



# 2019-2021 IMPACT REPORT

[WWW.ART-STREAM.ORG](http://WWW.ART-STREAM.ORG)





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



# ABOUT ARTSTREAM

ArtStream's performing arts 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.





## 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.





## Press

### **ABC'S OF DISABILITY PLANNING**

Eric Jorgensen, May 10, 2021 | Special Needs Navigator

Executive Director Heller An Shapiro shares the amazing work of ArtStream.

### **BLUE APPLE ANNIVERSARY ON ZOOM WITH AMERICAN COMPANY**

September 4, 2020 | Daily Echo

ArtStream is featured in a collaboration with U.K. theatre company Blue Apple for their joint 15th anniversary Zoom event.

### **INCLUSIVE THEATER COMPANY MOVES PERFORMANCES ONLINE**

Christy Matino, September 6, 2020 | DC News Now

ArtStream is featured for giving adults with special needs an opportunity to perform remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic.

# Who We Are

ArtStream teaches acting techniques and communication skills in inclusive classes designed for people of all ages with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDDs) — including autism. Previous acting experience is not required to take a class or workshop. Classes build skills that are applicable in all aspects of life, from the stage to the family dinner table to Individual Education Plan (IEP) meetings and the workplace. Class subjects may include comedy, music theatre, improv, public speaking, role-play, party dancing, and social skills.





# OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

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# CABARET AND THEATRE COMPANIES

IN 2022 (THE IN-PERSON YEAR), WE HAD



36

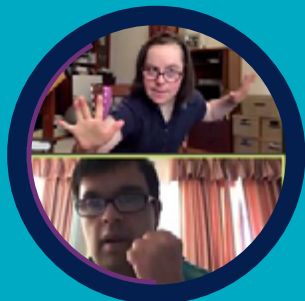
Theatre Company performances



4

Cabaret performances

IN 2021 (THE FULLY VIRTUAL YEAR), WE HAD



6

Zoom Theatre Company performances



10

drive-in Theatre Company performances



4

Zoom Cabaret performances

IN 2020 (THE SHUTDOWN YEAR), WE HAD



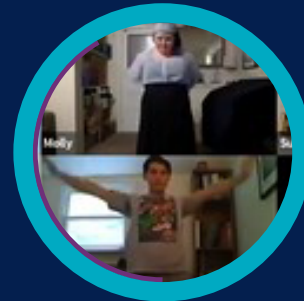
3

in-person Cabaret performances



2

in-person Theatre Company performances



6

Zoom Theatre Company performances



# 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.

# Cabaret Companies

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.

# Classes and Workshops

Performing arts classes are accessible, empowering, and engaging. ArtStream offered 858 class sessions in 2020-2021, more than ever before! Virtual and in-person classes teach music, dance, improvisation, and acting skills while improving social and communication skills.

After participating in an ArtStream class or performing company, students perceive themselves as markedly improving in both their performance and communication abilities, making new friends, trying new things, and being comfortable working in a group.

# 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.



**In 2020, we had  
20  
volunteers,  
and they  
worked  
more than  
1,652 hours.**

**In 2021, we had  
22  
volunteers  
in the Performing  
Companies.  
They worked  
a total of  
1,476 hours.**

**In 2022, we had  
13 onstage  
volunteers  
in the Performing  
Companies, and  
they worked  
1,326 hours.  
We had  
5 backstage  
volunteers  
work a total of  
270 hours.**

Everyone has a role to play at ArtStream!



## MEET AN ARTSTREAM TEACHING ARTIST **KATHRYN LODGE**

### **Q: HOW DID YOU GET STARTED WITH ARTSTREAM?**

**A:** I was at the Helen Hayes Awards in 2007. While on the dance floor, I ran into Heather Newhouse, who I went to school with in West Virginia. She was a stage manager for one of the Gaithersburg Companies. She ran up to me and was like, "I work for this amazing company. You have to come to my show." I did and was blown away. A couple of months later, I called to see if I could start volunteering, and it's all uphill from there.

### **Q: DO YOU HAVE A THEATRE BACKGROUND?**

**A:** I started doing theatre when I was seven and went on to do dinner theatre, so I grew up in the dinner theatre world. I studied acting and playwriting in college for the first couple of years. I feel like I've always kind of dabbled in theatre.

### **Q: WHAT ROLE DO TEACHING ARTISTS PLAY AT ARTSTREAM?**

**A:** A Teaching Artist is someone who facilitates a class and meets people where they are. That's a huge component of being an ArtStream Teaching Artist. We bring drama, storytelling, dance, and other areas of expertise to the classroom too. We try to perform our art out.

### **Q: HOW DO YOU PREPARE FOR A CLASS?**

**A:** It depends on the class. I do breathing exercises a lot to settle my nerves and mentally prepare to be open to everybody and receive all of their energy. You never know what they're going to come with, so you have to be prepared to accept everything and pivot. You might have a great lesson plan, but someone might have another great idea, so you go along with that and support that growth. Being open-minded and flexible is important. I'm also a planner. I plan all of my classes. There's



always a warmup and then we like to discuss things right out of the gate. We play games and have a lot of reflection and gratitude at the end.

**Q: WHAT'S IT LIKE TO COLLABORATE WITH OTHER TEACHING ARTISTS?**

**A:** I started as an assistant, and that's where I like to be best. I tend to assist a lot of classes, so in that position, I model behaviors and focus my energy on everybody else. I assist with Sandy a lot for dance classes, for example. She'll lead a whole class, and if someone's struggling or needs assistance, I tend to swoop in and help with that. Co-teaching is also something I love to do. Co-teaching involves a lot of communication, and knowing that you have each other's back makes you feel safe. When leading a class, your focus is more holistic.

**Q: HOW IS HAS IT BEEN TEACHING ONLINE VERSUS TEACHING IN PERSON DURING THE PANDEMIC?**

**A:** It was a weird pivot. It's really cool, though, because you can really see the changes in students. Some students focus more online because there are not as many distractions. I think online is also more individualized. I see a lot of growth online. Having classes virtually during the pandemic really saved a lot of us. I think building that community, having something to do and family to grow with, was great. It's more about people that care a lot about you and care a lot about your well-being and mental health and physical health. I think ArtStream did a really good job adapting and moving forward.

**Q: WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT TAKEAWAY YOU LIKE TO TEACH TO YOUR STUDENTS?**

**A:** That's a good question. I would argue that I like to teach what I also want. So, building confidence and building skills that you really want and care about, through discipline that is rigorous and challenging.

**Q: COULD YOU PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE OF SOMETHING INSPIRATIONAL THAT HAPPENED WHILE WORKING AT ARTSTREAM?**

**A:** So many. I think it's really cool when you click with something that you've worked with for a long time. I've worked with some students for a year or two. Suddenly the growth is like magic. In one of the theatre companies, one actor in particular really just stepped up and got more lines, and he crushed them. He did more dancing than ever before and was amazing. It was awesome to see him so confident.

**Q: WHAT IMPACT HAS ARTSTREAM HAD ON YOU PROFESSIONALLY OR PERSONALLY?**

**A:** I feel like I'm more comfortable with myself. I feel like I've found Teaching Artists and colleagues that feel like my family. There's just such a wonderful copacetic relationship and friendship between everyone.

**Q: WHAT IS SOMETHING THAT PEOPLE WOULD BE SURPRISED TO FIND OUT ABOUT YOU?**

**A:** I'm an open book. I can make my own pasta. I learned in the pandemic, where I started taking classes from a nonna in Italy over Zoom.

Everyone has a role to play at ArtStream!



MEET  
ARTSTREAM'S  
THEATRE  
AND EVENTS  
MANAGER  
**SARAH  
SANDIFER**

**Q: WHAT ROLE DO YOU PLAY AT ARTSTREAM?**

**A:** I am the theatre and events manager at ArtStream, which means I get to oversee our six Theatre Companies and four Cabaret Companies. Some of the things I do include planning dates for each company's auditions, rehearsals, tech rehearsals, and performances, as well as finding venues for us to rehearse and perform in. I also hire the directing team and designers for each company and help everyone work together to create a new show every year.

**Q: HOW HAVE YOU SEEN ARTSTREAMERS GROW OVER THE COURSE OF A PRODUCTION?**

**A:** The actors amaze me every year with how they adapt and create something amazing no matter what life throws at them. When we all went to Zoom rehearsals in 2020, every single actor grew from a stage actor into a screen actor, starring in beautiful movies and becoming technological geniuses in the process. When we went back to in-person for the 2021-2022 season, they adapted to wearing masks in rehearsals and while performing on stage. Their diction, enunciation, and projection skills soared through the roof as they made sure everyone could understand them through a mask. I am most proud when I see the actors tackle new skills that they may not have tried before. There is no better feeling than seeing a typically quiet and reserved actor march down to center stage to belt out a solo or to see an actor show off new dance moves that they have been practicing all year.





**Q: WHAT DOES ARTSTREAM MEAN TO YOU?**

**A:** To me, ArtStream is the opportunity to try new things without judgment. Every year, the Theatre Companies create an entirely new show, which means every actor gets to create a brand-new character and be someone entirely different. I love how everyone is encouraged to make their own choice about who they want to be and then actually becoming that person! I have seen actors become a Romeo with stage fright, an eccentric video game designer, pirates stranded on a desert island, master chefs, and even space explorers! Every day is an adventure when I get to play pretend with the world's most creative actors and friends.

**Q: WHAT IMPACT HAS ARTSTREAM HAD ON YOUR LIFE?**

**A:** ArtStream has helped me grow in innumerable ways. There is no way I can write them all down. It has given me the courage to advocate for myself and others, the wisdom to become a better leader, and the goofiness to not take anything too seriously. Theatre should be fun, after all! ArtStream has also helped me forge unbreakable connections with some incredibly talented artists in the area, who I can and have turned to when I need help. Even when I catch myself having a rough day, getting phone calls from the actors or being in a rehearsal makes me smile.

Everyone has a role to play at ArtStream!



## MEET AN ARTSTREAM ACTOR **ELI LEWIS**

### **Q: WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED AT ARTSTREAM?**

**A:** I learned how to do monologues really well. I also learned that it's okay to mess up a line, but make sure there is someone helping you to figure it out together.

### **Q: WHAT IS ONE OF YOUR FAVORITE CLASSES AT ARTSTREAM?**

**A:** I like the acting ones a lot. I also took directing, and it was a lot of fun. I love being in person best, but online was fun too. I take classes and am in Silver Spring Company A. ArtStream is a fun thing to do, and you can make friends.

I like Super Social Saturdays and live in the building where the class is. I like that each month has a theme. If I could pick a theme, it would probably be superheroes and princesses.

### **Q: WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART ABOUT ACTING IN ARTSTREAM SHOWS?**

**A:** I like when the audience claps at the end. That's the best part! I like sharing my ideas too. We work together and listen to our ideas. I've played a superhero and an old man. I get to play lots of roles.

### **Q: HOW DO YOU COME UP WITH YOUR CHARACTERS?**

**A:** I come up with a voice or a funny joke to start. I am a creative guy. I do like to play funny roles.



**Q: WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE  
SOMEONE WHO GETS NERVOUS ON STAGE?**

**A: BE EXCITED, BUT IT'S OKAY TO BE A LITTLE  
NERVOUS. BE COURAGEOUS, AND HAVE FUN!**







Everyone has a role to play at ArtStream!



MEET  
ARTSTREAM'S  
PROGRAMS  
MANAGER  
**RACHAEL  
SUTHERLAND**

**Q: WHAT ROLE DO YOU PLAY AT ARTSTREAM?**

**A:** At ArtStream, I play the role of programs manager.

**Q: WHAT ASPECTS OF ARTSTREAM EXCITE YOU THE MOST?**

**A:** Seeing new students come out of their shell and flourish is the most exciting!

**Q: WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR PROUDEST MOMENT WHILE WORKING AT ARTSTREAM?**

**A:** My proudest moment so far was experiencing how gracious and flexible our students are when we had to shift back to all online classes. I was nervous they would be upset because they were prepared to be back in person. However, many of them were supportive and understood that we were always making decisions with them in mind.



# CONTRIBUTORS

## September 1, 2019-August 31, 2020

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### \$25,000+

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Neumann  
John and Sasha Newman  
The O'Brien Family  
Emilia O'Connor and Joel  
Barr  
Maria and Kenneth  
O'Connor  
Stephen Oesch  
Rouzanna Oganissian  
The Outlaw Family  
Alice Owens  
David Paterson  
Erica Paulson  
Hannah Pileggi  
Carolyn Post  
Michael Rednor  
The Requejo Family  
Traci Richmond  
Patricia and Gary Ritter

Cecelia Rogers  
The Miller Sammons Family  
Louis Scampavia  
Rebecca Schade  
Barbara Schelstrate  
Ella Schiralli  
Lynn M. Schoenfelder  
John and Miriam Stein  
Irene Stephens  
Katherine Campbell  
Stevenson  
The Takemoto Scampavia  
Family  
Bobbi and Ralph Terkowitz  
Rebecca and Chip Unruh  
Dr. Gladys Gary Vaughn  
The Veerhoff Family  
Katy Wallis  
Lauren and George Wallis  
Dawn and William Ward  
Lisa Weber  
Cindy and Bruce Whiton  
Bonnie Williams  
John Wilner  
Wanda Wiser  
Karin Storm Wood  
Kirsten Wood  
Patricia Woolsey and Luke  
Warren  
Cynthia Yee  
Cheryl Zehner

## **FY21 IN MEMORY OF**

### **Lives Lost to Injustice**

Maria and Kenneth  
O'Connor

### **Geraldine Rudin Bukas**

Tracy Kidd

### **Morgan Hall**

Amy Neumann

### **Catherine Hill**

Jeanne Jones

### **Sue Lauser**

Jerry Hulick

### **Patrick O'Connor**

The British Players  
Emilia O'Connor and Joel  
Barr

### **Orrin T. Shapiro**

Heller An Shapiro and  
Daniel Neal

### **Mary Snyder**

Cheryl Morris

### **Patricia Weissenborn**

Connie Murray

### **Matthew S. Wood**

Friends from the  
Department of  
Transportation's  
Office of International  
Transportation and  
Trade

M. Melody Abraham  
Eleanor Allen  
Sue Bai  
Rebecca Baird  
Debra Bernal  
Beth Borko  
Steven Brummel  
Alice and Lance Buhl  
Carolyn Chiechi  
Maria Chiechi  
Diana Clark  
Molly Clark  
Nicole Cottle  
Claudia Covell  
Jennifer Dang  
Alec Dicks  
Mary and Arthur Downey  
Sheila Driscoll  
Nick Esterman  
Jamillia Ferris  
Kaidi Fullerton  
Joy Garrish  
J. Edward Glancy  
Erika Jones  
Stephanie Joseph  
Margaret Kearney  
Shondriette Kelley  
Nathan Kirschner  
Daniel Koblenz  
Shashi Kuppa  
Rusty Leech  
Tom Louizou  
Pamela and Silas Lum  
The McMeekin Family  
Louis Molino  
Jonathan Morrison  
Josephine Murphy  
Kiyoshi Nakasaka  
Stephen Oesch  
Alice Owens  
Erica Paulson  
Marcia Pruzan  
Belinda Rawls  
Traci Richmond  
Rebecca Schade  
Helen Schultz  
Reisa Shanaman  
Carolyn Shanoff  
Laura Trejo  
Gordon Trowbridge  
Rebecca Unruh  
Edward Wallis  
George Wallis  
Katy Wallis  
Gro Wood  
Kirsten Wood

## **IN HONOR OF**

### **Teaching Artists and Production Crew**

The Bradley Family

**The ArtStream staff,  
teaching artists, and board  
of directors. Thank you  
to the ArtStream staff,  
teaching artists, and board  
of directors for helping me  
grow and learn these past  
three years.**

Abby Madden

### **Silver Spring Company B**

Linda Gerson and Meyer  
Glantz

The Jones Family

The Keyser Family

Rachel Stein

### **Rye Ellis and Rebecca Webb**

Linda Gerson and Meyer  
Glantz

### **Nadia Abouraya**

Susan Stockdale

Katherine Campbell  
Stevenson

### **Shelley Belgard**

The Belgard Family

### **Merry Casillas**

The Casillas Family

### **Megan Cooper**

Anita and Stephen  
Esslinger

Michael Esposito

### **Kirsten Davidson**

Carolyn Post

### **Christine DiPlacido**

Ann DiPlacido

### **Kelly DeRoy**

Edward Kelly

Nancy Evinger

### **Christopher Famme**

Toni Stephens

### **Jonathan Feifer**

Sizhe Xie

### **Harriet Ann Green**

Gladys Gary Vaughn,  
PhD

### **John Gould**

Susan and Charles  
Brome

### **Kathryn Hamilton**

Mary Lodge

### **Peter Han**

Mary Sing

### **Raelene Henderson**

Ed L. Henderson

### **James S. Horlick**

Gary and Kathryn Horlick

### **Lindsay Howard**

Susan Howard

### **Sean Hume**

Kathy Schauburger



**Ravi Jesrani**  
The Jesrani Family

**Alex Kipp**  
Benjamin Pitkin

**Jeffery Keyser**  
Mary Murphy

**Colonel Andrew Levchenko**  
William Lee Hyndman

**Sari Hornstein**  
Carol Blakeslee  
Nancy Hartsock  
Traudel and Gerd Lange  
Gilah and David Langner  
Ralph Terkowitz  
Amy Weinberg and  
Norbert Hornstein

**Terrel Limerick**  
Donna Limerick

**Lukas McCormick**  
Nancy and Brian  
McCormick

**Leslie Moore**  
Dorothy Edlin  
Renee Young

**Eleanor Neal**  
Bonnie Williams

**Eric Neidringhaus**  
Nancy Evinger  
Anne Murphy

**Emilia O'Connor**  
Terry Allred

**Pallie Outlaw**  
Myra Outlaw

**Jennifer Quilty**  
Brenda Montgomery

**Javier Requejo**  
The Requejo Family

**Al Richardson**  
Jon and Susan Gerson

**Pete Scampavia**  
Louis Scampavia  
The Takemoto  
Scampavia Family

**Heller An Shapiro**  
Karel L. Amaranth  
Nancy Moses Greenblatt  
Stephen McCurdy  
Patricia Ritter

**Edward Y. Sing**  
Elisabeth Han  
The Han Family

**Laura Sullivan**  
Jennifer Fitzpatrick  
Mary Fitzpatrick and  
Marty Sullivan

**Tom Vanderslice**  
Lisa Gaffney  
The Vanderslice Family

**William Ward**  
Wanda Wiser

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

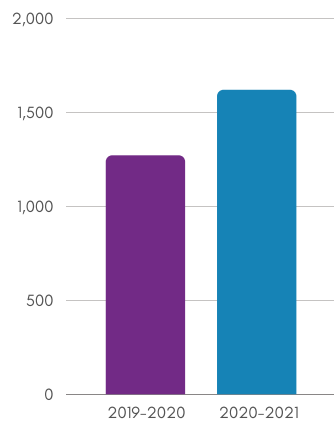
ArtStream gratefully acknowledges the generous people, foundations, and corporations whose support helps us provide performance opportunities to people with IDD's. We regret any error or omission and ask that corrections be brought to our attention.



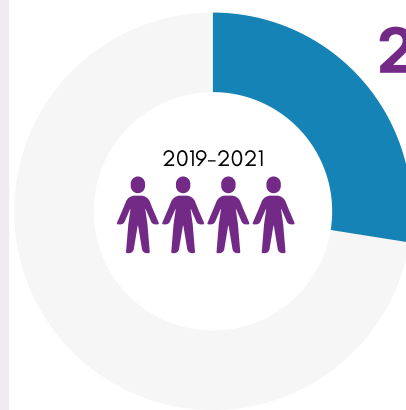
# FINANCIALS 2019-2021

## ArtStream Students

- **2019-2020**  
In the 2019-2020 season, ArtStream had 1,268 students
- **2020-2021**  
In the 2020-2021 season, ArtStream had 1,617 students



## ArtStream Students

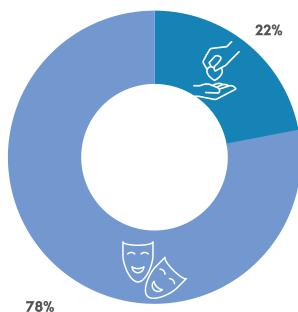


From 2019 to 2021, ArtStream saw a 27.5% increase in the number of enrolled students.

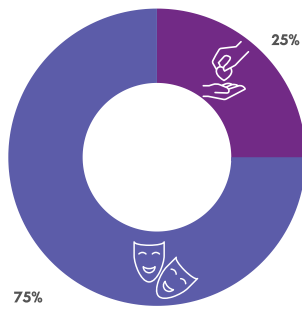
## Expense Allocations

2019-2020 Revenue: \$888,604

2020-2021 Revenue: \$1,047,698

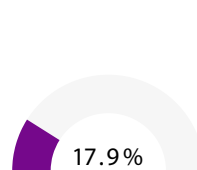


- Management & Fundraising
- Programs



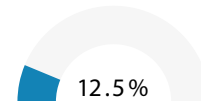
- Management & Fundraising
- Programs

## Revenue & Expense Allocation



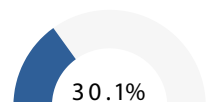
### Revenue

From 2019 to 2021, ArtStream saw a 17.9% increase in revenue thanks to a 77% increase in the number of donors and increased giving from many loyal donors.



### Programs

From 2019 to 2021, ArtStream saw a 12.5% increase in the amount of money spent on programs. This included a 20% increase in Teaching Artist payments, new video technology for online programs, and a 7% increase in the number of classes.



### Management & Fundraising

From 2019 to 2021, ArtStream saw a 30.1% increase in the amount of money spent on management and fundraising to enhance and grow programs.





16:27

Please donate to ArtStream at ww



 [art-stream.org](http://art-stream.org)

 [info@art-stream.org](mailto:info@art-stream.org)

 301-565-4567