2017-2018 IMPACT REPORT

THEATRE FOR AN INCLUSIVE WORLD

ArtStream®
perform your art out®

www.art-stream.org

Silver Spring Inclusive Theatre Company B actors perform in *Shops and Robbers*.
Photo by Liz Demaree.

About ArtStream

ArtStream's programs encourage collaboration and engage people of all ages with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDDs)—including autism—in lifelong learning opportunities. Through ArtStream's classes, performances, social skills workshops, and other programming, participants gain skills and confidence to engage with the world.

We welcome everyone, regardless of ability, to work together and learn from each other.

Mission Statement

Through collaborative performance and lifelong learning opportunities, people with intellectual and developmental disabilities gain the skills and confidence to engage with the world.

Philosophy

We believe that when people make their own choices and are engaged, stimulated, challenged and inspired, they surpass both their own and others' expectations.

Vision

To build an inclusive world where everyone can perform their art out.

ArtStreamers dance the night away at the 2017 Annual Gala and Dance Party. Photo by Sherri Holdridge.

Press

ARTSTREAM VIDEO

Susan Kenedy | August 20, 2018
Montgomery County Council
ArtStream is featured for giving adults with special needs an opportunity to channel their "inner Shakespeare".

"C'MON GET HAPPY!"

Chris Slattery, May 31, 2018 | *CultureSpotMC*
ArtStream actor Ana Bradley and Cabaret Director Pamela Leighton-Bilik, are profiled in this article featuring the Maryland Summer Cabaret *Happy Again: Songs, Dreams, and Rainbows.*

"WRITING AND PERFORMING ARE THE MUSIC DRIVING ARTSTREAM PRODUCTION"

Barbara Trainin Blank, April 19, 2018 |
Montgomery County Sentinel
ArtStream actor Kirsten Davidson and Director Madeleine Barry are profiled in The Montgomery Sentinel for their show, *The Miraculous Tales of Stonehaven.*

"ARTSTREAM TWIN-BILL PRODUCTION COMBINES ORIGINALITY AND INCLUSIVENESS"

Scott McCaffrey, March 19, 2018 | *InsideNOVA*
ArtStream Board Chairman Franklin Myers and Treasurer Paul Murray are featured in this article about the Virginia Inclusive Theatre Company productions of *WXYZ: Spelling Out the News So You Don't Have To* and *Must Love Music.* Mentor Jon Paul Frederick and Directors Carolyn Ricks *(Must Love Music)* and Elizabeth Cronin *(WXYZ…)* are also quoted.

INTERVIEW WITH NATALIE ZANIN AND VADIM BARYSHEV ON "WASHINGTON REPORT"

Stevie Bridgewater, January 13-14, 2018 | *Washington Report*
ArtStream director Natalie Zanin and actor Vadim Baryshev talk with Stevie Bridgewater about ArtStream and the Winter 2018 Cabaret Company performance, *Winter Wonderland.*

Who We Are

OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

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Theatre and Events Manager

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Miriam Hess, Evelyn Shapiro
Grant Writer
Popcorn & Ice-Cream
Marketing

ArtStreamers pose at the 7th Annual Gala and Dance Party.

INCLUSIVE THEATRE COMPANIES

Actors develop and perform an original musical. The company votes on a theme, creates original characters, and improvises scenes. Scenes are then scripted to become an original one-act musical.

Inclusive Theatre Company Season 2017-2018

Gaithersburg Inclusive Theatre Company A performs *To-May-To, To-Mah-To* at Bender JCC of Greater Washington. Photo by Patrick M. Ryan.

Thanks to everyone who made these performances a success: the families of the actors, volunteer mentors, backstage volunteers, wonderful venue hosts, amazing technical team, and the creative actors on stage!

Support for the Inclusive Theatre Companies comes from:

William S. Abell Foundation, Lorraine S. Dreyfuss Theatre Education Fund, Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Kelley Cares, National Endowment for the Arts Challenge America Fund, and Porto Charities.

CABARET COMPANIES

Cabaret Companies perform at AMP by Strathmore. Actors agree on a theme for an ensemble music and dance show, and then each actor works with the choreographer and music director to develop solo and small group music, dance, or drama performances.

Cabaret Company Season 2017-2018

Maryland Cabaret Company performs Funiculi, Funicula in *Happy Again: Songs, Dreams, and Rainbows* at AMP by Strathmore. Photo by Sherri Holdridge.

1st Our first season!

2 Cabaret Companies

15 actors performed in two sold-out shows at AMP by Strathmore.

Thanks to everyone who made these performances a success, especially Natalie Zanin who created and directed the first Cabaret, Pamela Leighton-Bilik who directed the second Cabaret, the families of the actors, volunteer mentors, the team at AMP and Strathmore, and the awesome actors in the spotlight!

Support for the Cabaret Companies comes from:

Kristen N. Chou, Ning Solutions, Inc., and ArtStream Board Member.

INCLUSIVE DRAMA AND SOCIAL SKILLS CLASSES

Over 800 inclusive drama and social skills classes were held for 1,242 students in Maryland and Virginia. Class themes include comedy, musical theatre, improv, public speaking, role play, party dancing, and other social skills.

Participants dance in a Shakespeare for All class, featuring *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Photo by Heller An Shapiro.

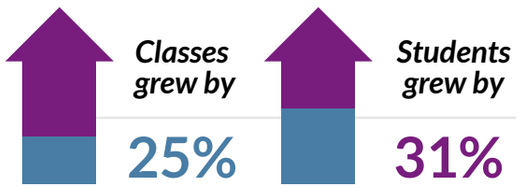
Classes 2017-2018

ArtStream classes are growing throughout the metro region! This year's classes ranged from Reston, VA to St. Mary's County, MD.

NEW CLASSES INCLUDED:

Virginia:
- Super Social Saturdays
- Shakespeare for All
- Dance class at Chimes Virginia

Maryland:
- Summer camp at the Treatment and Learning Centers
- Improvisation workshop at College Learning Experience
- Leadership classes at Target Community Services
- Performing classes at NCC
- Self-Advocacy classes for St. Mary's County Public Schools



MILITARY HOSPITAL PROGRAMS

Allies in the Arts
Over 400 injured servicemembers and their family members gained creative opportunities to improve physical, mental and emotional healing, recovery and rehabilitation.

You Are a Work of Art (YAWA)
Helped over 1,500 nursing staff and medical technicians improve their resilience and morale through creative projects.

Served as a demonstration project for Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences medical residents to learn about the role of arts in healing.

NOTE: Starting in FY19, these programs will be managed by the Institute for Integrative Health.

We went international!

Classes were held in Indonesia via video chat.

csaac enhancing the lives of individuals with autism · DSANV · DSNMC Down Syndrome Network of Montgomery County · George Mason University · Jewish Foundation for Group Homes · KEEN Kids Enjoy Exercise Now greater dc – baltimore · ncc a lifetime of opportunities for people with developmental disabilities · Sheppard Pratt Health System · Spirit Club Fitness for All · St. Mary's County Public Schools · Target Community & Educational Services Inc. · The Arc Montgomery County · The Arc Northern Virginia · TLCI School · The Treatment and Learning Centers TLC a family of services where caring comes first · upcounty community resources Inclusive Opportunities for All

Community Matters

"We are so lucky to have supportive friends and family! Sometimes relationships like these feel natural and easy.

Sometimes these relationships can be difficult to start or can go through stages where it feels uncomfortable. Stay positive! It will take life-long practice to feel like you are a master of social skills."

Nicolette Stearns, M Ed., ArtStream
Co-Founder, Master Teacher and author of "ArtStream for Life"

8	ArtStream original musicals created and performed this season
105	ArtStream actors in Inclusive Theatre and Cabaret Companies
1,242	ArtStream students
810	ArtStream classes

BELONGING TO A COMMUNITY IMPROVES:

- Health
- Happiness
- Motivation

HOW WE FIND BELONGING

- Theatre, Dance, Music
- Social Club
- Super Social Saturdays

SOCIALIZING WITH FRIENDS – THE ART OF GETTING INVOLVED

ArtStream for Life by Nicolette Stearns, M Ed.
Sometimes the fear of reaching out can overpower our desire to make friends and be social. When you feel this fear, try these exercises to boost your social confidence!

1. Think Fun!
What do you like to do for fun? Think of friends and people you know who like the same thing.

2. Research
List (verbal, written, or drawn) your top seven activities. Research or ask a trusted adult to help you find programs where you can participate in these activities.

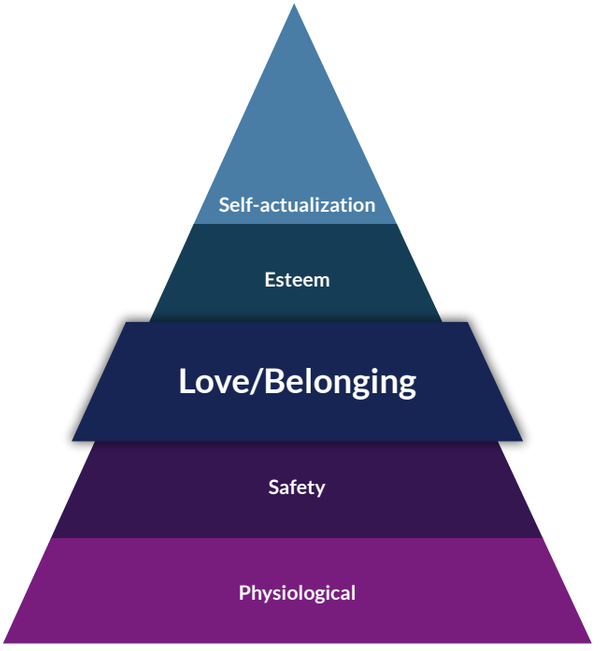
3. Practice
Pantomime (acting without words, only movement) some of your favorite sports or activities to explore how it may feel to engage in them.

WAYS TO BUILD YOUR COMMUNITY

- Challenge yourself to take a risk and try something new, like a class in something you love.
- Let go of judgements
- Share your differences
- Accept others into your community
- Promote togetherness

"A sense of belonging is a human need, just like the need for food and shelter."

Karyn Hall, Ph.D. *Psychology Today*



"Loneliness is the only real disability."

Beth Mount, David Pitonyak, *The Importance of Belonging*

Participants dance in a Shakespeare for All class, featuring *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Photo by Heller An Shapiro.

ArtStream Challenge!

The People Net
We all need a people net, especially when we are trying to learn new things. Who is in your people net? Make a list of all the people in your life who function as supports.

My friends at ArtStream

"Each day is a chance to enter life's stage in the role of a lifetime. Be your best self."

Nicolette Stearns, M Ed, *ArtStream for Life*

ArtStream's Interview with Eli Lewis
- Silver Spring Company A

Eli has been acting for most of his life. After years with Imagination Stage, Eli started at ArtStream because he knew many of the founders through the Down Syndrome Network of Montgomery County. His life dream is to become a director.

ArtStream: What is your favorite part of ArtStream?

Eli Lewis: I like ArtStream a lot. I really like coming up with and creating new characters. I love the other actors. They are good friends. We do things together.

AS: What kind of things do you do with your friends?

EL: We like going to the movies.

AS: Your roommate, Steve, is also an ArtStreamer. What do you and Steve like to do?

EL: We play basketball and we like to go hang out at the mall. We love going to ArtStream and acting.

AS: What are you doing in ArtStream right now?

EL: We are working on creating our characters. That's my favorite part. We are also picking a name for the show.

AS: Is it hard to pick a name when there are so many people involved?

EL: No. Doing this in a large group makes it easy. Things are always harder by yourself.

Eli Lewis at the Kennedy Center Page-to-Stage Festival. Photo by Heller An Shapiro.

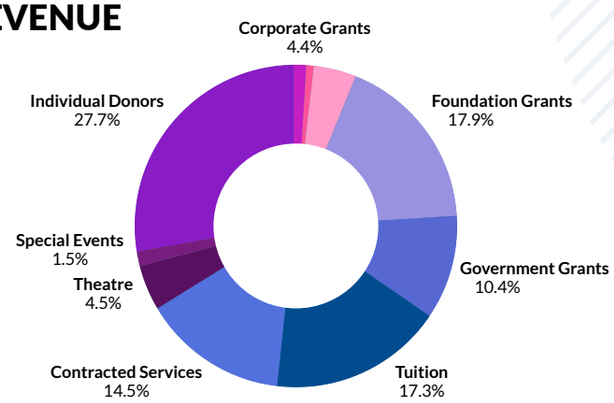
Mary Ann Dawedeit (Eli's Mom)

Eli got to be one of the Kings at the Kennedy Center Page-to-Stage Festival, and that was super special, and a lifelong dream of his. Eli was impressed because he knew Connor through work but since Connor couldn't make it, he called Eli. And that, as a 27-year-old man, is important. Your guy needs you! It was so cheerful to be a part of that connection. Eli wasn't even in the company that was invited, but they called on him! How great is that? That is community. You know these kinds of things don't happen on a day-to-day basis for a person with visible differences, so it was meaningful.

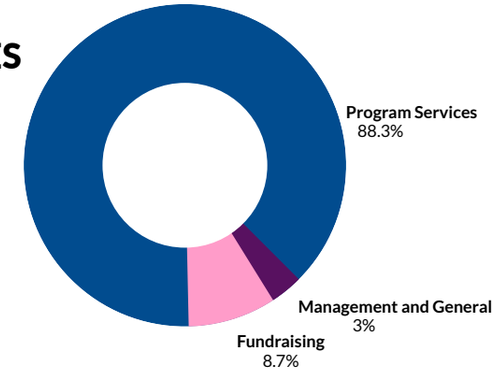
Financial Data FY2018

1,242
Total Participants in 2018

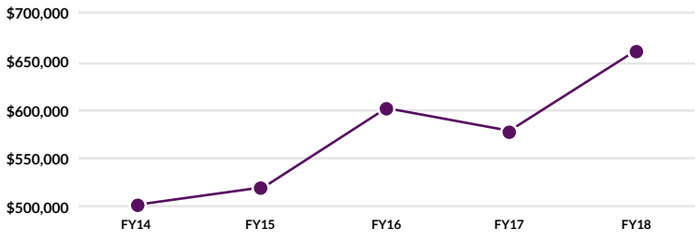
REVENUE



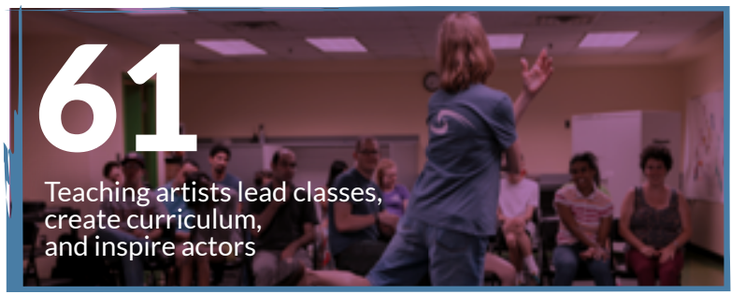
EXPENSES



ARTSTREAM ANNUAL REVENUE



Teaching Artists



Silver Spring Inclusive Theatre Company A performs *Aloha, Eh?* at Silver Spring Black Box Theatre. Photo by Liz Demaree.

Volunteers

Volunteers serve as role models, help to lead small groups, keep actors on task, and give one-on-one attention to students.

Many volunteers are inspired by working with ArtStream to pursue careers in disability services, performing arts, psychology, and behavioral therapy.

4,014
Volunteer hours logged this year

$110,399
Estimated value of volunteer hours

"ArtStream is a safe space to be authentic in your personal development as a human and an artist. I feel uplifted and I feel that I am uplifting others towards their goals when I'm at ArtStream."

Kathryn Hamilton, *ArtStream volunteer*

STRATEGIC PLAN – Accomplished!

PRIORITY # 1 – IMPROVING AND EXPANDING PROGRAMS

- ☑ Maintain 6 Inclusive Theater Companies in MD and VA
- ☑ Expand classes and workshops throughout the metro region
- ☑ Develop Cabaret
- ☑ Maintain and strengthen program quality through training and curriculum development for teaching artists

PRIORITY #2 – COMMUNITY BUILDING

- ☑ Develop an outreach strategy to cultivate current and future ArtStream participants
- ☑ Recruit and train program volunteers/ intergenerational volunteers
- ☑ Develop networking and sharing programs for parents/caregivers, and teaching artists
- ☑ Coordinate website/social media/newsletter strategy to improve outreach

PRIORITY #3 – GROWTH

- ☑ Strengthen and grow the ArtStream donor base
- ☑ Develop foundation, government and corporate grant opportunities
- ☑ Find costume/set storage solution

PRIORITY #4 – STRENGTHEN OUR ORGANIZATION

- ☑ Develop Board of Directors
- ☑ Strengthen staff team
- ☑ Move to accessible office space

ArtStream parent strikes a pose for cameras at ArtStream's 7th Annual Gala and Dance Party. Photo by Sherri Holdridge.

ArtStream is proud to be selected as "One of the Best" community-based nonprofits in the *2018-2019 Catalogue for Philanthropy: Greater Washington.*

Contributors: September 1, 2017 – August 31, 2018

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$25,000+

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Sari Hornstein
Maryland State Arts Council

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Deborah Woolsey
Nancy MacManus

ArtStream Executive Director Heller An Shapiro, and actor/self-advocate Adrian Forsythe y Korzeniewicz accept a check for $5,000 from Safeway Foundation. Photo by Nancy Forsythe.

Special thanks to the Estate of Harold and Barbara Woolsey, whose generous investment in the early years of ArtStream made all of this possible.

Over $416, 000 was contributed to ArtStream in FY18 from individuals and from corporate, government and foundation grants.

Support ArtStream

DONATE

Tuition and ticket sales cover less than half (46%) of the cost of ArtStream's programs. Your donations make it possible for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDDs) – including autism – to perform on stage, participate in classes, feel empowered and respected, and actively engage in our communities.

- ☑ $75 funds a full costume for one actor in an Inclusive Theatre Company Show.
- ☑ $300 underwrites a public speaking workshop for self-advocacy and pre-employment skills.
- ☑ $1,000 sponsors an 8-week class in Broadway Song & Dance, Shakespeare, or Directing & Design.

Donate: www.art-stream.org/donate or mail a check to the ArtStream office.

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arts & humanities council of montgomery county

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