

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

A LETTER FROM OUR DIRECTOR

“We want the whole enchilada – with margaritas!”

That was the resounding message the Board of Trustees delivered at our first meeting this past fiscal year. We were discussing deferred maintenance projects, needed repairs and upgrades, goals for the future, and how to fund it all. We could take it slow, approach it as an ala carte menu at a restaurant and see how far we could get. Or, we could explore a capital campaign, a terrifying concept during Covid uncertainty.

We wanted it all. We are living in our future’s past. Like the saying about planting a tree under which you may never enjoy the shade. The investments, work, and conversations we have today matter in ways we can’t fully comprehend. The Art Center must be the best we can be because our community deserves no less.

The *Building Creatively* capital campaign officially kicked off on May 25, 2022. The \$1 million campaign addresses facility improvements and technology upgrades while keeping an eye on future programming opportunities to grow in ways our community needs us to grow. The support has been overwhelming. We surpassed 60% of our fundraising goal within the first 20 days of the public launch. Every donation counts, and we invite you to be part of our story by supporting *Building*

Creatively. I’d love to visit with you about how you can get involved.

In the past year, we have seen significant growth in every indicator of organizational health: membership growth, increased donations, growing education programs, and improved ticket sales at the Cinema. Our Gala was the most profitable ever. We even launched new programming, including virtual programs and tours, private art lessons, and an open studio at the Warehouse for those who need space and equipment to create independently.

Our galleries were filled with nationally recognized artists Kim Eichler-Messmer, Jovencio de la Paz, Jason Pollen, Jillian Youngbird, Karen Reimer, and Sanford Biggers. At the same time, we celebrated exceptional talent found in our backyard with artists Erin Wiersma, Shawn Marie Delker, Casey Whittier, Ghazal Ghazi, Mike Miller, Marc Berghaus, and Mark Cowardin. I’ve shared more numbers below highlighting the great work at Salina Art Center, the Cinema, and the Warehouse Education Studio.

Looking forward to 2023, we anticipate our youth Biennial exhibition continuing to grow in artist submissions and audience. The inaugural Sunflower Biennial in 2019 celebrated 57 works by 43 artists and represented 21 communities and 14

secondary and post-secondary schools across Kansas. In 2021, the exhibition grew to include 64 artists and 28 Kansas communities representing 25 secondary and post-secondary schools. It’s genuinely thrilling to see how the artistic talent of high school and college Kansans reveals what’s on their minds.

The benefit of our history is our strength and experience. When fears and anxieties dominate our thoughts (recession, the continuing pandemic, Supreme Court rulings, and social injustice), our community trusts us to challenge and inspire them through art, conversations, and movies. We will not tiptoe around any of it but boldly lead – embracing art as a catalyst for more profound thought and exploration of what it means to be human.

I look forward to so many things in the next year but mostly continuing to strengthen the relationships that connect us, finding ways to be meaningful and relevant to our community, and sharing laughter and all the moments that reveal life.

I appreciate your support,

Misty Serene
Executive Director
Salina Art Center, Inc.

BY THE NUMBERS (MAY 2021 - MAY 2022):

- 2,598 children, youth, and adults participated in classes at the Warehouse Education Studio (1,147 last year)
- 3,873 tickets were sold to the Art Center Cinema (1,909 last year)
- 4,338 visitors to the Art Center galleries (this doesn't include our growing virtual audience) (2,247 last year)
- 50 artist talks, Cinema talks, Lunch & Learns, and special events were offered this year (56 last year)
- 13 visiting artists (6 last year)
- 16 different teaching artists worked to provide classes
- \$76,587 was raised during the annual Gala
- NEW! 1,145 unique individuals participated in an online tour or event
- NEW! 388 people used "Open Studio" at the Warehouse to work independently as creators
- NEW! 101 hours of private art lessons were taught at the Warehouse.



Financial Position through April 30, 2022

Operating Assets	
Total Current Assets	196,872
Other Assets	1,722,921
Total Assets	1,919,793
Liabilities & Equity	
Liabilities	11,130
Equity	1,908,663
Total Liabilities & Equity	1,919,793

Financial Position through April 30, 2021

Operating Assets	
Total Current Assets	336,654
Other Assets	1,125,633
Total Assets	1,593,387
Liabilities & Equity	
Liabilities	78,856
Equity	1,514,531
Total Liabilities & Equity	1,593,387

Where Art Center dollars come from and where they go:

Income through April 2022



Expenses through April 2022

