

A photograph of a young girl with dark skin and braided hair, wearing a dark blue shirt, smiling and holding a paintbrush. Behind her, a blonde woman, presumably a teacher, is also smiling and holding a paintbrush. They are in a classroom setting, with other students and colorful art supplies visible in the background.

ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 1, 2021—
JUNE 30, 2022

ARTCENTERNJ.ORG

68 ELM ST | SUMMIT | NEW JERSEY



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Board of Trustees	3
Annual Message	4–5
Mission, Vision & Values	6
Statement of Activities & Statement of Financial Position	7
Studio School	8–9
Education & Community Engagement	10–11
Museum Exhibitions	13
Community Exhibitions	14
Accessibility at the Art Center	15
Membership	16
Fundraising	17
2021-2022 Donors	18
Staff & Volunteers	19



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Anne Grissinger, *Chair*
 David Hardin, *Vice Chair*
 Diego Rotsztain, *Vice Chair*
 Paul Ciraulo, *Secretary*
 David O'Neill, *Treasurer*

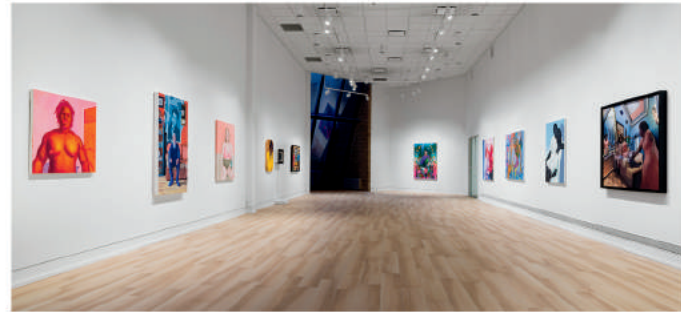
Katherine Buchanan
 Lisa A. Butler
 Susan Cagnassola
 Siobhan Creem
 Tharanga Goonetilleke
 Amy Harris
 Suzanne Henry
 Vani Krishnamurthy
 André Renaudo
 Deborah Schwarzmann
 Jess Van Nostrand
 Rachel Wilf

VISIONARIES

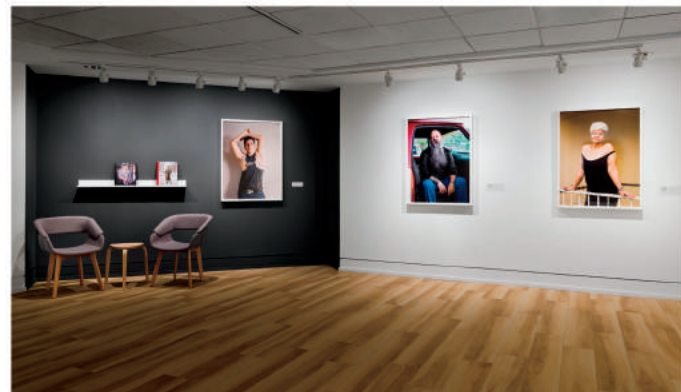
Mr. & Mrs. William B. Nicholson
 The Wilf Family Foundations

HONORARY TRUSTEES

Sally Abbott
 Virginia Fabbri Butera, Ph.D.
 Marie J. Cohen
 Millie Cooper
 Estelle Fournier
 Elizabeth C. Gump
 Joseph R. Robinson
 Roland Weiser



Claiming the Narrative
 February 4–May 22, 2022
 Photo by Etienne Frossard



Jess T. Dugan: Seen
 February 4–May 22, 2022
 Photo by Etienne Frossard



The First Water is the Body
 October 9, 2021–January 23, 2022
 Photo by Etienne Frossard

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We gratefully acknowledge the Lenape peoples on whose ancestral homelands the Visual Arts Center of New Jersey is situated. We honor the diverse and vibrant Native communities who make their home here today.

A MESSAGE

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

The Visual Arts Center of New Jersey was pleased to welcome many visitors and students to a full year of in-person classes, workshops, programs, and exhibitions during the Fiscal Year 2022 (July 1, 2021–June 30, 2022), welcoming many different groups back to the Art Center—veterans, public school students, and adult art students, among them. More than 8,000 people came to the Art Center or attended an off-site program and received the benefits of seeing, making, and learning about art in person.

Our 2021 summer program was our most popular ever, serving more than 1,000 kids ages 5–17, with three of the ten weeks of camp sold out across all age brackets. Because of the continued threat of COVID, we held our summer art camps outdoors, with campers assigned to small groups that remained the same over the course of the week. It was a great success and we look forward to taking many of the lessons we learned in the past two summers ahead with us to future camp experiences.

Our Fall 2021 season opened with *The First Water Is the Body*, a group show of 16 artists and makers from various Native nations across North America, guest curated by Maria Hupfield, and *Athena LaTocha: After the Falls*, curated by Mary Birmingham. These exhibitions anchored a weekend-long celebration of Indigenous Peoples Day. A community opening celebration was held on October 9 and included Indigenous foods provided by Buffalo Jump NYC and performances throughout the day by the Silver Cloud Singers & Dancers, an intertribal Native American singing and dance troupe that weaves together traditional and contemporary Native song and dance. The event commenced with a blessing, land acknowledgment, and tree planting recognizing that the Visual Arts Center of New Jersey is situated in Lenapehoking, the ancestral land of the Lenape people, and honoring all Indigenous communities, past, present, and future. *The First Water Is the Body* received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts and the related public programs were supported through a grant from the New Jersey Council on the Humanities. The *First Water Is the Body* was featured as a top pick in the December 2021 issue of *Artforum*, and artist Athena LaTocha was the subject of a feature article in *The New York Times* on November 24, 2021.



Fall 2021 also saw the return of our popular Raku-Fest, welcoming back more than 80 participants over the course of two days. Raku firing is an ancient Japanese ceramics technique that dates back to the 16th century. The technique's main component is taking glazed ceramics from a kiln while they are still glowing red hot, then placing them in a material that will catch fire, such as sawdust, straw, or newspaper. This technique starves the ceramic of oxygen, which creates a myriad of colors within the glaze. It is a visually dramatic and fun event, led by our teaching artists Peter Syak and Lissette Bedoya.

Our Spring 2022 exhibitions *Claiming the Narrative*, *Parvathi Kumar: Everyday Blackness*, and *Jess T. Dugan: Seen* were received with great enthusiasm. *Claiming the Narrative*, a group show featuring the work of 11 artists in the Main Gallery, offered a more authentic representation of our diverse society, depicting people who have been marginalized, ignored, or even erased from the traditional narrative of art history. *Jess T. Dugan: Seen*, in the Mitzi and Warren Eisenberg Gallery, explored identity—particularly gender and sexuality—through photographic portraits. The Marité and Joe Robinson Strolling Gallery I featured 25 black-and-white portraits by New Jersey artist, Parvathi Kumar, from her recently published book, *Everyday Blackness: Celebrating Exceptional Women*. As part of our community programming, the Art Center hosted a reception for the women in Kumar's portraits, giving them a chance to meet each other for the first time and celebrate their many varied accomplishments.

The Art Center continued its collaboration with the Elizabeth Public Schools in FY22. Our CALTA21 program works with English language learners in Elizabeth Public Schools and received several grants to create digital content, professional development, and training sessions for teachers; supply packages for in-classroom use; and four videos for teacher and student use within the program. The Art Center also ran an art program

to serve the students of Jefferson Arts Academy in Elizabeth, returning to an in-person format. Finally, we continued our art therapy program for all 8th graders in the Elizabeth public school system.

In April, we were able to hold our first in-person fundraising event since 2019, returning to Canoe Brook Country Club for our 2022 Spring Gala: Art and Soul, which raised over \$234,087 to support the work of the Visual Arts Center of New Jersey. This year's gala recognized three individuals who have made crucial contributions to the arts on a local and national level. Former Art Center Board Chair and current trustee Lisa Butler was honored for her tireless work with the institution, including significant strides in improved infrastructure and sustainability. This year's Changemaker Award winners were artists Ron Norsworthy and David Anthone—the collaborative team behind DARNstudio—whose work challenges viewers to shift perspectives around powerful social justice issues.

At this year's annual meeting, we will be adding five new members to the Board of Trustees—Greg Adams, Lisa Gingeleskie, Vani Krishnamurthy, André Renaudo, and Lorraine Kelly. The Art Center is very fortunate to be led by a strong and dedicated board. The commitment of our board, staff, and artists has led to another successful year delivering on our vision to create an inclusive and welcoming community where lives are transformed and enriched through the shared experience of art.

Anne Grissinger



Chair, Board of Trustees

Melanie Cohn



Executive Director

MISSION, VISION, & 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 exhibition, 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, so as 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, in order to promote our vision and values.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022 | 7

REVENUE

Tuition	\$1,595,406
Contributions	447,663
Forgiveness PPP Loan	621,395
Government	350,411
Special Events	234,087
Membership Dues	59,365
Services Income	46,737
Interest & Dividends	93,417
Miscellaneous Income	12,216
Total Support & Revenue	\$3,460,697

EXPENSES

Programs	\$1,867,619
Management & General	568,650
Fundraising	233,241
Total Support & Revenue	\$2,669,510

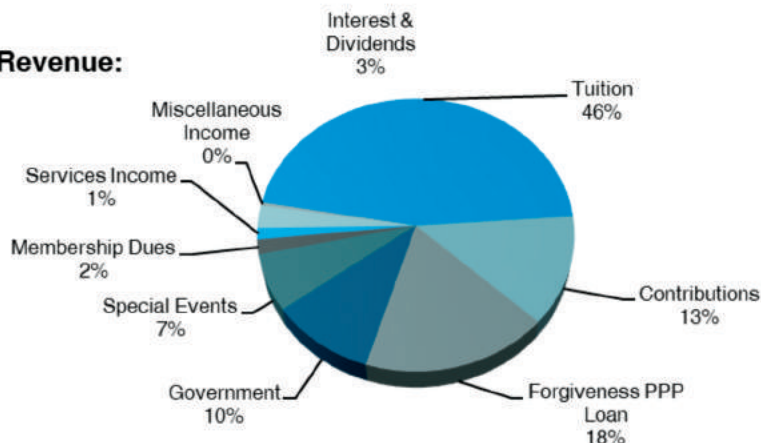
Change in Net Assets from Operations **\$791,187**

NON OPERATION ACTIVITY

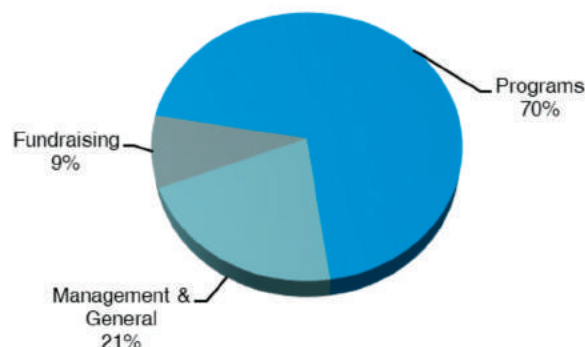
Loss Swap Agreement	\$149,214
Net Invest Gain (Loss)	(493,225)
Total Support & Revenue	\$(344,011)

Change in Net Assets **\$447,176**

Revenue:



Expenses:



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS

	FY '22	FY '21
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$2,748,160	\$1,941,523
Government Grants & Other Receivables	105,652	78,282
Contributions Receivable, net	224,616	521,228
Prepaid Expenses & Other Assets	44,430	43,066
Interest Rate Swap Agreement	131,478	0
Investments Restricted for Endowment	3,548,821	4,147,274
Fixed Assets, net	3,656,345	3,831,064
Total Assets	\$10,459,502	\$10,562,437

LIABILITIES

	FY '22	FY '21
Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	\$167,958	\$99,724
Deferred Tuition & Other Revenue	543,706	486,010
PPP Loan	0	621,395
Interest Swap Agreement	0	17,736
Mortgage Payable	1,300,734	1,337,644
Total Liabilities	\$2,012,398	\$2,562,509

NET ASSETS

	FY '22	FY '21
Unrestricted	\$4,140,911	\$3,151,389
Restricted	4,306,193	4,848,539
Total Net Assets	\$8,447,104	\$7,999,928

TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS **\$10,459,502** **\$10,562,437**

Data provided from unaudited financials FY '22

STUDIO SCHOOL

ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022 | 8

The Visual Arts Center of New Jersey's Studio School—one of the largest non-university arts programs in the state—proudly offers an extensive curriculum that includes hundreds of classes, workshops, and camps focusing on a variety of media. Its renowned faculty of professional teaching artists serves thousands of students of all ages and skill levels each year.



2,352 ADULT STUDENTS*



2,373 YOUTH STUDENTS*



9 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED



60 CAMP SESSIONS



95 WORKSHOPS



377 SEMESTER-LONG CLASSES

**"OUR SON CAME HOME
RAVING ABOUT THIS
CAMP! HE SAID HE HAD
'FOUND HIS PEOPLE'
AND THAT EVERYONE
THERE 'GOT' HIM."**

2021 Summer Art Camp Parent

*Note: FY22 still showed an impact from COVID-19. The omicron surge in late December 2021/early January 2022 especially impacted Winter Semester registration.

During the earlier half of this fiscal year, Studio School staff constantly monitored the COVID-19 situation and put precautions into place to allow classes to meet as safely as possible. Vaccinations were encouraged for everyone who was eligible, masks were optional, and class sizes were kept small to encourage social distancing. We found that both our adult students and parents of kid/teen students appreciated these measures and felt safe at the Art Center. One adult commented in a Summer 2021 survey: "Small class size was wonderful, both from a COVID risk standpoint and for the personal attention from the instructor." In addition to COVID safety, we placed an emphasis on the social aspects of summer camp 2021, knowing that campers had faced a mentally challenging year due to the impacts of COVID-19. These efforts were appreciated by parents, with one parent writing:

**"OUR SON FOUND EVERY DAY TO BE
INSPIRING AND THAT THE ENVIRONMENT
WAS SO ENCOURAGING AND POSITIVE."**

2021 Summer Art Camp Parent

The Art Center aims to make our programs a safe space for all, and this year's Spring Break Art Camp presented us with a challenge! A 6-year-old camper with special needs also suffers from severe allergies, making them and their parent anxious about the time away from home. In addition, the camper has social anxiety and motor and vocal tics. Classroom team members were trained on the proper procedure to ensure the environment was as safe and welcoming as possible. Our Studio School staff also contacted the manufacturers of the art supplies to confirm that all the ingredients were safe for this student to handle, and they adjusted lessons using alternative materials as needed. All campers in the classroom washed their hands upon arrival and again after each project to avoid any cross-contamination. The camper was able to participate all week with no allergic reactions or social issues. Their parent was thrilled that they were able to include their camper and wrote to us:

**"THANK YOU SO MUCH... THANK YOU
FOR BEING SO THOUGHTFUL!"**

2022 Spring Break Art Camp Parent



STUDIO SCHOOL FACULTY

Dustin Adamson	Valeri Larko
James Adkins	Debra Livingston
Aliese Anderson Volk	Vanessa Lopez
Doug Baron	Duane Lutsko
Carolyn Bednar	Stephanie Maddalena
Lisette Bedoya	Joanna Madloch
Kat Block	Drew Maillard
Chase Cantwell	Sarah Maxwell
Mary Jean Canziani	Martha McDonald
Beatrice (Jao-O) Chang	Jeannette Mullarkey
Amanda Ciurciu	Howard Nathenson
Donna Conklin King	Brian Ng
Alicia Cotter	Dawn Noonan
Emily Cross	Donald Polzo
Mark de Mos	Shari Quinones
Stephanie Deshpande	Donna Read
Josh Dillon	Shelley Rosen Howard
David DiMarchi	Sandy Ruda
Chloe Dougherty	Sue Sachs
Melissa Efrus	Mark Saenger
Julie Gallagher	Heidi SanFilippo
Jessica Garber	Jenny Santa Maria
Andrea Gianchiglia	Samantha Smith
Allison Gildea	Stella Sormani
Anita Gladstone	Russ Spitkovsky
Kelly Green Grady	Victoria Starger
Marielena Guthrie	Peter Syak
Ellen Hess	Emma Tabachnick
Gerry Heydt	Joel Tidey
Chevon Hopkins	Angela Tong
Judith Hugentobler	Elizabeth Tokoly
Jill Hurant	Katie Truk
Eva Iannuzzi	Michelle Truskowski
Catie James	Cecilia Wolf
Melissa Krishnamurthy	Stephen Yavorski
Diana Hsu Kung	Traci Zaretzka
Matthew Langley	

EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

VISUAL ARTS CENTER OF NEW JERSEY | 10

The one thread that runs throughout VACNJ's community programming is the concept that art is not a thing to study and master, but a way to weave together community support through creative engagement. These programs center on the value of community-held authorship and integrate diverse backgrounds of class, gender, ethnicity, and life circumstance to focus on health and vibrancy and how this can be accessed with the power of imagination and creation.



Community Engagement Programs impact a variety of focus areas, from working with public school students who lack the resources for formal arts education and exposure to museum exhibitions—such as our partnership with Jefferson Arts Academy, the PEP Program, and Elizabeth Public Schools—to providing arts-based health and healing initiatives to those in need of specialized programming—such as our programs working with the Early Childhood Learning Center (ECLC) Pride Program, the New Jersey Veterans Association, and SAGE Eldercare. Our partnership with SEEDS: Access Changes Everything allows us to serve high-achieving, low-income students in Newark with lessons in studio art with a taste of art history—a topic rarely offered in public schools that allows students to foster a deeper understanding of and connection to art across time and different world cultures.

Our unique collaboration with Cultures and Literacies through Art for the 21st Century (CALTA21) focuses on connecting immigrant English language learners and museums together to provide authentic, meaningful, and engaging experiences that foster learning, enjoyment, and civic engagement while supporting the development of participants' voices in expressing art. Finally, our partnership with Empowering Kids Organization (EKO) connects underprivileged children and their families with unique arts experiences, ultimately providing scholarships for our Studio School classes for kids interested in continuing to explore the arts.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

ECLC Pride Program

Weekly, Spring 2022 18 Participants

SAGE Eldercare

Year-round 14 Participants

Veterans Haven South

Year-round 12 Participants

West Orange Special Needs Program

March 25, 2022 9 Participants

Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service

January 17, 2022 26 Participants

Dreamcatcher Solo Play Reading Series

July 7–July 28, 2021 115 Participants

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Empowering Kids Organization, Fall 2021

September 17–October 29, 2021 15 Participants

Jefferson Arts Academy, Fall 2021

November 23–December 10, 2021 50 Participants

Hartshorn After School Enrichment

September 22–December 8, 2021 15 Participants

Jefferson Arts Academy, Spring 2022

February 15–March 4, 2022 30 Participants

SEEDS Access Changes Everything

February 26, 2022; March 26, 2022; April 9, 2022 ... 109 Participants

PEP After School Enrichment Program

April 25 & 27, 2022 22 Participants

Elizabeth 8th Grade Program

February–April 2022 400 Participants

EXHIBITION-RELATED PROGRAMS

Nancy Cohen & Katrina Bello Artist Talk

September 12, 2021 50 Attendees

Community Opening Day for *The First Water Is the Body*

October 9, 2021 300 Attendees

Conscience Point Virtual Film Talk

October 26, 2021 8 Attendees

Curator-Led Gallery Tour

November 13, 2021 7 Attendees

Curator-Led Gallery Tour

December 3, 2021 17 Attendees

The First Water is the Body Artist Talk

January 20, 2022 25 Attendees

Karelle Hall Scholarly Talk

January 25, 2022 10 Attendees

Parvathi Kumar Exhibition Reception

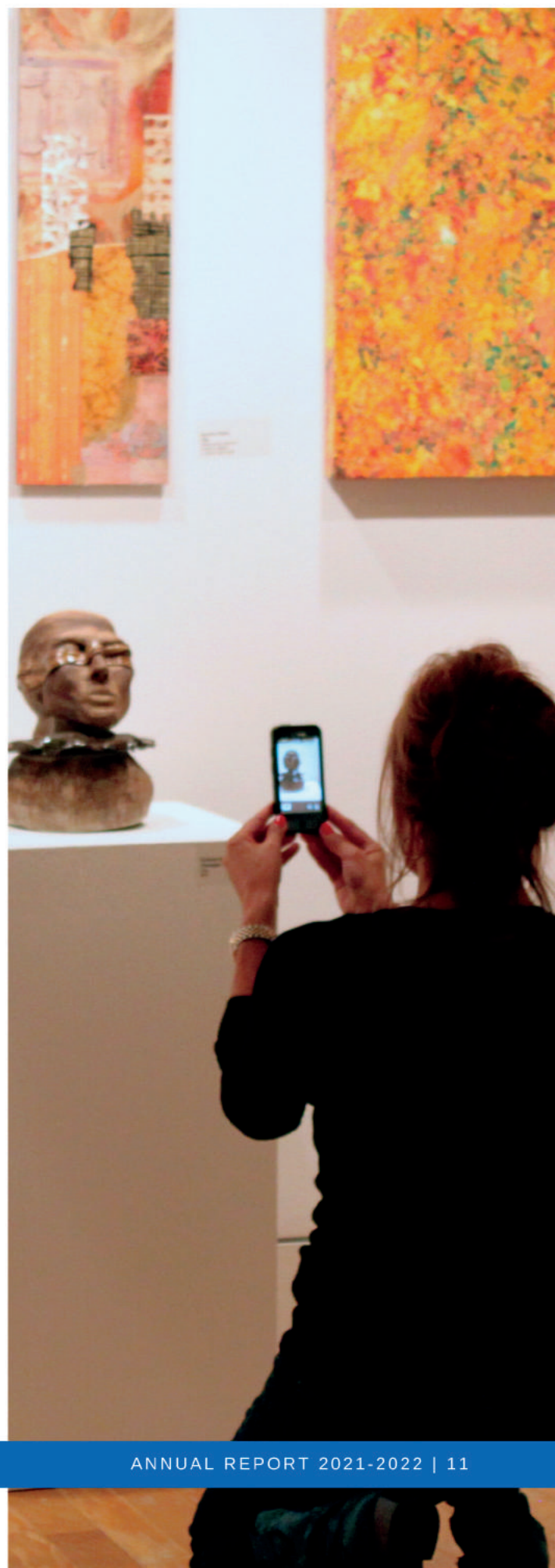
March 26, 2022 50 Attendees

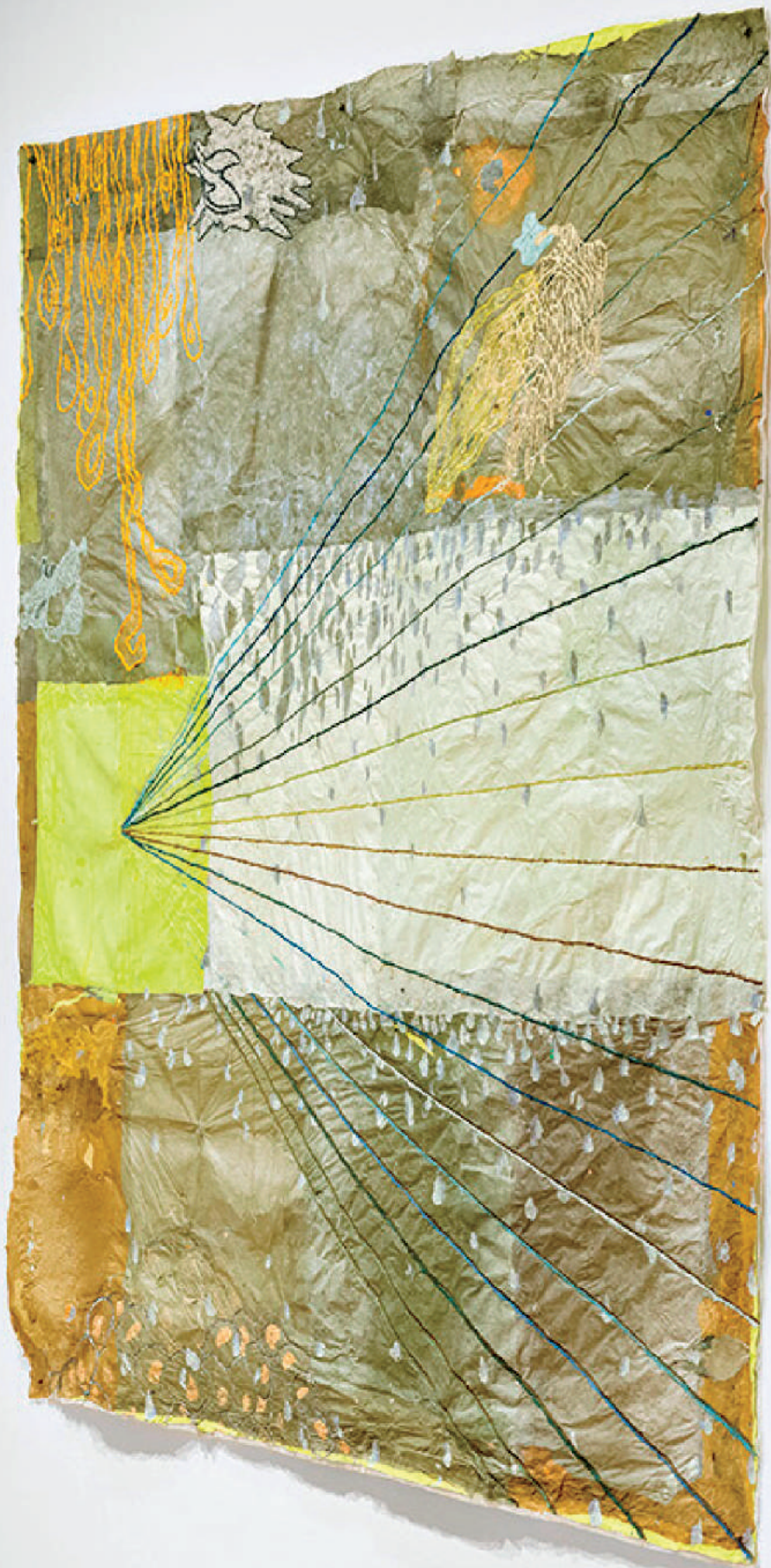
Dr. Betty Adams Scholarly Talk

May 7, 2022 8 Attendees

Kean University Galleries Visit

May 12, 2022 15 Attendees





Nancy Cohen: *Atlas of Impermanence*
September 3–September 26, 2021
Photo by Etienne Frossard

MUSEUM EXHIBITIONS

The Visual Arts Center of New Jersey is a leading regional museum of contemporary art. We present artistically and culturally diverse exhibitions that showcase emerging and established artists from the US and abroad. Exhibitions welcomed 2,282 visitors in FY '22.

NANCY COHEN: ATLAS OF IMPERMANENCE

September 3–September 26, 2021
Main Gallery

KATRINA BELLO: KNOWABLE EARTH

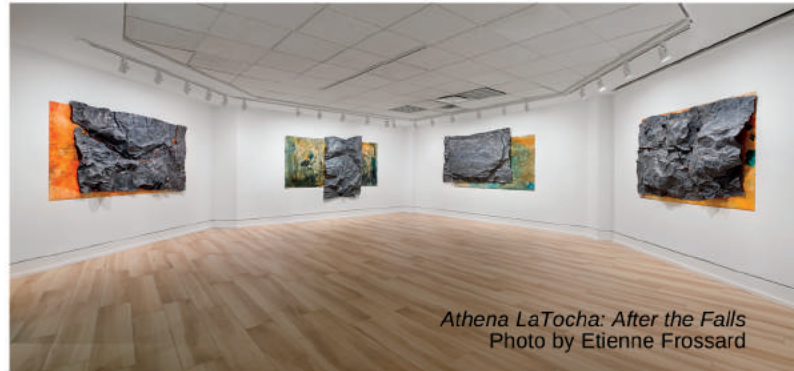
September 3–September 26, 2021
Mitzi & Warren Eisenberg Gallery

THE FIRST WATER IS THE BODY

October 9, 2021–January 23, 2022
Main Gallery

Guest Curator: Maria Hupfield
Artists: Carrie Allison, Natalie Ball, Laakkuluk Williamson Bathory, Jewel Jenkins, Dr. Mique'l Dangeli & Nick Dangeli, RYAN! Feddersen, Anita Fields, Shan Goshorn, Shannon Gustafson, Courtney Leonard, Marianne Nicolson, Wendy Red Star, Jaune Quick-to-See Smith & Neal Ambrose-Smith, and Kali Spitzer

VISUAL ARTS CENTER OF NEW JERSEY | 13



ATHENA LATOCHA: AFTER THE FALLS

October 9, 2021–January 23, 2022
Mitzi & Warren Eisenberg Gallery

CLAIMING THE NARRATIVE

February 4–May 22, 2022
Main Gallery
Artists: Tyler Ballon, Santiago Galeas, Alex Gardner, Todd Gray, Layqa Nuna Yawar, Shona McAndrew, Arcmanoro Niles, Ron Norsworthy, Ransome, Mickalene Thomas, and Philemona Williamson.

JESS T. DUGAN: SEEN

February 4–May 22, 2022
Mitzi & Warren Eisenberg Gallery

PARVATHI KUMAR: EVERYDAY BLACKNESS

February 4–May 22, 2022
Marité and Joe Robinson Strolling Gallery I



COMMUNITY EXHIBITIONS

The Art Center offers a variety of exhibition opportunities for our members and local artists both on and offsite. The Marité & Joe Robinson Strolling Gallery II and Ann's Place Gallery showcase rotating exhibitions of our member artists selected by The Art Center's Members Committee, as well as work created through our community engagement programming with local and surrounding areas. We also partner with the Summit Free Public Library to provide additional gallery space and visibility within the town of Summit.

WENDY ROBINSON: MY KINGDOM OF ANIMALS

June 26–September 13, 2021
Ann's Place Gallery

LORI D'UVA: ITALY: A MIXED MEDIA JOURNEY

September 18–October 31, 2021
Marité and Joe Robinson Strolling Gallery II

MICHAEL LUKACHKO: AUTUMN HARVEST

September 18–October 31, 2021
Ann's Place Gallery

CHARLANN MELUSO: FROM NOTHING COMES SOMETHING

November 1–December 30, 2021
The Gallery at the Summit Free Public Library

BETTY MCGEEHAN: GATHERINGS

November 13–December 23, 2021
Marité and Joe Robinson Strolling Gallery II

BETSEY MEYER-DONADIO: COLLAGE SERIES

November 13–December 23, 2021
Ann's Place Gallery

SUSAN GREENWALD: PEN, INK, AND WATERCOLOR—PERSPECTIVES IN NATURE

January 2–February 28, 2022
The Gallery at the Summit Free Public Library

JOSEPH BORZOTTA: MIXED FEELINGS

January 8–February 20, 2022
Marité and Joe Robinson Strolling Gallery II

JUSTICE/JAMES NEWTON: COUCH POTATO DRAWINGS

January 8–February 20, 2022
Ann's Place Gallery

NEELA PUSHPARAJ: IT IS ALL BLACK AND WHITE

March 1–April 30, 2022
The Gallery at the Summit Free Public Library

ZACH HORN: PARADIGM SHIFT

March 5–April 17, 2022
Marité and Joe Robinson Strolling Gallery II

IDA PICKER: NECESSARY THINGS

March 5–April 17, 2022
Ann's Place Gallery

CONTEMPORARY ARTS GROUP: WHAT BRINGS YOU JOY?

May 1–June 30, 2022
The Gallery at the Summit Free Public Library

INNES BORSTEL: PANDEMIC PRESCHOOL

May 7–June 13, 2022
Ann's Place Gallery

ETHEL GITTLIN: OUR NEW WORLD

May 7–June 19, 2022
Marité and Joe Robinson Strolling Gallery II

MARY JEAN CANZIANI: SACRIFICES

June 25–September 17, 2022
Ann's Place Gallery

ACCESSIBILITY AT THE ART CENTER

The Visual Arts Center of New Jersey prides itself in creating a welcoming atmosphere where all community members can experience the transformative power of art.

To that end, we proudly offer a variety of resources for visitors and students with disabilities to create an equitable environment where all can see, make, and learn about art.

The Art Center staff has also undergone Sensory Inclusion training. Additionally, the Art Center has experience creating curriculums and accommodations for students and visitors with visual disabilities, autism, and age-related cognitive disorders, such as dementia.

The Art Center welcomes group and individual visits to our exhibitions and participation in public programming and studio school art classes.

ADA COMMITTEE

Joan Cummings
Cassandra Demski
Stephanie D'Souza
Pearl Feder
Demi Pavlakos



ADA-compliant website, including alt-tagged images for visitors with visual disabilities and additional accessibility functions, such as high contrast, adjustable type size, and plain text options



Open captioning for public programs held on Zoom



Sign language interpreters (with two weeks notice)



Braille (with four weeks notice)



Assistive listening devices available for those who are deaf or hard of hearing



Verbal descriptions as part of our exhibitions (upon request)

MEMBERSHIP



748 PRIMARY MEMBERS
(MEMBERSHIPS)



1071 INDIVIDUAL
MEMBERS

MEMBERS SHOW & COLLECTORS WEEK

After a two-year hiatus, the Visual Arts Center of New Jersey welcomed back its Members Art Show and Collectors Week on Friday, June 3. This pop-up exhibition, the first since 2019, featured more than 100 works created by VACNJ members. The show was organized by the Art Center's Members Committee and was on view through June 12.

Guest judge Estelle Fournier selected 14 works for recognition and during the opening event, the following awards were presented: Kiran Dhaliwal, Emeriti Award; Roy Nuzzo, Marian Anderson Memorial Award for Portraiture; Mary Ledwith, Martha Barns Memorial for Ceramics; Meg Kallman, Martha Venturo Award for Landscape; Lori D'Uva, Curtis Hilyer Memorial Award for Watercolor; Marta Nowicka, Marylou Hilyer Award; Barbara Beeman, The Juergen and Katie Thieck Memorial Award for Photography; Sally Abbott, Carol Baker, Mary Jean Canziani, Mark Kosak, June Mann, Irene Rousseau, Shilpa Shah, and Janet Slater, Honorable Mentions.

MEMBERS COMMITTEE

Sally Abbott	Cristina Fittipaldi	Jennifer Markovitz
Aliese Andersen Volk	Carol Gaffney	Carol Masi
Chandra Aquilina	Trish Gianakis	Corinne Nallet
Michelle Auerbacher	Jill Joseph	Laurie Rando
Tanya Chaturvedi	Lenore Knoller	Lori Riseman
Jillian Decker	Dorothy Lee	Lori Rosenberg
Lori D'Uva	Tracey Luckner	Heidi Sussman



FUNDRAISING

VISUAL ARTS CENTER OF NEW JERSEY | 17

ANNUAL SPRING GALA

On April 30, the Art Center held its first in-person gala since 2019, raising a record-breaking \$234,087 to support our powerful arts programming.



We also recognized former Art Center Board Chair and current trustee Lisa Butler for her tireless work with the institution, including significant strides in improved infrastructure and sustainability and our 2022 Changemakers, artists Ron Norsworthy and David Anthoné—the collaborative team behind DARNstudio—whose work challenges viewers to shift perspectives around powerful social justice issues.

ART & SOUL GALA COMMITTEE

Alison & David O'Neill, Co-Chairs
Isabel Ribeiro & Diego Rotsztein, Co-Chairs
Heather Braun
Kate Buchanan
Susan Cagnassola
Jillian Decker
Terri Friedman
Tharanga Goonetilleke
Anne Grissinger
Suzanne Henry
Dorothy Lee
Renee Stene
Rachel Wilf

CULTIVATION EVENTS, FISCAL YEAR 2022



ARTIST TABLE TALK WITH:

ATHENA LATOCHA
DECEMBER 3, 2021
30 ATTENDEES

PHILEMONA WILLIAMSON
MARCH 4, 2022
28 ATTENDEES



ANNUAL SPRING GALA
APRIL 30, 2022
177 ATTENDEES



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

\$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

Patricia A. Bell
Lisa Butler & Bob Kelly
Susan & Michael Cagnassola
Anne & RJ Grissinger
Institute of Museum and Library
Services
Peter R. & Cynthia K. Kellogg
Foundation
PricewaterhouseCoopers
Charitable Foundation
Marité & Joe Robinson
The Walter V. and Judith L.
Shipley Family Foundation

\$10,000 TO \$19,999

Elizabeth & Frank Gump
J.C. Kellogg Foundation
National Endowment for the Arts
New Jersey Council for the
Humanities
Isabel Ribeiro & Diego Rotsztein
Evelyn Simpson Estate
Rachel & Jonathan Wilf

\$5,000 TO \$9,999

Blanche & Irving Laurie
Foundation
Kate & John Buchanan
– RISK Strategies Company

Marie & Roy Alan Cohen
Columbia Bank Foundation
Siobhan Creem
Laura & David G. Hardin
The Hyde and Watson
Foundation
Amy Knight
Brooke & Brian Krawitz
Alison & David O'Neill
Maura & Frank Perier
Deborah & Fred Schwarzmman
Stacy & Adam Selig

\$2,500 TO \$4,999

Sally & Thomas Abbott
Bank of America, Merrill Lynch
– Pat Bell
Heather & Elliott Braun
Joanne & Reid Bundonis
Dan Crisafulli & Greg Vargas
Tharanga Goonetilleke &
Aditya Bindal
Valerie & Michael Grant
Amy & Clint Harris
Suzanne & Dean Henry
Lorraine & Peter Kelly
Vani Krishnamurthy & Alok
Sanghvi
Jennifer & Michael Markovitz
Elena & Roger Matthews
Polly Palumbo & Lex Maultsby
Kayla & Richard Pechter
Hadley & Clark Peterson
Jane & Kevin Quinn
Sara & Tyler Reeder
Rebecca & Declan Ryan
Pamela Shipley & Clay Turner
Cristina Sierra & Daniel
Liberman

Michele Smith & David Reinke
TD Bank
Union Foundation
Union County
Jess Van Nostrand & Mike
Smith
Mary & Norbert Weldon

\$1,000 TO \$2,499

Julie & Gregory Adams
Nicole & Marco Argentieri
William Austin
Melanie & Stuart Cohn
Gina & Kurt Conti
Millie & John Cooper
Elizabeth Cox
CWI. Design – Rachel & Gary
Kapner
Ana & Michael DaCosta
Sharee & Jeffrey Danker
Ashley & Patrick Doyle
Debra & KC Dustin
EJ Grassman Trust
Elks Club of Summit Lodge
No 1246
Estelle Fornier & Alberto
Lopez-Silvero
Terri & Mark Friedman
Jennifer & Marc Gonyea
Pamela Heller
Tijana & Jon Hitchon
Kean University
Thomas Kelsey
Briana King & Christopher
Joralemon
Nancy & Willis King
Patti Manzi & Paul Ciraulo
Neil Marks & Doak Sergeant
Leslie & Stuart Milsten

Haruka Mori & William Menard
NJ Photography Forum
Laura & John Overdeck
Peapack Private Wealth
Management
Marilyn Pfaltz
Susan & Douglas Present
Amy & Mitchell Radin
Ana Robic & Rob Feuerstake
Laura & Alex San Miguel
Ann & Mel Schaffer
Angela & Jeff Schroeder
Kristen & Martin Segal
Karen & Thomas Shea
Molly Springer
Claire Toth & David Dietze
Helen Vera & Kent Clark
Eden Wells & Jason Rodman
Susan Yarad

\$250 TO \$999

Andrea Birnbaum
Alison Griggs
Samantha Pozner & Andrew
Hickman
Cheryl & Marc Slutzky
Hayata Takeshita
Michael Woll
Pamela Zave

CORPORATE MATCHING GIFTS

Goldman Sachs Matching Gift
Program
Lindabury, McCormick,
Estabrook & Cooper, P.C.



STAFF & VOLUNTEERS



2021–2022 STAFF

Denise Banaag, Studio School Manager
Mary Birmingham, Curator
Wes Buchanan, Customer Relations Associate
Mike Byrnes, Director of Facilities
Melanie Cohn, Executive Director
Alicia Flynn Cotter, Summer Camp Manager
Emily Cross, Customer Relations Associate/Manager
Stephanie D'Souza, Grants Writer
Jillian Decker, Director of Development & Communications
Cassandra Demski, Director of Studio School
Jen Doninger, Studio School Coordinator
Jay Dougherty, Customer Relations Manager
Kristen Evangelista, Director of Exhibitions
Heather Ferguson, Bookkeeper
Eva Iannuzzi, Customer Relations Associate
Dorothy Lee, Assistant Director of Development
Stephen Maico, Director of Finance
Leon Norris, Custodian
Mara Norris, Custodian
Noelle Park, Customer Relations Associate
Brian Riley, Communications Manager
Eva Sienkiewicz, Customer Relations Associate
Allie Spiridigliozzi, Customer Relations Associate
Chloe Thomas, Customer Relations Associate
Aliese Andersen Volk, Exhibitions Manager
Jean Marie Vreeland, Human Resources and Payroll Manager
Sarah Walko, Director of Education & Community Engagement

2021–2022 VOLUNTEERS

Bill Austin	Sofia Ribeiro
AJ Bhalla	Sasha Rtishchev
Samantha Cavallone	Laura Sankowich
Kathleen Chen	Daniel Silva
Cadence Christel	Arushi Singh
Emira Chu	Caroline Sun
Avery Cohen	Isha Talpade
Owen Craig	Olga Timina
Cooper Critchley	John Volk
Brandie Dickens	Raina Wang
Nicole Dignazio	Sophia Wanosky
Ana Estupinan	Jazmin Williams
Vivian Furman	
Greg Fyfe	
Abigail Ha	
Amelia Jorek	
Brooke Kartagener	
Aditi Khedkar	
Sarah Kim	
Aanya Kothari	
Jamie Lee	
Ella Lesueur	
Jenna Meyer	
Daniel Ngiam	
Bettina Pangilinan	
Jake Park	
Maya Raj	



ARTCENTERNJ.ORG

68 ELM ST | SUMMIT | NEW JERSEY