



# 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

## MISSION

As the Metro's umbrella arts organization, The Arts Partnership cultivates the arts in our community. We envision a community that wholeheartedly embraces and supports the arts as a valuable piece of our social and economic success.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### ***Support Local Art and the Artists Who Make It***

- From July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 TAP awarded \$126,828 in grants to organizations and individual artists. The grantees reach approximately 434,000 audience members annually.
- Support Local Art electronic signs at Hector Airport encourage nearly 244,000 annual air travelers to support the arts in the Metro.
- TAP convenes informal meetings for our institutional Primary Arts Partners to encourage cross-genre dialogue about issues affecting the arts community.

### ***Advocate the Arts' Role in a Vibrant Economy***

- TAP advocated to receive an increase in City of Fargo funding for the regranting process, resulting in a 25 % increase in grant funds.
- TAP coordinated the Metro's participation in *Arts & Economic Prospective V*, a national study by Americans for the Arts that tracks the economic impact of local spending on jobs, household income and government revenue. Study to be released June 17.
- TAP was honored to receive one of five 2017 Governor's Awards for the Arts, jointly presented by the Governor's Office and the North Dakota Council on the Arts.
- TAP engaged a consultant to lead a tactical planning process, to turn its strategic plan into more immediate action. The plan will be updated regularly as additional progress is made.
- The 2017 City Arts Partnership Grant review panel in May was opened to the public for

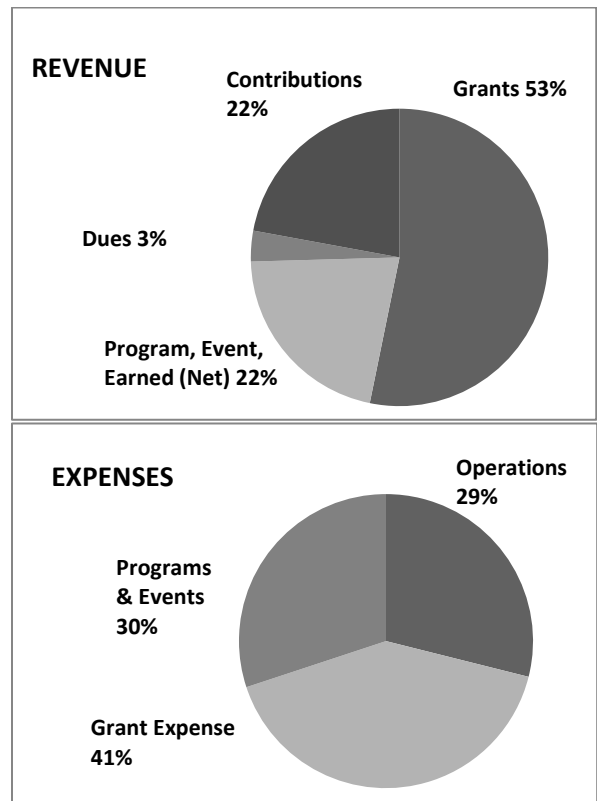
the first time. An on-line survey of grant applicants showed unanimously high marks for the process.

### ***Promote a Creatively Enriched Community***

- Since July 2016, TAP staff have written more than 55,000 words about our Primary Arts Partners and Grantees in *The Forum* and through social media. They also spent nearly 800 radio minutes talking about arts-and-culture events in the community.
- In December 2016, TAP launched APT, a creative incubator in downtown Fargo. The building includes studio spaces (occupied by 25 artists), gallery walls and spaces for arts workshops, classes, rehearsals, informal performances and more. A joint project of the Kilbourne Group.
- ChalkFest 2016 attracted 5,500+ visitors of all ages, ethnicities and abilities in the second year of partnering with The Red River Zoo.
- The 2017 Community Support Arts program, now in its 7<sup>th</sup> season, introduces arts supporters to local artists and builds audiences (and consumers) for their work. To date, 54 artists or arts groups have received a total of \$74,100 for their participation.
- The Artist-in-Residence Program, launched in 2014, provides a unique opportunity for corporations to cultivate work environments in which creativity thrives and enhances the lives of its staff.

## FINANCES AND FUNDERS

- TAP has maintained a positive cash reserve in FY2017 and projects revenue of \$409,613 and expenses of \$391,739 at June 30.
- The Cities of Fargo, West Fargo and Moorhead support the City Arts Partnership grants to organizations.
- Major operational and program support in Fiscal 2017 came from Sanford Health, Gate City Bank, Kilbourne Group, TMI Hospitality, Impact Foundation, Otter Tail Power, The Forum, Bell Banks, FAF Inc. (McDonald's), Jade Presents and ND Council on the Arts.
- TAP has secured funds for programs and projects through donations from businesses and individuals, Primary Arts Partnership dues, grants and earned income.



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Karin Rudd, *Chair*

Executive Vice President, Gate City Bank

Alyson Bjornstad, *Treasurer*

Vice President, Private Banking Officer, Bell Bank

Melissa Tomlinson, *Secretary*

Senior Software Quality Analyst, Humach

Ellen Shafer, *Past Chair*

Marketing Manager, Leeco Steel

Mara Brust

Attorney, Conmy Feste, Ltd

Susan Gartin

Community Arts Advocate

Crystal Gilson

Senior User Experience Researcher, FBS

Jeff Knight

Designer, Cereal

Ann Arbor Miller

Photographer/Owner, Arbor Photography

*TAP expresses thanks to Ellen Shafer, Susan Gartin, Jeff Knight and Ann Arbor Miller, who completed their board service in Fiscal 2017.*

## STAFF

Dayna Del Val

President & CEO

Tania Blanich

Director of Operations

Chelsey Engelhard

Communications Coordinator

**TAP'S CORE VALUES** Support local art and the artists who make it | Advocate the arts' role in a vibrant economy | Promote a creatively enriched community