

# 2025 Maryland Annual Report

# 25



Image: Brent Birkhead passionately plays saxophone while vocalist Imani-Grace Cooper sings.  
Credit: Dr. Ceylon Mitchell, M3 Mitchell Media & Marketing.



Image: Plena Libre at Frostburg State University. Credit: Kyle A. Ganson.

## About Mid Atlantic Arts

Mid Atlantic Arts supports artists, presenters, and organizations through unique programming, grant support, partnerships, and information sharing. Created in 1979, Mid Atlantic Arts is aligned with the region's state arts councils and the National Endowment for the Arts. We combine state and federal funding with private support from corporations, foundations, and individuals to nurture diverse artistic expression while connecting people to meaningful arts experiences within our region and beyond.

### Maryland Board Members

- Nicholas Cohen, Baltimore
- Juanita Hardy, Silver Spring

## MISSION

Our mission is to strengthen and serve the arts and culture ecosystem in the mid-Atlantic region by elevating local voices through accessible resources, programs, and partnerships.

## VISION

A thriving and self-sustaining creative economy in the mid-Atlantic region where investment is amplified, creativity and civic life are bridged, and art is a catalyst for community prosperity and well-being.

## VALUES

### CURIOSITY

Learning, exploring, and working with empathy

### COLLABORATION

Building and nurturing purposeful human connections

### EQUITY

Acknowledging and addressing disparities within the arts

### TRUST

Fostering reliability, open communication and transparency in operations

### ACCESSIBILITY

Expanding opportunities for participation in the arts





### ADAPTABILITY

Being open to change and committing to innovation



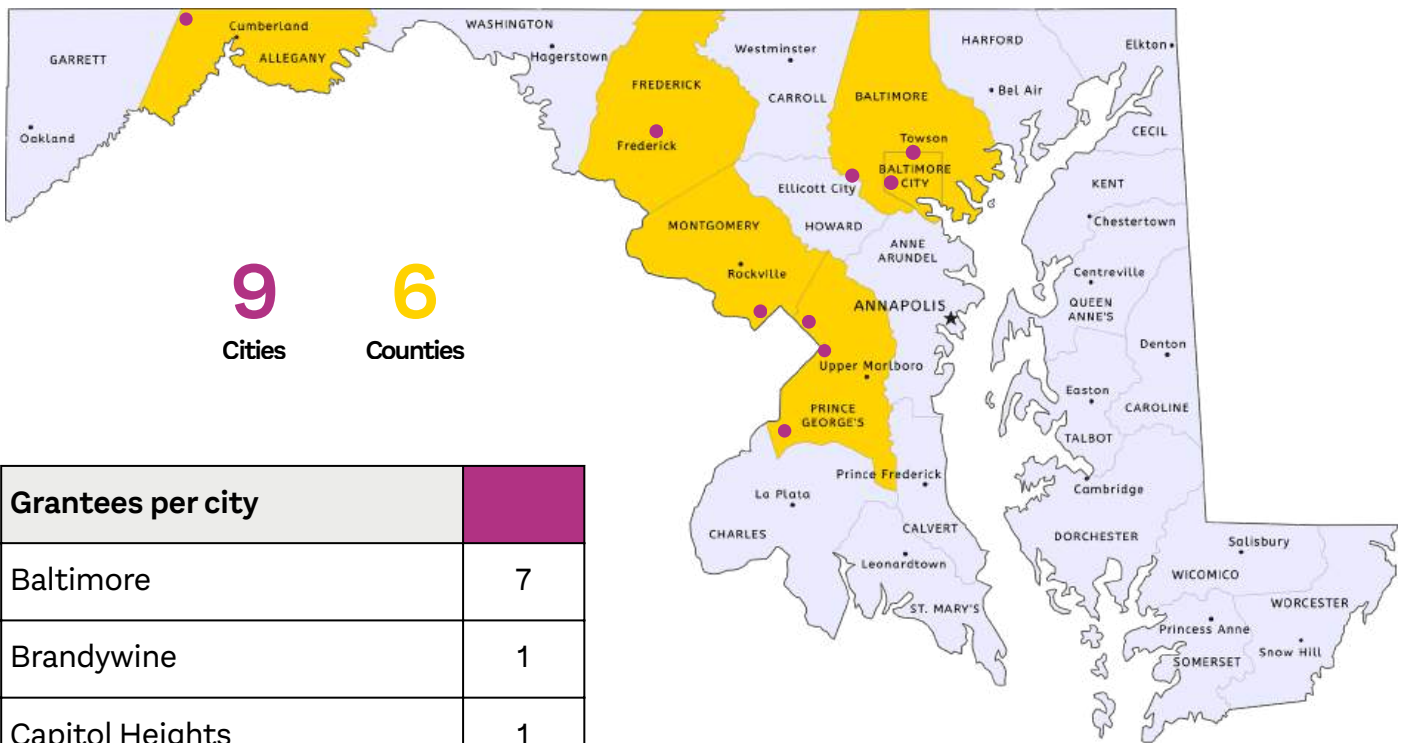
Image: Cultural Sustainability: Community Roots Program Graphic. Credit: Illustration by Uzo Njoku.

# Impact Summary 2025

 <b>\$167,090</b> Investment	 <b>1,153</b> Participants	 <b>17</b> Grants Awarded	 <b>11</b> Events
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Maryland Partnership Support \$36,000



**9** Cities  
**6** Counties

Grantees per city	
Baltimore	7
Brandywine	1
Capitol Heights	1
College Park	1
Frederick	3
Frostburg	1
Glen Echo	1
Mount Rainier	1
Towson	1

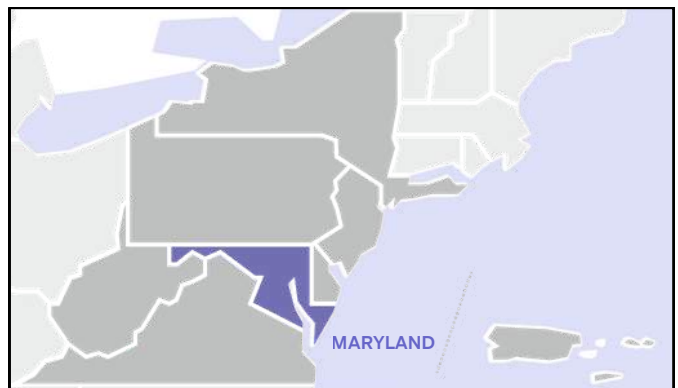




Image: Group photo from archive dinner. Credit: ShaShonna Rogers.

## That is archiving too!

Muse 360, Incorporated. **BALTIMORE**

“During our final oral history gathering, a young participant an emerging spoken word poet/ sculpture/musician sat beside one of our elder storytellers, uncertain about what she could contribute. After listening to Mama Maria Broom share a memory about rhythm as a vessel for lineage, he opened up about a song he wrote for his grandmother, who migrated to Baltimore in the 1950s. She placed her hand on her shoulder and said, “That is archiving too.”

In that moment, the room shifted. Participants began naming their own creative practices—dance, quilting, beat-making—as forms of cultural preservation. Artists exchanged numbers, elders offered mentorship, and our team realized we were witnessing the beginnings of a constellation: a network of next-generation cultural workers who will continue activating programming through Muse 360 and the 360 House.

This circle has already seeded new ideas for knowledge-production spaces, future workshops, and tactile tools the community can use to archive its own stories.”



Image: Participant pulling archives and discussing them. Credit: Sharayna Christmas.

**Mid Atlantic Folk and Traditional Arts Community Projects: Transformation of Memory // A Journey Towards Knowledge of Self Through Community Archives at Muse 360, Incorporated. Baltimore, MD.**

# PY2025 Program participation for Maryland

## ArtsCONNECT

Collaborative tours by mid-Atlantic presenters, featuring performances and complementary engagement activities that deepen connections among artists, audiences, and communities.

Organization Primary Benefit	Artist/Provider of Services	Amount
CRAFT WELL PEOPLES SCHOOL OF FOLK CRAFT BUILDING ARTS, INC., <b>BRANDYWINE</b>	Cheick Hamala Diabate	\$7,000
CULTURA PLENERA, INC., <b>FREDERICK</b>	Los Pleneros de la 21	\$10,000

## Cultural Sustainability: Community Roots

Unrestricted operational support to arts organizations founded by, with, and for communities of color allowing them to sustain and expand their practices, benefiting the communities they serve.

Organization Primary Benefit	Amount
SOLE DEFINED, <b>CAPITOL HEIGHTS</b>	\$67,000
TARATIBU YOUTH ASSOCIATION, INC., <b>MOUNT RAINIER</b>	\$47,000

## Jazz Touring Network

Presenter-based membership program supporting professional development, partnerships, and and working together to curate tours that reflect the richness of the field of jazz.

Organization Primary Benefit	Artist/Provider of Services	Amount
FELLS POINT CREATIVE ALLIANCE, INC., <b>BALTIMORE</b>	Endea Owens and the Cookout	\$10,000
FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY, <b>FROSTBURG</b>	Tuba Skinny	\$7,000

## Mid Atlantic Folk and Traditional Arts Community Projects

Funds projects that sustain traditional arts and cultural communities in the region, including public performances, exhibitions, workshops, and collaborations.

Organization Primary Benefit	Artist/Provider of Services	Amount
ANKOLE, INC., <b>TOWSON</b>	Circus Arts Summer Professional Workshop - Youth age 13 - 17 with an interest in competition or college education in Circus Arts	\$1,600
MUSE 360, INCORPORATED, <b>BALTIMORE</b>	Transformation of Memory // A Journey Towards Knowledge of Self Through Community Archives	\$3,490

## Mid Atlantic Tours

Brings exemplary performing arts ensembles to communities across the mid-Atlantic region. Presenters can book an artist from the annual roster and receive grant support toward the artist fee.

Organization Primary Benefit	Artist/Provider of Services	Amount
CITY OF FREDERICK/WEINBERG CENTER FOR THE ARTS, <b>FREDERICK</b>	Bindlestiff Family Cirkus	\$4,000
CITY OF FREDERICK/WEINBERG CENTER FOR THE ARTS, <b>FREDERICK</b>	LauraB	\$2,750
COMMUNITY CONCERTS AT SECOND, <b>BALTIMORE</b>	Brent Birckhead	\$3,000
FELLS POINT CREATIVE ALLIANCE, INC., <b>BALTIMORE</b>	LauraB	\$2,750
FELLS POINT CREATIVE ALLIANCE, INC., <b>BALTIMORE</b>	Orchestra of Indigenous Instruments and New Technologies	\$2,750
GLEN ECHO PARK PARTNERSHIP FOR ARTS AND CULTURE, INC., <b>GLEN ECHO</b>	The Experience Band & Show	\$1,750
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND COLLEGE PARK, <b>BALTIMORE</b>	The Missing Element featuring the Beatbox House	\$4,000

## Performing Arts Global Exchange

Open to presenters nationwide, PAGE is an annually curated roster of international performing artists selected to tour to communities across the United States.

Organization Primary Benefit	Artist/Provider of Services	Amount
FELLS POINT CREATIVE ALLIANCE, INC., <b>BALTIMORE</b>	The Leila	\$2,750
LE MONDO, INC., <b>BALTIMORE</b>	Tarwa N-Tiniri	\$1,250

## The National Leaders of Color Fellowships cohort 2024-2025

The National Leaders of Color Fellowships builds multicultural leadership in the arts,

LISA BROWN, **GREENBELT**

# IMAGINE NEXT

Strategic Plan  
2025-2029



## Model

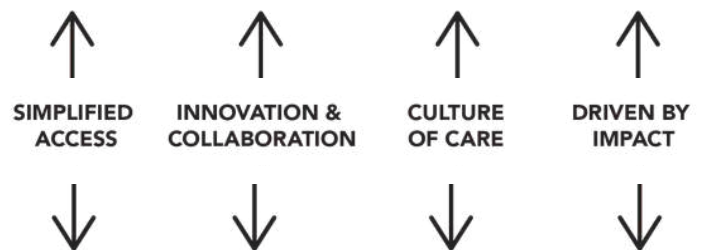
### **FOCUS AREAS**

#### **WHAT WE DO**

1. Elevating Local Voices
2. Learning, Connecting, and Convening
3. Working Towards a Sustainable Ecosystem

### **OPERATIONAL PILLARS**

#### **HOW WE DO IT**



### **NEW HORIZONS**

#### **WHAT COMES NEXT**

- A. From Hyper Local to Global
- B. Art and Technology
- C. Cross-Sector Development