



President's Welcome

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Flagstaff Arts Council, I am pleased to present our Annual Report for the 2015-2016 fiscal year. A few highlights of a delightful year in the creative sector:



- Last fall's outstanding exhibition *Fires of Change* melded science and the arts in addressing
 the impact of wildland fires. The exhibition also traveled to Tucson, and was the first
 exhibition presented by the Arts Council to have a beautifully printed color catalogue.
- The 2016 Viola Awards event had the largest attendance ever and included very effective video interviews of all the nominees, as well as touching words from awards recipients. It continues to be a highlight of the Flagstaff cultural season.
- Seventeen artists graduated through the ArtBox Institute, the business training program that prepares them for the challenges of the marketplace.
- We presented many different kinds of workshops throughout the year, ranging from figure drawing, to comedy improvisation classes to FunTown Circus Camp for kids.

As you will see in this Report, the Arts Council is working hard to realize the vision of Flagstaff as a vibrant arts community. Thank you for your ongoing support of the Arts Council in enriching the quality of life here.

Holly Taylor Board President



Message from the Executive Director



Culture, art and science are stronger than ever in Flagstaff. In the past year, we've seen incredible growth in offerings throughout the sector. Whether it's the rise of the Flagstaff Star Party, or the development of a discussion series around the Future of the Colorado Plateau, or outstanding performances from the cast of *August: Osage County*, Flagstaff's artists, scientists and creative professionals amaze, enlighten and inspire.

The Arts Council has had a banner year. Fires of Change was a major highlight — one of many. We saw our staff grow with the new additions of Artistic Director Travis lurato and Marketing Director Sarah Smallwood, and the transition of Margaret Langworthy from Americorps member to full-time staff position. We added new partners and began data collection for the next study on the economic impact of the arts and sciences.

Through it all, though, it's the artists and creative professionals who inspire us to work hard and give back to the community. They bring Flagstaff alive in ways that no other segment of the population can.

Thank you for supporting the Arts Council and being with us through this past year of growth. We are excited to continue this journey with you.

John Tannous
Executive Director

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Art Exhibitions

A stunning array of art highlighted the past season at the Coconino Center for the Arts. Flagstaff artists were at the core of these offerings. *Local Color*, a biennial exhibition at the Center, gave curatorial control over to the artists. Twenty-four artists selected each other to be part of the exhibition, creating a diverse and refreshing display. *It's Elemental* once again featured incredible fine craft from some of the most talented artists in Northern Arizona. The *Southwestern Invitational*, featuring the work of 50 Arizona artists, traveled to the Center after its journey to six different galleries around the state.



2015-2016 Art Exhibitions

September 5 – October 31, 2015 Fires of Change – Main Gallery Starlight (Stan Honda) – Jewel Gallery



November 17 – December 18, 2015 It's Elemental – Main Gallery Foundations – Jewel Gallery



January 12 – February 14, 2016 Southwestern Invitational – Main Gallery Precursors & Remnants (Steve Nyktas) – Jewel Gallery



February 27 – April 2, 2016 Youth Art Exhibition – Main Gallery Learning From the Masters – Jewel Gallery



April 19 – May 28, 2016 Local Color – Main Gallery Before the Myth Makers (David Lash) – Jewel Gallery



June 11 – August 6, 2016

A New Latitude – Main Gallery

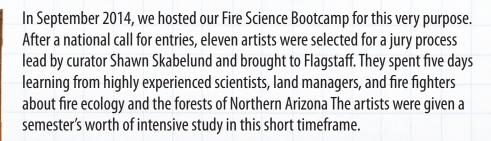
Moments of Peace – Jewel Gallery

Fires of Change

Fires of Change presented a fascinating cross-section of contemporary art and the history of fire ecology in the western United States. Eleven artists, mostly from the southwestern United States, were tasked with exploring the intersections of wildfire, forest ecology, climate change, and fire management practices of the past century and a half. The result was a stunning collection of work that formed a cohesive whole and challenged the viewer to reconsider their understanding of fire.

We were not interested in simply hiring artists to create new work about fire. Instead, we identified the right artists and then provided them with accurate

scientific data on fire ecology and a clear picture of the necessity of fire for a healthy forest. We then asked them to create new work, incorporating what they have learned with the perspectives they brought with them to the project.



The resulting exhibition was so strong, and the process itself was so enriching, that the Arts Council has adopted this same format — training for artists followed by time to create new art for an exhibition — for its upcoming 2017 exhibition that will explore uranium mining contamination on Navajo lands.

Fires of Change traveled to the University of Arizona Museum of Art in Tucson, Arizona, last winter, and will re-open at 516 Arts in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in spring 2017.





The Flagstaff Arts Council awarded \$300,000 in grants to non-profit organizations for arts, culture and science public programs. Funding is provided by the City of Flagstaff through the BBB (Bed, Board and Beverage) Revenues.

General Operating Support Grants

These grants provide programmatic and operational support to non-profit arts, culture and/or science organizations with programs that serve the public in Flagstaff, Arizona.

Lowell Observatory	29,000	Elden Pueblo / Arizona Natural History Association	5,300
Museum of Northern Arizona	26,000	Ballet Folklorico de Colores	5,300
The Arboretum at Flagstaff	25,000	Artists' Coalition of Flagstaff	4,900
Flagstaff Symphony Orchestra	25,000	Grand Canyon Guitar Society	4,500
Theatrikos Theatre Company	21,000	Dry Creek Arts Fellowship	4,300
Flagstaff Friends of Traditional Music	21,000	Orchestra Northern Arizona	4,000
Willow Bend Environmental Education Center	15,000	Flagstaff Light Opera Company	4,000
Flagstaff Festival of Science	11,000	Human Nature Dance Theatre	3,500
Master Chorale of Flagstaff	11,000	Flagstaff Community Band	2,400
Canyon Movement Company	8,100	Living Traditions Presentations	2,300
Northern Arizona Celtic Heritage Society	6,800	Heritage Square Trust	2,300
Flagstaff Youth Chorale	6,000	USA Dance, Flagstaff Chapter	1,000

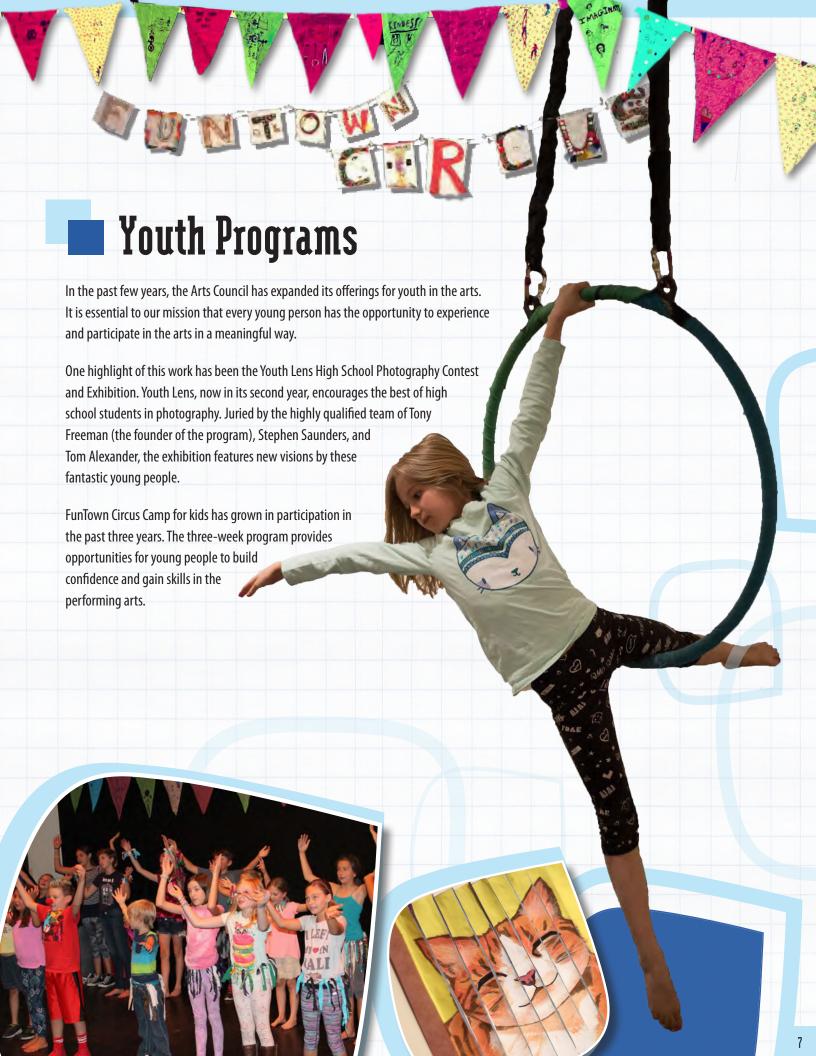
TOTALS - \$248,700

Project Support Grants

These grants provide programmatic support to non-profit organizations for arts, culture and/or science projects that serve the public in Flagstaff, Arizona.

KNAU Diverse Perspectives: Flagstaff Science & Tech Desk	8,000
Cline Library: Fred Harvey Co. in the American Southwest	3,900
Hozhoni Art Gallery Exhibitions & Workshops	4,700
Center for Indigenous Music & Culture: African Arts	5,100
Narrow Chimney Reading Series	3,300
CARES: Community Art, Restoration & Events for Sustainability	3,700
Capoiera Angola Workshops & Performances	3,900
Flagstaff Music Festival: Firefly Gathering	13,600
Sound of Flight Mural Project	5,000

TOTALS - \$51,200







On Monday, May 23, the 2016, class of the ArtBox Institute graduated in a ceremony at the DoubleTree Hilton in Flagstaff. The seventeen artists introduced and congratulated their graduating peers during the emotional event. The students had made it through a rigorous and comprehensive curriculum that covered a lot of ground and required the students to produce their own projects in the community.

The ArtBox curriculum is calibrated to provide business skills and prowess to artists and creative professionals to help them succeed in the marketplace. Topics covered include marketing and branding, financials, grant writing, gallery representation, alternate pathways to a successful art career, and much more. This year's class was led by Arts Council Artistic Director Travis lurato.

Congratulations to this talented group of artists! We are all excited to see what they have up their creative sleeves in the future.

2016 Graduates

- Paula Andress
- Paul Reinshage
- Ronni Ann Hall
- Nancy Ruby
- Brittany Burgard
- Cathrine Ryan
- Diana Galindo
- Alexi Stoll
- Greg Hill
- Holly Troy
- Ed Kabotie
- Jeanne Trupiano
- Elisa McKnight
- Sel Wasson
- Julia Miller
- Gary Wood
- Angie Moline







Viola Award Winners

The 8th annual Viola Awards Gala event was held at High Country Conference Center in Flagstaff, Arizona, on March 5, 2016, and featured forty-nine nominees in eight categories. Over 620 people attended the event — a new record — stretching the capacity of the venue to its limits.

Fifty video interviews premiered on the big screen at the Gala, featuring Charly Spining, the 2016 legacy award winner and all forty-nine nominees highlighting the work that led to their recognition. An outtakes reel from the interviews was played at the end of the night, which drew a lot of laughs. All videos are posted on Flagstaff Arts Council's YouTube channel, FlagstaffArts.

Mike Levin, winner of the Arts Education Award, became the fourth two-time recipient of a Viola Award (joining Becky Daggett, James Jay, and Flagstaff Symphony Orchestra); he won in 2015 for his role in *God of Carnage*. Levin is also the only person or organization to be nominated eight times, in every year of the history of the Viola Awards.

Areya Kugler became the youngest Viola Award winner in history at sixteen years old. The third time was the charm for winners Jeff Hall and the Framing Department at Hidden Light, both of whom won on their third consecutive nomination. Winners Kaci Heins, Jane Armstrong, Christopher Taylor, and Vicki Thompson were all first-time nominees.



2016 Viola Award Winners

2016 Award Created By Tom Williams

Jane Armstrong & Christopher Kane Taylor for Aphasia: Neurological Disorder in Text & Image

Bryan David Griffith for Broken Equilibrium

- Excellence in the Visual Arts
- **Excellence in the Performing Arts**Vicki Thompson for *Good People*
- Excellence in Arts Education
 Mike Levin
- Excellence in Science Education
 Kaci Heins

- ★ Viola Legacy Award
 Charles Spining
- Excellence in Leadership

 Jeff Hall
- Business for the Arts
 The Framing Department
 at Hidden Light
- Emerging Artist
 Areya Kugler



Promoting & Presenting the Arts

With a goal to promote, strengthen and build the arts and sciences in Flagstaff, the Arts Council has produced and presented a broad variety of additional programs over the past year. In FY16, the Arts Council managed and/or partnered to present:

- Concerts and Performances at the Center
- First Friday ArtWalk & Downtown Friday Nights
- Flagstaff365.com (with Flagstaff Convention & Vistors Bereau)
- Navajo Rug Auction (with the Museum of N. Arizona)
- SCI Talks (with the Flagstaff Festival of Science)
- Summer Concert Series at The Arboretum
- Flagstaff Folk Festival (with Flagstaff Friends of Traditional Music)
- Fine Craft Sale & Artist Marketplace
- Stories To Life (with the Coconino County Public Library)
- Visual and Performing Arts Workshops















What's coming in the next year

The past year has been filled with great art, amazing experiences and considerable growth. It has helped us lay the foundation for what is coming next. The Arts Council Board and staff have set forth our objectives for the future through a formal five-year Strategic Plan and through the creation and adoption of an extensive budget that identifies programs for the coming year. These are a few highlights of what you'll see in our programs as well as some behind-the-scenes work for FY17.

Upcoming Exhibitions

The 10x10 Exhibition & Sale will return to the Coconino Center for the Arts in January 2017, and the popular NightVisions exhibition will also return in June to showcase the very best art work from around the world celebrating the beauty of the night sky. The Arts Council is also working with the Cameron Chapter of the Navajo Nation and NAU to conduct a training for artists in preparation for an art exhibition that will explore uranium mining contamination on Navajo lands. The exhibition won't open until August 2017, but we are already hard at work to bring this show to the Coconino Center for the Arts.

More Learning Opportunities

The Arts Council is expanding its slate of workshops in FY17. We are planning workshops and hands on opportunities that allow both first timers as well as seasoned artists to explore, learn and grow in the arts. Already this year, we've produced nearly a dozen workshops, ranging from Improv to Card Making to Watercolor.

Planning a Long-Term Vision

The Board's Strategic Plan set in motion the Arts Council's next major initiative: to explore the possibility of expansion of the Coconino Center for the Arts, or the possibility of a new arts center altogether. In FY17, we will host meetings and forums and send out surveys to gauge interest and gather input that will help us progress in the best direction. We want to create something that is of the greatest value to the whole community. It's exciting work!

Supporters

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Phyllis Kegley

































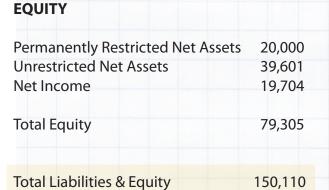


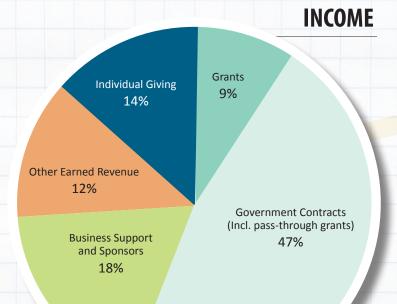


National Bank of Arizona, Mountain Heart Health Services, Aspen Loft Artists, The Arboretum at Flagstaff, Kahtoola, Flagstaff Arts & Leadership Academy, Bookman's Entertainment Exchange, Haralson Miller Pitt Feldman and McAnally PLC, DoubleTree Hotel by Hilton, Coco's Bakery & Restaurant, Vino Loco, Tom Alexander Photography, The Framing Department at Hidden Light, Monsoon's Chinese Bistro & Sushi, Collin's Irish Pub & Grill, Rimkus Consulting Group, The Mix, Bigfoot Barbeque, Theatrikos Theatre Company, The Gallery in Williams, Brandy's Restaurant, Flagstaff Festival of Science, Lowell Observatory, Marshall Magnet Elementary School, Flagstaff Symphony Orchestra

Financial Report

Balance Sheet as of Ju		Administration	EXPENSES	
			8% \	EXPENSES
ASSETS		Fundraising 6%		
Accounts & Investments Accounts Receivable	117,142 10,438			
Other Current Assets	15,235			
Fixed Assets	7,295			
Total Assets	150,110	Prograr Audienc Comm	ed and unity	Programs for Artists and Organiztions 60%
IABILITIES		269	%	
Accounts Payable	15,361			
Credit Cards	4,503			
Other Current Liabilities	50,941			
Total Liabilities	70,805			





Leadership

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Dorlee Henderson, Vice President, President Elect

Jean Hockman, Past President

Erin Evans, Secretary

Maxie Inigo, Treasurer

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Art Babbott, Supervisor, Coconino County District 1
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Cynthia Seelhammer, ex-officio, County Manager, Coconino County

Karl Eberhard, ex-officio, Community Redesign & Development Manager, City of Flagstaff

Paula Rice, Artist and Professor Emerita, School of Art, Northern Arizona University





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Sarah Smallwood, Marketing Director

Travis Iurato, Artistic Director

Kris Kosola, Assistant to the Executive Director

Margaret Langworthy, Program Coordinator

Mario Samano, Facility Manager

Emily Melhorn, Impact Study Intern



