



# Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Report



# 463 Grants



## Iber Exchange

Image: Rancho Aparte performing on the CarMax Stage at the Richmond Folk Festival. Credit: Remsberg, Inc.

# 307

Unique  
Communities  
Impacted



**ArtsConnect**

Image: Giordano Dance Chicago at community masterclasses featuring Nan Giordano and Cesar Salinas leading sessions.  
Credit: Paul Calandra/Sean Krueger.

# \$4.6M

in direct  
support



## Folk and Traditional Arts Community Projects Grants

Image: Elvira Clayton, Weaving Workshop for Open Spaces at The Watermill Center.

Credit: Phil Lehans.

# 735

Performances and  
activities supported



## **USArtists International**

Image: Jody Sperling/Time Lapse Dance performing a new cross-cultural collaboration with the Hakawy International Arts Festival in Egypt. Credit: Courtesy of AFCA Arts.



# 103K

People reached  
through our work  
worldwide

## Special Presenter Initiatives

Image: DuPont Brass at the Freeman Arts Pavilion.  
Credit: Justin Odendhal.

## Letter from the Chair and Executive Director

Dear Friends:

Thank you for being a part of Mid Atlantic Arts over the years. Your support has brought us to a truly pivotal moment in our history – one where we invite our region to dream boldly, collaborate meaningfully, and build a thriving creative future – together.

In FY25 we introduced our new strategic plan, Imagine Next, which centers local voices, community insights, and real needs. As we move into plan implementation, we look forward to connecting with the field, convening our constituents, and working towards healthy communities while creating a more sustainable ecosystem.

Many thanks to our state arts agency partners, the National Endowment for the Arts, the private and corporate funders, and the many other individuals that continue to ensure places where creativity thrives are encouraged and that artists are celebrated.

Onward!

**Donna Walker-Kuhne**  
Chair, Board of Directors

**Juan Souki**  
Executive Director



Image: Saxophonist Brian LeNair performs with the Philadelphia Heritage Chorale under the direction of Dr. J. Donald Dumpson. Credit: Garrett Thomas.

## About Us

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.

### **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.



## ArtsCONNECT

Image: Performance of **Frankenstein** by Manual Cinema on stage at The Performing Arts Center, Purchase College. Credit: Louis Vaccaro.



# 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 Grants Graphic.

Credit: Illustration by Ugo Njoku.

## FOCUS AREAS | WHAT WE DO

1. Elevating Local Voices

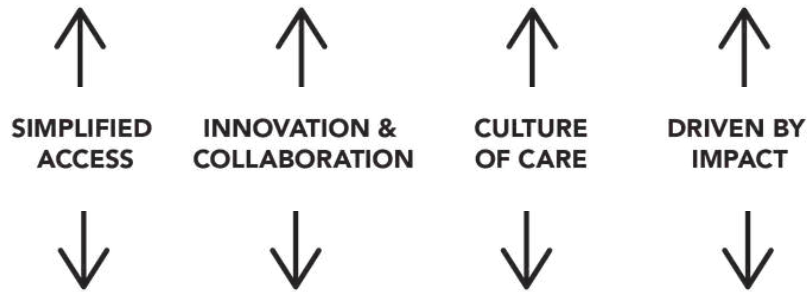
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2. Learning, Connecting, and Convening

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3. Working Towards a Sustainable Ecosystem

## OPERATIONAL PILLARS | HOW WE DO IT



## NEW HORIZONS | WHAT COMES NEXT

- A. From Hyper Local to Global

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- B. Art and Technology

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- C. Cross-Sector Development



Image: Tiple building workshop Centro de Investigaciones Folklóricas de Puerto Rico, Ponce (PR). Credit: William Cumpiano.



## Mid Atlantic Tours

Image: Alex & Olmsted share the secrets of puppetry theater with youth and families at the Arts Barn in Gaithersburg, MD. Credit: Jamie Kumpf Kendrick.

## 2025 Programs

**Accessibility Offerings** include convenings and training opportunities that support our commitment to greater accessibility in the arts and cultural sector of the mid-Atlantic region. In partnership with Americans for the Arts, we offer free webinar packages on arts and disability justice for local and state arts agencies in the mid-Atlantic region. Mid Atlantic also provides travel reimbursement to State Arts Agency partners in our region for training related to best practice in accessibility and disability justice, including attendance at LEAD with support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Mid Atlantic provides administrative support for the individual **Artist Fellowships** programs for the states of Delaware and New Jersey. Mid Atlantic staff convenes panels that review over 2,000 applications yearly and states participating in this partnership annually award over \$2 million to the fellowship winners.

**ArtsCONNECT** supports touring projects collaboratively developed by presenters working together in the mid-Atlantic region. The tours include performances as well as complementary engagement activities designed to create greater understanding or connections between artists, audiences, and communities.



Image: Adriane Colburn, 2025 NJ Individual Artist Fellow, Sculpture **Right Angle**, installation view, 2024 at RA Gallery in Great Barrington, MA.



Image: A member of Cirque Kalabante leads an African Drumming workshop at the Moss Arts Center. Credit: Virginia Tech.

## 2025 Programs

**Central Appalachia Living Traditions (CALT)** is a multiyear program designed to promote the understanding and recognition of folk arts and culture in Central Appalachia by investing in cultural communities, seeding new folk and traditional arts experiences, and honoring underrecognized practitioners of traditions across the region.

Programs include:

- Appalachian Foodways Practitioner Fellowships
- Black Appalachian Storytellers Fellowship
- Community Anchor Initiatives
- Experiences Grants

**Cultural Sustainability: Community Roots** provides unrestricted operational funding to arts organizations founded by, with, and for communities of color, allowing them to sustain and expand their practices, benefiting the communities they serve. It also supports cross-cultural arts experiences and fosters stronger collaboration between artists, communities, and the RAO's. Cultural Sustainability: Community Roots is a partnership between the six U.S. Regional Arts Organizations and The Wallace Foundation.



Image: Fermentation class with the River House in Capon Bridge, WV.  
Credit: Monica Wilson.



Image: Música Pa' Culebra. Fundación de Culebra, PR.  
Credit: Courtesy of Fundación de Culebra.

## 2025 Programs

### The Folk and Traditional Arts Community Projects

**Grants** fund projects designed to support the vitality of traditional arts and cultural communities in the mid-Atlantic region. Eligible project activities include but are not limited to performances, public art collaborations, workshops, trainings, exhibitions, fieldwork, and artistic collaborations and must include a publicly accessible component.

**Iber Exchange** increases availability of music programming from Ibero-American countries throughout the mid-Atlantic region to promote a greater understanding of other cultures through the performing arts. Support grants of up to 50% of the negotiated artist fee are available to nonprofit presenters in the mid-Atlantic region that contract artists from the roster, for a public performance and community engagement activity.

Mid Atlantic Arts provides **Information Services** to artists, organizations, constituents, and stakeholders on a regular basis and through a number of communication platforms. Information is provided via monthly newsletters, eblasts, social media postings, and press releases. Mid Atlantic Arts manages [midatlanticarts.org](http://midatlanticarts.org) providing detailed information on Mid Atlantic, its programs, and grant opportunities for artists and organizations.



Image: The Legacy of American Protest Music, Shenandoah University. Goodson Chapel—Recital Hall. Credit: Shenandoah University.



Image: Pascuala Ilabaca performs at City of Asylum in Pittsburgh, PA. Credit: Courtesy of City of Asylum Pittsburgh.

## 2025 Programs

**The Jazz Touring Network** is a presenter-based membership program that supports professional development, building partnerships, and working together to curate tours that reflect the richness of the field of jazz. Once selected, membership is ongoing upon meeting annual requirements.

**Mid Atlantic Tours** brings the best of the performing arts to communities across the mid-Atlantic region. Presenters select from a curated roster of artists that changes annually but maintains a programmatic commitment to a diversity of performance genres, regional artist representation, and engagement with communities underserved by the arts.



Image: The Soul Rebels perform at the Exit Zero Jazz Festival.  
Credit: Richard Conde Photography.



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



Image: Mid Atlantic Arts National Leaders of Color Fellows 2025.



Image: Las Guaracheras at Columbia Center for the Arts. Credit: Tim Harkins.

**The National Leaders of Color Fellowships** is a transformative leadership development experience curated by WESTAF to establish multicultural leadership in the creative and cultural sector. By partnering with the other United States Regional Arts Organizations, the program has expanded nationwide, and its mission has become a national endeavor.

Open to presenters nationwide, the **Performing Arts Global Exchange** is an annually curated roster of international performing artists selected to tour to communities across the United States. Each year, a region is featured with a selection of artists across multiple disciplines. The program provides fee support directly to nonprofit presenters programming artists from the roster, and presenters host both public performances and community engagements in achieving the program's goals of cultural exchange and understanding.



Image: Clark Park Jazz Pop Up as part of the Philly Jazz Month 2025.  
Credit: Torri Green.

### Philly Jazz Month

In April 2025, Mid Atlantic launched Philly Jazz Month with something for everyone to enjoy, from eclectic live performances to in-school educational programs designed to unite communities and uplift local artists in Philadelphia. This annual month-long event is produced in partnership with Creative Philadelphia.



Image: Poetry Out Loud 2025 State Champions. Credit: James Kegley.

**Poetry Out Loud** is a national poetry recitation contest that encourages high school students to memorize and recite great poems. Mid Atlantic Arts produces the finals competition during which state and territorial winners from the United States compete for more than \$100,000 in prizes.



Image: Rodney Marsalis Philadelphia Big Brass on the Hamilton Auditorium stage at Carnegie Hall West Virginia. Credit: Sheena Pendley.

The **Special Presenter Initiatives** provide additional opportunities for the support of small to mid-sized performing arts presenters in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and West Virginia. Fee support is available for engagements of performing artists based anywhere worldwide. Engagements include performances as well as community activities that enhance the performance experience and offer meaningful exchanges between touring artists and a presenter's community.



Image: Music From The Sole at the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain. Credit: Guggenheim Museum Bilbao.

**USArtists International®** supports in-person performances by American artists at engagements at international festivals and global presenting arts marketplaces outside of the United States. The program funds individuals and ensembles across all performing arts practices and disciplines.



## Folk and Traditional Arts Community Projects

Image: Young participants enjoy a flow movement workshop by Fluidity Performance Troupe at the 21st annual Culturefest World Music & Arts Festival in The Grassroots District of Princeton, WV. Credit: Eric Proffit.

# Partners and Supporters

Partnership makes our work possible.

We are grateful to the following national agencies, state arts agency partners, foundations, corporations, and individuals for partnering with us to support the arts. Thank you.

**NATIONAL AGENCIES** National Endowment for the Arts  
Arts Midwest  
Creative West  
Mid-America Arts Alliance  
New England Foundation for the Arts  
South Arts

**STATE ARTS AGENCY PARTNERS** DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities  
Delaware Division of the Arts  
Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña  
Maryland State Arts Council  
New Jersey State Council on the Arts  
New York State Council on the Arts  
Pennsylvania Creative Industries  
Virgin Islands Council on the Arts  
Virginia Commission for the Arts  
West Virginia Department of Tourism

**FOUNDATIONS** Exelon Foundation  
Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies  
Emily Hall Tremain Foundation  
Poetry Foundation  
The Trust for Mutual Understanding  
Wallace Foundation  
Yield Giving

**CORPORATIONS** Adobe Systems, Inc.  
Alpine Group  
Delmarva Power  
Embassy of Brazil  
Google, Inc.  
Jimeno & Gray  
Maynard C. Smith Construction Co.  
Order Design  
PECO – An Exelon Company  
ZenBusiness



Image: La Muchacha, INYO Council for the Arts Millpond Music Festival, California.  
Credit: Steve Wathen.

## INDIVIDUALS

### Sustainers Circle

#### (Gifts of \$1,000 or more)

Juanita Hardy, MD  
Nicholas Hawkins, MD  
Aaron Myers, DC  
John Strickland, WV  
Donna Walker-Kuhne, NY

### Arts Enthusiasts

#### (Gifts of \$250-\$999)

Vernon Araujo, USVI  
Jessica Ball, DE  
Romona Riscoe Benson, DE  
Lora Bottinelli, DE  
Matthew Brown, MD  
City of Schenectady, NY  
Nicholas Cohen, MD  
Alan Cooper, MD  
Fabiola Delgado, DC  
Valerie Gay, PA  
Anita Gonzalez, DC  
Alyce Gottesman, NJ  
James Lemons, NY  
John McEwen, NJ  
Kevin O'Brien, NJ

### Friends of Mid Atlantic Arts

#### (Gifts of \$25-\$249)

Akinyemi Akinola, NY  
Rod Armstrong, MD  
Naomi Ayala, DC  
Julie Blinder, NJ  
Sandra Boyle, PA  
Kim Chan, NJ  
William Craven, VA  
Christopher Crowell, MD  
Aparupe Das, NJ  
Karen Espinoza, VA  
Rachel Fuld, PA  
Marsha Goldberg, NJ  
Craig Guild, VA  
James David Jansma, NJ  
Lindsay Kunkle, VA  
Bruce Labadie, CA  
Dennis Lawson, DE  
Christa Lee, VA  
Mara Manus, NY  
Steven and Carol Marino, DE  
Armando Pacheco, NY  
Richard and Linda Roth, MD  
Richard Scalenghe, DE  
Terrance Simien and the Zydeco  
Experience, LA  
Lia Staton, VA  
Margaret Vanderhye, VA  
Kennard T. Wing, PA

Gifts made between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025.



## Special Presenter Initiatives

Image: Ayreheart in concert at the Delmarva Folk Festival.  
Ronn McFarlane, lute; Mathias Rucht, percussion; Will Morris, violin.  
Credit: Carlos Holmes.

# Financial Review

## Statement of Financial Position for the years ending June 30

| <b>ASSETS</b>                                      | <b>2025</b>       | <b>2024</b>       |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| Cash   | 4,587,585         | 3,885,050         |
| Accounts and grants receivable                     | 421,680           | 891,221           |
| Investments  | 14,356,731        | 13,578,317        |
| Prepaid expenses and deposits                      | 161,656           | 154,770           |
| Property and equipment                             | 59,000            | 86,156            |
| Right of use asset                                 | 124,299           | 221,877           |
| Deferred compensation investments                  | -                 | 15,515            |
| <b>Total Assets</b>                                | <b>19,710,951</b> | <b>18,832,906</b> |
| <b>LIABILITIES</b>                                 |                   |                   |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses              | 380,421           | 177,950           |
| Grants payable                                     | 1,390,707         | 677,180           |
| Lease liability                                    | 140,232           | 248,244           |
| Deferred revenue                                   | 6,166,206         | 6,713,726         |
| Deferred compensation obligation                   | -                 | 15,515            |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>                           | <b>8,077,566</b>  | <b>7,832,615</b>  |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>                                  |                   |                   |
| Undesignated                                       | 8,617,427         | 7,943,399         |
| Undesignated, board reserves                       | 3,000,000         | 3,000,000         |
| <b>Total Net Assets without donor restrictions</b> | <b>11,617,427</b> | <b>10,943,399</b> |
| With donor restrictions                            | 15,958            | 56,892            |
| <b>Total Net Assets</b>                            | <b>11,633,385</b> | <b>11,000,291</b> |
| <b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>            | <b>19,710,951</b> | <b>18,832,906</b> |

| <b>REVENUES</b>                                 | <b>2025</b>       | <b>2024</b>      |
|---|-------------------|------------------|
| Contributions and grants                        | 7,423,863         | 5,439,828        |
| Contracted services and other income            | 2,969,247         | 2,513,465        |
| <b>Total Revenue and Support</b>                | <b>10,393,110</b> | <b>7,953,293</b> |
| <b>PROGRAM EXPENSES</b>                         |                   |                  |
| Grants  | 5,651,364         | 3,380,558        |
| Program services                                | 3,081,066         | 3,218,066        |
| <b>Total Program Expenses</b>                   | <b>8,732,430</b>  | <b>6,598,624</b> |
| <b>ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES</b>                  |                   |                  |
| Management and general                          | 1,254,172         | 1,278,807        |
| Development                                     | 162,698           | 118,652          |
| <b>Total Administrative Expenses</b>            | <b>1,416,870</b>  | <b>1,397,459</b> |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>                           | <b>10,149,300</b> | <b>7,996,083</b> |
| Unrealized gain on investments                  | 430,218           | 723,142          |
| Change in net assets without donor restrictions | 674,028           | 680,352          |
| Change in net assets with donor restrictions    | (40,934)          | (28,340)         |
| <b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</b>                     | <b>633,094</b>    | <b>652,012</b>   |
| Net assets, beginning of year                   | 11,000,291        | 10,348,279       |
| Net assets, end of year                         | 11,633,385        | 11,000,291       |

## Board of Directors

### OFFICERS

Donna Walker-Kuhne, NY  
Chair

James Lemons, NY  
Vice Chair

John McEwen, NJ  
Secretary

Nicholas Hawkins, NY  
Treasurer

### MEMBERS

Vernon Araujo, USVI

Jessica Ball, DE

Romona Riscoe Benson, PA

Lora Bottinelli, DE

Kim Chan, NJ

Nicholas Cohen, MD

Valerie Gay, PA

Anita Gonzalez, DC

Juanita Hardy, MD

Geoffrey Kershner, VA

Mara Manus, NY

Aaron Myers, DC

Kevin O'Brien, NJ

John Strickland, WV

## Staff

### OPERATIONS

Juan Souki  
Executive Director

Cedrick Farmer  
Grants Operations Coordinator

Chels Fryer  
Grants Operations Associate

Namra Inam  
Junior Staff Accountant

Jamie Melius  
Director of Grantmaking  
Operations

Jaclyn Miller-Barbarow  
Vendor and Procurement  
Coordinator

Jeanette Pacheco  
Executive Assistant

Janessa Schuster  
Interim Director of Finance

### DEVELOPMENT AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Nei Halmoguera  
Creative Coordinator

Brittney Huff  
Director of Development

Mackenzie Kwok  
Communications and  
Social Media Manager

Karen Newell  
Director, External Affairs

Jacinto Salcedo  
Marketing Strategy  
and Design Lead

Fern Zaky  
Development Associate

### PROGRAMS

Sarah Branch  
Program Director, Creativity  
in Community

Ana Chapman  
Interim Director of  
Programs

Joel Chapman  
Program Associate,  
Folk and Traditional Arts

Jackie Domenus  
Program Director,  
Fellowships

Ellie Dassler  
Program Director,  
Folk and Traditional Arts

Sarah Lewitus  
Program Director,  
Performing  
Arts and Accessibility  
Coordinator

Andrew Alness Olson  
Program Director,  
International

Ernest Stuart  
Program Director, Jazz

Sarah Theune  
Program Associate,  
Performing  
Arts and Creativity in  
Community



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