



Arts at the Palace

2021 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



Vincent Giordano Photography

artsatthepalace.org

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Cultivating the arts, culture, and community in Hamilton, NY.

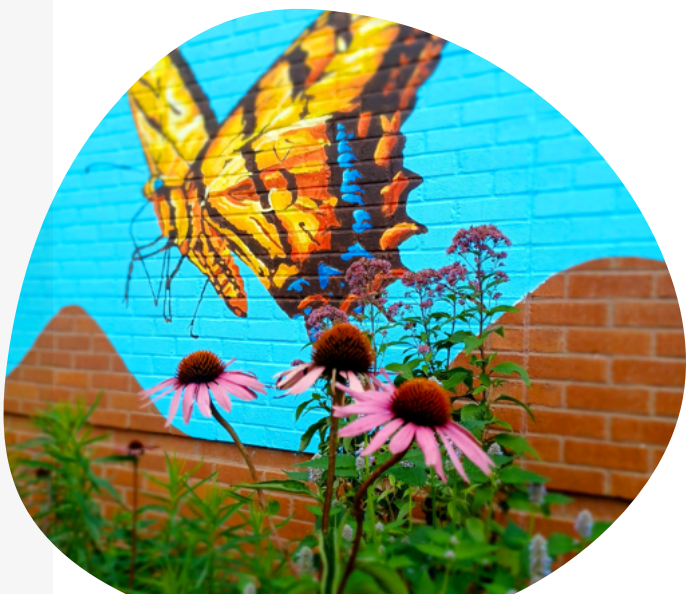
Arts at the Palace is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit community arts organization dedicated to presenting, developing and expanding the reach of the arts within the Central New York region.

As an organization focused on inclusion, innovation and imagination, Arts at the Palace strives to nurture a vibrant arts community, foster artistic excellence, and inspire creative exchange through community connection and collaboration.

Based at the historic Palace Theater, we focus on presenting local, regional, national, and international performing artists and offering arts education and community-based arts activities.

The board of directors and staff of Arts at the Palace are deeply grateful to everyone in the community who has supported us throughout the pandemic, and who celebrated with us when we reopened our doors!

-- **Elizabeth Douglas, Executive Director**



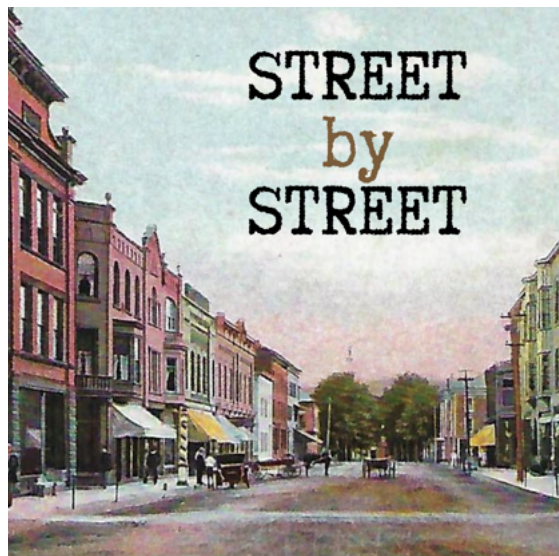
Over **1,300** people participated in our **2021** programs created by **83** artists, scholars, and technical professionals.

2021 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



STREET BY STREET: A VILLAGE AS REMEMBERED BY STORYTELLERS

This local history podcast project of Arts at the Palace and the Village of Hamilton Historical Commission sought to explore and document the *genius loci* (spirit of the place) of the Village of Hamilton, NY. The series appeared on the Arts at the Palace website via SoundCloud and will be preserved in the Village of Hamilton historical archives. *612 podcast plays; 20 launch event participants; 11 artists, technical professionals, and storytellers.* **Made possible by a Humanities New York Action Grant with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities.**



I DIGRESS: THE INTIMATE INSIGHTS OF A CHILDHOOD WEIRDO

AATP's 2021 From Script to Stage play development residency program took place on site at the Palace Theater during the month of May and was presented virtually in September. By fusing theatrical performance, music, and projection design with archival materials, filmmaking, and video art, writer and performer Sauda Jackson sifted through the weight and consequences of grief by taking us down a hilarious and heartfelt coming of age journey from a young girl in 1980s Chicago. *152 views; 8 artists and technical professionals; 29 participants in two community discussion events.* **Made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.**



WOMEN WRITERS ACCOUNTABILITY GROUP (WWAG)

WWAG was a year-long free program to encourage women writers at all levels and in all genres. Four 10-week sessions took place Tuesday evenings via Zoom, where writers and aspiring writers gathered for informal conversation about writing projects and to set goals. Guest professional writers included Jennifer Brice, C.J. Hauser, Anne Valente, and Sauda Aziza Jackson. The program concluded with a live reading event at the Palace Theater. *38 writers; 5 artists; 19 attendees at the live event.*

Supported by a grant from the Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation.

PARKING LOT POLLINATOR GARDEN

Beginning in the fall of 2020, Arts at the Palace worked with naturalist Morgan Elmore and artist Tim Rand to create a native pollinator garden certified by the National Wildlife Federation. A public, outdoor mural has been created on the side of the Palace Theater building within the garden space. Community engagement activities included planting the garden, the virtual event **Native Plantscape: A Community Collective**, and the in-person outdoor event **Garden Jam**, featuring a performance by Sunday Tunes Crowd. *60 participants; 7 artists.* **Supported by grants from the Faith T. Knapp Memorial Fund and Small Grants Fund of the Central New York Community Foundation, Golden Paintworks Mural Paints, and the Mid-York Foundation.**

FALL MUSIC SERIES

Live music returned to the Palace this fall with spectacular performances by regional superstars Root Shock; All That Jazz (CNY Jazz Arts Foundation); Jess Novak & Ben Wayne; Monk Rowe & The Five Families Ensemble; and E.S.P. Modern Jazz Group. Special thanks to Mark Fitzgerald (Rosewood Sound), Rich Grant, and Andy Frank for their contributions of technical expertise and artistry to this series. *133 participants; 26 artists and technical professionals.* **Made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.**



DIAMANTINA ROSA

A performance focusing on Latin American women's struggles for gender equality by Ana Florencia López Ulloa, this multi-media piece included monologue by four Latin American women, a DJ set, dancing, and was performed in Spanish. Produced by Teatrotaller. *56 participants; 7 artists and technical professionals.* **Co-sponsored by Arts at the Palace and Colgate University Division of Arts and Humanities, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, Department of Theater, Women's Studies Program, ALANA Cultural Center, and W. M. Keck Center for Language Study and made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.**

REYNA & THE RUSTICS

This community event launched the "Halloween in Hamilton" downtown festivities this year with a live performance at the Palace Theater by some of Hamilton's finest local musicians. *30 participants; 4 artists and technical professionals.*

JAZZ AT NOON HOLIDAY EDITION

In December, we welcomed regional jazz greats Rick & Julie Montalbano for an afternoon of dazzling jazz and holiday music. Rick & Julie's show had been cancelled in 2020 due to the pandemic, so it was all the more exciting to present their work to the community this year. *12 participants; 3 artists and technical professionals.* **Made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.**

“*The Five Families Ensemble took a vote, and it was unanimous: Our Arts at the Palace gig was the most artistically fulfilling yet. The management, the stage, the piano, the sound support and the overall aesthetic all receive a "10." We wish that every town had an Arts at the Palace, a precious gem.*”

-- Monk Rowe--Performer, Educator, and Composer



2021 ARTS EDUCATION & ACTIVITIES



VIRTUAL FILM CLUB

In this year-long program, film professional Juliette Fahey met with community members online to discuss a curated series of films about art and culture. The conversations were lively, and often continued offline thanks to Juliette's thought-provoking presentations. *58 participants; 1 artist.* **Supported by a grant from the CNY Arts Covid-19 Arts Impact Fund.**



ZOO MOTEL

Internationally acclaimed theatre director and artist Thaddeus Phillips invited us to the Zoo Motel, an inventive exploration of the possibilities of live virtual theatre and the magic of cinema. Palace audience members checked into virtual "rooms" to experience together the dazzling performance broadcasted live online from a village in South America. *12 Arts at the Palace participants.*



LET'S GO TO THE OPERA!

This virtual series looking at the contemporary operas *The Impresario* or *We Get Locked Down but We Get Up Again* or *Live from the Meta*; *Gallo: A Fable in Music*, and *The Fall of the House of Usher* included Arts at the Palace's video conversations with several of the artists who created them. *68 views; 9 artists.*

Supported by a grant from the CNY Arts Covid-19 Arts Impact Fund.



LEARN TO PLAY GUITAR

Local legend Ed Vollmer held guitar lessons for adult beginners in-person at Arts at the Palace this summer. Participants had the option of borrowing guitars from AATP's guitar lending program. *7 participants; 1 artist.* **Supported by grants from The Gifford Foundation and the Hamilton Community Chest.**



SPRING YOUTH THEATRE-MAKER CHALLENGE AND SUMMER YOUTH THEATER CAMP

This year's NBT Bank Theater for Young Audiences program included a virtual DIY youth theater activity during school winter break as well as a return to our in-person summer youth theater camp. Although class size was limited due to pandemic guidelines, our Youth Theater Educator Gwyneth Davies led an enthusiastic group of students through a week of creative activities to develop their acting skills. *29 views; 9 camp participants; 1 artist.* **Sponsored by NBT Bank.**



COLGATE STUDENTS AT THE PALACE

Drew Tompkins '23 served as our **2021 Upstate Institute Field School Fellow**. This summer, Drew completed a hand-on research project “Reopening the Palace,” which included interviewing professional artists working at the Palace during COVID-19 as well as conducting a survey of our audiences to learn about their needs and wishes as we opened our doors for live performances this year. As part of his project, Drew served as the production assistant for the Palace’s 2021 From Script to Stage play development program and assisted us in all areas of general operations, from creating socially-distanced seating plans to grant-writing.

Madeleine Hettler '23 continued this year as our **Community-Based Work Study Student**. In this role, Maddy took on extensive research projects, resulting in recommendations for handling potential cybersecurity issues as well as ways to enhance inclusivity of audience members and artists with physical or other challenges.

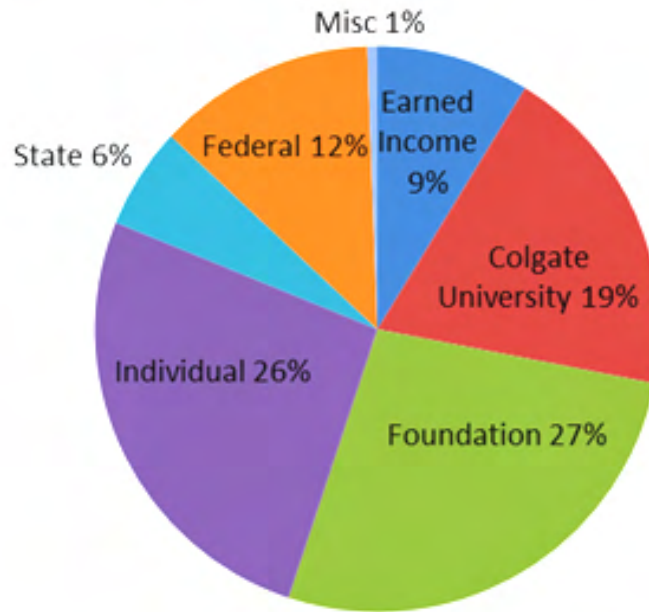
The Colgate Ballet Company presented two dazzling sold-out performances of *The Nutcracker* at the Palace Theater in November. Assisted by professional technical director Bill Burd and Colgate advisor Leigh-Ann Wenzel, the students handled every aspect of the production of this year-long project, reviving a tradition beloved by the Colgate and local communities.



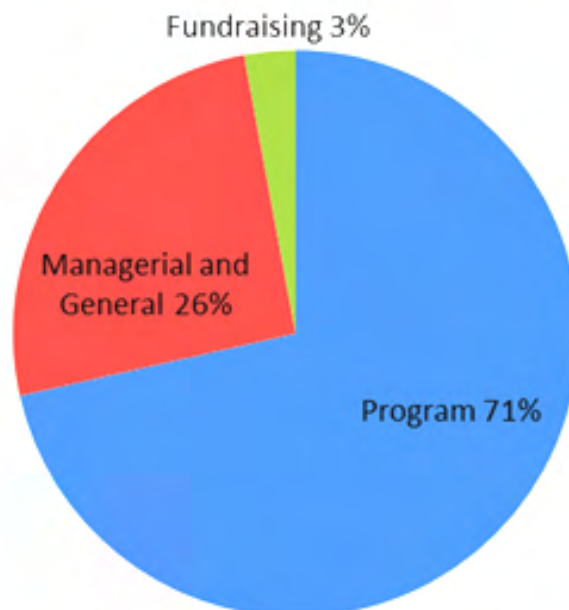
FINANCIAL

Our 2021 reviewed financial statements will be available in May 2021--please email director@artatthepalace.org to receive a copy. Shown here are 2020 revenue sources and distribution of expenses.

AATP Revenue Sources (2020)



AATP Expenses (2020)



THANK YOU

We acknowledge with deep gratitude the following individuals and organizations for their support in 2021 (List was current as of December 17, 2021):

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- Colgate University
- Hamilton Initiative
- NBT Bank

FUNDING ORGANIZATIONS

- CNY Arts
- Central New York Community Foundation
- Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation
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- New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature

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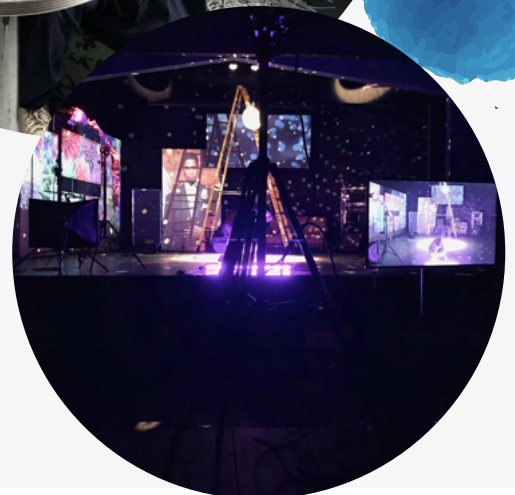
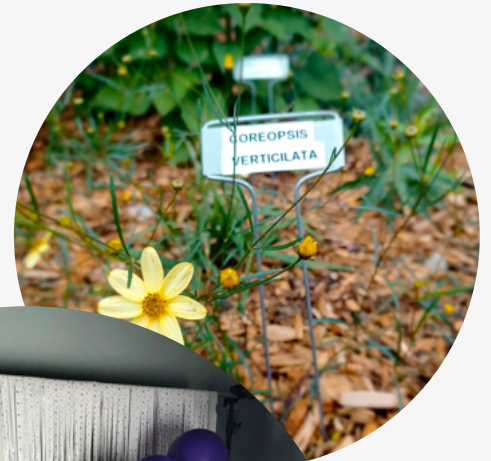
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Cultivating the arts, culture, and community in Hamilton, NY.

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