Stats

**\$22,350**  
in teaching artist  
stipends distributed

7

Total Teaching  
Artist Residencies

6

Unique disciplines  
taught

197

Total number of  
individuals directly  
served

7

Artists provided with  
paid opportunities



*Alex Staley*

### SHOE DESIGN AND BRANDING AT EDISON ELEMENTARY

Alex Staley is a clothing designer, digital artist, and musician. Last summer, he joined EAC's teaching artist roster and recently completed his first residency at Edison Elementary School - a school he formerly attended as a student.

In this residency, Alex guided the students through the process of shoe design and each student created art that was printed on blank footwear, which was theirs to keep at the end of the program.



• ROSTERED •

TEACHING  
ARTIST



# Regional IN SERVICE DAY SUCCESS

**88 PARTICIPANTS**  
(45 ART TEACHERS, 43 MUSIC TEACHERS)

**9 SESSIONS**

**11 SESSION LEADERS**  
(5 OF WHOM WERE EAC TEACHING ARTISTS)

Last October, Erie Arts & Culture collaborated with the Erie Art Museum and the Erie Philharmonic to host the 2022 Regional Common In-Service (RCIS) day for art and music educators. RCIS is an opportunity for educators across Erie County to take a day off from their teaching duties and engage in professional development activities for which they receive Act 48 (state-required continuing education) credits. This year's event was the first EAC has co-presented since the pandemic, and offered five Act 48 hours to educators at no charge. Revitalizing the event is part of EAC's larger mission of building the capacity of arts educators in its service region.

The event provided an opportunity for art and music educators to network, socialize, and develop and reinforce skills to expand their teaching toolbox.

EAC and its collaborators are excited to build on the success of the program, using participants' insights to expand on the program next Fall. The region is fortunate to have such committed arts and music educators, as well as their partners in spaces like the Erie Art Museum, the Erie Philharmonic, and Grounded Printshop who are so enthusiastic about building educators' capacity and sharing resources to benefit students across the county.

# 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

## Q4 Stats

Connected with

**20**

DIFFERENT CULTURES

**8**

*Paid Opportunities*

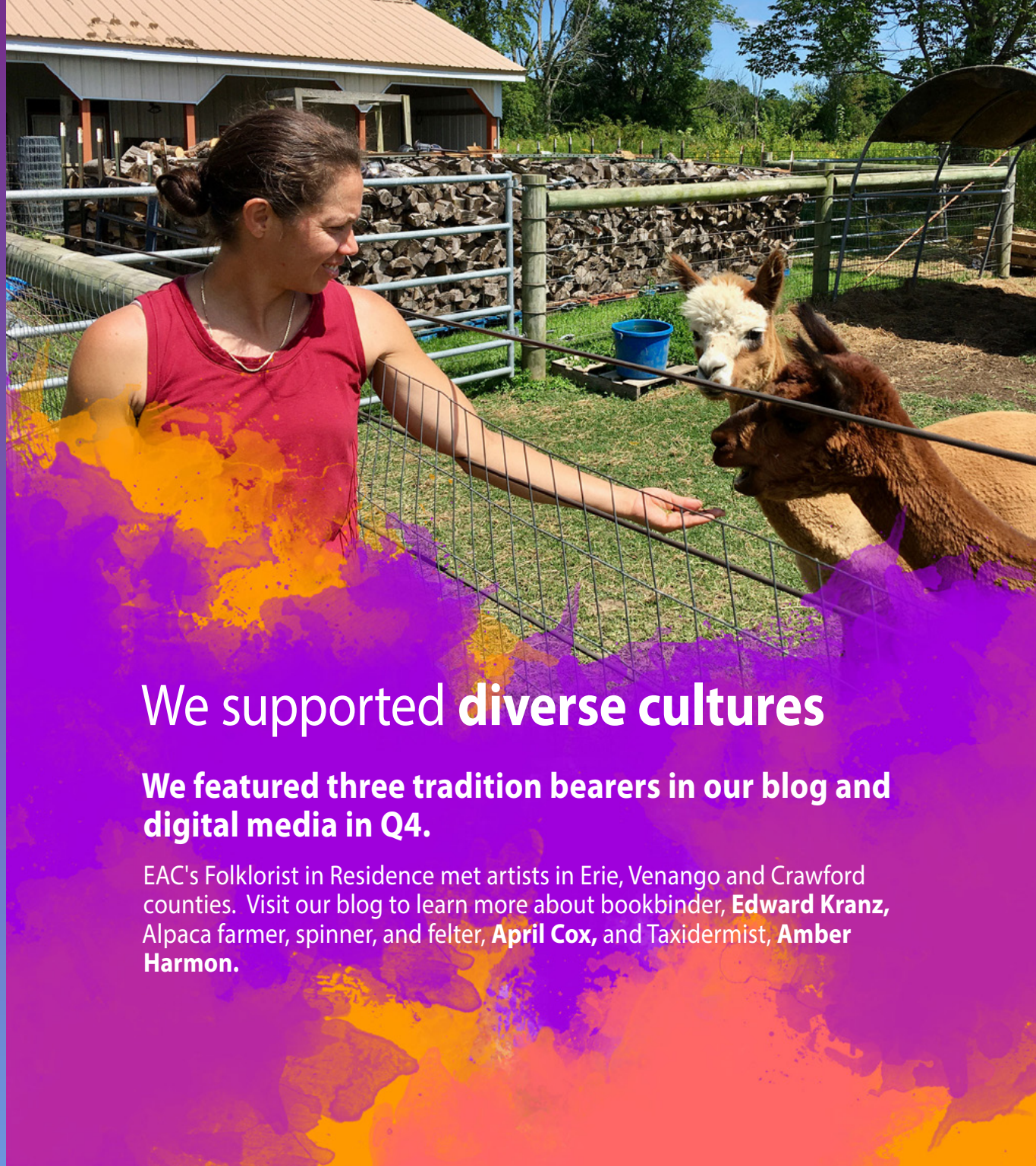
Awarded to Folk Artists

**1:1**

**GUIDANCE**

**20 HOURS**

Our Folklorist in Residence dedicated 20 hours to consulting and referrals with 8 tradition bearers and 10 organizations.



## We supported **diverse cultures**

### We featured three tradition bearers in our blog and digital media in Q4.

EAC's Folklorist in Residence met artists in Erie, Venango and Crawford counties. Visit our blog to learn more about bookbinder, **Edward Kranz**, Alpaca farmer, spinner, and felter, **April Cox**, and Taxidermist, **Amber Harmon**.



## The National Endowment for the Arts approved Erie Arts & Culture for a grant of **\$10,000**

This award will support capacity building for New American folk artists. This grant is one of 1,251 awards recently announced by the NEA, and EAC's fourth NEA grant in the past four years.

*News!*

## Pennsylvania Council on the Arts Recognizes Erie Folk Artists with Grants

Two Erie Artists gained recognition from the Pennsylvania Council on the Art last fall. They were both awarded a prestigious Folk Arts Apprenticeship grant to spend a year passing their tradition down to an apprentice. Charles Elliott, a master at chair seatweaving traditions and owner of a furniture restoring shop called TaleWeaver, will steep a trusted shop assistant with his techniques. David Kambowa, a composer and musician, is mentoring Jackson Kabarole, another Congolese man, in playing and leading African Pentecostal Gospel music. This is his second year with Kabarole and he says, "Our apprenticeship has made our African community stronger and prouder. This apprenticeship is growing new musical leaders."

# 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.



# Be a part of Erie's first street art festival

**VIEWS:**  
a festival celebrating and promoting urban art and culture  
**JUNE 1 - 13**

You can be a part of Erie's evolving visual landscape by partnering with Erie Arts & Culture as a part of Purposeful Placemaking. Through this initiative, Erie Arts & Culture aims to create 50 new murals along the identified routes that are the safest for students to use when walking to and from school. These routes have been mapped by the United Way of Erie County in collaboration with the City of Erie, Gannon University, and the Blue Coats. Erie Arts & Culture created 13 murals in 2022 and will create 37 murals in 2023.

## **BENEFITS OF MURALS IN A NEIGHBORHOOD**

**Beautification** - Murals beautify what may otherwise be basic or unsightly walls. Bold colors and creative designs can increase the happiness of community members and visitors.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT** - Murals are a great way for a business to give back to the neighborhood and community that have supported them over the years. They can be conversation starters, allowing business owners the opportunity to get to know their customers and neighbors on a more personal level.

**SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT** - Murals are often destinations for arts appreciators and are heavily photographed and shared on social media. Murals can become the backdrops to senior portraits, corporate headshots, and engagement/wedding photos. Geotags can lead individuals directly to your building and business.

**BUSINESS AWARENESS** - Murals can raise the profile of a building and any business that inhabits the building. Awareness increases at the street level while also increasing online due to social media, geotagging, and digital mapping.

**DETER VANDALISM** - Tagging most often occurs on large, blank walls. Turning a blank wall into a community asset can help deter vandalism. Vandalism can be further thwarted by adding an anti-graffiti clear coat after a mural is complete.

**SLOW THE PACE OF TRAFFIC** - Murals can slow people down as they take time to admire and appreciate their surroundings.

**JOY AND PRIDE** - Murals can bring joy to those who pass them as part of their daily experience. Murals can contribute to creating an atmosphere where people want to visit, live in, and take care of.

**Do you own a building along an identified walking route that you're willing to consider being the site of Erie's next work of art? Contact Erie Arts & Culture today at 814-452-3427. Visit our website for a map of the Safer Routes to Schools.**



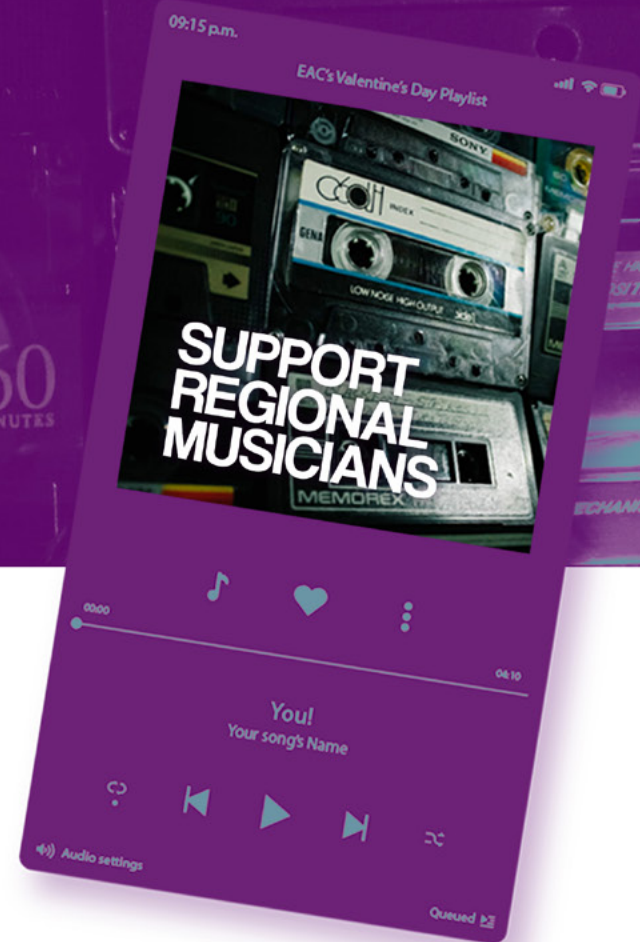
Erie Arts & Culture

# VALENTINE'S DAY playlist

Support our regional musicians:  
**Listen to and share the Valentine's Day  
playlist with your friends**

Erie Arts & Culture created a collaborative playlist featuring 19 regional musicians! We invite you to listen to the playlist and support the work of some of Erie's most talented music makers.

From experimental lo-fi to jazz, there is something for everyone.



# CONGRATULATIONS

## to the **Appreciation Award Recipients!**



DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND  
INCLUSION AWARD  
**City Gallery (Stephen Trohoske  
and Lena Logvina)**



LEADERSHIP AWARD  
**Erie County Redevelopment  
Authority (Tina Mengine)**



APPLAUSE AWARD  
**Zach Flock**



BRUCE MORTON WRIGHT  
ARTIST OF THE YEAR AWARD  
**Sue Amendolara**



CARLA HUGHES  
ART EDUCATOR AWARD  
**Lourdes Jasso**

For more than three decades, the Arts and Culture Appreciation Awards have recognized and honored those individuals, businesses, and organizations who use arts-based disciplines or deliver cultural programming to positively impact the Erie community. Each year EAC commissions an artist to make original artwork for the recipients. This year's commissioned artist is Kaersten Colvin-Woodruff.

Join us in recognizing and celebrating community members for their support and contribution to the creative and cultural sector. We will celebrate this year's community award recipients at the Creative Crowd event on Feb 14 from 5:30 - 7:30 PM at GROUNDED Printshop. Come out to meet the awardees and other creative professionals!



Erie Arts  
& Culture

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

During Patrick Fisher's time as Executive Director  
(2018 – present)

Erie Arts & Culture entered into an ambitious five-year strategic plan.

Staff developed and implemented a sequenced action plan that reflected the agency's strategic priorities, goals, and objectives.

The agency developed and implemented a case for support to raise the funds necessary to advance the agency's strategic priorities, goals, and objectives.

In 2022, Erie Arts & Culture was honored with a Non-Profit Excellence award for the agency's work to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion, in both the sector and the community at large. The same year, EAC also received a similar state-level award for our work honoring diverse cultures.

# THANK YOU, PATRICK!

Patrick Fisher announced in November's Board meeting his intention to step down as Executive Director of Erie Arts & Culture. His last day will be April 28, 2023. We thank Patrick for his years of service and tireless dedication to advancing the arts and culture of our region. We invite you to read about EAC's Accomplishments from 2018 to present.

Erie Arts & Culture is currently in the search process for the next Executive Director. Please visit the link below for more details.

# 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*

# BOARD

**Tauna Hunter - Chair**  
Retired, Mercyhurst University  
Term Expiration: 2023

**Paula Gregory - Treasurer**  
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

**Jonathan Riley**  
ErieBank  
Term Expiration: 2023

**Tom New**  
WQLN Public Broadcast  
Term Expiration: 2024

**Tim Palochak**  
Lamar Advertising  
Term Expiration: 2022

**Mona Kang, PhD**  
Physician  
Term Expiration: 2022

**Peggy Laughlin**  
Parker Lord  
Term Expiration: 2023

**Michelle Butler, PhD**  
Lincoln Electric  
Term Expiration: 2025

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

**Lori Lindley, PhD**  
Gannon University  
Term Expiration: 2025

**Matthew Tolbert**  
DigitalMint  
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**

Please support the work of  
Erie Arts & Culture by making  
a charitable donation.

