



SAMMONS CENTER FOR THE ARTS
ANNUAL REPORT
2023



SAMMONS CENTER FOR THE ARTS

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

REFLECTING ON MILESTONES

Over the past year, we have continued to advance our mission of fostering creativity and growing the arts for the community as we have done since 1988. Our artists and arts groups have consistently pushed the boundaries of their craft, captivating audiences with their innovative work. These achievements are a testament to our organization's enduring commitment to artistic excellence.

As we look forward to 2024 and the celebration of 35 years of Sammons Jazz, we are filled with gratitude and hope for the future. This remarkable journey would not have been possible without your steadfast support and belief in the transformative power of the arts. You make all this possible.

Thank you for standing with us on this incredible journey. We invite you to join us in celebrating these milestones as we continue to make a positive impact on our community through the arts.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Joanna St. Angelo.



HOW YOU GREW THE ARTS

The Sammons Center for the Arts serves as a hub for daily performing arts activities. Small and mid-sized arts groups often struggle to secure and finance rehearsal and office space, but we actively provide a solution. We keep our doors open seven days a week, welcoming arts groups and artists to congregate, craft, and practice their artistry. Countless remarkable performances gracing stages and theaters throughout the city were conceived, organized, and perfected within our halls. The Sammons Center stands as the epicenter where the flame of creativity ignites, and where arts groups and artists actively shape their imaginative concepts into tangible reality.

2023 BY THE SCA NUMBERS

- 22 Sammons Jazz and Cabaret Performances
- 200 Performers
- 1200 Events from 100+ User Groups
- Over 60,000 Unique Visitors

SAMMONS CENTER 2023 RESIDENT ART GROUPS

Academy of Bangla Arts & Culture
African American Repertory Theater
Beckles Dancing Company
Cara Mía Theatre Co.
Dallas Area Cultural Advocacy Coalition
Dallas Swing Dance Society
Dance Council of North Texas
Fine Arts Chamber Players
Greater Dallas Youth Orchestra
The Mexico Institute
New Arts Six
New Texas Symphony Orchestra
Turtle Creek Chorale
USA Dance Dallas
Voices of Change
The Women's Chorus of Dallas

An additional 100+ arts and cultural organizations use the Center each year for meetings, rehearsals, auditions, and performances.

SEE HOW ART GROWS THROUGH A SAMMONS CENTER FOR THE ARTS CLIENT

CARA MÍA THEATRE



Photo Courtesy: Cara Mía Theatre

Conception and planning for performances starts here in the facility - whether it be in the offices of an arts group or a larger multipurpose space.



Photo Courtesy: Cara Mía Theatre

Auditions and rehearsals are booked in our multipurpose venues so that the art is crafted and perfected here.



Photo Courtesy: Cara Mía Theatre

Performances occur all over the city of Dallas - in city cultural centers to stages in the AT&T Performing Arts Center.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
CARA MÍA THEATRE, PLEASE VISIT THEIR WEBSITE:
CARAMIATHEATRE.ORG





"The Sammons Center has been instrumental in my career. They have always opened the doors to allow me to express myself artistically as well as youth who would like to express themselves artistically. We have been able to do a lot of things in this building, so I'm going to take this time to tell the Sammons Center thank you for that opportunity. Sammons Center is the place for the arts, any genre, any kind - and however you want to express yourself."

Audra Scott, Sammons Concert Performer

"For the future of the Sammons Center for the Arts, I would love to see Cara Mía Theatre continue to grow. When Cara Mía Theatre first became a tenant here in 2014, our operating budget was about \$350,000 a year. Now our operating budget on an annual basis is at \$1.2 million, and we couldn't have done this without the Sammons Center. It would be an honor to continue to evolve and grow and work with this tremendous staff and organization. The future is so bright for the Sammons Center. We need more organizations and facilities like the Sammons Center for the Arts."

David Lozano, Executive Artistic Director of Cara Mía Theatre



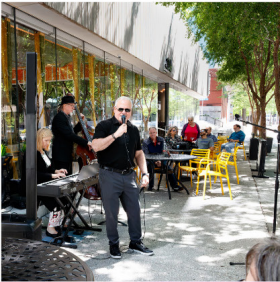
HEAR FROM A SAMMONS CENTER STAFF MEMBER
PATRICIA STEWART-GORDON

"For the Sammons Center to continue its mission to grow the arts with a broad variety of programs, collaborations, and initiatives, we need to grow and to be careful stewards of all of our resources, including our financial capital. It's important for us to maintain a strong and stable financial position to support not only the current programs but to provide a base for continuing strategic investments in the future. Over the years, the Center's leadership has placed a priority on prudent financial planning and management that also provides the leeway to be opportunistic as new situations present themselves. We strive to be able to meet or exceed the standard financial benchmarks for excellence in financial management.

It takes a team to build and sustain that kind of commitment to 'doing it right,' and everyone at the Center plays a part on that team. It's a pleasure to be part of this, and to know that the work that we do nurtures the efforts and successes of so many vibrant, creative people in the community."



- PATRICIA STEWART-GORDON
SAMMONS CENTER DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
PAT@SAMMONSARTCENTER.ORG



A DAY OF JAZZ IN THE DALLAS ARTS DISTRICT D'JAM JAZZ STROLL

Dallas Jazz Appreciation Month (D'JAM) is a special monthlong celebration of all things jazz in April that was founded by the Sammons Center, including the amazing jazz artists, past and present, legends and rising stars, who call North Texas home.

D'JAM celebrated 10 years with its first annual Jazz Stroll in the Dallas Arts District, which the Sammons Center managed and operated! This "Day of Jazz" was a free community event open to the public and transformed Flora Street into a Jazz Alley with participating venues on Saturday, April 29.

Top Left: Shelley Carrol Quintet at Klyde Warren Park
Middle Left: Quamon Fowler Quartet at St. Paul United Methodist Church
Bottom Left: David Slater with guest Ally Guba at La Stella outdoors
Center Bottom: Jazz Beccuz's Candace "Mahogany" Miller at the AT&T Performing Arts Center outdoors
Top Right: Carolyn Lee Jones & the Satin Dolls Band at the Dallas Museum of Art lobby
Middle Right: SCA Artistic Director Arlington Jones, D'JAM Legends of Jazz Artist 2023 Mario Cruz, & SCA Executive Director Joanna St. Angelo
Bottom Right: Frank Moka of the Shelley Carrol Quintet at Klyde Warren Park



JAZZ FOR DALLAS YOUTH



Booker T. Washington Big Band performing during the D'JAM Jazz Stroll



Artistic Director Arlington Jones teaching jazz essentials and performance etiquette to the Boys and Girls Club

In 2023, our jazz program made a profound impact on Dallas's youth. The Booker T. Washington Big Band shined brightly during their performance at the inaugural Jazz Stroll. This event not only showcased their impressive musical talents but also provided a platform for personal growth. Collaborating with seasoned jazz professionals bolstered their skills, confidence, and sense of accomplishment. The Jazz Stroll became a symbol of inspiration, encouraging these young musicians to chase their dreams in the world of music.

Our commitment to introducing jazz to new audiences was evident in the summer concerts hosted for Boys and Girls Club participants. For many, this was their first encounter with jazz, opening doors to a world of creativity and unity. These events, featuring talented artists, ignited curiosity and passion, revealing the magic of improvisation and teamwork. Through music, we broke down barriers, fostering inclusivity and a sense of belonging. Our jazz program not only imparted musical knowledge but also instilled values of collaboration, dedication, and cultural appreciation, enriching the lives of Dallas's youth and promising a brighter future for our community.

SAMMONS CENTER FOR THE ARTS
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

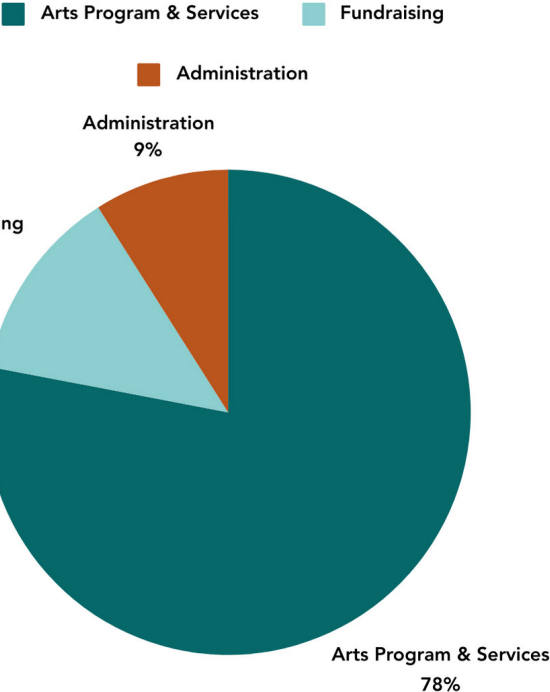
Operating Revenue \$890,700

Grants & Contributions	\$522,400
Arts Programs & Services	\$263,000
Operating Support from the Endowment	\$33,000
Investment and Other Income	\$72,300

Expenses* \$890,700

Arts Programs & Services	\$697,600
Fundraising	\$114,300
Administration	\$78,800

Change in Net Assets \$0



*Expenses from the Statement of Functional Expenses excludes depreciation.

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ADDITIONAL SUPPORT PROVIDED BY:

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Denise Lee, Sammons Cabaret 2023

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Branden & James, Artfully, Sammons 2023

Photo Credit: Eye B.M. Photography



James Driscoll and Arlington Jones, Sammons Jazz 2023

Photo Credit: Eye B.M. Photography



SAMMONS CENTER FOR THE ARTS

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