

ANNUAL REPORT
FY 2019-2020



The Arts Council
of Wilmington & NHC

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

"It's a time in the land!"

My mother's oft-repeated refrain usually foretold a natural disaster that wreaks devastation or a heinous event that shakes humanity to its core. It's clear 2020 is that time.

But it's also a time to reflect on what we have been able to accomplish, despite 12 months being rolled into eight.

Your Arts Council...

- Spearheaded the Wilmington Rail Trail effort
- Invested \$65,000 in local artists and arts organizations
- Partnered with NHC Schools on an arts residency for Title 1 schools
- Hosted our first Candidates Forum
- Partnered with Wave Transit on route realignment and design of the new trolley

As we begin a new fiscal year, the Arts Council stands ready to assist artists, arts organizations, and audiences as we reimagine our world.

Wishing you good health and goodwill!



Cover Image: Wilmington Rail Trail photo by Greg Montalto

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Our Mission

To support artists and arts organizations through innovative public/ private partnerships that support jobs, stimulate commerce, and showcase the region as an arts destination.

Thanks to our Supporters!

Since our founding in 2012, the Arts Council of Wilmington/ New Hanover County has relied on the generosity of our partners and friends. The work we do would not be possible without your support.



The Arts Council is pleased to lead the charge to reactivate the unused railroad space on Wilmington's northside to connect arts and cultural assets using an urban trail for walking and biking that combines public art, wayfinding and pedestrian amenities.



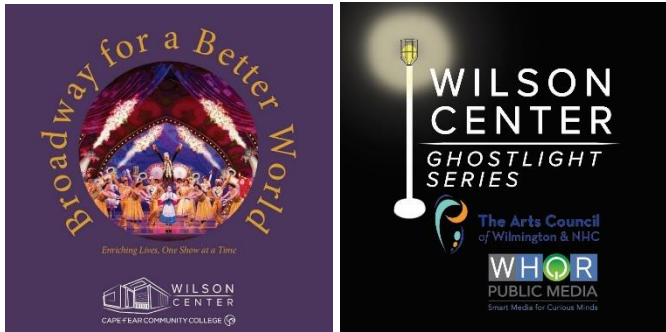
Wilmington's Pedestrian Art public sculpture program showcased 10 sculptures in fiscal year 2019-2020, made possible by support from the City of Wilmington and the business community.



The Arts Council maintained oversight of Fourth Friday Gallery Nights, Wilmington's premier monthly art event. The after-hours celebration of arts and culture at 20 galleries and art spaces will resume in 2021.

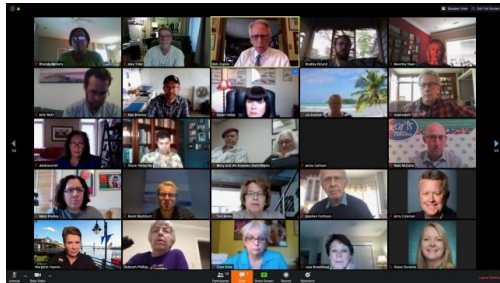


The Arts Council is pleased to continue its partnership with Wilmington International Airport, where we have curated a gallery for three years. We are excited to manage \$250,000 in public art commissions as part of ILM's terminal expansion.



We managed two grant programs for the Wilson Center. Broadway for a Better World provided free-of-charge tickets to underserved populations, primarily youth.

Through the Ghostlight Series, we were able to provide small grants to local artists whose livelihoods were impacted by Covid-related cancellations.



Lunch with the Arts Council

In lieu of the Wilmington Arts Summit, rescheduled due to Hurricane Michael and then the pandemic, more than 60 artists and arts leaders had Lunch with the Arts Council.



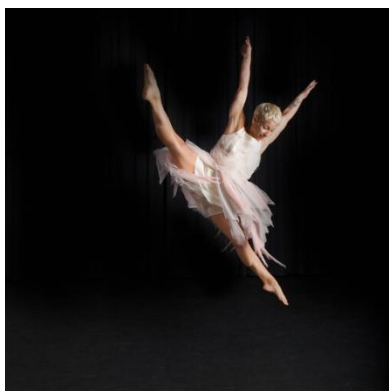
Candidates Forum

Our inaugural Candidates Forum on the Arts included 13 of 15 candidates for New Hanover County Commissioner.



Port City Trolley

We were thrilled to partner with Wave Transit on a route realignment that services Wilmington's four creative districts.



New Hanover County Schools

For a second year, we've partnered with New Hanover County Schools on an arts-in-education residency featuring Black Box Dance Theatre of Raleigh at select Title 1 schools.

Grassroots Arts Program Grants

As the Designated County Partner to the North Carolina Arts Council, the Arts Council of Wilmington administered \$50,000 in Grassroots Arts Program grants to support diverse programming.



North Carolina Jazz Festival Public School Outreach

2019-2020 Grassroots Arts Program Subgrantees

Black Arts Alliance, Inc. – \$3000 – 17th North Carolina Black Film Festival

Cape Fear Chorale – \$500 – Marketing for “Sounds of the Season” free public concert

Cape Fear Contra Dancers – \$500 – 2019/2020 Saturday Dance Season

Cape Fear Cultural Association of India – \$500 – Annual Diwali Festival

Cape Fear Jazz Appreciation Society – \$3000 – 2019/2020 Jazz @ the CAM series

CFCC Foundation – \$3500 – Community residency with Kinetic Light Dance targeting disabled community

Chamber Music Wilmington – \$3000 – 25th anniversary season

Coastal Youth Media – \$1500 – Media workshops in partnership with Grandparent Support Network

North Carolina Jazz Festival – \$4000 – Student workshops and master classes with NCJF guest musicians

Opera Wilmington – \$3500 – Costumes for “La Boheme” production

Techmoja Dance and Theater Company – \$2000 – Supports the musical production of “Dreamgirls”

Techniques in Motion/NC Youth Tap – \$3000 – Three-day residency with the NC Youth Tap Ensemble

Thalian Hall CPA – \$3000 – Production of Pied Piper Theatre’s “Jack and the Beanstalk”

Theatre Network of Wilmington – \$3000 – Salary support for executive director

UNCW’s Lumina Festival of the Arts – \$3500 – The 3rd Annual Lumina Festival of the Arts

WHQR – \$3000 – Production of “The Night of the Griots”

Wilmington Ballet – \$3000 – Production of “Little Mermaid”

Wilmington Jewish Film Festival – \$500 – Space rental for film series

Wilmington Symphonic Winds – \$3000 – 2019/2020 season of three concerts

Wilmington Symphony Orchestra – \$3000 – Supports “Music for Youth” programming

2019/2020 Regional Artist Project Grants

The Arts Council of Wilmington/NHC administers the Regional Artist Project grant for New Hanover, Brunswick, Pender, Columbus, and now Bladen counties. The grants, averaging \$1000, are intended to fund projects pivotal to an artist’s advancement in their respective discipline.



Art by Brad Ecklund

Alena Amato – \$1000 – New Hanover – Dance – Space rental for dance performance

Cypress Duo – \$1000 – New Hanover – Music – Record a professional quality CD featuring classical flute and guitar music

Heather Divoky – New Hanover – \$1000 – Visual Arts – Tuition/supplies to attend the Hambige Creative Residency in Georgia

Branham Dyer – \$1000 – New Hanover – Filmmaking – Purchase external microphones and recording/processing equipment

Bradley Eklund – Brunswick – \$1000 – Visual Arts – Purchase a surface sand drummer

Gene Felice – New Hanover – \$1000 – Visual Arts – Purchase a lithium ion battery system for a mobile art and science lab



Art by Nathan Verwey

Tanya Fermin-Jones – Pender – \$1299 – Filmmaking – Purchase Mac Pro Laptop for film editing

Maurice Martinez – New Hanover – \$1000 – Visual Arts – Photograph enlargements, mounting and framing for a Jazz “Time Capsule” exhibition

Cordelia Norris – New Hanover – \$990 – Visual Arts – First quarter tuition for a year-long online scientific illustration program

Kaitlyn O’Connell – \$1000 – New Hanover – Visual Arts – Upgrading studio equipment, materials, and camera

Jeffrey Oloizia – \$1200 – New Hanover – Literature – To attend the Association of Writers and Writer Programs in San Antonio, TX

Desiree Patton – New Hanover – \$500 – Millinery – Website construction

YiFenn Strickland – New Hanover – \$1000 – Visual Arts – Purchase a ceramic kiln

Joshua Sullivan – New Hanover – \$1000 – Filmmaking – To film a narrative-focused music video

Nathan Verwey – New Hanover – \$1000 – Visual Arts – Purchase a Microsoft Surface Pro, software, and accessories



The Arts Council
of Wilmington & NHC

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