



Quarterly

Winter 2021-2022

Letter from the President



Adam Stull
Board President

Dear Arts Council Members and Friends,

The Arts Council turned 40 in 2021! We reached this milestone in a year like no other in our history, as our community continued to grapple with the anxiety, financial uncertainty, and social unrest resulting from the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout, we met these challenges with ingenuity and goodwill while remaining focused on serving local artists, arts organizations, and audiences.

The arts have been deeply impacted by shuttered venues, cancelled programs, and lost jobs and income caused by the pandemic. The work needed to rebuild and renew the creative sector is humbling. Yet, seeing how people are drawing on the arts to heal, connect, and move forward is truly inspiring—as is the tremendous level of encouragement and financial support from our donors and county, state, and federal government. A strong arts community needs strong partners, and we are grateful for this support. It is a lifeline.

Since first joining the Board in 2018, and in my new role as President, I have found it personally—and professionally—rewarding to work alongside the members of the Arts Council’s Board and committees. As a team, we share a passion for our stewardship of the Arts Council and the crucial role the arts have in the health and wellness of our community and our local economy.

My gratitude to outgoing President Sharonlee Vogel for leading the Board during these unprecedented times goes beyond words. Her deep sense of purpose, combined with high octane energy and a no-nonsense leadership style, guided the Board’s efforts as we worked to ensure an appropriate balance between risk-taking and risk-mitigation during a pandemic.

Under Sharonlee’s leadership, our fundraising for the gala exceeded our goal, despite COVID. And, to better serve the arts community, we updated our website, developed new online communication systems, launched several emergency grant initiatives, implemented safety protocols at the Center for the Arts, and applied for funding to cover our own losses and payroll.

My appreciation extends to the rest of the Board—Thomas Engleman, Ellen Flynn Giles, Jordana Guzman, Julie Hughes Jenkins, Julia Kovacs, Greg Lowe, Muriel Mitchell, Tracey Pullo, Brian Rosenberg, Dami Soh Schlobohm, Debra Stepp, and Sabina Taj—who worked diligently to support the arts and provide thoughtful, strategic guidance to the Arts Council. I am also excited to welcome new members Brian Liu, Andrea Magers, and Ryan Rager, who joined the Board in October.

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Celebration of the Arts 2021

The Celebration of the Arts had a different look and feel this year, but it was still a fantastic evening. We welcomed nearly 200 guests to the Jim Rouse Theatre in Columbia, while another 100 joined us via live-stream. It was truly wonderful to come together again to experience the arts, and we’re pleased we were able to present an event worthy of the extraordinary artists and arts advocates we celebrated.

The evening began with a Special Art Auction Preview, with selected works from the online Celebration Art Auction displayed for in-person viewing and bidding. Guests enjoyed musical entertainment by guitarist Bruce Casteel while exploring the artwork.

Soon it was time for the main event—the Rising Star Performing Arts Competition and the presentation of the Howie Awards. Liz Bobo and Lloyd Knowles, strong supporters of the arts who as elected Howard County officials were instrumental in the founding of the Arts Council, acted as Honorary Co-Chairs for the evening. Joseph W. Ritsch, producing artistic director for Rep Stage, served as Event Emcee.

This year’s Rising Star finalists brought a diverse range of talents to the stage, and their stellar performances made it difficult to select a favorite. When the ballots were tallied, MaryKate Brouillet was awarded the title of 2021 Rising Star for her exuberant performance of John Kander and Fred Ebb’s “How Lucky Can You Get” from *Funny Lady*. The

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Holiday Maker-Mart



Shoppers at the 2019 Holiday Maker-Mart chat with a vendor (HCAC photo)

Kick-Off Event: December 2 • 5:30-8:30pm
NEW! Juried Holiday Market: December 3-12
Hours: Tuesday-Friday 4-8pm, Saturday-Sunday 12-4pm

Join us for our annual Holiday Maker-Mart on December 2 from 5:30-8:30pm as local artists and artisans offer unique handmade works for holiday gift-giving. This year the Maker-Mart returns as an in-person event, with an exciting new twist! Following the kick-off event on December 2, we will be unveiling a juried holiday pop-up market. This boutique-style market will feature up to 20 artists selling handcrafted creations. The juried market will run from December 3-12, providing a great opportunity to ‘shop local’, ‘buy handmade’, and support local artists during the holiday season! Visit hocoarts.org/makermart for details.

Artist's Block



Abundance by Paul Steinkoenig, installed at Gary J. Arthur Community Center as part of ARTsites 2021. (HCAC photo)

HoCo Open is a non-juried exhibit open to artists (aged 18 years and older) who live, work, or study in Howard County. Eligible artists are invited to submit one piece of ready-to-hang original artwork completed in the past two years for inclusion in the exhibit. Artwork submissions will be accepted online on a first-come basis, one piece per artist, until 100 submissions have been received. A highlight of **HoCo Open** will be the presentation

of the \$500 Covington Emerging Artist Award, established by local gallery owner Robin Holliday to recognize and support an emerging artist at a pivotal time in their career. Visit the Exhibit Opportunities section at hocoarts.org to submit an entry for **HoCo Open**.

ARTsites 2022. The Arts Council is seeking proposals from artists and sites for **ARTsites 2022**, a one-year outdoor sculpture exhibit on display from August 2022 to July 2023. Selected artists will be awarded a grant to participate in the exhibit. Deadline to apply is February 24, 2022. Submission guidelines will be available December 1 at hocoarts.org.

Arts Scholarship. Are you a Howard County high school student with a visual arts, theatre, music, dance, or creative writing degree in your future? If so, don't miss the chance to apply for our Arts Scholarship program. Online applications are available at hcac.gosmart.org. Deadline to apply is January 27, 2022.

Baker Artist Awards recognizes artists from the Baltimore metro region who exemplify a mastery of craft, depth of artistic exploration, and a unique vision. In response to the large number of artists who have been severely impacted by COVID-19, the awards process has been reconfigured. For 2022, awards of \$2,500 each will be distributed to 36 artists. Artists with a current Baker Artist Portfolio are automatically eligible to receive an award; artists have until 5pm on December 17, 2021 to create or update their portfolio. Visit bakerartist.org for details and to create a portfolio.

HCAC General Exhibit Program. Visual artists and curators—are you looking for a place to exhibit your work? We are seeking artwork in all mediums to include in upcoming exhibits. Individual artists, as well as curators and arts groups interested in presenting a group show, are encouraged to apply. Exhibits are selected and presented in the context of multi-disciplinary, thematic, juried, and invitational exhibits. Applications are due **January 1, 2022**. Details and application information are available in the Exhibit Opportunities section at hocoarts.org.

Letter from the President

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For 40 years, the Arts Council has been guided by our mission to foster the arts and engage our community. Throughout, we have served artists, audiences, and arts organizations by providing grants, producing programs and exhibitions, supporting arts leaders, and bringing communities together to experience creativity. Looking ahead, we remain optimistic and are committed to reopening safely and emerging from this pandemic stronger than ever.

For this recovery to succeed, we must work together to renew and rebuild. Whether in good times or bad, when we support the arts we make an investment in our community, our future, and our quality of life. For our part, the Arts Council is committed to developing a creative, vital, and more diverse arts community that will inspire us and fuel our local economy—now—and for the next 40 years. We invite you to join us on this journey.

Adam Stull, *Board President*

Need a Summer JOB?

The Arts Council is currently accepting applications for paid camp counselor positions and unpaid volunteer positions for our 2022 summer camps. Counselors must be age 18 by June 15, 2022; volunteers must be age 15 by September 1, 2022. To apply, visit hocoarts.org. Application deadline is **March 30, 2022**.

Get Ready for SUMMER CAMP!

Registration for our Visual & Performing Arts Summer Camps will be available **January 3, 2022**. Sign up early and choose from a wide variety of engaging and creative opportunities for your child. Camps are open to students entering grades K–7. Full- or half-day sessions and extended care are available. For complete details or to register, visit hocoarts.org.



An HCAC summer camper proudly displays finished artwork (HCAC photo)



Upcoming Exhibits at HCCA

Loo by Andrew Flanders, from *Abstraction • Contraption* (photo courtesy of the artist)



Gallery I: **HoCo Open 2022**

Gallery II: **Abstraction • Contraption**

December 18, 2021–February 5, 2022

Reception: January 7, 2022, 6–8pm (Snow date: January 14)

HoCo Open is our annual, non-juried exhibit showcasing local artists. Presented in a salon-style format, this crowd-pleasing show is open to artists of all skill levels who live, work, or study in Howard County. If you're interested in participating, see the **Artist's Block**.

Abstraction • Contraption features artwork by local artists Stanley Wenocur and Andrew Flanders. Wenocur's abstract, mixed media works capture the fleeting feelings, emotional struggles, and visual and mental images that people experience. Andrew Flanders, a mixed media sculptor and fabricator, investigates the relationships between craftsmen, the body, and the contraption in his works through utilitarian and abstract dialogues.

Please visit hocoarts.org to verify gallery hours. To learn more about Arts Council programs and exhibits, call 410-313-ARTS (2787) or visit hocoarts.org.

Celebration of the Arts 2021

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other amazing finalists who performed at the Celebration were: Lizzi Albert, Theatre; Amanda Cunningham, Singer-Songwriter; Teresa Deskur, Recorder; Daisha Graf, Dance; Madhulika C. Nallani, Dance; Eleanor Parks, Musical Theatre; and Gabrielle Stanback, Violin.

The evening also included the presentation of the Howie Awards, given for outstanding contributions to the arts in Howard County. This year's Howie honorees were Linda Joy Burke, Outstanding Artist; Eric Posner and Patty Hunter, Outstanding Arts Educators; and Phyllis Madachy, Outstanding Community Supporter of the Arts (presented posthumously). A special Legacy in the Arts Award was presented to Linda and Philip Press. Celebration guests also enjoyed performances by Kinetics Dance Company; Jay Frisby, Nick Lehan, James Toler, and accompanist Ross Scott Rawlings.

Nancy Charamella, of the Weavers Guild of Greater Baltimore, shows a 2016 ARTreach attendee how to use a loom (photo: James Ferry)



HCAC FY2022 Grants Announced

It was a pleasure to come together in person again for our Annual Meeting & Grant Awards Ceremony on September 17th. More than 100 guests were on hand as we shared the past year's achievements and looked forward to live, in-person arts events and



Some of HCAC's FY22 grant recipients with Maryland State Senator Katie Fry Hester, Maryland State Delegate Jessica Feldmark, HCAC Board President Sharonlee Vogel, Howard County Deputy Chief of Staff Jennifer D. Jones, and HCAC Executive Director Coleen West (HCAC photo)

another year supporting local community artists and arts organizations. For Fiscal Year 2022, \$602,882 in grants were presented to 23 Howard County organizations, 8 Howard County public schools, 12 Baltimore City arts and cultural organizations, in support of general operations, artist residencies, and special projects in the arts.

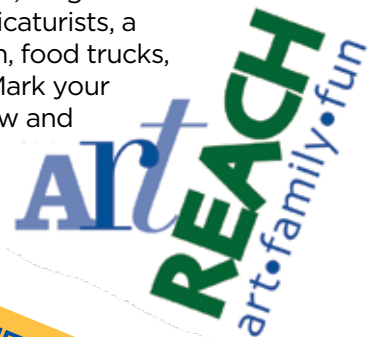
Congratulations to all of our FY2022 grantees!

For a list of FY2022 grant recipients and more information on the grant programs offered by the Arts Council, visit hocoarts.org.

ARTreach returns!

In 2015 and 2016, the Howard County Arts Council partnered with Columbia Association Art Center, Long Reach Community Association, and Howard County to present a free, fun, family festival at Long Reach Village Center. We are excited to announce the return of the event in 2022!

The festival features free activities for all ages. Join us for musical performances, visual artist demonstrations, hands-on arts activities, magicians and stilt walkers, caricaturists, a photo booth, food trucks, and more! Mark your calendar now and stay tuned for more information.



SAVE THE DATE:
June 4, 2022



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hocoarts.org



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Quarterly Winter 2021-2022 visit hocoarts.org

THANK YOU! Howard County Arts Council receives major support from Howard County Government, Maryland State Arts Council, Maryland Department of Commerce, U.S. Small Business Administration, Art in Ellicott City, Corporate Office Properties Trust, Howard Bank, The Howard Hughes Corporation, The Isadore & Bertha Gudelsky Family Foundation, Elizabeth & Ken Lundeen, M&T Bank, Sabina Taj & Kyle Reis, and Steve Teller.



Gallery Hours

Monday–Friday 10am–8pm
Saturday 10am–4pm Sunday 12–4pm

Howard County Arts Council will be closed on the following holidays:

December 24-26, 2021 • December 31, 2021
January 1-2, 2022 • January 17, 2022 • February 21, 2022

The Center will be open from 9am-5pm December 27-30, 2021.

Due to evolving local public health guidelines and restrictions, hours at the Arts Council and Howard County Center for the Arts are subject to change. Before visiting, please check our website at hocoarts.org to confirm hours and review current visitor guidelines.

Howard County Arts Council

Board of Directors

- Adam Stull, *President*
- Jordana Guzman
Vice President
- Muriel G. Mitchell, *Secretary*
- Greg Lowe, *Treasurer*
- Sharonlee Vogel, *Immediate Past President*
- Thomas Engleman
- Brian Liu
- Andrea Magers
- Tracey Pullo
- Ryan Rager
- Debra Stepp
- Sabina Taj
- Jeff Agnor, *Legal Counsel*

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- Pam Perna, *Community & Web Relations Director*

- Stephanie Schuster,
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- Elli Hernandez, *Gallery & Programs Coordinator*
- Mira Lamson Klein, *Community Engagement & Long Reach Studio Assistant*
- Dana Whipkey, *Grants & Special Projects Assistant*
- Raul Duran, *Visitor & Facilities Services Assistant*

Bookkeeper

Doralee Billings

Building Attendants

- Mark Becker
- Michelle Grazio
- Jay Shovan
- Miles Warren

Gallery Installation

Lauren Tolbert

Office Volunteers

- Nancy Berson
- Rachel Pomponi

In Memoriam

We were saddened to learn of the passing of local sculptor Ed Kidera. Ed was a frequent exhibitor in the Arts Council galleries and participated in several ARTsites exhibits, one of which led to a permanent installation at The Mall in Columbia. Our deepest sympathy goes out to his family and friends.

Creative Howard Grants

The Arts Council's Creative Howard Grant Program provides grants of up to \$1,000 to small Howard County arts organizations and arts businesses not currently served by our other grant programs. Applications for Creative Howard grants are reviewed monthly, with grants awarded each month until total allocated funding has been awarded. For details, visit hocoarts.org/grants.



Become a Member

Your support is needed now more than ever! HCAC membership dues help advance and support the arts in Howard County through exhibitions, scholarships, advocacy, the Howie Awards, and so much more. To become a member, visit our website at hocoarts.org, or call 410-313-ARTS (2787).

Check Out Our Winter Class Offerings!

Winter classes begin January 24, 2022. Offerings are available for children and adults. A complete schedule is available at hocoarts.org/classes or by calling 410-313-ARTS (2787).