Note from the Executive Director

Even after 45 years as a leading arts organization in South Louisiana, AcA continues to evolve and adapt to the needs of our community. As times and customs change, the work of cultural organizations must change with it. In looking back on the past year in this Impact Report, we take a moment to reflect on who we are today.

But who are we today?

AcA supports artists and the local cultural economy, a bigger economic driver than the oil and gas industry today ($1.5B vs. $1.3B in 2018). AcA is a community-based nonprofit supported by donors, members, and sponsors, and as the arts council for Acadiana, we provide grants and assistance to artists and other nonprofits across the eight-parish region. Our goal as the cultural development agency is to drive growth of the cultural economy throughout Acadiana for the benefit of the greater community.

This work is also driven by the desire to ensure equal access to arts and culture, regardless of economic status. Through our partnerships with public school districts and private schools, AcA serves schools and students, bringing equal access to arts and culture to more than 25,000 students and 77 schools across Acadiana.

We believe this organization is a key part of Acadiana's cultural life and a valuable contributor to the quality of life of our region. By presenting arts and cultural events in the heart of South Louisiana, we enrich and elevate the life of our community. Our culture is an important part of how we compete as a region, and AcA's mission is central to elevating our status as a culturally rich region.

With this report's help, I hope you take away some new perspective on how our activities bring about a more vibrant future for our community. Further, I hope you consider getting involved in helping foster art and culture in Acadiana for generations to come.

We are your arts council.
We are your arts center.
We are the AcA.

Sincerely,

Samuel M. Oliver
Executive Director

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The People of AcA

AcA staff meet by videoconference while AcA is closed during COVID-19 shutdown in May 2020. Clockwise from top left: Gwen Richard, Samuel Oliver, Paige Krause, Jaik Faulk, Bree Sargent, Clayton Shelvin.
**Officers**

Dan Hare  
President

Lyle Girouard  
President-Elect

Olivia Smith Regard  
Immediate Past President

Sarah Gauthier Roy  
Secretary

Matt Dugas  
Treasurer

Samuel Oliver  
Executive Director

**Board of Directors**

Katie Bernhardt  
Strategic Development,  
Standard Law

Charles Boudreaux  
Partner, Jones Walker, LLP

Richard Brauns  
Senior Partner, JKR  
Advertising & Marketing

John N. Chappuis  
Attorney; Voorhies & Labbé

Dr. Ronnie Daigle  
Physician

Taylor Davis  
Northwestern Mutual

Karen deClouet  
Artist

Danny Domingue, DDS  
Drs. Smith and Domingue

Matt Dugas  
Director of Finance,  
Lafayette Parish School System

Lyle Girouard

Philip Gould  
Photographer

Dan Hare  
Senior Director of Facilities and Special Events, UL Lafayette

Daphne Krampe  
Administrator, MacLaff Inc.

Cliff LaCour  
Partner, NeunerPate

Burnell Lemoine  
Former Superintendent, Lafayette Parish School System

John Mouton  
Attorney

Michael Munzing  
Agent, SUNUP Insurance Services

Dr. Mary B. Neiheisel  
Chair & Professor of Nursing, University of Louisiana Lafayette

Olivia Smith Regard  
Division Assistant Vice President, Compliance Counsel; Arthur J. Gallagher

Sarah Gauthier Roy  
Talented Teacher, Lafayette Parish School System

Sadie Shamsie  
President/Owner, Standard Title

Austin M. Shumaker  
Owner/CEO, Louisiana Home Lending

Dr. Annie Wingate Spell  
Partner, Tides Medical; Psychologist

J’annine Sullivan  
Partner, Senior Helpers

Johnathan Williams  
Owner, Quality of Life Service
The People of AcA: Our Professional Staff

AcA staff wave for a “Porchtrait” by LeeAnn Stephen during the 2020 COVID-19 shutdown.

Staff and family celebrate Bree Sargent’s 20th Anniversary at AcA in February 2020.
Professional Staff

Samuel Oliver
Executive Director

Program Staff

Julia Barry
Education Coordinator

Bethany Lejeune
Preparator

Aaron Briley
Performing Arts Coordinator

Gwen Richard
Community Development Director

Jaik Faulk
Visual Arts Director

Bree Sargent
Education Director

Paige Krause
Outreach Director

Clayton Shelvin
Performing Arts Director

Operations Staff

Michelle Accurso
General Manager

Connie Petro
Office Manager

Tim Benoit
Facility Assistant

Emily Ponti
Guest Services Manager

Vicki Chrisman
Bookkeeper

Jake Rabalais
Cafe/Bar

Mike Drennan
Facility Engineer

Matthew Torres
Guest Services

Natasha Hymel
Cafe/Bar Manager

Fundraising Staff

Meagan Mod
Development Manager

Nancy Surosky
Development Director
The People of AcA: Our Volunteers

Volunteers greet and direct patrons for a performance night at AcA in 2019.

Volunteers pose with the executive director during AcA’s holiday party in 2019.
Volunteers

Lead Volunteers for AcA Programs
Anne Darrah
Bradley Cruice
Delores Blair
Dianne Reed
Randy Hopper
Steve Davis

Volunteers for AcA Programs
Dick Walsh
Esther Tyree
Marion Rosser
Nancy Gomez
Theresa Williamson

Program Committee Members
Lyle Girouard (chair)
Charles Boudreaux
Richard Brauns
Dr. Ronnie Daigle
Karen deClouet
Philip Gould
Dan Hare
Daphne Krampe
Burnell Lemoine
John Mouton
Michael Munzing
Dr. Mary B. Neiheisel
Olivia Smith Regard
Sarah Gauthier Roy
Sadie Shamsie
J’annine Sullivan
Johnathan Williams

Development Committee Members
Dr. Ronnie Daigle (chair)
Dan Hare
Katie Bernhardt
Taylor Davis
Danny Domingue, DDS
Lyle Girouard
Dr. Mary B. Neiheisel
Sarah Gauthier Roy
Sadie Shamsie
Austin M. Shumaker
Dr. Annie Spell

Finance Committee Members
Matt Dugas (chair)
Taylor Davis
Lyle Girouard
Dan Hare
Cliff LaCour
Mike Munzing

Gulf Brew 2019
200+ beer pourers, ticket tearers, and setup champions...
Our Impact

for Audiences in Acadiana

In March 2020, AcA watched the entire world come to a collective standstill, and humanity was forced to adapt to a new reality. Millions of people gathered around their televisions, sought community on social media, and allowed time for simpler things like gardening, baking, and watching sunsets from our porches.

Like in the past, people sought solace through music, theater, dance, and film to help us cope with the confusion and uncertainties of the pandemic that we find ourselves in today. One of the few constants in this situation is that the arts gave us an escape from a very harsh reality.

The arts made us feel like we were together while social distancing, and helped us to see a better future during a time where so many of us felt hopeless. The arts inspired us to be better, and to do better. After a busy season of performances, this break—we hope—allows us to refocus on those things that matter the most to us going forward.
Performing Arts Presentations

Fifty performances, 8,577 tickets and countless memories in Season 9

2019-2020 Performances

Season 9 Kick-Off, Ft. Joshua Ledet
A special event honoring the AcA’s supporters, friends, and family this special event featuring the American Idol finalist from Louisiana. The night also included a preview of Basin Dance Collective’s Sport Suites and performances by LPSS students.

Zeno Fest
A special benefit for legendary Blues musician Lee Alan Zeno featuring more than fifty performers and musicians over the course of one day in the James Devin Moncus Theater.

NXT Series (New Program)
Creating unique experiences for AcA’s next generation of audiences. NXT focuses on showcasing local and regional emerging artists, while seeking to engage AcA’s next generation of audiences.

- The Good Dudes, August 30, 2019
- Scott Mulvahill ft. The Rayo Brothers, March 11, 2020
- The Future is Female (Cancelled due to COVID-19)

Spotlight Series (New Program)
Featuring live performances in theater, dance, and comedy, the Spotlight Series is for the cultural omnivore. This series continues the legacy of the Performing Arts Society of Acadiana (“PASA”), which led classical arts presenting in Acadiana from 1989 until its merger with the AcA in 2013.

- Sports Suites presented by Basin Dance Collective, September 12-15, 2019
- Confessions of a Former Monkey Mind Doctor, October 4-5, 2019
- The Velvet Revolution: 30 Years Later, November 1, 2019
- Merry Wives of Windsor presented by Acting Up (in Acadiana), November 21-23, 2019
- Let It Snow! A Big Easy Boys Christmas, December 14, 2019
- Frozen Jr. presented by Wonderland Performing Arts, January 10-12, 2019
- Flex Ave., January 30, 2019
- The Improv Rumble 2020 presented by Silverbacks Improv Theatre, February 8, 2020

AllStars Series
The AllStars Series brings together a diverse collection of award-winning musical artists. These touring performers comprise an eclectic series with music from various genres like rock, jazz, folk, r&b, bluegrass, world music, and country.

- Lyle Lovett and His Large Band at the Heymann Center, August 13, 2020
- On Va Continuer!, Lost Bayou Ramblers, September 28, 2019
- Sam Bush, October 18, 2019
- Seratones, October 24, 2019
- An Evening With Street Corner Symphony, October 29, 2019
- Matthew Whitaker Quartet, January 25, 2020
- An Evening With Judy Collins (at the Heymann Center)
- Aaron Diehl Trio, March 6, 2020
- Sybarite5, (Cancelled due to COVID-19)
- The Allman Betts Band (Cancelled due to COVID-19)
**Louisiana Crossroads Series**
Guest Curator: Joel Savoy. A storied music series featuring Louisiana's most compelling artists. Louisiana Crossroads brings audiences and artists closer together through unique performances, combined with moderated conversations. Louisiana Crossroads celebrates the influence that Louisiana's rich culture has had on the artists who call Louisiana HOME.

- Boogie from the Bayou ft. Terrance Simien & The Zydeco Experience and BeauSoleil avec Michael Doucet, September 20, 2019
- Before I Grow Too Old: The Music of Bobby Charles presented by Roddie Romero & Friends, December 5-6, 2019
- Steve Riley's International Accordion Kings, February 7, 2020
- The Instrumental Legacy of Dr. Tommy Comeaux (Cancelled due to COVID-19)
- Honoring the Life of Jillian Johnson (Rescheduled due to COVID-19)

**Film Series**
Toni Morrison: The Pieces I Am, In The Aisles, Give Me Liberty, By The Grace of God

**The Met: Live in HD**
Manon, Madama Butterfly, Akhnater, Wozzeck, Porgy and Bess, Agrippina

**Silent Seats**
With support of Kiwanis Club of Lafayette, AcA distributed 70 free tickets to AcA performances for students, families, and at-risk youth who otherwise would not have access to high quality performing arts activities.

- University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Performing Arts/Dance Department
- University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Music Department
- J Wallace James Elementary
- Hamilton Academy of the Arts
- Lafayette Parish School System - Talented Program
- St. Martin Parish School System - Talented Program
- Paul Breaux Middle
- LJ Alleman Middle
- Boys & Girls Club of Acadiana
- New Hope Community Development of Acadiana
- Lafayette Parish School System (Visually Impaired Program)
- Vermilionville - Folk Art Teen Advisory Council
- ELITE dance studio
- AMIkids Acadiana
- Comeaux High Performing Arts Academy

2019-2020 Hosted Events

AcA supports community organizations with free or subsidized space year-round.

One Acadiana Mayor-President Forum
97.3 The Dawg’s Holiday Hangover Show
97.3 The Dawg’s Elite Nurses Banquet
Acadiana Symphony Orchestra
Acting Up (in Acadiana) Summer Youth Shakespeare
Ascension Heart for the Arts
Big Brothers Big Sisters
Cinema on the Bayou
CityWide Gathering
Downtown Lafayette, District 5 Council Forum
Downtown Lafayette, Mayor-President Forum
Dreams Come True Foundation
Hearts of Hope’s Stud in Stilettos
Opportunity Machine’s Innovate South 2019

LaPESC Lafayette Parish School Board Candidates Forum
Leadership Institute of Acadiana
Leadership Lafayette
LPB Documentary “In the Blind” Screening
LPSS Talented Showcase
Mantra Film Screening
Southern Screen Festival
Summer Youth Shakespeare Ensemble
The Advocate Economic Outlook Report
The Daily Advertiser Storytellers
UL Press Author’s Holiday Party
UL Biology Lab Retreat
UL Athletics Recruitment Dinner
Visual Arts Exhibitions

15,000+ people visited AcA’s galleries during 18 art exhibitions in Season 9

Students from Paul Breaux Middle work on projects based on Jeremiah Ariaz: Louisiana Trail Riders in January 2020.
2019-2020 Exhibitions

Main Gallery Series

Lala Rascic: Gorgo
w/ Cristina Molina, Ryn Wilson, Nina Schwanse
A feminist retelling of Greek myth and tragedy in video and sculpture.
July 13 - October 12, 2019

Meet in the Middle
A show of contemporary sculpture and painting from New Orleans and Houston artists as well as artists based in Lafayette.
November 9 - December 14, 2019

Jeremiah Ariaz: Louisiana Trail Riders
Black and White photographs documenting the Creole Trail Riding Clubs of Southern Louisiana.
January 11 - March 14, 2020
https://youtu.be/Cwi3TtebNks

Russell Whiting: 30 Years
A survey of Russell Whiting’s large-scale metal sculptures from various points in his 30 year career
June 13, 2020 - September 12, 2020
https://youtu.be/CJCCWRwdylI

Side Gallery Series

Jeromy Young: Bound Aberration
Oil paintings made by a classically deft hand.
September 14 - November 9, 2019

Willingly Rejected
Art & Performance by local all inclusive arts collective
December 14, 2019 - December 30, 2019

Fresh Pickins' 7
UL Lafayette visual arts majors in a juried group show
January 11 - February 8th, 2020

James Van Way: Doodle Bug and Them
Colorfully Imaginative Painting and Installation
March 14 - August 10, 2020
https://youtu.be/LPS4f3fkOqw
https://youtu.be/-1AxFWszMXQ
Coca-Cola Studio

Ron Stanford: Big French Dance
Photographs of Cajun and Zydeco music halls and the performers and dancers who inhabited them.
September 14, 2019 - October 12, 2019

Alicia Faciane: Close to Home
An installation of video and handmade pottery interrupted by various wildlife.
November 9, 2019 - January 11, 2020

Voices of Race in Portrait
Twenty subjects tell compelling stories about the role race has played in their lives to over a dozen trained facilitators/story collectors.
February 8, 2020 - February 29, 2020

Student Art Expo High School Showcase
March 14 - June 13, 2020
https://youtu.be/HrzSp0ZK8N8

Reaux Family Vault

Quilters’ Guild Acadienne
July 13, 2019 - August 10, 2019

Susan David: Emerge
Immersive Installation and ArtSpark Project
September 14, 2019 - November 9, 2019

Ros Bernard & Dusty Reed: New Works
June 13, 2020 - August 10, 2020

Mallia Galleria

Confessions of a Former Monkey Mind
September 14 - October 12, 2019

Open Studios Acadiana
Mallia Galleria & ArtHouse Circle Gallery
November 9 - December 14, 2019

Hagit Barkai: Access
Contemporary paintings that deal with the body and figuration
January 11- February 8, 2020

**Sponsors in Performing And Visual Arts**

**Presenter Level**
Jessica and Phil Gachassin
IBERIABANK

**Producer Level**
Atmos Energy
The Haynie Family Foundation

**Director Level**
Dr. Ronnie Daigle and Dr. Patricia Cran

**Curator Level**
Darnall Sikes CPA's/Clay Darnall
Darnall Sikes Wealth Partners/David Strother
Drs. Dwayne Brown and Jody Rosson
Drs. Jerome Smith & Daniel Domingue
Ed and Elaine Abell
George and Claire Guidry
Hancock Whitney
Harry and Dru Patin
J&J Exterminating Lafayette

**VIP Circle Level**
Andy & Kathy Vodicka
Ashton Grace Montessori School
Choon, Inc.
Dr. and Mrs. Terry Cromwell
Dr. Mary Neiheisel
Greg and Lynn Moroux
Hole Opener Corporation
Jack and Associates, LLC
Jones Walker Law LLP

**In-Kind Sponsors**
DoubleTree by Hilton
Doug Ashy Building Materials

**Leading Health Care of Louisiana**
Standard Title

**NeunerPate**

**Robert & Ann John**
Kiwanis Club of Lafayette
Les and Vickie Babin

**McLaff Inc., Daphne and Edward J. Krampe III**
Michael and Jovette Mosing
RADER
Richard and Kathy Broussard
Richard and Leslie Brauns Foundation
Thomas & Ann Marie Hightower

**Louis Perret**
Lyle and Elizabeth Girouard
Social Entertainment
BJ and Katie Crist
Gus and Katherine Rezende
Taylor and Yvette Davis
Thomas and Alicia Kreamer
Van Eaton & Romero LLC
Louisiana Seafood

**Lafayette Convention and Visitors Commission (LCVC)**
Our Impact

for Schools, Students, and Teachers

20,440 preK-12 students
received access to free, in-school arts programs across three parishes.

1,079 Educators
received training in cultural sensitivity, arts integration, and social and emotional learning.

40 Musicians, Dancers, Storytellers, and Theatre Artists
paid to perform free educational shows in schools

32 Teaching Artists
paid to work schools in Lafayette, St. Landry, and Vermilion Parishes.

600,000+ citizens
Benefit from a region with public schools that include creative experiences and arts integration.
Arts in Education

AcA’s education vision is to ensure that creativity, arts, and self-expression are part of the life of every child in Acadiana. For more than 40 years, AcA has partnered directly with schools and school districts to cast the widest possible net and to make sure every student has the right to an arts or creative experience. Our model is to bring artists of all disciplines into classrooms for core-curriculum lessons and in-school arts experiences.

Part of the Kennedy Center’s national network of innovators in the arts, AcA conducts innovative and effective strategies for achieving academic, social, and emotional learning through the arts. This program makes an impact on over 20,000 students in Acadiana currently.

A Note on PACE Online

This year, after schools closed, AcA took its PACE arts integration program online within seven days.

AcA’s team of teaching artists created daily video lessons in Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade during the stay-at-home order for 12 weeks beginning March 23. Staying true to the program, the art lessons were integrated into the school curriculum in fun and grade-level appropriate activities using simple supplies that most kids have at home. Videos were shared daily via social media and through elementary school teachers and PTOs in the Acadiana area. AcA also worked in partnership with Learn United, a program of United Way, to air the videos on local public television, making them even more widely accessible, regardless of internet access.

Online lessons covered many different curricular areas, including fractions, landforms, weather, punctuation, habitats, phases of the moon, mythology, sound, the five senses, outer space, life cycles, and art history—to name a few.

Over a 12-week period, AcA created 180 videos, and had 5,286 views in the United States, United Kingdom, and France. These videos remain as a resource for teachers going forward and can be found on the AcA’s YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/c/acadianacenterforthearts>
Programs in Schools

Street Corner Symphony performs for students at Comeaux High School in 2019 as part of the Touring Arts Program, presented by Cox Communications.
PACE, Elementary Arts-Integration

PACE (Primary Academic and Creative Experiences) places teaching artists in preK-3rd grade classrooms in Lafayette Parish public schools to provide students with experiences in visual and performing arts through weekly lessons that integrate the arts into the school curriculum.

2019-2020 Impact:

4500 students. 225 teachers. 22 schools. 13 teaching artists worked in classes each week for 25 weeks, in 4,600 sessions.

Teaching Artist Program

The Teaching Artist Program provides the opportunity for students to experience a broad range of art forms and innovative arts activities in the classroom. AcA’s roster of local teaching artists are professional artists who are dedicated to arts education as an integral part of their artistic practice.

2019-2020 Impact:

LPSS: 36 sessions, 779 students, 40 educators
Early Childhood: 186 sessions, 850 students, 72 educators
St. Landry: 97 sessions, 1,923 students, 100 educators
* Most sessions occur in the spring. Because schools were closed as of March 16 and those sessions canceled, the leftover funds were redirected to PACE Online art classes.

Touring Arts Performances

Touring Arts introduces students to high-quality professional performances in dance, theatre, music, puppetry, storytelling, and more.

2019-2020 Impact:

70 performances. 12,300 students. 490 educators.
Lafayette: 39 performances. 6,800 students, 270 educators
St Landry: 31 performances. 5,500 students, 220 educators

Street Corner Symphony, November, 2019
Ovey Comeaux High

A Midsummer Night’s Dream Acting Up (in Acadiana), January & February, 2020
Southside High
Carencro High
Broussard Middle
Youngsville Middle
David Thibodaux STEM Magnet Academy
Comeaux High
Beau Chene High
Magnet Academy for Cultural Arts
Port Barre High
Northwest High

**Invincible! Roger Day**, January 13–17, 2020
Truman Early Childhood Education Center
Ridge Elementary
G.T. Lindon Elementary
J.Wallace James Elementary
Katharine Drexel Elementary
Live Oak Elementary
Grand Prairie Elementary
Eunice Elementary
Port Barre Elementary
Highland Elementary

**FLEX AVE**, January, 2020
Northside High
Carencro High

**Music, Stories, and Immeasurably More, Baba the Storyteller**, January 27–February 5, 2020
Evangeline Elementary
Carencro Middle
Woodvale Elementary
Billeaud Elementary
Myrtle Place Elementary
Ernest Gallet Elementary
Arnaudville Elementary
Palmetto Elementary
Grand Coteau Elementary
Washington Elementary
Opelousas Middle
Northeast Elementary
Sunset Elementary/Middle
Park Vista Elementary
Lawtell Elementary
Leonville Elementary

Westside Elementary
Alice Boucher Elementary
Opelousas Junior High
Grolee Elementary
Central Middle
Eunice Junior High
East Elementary
Opelousas High

**Sport Suites, Basin Dance Collective**, February 10–13, 2020
Ossun Elementary
Lafayette High
ESA Lower School
Broadmoor Elementary
Edgar Martin Elementary
L.J. Alleman Middle
Krotz Springs Elementary
Plaisance Elementary

**Steve Riley’s Accordion Kings**, February 6, 2020
Eunice High

**Cajun Mardi Gras, Daniel and the Lions**, February 13–14, 2020
Milton Elementary/Middle
Middlebrook Elementary
Cankton Elementary
Glendale Elementary

**Seventy-four participating schools**

**Lafayette Parish**
Acadian Middle
Acadiana High
Refurbished and repaired 45 instruments. Placed in the following school band programs:

- Billeaud Elementary
- Burke Elementary

**St. Landry Parish**

Arnaudville Elementary  
Beau Chene High  
Cankton Elementary  
Central Middle  
East Elementary  
Eunice Elementary  
Eunice Junior High  
Eunice High  
Glendale Elementary  
Grand Coteau Elementary  
Grand Prairie Elementary  
Grolee Elementary  
Highland Elementary  
Krotz Springs Elementary  
Lawtell Elementary  
Leonville Elementary  
Magnet Academy for Cultural Arts  
Northeast Elementary  
North Central High  
Northwest High  
Palmetto Elementary  
Park Vista Elementary  
Plaisance Elementary  
Port Barre Elementary  
Port Barre High  
Opelousas High  
Opelousas Junior High  
Opelousas Middle  
Sunset Elementary  
Washington Elementary

**Vermilion Parish**

Meaux Elementary

**Play It Again**

Refurbished and repaired 45 instruments. Placed in the following school band programs:

- Billeaud Elementary
- Burke Elementary
Duson Elementary
James A. Herod Elementary
JH Williams Middle
JW James Elementary
Lafayette Renaissance Charter Academy
Lindon Elementary

LJ Alleman Middle
L Leo Judice Elementary
Myrtle Place Elementary
Paul Breaux Middle
Ridge Elementary
SJ Montgomery Elementary
Programs for Teachers

Kabuki Dancers perform for educators at the Arts in Education Showcase on September 19, 2019

Arts Grants for Teachers

AcA and Lafayette Parish School System funded fifteen teacher-led projects in two rounds of open applications. These programs directly impacted 1,350 students, working directly with 37 teachers, and hiring 14 Teaching Artists.

*Arts Integration Grant*
Woodvale Elementary

*Does Lightning Only Strike Once?*
Edgar Martin Middle
Professional Development for Teachers

AcA presented eight professional development workshops for teachers over the course of the academic year focused on arts integration, trauma-informed care, and social and emotional learning through the arts. 152 educators participated in these programs.

- Trauma-Informed Strategies for Educators with an Artistic Approach to Wellness
- Visualizing Ratios through Infographics
- Creative Classroom Management and Assessment
- Social-Emotional Learning through the Arts
- The Art of Community Celebrations: Connecting the Classroom (in conjunction with the AcA’s exhibit, Louisiana Trail Riders, Jeremiah Ariaz)
- Meeting Trauma with Movement
- Culturally Responsive Instruction
- Thinking Outside the Box City
AcA summer campers smile for the camera in 2019

**Summer Camp**
AcA offered six weeks of summer arts camps to 88 campers. AcA’s week-long camps are offered to ages 6–14 and spark imagination and encourage creativity in a safe environment. Led by AcA’s talented team of teaching artists, each week has a different, and fun theme.

**Student Arts Expo (Virtual)**
Because AcA postponed the 11th year of the Student Arts Expo due to COVID-19, AcA created a “Virtual Student Arts Expo” highlighting work from students across Lafayette Parish schools in grades preK-12th. AcA presented online galleries which received 650 views and our social media highlights that reached over 11,000.
Partners in Education

Partners: AcA partners with school boards in order to implement parish-wide arts education activities. This helps ensure the most broad and equitable access to the arts and to cultural experiences provided by AcA’s programs.

“In teaching to the whole child. This means that a child should be given experiences across a broad spectrum such as the arts, athletics and enhanced academics through blended learning. By providing these experiences, all children will grow beyond our wildest dreams.”

—Patrick Jenkins, Superintendent, St. Landry Parish School System

Current Arts in Education Partners:

Lafayette Parish School System
AcA Arts in Education Partner Since 1979

St. Landry Parish School System
AcA Arts in Education Partner Since 2018

Sponsors: Sponsors impact the lives of thousands of young learners. Their support deepens the effectiveness of arts in education programs in existing schools or expands its reach into new schools and parishes throughout Acadiana.

Current Arts in Education Sponsors:

City Club at River Ranch
Presenting sponsor of Arts in Education in Lafayette Parish

Capital One
Presenting sponsor of PACE

McDonalds and McLaff, Inc
Presenting sponsor of Student Arts Expo 2020

Love Our Schools
Presenting sponsor of Arts in Education in St. Landry Parish

Cox Communications
Presenting sponsor of Touring Arts Program

Hancock Whitney
Student Arts Expo 2020

LUS
Student Arts Expo 2020

Lafayette Coca-Cola Bottling Company
Presenting sponsor of Summer Art Camps 2020

BlueCross BlueShield of Louisiana
Student Arts Expo 2020

Party Central
Student Arts Expo 2020
Our Impact

For Artists and the Community

Cultural organizers from across Acadiana meet for a regional strategic planning session hosted by the Acadiana Center for the Arts and Louisiana Division of the Arts in February 2020.
Community Development and Outreach

AcA distributed over $266,000 for arts and cultural projects benefiting more than 285,000 people and presented dozens of professional development opportunities for artists, performers, and creators around the region.

These programs served Region 4 parishes, comprising Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, and Vermilion, for the creation of new works of art, exhibits, performances, workshops, public art, while providing access to professional expertise, training in various arts disciplines, arts administration, and audience services.

Eligible applicants were non-profit arts organizations, non-profit social service organizations, government agencies, schools and universities, as well as, individuals using a fiscal agent, and high school and college arts students. Recognized arts disciplines were: dance, design arts, folklife, literature, media, music, theater, visual arts & crafts, and multi-discipline.

AcA partners with state, local, and privately individuals to raise and re-grant these funds for the benefit of Acadiana.

Diversity and Equity

AcA and its staff serve as liaisons between artists and state and local agencies to provide resources and services especially to culturally diverse, underserved, and rural non-profit arts organizations throughout Acadiana.

Main Streets, Cultural Districts, and Regional Stakeholders

AcA serves as a convenor of Main Street programs, Cultural Districts and other arts partners from throughout the region in partnership with the State of Louisiana.
Support for Artists

Covid 19 Response
With cancelled festivals, shuttered museums, and the entire arts and entertainment ecosystem “on hold,” the AcA began looking for ways to support the individuals and organizations that are responsible for Louisiana’s cultural vibrancy and incredible quality of life. AcA set to develop a statewide survey with the Louisiana Division of the Arts and received more than 1,000 responses from artists representing Acadiana. Based on these survey results, AcA set out to connect individuals in the Acadiana arts and cultural sector with the resources they identified as priorities during the COVID-19 crisis.

Lost My Gig Fund
AcA distributed stipends totalling $33,000 to 101 working musicians in Lafayette Parish following the COVID-19 shutdowns. These funds were raised in partnership with Social Entertainment, The Current, and Downtown Lafayette from March 15 to April 1 and distributed on May 15.

Acadiana Creative Relief Fund
AcA awarded grants of up to $300 to individual artists across Acadiana, whose creative practices and incomes were adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. AcA raised and distributed a total of $25,800 (in $300 stipends) to 86 individual artists across Acadiana.
ArtSpark 2019

The purpose of ArtSpark is to directly support artists in Acadiana, especially those with otherwise limited opportunities, to expand their bodies of work as professionals and to offer new opportunities for engagement to the community. These awards offer assistance to emerging, mid-career, and mature artists for specific, short-term projects.

In 2019, eleven artists were awarded support totalling $50,000. The Stipend supported an 8-month timeline for each artist to complete their proposed projects. During this period, each artist participated in career development workshops through the Opportunity Machine and produced three hours of community outreach.

Gina Aswell
Dance, design, visual arts & crafts
St. Landry Parish

Alicia Chaisson
Theatre
Lafayette

Clare Cook
Dance
Lafayette

Susan David
Theatre, media arts, design, folklike, visual arts & crafts
Lafayette

Lynda Frese
Visual arts & crafts
St. Martin

Denise Gallagher
Visual arts & crafts, literature
Lafayette

Brecky Thomas-Lavigne
Visual arts & crafts, folklike
Evangeline Parish

Terrance Michael Morgan
Dance, literature, music, theatre
Iberia Parish

Patricia Drury Sidman
Theatre
Lafayette

James D.K. Tancill
Visual arts & crafts, media arts
Lafayette

Jordan Vidrine
Media arts, music
St. Landry
Masterclasses/Workshops

**Masterclass with Aaron Diehl**
Twenty piano students from Comeaux High Performing Arts Academy joined Aaron Diehl for a special masterclass with the world renowned pianist in the James Devin Moncus Theater.

**Sense of Place and Loss: Artists and Scientists Facing Change**
Forty traditional artists, scientists, contemporary artists participated in a workshop at AcA on Sense of Place and Loss in the face of climate change in collaboration with Bayou Culture Collaborative.

**In-school workshops with RAM**
AcA brought 1,220 students a unique experience with RAM (Haitian), as part of a month-long residency by the band in Lafayette in partnership with Festival International de Louisiane.

**Masterclass with FLEX AVE**
Open to the public, 32 adults participated in a masterclass with the Brooklyn-based dance company FLEX AVE at University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

**Student Discussion with FLEX AVE**
Fifteen students from AMIkids Acadiana joined the dancers of FLEX AVE for a demonstration and question and answer session on dance and their careers as artists.

**EMERGE Installation Art Panel Discussion**
EMERGE artists Susan David joined a panel of artists and curators on the subject of art installations as an artistic practice with an audience of 25 people.

**Coffee and Conversation: Louisiana Trail Riders panel discussion**
Creole trail ride leaders Latoya Paris and Paul Scott joined Oxford University ethnomusicologist Gwennie von Einsiedel and Jonathan Ariaz for a discussion with an audience of forty people, moderated by NPR “Zydeco Stomp” host Herman Fuselier.
Support for Nonprofits

State of Louisiana Grants
“Decentralized Arts Funding”

Acadia Parish, $9,504
- Crowley Art Association
- The Grand Opera House of the South

Evangeline Parish, $5,229
- Evangeline Parish Library

Iberia Parish, $11,269
- Bunk Johnson/New Iberia Jazz Arts & Heritage Festival
- Iberia Performing Arts League
- Iberia Parish Library
- Iberia Cultural Resources Association
- National Trust For Historic Preservation

Lafayette Parish, $34,092
- Chorale Acadienne
- Freetown Studios
- Upstage
- Vermilionville Living History Museum Foundation

Lafayette Parish, $34,092
- Louisiana Crafts Guild
- Louisiana Folk Roots
- Asociacion Cultural Lation-Acadiana
- Southern Screens

St. Landry Parish, $12,829
- Festival of Words Cultural Arts Collective
- City of Opelousas Eunice Public Library

St. Martin Parish, $8,025
- NuNu’s Arts and Culture Collective
- NuNu’s Arts and Culture Collective/Atelier

St. Mary Parish, $8,049
- City of Franklin

Vermilion Parish, $8,923
- Gueydan Museum & Cultural Art Society
- Abbey Players
- Vermilion Arts Council
- Vermilion Parish Library
Lafayette Consolidated Government Grants
“LCG Arts and Culture Grants”

Lafayette Parish, Competitive Awards, Totalling $30,232
Competitive Grants
Asociacion Cultural Latino
Basin Arts
Children’s Museum of Acadiana
Chorale Acadienne
Freetown Studios
Lafayette Art Association
Lafayette Dazzlers
Louisiana Folk Roots
Vermilionville Living History Museum

Lafayette Parish Non-Competitive Awards, Totalling $81,102
Acadiana Symphony Orchestra
Festivals Acadiens et Créoles
Festival International de Louisiane
Lafayette Mardi Gras Association

L. Hill Bonin Jr. Award

Acadiana-Wide, $4,000
Spartan Band Foundation
Basin Arts
De’Ondre Goodley
Chorale des Amis
Southern Screen Festival

Arts for Assisted Living and Memory Care

20 weekly visual Art Classes in Assisted Living and Memory Care at The Blake for 25 residents
Membership

In 2020, AcA renewed its membership program in hopes of allowing patrons of the arts to engage and be ‘in the know’ of what is going on within the AcA. Each tier offers different benefits designed to deepen and enhance the art experience.
AcA Membership

As of June 30, 2020

President's Circle

The President's Circle includes the leadership supporters in arts and culture from across Acadiana. These members access special events, receptions, and performances as part of the innermost circle of the AcA's supporters.

President's Circle members Angela and Curtis Morrison

President's Circle Gold

Andy and Kathy Vodicka
Ashton Grace Montessori School
Atmos Energy
Bart Bernard
Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Louisiana
Capital One
Choon, Inc.

Cox Communications
Darnall Sikes CPA's/Clay Darnall
Darnall Sikes Wealth Partners/David Strother
Double R Restaurant Group, LLC
Doug Ashy Building Materials
Drs. Dwayne Brown and Jody Rosson
Ed and Elaine Abell
George and Claire Guidry  
Greg and Lynn Moroux  
Gustaf W. McIlhenny Foundation  
Hancock Whitney  
Harry and Dru Patin  
Haynie Family Foundation  
Hole Opener Corporation  
IBERIABANK  
J&J Exterminating Lafayette  
Drs. Jerome Smith & Daniel Domingue  
Jack and Associates, LLC  
Jessica and Phil Gachassin  
Jones Walker Law LLP  
Kiwanis Club of Lafayette  
Lafayette Coca Cola Bottling Company  
Lafayette Convention and Visitors Commission  
Lafayette Music  
Leading Health Care of Louisiana  
Les and Vickie Babin  
Louis Perret  
Louisiana Seafood  
Lyle and Elizabeth Girouard  
Dr. Mary B. Neiheisel  
Mac, Laff Inc.  
Daphne and Edward J. Krampe III  
Martial F. Billeaud, Sr. Foundation  
Michael and Jovette Mosing  
NeunerPate  
Party Central  
DoubleTree by Hilton  
RADER  
Richard and Kathy Broussard  
Richard and Leslie Brauns Foundation  
Robert and Ann John  
Dr. Ronnie Daigle and Dr. Patricia Cran  
Social Entertainment  
BJ and Katie Crist  
Gus and Katherine Rezende  
Sadie Shamsie and Dan Vollmer  
Southern Lifestyle Development Co., LLC  
Standard Title  
Taylor and Yvette Davis  
Dr. and Mrs. Terry Cromwell  
The William C. Shumacher Family Foundation  
Thomas and Ann Marie Hightower  
Thomas and Alicia Kreamer  
Trust for Mutual Understanding (TMU)  
Uniglobe Associated Travel  
Van Eaton & Romero LLC  
Waitr

**President’s Circle Silver**

Barbara and Tom Black  
Jay and Therese Culotta  
Robert David  
Karen and Mark deClouet  
Cade Evans  
Carmer Falgout  
Tracy Frentz  
Ralph and Cherie Kraft  
Tommy and Deidre Montgomery  
Dr. Mary B. Neiheisel  
J’annine Sullivan  
Molly Thomas

**President’s Circle Bronze**

Tiffa and Kerry Boutte  
Carolyn and Harry Bruder  
Jim and Betty Sue Faulk  
Wes and Jenny Gautreaux  
Jack and Padmini Gupta  
A. Curtis and Angela Morrison  
Mark and Renée Oliver  
Jeanne Schoeffler  
Paulette Sibille
AcA Membership

Insiders

The AcA Insiders membership was launched in Spring of 2020 to encourage more direct involvement from AcA's up-and-coming supporters. AcA Insiders peek behind the scenes and attend special monthly gatherings as an AcA Insider. These members receive exclusive benefits in addition to those of the general members.

Insider

The Insider package serves to engage AcA patrons looking for exciting and new opportunities to engage with their peers through the arts. Insiders receive access to an Insiders-exclusive monthly “Insiders” event including behind-the-scenes tours and social gatherings. Insiders additionally receive a limited edition print by a Louisiana artist commissioned for the season and complimentary beverage tickets to be used at the AcA bar and cafe.

AcA Insiders spend time in the AcA atrium during ArtWalk.
John Michael Chachere  
Jimmy and Sandra Clarke  
Jackie and Dwayne David  
Kenneth Douet  
Matthew Dugas  
Christine and Bob Dugas  
Andrew Duhon  
Bernard Duhon  
Dawn Dupuis  
Gary Falgout  
Kenneth Fuselier  
Raymond Goodrich II  
Juno and Alice Guedry  
Dan Hare

David and Jon-Ella Hays  
Robert G. Jaeger  
William LaBar  
Marcelle and Bob Langlinais  
Dr. Ann Laurent  
Linda and Sam Lolan  
Tom and Karen McNamara  
Robert Michalk  
Elizabeth Randall  
David Schoeffler  
Wayne Shullaw  
Deborah and Ken Simeral  
Robert Twilley  
Mary and Robert Wilkinson

Young Insider
The Young Insider package engages young professionals ages 21-40 by giving them discounted access to the “See & Be Scene” monthly social events in addition to the benefits of general membership.

Simone Ancelet  
John Oliver  
Emma Sullivan

Dual Young Insider
The Dual Young Insider package serves to engage AcA patrons and young professional couples looking for exciting and new opportunities within the AcA. Dual Young Insiders will receive the same benefits as the Young Insider, but for TWO!

Devon Greenfield  
Kelly Rick  
Elizabeth "Biz" Thomason
AcA Membership

General Members

General Members support the work of the AcA and get exclusive benefits.

A family visits the AcA galleries during Second Saturday ArtWalk.

Family Members

The Family Package serves to engage families looking to get AcA perks for the entire family. This gives them access to exclusive Members-Only E-Newsletter, select workshops, events, and early tickets. Also, discounts on AcA Summer Camp, tickets, and AcA merchandise.

Vona and Jim Allen
Carol Antosiak
Wayne Bares
Robin Barry

Laurue Bivins
Theresa Bodker
Chuck and Lisa Boudreaux
R. J. and Judith Boutte
Individual Members

The purpose of the Members package is to engage AcA patrons looking to get perks at an affordable price. This gives them access to exclusive Members-Only E-Newsletter, select workshops, events, and discounts on tickets and merchandise.
Friends of the Arts

The Friends of the Arts package offers benefits to Students, Teachers, Artist, and Seniors at a discounted price. This gives them access to Members-Only E-Newsletter, select workshops, and discounts on tickets.

Mark Albertelly
Tommy Alesi
Cynthia Alleman
Paula Andrus
Kim Andrus
John Baxter
Eileen Beniest
Denise Bienvenu
Janet Billeaud
Rhonda and Roy Billeaud
Lou Blackwell
Mac Boulet
Elaine Bourque
C. Denise Broussard
Linda Broussard

Mary Elizabeth Broussard
Sarah Brown
John Buckelew
Joseph Caldwell
David Cartwright
Harriett Castille
Ryan Cazares
Edward and Faye Cazayoux
Charles Chatelain
Ashton J. Chiasson
Oana Chivoiu
Jeri Cohen
Patricia and John Coleman
Alice Cormier
Gary Couret

Anne Daigle
Curtis and Anne Darrah
Pamela Dauphin
Steven Davis
Brad DeHart
Deke DeKerlegand
Kristine Dewey
Dan and Mary Dickey
Elsa Dimitriadis
Dorothy Ducote
Milton Duhon
Margaret Duhon
Kathy Dumesnil
Mitzi Eastin
David and Linda Faulk

Jill LeBlanc
Judi LeJeune
John Lemieux
Jeanne Long
Marian Mattison
Leah McKnight
Victoria Mercer
Gretchen Montero
Neil Morein
Lisa Mouille
Michael Myers
Wade Navarre
Maura and Chase Nelson
Ceci Neustrom
Ron and Jackie Nierman
Martha Odom
Rebecca Owens
Gene Pellerin
Louis Perret
Becky and Rusty Peyton
Mark Piazza
James Poche'
Jody Powell
Chris Rader
Cindy Randazzo

Olivia Girouard
Bryan Groves
George Guidry
Michelle Guillory
Mary C. Hager
Susan Hamilton
Scott and Elizabeth Hamilton
Nancy Hamilton
Tommy Hebert
Steven Hebert
James Hebert
Mary Helm
Brent Henley
Kansas Hernandez
Don Holbert
Scott Hutchison
Kimberly Jones
Linda Jones
Melissa and Michael Kenney
Ross Keogh
Adrian King
Melanie and Thomas Kline
Glen and Susan Lambert
Melinee Latour
Carl and Jan LeBlanc

Olivia Regard
Erin Roy
Mary-Margaret Sabatier
John and Susette Saichuk
Julie Savoy
Steve Scander
Alyson Schexnayder
Chanel Sellers
Carol Shaw
Andrew Shenkan
Tricia Sieferman
Dena Simard
John Slaughter
Ken Smalling
John and Ann Smith
Claire St. Romain
Beth Stauffer
Charles Stockton
Lisa Strauss
Jordan Theard
Janet and Chad Theriot
Colleen Thomas
Madeline Viator
Melanie and Damo Wiley

45
Sam Fontenot
Richard Foreman
Elaine Fortier
Billy Fortier
Lynda Frese
Robert Gabour
Martha Garner
Louis Gary
Greg and Kay-bray Gilman
Phyllis Giordano
Yolanda Gourrier
Charlotte Graeff
Mary Guercio
Libby Guidry
Brandy Gumela
Eugene Hancock
James Hanisee
Rebekah Hanks
Patricia Hebert
Sally Herpin
Robert Hester
Bruce Higginson
Tim Hoffpauir
Shirley Hoisington
Randy Hopper
David and Carla Hostetter
Sherry James
Willanna James
Michael Kleimeyer
Brenda Kovach
Sandy Labry
Jay and Marie LaLonde
Earl Landry
George Latiolais
Maxine Latiolais
Anita Leggett
Leslie Lopez
Pat Love
William and Paula Majeau
Phyllis Malveaux
Salah Mansour
Louis Maraist
Mare Martin
Kenneth Mccarron
Mandy Migues
Mary Morgan
Viane Moses
Brenda Mounier
Mazie Movassaghi
Sue Nations
Bill and Lee Nevitt
Janet Orand
John Oubre
Simone Palmer
Edwin Sebastian Patout
Stephanie Patton
Linda Price
Jessica Robichaux
Amie Rogers
David Rougeau
Elizabeth Savoy
Gerry Savoy
Ebba and Thomas
Schoonover
Claire Schultz
Carol Shaw
Shine Sonnier
Molly and Joseph Stauffer
James Stenhouse
Jeani Stevens
Carol and Bill Stubbs
Suzanne Synborski
Scott Tabor
Mark Thomas
Chrisanda Touchet
Rod Touchet
Bernard Ussher
Francesca Vega
Terresa Viator
Raul Viera
Deborah and Jeanne Heller
Waldman
Theresa Wasiloski
Cissy Whipp
May Louise White
Jacob White
Sara Whitney
Janet Wing
Caryn Winters
David Wortman
William Young
Linnzi Zaorski