Director’s Letter

While I expected challenges in my role, I never expected to navigate the Anderson Center through a pandemic! The difficulties of rapid shifts have also brought a kind of clarity. In working with the staff and board to find new ways to offer programming amid restrictions, we’ve frequently returned to the core of what we do: supporting arts and ideas in a beautiful setting. It has never been clearer that our work is powered by people. I am proud of the way we’ve been able to support those people this year.

Our sculpture garden remained open throughout the pandemic as a safe opportunity for people near and far to view original art in a beautiful outdoor setting. We partnered with other local arts organizations to form the Artistic Response Team of Red Wing, working together to provide virtual programs to our community and to connect artists with relief resources. We leveraged our growing online presence to share the stories of Tower View, from its history to the synergy of people coming together at this inspiring site – from Tower View Alternative High School students taking a hands-on History of Rock class at Universal Music Center to a visiting Artist-in-Residence building a lasting friendship with a local studio artist.

When the COVID-19 pandemic and related economic uncertainties hit in the spring, the Anderson Center worked with studio artists as needed on personalized payment arrangements to ensure that these key members of our creative community could afford to continue making art at Tower View. We’ve also shared relief funding from the National Endowment for the Arts with our studio artists through a utility rebate. As we renewed leases at the end of the fiscal year, all available studios were and continue to be rented out. As the artists attest, these private studios were a refuge for them during the pandemic. We are all fortunate that private studio rentals continue to be viable and safe during these times.

SUPPORTING LOCAL ARTISTS
Local artists, many of whom rent studio space at the Anderson Center, are a core part of the Anderson Center’s Creative Community. They bring year-round vitality, creativity, and collaboration to Tower View. These artists demonstrate the synergy of people coming together at this inspiring site – from Tower View Alternative High School students taking a hands-on History of Rock class at Universal Music Center to a visiting Artist-in-Residence building a lasting friendship with a local studio artist. Over the past several years, staff built up the Anderson Center’s online presence to broadly share our programs and invite more people to Tower View. We are seeing results; the Center’s social media following has tripled. Thanks to the work of new Development Director Adam Wiltgen, we launched a mobile-responsive website in May. These projects may have been in the works for years, but quickly became crucial this spring as we continued to build relationships through video studio visits with local artists and former artists-in-residence.

PUTTING IT TOGETHER
The progress reflects a multi-year effort to tell more people what you already know: the Anderson Center at Tower View is a gem. The combination of inspiring arts events in a beautiful, historic setting is unique. It’s been wonderful to meet new people and introduce them to an established creative community at Tower View, whether they’ve visited the galleries, attended an outdoor tour, or picnicked in the Sculpture Garden. As word about the Anderson Center continues to spread, I look forward to building on this momentum in the coming year. The goal is simple: for more people to come together to foster creativity and collaboration at Tower View and throughout the community of Red Wing. Through exceptional facilities, programs, and grounds, we will create a community that sparks innovation and engagement. We are working towards a future where the extensive site of Tower View is fully activated with year-round opportunities for people to engage with each other and with inspiring art; towards a future where a broad section of the Upper Midwest recognizes the value that the Anderson Center brings and supports that work.

WHAT’S NEXT?
As we celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the organization, I reflect on the words that Robert and Carolyn Hedin wrote to the Superintendent of Red Wing School District in 1993: “Imagine, if you will, an enterprising visual artist from Red Wing or from one of the many rural communities of Goodhue County having the opportunity to interact with one of the Upper Midwest’s esteemed artists at Tower View.” That vision has now come to pass many times. As we celebrate the successes, we continue to build on the momentum the Center has generated, to create new opportunities, and to grow. Thank you so much for your support of that growth now and into the future.

Stephanie Rogers, Executive & Artistic Director
Chairman’s Letter

Have you noticed the number of times “unprecedented” was used to describe negative things this year? In 2020, we experienced terrible wildfires, more hurricanes in one season than have previously been recorded, a virus pandemic, worldwide social justice demonstrations, and extreme political behavior—but were they unprecedented? A common definition of unprecedented is “never known or experienced before.” In 1968, when I was eighteen, the world staggered through a year that was filled with tragic news stories: riots, the Vietnam War, assassinations, and a deadly flu. Few events are truly “unprecedented,” and the word does not only apply to difficult events.

This was truly an “unprecedented” year of positive celebration for the Anderson Center because it was our 25th anniversary! We will never have another 25th year and we are looking forward to celebrating our 50th.

When I joined the Board of Directors in 1998, I never imagined I would still be a board member when the Anderson Center celebrated its 25th anniversary. The Anderson Center has been carefully crafted by co-founders Robert and Carolyn Hedin, joined by many community members, supporters, and artists who share their vision for a dynamic center advancing artists and ideas. The Center’s first 25 years included important restoration and renovation projects on our campus. The flagship residency program has provided more than 800 people with the gift of time and space to nurture creative work. The Center has supported and connected dozens of local artists by providing studio space and creating community. The public events and outreach programming serves a wide range of people in Red Wing and the surrounding region. The Center’s partnership with Tower View Alternative High School is a unique and mutually beneficial relationship that serves students as they complete high school graduation credits.

These 25 years were made possible by the hard work of excellent staff, dedicated board members, supportive contributors, and the buildings and spaces of Tower View Estate. The Center provides a home for our residencies, on-site studio artists, public events, Tower View Alternative High School, and space for community use.

Looking ahead, our Vision Statement in the 2020-2025 strategic plan is: “The Anderson Center will be a global destination for people to come together to foster creativity and collaboration. Through exceptional facilities, programs, and grounds, we will create a community that sparks innovation and engagement.”

At our annual board meeting in January 2019, we completed a thorough review of our 2016-2020 strategic plan. Our executive and artistic director Stephanie Rogers and board members Fiona McCrae, Karen Muller, and Robert Hedin then developed several drafts of a 2020-2025 strategic plan. After several board meeting reviews, a plan was adopted in September 2019. It includes Enduring Goals, representing long-term and ongoing goals of the organization, Horizon Goals, focusing on the five years of 2020 to 2025, and Priorities, identifying actions over the next 6-12 months toward our Horizon Goals. For our Enduring Goals, we are focused on programming, Tower View buildings and grounds, management and governance; diversity, equity and inclusion; development; and finance.

Even with the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, including restrictions on gatherings and public space access, we have made good progress. In the maintenance of our buildings, we worked on masonry reconstruction of the Tower balcony. In spring 2021, the Tower balcony’s historic decorative painting will be restored. The East Residence underwent major renovations to modernize the living spaces, kitchen, and bathrooms. The walls and attic were insulated and trim and wood floors were refinished and restored. Walls were reconfigured for better air and occupant circulation. The electrical wiring, plumbing, and windows were replaced, and a cooling system was added. The original copper roof was repaired and the siding will be painted in the spring of 2021. These renovations greatly enhance the East Residence’s energy efficiency, plus add excellent living and gathering spaces to the Tower View Campus that will support our programs.

During 2020, we completed an architectural and engineering study to replace the roof and the roof deck of the Bay Studios. Located on the northern side of the lower level between the Historic Main Laboratory and the Historic Barn, these studios were constructed during the 1980’s, when the Red Wing School District and the Technical College owned the facilities. The Bay Studio spaces are on the lower level of the north side of this building. Despite many repairs over the past 40 years, the roof has reached the point where it must be replaced. In that process, we will add more studio spaces for on-site artists or researchers and repair the space that houses the core mechanical and electrical systems for our main building This project is one of many needs that we will be seeking support for in our fund-raising efforts.

This year, we also completed a project on the Historic Residency, reglazing and painting the windows and repairing the original screens. With the help of Anderson Center staff, this work was carried out by a historic preservation training non-profit that trains interns in historic structures. This project’s costs were shared between the non-profit and the Anderson Center.

In 2020, we received notice of a major grant from the Minnesota Historical Society to support hiring professional consultants for a comprehensive assessment of the history and status of our historic buildings. During 2021, we will begin the initial work of a 10-year historic assessment of the Anderson Center campus.

www.andersoncenter.org
historic facilities for planning and funding pur-
poses. This report, along with our other profes-
sional assessments, will help prioritize our 2021-
2025 capital projects. These reports will provide
us with the needed information to approach our
many individual, business, non-profit, and foun-
dation supporters to help us preserve, enhance,
and maintain the Tower View estate to support
our programming, public events, outreach, on-
site artists, and educational partners.

As we adapted to COVID-19 restrictions, we
continued our progress on many strategic goals
through these planning and facility projects. You
will find more information in this annual report
on accomplishments in our other strategic goal
areas of the residency program, outreach, diversi-
ty, development, and finance.

In closing, I would like to thank all of you for
helping the Anderson Center celebrate 25 years
of serving the Red Wing area, the region, the
nation, and the world. This year has truly been
“unprecedented” for the Anderson Center, and
we look forward to having your support for the
next 25.

John Christiansen
Chair, Board of Directors

Board of Directors
Ralph Balestriere
John Christiansen (Chair)
Paul Cloak (Vice-Chair)
Sean Dowse
Ozzie Encinosa
Carolyn Hedin (Treasurer)
Robert Hedin
Taronda Howard
James Lenfestey
Fiona McCrae
Karen Mueller
Margaret Noesen (Secretary)

Advisory Board
William Haaland
Art Kenyon
Steve Lawrence

Staff and Key Contractors
Stephanie Rogers – Executive & Artistic Director
Joe Loer – Property & Finance Director
Adam Wilgen – Development Director
Laurie Andrews – Visitor and Admin. Assistant
Ron Carpenter – Facilities Manager
Amanda Nodolf – Accountant
Phoebe Nyen – Residency Chef
Lisa Richards – Housecleaner
Jon Seymour – Custodian

Staff and Board Lists are as of June 30, 2019.

Staff and Key Contractors

Financial Summary

INCOME $943,413
Capital Campaign 42%
Contributions 25%
Earned Income 15%
Grants 15%

EXPENSES $707,352
Residency Program 17%
Outreach Programs 16%
Management and General 10%
Fundraising 10%
Tower View and Sculpture Garden 47%

Above: Anderson Center Studio Artist B-J Norman working in the
North Studios. Opposite: The Historic Residence, Conservatory/
Greenhouse, and Little Lab seen from the Water Tower Balcony.
Photos by Stephanie Rogers.
Fiscal Year 2020 encompasses both the second half of the Anderson Center’s 2019 residency season and the beginning of the summer 2020 season. The program continues to grow in renown and popularity, with another record number of applications for 2020. Shortly after the residency panel met in mid-March to select a talented and international group of artists for 2020, it became clear that everything was about to change.

The Anderson Center postponed all residencies scheduled for May–July 2020. We are working with the selected artists to schedule residencies when it is safe to resume normal operations. Board and staff remain committed to bringing creative thinkers together from across the country and around the world to spend time and build community at Tower View.

We celebrate the artists who were able to complete residencies in July–October of 2019, the enduring connections they built with each other, and the ways in which they gave back to the Red Wing community.

You now have YET ANOTHER fan of the Anderson Center, and the amazing work you all do there!

THANK YOU SO MUCH for giving me the opportunity to dig deep into my fledgling manuscript, and to also connect with readers and writers at the Children’s Book Festival. It made all the difference.

Shannon Gilney
September 2020 Resident

One of the best residency programs I have ever attended. I experienced one of the greatest explosions of creativity, writing results, and new ideas that I had in years.

Kevin Doyle
October 2020 resident

The Anderson Center presented two exhibitions in the Potter’s Gallery and five different exhibitions in the main gallery, including “Portray” in January 2020. Above, studio artist Lindsey Cherek poses with her painting during the exhibition opening for “Portray.”

The Center joined four other local non-profits in the Artistic Response Team of Red Wing. Together, the group distributed art kits to middle school students in May 2020. Photo by Anna Ostendorf.

The Anderson Center continues working with Tower View Alternative High School to provide quality arts programming to students. Above, Dr. Gwen Westerman presents to Tower View students through the Books in the Barn Series, Oct. 2019.

The 2019 Holiday Celebration of the Arts (left) and 2019 Minnesota Children’s Book Festival (back cover) once again welcomed hundreds of people to experience Tower View and the some of the best artists and authors of the region. Photos by Stephanie Rogers.
The Anderson Center, through its sculpture garden, has provided a place for visitors to enjoy the arts during the pandemic. The garden has seen a record number of visitors, and many have taken the opportunity to continue exploring the art from their own homes. The Anderson Center's virtual studio visits have been a popular way for audiences to continue enjoying the arts despite stay-at-home orders. These virtual visits have allowed people from near and far to view the garden and experience the art. The Anderson Center is grateful to all those who have contributed to the garden and its success.
Outreach Program Sponsors

Arnold Orthodontics  
Arrow Building Center  
Curly’s Welding  
FAB1 Metalworks  
Family Fare Supermarket  
First Farmers and Merchants Bank  
First State Bank of Red Wing  
John O. & Barbara N. Hanson Family Foundation  
Jones Family Foundation  
Josephson’s Clothing  
Lerner Publishing Group  
Kiwanis Club of Red Wing  
Lerner Foundation  
Liberty’s Restaurant  
Mayo Health Systems Red Wing  
McCanna Lutherie & Appraisal  
Minnesota State College Southeast  
Munson Electric  
Musty-Barnhart Agency  
Noesen & Associates, P.A.  
Red Wing Brewing Company  
Red Wing Classic Cabinetry  
Red Wing Computer & I.T. Solutions  
Red Wing Housing & Redevelopment Authority  
Red Wing Port Authority  
Ripley’s Rental & Sales  
River Blu Salon  
Sargent’s Nursery  
Sievert’s Garage, Inc.  
Smith Schafer Associates Ltd  
Struss Optical  
Sturdiwheat, Inc.  
West End Liquor

Outreach Partners

ArtReach  
Americorps Volunteers  
Barebones Puppets  
Deer Crest Senior Living  
Downtown Plaza Senior Living  
Family Fun Twin Cities  
Friends of the Red Wing Public Library  
Goodhue County Historical Society  
Hispanic Outreach of Goodhue County  
Kerlan Collection (U of MN Libraries)  
Minnesota Correctional Facility, Red Wing  
MN Youth Reading Awards  
Prairie Island Indian Community  
Red Wing Area Women’s Network  
Red Wing Arts  
Red Wing Environmental Learning Center  
Red Wing Girl Scouts  
Red Wing High School  
Red Wing Public Library  
Red Wing YMCA  
Rivertown Comics & Games  
Sheldon Theatre  
SparkZ! A New Summer Adventure  
The Bug Guys  
Tower View Alternative High School  
Universal Music Center  
University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire  
Women’s Network

Government & Foundations