“Without an organization like RAW coming into my life, I definitely can’t imagine that I would have decided to try to break a boundary. They offer you all of these immersive opportunities that in reality, people of color are not going to see otherwise. The more and more people that RAW can put out into the world, the more that network becomes stronger and continues to help elevate this traditionally marginalized community. At the very least, you are going to walk away from it with something that is arguably going to change your life.”

- Daymian, RAW Class Of 2015, Cinematographer
Felix will forever be a RAW kid. After 10 years at RAW, participating in all six years of film school programming and many other visual arts groups, Felix graduated in 2021.

When Felix was in middle school, he came out as transgender, and RAW was one of the very first places he felt safe enough to do so. “Without RAW, I wouldn’t have found myself...and I definitely wouldn’t know how to be okay with being who I am,” he said while reflecting on his time in our studios. “RAW is the only place where a lot of us can just completely be ourselves.”

During his senior year, with the help of Project Launch, Felix was awarded the Point Foundation Scholarship. Point is the nation’s largest scholarship-granting organization for LGBTQIA+ students. This scholarship was only granted to 21 others across the country. Now a freshman at New York University, studying photography and imaging, this award is allowing him to attend college without taking any student loans.

At Felix’s high school graduation he stood tall and proud with a huge smile and the words “Thanks RAW” painted on the top of his cap. When asked why he thinks it is important for people to support RAW's mission, Felix says enthusiastically, “RAW has been the most important and the most impactful part of my life. It gives kids the space to be who they are and I think that is the most important thing that any organization can do.”
ACHIEVEMENTS

• RAW had a 90% attendance rate across programs – even when virtual!

• RAW’s Real to Reel Filmschool submitted over 200 youth films to screenings and festivals around the country, with nearly 60 films officially selected to be shown.

• The RAW Family Fund was established, allocating $10,000 to RAW families through $50-$150 gift cards to Walmart, MarketBasket, or a VISA gift card. Families could request up to $500 total.

• Over 100 kids attended RAW’s first ever “Movies & Mugs” virtual event in January 2021. Every kid was sent a care package with a mug to decorate, pens, hot coco & tea. Staff and youth spent 2.5 hours making art, playing RAW trivia, and watching movies together.

• Over 130 pieces of youth artwork were hung in our gallery for the new exhibit, “Find Your Footing, Make a Stand.”

• 100% of RAW seniors graduated high school and 96% of RAW’s seniors were accepted to college.

• RAW helped each college-bound senior to receive an average of $90,387 in four-year scholarships and grants, over $2,078,000 in total!

CHALLENGES

• 88% of the youth served last year came from low to extremely low-income households.

• The median household income in Essex County is $83,810, but in Lynn it is $56,181.

• 16.6% of Lynn residents live below the federal poverty line of $26,500 for a family of four.

• 24% of children in Lynn live below the federal poverty line.

• 36% of RAW youth live in a single parent or guardian household.

• 54% of RAW’s 2021 senior class are first-generation college students.

• According to the CDC, following the onset of the pandemic, the proportion of mental health-related visits for children increased 66%.

• 36% of RAW youth have reported mental health challenges or a diagnosis.
Dear friends of RAW,

We are so moved by the incredible generosity of YOU, our thoughtful supporters who keep RAW’s mission moving forward. YOU stepped up to ensure our kids had a space to share their fears and challenges over this past year, process the trauma of the past many months, honor the positives, and celebrate their many accomplishments.

Like so many organizations, RAW was unprepared for what the pandemic would bring. It was a shift that occurred nearly overnight. We had never contemplated such a total upending of our day-to-day operations.

Just like our kids and their families, RAW went through a time of incredible vulnerability. Your support provided RAW with the time and flexibility to reflect upon who we are, clearly see our highest priorities, review our recent strategic plan, and land in a strong and grounded new reality.

As a staff, and as a community of children, teens, and families, we are looking at RAW’s work with optimism as we consider so much opportunity ahead of us. We have doubled down on our plan’s goal to deepen community engagement, and hired our first ever Community Engagement Manager—a RAW alum! We have rebuilt our Leadership Team. We have opened new ways to connect with and work alongside you, our supporters to elevate RAW’s mission and share more impact stories. We have welcomed brand new staff members onto our team, and are greatly benefiting from their new perspectives.

We are ever-more affirmed in our belief that relationships are essential to everything we do at RAW. From the trusting relationships our staff form with our kids, to the bonds our young artists have with each other, to the important relationship RAW has with YOU. These relationships are what sustain RAW and make us strong!

For years, the core of our relational work centered on our kids being seen and heard. Because of the pandemic experience, RAW has pivoted to extend this practice to help kids grow their ability to see and hear others, whether inside the building or beyond RAW’s walls into the community. Given extended periods of isolation, our kids are SO ready to connect again with each other and grow into their personal and collective sense of agency in a world that is still so unpredictable.

We are so grateful to all of you, from our longtime supporters, to our nearly 400 NEW donors! Despite having to cancel our big events for the second year in a row, we developed new ways to engage our supporters including peer-to-peer fundraising campaigns. Because of your care and compassion, you helped us reach our goals and enter this new fiscal year strong.

Thank you for being a part of this journey with RAW and for making this meaningful work possible.

Thank you for being a part of this journey with RAW.

Best,

Kit Jenkins, Executive Director
Bruce Herring, Chair of the Board

FINANCIALS

**Net Operating Gain:** $224,613
**TOTAL REVENUE:** $2,269,747

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPERATING EXPENSES</th>
<th>OPERATING REVENUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corporate</td>
<td>Program Service Fees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program</td>
<td>Fundraising</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General and Administrative</td>
<td>Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Grants</td>
<td>Individual Donors</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: financial data above is unaudited, audit will be completed in December 2021*