FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES & THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Despite the challenges of fiscal year 2021 (July 1, 2020—June 30, 2021), the Visual Arts Center of New Jersey is stronger than ever and continues to deliver on its vision of creating an inclusive and welcoming community where lives are transformed and enriched through the shared experience of art.

Our success was due in large part to the Art Center staff, who worked tirelessly to open our Studio School and museum and offer community programs safely, with joy and a sense of optimism. Through daily cleanings, erecting tents, moving exhibits, creating art supply bags, and holding some programs online, everyone worked hard to keep our Studio School, programs and exhibitions running while following strict protocols.

We began last fiscal year with our summer camp program, which began July 6, 2020. In order to keep campers safe, summer camp was held mainly outdoors, kids were assigned to pods of a small number of campers, and social distancing and masking were in place. For many kids, it was their first social activities with children their own age since the lock-down had begun in March. Smiles were on every face and it was truly one of our most special summer camp seasons ever.

Our Fall 2020 season allowed us to open in-person Studio School classes and workshops for both adults and kids, while also offering online options. As we entered 2021, we saw a steady increase in the number of Studio School students returning as vaccinations increased. By June 2021, the Art Center’s summer numbers were better than ever and we were able to hold a record-breaking summer camp season with over 1,012 children in person at the Art Center. Throughout the entire year, our students and teachers were incredibly happy to be back in the studio and making art.

Our museum exhibitions re-opened in the fall of 2020 after being closed for over 5 months because of the pandemic. We continued our exhibitions Hillerbrand + Magsamen: The Devices Project and Yvette Molina: Big Bang Votive, which had closed shortly after opening in March 2020. In February 2021 we opened (de)coding, Spandita Malik: Threads of Identity, Scaffold: Equity of Treatment—A Project by Elan Cadiz, and Rasika Reddy: 108 Hummingbirds. And in the spring we opened Nancy Cohen: Atlas of Impermanence and Katrina Bello: Knowable Earth. During this time, our exhibition-related programs remained online, and we were able to share films, artists talks, and other programs with 300 participants virtually. In addition, the Art Center’s “Cabin Fever” videos featuring local artists sharing their work and studio practice reached over 12,000 viewers.

In April, we were able to hold a hybrid Spring Gala, with two options, online or in “gala pods,” small, in-person parties held outdoors and hosted by some of the Art Center’s board members. We raised over $182,000 and also recognized several long-term champions of the Art Center. Betse Gump, Sally Abbot and Millie Cooper are long-standing supporters whose involvement with the Art Center has made a tremendous difference in our ability to deliver excellence in arts education, programming and therapy to so many and we were thrilled to be able to honor them at this event.

In addition, we received generous emergency pandemic support including a federal PPP loan and grants from the New Jersey Arts and Culture Recovery Fund, the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, Summit Foundation, and the Wilf Family Foundation.

At this year’s annual meeting, we are delighted to add 6 new members to the Board of Trustees. This group brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in fundraising,
nonprofit management and the arts and strengthens our ability to provide strong leadership and stewardship to the Visual Arts Center. The Board continues to focus on implementing our Strategic Plan which was finalized in the spring of 2019 and focuses on using the strengths of our Studio School and exhibitions to support an expansion of our in-community programs which bring the arts to underserved communities.

We would like to thank everyone—from staff to students, teachers, volunteers, trustees and generous supporters—for making it possible for the Visual Arts Center to come through these challenging times in a position of strength, ready to take advantage of opportunities and realize our mission of nurturing the capacity for personal expression, expanding the creative experience, and fostering stronger communities by empowering people to see, make, and learn about art.

Anne Grissinger
Chair of the Board of Trustees

Melanie Cohn
Executive Director
VISION + MISSION + VALUES

Vision
To create an inclusive and welcoming community where lives are transformed and enriched through the shared experience of art.

Mission
The Visual Arts Center of New Jersey nurtures the capacity for personal expression, expands the creative experience, and fosters stronger communities by empowering people to see, make, and learn about art. Through exhibitions, Studio School, and community programs, the Art Center engenders connection, curiosity, and creative risk-taking among its constituents.

Values
In our work, we embrace the following values:

Connection: We foster connection among our community members through a respectful and safe environment.

Inclusive Community: We welcome and value diverse backgrounds and viewpoints, and nurture an environment that is open and supportive.

Excellence: We are committed to providing outstanding services and programs. We direct our collective efforts to continually improve and innovate.

Curiosity & Creative Risk-Taking: We value receptivity, open dialogue, and innovative thinking to encourage curiosity and creative risk-taking.

Holistic Approach: We value a holistic approach to art in the individual and community life so that art is found in every facet of life.

Advocacy: We value standing up and speaking out for the arts to promote our vision and values.

YEAR IN REVIEW

Membership
MEMBERSHIPS (AS OF 6/30/21) ..................... 599
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS (AS OF 6/30/21) .......... 890

Studio School
TOTAL SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED ................... 15
(4 Summer Art Camp, 8 Fall Semester, 3 Winter Semester, 0 Spring Semester)

ART CAMPS
2020 Summer Art Camp for Kids, Tweens & Teens ........... 805 students; 52 camps
2020 Winter Break Art Camp for Kids ........................ 82 students; 12 camps
2021 Spring Break Art Camp for Kids ........................ 33 students; 2 camps

SUMMER SEMESTER 2020
Adult Classes .......................... 14 classes, 72 students
Adult Workshops ....................... 2 workshops, 7 students
Teen Classes .......................... 2 classes, 8 students

FALL SEMESTER 2020
Adult Classes ................................ 57 classes, 373 students
Adult Workshops ....................... 13 workshops, 66 students
Teen Classes .......................... 12 classes, 102 students
Kid Classes .............................. 28 classes, 185 students
Kid Workshops ......................... 2 workshops, 16 students

WINTER SEMESTER 2021
Adult Classes .......................... 55 classes, 327 students
Adult Workshops ....................... 13 workshops, 71 students
Teen Classes .......................... 14 classes, 89 students
Kid Classes .............................. 43 classes, 319 students
Kid Workshops ......................... 5 workshops, 37 students

SPRING SEMESTER 2021
Adult Classes .......................... 63 classes, 383 students
Adult Workshops ....................... 7 workshops, 35 students
Teen Classes .......................... 14 classes, 107 students
Kid Classes .............................. 33 classes, 242 students
Kid Workshops ......................... 3 workshops, 22 students
COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

ECLC PRIDE PROGRAM  ...................................
10–12 adults with special needs (virtual, March 1–June 30, 2021)

SAGE ELDERCARE  ........................................
36 participants (mailed supply packages, March 3, 2021)

VETERANS AFFAIRS PROGRAM
• Veterans Haven North, 3–5 participants per session, 12 served (December 24, 2020–April 30, 2021)
• Veterans Haven South, 3–6 participants per session, 12 served (July 20, 2020–April 30, 2021)
• Vineland, 9 participants (virtual, February 14, 2021–April 30, 2021)

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

IN-PERSON PROGRAMS
• Empowering Kids Organization, 10 students (July 1, 2020–August 15, 2020)
• Empowering Kids Organization, 10 students (October 1, 2020–November 15, 2020)
• Empowering Kids Organization, 10 students (March 26, 2021–May 14, 2021)

VIRTUAL PROGRAMS
• Jefferson Arts Academy, 35–40 students (October 1, 2020–November 1, 2020)
• Jefferson Arts Academy, 35–40 students (February 16, 2021–March 5, 2021)
• Elizabeth Public Schools 8th-Grade Program, 400 students (January 2, 2021–March 30, 2021)
• NJ Seeds, 17 students (February 1, 2021–April 20, 2021)
• CALTA21, 125 students, 7 teachers (January 6, 2021–June 30, 2021)

COMMUNITY EXHIBITIONS

ONSITE COMMUNITY GALLERIES
October 3–November 30, 2020
• Lisa Dworkin: Suburban Vernacular
  Marité & Joe Robinson Strolling Gallery II
• What Is Revolutionary? A Project by Students of the Morris County School of Technology
  Ann’s Place Gallery

December 4, 2020–January 24, 2021
• Susan Horn: Corona Dreams
  Marité & Joe Robinson Strolling Gallery II
• Jennifer Markowitz: Torn Visions
  Ann’s Place Gallery

February 6–April 4, 2021
• Barbara Beeman: Nature’s Mirror
  Marité & Joe Robinson Strolling Gallery II
• Janice Patrignani: Inspired Resilience
  Ann’s Place Gallery

April 17–June 13, 2021
• Irene Rousseau: Stretching the Space
  Marité & Joe Robinson Strolling Gallery II
• Trish Classe Gianakis: Elements of Emotion
  Ann’s Place Gallery

June 26–September 13, 2021
• Wendy Robinson: My Kingdom of Animals
  Ann’s Place Gallery

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

ANNUAL SPRING GALA: PAINT THE TOWN VIRTUAL EVENT
May 22, 2021
Total Participants ........................................ 132
In-Person Pods ........................................ 58
Virtual .................................................. 47
Auction Participants ................................. 27
MUSEUM EXHIBITIONS

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all galleries were closed and exhibitions were virtual until Oct. 3, 2020.

JULY 16 .......................... 731 social media interactions
From the Archives: Renee Stout

JULY 30 .......................... 886 social media interactions
From the Archives: Lisa Ficarelli Halpern

JULY 10–AUGUST 30, 2020
Focus Forward, a virtual exhibition of work by members of the NJ Photography Forum

OCTOBER 20–JANUARY 21, 2021 ................. 244 visitors
•  Hillerbrand + Magsamen: The Devices Project
  Main Gallery
  Artists: Stephan Hillerbrand and Mary Magsamen
•  Yvette Molina: Big Bang Votive
  Mitzi & Warren Eisenberg Gallery
•  Elisabeth Smolarz: The Encyclopedia of Things
  Marité & Joe Robinson Strolling Gallery I
•  Adrienne Wheeler: White Dress Narratives
  Stair-gazing

FEBRUARY 6–APRIL 26 ........................... 366 visitors
•  (de)coding
  Main Gallery
  Artists: Gina Adams, DARNstudio, Elizabeth Duffy, Ghost of a Dream, Shanti Grumbine, Kwesi Kwarteng, Debra Ramsay, Leslie Roberts, and Viviane Rombaldi-Seppey
•  Spandita Malik: Threads of Identity
  Mitzi & Warren Eisenberg Gallery
•  Scaffold: Equity of Treatment
  Marité & Joe Robinson Strolling Gallery I
  Artist: Elan Cadiz
•  Rasika Reddy: 108 Hummingbirds
  Stair-gazing

MAY 8–JUNE 13 .............................. 215 visitors
•  Nancy Cohen: Atlas of Impermanence
  Main Gallery
•  Katrina Bello: Knowable Earth
  Mitzi & Warren Eisenberg Gallery

EXHIBITION-RELATED PROGRAMS

2020
(Digital/Zoom Webinar, October 16, 2020)
Attendees ................................................. 28

Artist Talk: Adrienne Wheeler
(Digital/Zoom Webinar, October 20, 2020)
Attendees ................................................. 3

The Adjacent Possible
(Digital/Zoom Program, October 22, 2020)
Attendees ................................................. 12

Sol LeWitt: Radical LeWitt
(Digital/Zoom Webinar, December 4, 2020)
Attendees ................................................. 49

On Collaborative Practice
(Digital/Zoom Webinar, December 8, 2020)
Attendees ................................................. 13

2021
Artist Talk: Community Storytelling through Art
(Digital/Zoom Webinar, January 12, 2021)
Attendees .................................................. 36

Winter/Spring Exhibitions Opening
(Febuary 2, 2021)
Attendees .................................................. 45

Spandita Malik Embroidery Workshop
(February 20, 2021)
Attendees .................................................. 6

International Women’s Day Webinar
(Digital/Zoom Webinar, March 8, 2021)
Attendees .................................................. 62

Spandita Malik Embroidery Workshop
(March 13, 2021)
Attendees .................................................. 6

Virtual Road Trip: 2021 Exhibitions
(Digital/Zoom Webinar, March 24, 2021)
Attendees .................................................. 29

(de)coding Artist Talk
(Digital/Zoom Webinar, April 20, 2021)
Attendees .................................................. 68

ONLINE REACH
Cabin Fever Artist Talks ............... 12,405 Social Media Interactions
Jefferson Arts Academy ............... 381 Social Media Interactions
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES & CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

Statement of Activities

Revenue:
- Tuition: $1,216,480
- Contributions: 1,233,244
- Government: 277,172
- Special Events: 213,076
- Membership Dues: 43,732
- Services Income: 28,575
- Interest & Dividends: 105,264
- Miscellaneous Income: 2,754
Total Support & Revenue: $3,120,237

Expenses:
- Programs: $1,719,126
- Management & General: 503,619
- Fundraising: 192,748
Total Expenses: $2,415,493

Change in Net Assets from Operations: $704,804

Non operation Activity:
- Loss Swap Agreement: $(17,736)
- Net Invest Gain (Loss): 841,943
Non operation Activity: $24,207

Total Change in Net Assets: $1,529,011

Statement of Financial Position

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets:</th>
<th>FY 21</th>
<th>FY 20</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents</td>
<td>$1,941,523</td>
<td>$554,738</td>
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<tr>
<td>Government Grants &amp; Accts. Receivables</td>
<td>78,282</td>
<td>26,910</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions Receivable</td>
<td>521,228</td>
<td>143,410</td>
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<td>Pre Paid Expenses &amp; Other Assets</td>
<td>43,066</td>
<td>24,194</td>
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<td>Current Assets</td>
<td>2,564,068</td>
<td>751,222</td>
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<td>Investments (Market Value)</td>
<td>4,147,274</td>
<td>3,312,278</td>
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<td>Fixed Assets</td>
<td>3,831,064</td>
<td>3,999,813</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>$10,562,437</td>
<td>$8,063,311</td>
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Data provided is from unaudited financials FY 2021

Liabilities:

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<tr>
<th>Liabilities:</th>
<th>FY 21</th>
<th>FY 20</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable &amp; Accrued Expenses</td>
<td>$997,248</td>
<td>$128,605</td>
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<td>Deferred Tuition</td>
<td>486,010</td>
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<td>Line of Credit</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>140,000</td>
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<td>Current Liabilities</td>
<td>585,734</td>
<td>686,651</td>
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<td>PPP Loan</td>
<td>621,385</td>
<td>325,000</td>
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<td>Interest Rate Swap Agreement</td>
<td>17,736</td>
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<td>Long Term Mortgage</td>
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<td>Total Liabilities</td>
<td>$2,562,509</td>
<td>$1,592,394</td>
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Net Assets:

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<tr>
<th>Net Assets:</th>
<th>FY 21</th>
<th>FY 20</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>$3,151,369</td>
<td>$2,977,755</td>
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<tr>
<td>Restricted</td>
<td>4,848,539</td>
<td>3,493,162</td>
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<td>Total Net Assets</td>
<td>$7,999,908</td>
<td>$6,470,917</td>
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Total Liabilities & Net Assets: $10,562,437 $8,063,311
$50,000 & Above
The Estate of Pamela W. Hauptfleisch
The Nicholson Foundation
NJ State Council on the Arts
Wilf Family Foundations

$20,000 to $49,999
Lisa Butler & Bob Kelly
Anne & RJ Grissinger
Elizabeth & Frank Gump
Institute of Museum and Library Services
J.C. Kellogg Foundation
Peter R. & Cynthia K. Kellogg Foundation
National Endowments for the Arts
New Jersey Arts & Culture Recovery Fund of the Princeton Area Community Foundation
The Nicholson Foundation
Rasika & Girish Reddy
Marité & Joe Robinson
The Walter V. & Judith L. Shipley Family Foundation

$10,000 to $19,999
Patricia A. Bell
Susan & Mike Cagnassola
Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation
The Hyde and Watson Foundation
New Jersey Council for the Humanities
Alison & David O’Neill
Stacy & Adam Selig
The Summit Foundation

$5,000 to $9,999
Marie & Roy Alan Cohen
Siobhan Creem
Pamela Shipley & Clay Turner
Mary & Norbert Weldon
Union Foundation

$2,500 to $4,999
Sally & Thomas Abbott
Katherine & John Buchanan
Karen & Mark Caplan
Millie & Jack Cooper
County of Union
Patricia & Kevin Cummings
Kelly Deere & Lee Shavel
EJ Grassmann Trust
Valerie & Michael Grant
Laura & David G. Hardin
Investors Foundation
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Lindabury, McCormick, Estabrook & Cooper, P.C.
Elena & Roger Matthews
Kayla & Richard Pechter
Hadley & Clark Peterson
Neela Pushparaj
Sara & Tyler Reeder
Isabel Ribeiro & Diego Rotsztain
Deborah & Fred Schwarzmann

$1,000 to $2,499
Rolande Borno
Heather & Elliot Braun
Joanne & Reid Bundonis
Lori & Andrew Bush
Patti & Paul Cirlaou
Melanie & Stuart Cohn
Elks Club of Summit Lodge No. 1246
Terri & Mark Friedman
Christine & Andy Gottesman
Amy & Clint Harris
Suzanne & Dean Henry
Nancy & Willis King
Amy Liss
Leslie & Stuart Milsten
Haruka Mori & William Menard
NJ Photography Forum
Laura & John Overdeck
Peapack Private Wealth Management
Susan & Douglas Present
Jane & Kevin Quinn
Nora & Robert Radest
Amy & Mitchell Radin
Theresa & TJ Scallon
Ann & Mel Schaffer
Kristen & Martin Segal
Ruth Steck
TD Bank
Tea & Oranges
Claire Toth & David Dietze
Susan & Stephen Yarad

Corporate Matching Gifts
Bank of America
Pfizer Foundation

$250 & Above Membership
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Karen & Richard Furst
Lynn & Tom Keffer
Samantha Pozner & Andrew Hickman
Patrick & Deirdre Quinn
Maxine & Robert Schwartz
Lucy Marks & Scott Sprinzen
Pamela Zave

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Jen Doninger, Studio School Coordinator
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Heather Ferguson, Accounting Manager
Kimberly Fisher, Exhibitions Manager
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Jessica Lituchy, Assistant Director of Development
Stephen Maico, Director of Finance
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Mara Norris, Custodian
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Brian Riley, Communications Manager
Eva Sienkiewicz, Customer Relations Associate
Chai Evaline Silva, Customer Relations Associate
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Jeannette Mullarkey
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Trish Gianakis
Graham Hynes
Charlie Hynes
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Heidi Sussman