In last year’s Annual Report, I described the many challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic to demonstrate how Anderson Center staff developed alternatives to meet our mission and make progress on our strategic goals. I am happy to report that this year we saw the Anderson Center’s mission continue to come to life and thrive in our new normal.

The Center commissioned a Historic Structures Report as part of a long-term capital planning effort by the board and staff. The report will lay the groundwork for the ongoing preservation and maintenance of Tower View and help us attract grant funding to support our projects and programming. Matching contributions will also be crucial as the Anderson Center moves forward with identified needs, including repair of the foundation of the historic greenhouse, significant masonry repairs to the roof and walls of the historic residence, and reconstruction of the historic wall along highway 61. Tower View facilities and grounds are the inspiration for the Anderson Center and its programming; it is critical to our work of supporting art and ideas. These projects support the Anderson Center’s programs and ensure that the Tower View site continues to serve as an inspiring landmark for generations to come.

We also celebrated our 25th Anniversary, sharing historic milestones from A.P. Anderson’s life and from the Anderson Center and Tower View history in pictures and stories displayed throughout the galleries and hallways. In July, a Community Anniversary Celebration on the grounds and in the facilities of Tower View included open artist studios, open galleries, speakers, presentations, and anniversary cake in the Barn, plus food, beverages, and live music on the northwest lawn. Approximately 900 visitors throughout the day represented a wide range of ages, cultures, and diversity.

This day was one realization of our vision for the Anderson Center to create a destination for people to come together from different disciplines, different geographic areas, different stages of life and different cultural backgrounds to foster creativity and collaboration. We also see this vision come to life when professional musicians from Universal Music Center teach a History of Rock class to local high school students. When graduate students work alongside some of the most recognized writers in their field. When families meet local authors and connect with each other while experiencing the best new children’s books. We see the vision in the residencies of diverse artists and thinkers who create work that inspires, engages, and transforms communities around the globe.

The Anderson Center and I thank you for all of your support, encourage you to visit often, and invite you to join us in building on the success and stability of this important organization as we:

- **ADVANCE** the mission driven work of supporting art and ideas
- **PRESERVE** the buildings and grounds of the Tower View Historic Site
- **CREATE** sustainable revenue opportunities that will insure the future of the organization.

— John Christiansen, Board Chair
Of the many things I appreciate about my job, the best moments involve watching someone experience a profound connection with artwork that the Anderson Center presents. I have witnessed this time and again over the past year, but one instance stands out.

Our January 2021 group exhibition, *Material*, featured an installation by former artist-in-residence Anna Carlson. In addition to dyed indigo handkerchiefs and a book compiling experiences and research on Major Depressive Episodes, Carlson’s work also featured an opportunity for people to respond. Many anonymously shared their own experiences with depression, clinically-diagnosed or otherwise. Isolating experiences often kept quiet were made public and visible. One gallery visitor said, with tears in her eyes, “Thank you for showing work like this.”

These moments keep me committed to the arts and humanities. Crafting personal experiences and ideas into sharable forms makes connection possible. Art helps us understand that others share deeply human experiences. From the silliness of a children’s book to profound questions about life communicated through poetry, art is the vehicle for that which isn’t easily articulated.

**Summarizing Fiscal Year 2021**
The Anderson Center Residency Program looked different during Fiscal Year 2021. The Center postponed international residencies, reduced the number of artists participating at any given time, and implemented significant precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Through these necessary changes, though, we continued to offer the support of space and time to advance meaningful creative work.

Art helps us understand that others share deeply human experiences.

In May 2021, we launched a new pilot program: the Public Artist Residency. With funding from the Minnesota State Arts Board, this initiative brought an artist with experience working in community to Red Wing to engage people in planning a highly-visible piece of public art. The Center welcomed muralist Camila Leiva, who was selected by a community panel. Through workshops with the after-school programs of Hispanic Outreach of Goodhue County and conversations with Goodhue County Master Gardeners and the Land and Environment Department of Prairie Island Indian Community, Camila developed designs for a Plant Wisdom Mural that celebrates the cultural significance of different plants in

Cover: (front, l-r: Charlie Ainsworth, DAR ’21; Youmee Lee, DAR ’21, and B.J. Norman, studio artist, attend the Deaf Artists Residency Capstone event, photo by Cuong Nguyen. This page: Anna Carlson (resident 2018) installs her work “140 Days” in the Main Gallery. Photo by Stephanie Rogers. Opposite: Chastity Brown performs at the 25th Anniversary Party. Photo by Chap Achen.
our area. We look forward to the collaborative completion of the project at the corner of Plum Street and Third Street in 2022. This new effort builds on the Center’s longstanding commitment to connect the local community with innovative artists. It also represents an important investment on the Anderson Center’s part to support public art that defines the history and character of Red Wing, while providing a meaningful commission to a Minnesota artist.

Thanks to extensive outdoor space, the Anderson Center continued to safely present in-person arts programming. FY2021 saw the installation of three new works in the Sculpture Garden, by Perci Chester, Alonso Sierralta, and Pete Driessen. These additions represent our commitment to ensuring that this privately-operated public park continues to be a vibrant outdoor gallery and recreation space. They also signal renewed commitment to diversifying the types of work and the sculptors represented in the collection by intentionally adding works by artists who are women and/or Black, Indigenous, or People of Color, and by those who are sharing community stories through their creations.

This past year has deepened my perspective on the connection between the Tower View Historic Site’s innovative history and the Anderson Center’s people and programming. The spaces of Tower View make the organization’s work possible, and the programs activate the site and support its stewardship. This dynamic interaction has always been present and took on new facets during fiscal year 2021.

Relief grants allowed us to add ionization units to HVAC systems in the main building to keep people safe, and programs that normally happen indoors shifted outside to the extensive grounds of the Anderson Center. With distancing measures and HVAC improvements in place, the Anderson Center also continued to present in-person exhibitions. Utilizing the upper lawn outside of the gallery, we hosted outdoor receptions with distanced, timed viewings of the exhibitions.

The combination of a multi-day in-person Holiday Celebration of the Arts with an online sales portal resulted in the greatest number of artwork sales that event has seen in years. I am so grateful to our community near and far for answering our invitation to shop local and support the arts during the 2020 Holiday season. That level of support makes a big difference to our local and regional artists.

The Anderson Center engaged people near and far through online programming. In one such memorable event, we honored the 2020-2021 A.P. Anderson Award-winner, Ananya Chatterjea, in an online ceremony and interview. Dr. Chatterjea’s work as a choreographer, dancer, theorist, teacher, and activist puts her on the cutting edge of dance. It was an absolute pleasure to talk about practice, theory, and relationality with her and to share the conversation (if you missed it, the interview is available on the Anderson Center’s website and YouTube channel).

We continue to set ambitious goals for the Anderson Center as a pillar of the Red Wing
community, a destination for national visitors, and source of significant contributions to the arts and humanities. I am committed to continuous improvement as we strive to meet our highest organizational values: creativity, excellence, stewardship, experimentation, community, global perspectives, collaboration, hospitality, and equity.

The Anderson Center is made possible by many people, including participants, volunteers, donors, staff, board members, students, and artists. To everyone who makes this place possible, builds connections and relationships here, and gains creativity and new ideas: thank you for being a part of our creative community.

— Stephanie Rogers, Executive & Artistic Director

My kids liked it a lot and are excited for next week!

—parent of a student who participated in sculpture workshops with Alonso Sierralta presented by the Anderson Center in collaboration with Hispanic Outreach of Goodhue County and Red Wing Youth Outreach.

Staff and Key Contractors
Stephanie Rogers – Executive & Artistic Director
Joe Loer – Property & Finance Director
Adam Wiltgen – Development Director & Residency Coordinator
Ron Carpenter – Facilities Manager
Kendra Gebbia – Visitor and Admin. Assistant
Amanda Nodolf – Accountant
Phoebe Nyen – Residency Chef
Lisa Richards – Housecleaner
Jon Seymour – Custodian
Dale Swanson – Maintenance Assistant

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Paul Cloak
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Fiona McCrae
Karen Mueller
Margaret Noesen (Secretary)

Advisory Board
William Haaland
Art Kenyon
Steve Lawrence

Staff and Board Lists are as of June 30, 2021.

Opposite page: Public Artist-in-Residence Camila Leiva at a community mural-making workshop hosted by ArtReach. This page: Sculptor Alonso Sierralta works with students from Hispanic Outreach and Youth Outreach in a series of three workshops at the Anderson Center. Photos by Stephanie Rogers.
The Anderson Center’s support for creativity and presentation of high-quality programs include paying professional artists and thinkers for their work. The organization tracks payments to artists across different categories as one metric of how we provide support. Thanks to generous support from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Jerome Foundation, Fiscal Year 2021 included payments to Deaf Artists Residents and Jerome Resident Fellows.
The COVID-19 pandemic necessitated changes to programs. This impacted the number of people who engaged with the Anderson Center during Fiscal Year 2021, which began on July 1, 2020. Increased Sculpture Garden attendance did not fully offset decreased participation numbers in other events due to postponement (such as Books in the Barn) or limited capacity (such as the 2020 Holiday Celebration of the Arts).

Despite these challenges, the overall trajectory over multiple fiscal years shows that the Anderson Center’s creative community is growing. We are committed to inviting new participants, collaborating with partner organizations to grow the Center’s impact, and providing engaging opportunities for existing members and volunteers.
In Fiscal Year 2021, the Anderson Center supported 21 artists-in-residence, including the successful return of our Deaf Artists Residency Program in June 2021 (supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts).

Above: October 2020 artists-in-residence (l-r) Rini Keagy, Ben Weaver, and Junauda Petrus, photo by Stephanie Rogers. Right: August 2020 artist-in-residence Chelsea DesAutels with the poetry walk she installed at Colvill Park as her community engagement project. Below: Deaf artist-in-residence Jenna Fischtrom Beacom (June 2021) works at the Anderson Center, photo by Cuong Nguyen.

The residency did SO much to advance my work.
—Jenna Fischtrom Beacom

We ask residents to describe their experience in three words. Here’s what they said:
Outreach Programs

From online events to in-person gatherings, the Anderson Center used a wide range of formats and strategies to continue connecting participants and audiences with engaging artistic content during the fiscal year.

The Minnesota Children’s Book Festival was presented in a hybrid manner, featuring online author talks and a scavenger hunt in the Sculpture Garden. Exhibitions continued throughout the year in a socially-distanced manner. The Anderson Center installed and celebrated new sculptures, hosted outdoor gatherings, engaged in online conversations, and continued collaborating with entities near and far to support artists and connect participants to artistic programming.

Awesome scavenger hunt!

—Minnesota Children’s Book Festival Participant, September 2020

Above: Families enjoy a scavenger hunt at the 2020 Minnesota Children’s Book Festival, photos by Stephanie Rogers. Right: 2021 A.P. Anderson Awardee Dr. Ananya Chaterjea, photo and video by Treedom Productions. Right, lower: viewers engage with Dawn Zero Erickson’s artwork in the Material exhibition, photo by Stephanie Rogers. Participants’ descriptions of Anderson Center programs are below:
Contributors

Chap & Benjie Achen
Antony Anderson
Steve & Lydia Anderson
Hans & Margaret Anderson
Carolyn Anderson
Mark Opitz and Jackie Anderson
Laurie & Warner Andrews
Art History Club
Eileen Atkinson
Bruce & Kathy Ause
Randy & Ann Bailey
Ralph & Judy Balestriere
Barbara Cushman Blue Fund
Bruce & Barbara Bayley
Doug & Lisa Bayley
Elizabeth Bayley & Jorge Soares
Betty Beck
Dee & Dan Bender
Nancy Berlin
Stephen & Susan Betcher
Sondra Beuning
Barbee Bigger
Suzanne Blue
Marianne Boruch
Jerry Bourquin
Lynn & Charles Brown
Anna Brown
Jean Bruemmer
Don & Jan Bruns
Tom & Jan Buckman
J. Kevin Byrne
Audrey Carlson
Michael & Deb Lee Carson
Margaret Chesley
John & Patricia Christiansen
Bill Christianson
Emily Christianson
Paul Cloak
Dennis Courtier
Jay & Page Cowles
Romeo & Mary Ann Cyr
Barbara DePalma
Priscilla & Joe Diethelm
Steve Dietz
Nancy & John Dimunation
Melissa & Dave Donkers
Jane Donkers
Pete Driessen
Carol Duff
Glen & Donna Dummer
Mary & Patrick Dupont
Marvin and Joanell Dyrstad
Melanie Ebertz
James & Janet Edlund
Stephanie Edwards & David Steingass
Ozzie Encinosa & Lloyd Bradley
John Erickson
Dawn Zero Erickson & Matt Quinn
Fair Trade Books
Don & Nancy Falk
Craig & Lynn Firl
Kevin & Ann Florine
K.C. Flueger
Buck & Joan Foot
David Foster & Karen Grewe
Bill & Anne Frame
Will Fritsch
Marjorie Frost
Vishwas Gaitonde
Mikkel & Carol Gardner
Bruce & Doris Geary
Kendra Gebbia
Gita Ghei
Johanna Ghei
Adu Gindy
Barbara Goggin
Georgia Greeley
Kathleen Gronwall
Curtis Gruhl
Len & Ann Guggenberger
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Hugh Hedin
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Paul Zeig

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Speight Anderson Lappegaard, P.A.
Sturdivan, Inc.
West End Liquor
Xcel Energy Foundation

Outreach Partners

ArtReach
Art History Group of Red Wing
Fair Trade Books
Friends of Immigrants
Goodhue County 4H
Goodhue County Historical Society
Goodhue County Master Gardeners
Hispanic Outreach of Goodhue County
Minnesota Correctional Facility, Red Wing
Prairie Island Indian Community Land & Environment Department
Red Cottage Montessori
Red Wing Area PFLAG
Red Wing Arts
Red Wing High School
Red Wing Park Naturalists
Red Wing Youth Outreach
Tower View Alternative High School
Universal Music Center

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