



Anderson

CENTER

AT TOWER VIEW

Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Report • July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025





Chairwoman's Letter

Reflecting on another remarkable year at the Anderson Center, I am filled with gratitude and admiration for the incredible artists, staff, donors and volunteers that contribute to our unique mission. This annual report goes beyond a summary of our activities; it is a heartfelt acknowledgment of the collaboration and support that empower us to thrive.

First and foremost, I extend my sincerest thanks to the talented artists who grace our community with their creativity. Your passion and dedication enrich our programs and inspire us all. Each residency, exhibition, and event showcases your unique voices and visions, reinforcing our ongoing commitment to providing a nurturing environment for artistic expression and the exchange of ideas. One of many program highlights for me as chair this year was the exhibition Puppetry! In Minnesota!!, a joy filled retrospective of Minnesota's long standing and vibrant puppetry community.

To our generous donors and volunteers, we cannot express enough how vital your contributions are to our success. Your unwavering support enables us to maintain our programs for and with artists and to invest in the infrastructure of our historic facility. Preserving this remarkable place presents its challenges, yet it also grants us the privilege of sharing our rich history with the community. We are committed to ensuring that the Anderson Center remains a vibrant hub for the arts, and your contributions are instrumental in achieving that goal.

I also want to acknowledge the dedication and hard work of our talented staff and Executive &

Artistic Director. Their commitment to our artistic mission and tireless efforts to meet the challenges that come with managing a historic facility do not go unnoticed. Their leadership and creativity drive our initiatives forward and foster a welcoming environment for all who enter our doors.

As we continue to grow, we face the challenges of strengthening our organization and improving our campus, buildings, and community while supporting artists in a variety of endeavors. This year we have also focused on developing partnerships and programs that not only uplift our artists but also engage and enrich our local community. Through partnerships and collaborations with the Minnesota Latino Museum, Prairie Island Tribal Historic Preservation Office, Red Wing Arts, and more, we aim to celebrate the diversity of artistic expression and foster a sense of belonging for everyone involved.

Together, we can overcome any challenges we may face and continue to cultivate a thriving artistic community. Thank you for being an integral part of our journey, and for your ongoing support of the Anderson Center at Tower View. I look forward to what we can accomplish together in the coming year.

— Karen Mueller, Board Chair

Cover: August 2024 Early Career Resident Austin Coats, photo by Jessica Sievers.

This page: Board Chair Karen Mueller helps paint a giant alebrije while artist Alberto Moreno Fernández looks on, photo by Stephanie Rogers.

Opposite: Property & Finance Director Joe Loer shows off the hub of the Anderson Center's new Darcy geothermal system, photo by Stephanie Rogers.



Director's Letter

The very different challenges that both our organization and the world are currently facing have called old assumptions into question and made creative problem-solving, creativity, collaboration, and openness to new ways of thinking even more critical in the second quarter of the 21st century.

In the face of unprecedented societal challenges, we affirm our core belief that art and its creation matter. Arts and ideas have the power to impact society for the better. We believe that the Anderson Center can serve as a beacon, offering a generative place for reflection, deep creativity, and community.
—Excerpt from the 2024–27 Strategic Plan

Board and staff finalized the language above at the beginning of 2024. Even though that moment was less than two years ago, upheaval in our field and our world has only accelerated.

In the past two years, the Anderson Center has seen a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities awarded and then cancelled before it could begin. We had a year of very strong international participation in our residency program in 2024, followed by very few international applications and new fears from foreign artists and partners about traveling to the United States in 2025.

As I think about how to lead an organization through these challenges, a few things stand out. The Tower View site has a long history of innovation. From A.P. Anderson's research in the 1910s and 1920s to the development of mechanical arms by Central Research Laboratories in the 1940s and 1950s to alternative energy advancements by the Energy Education Center

in the early 1980s, Tower View has long been a location for work at the forefront of new technology and new problem-solving. That continues today as artists and thought leaders who are shaping our world find time and space for their work here.

This history of innovation points one way forward: leaning into new technology and evidence-based approaches to solving the problems of our day. This spring, Anderson Center finished construction on a new Darcy geothermal system that heats and cools our main building, helping us address the challenge of rising utility costs.

What isn't changing is our values. Experimentation drives innovation. Artistic freedom is crucial to a robust arts ecosystem and a functioning democracy. Exceptional work comes from people of every background and ability. Poetry, painting, performance, and many other media are vehicles for the ideas that will shape this next chapter of our community and our nation. They can also be catalysts for interpersonal connection, helping us share in very human experiences.

None of us are alone in this work! The artists and scholars we serve, the contributors who affirm the value of beauty, inquiry, connection, and story, the families who visit the site to connect with each other and this place – so many people have been a part of the Anderson Center in so many ways over the past year. I'm grateful to the board and staff who have been my thought partners and supporters in navigating an unusual time, and to all of you who have done the same in ways big and small. Thank you for all of your support!

— Stephanie Rogers, Executive & Artistic Director

Residency Programs



Above, top: 2024 Early Career Resident Camilla Sims, photo by Jessica Sievers. Above: Margaret Pearce before her presentation at Goodhue Country Historical Society; below: July 2024 residents (l-r) John Haley, Malik Thompson, David Andree, K Ho, and Philip Paulus (Salzburg Exchange Artist), photos by Stephanie Rogers.

Anderson Center's signature program continues to support artists and scholars working at the forefront of arts and culture, both in the United States and around the world. Anderson Center residency programs continue to be competitive, accepting roughly 5% of applicants.

Anderson Center artists-in-residence are having a big impact in the creative community and the community of Red Wing. Dr. Margaret Pearce, Anderson Center's 2025-26 Public Artist-in-Residence, was recently named a 2025 MacArthur Fellow! Dr. Pearce and all of our residents continue to offer outreach projects throughout Red Wing and the broader region.

In spring 2025, we began major tuckpointing and masonry restoration on the Historic Residence. This house has been a home-away-from-home for more than 900 artists-in-residence over the years, and I'm happy to report that it's now leak-free! That work was made possible by a grant from the Minnesota Historical Society and so many of you. Thank you for supporting our work to preserve

the inspirational Tower View site, and thank you for supporting our residents' work as they reflect, frame, and shape new ways of seeing our world.

Anderson Center asks residents to describe their experience in three words. Here's what they said:



Above: October 2024 residents (l-r): Antti J. Leinonen, Edmund Jolliffe, asmaa al-issa, Ren Haiyan, and Natori Pittman, photo by Stephanie Rogers.

Below: Writer Amara Okola connects with residents at Tinta Wita Tipi after a reading; September 2024 artist-in-residence Migiwa Miyajima plays a concert at the Hastings Art Center, photos by Laurel Stinson.

Below left: 2024 Early Career Artist Mayowa Nwadike in the studio, photo by Jessica Sievers.



“August at the Anderson Center has been such an amazing experience, and I’d like to thank you for honoring me with this privilege!”

—Mayowa Nwadike,
2024 Early Career Resident Fellow



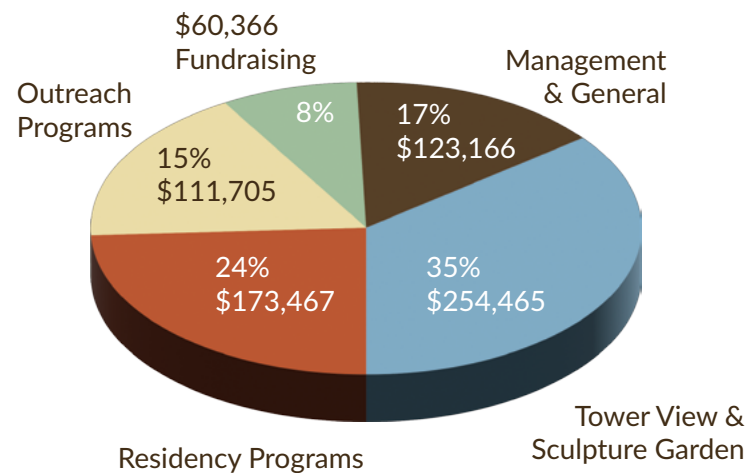
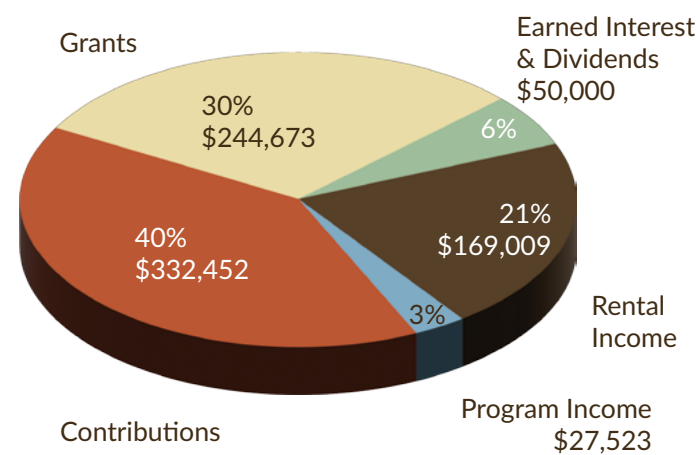


By the Numbers

Contributors

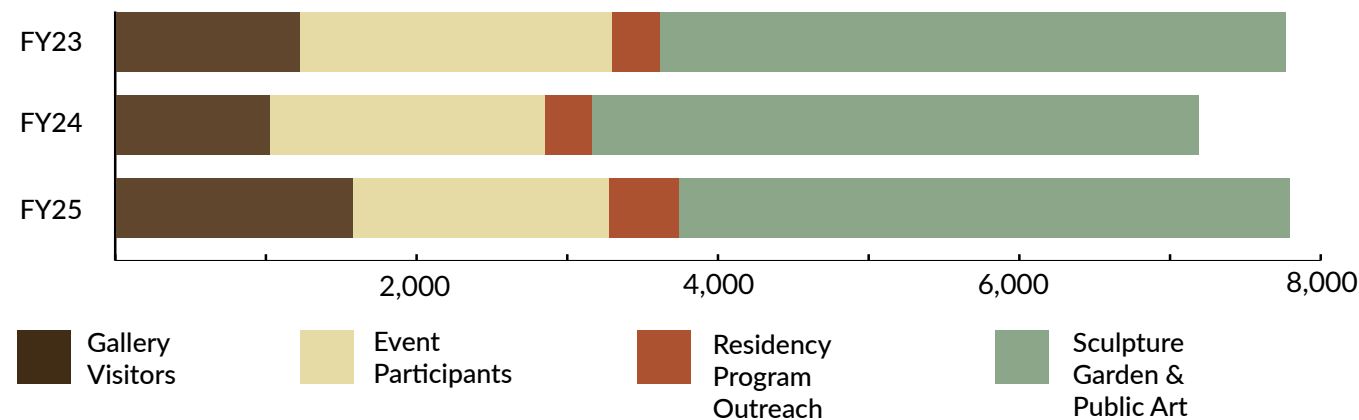
Operating Income: \$823,657

Operating Expense: \$723,169



Direct payments to artists & scholars: \$65,341

Estimated participants by program, FY23-25



Patrons: \$1,000+

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Made possible by a Ruth Foundation for the Arts Advisor Discretionary Grant

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Above: Artists Kehayr Brown-Ranshaw, Benjamin Merritt (resident 2021), and Mei Lam So at the opening for Family Home in August, photo by Stephanie Rogers.

Opposite: guests applaud Sounds of Blackness at the A.P. Anderson Award Gala in June 2025, photo by Chap Achen.

All donations are from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. If you have questions about how donations are listed or recorded, please contact Advancement & Residency Director Laurel Stinson at laurel@andersoncenter.org or 651-388-2009 ext. 4.



Contributors

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- Legacy Gift**
- Evelyn Sweasy

- In honor of John Christiansen's leadership**
- Robert & Carolyn Hedin

- In Memory of Barb Hanson**
- Kathleen Groh



- In Memory of Douglas Hedin**
- Stephen & Teresa Kosmas

- In Memory of Cathy Ryan**
- Doris Engibous

Opposite, left: Board member Shruthi Rajasekar and Executive & Artistic Director Stephanie Rogers.

Opposite, right: Studio artist Bitsy Joy in their studio, photo by Stephanie Rogers.

Above: tuckpointing and masonry restoration work underway on the Historic Residence at Tower View in May, photo by Stephanie Rogers.



The Historic Residence masonry restoration project was made possible in part by the people of Minnesota through a grant funded by an appropriation to the Minnesota Historical Society from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

- Staff and Key Contractors**
- Stephanie Rogers, *Executive & Artistic Director*
- Joe Loer, *Property & Finance Director*
- Laurel Stinson, *Advancement & Residency Director*
- Ron Carpenter, *Facilities Manager*
- Adamantia Everett, *Visitor Assistant*
- Kailey Laqua, *Custodian*
- Amanda Nodolf, *Accountant*
- Janet Ohles, *Visitor Assistant*
- Sri Rudich, *Visitor & Administrative Coordinator, Residency Chef*
- Dale Swanson, *Maintenance Assistant*

- Board of Directors**
- Ralph Balestriere (Vice-Chair)
- Sean Dowse (Secretary)
- Carolyn Hedin (Treasurer)
- Hugh Hedin
- Robert Hedin
- Karen Mueller (Chair)
- Shruthi Rajasekar

- Advisory Board**
- William Haaland
- Art Kenyon
- Steve Lawrence

Staff and Board Lists are as of June 30, 2025.

Immediate left: 2025 A.P. Anderson Awardee Gary Hines, Director of Sounds of Blackness, photo by Chap Achen.





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Residency Program

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Red Wing Area Studio Tour

Heimie's Haberdashery
Lake City Area Arts
Red Wing Chevrolet Buick

Exhibition

Fiona McCrae & John Coy

Above, (l-r): Minnesota Latino Museum
Executive Director Aaron Johnson-Ortiz
(center) with artists Alberto Moreno
Fernández (left) and Edgar Israel Camargo
Reyes (right), photo by Larry Lucio, Jr.

Outreach Program Partners

BareBones Puppets
Fair Trade Books
Goodhue County Historical Society
Hastings Art Center
Hispanic Outreach of Goodhue County
Kerlan Collection (University of Minnesota Libraries Special Collections)
Lake City Area Arts

Minnesota Humanities Center
Minnesota Latino Museum
Minnesota Marine Art Museum
Minnesota State Correctional Facility -
Red Wing
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Reach Out and Read
Red Balloon Bookshop

Red Wing Arts
Red Wing High School
Red Wing Library
Red Wing Womens Network
Tinta Wita Tipi
Tower View Alternative High School
Zeitgeist

Government and Foundation Support



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