2020-2021 ANNUAL REPORT



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From the President and CEO

It was guite a year, wasn't it? We were nearing the end of the 2019–2020 fiscal year when the world shut down. Everyone left the building around midday on March 16, 2020, and we didn't know if we'd ever be coming back. All we knew for certain was that we all - working from home - had to do everything we could to ensure that the Arvada Center could somehow find a way to keep going. We cancelled five theatre productions and multiple other events and classes, which meant we'd be issuing refunds - probably hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth. And there would be much more lost revenue from patrons who hadn't bought their tickets yet. How would we be able to make payroll? How would we pay our bills? How could we keep our many loyal patrons engaged, so they would be back when it was all over? The future seemed very bleak indeed.

And yet, here we are. We made it. We found ways to keep going. We offered streaming plays, concerts, and education programs. We managed to reopen our galleries and hold some classes in person. We created an entirely new outdoor concert series. And in the last quarter of the fiscal year, we did something that none of our peers in the region were able to do - we mounted a fully-produced play and musical, under our standard union contract, for in-person audiences. All of this was possible because of the talents and dedication of our incredible employees, the generosity of our donors, the guidance of our Board of Directors, and the help of government at all levels - especially the federal government.

The 2019–2020 fiscal year ended about three months after the pandemic began, with a loss of \$1.3 million. Fortunately, we had a reserve fund which covered a portion of that, and we had positive cash flow throughout. Many generous patrons gave us an immediate boost by not asking for refunds – they donated the amount of their tickets back to us. Then Congress passed the first of several relief measures, resulting in our initial Paycheck Protection Program loan, of just more than \$1 million. By the time we finished the 2020-2021 fiscal year, we had received - or been awarded - \$4.4 million in government assistance. This covered the loss from 2019-2020, and allowed us to keep employees on the job and creating art throughout this past year. Without this



45 years.

help from Washington, we would've lost at least another million dollars, or been forced to lay off much of our workforce. This generous assistance is still being used in the current fiscal year, allowing us to return to nearnormal operations without a loss.

We also used this past year to fully commit to the initiative we call IDEA for Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access. Like so many entities around the world, we recognized the urgency of the moment, and stepped up our efforts to evolve into a truly diverse and inclusive organization, where everyone will feel welcome and where many voices can be heard. That journey is a long one, and we've just begun - but we're proud of the steps we've taken so far, and we look forward to meeting the challenge of this time and embracing the many diverse communities of our world.

If you're reading this, you are probably among the many who provided valuable support, of one kind or another, over the course of this past year or so. I want to extend to all of you my deepest gratitude for your role in seeing us through this very challenging time – we needed you more than ever, and you came through for us. Now, we are here for you - continuing to fulfill our mission in ways both old and new, and serving the community as we have for the past 45 years. Thank you, truly, from the very bottom of our hearts.

With respect and gratitude,

hep C. Sent

Philip C. Sneed President and CEO

Program Areas and Accomplishments

IN-PERSON THEATRE

Bess Wohl's **Small Mouth Sounds**

Since the Arvada Center closed on Opening Night of this Black Box play in March 2020 due to the pandemic, we moved it to the Main Stage Theatre to practice safe social distancing.

Colin Escott and Floyd Mutrux's *Million Dollar Quartet*

Originally planned for the Main Stage Theatre, we moved it to our Outdoor Amphitheatre to practice safe social distancing.

VIRTUAL THEATRE Radio Play Series

Susan Glaspell's **Trifles** Bram Stoker's **Dracula** Dylan Thomas's **A Child's Christmas in Wales** F. Scott Fitzgerald's **The Great Gatsby**

Jessica Austgen's *The Family Tree: A Virtual Holiday Comedy* World Premiere, specially commissioned by the Arvada Center

Stories and Songs to Celebrate the Season

in collaboration with Kwanzaa Committee of Denver, Chabad of NW Metro

Jonathan Tolins's **Buyer and Cellar**

Jessica Austgen's **Christie Con** World Premiere, specially commissioned by the Arvada Center

Our Favorite Things: A Musical Theatre Retrospective

2020 True West award for Stage Manager Christine Moore

Our

ac GALLERIES



GALLERIES AND EXHIBITIONS

2020-2021 EXHIBITIONS

Pink Progression: Collaborations, Narkita Gold: Black in Denver, Wood.Works, Carley Warren: Three Pieces, Viral Influence: Art in the Time of the Coronavirus, Brady Smith: (Don't be embarrassed by) Your Trouble With Living, Melody Epperson: 100+1 Women & the Vote

2020-2021 SPECIAL EVENTS

AC Online Fine Art Market (held virtually for the first time)

Pink Progression Poetry Reading Pink Progression Artist Talks Due to the spread of COVID-19, our Galleries department implemented a new reservation system so that we would be able to track how many attendees we had in the galleries at a given time. This has allowed us to count how many people visit our free galleries for the first time ever, and total attendance for 2020–2021 was 22,770

EDUCATION

With extensive educational offerings in dance, drama, ceramics, humanities, music and visual arts, the Arvada Center provides learning opportunities for aspiring artists of all ages, including programs like ArtStart for preschoolers, and Arts for Ageless Adults designed to provide inspiration to creative spirits age 55 and older. In light of the pandemic, the Education department spent the year restructuring all of our programs. We looked at each of our programs and found ways to safely hold classes, rehearsals and other educational opportunities that allowed our students to continue to connect, create and learn which seemed vital in this year more than any other. The Center's classes, summer camps, and professional training level programs served 7,000 students in 2020–2021.

EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS

The Arvada Center Ceramics studio was able to expand to allow for social distancing and was able to reopen for in-person ceramics classes in the Summer of 2020. In the fiscal year of 2020–2021, the ceramics studio had 1,287 adult students attend weekly classes.





ARVADA CENTER DANCE THEATRE/ DANCE ACADEMY

The Arvada Center has offered quality dance instruction for four decades in ballet, jazz, tap, modern and hip-hop, and is responsible for training countless dancers that have gone on to receive college scholarships and perform in professional dance companies. Despite the pandemic, the Dance Academy mounted two beautiful spring concerts. The Ballet division produced its first full-length classical ballet, *Sleeping Beauty*, with a newly created whimsical second movement so that our youngest dancers could be part of the ballet. The Jazz Dance Concert was titled *The Flip Side*, and the teachers used all music that was either from side B of well-known artists, or artists that are lesser known. We ran a full dance schedule all year, and our dance parents were grateful that their children had a safe place to take dance classes with their friends and teachers.

SUMMER CAMPS

In June of 2021, we successfully resumed in-person summer camps while also offering a variety of virtual camps in order to reach families in whatever format was most comfortable for them. With many safety protocols in place, students could once again take camps in ceramics, drama, dance, digital arts, music, and visual arts. Families let us know how grateful they were that we prioritized the health and safety of our staff, instructors, students and families and several of them chose to enroll their children in our summer camp programming because of our commitment to safety. With reduced camp sizes, many of our camps, especially our full-day packages, filled up right away. In addition, through our virtual programming we were able to offer humanities, music, and visual arts camps. Education staff put together packs of art supplies that were distributed to campers in our visual arts camps, so that they could fully participate and keep creating long after their camp session had ended.

TEEN INTENSIVE

The Arvada Center Theatre Academy offers students from beginning to advanced year-round training so that they can develop skills and knowledge in all areas of theatre arts. Training typically culminates each summer in fully-staged drama camps, ranging three to five weeks. The only in-person summer camp we held in the summer of 2020 was the Teen Intensive production of *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*. For health and safety reasons, rehearsals and performances were held in the Outdoor Amphitheatre, and the 29 teen actors wore masks and kept physically-distanced throughout the entire process.



FRONT RANGE YOUTH SYMPHONY

The Arvada Center's Front Range Youth Symphony Orchestras (FRYS) bring together young musicians from across Colorado's Front Range for unique study and training in orchestral music. Last year, FRYS enrolled 94 students and performed three live concerts that were also live streamed for viewers at home to watch.

2020–2021 performances were *Fall Flourish, Winter Wonders,* and *Spring Celebrations*. Each concert was performed for two nights instead of one to allow us to safely distance the audience members. We also implemented our third annual Teacher of the Year award, with Cameron Gelak of Mandalay Middle School winning for this past year.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

In the spring of 2021, we offered a series of virtual outreach programs for schools, homeschool groups, scout troops, and afterschool programs serving a total of approximately 170 students across Colorado. For about half of those virtual outreach programs, we provided supply kits to be picked up at the Arvada Center. One of our favorite outreaches was a series of three Kandinsky Collage workshops for three hybrid-learning kindergarten classrooms at Boulder Country Day — it was so much fun to see the different, unique approaches that each classroom took to creating their pieces!

In June 2021 we were able to return to in-person outreach programs serving summer camps, community groups, and daycare facilities. We brought dance, music, theatre, and visual arts workshops to just under 275 students in the Denver metro area. These included several ongoing partnerships with Denver YMCA, Highlands Academy, and KinderCare.



ART KITS FOR SENIORS

In fall 2020 through winter of 2021, Education staff developed an assortment of 107 visual art kits that contained all of the supplies as well as printed step-by-step instructions for individuals to create their own work of art. Ranging from watercolor landscapes to abstract printmaking, these kits were delivered to individuals in nine different senior care communities in Jefferson County and the Denver metro area. These kits were created with support from AARP as a way to help those in senior care communities combat the loneliness and isolation brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. Here are some quotes from some of the facilities that received the kits:

Joy Regellin

Activity Director, The Gardens at St. Elizabeth "We're very excited that they are coming. Thank you for all your hard work in putting the kits together!"

Jenn Rav Wellness Director, Mountain Vista Senior Living "These are awesome. So exciting. Thank you sooo much!"

Verla Wright Administrator, The Verandas at Wheat Ridge "Our Residents are going to love these."

Jennifer Johnson Assisted Living Life Enrichment Director, Village at Belmar "Thanks for doing this! It is awesome and I know my residents will love it!"

Yesterado: A Story of Colorado

When it Was Young is a school outreach production that we began to develop in 2019. The plan was to produce the hour-long play and tour it to schools, along with a companion study guide and workshop. The advent of COVID-19 brought that plan to a grinding halt. Rather than scrap the whole idea, we decided to adjust our live production plan and instead direct our attention to producing a video version. Out of that need to shift came Yesterado: A Colorado Comedy-History-Motion-Picture Invention. During the winter of 2020-21 the live version of the script was rewritten, rehearsed and professionally filmed and edited. In March 2021, the completed video was offered to schools for free, bringing theatre and history into the classroom since they could not come to us. The film version was well-received and distributed for viewing to almost 100 groups. The production of Yesterado was made possible through funding from The Genesee Mountain Foundation, the Bowen Family Performing Arts Fund, MDU Resources, Rollie R. Kelley Family Foundation, and The Virginia W. Hill Foundation.



GRAND SHOW

MUSIC AND DANCE FRONT PORCH SERIES

Pierce Murphy Trio, John Statz, Spencer Erik Crawford and Jim Fischer of That Damn Sasquatch, Dylan Miles, The Cody Sisters, Denver Improv Allstars led by Jessica Austgen, in partnership with Dazzle Presents: Anthony Russo Band/ Jack Hadley, Ben Hammond

BETH MALONE Sings at the Center

JEFFREY SIEGEL

While we were unable to present Jeffrey Siegel's regular Keyboard Conversations[™] program, we engaged with his loyal subscribers through a digital conversion of a program in which Jeffrey performed Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*.

CLEO PARKER ROBINSON "Out of the Box" 50 Year Celebration

performed live on our stages and presented virtually.

HUMANITIES AMPLIFY

The Amplify series gives voice to artists whose voices may not have been heard at the Center or beyond. By providing opportunities for artists to express truth through the arts, Amplify provides opportunities for discourse, dialogue, and education. This series was created as a response to the protests following the murder of George Floyd. Curated by actor and director Betty Hart, this virtual series featured the voices of performers from across Colorado, and won a 2020 True West award as well as received media attention including a televised interview on 9News's "Next with Kyle Clark."

Performers:

Series 1

Abner Genece, AJ Voliton, Brandon Metoyer, Cajardo Lindsey, Christopher Page-Sanders, Dwayne Carrington, Joseph Graves, Kenny Moten, Lavour Addison, Leonard Barrett, Michael Peters, Owen Zitek, Preston Adams, Randy Chalmers, Trent Hines.

Series 2

Colette Brown, Jasmine Jackson, Latifah Johnson, Marisa Hebert, Stephanie Hancock, Adrienne Martin-Fullwood, Ilasiea Gray, Jada Roberts, Kristina Fountaine, Lynne Hastings, Mary Louise Lee, Michaela Murray, Sheryl McCallum, Simone St. John, Therese Gardner

The Amplify Event Series is an extension of the virtual series that was implemented in June of 2020. With everything from spoken word and song to instrumental music and dance, the impact of this program is deep and diverse. The live event series presented evenings with curators such as Betty Hart, Bobby LeFebre, Lynne Holman, and Cleo Parker Robinson. We livestream these events as well to create a more accessible delivery method so that even those at home may participate.

IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access)

With guidance and invaluable contribution, the Rocky Mountain Indian Chamber of Commerce assisted us in crafting a land acknowledgement that follows:

The great stories of our lives are stories of the human condition. They are stories that tell of imperfect people, triumphs of joy, unthinkable tragedies and resilience and hope. Living in these stories is one universal theme—truth.

The Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities seizes this opportunity to speak about something we do not acknowledge enough. Our facilities stand atop ancestral lands that include the Tsétsehéstaestse (Cheyenne), the Hinono'eiteen (Arapaho), Nuche (Ute), and Oceti Sakowin (Lakota) nations.

We further acknowledge that the lands that make up the current state of Colorado are historically linked to 48 contemporary tribal nations.

We offer respect to people of these nations—past, present and future. As we strengthen our resolve to honor their legacies we ask that you do so as well by giving pause to acknowledge the history of deceit, wrongdoing and Western settlement on their lands as well as the beauty of their languages, knowledge and strengths that informs our human experience today.

IDEA Action Statement and Action Plan

In March of 2021, following collaborative meetings of the Employee IDEA Task Force, the Arvada Center issued an action plan that identified focus areas and next steps. In part, the statement said "The path to inclusion is not one with a steadfast destination. Rather, we reaffirm that this work is ongoing and requires continuous evaluation and accountability." Read the full statement online at https://arvadacenter.org/about-us/idea.

DITA Interns

For the third year, we hosted two interns from the Diversity in the Arts program. **Collin Sanders** and **Tahlia Lucero** helped the Arvada Center by offering us insight through their own unique personal lenses to help us strengthen our IDEA initiatives. Additionally, these interns continue to identify opportunities for organizational growth in the areas of inclusion, diversity, equity, and access. With COVID restrictions continuing to loosen, the internship was mostly in-person this year, with the interns attending department and Board of Directors meetings.



ACES (Arvada Center Event Space)

Thanks to the generosity of the City of Arvada, the Arvada Center has been able to take control of the ballroom spaces in our building to create a new revenue stream. We started ACES (Arvada Center Event Space) in November as a place that can be rented out for private events with catering by Three Tomatoes Catering and Peak Beverage.

VOLUNTEERS

With much of our in-person programming canceled, as well as many in our volunteer base being in high-risk age groups, we came up with new ways to still keep everyone engaged during the pandemic. We offered them free tickets to all of our new virtual programming. The monthly Volunteer Council meetings were moved to virtual (or in nice weather, outdoors) so that they could continue connecting with each other. Virtual training videos were produced for the ushers by Audience Service Manager Steven Cogswell. Newsletters and "update emails" were sent more frequently to keep our volunteers in the know of what was happening at the Center. Once safety restrictions allowed, we held volunteer previews for our in-person productions, and waived the regular 40 hours volunteered requirement, so that all active volunteers could attend.

For 2020–2021, 380 volunteers helped the Arvada Center with more limited hours than usual years. Despite limited in-person volunteer opportunities, the volunteers were still able to donate \$526.35 collected from concession tip jars.



FUNDRAISING

Our Reignite the Arts campaign ran May 5 through October 31, 2020 and raised more than \$800,000. This campaign focused on members of our staff who bravely shared their personal stories in our Humans of the Arvada Center series. This campaign strengthened our fundraising efforts by showing our patrons a glimpse inside the hearts and lives of the people who create the programming that they know and love. We also held a virtual auction and concert in August with performances by Emily Van Fleet, Jake Mendes, Trent Hines, and the Pierce Murphy Trio, and staff members graciously donated their various skills and services. With a goal of \$10,000, we easily surpassed it and brought in \$27,000.

Following this, we launched the Reunite the Arts campaign in January. With a combination of written and video interviews, this series focused more on our patrons and supporters, sharing why they donate to the arts and how they could not wait to reunite at the Arvada Center.

Be sure to check out some of the stories that our supporters had to tell:

https://youtu.be/YfJgeU5aga8 https://youtu.be/uN9PKJGRUCE



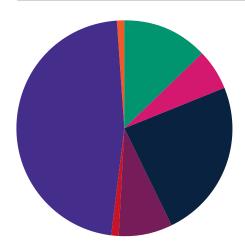
Reignite the Arts: Christina Noel Adcock





https://youtu.be/hh2XUIZSikw

Arvada Center Financials



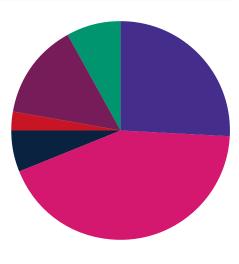
REVENUES

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Scientific and Cultural Facilities District	\$ 1,139,552	13%
Performing Arts	489,209	6%
Development	2,108,338	24%
Education	646,545	8%
Gallery / Museum	50,315	1%
City of Arvada	3,984,455	47%
Miscellaneous / Investment Income	97,751	1%
Total Revenues	8,516,165	100%

EXPENDITURES

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021		
Administration/Marketing	\$2,168,867	26%
Performing Arts	3,462,042	43%
Development	449,187	6%
Access/Patron Services	220,707	3%
Education	1,095,007	14%
Gallery Museum	640,724	8%
Total Expenditures	8,036,534	100%



Balance Sheet June 30, 2021 (with comparative totals for 2020)

	2021	2020
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$3,236,469	\$1,245,412
Prepaid expenses and other assets	261,853	213,420
Certificate of deposit held persuant to letter of credit agreement	200,000	200,000
Property and equipment, net	542,975	533,928
Beneficial interest in assets held by community foundation	473,425	422,067
Total Assets	\$4,714,722	\$2,614,827

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Total Liabilities	4,309,279	2,689,015
Note payable to City of Arvada	200,000	200,000
Refundable advance – PPP Ioan	1,016,945	1,013,300
Deferred performance and other revenue	1,299,733	976,693
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 1,792,601	\$499,022

NET ASSETS (DEFICIT)

Without donor restrictions	\$103,388	(\$345,606)
With donor restrictions	302,055	271,418
Total Net Assets	\$ 405,443	(74,188)
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 4,714,722	\$2,614,827

Statement of Activities June 30, 2021

SUPPORT, REVENUES, AND GAINS	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	2020
Performance and other program income	\$ 1,186,070	\$	\$1,186,070	\$3,397,353
Operating support from City of Arvada	3,984,455		3,984,455	3,978,158
Scientific and Cultural Facilities District	1,139,552		1,139,552	1,262,401
Contributions and grants, and in-kind	1,080,071	14,967	1,095,038	858,385
Government assistance – PPP loan	1,013,300		1,013,300	
Interest and other revenue	40,805		40,805	165,269
Change in value of beneficial interest in assets held by community foundation	16,983	39,962	56,945	14,492
Net assets released from restrictions	24,292	(24,292)		
Total revenue, support, and gains	\$ 8,485,528	\$ 30,637	\$ 8,516,165	\$ 9,676,058
EXPENSES				
PROGRAM SERVICES EXPENSE				
Performing Arts	\$3,462,042	\$	\$3,462,042	\$ 5,295,672
Education and Humanities	1,095,007		1,095,007	1,355,588
Exhibitions and Gallery	640,724		640,724	806,666
Access and Patron Services	220,707		220,707	382,135
Total program expenses	5,418,480		5,418,480	7,840,061
SUPPORTING SERVICES EXPENSE				
Administrative and Marketing	\$2,168,867	\$	\$ 2,168,867	\$ 2,558,242
Fundraising and Development	449,187		449,187	596,631
Total supporting services expenses	2,618,054		2,618,054	3,154,873
Total expenses	\$8,036,534		\$8,036,534	\$ 10,994,934
Change in Net Assets	\$ 448,994	\$ 30,637	\$ 479,631	(\$1,318,876)
Net Assets (Deficit), Beginning of Year	(345,606)	271,418	(74,188)	1,244,688
Net Assets (Deficit), End of Year	\$103,388	\$302,055	\$ 405,443	(\$ 74,188)

Thank You to Our 2020–2021 Donors

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

\$100,000+ Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act





\$75,000-\$99,999





\$50,000-\$74,999



\$25,000-\$49,999

Sandy and John Fraser Diana W. and F. Michael Kinsey

PRESENTERS' CIRCLE

\$15,000-\$24,999 AARP CBS4 Colorado Community Media Scientific & Cultural Collaborative The Denver Foundation Ken and Jill Fellman Ms. Jodie Steeves Nancy J. Terry U.S. Bank Foundation Xcel Energy Foundation

\$10,000-\$14,999

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PRODUCERS' CIRCLE \$5.000-\$9.999

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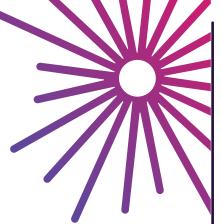
DIRECTORS' CIRCLE \$250-\$499

\$250-\$499 Actors' Equity

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Teresa YoKell, Vice President of Advancement

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Event Assistants: Ashtyn Makonese, Devon Makonese

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About the Arvada Center

OUR STORY

There's something special about the arts and humanities. Something transcendent. They can enrich who we are and inspire who we want to become. Ultimately, they appeal to the best in all of us, exciting our senses and enhancing our state of mind.

The Arvada Center produces, curates, and creates national-caliber arts, humanities, education, and entertainment that are designed to help you see, hear, feel, and think a little deeper. Here, there's truly something for everyone. You'll find something you can not only relate to, but something that resonates-no matter who you are, no matter where you're from.

OUR MISSION

The Arvada Center celebrates and elevates the human condition with engaging arts, humanities, education, and entertainment that expand the cultural landscape for everyone who visits us.

OUR VISION

The Arvada Center will be a nationally-recognized leader in creating high-quality arts and humanities experiences that nourish the ability to explore and express the full range of human emotion.

CORE VALUES

Quality

There's never a substitute for excellence-especially when it comes to enlightening and entertaining a discerning audience. The Arvada Center consistently elevates all of our arts and humanities offerings in a fiscally responsible way that ensures our long-term sustainability.

Passion

For us, the old adage about "love what you do and you'll never work a day in your life" is spot on. We LOVE what we do and it shows. We truly cherish the opportunity to create world-class arts and humanities for all

Inclusion

Knowing the arts and humanities are for everyone, we embrace the big IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access). At the Arvada Center, everyone is welcomed. Whether you come to laugh, cry, think or escape, there's something for everyone. Every time.

Creativity

At their core, the arts are about creating something special. Something memorable. Something shareable. The Arvada Center applies our creativity to develop and deliver truly innovative arts and humanities offerings that touch the heart and enrich the mind.



Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities 6901 Wadsworth Boulevard Arvada, CO 80003

rts & humanities