



## QUARTERLY WINTER 2024-25 | HOCOARTS.org

**Thank YOU!** Howard County Arts Council receives major support from Howard County Government, Maryland State Arts Council, COPT Defense Properties, Ellen Flynn Giles & Robert H. Giles, The Isadore & Bertha Gudelsky Family Foundation, The Howard Hughes Corporation, Elizabeth & Ken Lundeen, M&T Bank, The Reis Foundation, and SECU.



## CHECK OUT OUR WINTER CLASS OFFERINGS

Winter classes begin January 18. Classes are available for children and adults. A complete schedule is available at [hocoarts.org/classes](http://hocoarts.org/classes) or by calling 410-313-ARTS (2787).

## 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](http://hocoarts.org), or call 410-313-ARTS (2787).

## GALLERY HOURS

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

The Howard County Center for the Arts will be **closed** on the following days:

December 24-25 & 30-31  
January 1  
January 20  
February 17

The Center will be open from 9am-5pm on December 23, 26, and 27.



2024 Rising Star Angelina Lim at the 27th Annual Celebration of the Arts (photo: Katie Simmons-Barth)

## 27TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS

Celebration of the Arts 2024 was a terrific success! Guests enjoyed food and drinks provided by 17 area restaurants, bid on artwork created by 50 local artists and were amazed by the performances of this year's 7 Rising Star finalists.

The Celebration audience cast their votes and selected flautist Angelina Lim as the 2024 Rising Star for her performance of "Caprice No. 24" in A minor by Niccoló Paganini. Congratulations to Angelina!

A highlight of the event was the presentation of the Howie Awards, honoring individuals whose contributions help make our community such a wonderful place for the arts. This year's Howie honorees were Fahimeh Vahdat, Outstanding Artist; Rebecca Clark, Outstanding Arts Educator; and Holly Gudelsky Stone, Outstanding Community Supporter of the Arts. A special Legacy in the Arts Award was presented to Deborah White-Bondhus.

THANK YOU to our Celebration committee and volunteers — this event would not have been possible without your extraordinary efforts! And special thanks to the generous contributions of our sponsors and culinary and beverage vendors. For complete information on Celebration of the Arts 2024, visit [hocoarts.org/celebration](http://hocoarts.org/celebration).

## Dear Arts Council Members and Friends,

2024 was a creative and busy year for the Arts Council and 2025 promises to be even more exciting! In the coming year, we will lead two major initiatives that will have a significant impact on the county's creative sector plus we are moving to a new location after 41 years.

As Howard County's designated local arts agency, the Arts Council is responsible for administering County funds allocated for the arts, serving as a leader and advocate for the arts, broadening opportunities in the arts, and identifying needs and sustainable solutions to strengthen the arts. To that end, the Arts Council raised \$327,900 from our local, state, and federal governments and contracted with Designing Local, a national consulting firm, to develop a comprehensive 10-year plan to guide the growth of arts and culture in the county.

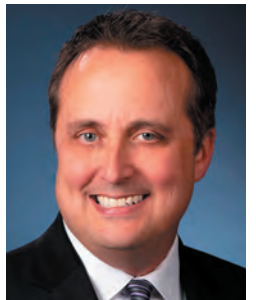
Howard County's previous comprehensive arts and cultural plan was adopted in 1991 and last updated by the Arts Council in 2003. Since that time, the county has grown substantially and experienced significant shifts in population and demographics - changing the demands for arts and cultural experiences along with the needs of artists and arts organizations.

The Arts Council, in collaboration with a coalition of community partners, aims to develop a plan that will:

- Map Howard County's existing arts and cultural assets
- Identify strategic pathways to grow and engage these creative resources
- Guide future programming, policy, and investments in arts and culture
- Capture and meet the changing needs of diverse arts and cultural communities
- Ensure the sustainability and continued enhancement of the creative sector
- Grow economic and community development

In the coming months, we will reach out to the broader community to facilitate dialogues, identify needs, and gather information about our hopes, dreams, and aspirations for the arts. We intend for the new arts and cultural plan to articulate our communities' priorities and to provide direction and guidance for the creative sector and our public and civic leaders so that — together — we can meet the needs of our arts and cultural communities, harness the power of arts and culture to spurn economic and community development, and ensure every resident has meaningful access to arts and culture.

[continued inside]



Adam Stull,  
Board President

## Kick Off Your Holiday Shopping At Our Annual Holiday Maker-Mart & Open House

**Maker Mart:** November 23 - December 5 | 12-8pm weekdays | 12-4pm weekends  
**Open House:** December 5 | 4-8pm

The juried Maker-Mart will feature local artists offering unique handmade goods for holiday gift giving in our galleries November 23-December 5 from 12-8pm weekdays and 12-4pm weekends. And join us on December 5 from 4-8pm for our Open House where artisans and crafters, including our Resident Artists, will be on hand. Don't miss your chance to shop local, buy handmade, and support local artists during the holiday season. Visit [hocoarts.org/makermart](http://hocoarts.org/makermart) for details.



Items for sale at the 2023 Holiday Open House (HCAC photo)

# ARTISTS' BLOCK

**ARTSITES 2025** The Arts Council is seeking applications from artists and sites for ARTsites 2025, a one-year outdoor sculpture exhibit on display from August 2025 to July 2026. Selected artists will be awarded a \$3k grant to participate in the exhibit. Submission guidelines will be available on December 1 at [hocoarts.org](http://hocoarts.org). Deadline to apply is February 24.

**ARTS SCHOLARSHIPS** Are you a Howard County high school senior 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 Scholarships. Applications are available at [hcac.gosmart.org](http://hcac.gosmart.org). Deadline to apply is January 24.

## IAM CREATIVITY: Individual Artist Merit and Creativity Grant Program

**FY25 Disciplines:** Film, New Media, Video and Music and Music Composition

**Application deadline:** December 15

Last year, the Arts Council launched its new Individual Artist Merit and Creativity (IAM Creativity) grant program, awarding \$16k in unrestricted funding to 8 artists in two disciplines — Dance and Visual Arts.

Now through December 15, we are accepting applications in Film, New Media, Video, and Music and Music Composition. Visit [hocoarts.org](http://hocoarts.org) for more information.



Join us for the opening reception of the HCAC Blossoms Invitational Art Show on February 21, 6-8 PM, at the Howard County Center for the Arts. On view from February 14 to March 30, the exhibit features artwork inspired by Howard County's pink and white blossoms. Local galleries and organizations throughout Howard County will also hold their own exhibits and receptions as a part of the Blossoms 2025 Countywide Art Show.

We are also collaborating with the County on a public art initiative to place up to 4 permanent sculptures at 4 County-owned sites. Our goal for the Arts For All program is to create a sense of place through iconic public artworks that will captivate and inspire residents and visitors for years to come. Public art brings cultural and social value to parks and places by adding meaning and character to our public spaces. Each location is unique and has a story to tell — public art can tell that story by creating spaces that are inspiring, have a pulse or feeling, and reflect the sites' history, aspirations, and values.

Thoughtful, well designed public art installations are responsive to their environment and include input from the community on the context, history, and culture of the site so that the artist can form a deeper connection with, and tell a broader story about, a place. The Arts Council will take the lead in this initiative, which includes contracting with a professional arts consultant, convening a steering committee, organizing community engagement activities with constituents at each site, selecting and contracting the artists, and coordinating artwork installations at each site.

In addition to these two ambitious initiatives, the Arts Council will also be moving out of its home for the last 41 years and relocating our multi-disciplinary art center to the Historic Ellicott City Courthouse. The arts center is critical to the Arts Council's mission and is a vital part of the County's arts eco-system. As a community resource, it provides opportunities for artists to work and a welcoming place where people of all ages and abilities can engage in the creative, transformative, and social power of the arts. As an incubator space, it provides a space for artists and arts organizations to grow and a supportive, creative environment for the production and appreciation of artwork in all disciplines. We have been working closely with the County and the design team from Michael Graves to ensure that our arts program and space needs are met.

Relocating to a more central place, within walking distance of a thriving business district and access to parking and public transportation, addresses the Arts Council's long-term needs and aligns with our strategic goals. It is also key to our ability to serve more artists and audiences, increase awareness and engagement in the arts, and broaden experiences for County residents and visitors.

I'd like to take this opportunity to recognize our Board members — Dr. Katrina Caldwell, Khensani Carter, Renee Lennon, Brian Liu, Andrea Magers, Muriel Mitchell, Ryan Rager, Casey Simpson, Debra Stepp, and Sabina Taj — for their insights and guidance as we developed these initiatives. Four new Board members joined us in October — Michelle Dunn, an arts advocate and community liaison, Ricardo Flores, Senior Financial Analyst at Johns Hopkins Medicine Howard County Medical Center, Darlene Richeson, Founder of MaZie Global Solutions, and Nicole Scarborough, Senior Human Capital Advisor at Export Import Bank — I look forward to working with them on these and other initiatives in the coming months.

All of us at the Arts Council are excited about the possibilities for arts and culture in 2025 and beyond — we hope you are too! Be on the look-out for invitations to get involved.

Be a pART of ART,

Adam Stull, Board President



## UPCOMING Exhibits at HCCA



**Gallery I: HoCo Open 2025**  
**Gallery II: Cheri Glover, Josef Keyes, and LUSMERLIN**  
**December 13-February 1**  
**Reception: January 17, 6-8pm (snow date: Jan. 24)**

It's time for *HOCO OPEN 2025* — our popular salon-style, non-juried exhibit showcasing artwork in a variety of media by Howard County artists. Artwork by Cheri Glover, Josef Keyes, and LUSMERLIN will be on display in Gallery II. The reception includes live music, refreshments, and the presentation of the Covington Emerging Artist Award sponsored by Robin Holliday. Free & open to the public.

July Jazz by Cheri Glover  
(image courtesy of the artist)

## CREATIVE HOWARD GRANTS APPLICATIONS OPEN

The Arts Council's Creative Howard Grant Program provides grants of up to \$2,500 to small Howard County non-profit arts organizations and arts businesses not currently served by our other grant programs. Applications for Creative Howard are reviewed monthly, with grants awarded each month until total allocated funding has been awarded. For details, visit [hocoarts.org/grants](http://hocoarts.org/grants).

## REGISTRATION OPENS IN JANUARY FOR VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS SUMMER CAMPS!

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 and to register, visit [hocoarts.org/camp](http://hocoarts.org/camp).

## HCAC FY2025 GRANTS ANNOUNCED



FY25 Annual Meeting & Grant Awards Ceremony Pictured (l to r): Coleen West, Executive Director, Howard County Arts Council; Felix Facchine, Deputy Chief of Staff, Howard County Government; Darlene Richeson, Board of Directors, Howard County Arts Council; Truth Thomas, Howard County Poet Laureate; Adam Stull, Board President, Howard County Arts Council, and some of the FY25 CAD grantees. (HCAC Photo)

It was a pleasure to welcome so many artists and arts supporters to our Annual Meeting & Grant Awards Ceremony on September 20. More than 150 guests were on hand as we reflected on the past year's achievements and looked forward to another year supporting local community artists and arts organizations.

For Fiscal Year 2025, \$668,117 in grants were presented to 26 Howard County organizations, 16 Howard County public schools, and 12 Baltimore City arts and cultural organizations in support of general operations, artist residencies, and special projects in the arts. Congratulations to all our grantees! For a list of FY25 grant recipients and more information on our grant programs, visit [hocoarts.org](http://hocoarts.org).

## LOOKING FOR A SUMMER ARTS JOB?

The Arts Council is accepting applications for paid camp counselors and unpaid camp volunteers for our 2025 summer camps. Counselors must be age 18 by June 15, 2025; volunteers must be age 15 by September 1, 2025. To apply, visit [hocoarts.org](http://hocoarts.org). Applications open on December 1 with a deadline of February 28.



2024 Summer campers getting creative (HCAC Photo)