The year 2021 continued to be a proving ground for organizational resiliency, collaboration and creative thinking. What we learned throughout this past year is all of us at Arts Mid-Hudson -- our staff, board, members and community -- are able to rise and continue with work that fulfills our mission: to provide vision and leadership to support thriving and diverse arts in the Mid-Hudson Valley.

Together We Create

Our tagline says it all. We have learned that Arts Mid-Hudson's accomplishments are shared with our collaborators. In many cases, our staff discovered new ways of working to ensure grant making, arts education, advocacy, folk arts programs, workshops and arts/cultural events continued successfully.

Arts Mid-Hudson continued with programs that our community anticipates, such as the appointment of the 2021 Dutchess County Poet Laureate, Dr. Lucia Cherciu and launched significant new programming including Poet Gold's monthly interview with local activists, "Leading with Artivism." This year, the Hudson Valley Gospel Festival was celebrated outdoors at Bowdoin Park.

The 35th Annual Dutchess County Executive's Arts Awards continued in person this year with a limited number of attendees, however, that didn't stop the effusive celebration for the 11 awardees who have positively contributed to the arts in Dutchess County. Guest MC Poet Gold joined County Executive Marc Molinaro in a festive evening celebrating the Dutchess County art scene while raising funds for Arts Mid-Hudson's work.

Ulster County Executive's Arts Awards marked the 9th year recognizing the artists, businesses, and individuals who enhance Ulster County through their vision, creativity, and dedication to the arts. The virtual event celebrated the 10 awardees with live music and guest appearances streamed into the event. Art Walk Kingston continued in its sixth year with open studios and galleries showcasing the work of over 100 artists.

In Orange County, Arts Mid-Hudson marked the eighth year administering the New York State Council on the Arts regranting program. The geography we serve covers 2,825 square miles, much of which is rural, creating a need Arts Mid-Hudson fulfills through increasing web-based information, collaborations, and programming. During 2021 Arts Mid-Hudson strengthened systems to ensure programs and grant making continued, placing Arts Mid-Hudson in a strong position as the executive director transition begins.

During 2022, we will continue to build on the relationships we have forged and establish new ones through our arts education initiatives, workshops, events and outreach. Our accomplishments of 2021 make our members, board of directors and dedicated staff excited about supporting thriving and diverse arts in the Mid-Hudson Valley, because... Together We Create.
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Together We Create.
Arts Mid-Hudson continues to provide essential support to artists and arts organizations in our region. In 2021, we worked closely with grantees to provide vital support. The AMH Grants team assisted a wide variety of constituents in applying to our funding programs. In 2021 we served over 200 people in grant information seminars and individual technical assistance sessions. This assistance allows applicants to brainstorm ideas, review a draft of their proposal, and seek feedback based on review panel comments. Grant support by Arts Mid-Hudson has allowed many grantees to leverage additional funds from other sources. Through the following grants and awards programs, Arts Mid-Hudson makes available county and state arts funding to every part of our region, making possible an extraordinary array of cultural activities.

**Decentralization Program:** These awards are made possible with funds from the Statewide Community Regrants Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature and administered by Arts Mid-Hudson.

**Ulster County Cultural Services & Promotion Fund:** Financial resources for this program have been made available by the Ulster County Legislature and administered by Arts Mid-Hudson.

**Dutchess Partners in the Arts:** Financial resources for this program have been made available through a partnership with the Office of the County Executive and Dutchess Tourism and administered by Arts Mid-Hudson.

Many programs were postponed to 2022, or we do not have reporting information yet due to extensions.

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**33,033 total people** served by all funding streams.

**13 funded programs and $19,650 funded by the Restart Regrant Program.**

**67 funded programs and $122,430 funded by the Decentralization Program.**

**15 funded organizations and $37,500 funded by the Ulster County Cultural Services & Promotion Fund.**

**8 Capacity Building Initiatives, 15 Programmatic Support, and $85,000 funded by Dutchess Partners in the Arts.**
Arts Mid-Hudson

ADVOCACY & AWARENESS

Through the Arts Mid-Hudson newsletter, web calendar, and social media, events from arts and cultural organizations are promoted throughout the Mid-Hudson region and beyond.

- Bi-monthly articles written on arts events and exhibits featured in the Poughkeepsie Journal and Hudson Valley News.
- Arts & Action meet-ups in Poughkeepsie and Kingston cultivate partnerships between artists and the communities in which they live, fostering collaborations and connections.
- Arts Awards in Dutchess and Ulster Counties build awareness of local arts supporters, businesses, and artists who enhance the quality of life in our community.
- Arts Mid-Hudson’s work advocates for the arts across the region through branding and support for local marketing initiatives.
Art in the Loft, an annual partnership between Millbrook Vineyards & Winery and Arts Mid-Hudson showcases local artists’ work in a gallery setting, providing sales opportunities.

Launch of Poet Gold’s “Leading With Artivism,” a monthly interview series led by Poet Gold interviewing local artistivists.

Art Walk Kingston, a weekend of open studios/galleries that focus on Kingston artists.

Dutchess Handmade, a pop-up shop to “shop local” from regional artists.

Artist-led virtual workshops during 2021 included professional development learnings on legal issues, goal setting and implementation, and writing artist statements.

Launch of Virtual Critique Group designed for visual artists to receive feedback on their work.

With support from the Dyson Foundation, Arts Mid-Hudson initiated a 9 month Anti-Oppression Anti-Racism Learning Cohort for 20 participants led by Rae Leiner and Kk Naimool.

Arts Mid-Hudson’s virtual gallery and artist discussions provide exhibition opportunities.
New York Foundation for the Arts, New York State Council on the Arts, and Arts Mid-Hudson presented the “Artist as Entrepreneur” a four-day professional development workshop series for local artists. Additional partners included Cornell Creative Arts Center and Radio Kingston.

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The Art Mid-Hudson Arts Education Alliance has grown from 10 members to 150 members ranging from professors, educators, administrators, advocates, principals, council members, county legislators, and more. Through the Alliance we are partnering with The Art Effect, Bardavon, BOCES, and professional working artists while we continue to make strides towards providing an Academic Innovations program. With the combined efforts of NYSAAE and the Alliance, we also initiated the first annual New York State Arts Education Advocacy Summit which hosted over 100 attendees, a panel of 10 advocates, several workshops, and speakers throughout the state. In order to highlight the incredible artwork high school students produce every year, The Art Effect, Scholastic Art and Writing, and art teachers in Orange, Ulster, and Dutchess County are creating the Young Artists Showcase traveling exhibit. It will be viewed twice a year and will include artwork from students from each county.

As a result of our successful program for high school students, THRIVE: Making a Career in the Arts partnered with the Mid-Hudson Career Consortium to offer 250 college students invaluable information as they prepared for the workforce, and secured internships. During the program’s third year Arts Mid-Hudson collaborated with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Newburgh & Poughkeepsie to offer high school students the opportunity to have a virtual meeting with professional artists for guidance and inspiration.

Arts Mid-Hudson offers great opportunities for college students to learn and advance in their chosen profession. By partnering with Vassar, we’ve created Feed the Artist Podcast where we interview professional writers, arts advocates, educators, and artists. By offering growth opportunities through job listings, call for artists, professional development, and art workshops, our community of artists becomes equipped to advance their careers, learn how to promote themselves, apply for opportunities, and protect their artistry.

In 2021 the Folk Arts Program celebrated 20 years of a permanent program at Arts Mid-Hudson. This year we featured weekly social media posts about the history and activities of the program. The AMH Folk Arts Program encourages the enduring traditional practices of the cultural communities of the Mid-Hudson region and sharing those practices with one another through interactive educational public programming such as festivals and workshops. Cultural communities are the best interpreters of their cultural expressions. AMH provides networking, fieldwork, research assistance, and resource development to aid communities in this endeavor. Public programs presented in collaboration with community organizations aim to expand awareness of and appreciation for our region’s rich cultural heritage. The Folk Arts Program is funded primarily by New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) and Dutchess County, with additional support in 2021 from Stewart’s Shops, Humanities New York and the Robert R. Chapman Fund of the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley.
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**Venezuelan Devil Masks:** 6 attendees  
**Mexican Embroidery:** 12 attendees  
**Hudson Valley Gospel Festival:** 200 attendees  
**Hudson Valley Gospel Presentations:** 443 views  
**Throwback Thursday:** 2184 views  
**Spiceways! Vietnam:** 162 views  

The Kingston Latino Cultural Study was completed in 2021. The working group has become the Alianza Cultural de Kingston to implement the findings.

**INCOME & EXPENSE**

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<th>Source of Income</th>
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<td>Public Support</td>
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* 34% of administrative costs funded through grants & contracts.