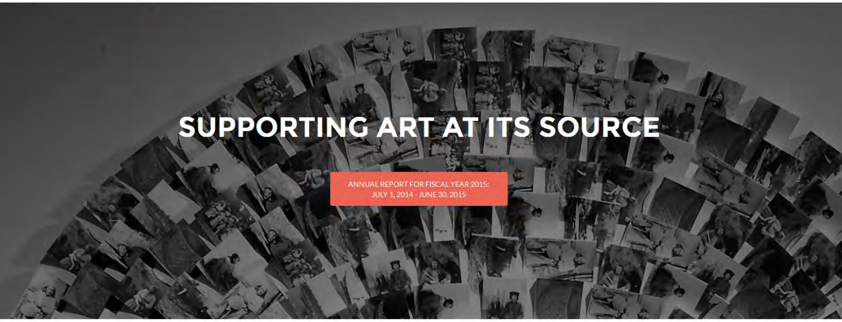


SUPPORTING ART AT ITS SOURCE

ANNUAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015:
JULY 1, 2014 - JUNE 30, 2015

ARTIST TRUST IN 2015

A Letter from Our Board President

STEPHANIE ELLIS-SMITH

Board President

After so many years, do you still recognize Artist Trust? After all, it's been nearly 30 years since we were founded and we, like the world around us, have changed. Thirty years ago, there was no Internet, the Soviet Union existed, there was street parking in downtown Seattle and Adele wouldn't be born for another three years.

While our transformations haven't been so dramatic, Artist Trust has always kept up with the times—and now more than ever.

The biggest news this year was the hiring of our new Executive Director Shannon Halberstadt. Shannon joined the organization with a commitment to the mission and programs Artist Trust is known for, but also with a fresh eye for the future. Under her leadership, the board is guiding the organization through a strategic planning process that thoroughly examines our past and wisely assesses our needs for the future.

Our goal is to ensure that the Artist Trust you read about this time next year is an organization fully equipped to adapt to the myriad changes we will face in the years to come.

Even while we were busy hiring our new executive and readying the organization for new leadership, Artist Trust still had a stellar year. From the historic success of our annual Art Auction to our role as beneficiary at the Seattle Art Fair, we had many reasons to celebrate.

As you click through this Annual Report, you will see each milestone laid out beautifully and graphically. I encourage you to spend some time with it and share it with friends. Artist Trust is truly a state treasure that has a remarkable impact with its relatively small budget.

We couldn't do what we do without the makers in our state. You who write, compose, dance, weave or draw are what make Artist Trust great. Your energy and creativity are what motivates us every day.

Similarly, we salute arts patrons who are the enablers, the audience and donors who make great art come to fruition. It's a privilege to bring patrons and artists together to create such a vital cultural community in Washington State. On behalf of all of us at Artist Trust, I thank you for your continued support in this our 30th year.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Ellis-Smith

Board President, Artist Trust

A Letter from Our Executive Director

SHANNON HALBERSTADT

Executive Director

Since taking the helm as Artist Trust's Executive Director last October, I couldn't have asked for a more exciting first year. 2015 has been amazing for Artist Trust. 120,000 individuals benefitted from Artist Trust programs and services (compared to 116,000 last year).

Artist Trust granted nearly $300k in grants to 83 individual artists. We added a brand new grant – the Gar LaSalle Storyteller Award, initiated a new partnership with Cornish College of the Arts to deliver EDGE curriculum to all visual arts students and saw collaborations like ARTISTS UP and Artist Trust/Frye Museum Consortium's James W. Ray Awards flourish.

Our Creative Career Center offered professional training programs to 387 artists in 22 counties (which means we had feet on the ground in more than half the counties in Washington State this year!). The Artist Trust community has much to celebrate!

And we are deeply grateful to continue strong relationships with our funders, members and generous individual donors. Last year over $500,000 was contributed at Artist Trust's annual Benefit Art Auction – a record-breaking amount. We were the beneficiary for the incredibly successful inaugural Seattle Art Fair – which invigorated the art scene in Seattle and helped raise over $85,000 for Artist Trust. Because of Seattle Art Fair's gift, we've been able to almost completely fund the Grants for Artist Projects (GAP) this year – which will free up resources for Artist Trust to celebrate individual artists in a series of showcases and networking events statewide during our 30th anniversary in 2016.

As we head into the next year, Artist Trust will be celebrating thirty years of supporting individual artists in Washington State. And, as we head into our 30th year, we're also working with communities statewide to envision the future of Artist Trust.

We are striving to cultivate equity and diversity in our grants and programs – by expanding our geographical presence, reaching out to diverse communities, and finding new ways to serve artists of all disciplines across the state.

We've assembled a rock star staff and leadership team, starting with the hire of Brian McGuigan as Program Director, and continuing with the recent hire of Kristina Goetz as our new Development Director. We've hired an Artist Liaison to reach out to diverse communities in Washington and find new, exciting partnerships. We're poised for a phenomenal 2016.

Please read on to get a sense of all we've accomplished this year. And please join us in helping support artists in Washington State –donate, become a member, or sign up for our newsletter to stay in the loop.

Thank you for your support of Artist Trust. We are strong because of you.

Sincerely,

Shannon Halberstadt

Executive Director, Artist Trust

WE'RE ARTIST TRUST

We support individual artists in all disciplines across Washington State through grants, programs, and direct support.

> Since its founding in 1986, Artist Trust has invested over $10 million in Washington State artists.

Here at Artist Trust, we support art at its source – the individual artist who creates, provokes, and inspires.

We believe that artists should have the time, money, resources and community that they need to create, and we strive to support artists of all disciplines and career levels in Washington State.

We do this because we believe that an investment in the individual artist is an investment in the future strength and health of our communities – because art has the power to provide beauty, enrich lives, and create change.

Through our grants and programs, Artist Trust empowers artists to find their voice, grow their careers, and build a stronger practice.

But our influence spreads even farther than that – in 2015 over 1,200 Washington State artists participated in 94 Artist Trust professional workshops, grant programs, and public events.

Our website attracted over 100,000 users this year, more than half from Washington State, seeking out information on statewide arts events, opportunities like residencies and jobs, and other valuable resources.

Please take a moment to explore our various grants, career training programs, opportunities, and resources on our website – we hope you'll find something useful!

Grants

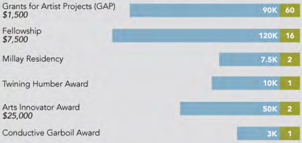
Programs

Opportunities

Resources

2015 BY THE NUMBERS

We've created a range of funding opportunities...



$291,628

Total Amount Awarded

83

Grants Awarded

The James W. Ray Distinguished Artist Award, James W. Ray Venture Project Awards, and Gar La Salle Storyteller Award recipients will be announced in December, 2015.

across a variety of disciplines.

Visual **Literary** **Performance** **Media** **Emerging fields/ cross-disciplinary** **Traditional/folk**

Programs

Artist Trust At Large:

Free one-hour presentations on programs and services for artists, offered across Washington State.

Locations/by city:

Battle Ground
Bellingham
Everett
La Conner
Moses Lake
Pasco
Port Townsend
Pullman
Richland
Seattle
Shelton
Tacoma
Uniontown
Vancouver
Vashon
Walla Walla
Wenatchee
Whidbey Island

18 **Total Events**

256 **Total Participants**

Locations/By County:

Chelan
Benton
Clark
Franklin
Grant
Island
Jefferson
King
Mason
Pierce
Skagit
Snohomish
Walla Walla
Whatcom
Whitman

I Am An Artist:

This two-day, intensive weekend symposium enables artists to jumpstart or refresh their creative career with essential resources, funding opportunities, peer-to-peer evaluation, networking and hands-on feedback.

Locations/by city:

Bellingham
Cornish
Leavenworth
Seattle
Vancouver
Walla Walla

Locations/By County:

Chelan
Clark
King
Walla Walla
Whatcom

6 **Total Events**

124 **Total Participants**

Programs

Edge Program:

The highly-acclaimed, immersive EDGE Program is a 50-hour comprehensive survey of professional arts practices offered through a hands-on, interactive curriculum that includes instruction by professionals in the field, specialized presentations, panel discussions and assignments.

3 **Total Events**

47 **Total Participants**

Locations/by city:

Seattle
Port Townsend

Other Events/Programs

ARTISTS UP

ARTISTS UP is a collaborative effort by three funding agencies [4Culture, Seattle Office of Arts & Culture and Artist Trust] to improve and expand capacity and networks for diverse artists in Seattle, King County and Washington State.

8 **Total Events**

395 **Total Participants**

Meet the Artist:

Fellowship recipients present a Meet the Artist event to a community in Washington State that has little or no access to art or the artist's work.

16 **Total Events**

587 **Total Participants**

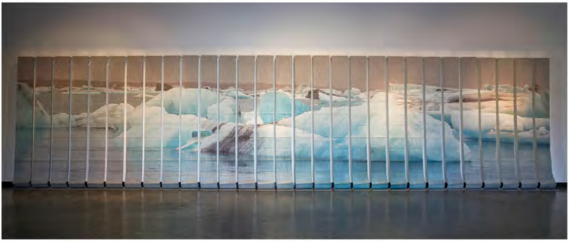
Locations/By County:

Clallam
King
Kitsap
Klickitat
Pacific
Pierce
Skagit
Snohomish
Spokane
Thurston
Whatcom
Whitman

AWARD-WINNING ARTISTS

Talk About Artist Trust

Read about what some of the emerging and established musicians, visual artists, writers, dancers, craft artists, filmmakers and cross-disciplinary artists that we support have to say about their Artist Trust grant, and get a glimpse of their work!



NICOLE PIETRANTONI

Visual Artist

"The award not only recognizes and validates the work I have already created, but quite literally invests in my vision and future as an artist. The Artist Trust Fellowship acknowledges that artists need time, space, and funding to make their artistic work a reality."

-Nicole Pietrantoni, 2015 Fellowship recipient

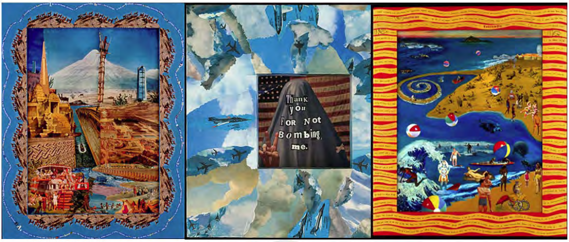
I gave you another chance and you lied again

RODRIGO VALENZUELA

Visual/Multimedia Artist

"The Arts Innovator Award will allow me to further my career and free myself from current economic restrictions. The award will finance my upcoming solo shows at the Frye Art museum in Seattle, the Museum of Contemporary Art in Santiago, Chile, UPFOR Gallery in Portland, and Roy G Biv Gallery in Columbus, Ohio. I will do my best to make Artist Trust and the Seattle art community proud of their support and commitment to my career."

- Rodrigo Valenzuela, 2014 Arts Innovator Award


Thank you For Not Bombing me.

DEBORAH LAWRENCE

Visual Artist

"The Twining Humber Award was a gigantic surprise, and a real vote of confidence from the community of artist-elders I admire. I hadn't really thought of myself as a member of that illustrious group! I'm humbled and grateful."

-Deborah Lawrence, 2015 Twining Humber Award

A RECORD-BREAKING YEAR

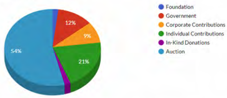
Artist Trust's programs are made possible through the generous support of individuals, corporations, foundations, and government funding entities that partner in our mission to support art at its source.

Over $550,000 was raised at the annual Artist Trust Benefit Art Auction, made possible by a generous challenge match donation by the Klorfine Foundation, and corporate support from Vulcan and Boeing.

Our participation in Seattle Foundation's GiveBIG was more successful than ever, increasing by 53% over the previous year.

ArtsFund increased their annual operations support, and we continued to receive strong government funding from 4Culture, ArtsWA, National Endowment for the Arts, and Seattle Office of Arts & Culture, showing solid local, regional, and national commitment to the work we do for artists.

FY2015 Contributed Income By Source



Thanks for Your Support!

WHO WE ARE

Meet our staff, board, and supporters for fiscal year 2015

artist | TRUST
SUPPORTING ART AT ITS SOURCE

STAFF

artist | TRUST
SUPPORTING ART AT ITS SOURCE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FY 2015

artist | TRUST
SUPPORTING ART AT ITS SOURCE

SUPPORTERS FY 2015

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SUPPORTING ART AT ITS SOURCE

BECOME A MEMBER

FEDERAL TAX DISCLOSURES

CLICK HERE

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