



Arts at the Palace

2020 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



artsatthepalace.org

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Your support helps Arts at the Palace cultivate the arts and culture in our community.

Arts at the Palace is Hamilton's hub for artistic activities—from musical performances to play productions to a summer youth theater camp and more. We offer a welcoming downtown space to gather for meaningful arts experiences, community happenings, and private events.

Our 2020 fiscal year was extremely challenging due to the COVID-19 pandemic. But many generous and talented people contributed their artistry, expertise, time, and support to help us present the arts in new ways. We could not have done it without you!

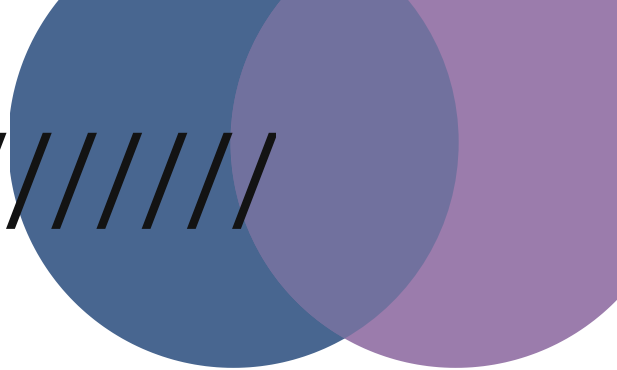
Even though we remain among the only industries in New York still unable to open our doors, we will continue to find innovative ways to support artists and be of service to the local community through the arts. We are excited and optimistic for the future—thank you for believing in us!

-- Elizabeth Douglas, Executive Director



Over **4,000** people participated in or viewed Arts at the Palace's **2020** programs, created by **over 50** artists, scholars, and technical professionals.

2020 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



JAZZ AT NOON

Three live performances took place early in the year, featuring Central New York artists Joey Arcuri, Steve Brown, Joe Carello, Glenn Cashman, Tyler Henderson, Jimmy Johns, Dino Losito, Dianne Adams McDowell, Jim McDowell, Paul Merrill, Rich Mollin, Mark Shiner and Dave Solazzo. In December, we launched **Jazz at Noon Originals**, a video series of original compositions performed by some of these fabulous artists and others. Made possible by a grant from the Central New York Community Foundation.



FROM SCRIPT TO STAGE

Our 2020 playwright-in-residence Donna Hoke developed her beautiful play *Hearts of Stone* as a virtual production and community engagement program in partnership with Women's Theater Festival in Raleigh, NC. We thank Kyle Bass for serving as artistic advisor for the program. 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 and by a grant from the Central New York Community Foundation.



ARTS TOGETHER | HAMILTON CONVERSATIONS

Streaming Shakespeare, reading a play script, watching a film, or experiencing a virtual landscape, we enjoyed monthly arts experiences together online with artists and scholars such as Jamil Jude, Kenny Leon, Margaret Maurer, Robert Hupp, Aida Khalil, Leigh Yardley, Kyle Bass, Sayward Schoonmaker, and Fox Whitney. Made possible by a grant from the Central New York Community Foundation.



2020 CLASSES



WRITING THE 10-MINUTE PLAY and TEEN MONOLOGUE WORKSHOP

Sadly, we had to cancel our Summer Youth Theater Camp this year, but our Youth Theater Educator Gwyneth Davies created two spectacular free online workshops for young writer and actors. Sponsored by NBT Bank.



LEARN TO PLAY UKULELE and LEARN TO PLAY GUITAR

Local legend Ed Vollmer created two 5-part free online video series for beginning instrumentalists, and we received a gift of 15 guitars to lend out free of charge to community members. Made possible by a grant from the Central New York Community Foundation.



BASICS OF VOCAL TRAINING

In her free online video series, professional musician and educator Meena Nair Conant offered singers of all ages the chance to experience vocal coaching, from warm-ups to nuanced phrasing. Made possible by a grant from the Central New York Community Foundation.



STREET DRUMMING

Taylor McDowell presented an overview of bucket drumming in his creative 5-part free video series appreciated by audiences of all ages. Made possible by a grant from the Central New York Community Foundation.

“ *I love the Palace! It is a special and important part of the community... Teachers have enjoyed field trips to see productions brought to the Palace especially for younger students. Many students would never get to see live theater if not for the programming at the Palace!* **”**

--Donna Moren, Hamilton Central School teacher, Masquers drama club advisor, and area theater director

2020 COLGATE STUDENT COLLABORATIONS

Upstate Institute Summer Field Scholar Maddy Hettler '23 worked with us remotely this summer on a cultural mapping project to help identify local artists in our area. We will be using this data to plan a walkable arts and entertainment district project in downtown Hamilton, a reimagining of the Hamilton Summer Arts Festival project for which we received grant funding but were unable to pursue due to the pandemic. Maddy joined us in September 2019 as our Community-Based Work Study student through the Upstate Institute and Max Shacknai Center for Outreach, Volunteerism and Education (COVE) at Colgate University.

Lily Barna '23, Adanya Jeudy '23, Maya Souvignier '23, and AATP board member Reed Cleland '22 proposed the creation of an **AATP Student Advisory Board** as part of the Emerging Global Challenges class taught by Prof. Karen Harpp. The board will advise on programming specifically designed for student needs and interests and how best to connect with Colgate student audiences through Instagram and *The Colgate Maroon-News*.

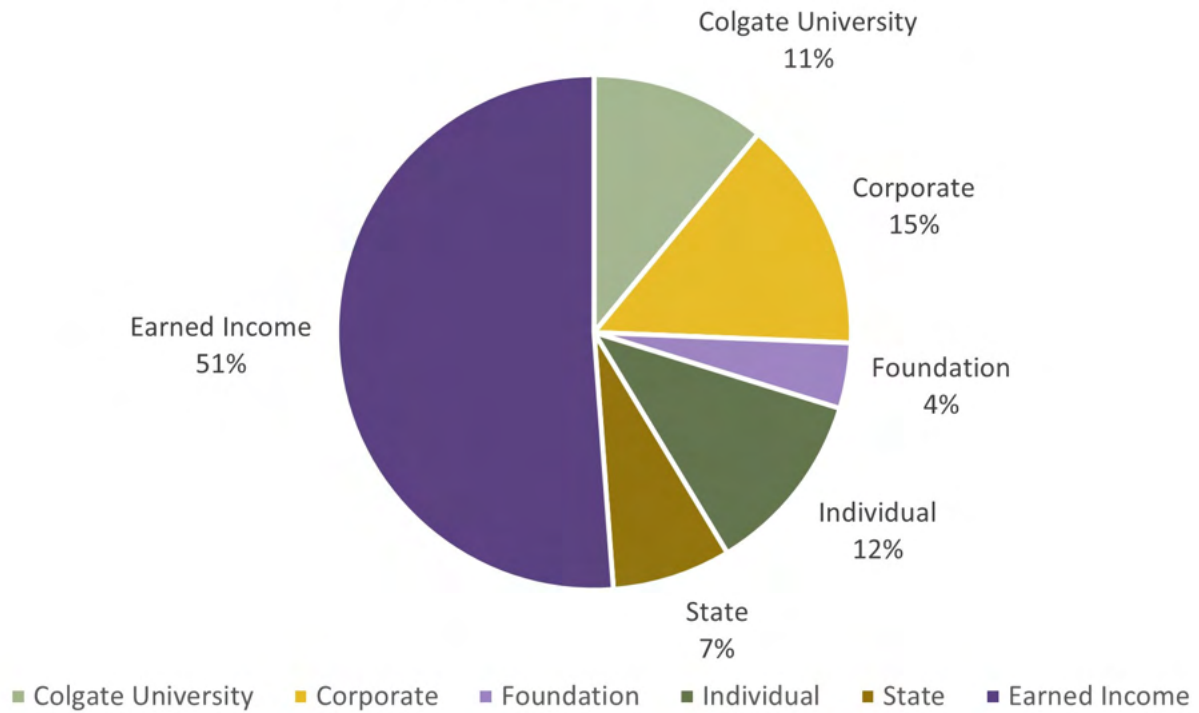
The **Parking Lot Pollinator Garden** project is part of our new arts and ecology Initiative. Colgate senior Cassie Ferrante '21 joined naturalist Morgan Elmore and muralist Tim Rand to plan the creation of a native planting and outdoor art space adjacent to the Palace Theater, scheduled for installation in 2021. Made possible by a grant from the Central New York Community Foundation.



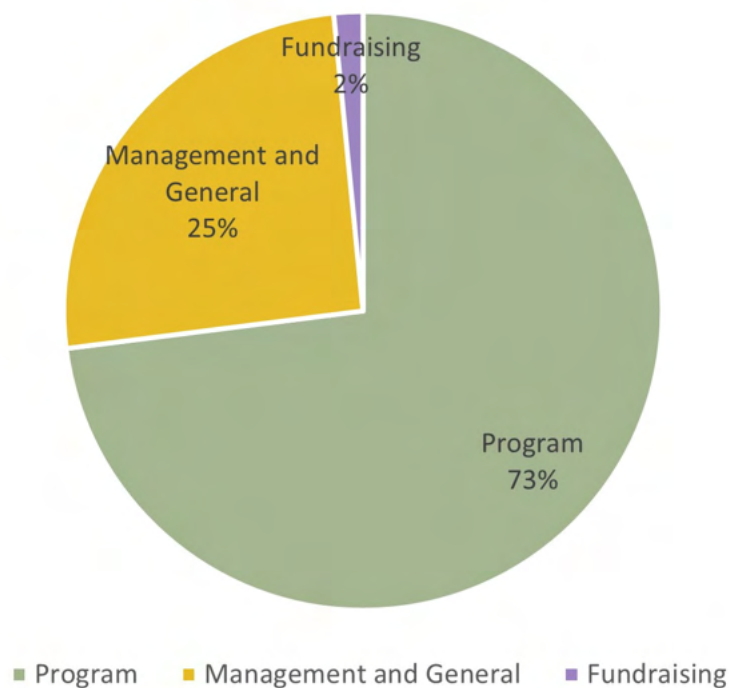
FINANCIAL

Although we received nearly \$10,000 in financial relief from the federal Payroll Protection Program, the pandemic required us to revise our 2020 budget drastically, as our earned revenue sources have been cut off since March (ticket sales, concessions, advertising, and rentals). We elected not to fill our part-time assistant position, we reduced operating expenses as much as possible, and our grant funders allowed us to revise programs and reallocate funds. Our 2020 audited financial statements will be available in Spring 2021. For copies of our 2019 financials, please email director@artsatthepalace.org.

AATP Revenue Sources (2019)



AATP Expenses (2019)



THANK YOU

We acknowledge with deep gratitude the following individuals and organizations for their support in 2020:

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- Colgate University
- Hamilton Initiative
- NBT Bank

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- Central New York Community Foundation
- Hamilton Community Chest
- The Mid-York Foundation
- 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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Cultivating the arts, culture, and community in Hamilton, NY.

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