



Students at César Chávez Elementary explore fabric printing and textiles with Lane Arts Council teaching artist Ariana Schwartz.

### HONORING 40 YEARS OF CREATIVITY & SUCCESS

Lane Arts Council was founded in 1976 by a group of artists who identified the need for a centralized arts agency. For 40 years we have elevated the arts by providing arts education to youth, supporting artists, and engaging the Lane County community in participatory artistic experiences.

In September, we commemorated our ruby anniversary with a lively celebration of arts and culture at Fifth Street Public Market. This special occasion was marked with live performances, the unveiling of an art installation, a collaborative painting with a Lane Arts Council teaching artist, and honoring of many individuals and partners who have aided our achievements. Thank you to all who attended to launch Lane Arts Council into another forty years of success!



Storyteller, actor, and musician Cullen Vance performs at our 40th anniversary celebration.

### COMMUNITY PARTNERS PROPEL ARTS LEARNING

The Rotary Club of Eugene is passionate about providing arts education to all students in the Eugene School District 4J. Rotary's partnership enabled Lane Arts Council to provide sixteen weeks of artist residencies, serving over 900 students at McCornack Elementary and César Chávez Elementary. Each school hosted two artists to teach clay, textiles, silk painting and cartooning.

Clay artist Alex Lanham worked with students to create painted ceramic tiles. Over the years, he and his students created permanent tile murals in sixteen schools throughout Lane County.

Rotary will be supporting arts education through ArtSpark, an initiative to benefit arts education in Eugene schools. Lane Arts Council is grateful for community partnerships and their tremendous impact on Lane County students.

*"I think art connects with kids in a different way. Because all kids are artists. They just need to have an opportunity to explore that."*

-Emily Kemp, Third grade teacher  
César E. Chávez Elementary



Students create expressive tile portraits with Alex Lanham through a Rotary sponsored residency.

### BIKE TOUR HIGHLIGHTS EUGENE MURALS

In August we continued our annual Mural Tour tradition, embracing Eugene's love of bicycling and art. This pedal-powered tour highlighted 16 murals in the Whiteaker neighborhood and downtown Eugene, including new murals by Acidum Project and Beau Stanton, which are a part of the 20x21 EUG Mural Project.

The 20x21 project is an initiative of the City of Eugene's Public Art Program to create *twenty* world-class murals in Eugene by 2021. Paul Godin, a 20x21 committee member, hosted the tour with over 85 attendees, interviewing seven featured muralists.

## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR


*Do you consider yourself to be creative?*

I recently asked this to over 100 people. Only fifteen raised their hands! Many people I encounter assume they are not creative. At Lane Arts Council we believe creativity is inherent in *all* of us. It is essential to who we are and how we connect with our world.

- Our arts education programs provide opportunities for young people to participate in art, music, dance and theatre. Creativity and critical thinking engages students in school and supports any career path.
- Teachers connect to their creativity through arts integration trainings and classroom programs. One teacher commented, "Now I remember why I started teaching in the first place!"
- During our First Friday ArtWalk and other events, the entire community participates in the arts and can connect with one another in a meaningful way.

Be sure to acknowledge your creative self. Next time I ask, I hope to see all hands raised!

Warmest regards,



Liora Sponko  
Executive Director



## FIRST FRIDAY ARTWALK AND FIESTA CULTURAL

Every first Friday, downtown Eugene is dedicated to the arts. Galleries pop-up in unexpected places, music fills public spaces, and artists and arts supporters come together to celebrate Eugene's local arts and culture.

Lane Arts Council presents the **First Friday ArtWalk** each month. Hosts from the arts community lead participants through five of the featured venues, interviewing artists and encouraging discussion along the way. In honor of our 40th anniversary, ArtWalks were hosted by individuals with a special connection to Lane Arts Council, including James Aday, one of our original founders.

Over two thousand people filled Kesey Square in September for salsa dancing and live music as part of a month-long festival in celebration of Latino art and culture. The 2016 **Fiesta Cultural** expanded to a total of sixteen events throughout Lane County, including five ArtWalks, three art exhibitions, two performances, two children's activities, one ceremony, and three art talks. Over a hundred visual artists, dancers, musicians, poets, and performers shared

their expertise and talent with attendees.

This year's Fiesta Cultural launched with a bilingual event marked by dancing, rope tricks, mariachi music, youth art activities, artwork, a soccer shoot-out, and guided tour. Fiesta Cultural culminated at Oregon Contemporary Theatre with Ballet Folklórico Tlanese, a young performance group specializing in traditional Mexican dance.

In regards to the kickoff event, a local artist shared, "In the 30 years I've lived here, that was the best downtown has ever been; that's what I've dreamed our town could be like."



*Fiesta Cultural kicked off during the ArtWalk with dancing and music in Kesey Square.*

## COMMUNITY ARTS GRANTS

Funded by the City of Eugene Cultural Services Division, Lane Arts Council awarded \$57,000 in grants to nineteen arts projects and eight community arts organizations. The Community Arts Grant funding ensures diverse and accessible arts opportunities and experiences for Eugene artists, audiences and participants. Funding is distributed to projects that directly impact Eugene residents.



Community Arts Grants funded salsa and folk dance festivals, poetry slams, museum lending boxes, artist mentorships, cultural exhibits, summer writing camps, and more.

### Grant Highlight: "Living Threads"

A feature of Fiesta Cultural, "Living Threads" conveyed a visual journey into ancient, living cultures through captivating portraits of deeply rooted people and their fashions. Eric Mindling photographed people and community fashion in over 50 villages in Oaxaca, Mexico. His two-year journey culminated in a presentation and exhibition in downtown Eugene sharing the photographs and stories from his travels, as he worked to honor and preserve the rich cultural story of the Oaxacan people and their traditional dress. Organized by Mija Andrade and Eric Mindling.

## LANE COUNTY ARTISTS IMPACTED:

Lane Arts Council proudly supports artists and arts professionals throughout Lane County.

### By the Numbers

- 591 artists participated in grant-funded projects
- 600 artists participated in First Friday ArtWalk
- 266 artists learned from professional development workshops
- 35 Lane Arts Council teaching artists engaged schoolchildren in high-quality arts experiences
- \$227,536 paid to artists

# ARTCORE GETS AT THE HEART OF LEARNING



Using creative strategies borrowed from millennia of arts-making, ArtCore addresses school-wide learning goals by engaging students in creative production.

This year, ArtCore teaching artists have woven their work into the fabric of five local middle schools, working alongside classroom teachers to integrate the arts and creative process into teaching and learning. Almost 90% of participating teachers believe ArtCore increases student motivation and engagement in school.

Rather than a one-size-fit-all approach, ArtCore offers ongoing professional development for classroom teachers – through teaching institutes and site-based staff trainings – where classroom teachers can become versed in a variety of creative processes and arts integration methods. Through these experiences, classroom teachers

develop the confidence to bring their own creative abilities to lesson planning, as they work towards supporting school-wide learning. As a result, educators have increased the frequency of creative teaching strategies in their classrooms.

As a teacher at Network Charter School recently shared, “I realize that no one besides me has the creative power that I do. I want to teach this.”



Teachers participate in an arts integration training institute.

Stay up-to-date at ArtCore's blog:  
<http://www.artcorelearning.org>

## MAKING SPACE FOR IMAGINATION

*Just recently, Cullen Vance brought his Live Looping Man show to our school for an assembly. During his motivational talk, he had the students stand and declare, “I am smart!” One of our students with autism gently wept as he said those words. He knows he is smart. Cullen helped him strengthen his self-confidence. The instructional assistant with this student was overcome with compassion, as was the rest of the staff and students. Teachers in Title I schools are usually stretched beyond their limits. Experiences like these keep them rejuvenated and reinvested in their mission.*

*-Deborah Adams, Laurel Elementary School*



*Our programs create opportunities to explore creativity through a multitude of artistic practices, from mask making and painting to learning a new instrument.*

Lane Arts Council believes in equitable opportunities for high-quality arts education in every school. Arts participation can have a far-reaching influence on classroom engagement, social skills and critical thinking. Our teaching artists provide specialized residencies that meet the needs of each classroom and supplement the existing curriculum. For many, our programs represent students' only exposure to arts learning, and our school partners deeply rely on us.

We received additional grant funding this year which enabled us to sustain our expansion to rural schools. In the 2015-2016 school year, we provided 22 weeks of artist residencies in rural schools, which is more than double the previous year.

Both the All About Art Summer Camp in Veneta and the Arts Apprenticeship artist mentor program in Springfield were implemented for the third year, and we look forward to the continued growth and evolution of these programs.

In the 2015-2016 school year, Lane Arts Council:

- Taught **8,500 students**
- Partnered with **39 schools**
- Worked with **35 teaching artists**
- Offered **84 hours of professional development** for 116 educators
- Provided **61 weeks of artist residencies**
- Coordinated **7 assemblies**
- Held **9 after-school programs** and workshops
- Facilitated **40 arts apprenticeships**

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

This financial summary, produced by Accountants on the Go and reviewed by Emge & Whyte, represents the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

Lane Arts Council completed the fiscal year strongly with an increase in net assets of \$14,821. This was possible due to restricted funding for ArtCore (arts integration program), and an increase in contributed income by foundations, business sponsors and individual donors.



Earned Income	\$306,418
Federal State/Local Grants	\$63,765
City of Eugene	\$71,000
Foundation Grants	\$88,000
Individual Contributions	\$34,001
Sponsors	\$23,078
Corporate Contributions & Grants	\$27,075
In-Kind Contributions	\$1,565
Other	\$3,200



Management & General	\$224,652
Programs	\$322,972
Community Arts Grants	\$55,657

Net Assets Beginning of Year \$174,032  
 Net Assets End of Year \$188,853  
 Increase in Net Assets \$14,821

### Visionaries \$2,500+

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