

ANNUAL REPORT 7.1.22 -6.30.23

WHERE THE ARTS THRIVE FOR ALL



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OUR MISSION & VISION

WHERE THE ARTS THRIVE FOR ALL

TOArts inspires and elevates arts, culture, and entertainment through presentation, education, and collaboration to provide community support in and around the Bank of America Performing Arts Center.

The performing arts have the profound ability to inspire performers and audiences alike to reach for the stars, discover new perspectives, and strengthen bonds between individuals through shared transformative experiences. TOArts has an ambitious goal to broaden access and exposure to the arts for this and future generations.

EOUITY STATEMENT

Ventura County is home to one of the nation's most diverse populations. TOArts is committed to ensuring that our audiences and performers alike in our community experience a sense of belonging, connection, and happiness through the arts, inclusive of diverse factors such as race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, ability, or other individual identities.

We recognize that people of color and other communities have been historically marginalized and excluded. We are dedicated to ensuring the equity and the diversity of voices represented in all TOArts programs and initiatives.

To realize our mission, TOArts is committed to integrating equity into the fabric of arts education, programming, and the presentation of performing and visual arts in pursuit of a place *Where the Arts Thrive for All*.

IN THE PAGES THAT FOLLOW YOU'LL SEE A THEME EMERGING.

You'll see that TOArts has found itself working to be nimble to the needs of the community. Rather than operating with a fixed set of programs; although we certainly have our core programs, we are working to be responsive to what the community needs. We recognize that if we keep doing what we're doing, we will keep getting what we're getting. To bring about change, inspiration, and transformation, we must change, be inspired, and transform ourselves.

Thanks to the tremendous leadership of the TOArts Board of Directors and their vision for a community *Where the Arts Thrive for All*, TOArts stepped outside its box this year to venture into new, different, relevant programming. Our 2022-23 season was the most diverse season yet. Out in the community we provided credentialed teacher professional development for over 100 elementary school teachers, to teach them to use arts integration in their classrooms to teach English, Social Science and support Social Emotional Learning. In a historic 'first-ever' we partnered with the Oxnard Performing Arts Center Foundation to present Catapult Shadow Dance and made blocks of tickets available to community groups like Safe Passage Youth Foundation, Westminster Free Clinic, Buen Vecino and others to bring their families to enjoy a live performance. In another unique partnership, the Westlake Women's Club partnered with us to provide and deliver the book *Grace for President* to schools ranging from Filmore to Las Virgenes who had registered to attend the February 2023 school performance named for the book.

Looking forward we are building some exciting new programs that we believe will continue to build the 'nimble to the needs of the community' brand. These will allow us to build trust with the breadth and diversity of communities we seek to serve. All our initiatives are designed to open doors for connection and relationship-building with a goal to ultimately bring direct benefits to the community we serve.

We couldn't do this work without the incredible support around us. Thanks to the unwavering support of the City of Thousand Oaks staff, our board, donors, and sponsors, we distributed over \$960,000 into the community for various programs. Together we are making our community a place Where the Arts Thrive for All.

With deep gratitude for your support, championship, and passion for the arts,

Jonathan Serret, Executive Director

Niki Chopra Richardson, Associate Director

Nhth Chopra Richardon

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Mead, Chair

Al Lowe, Treasurer

Janet Scherr, Secretary

Eloise Cohen, Vice Chair in memoriam

Leanne Neilson

John Bradley

Kyle Rohrbach

Kathy Jeffers-Volk in memoriam

Elibet Valencia Muñoz

Sean Rendineo

INCLUSIVE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Our Inclusive Advisory Council advocates for and advises TOArts on how to support our community to be a place Where the Arts Thrive for All.

Aileen Wall, Walnut Elementary School Cindy Goldberg, Conejo Valley Unified School District

Henry Montalvo, Community Advocate Carolyn Mullin, Oxnard Performing Arts

Carolyn Mullin, Oxnard Performing Arts
Center Foundation
Lupe Jasso, Buen Vecino

Alicia Rincon, Westminster Free Clinic

Cindy Liu, We Belong

Megan Goebel, Navigating Gray

Jennifer Patterson, Grant Brimhall Library

Torrance Klein, California Lutheran University

Norbert Tan, AAPI Equity Alliance

Ruben Maciel, SL Multicultural Marketing Group

Tim Hagel, Safe Passage Youth Foundation

IN MEMORIAM



Eloise Cohen, Vice-Chair of the TOArts Board, was a long-serving member of TOArts' predecessor organization the Alliance for the Arts which was inspired into being by her father Dr. Raymond Olson and others in pursuit of building the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza. She served on the TOArts board since its inception in 2017. In addition to being a photographer herself, Eloise carried on the legacy that her father had started and worked to elevate the arts throughout our community. She was a steadfast supporter of the arts and arts education. Along with her husband, former Thousand Oaks Mayor Chuck Cohen, Eloise regularly attended performances each year at the Bank of America Performing Arts Center. Eloise often pushed for ways to inspire growth, particularly in her commitment to expanding accessibility and inclusion. She had an amazing can-do attitude and was always one of the hardest working members of the committees on which she served, and there were many. She led with a guiet grace that inspired partnership and collaboration for the good of the community. She embodied our vision of supporting a community Where the Arts Thrive for All. She will be missed greatly.



Board Member Kathy Jeffers-Volk was appointed to the TOArts Board in 2019 and was similarly passionate about the arts, especially Kids and the Arts, TOArts' arts education program focused on the youth of our community. She also had a long history with the previous Alliance for the Arts and was the longest serving President of the organization's auxiliary fundraising group, the Angels of the Arts. Kathy's generosity extended beyond donations. She had a heart for the youth and the arts; she could often be found greeting the kids as they came off the school buses to attend live theatrical performances for Kids and the Arts field trips. Kathy had an infectious positivity that would light up the room. She embodied the fun-loving spirit of living each day to its fullest. She would often inject her brand of humor into most any situation, immediately lifting the mood and making meetings that much more fun.



We are also saddened by the sudden passing of former TOArts Board member and Founders Bob and Patty Biery. Bob served as the inaugural Vice-Chair of TOArts, beginning in 2017, following the merger of the Alliance for the Arts and the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza Foundation: he served as past-President of the latter. Bob was the former Finance Director for the City of Thousand Oaks and played an integral role in building, opening, and sustaining the Civic Arts Plaza. Patty and he were ardent supporters of TOArts' National Geographic Live presentations bringing those programs to local high school students with daytime assemblies.

Bob and Patty had a joyful spirit and were regulars at the Bank of America Performing Arts Center. They loved rock concerts and speakers, symphony and musical theatre with equal passion.

The Board and staff of TOArts are deeply saddened by these losses. They have each left an indelible mark in the fabric of Ventura County. We join you in mourning their losses, celebrating their memories, and uplifting our community.



EXPOSURE

KIDS AND THE ARTS

We believe that exposure is a key form of arts education for elementary students. Not only do they learn from watching a live theatrical performance; they learn how to conduct themselves as a member of the audience; listening and watching respectfully, applause at the appropriate time, entering and exiting the venue in an orderly manner and interacting with ambassadors to be guided to their seats.

Non-title 1

80%
Title 1

5,000 students



17 school districts



36 schools





Students attend Grimmz Fairy Tales, a Kids and the Arts school performance at the Fred Kayli Theatre.

NAT GEO ED

TOArts presents a series of 4 National Geographic Speakers each year. In the morning, we take each of the speakers into a different high school in Conejo Valley, thereby exposing students to the extraordinary lives and stories of wildlife and underwater photographers, mountain climbers, astrophysicists, adventurers and more.

1,200 high school students









TOARTS PRESENTS AFTER DARK AT STAGECOACH INN MUSEUM

This fun, festival-style outdoor concert series features an eclectic and unique lineup of entertainment. This series is curated to present fresh and compelling artists to engage a diverse audience.



EDUCATION

ACCESSARTS

We work with local school districts to provide resources to the teachers to integrate arts education into their curriculum. It is our vision that every student in our community at every grade-level has equal access to high-quality sequential arts education. We work with individual schools to address their unique needs, whether it is supporting a capital improvement project like converting an unused classroom into a vibrant performing arts lab/dance studio, funding for arts/artists in the classroom, dance lessons for all grade levels or even to build a strategic arts plan to create scope and sequence for arts in the curriculum.

Local elementary school teachers learn from master teaching artist Kellen Law about using the arts to teach other subjects in their elementary curriculum.

6 schools



10,000 students





TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In the 2022 – 23 school year local elementary teachers received 3½ days of continuing education to use arts integration in their classrooms to teach English language arts, social sciences and support social emotional learning. By empowering and educating the teachers with new tools and skills, we are able to exponentially reach thousands of students who will benefit from these new ways of incorporating arts in the classroom.

130 teachers



"Art is one of my favorite things to do, even as an adult. I still remember my art assignments from 4th grade!"

WALNUT ELEMENTARY 2ND GRADE TEACHER



ACCESS

TOARTS PRESENTS

As the in-house presenter of the Bank of America Performing Arts Center, TOArts offers a steady stream of diverse, world-class entertainment in your own backyard so you don't have to fight traffic to enjoy high-quality performances. From headliners to National Geographic Speakers, from comedians to folk music, last year TOArts presented its most diverse season of shows yet.

48,548 55 shows



"Art is not what you see, but what you make others see."

EDGAR DEGAS

FAMILYPAC

Helping families make lifelong memories at the Bank of America Performing Arts Center, this program provides low-cost or complimentary tickets to families who otherwise may not be able to attend a live performance. Last year American Theatre Guild (Broadway in Thousand Oaks) partnered with TOArts to make over 100 tickets available for their performances as well. In partnership with Oxnard Performing Arts Center Foundation, we co-presented Catapult Shadow Dance and made blocks of tickets available to local community organizations to give to the families they support.





Malevo wowed our audience with Malambo, a traditional Argentine folk dance.

OLSON PERFORMANCE GRANTS

TOArts provides grants making performance space accessible to local arts organizations, thereby helping them sustain operations and support artists in the pursuit of their craft.



INCLUSIVE ADVISORY COUNCIL

A staff-driven initiative, the Inclusive Advisory Council of TOArts is comprised of leaders who represent members of our diverse community in different ways. These leaders have their fingers on the pulse of their constituents and help TOArts embody the vision statement Where the Arts Thrive for All. They provide guidance on representation, inclusion, accessibility, and equity.

See page 4 for a list of council members.

The Olson Grants embody the vision of Dr. Raymond Olson who aspired to build a place where the community can come together and perform.

> DAVID MEAD Board Chair



KIDS AND THE ARTS

Schools who attended a performance at the Bank of America Performing Arts Center at no cost to the students or schools:

- Ansgar Larsen Elementary School
- · Art Haycox Elementary
- · Aspen Elementary
- · Banyan Elementary
- · Bridges Charter School
- · Briggs Elementary
- · Conejo Elementary
- Glenwood Elementary
- Hollywood Beach Elementary
- Isbell Middle School
- · Ladera STARS Academy

- · Laguna Vista School
- · Lang Ranch Elementary
- · Lemon Grove School
- Madrona Elementary
- Maple Elementary
- McKevett School
- · Phoenix Ranch School
- San Cayetano Elementary School
- Santa Paula High School
- Somis Union Elementary
- · Sycamore Canyon School

- University Preparation Charter School at CSUCI
- · Walnut Elementary
- Westlake Elementary
- Westlake Hills Elementary School
- · Wildwood Elementary
- · Oak Park High School
- · Arroyo West Elementary
- Sumac Elementary
- SOCA Art
- Mupu
- · Weathersfield Elementary

ACCESSARTS GRANTS

Ladera STARS Academy Westlake Elementary Hueneme Elementary Weathersfield Elementary School Hueneme Elementary School District Wildwood Elementary





Wildlife filmmaker, adventurer and National Geographic Speaker Filipe DeAndrade takes a selfie with Conejo Valley High School students.

OLSON GRANT RECIPIENTS

- 5-Star Theatricals
- Conejo Chinese
 Cultural Association
- · Conejo Schools Foundation
- Conejo Valley Youth Orchestra
- · India Friends Association
- Indian Performing Art Center
- Los Angeles
 Symphonic Winds
- Music Teacher Assoc. of CA, Conejo Valley Branch

- · New West Symphony
- · Pacific Festival Ballet
- Sankara Eye Foundation USA
- SciArtsRUs
- Telegu Association of Trivalley (TATVA)
- Thousand Oaks Philharmonic
- · The Village Voices
- · Young Artists Ensemble

SPONSORSHIPS GRANTED











Conejo Valley Youth Open Mic Night

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- · AAPI Equity Alliance
- Buen Vecino
- California Lutheran University
- · Conejo Schools Foundation
- Conejo Valley Unified School District
- · Grant Brimhall Library

- · Inlakesh Arts
- · Nyeland Acres Promise
- Oxnard Performing Arts Center Foundation
- Safe Passage Youth Foundation
- · We Belong
- · Westminster Free Clinic



SPOTLIGHT STORY

CONEJO VALLEY YOUTH OPEN MIC NIGHT

Earlier this year, middle-schooler Gaby Montiel boldly reached out to TOArts with a problem, a solution, and a request. She is a singer songwriter and her parents had taken her to Ojai to perform in an open mic night. She had so much fun that she wanted to do that again. The problem, however, was that she didn't want to have to go all the way to Ojai. Her solution therefore was to start her own Youth Open Mic night right here in Conejo Valley to "encourage youth artists to perform while also feeling safe and comfortable. They are free with their art, and don't feel intimidated, but inspired by their peers and supported by their community."

Her vision is to have every middle and high school throughout Conejo Valley and beyond to be represented at every event. Her bold request of TOArts was to ask for our support. Of course, we jumped at this opportunity to support this brave, creative and entrepreneurial young woman in her first business venture.

TOArts has invested in three of her monthly Youth Open Mic nights and this has allowed Gaby to pay the artists in the form of a stipend gift card, instead of requiring them to pay-to-play to help her cover the expenses of hosting this monthly event. Gaby was invited to perform at TOArts' annual donor gratitude reception this May and blew the audience away with her original composition, her voice, and her talent on the guitar. We can't wait to see what Gaby does next. This young woman is going places and your investment in TOArts ensures that we can support her and other inspiring artists on their creative journeys.

"I am so grateful for TOArts believing in my mission to create a safe place for youth performers of Conejo Valley. Their support is the reason why this community event is growing, not only for our youth but for everyone! Thank you so much!"

GABY MONTIEL Freshman at Thousand Oaks High School



SPOTLIGHT STORY

AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT

Earlier this year, TOArts contracted with Consortium Media to pursue an audience development initiative for the three resident companies (5-Star Theatricals, New West Symphony, and Pacific Festival Ballet) of the Bank of America Performing Arts Center. This three-year campaign seeks to:

- Gain insights into current and new audiences' expectations regarding customer experience and preferences
- · Boost ticket sales and
- Increase awareness of the considerable value each company and TOArts provides to the region.

The overarching goal is to deeply and firmly bring the Bank of America Performing Arts Center, TOArts, and the three resident companies into the hearts of the local communities. This will help to find additional supporters, audience members and amplify existing outreach for each performance.

The project is off to a soaring start, with 991 survey responses received to date—survey results have revealed a wealth of information about the post-COVID audience, including their preferences for genres, pricing, and family-friendly options.

The campaign will focus on creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for all, while also highlighting the unique value proposition of each resident company and ensure that the Bank of America Performing Arts Center remains a vibrant and thriving cultural hub.

"A clearly articulated plan, communicated consistently across the organizations will make a huge difference to being able to grow your audiences sustainably."

ARTSENGLAND



SPOTLIGHT STORY

WALNUT ELEMENTARY AFTERSCHOOL DANCE

Our 2021-22 Annual Report featured the story of Jett—a then 3rd grade student at Walnut Elementary who loved moving his body to music in the newly constructed dance studio thanks to a TOArts AccessArts grant. All students at this local elementary school take a weekly dance class during the school day.

In 2022 – 23, Walnut started an after-school program for students. Your generosity sponsored an after-school dance enrichment classes for all students who wished to pursue their passion for dance outside of the school day.

Nearly 30 students CHOSE to develop their skills, learn new dance genres, and experience the joy of movement each week. This experience was provided free to all students who wanted to commit to dance enrichment. The classes also allowed them to connect with each other, connect with the music, and learn to share space in a relaxed and supportive atmosphere.

"I'm always looking for arts enrichment opportunities for Walnut students, and, once again, TOArts took students to a new level!"

AILEEN WALL Walnut Elementary Principal

PROGRAM RESULTS

99%

of parents said the dance lessons helped their child focus on their classwork.

91%

of parents said their child is doing better academically because of dance.

85%

of students say they feel happier when they dance.

92%

of students say they learned new ways to express their emotions through dancing.

Teachers say 65% of their students had better attention and 83% had improved social emotional behavior.

FY2022 - 2023 DONOR LIST

Thank you to the following donors who made donations during fiscal year July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023. Many of these are members of Producers Club and Audience Circle and we rely heavily on the monthly or annual recurring gifts that these memberships generate. If we have inadvertently left your name off the list, please accept our sincerest apology and email niki@toarts.org so we may rectify the mistake. We are proud that 100% of our board members make annual financial contributions above and beyond their tireless dedication TOArts.

Aqua Recurring monthly or annual donor

- * Board member
- ** Deceased
- + Director Emeritus

\$50,000+

State of California TOLD Foundation

\$25,000 - 49,999

Premier America Credit Union

\$10,000 - 24,999

Bank of America
Best Western Plus Thousand Oaks
Keets and Hugh Cassar
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Southern California Edison

\$5,000 - 9,999

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\$2,500 - 4,999

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The Artful Asker, Marcy Heim
Petra and Al* Lowe
Charles Parry
The Lake Avenue Group at

Morgan Stanley – Laura Marie and Darius Raulinaitis Westlake Women's Club

\$1,000 - \$2,499

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\$999 AND BELOW

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Transform lives with a meaningful gift to TOArts.

Contact niki@toarts.org

Jerry Miller Sharon Miller Julie Milligan Beth Mohiuddin Henry Montalvo

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Jonathan and Brandon Serret The Shiraishi Family, in memory of Grace and Yutaka Shiraishi

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CORPORATE PARTNERS

TOArts is deeply grateful for the visionary investment of these businesses to support the arts in our community.

INVESTORS IN THE ARTS







TOARTS PRESENTS SERIES SPONSORS









Morgan Stanley

THE LAKE AVENUE GROUP AT MORGAN STANLEY

KIDS AND THE ARTS SPONSORS









MATCHING GIFT SPONSORS







FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

REVENUE

\$1,164,443

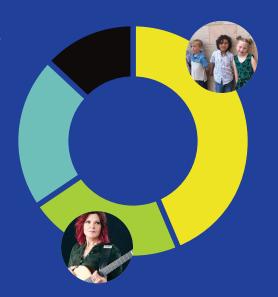
total investment return

\$511,000 grants

\$254,488 performances

\$249,120 contributions

\$149,835 in-kind



EXPENSES

\$1,605,529

total expenses

\$963,029 programs

\$491,870 administration

\$150,630 fundraising





TOArts donors at a recent Donor Gratitude Reception

LEGACY GIVING

If your IRA is life's dessert, the thought of paying taxes on a distribution you would rather not take may leave a sour taste in your mouth. It does not have to. There is a sweeter choice. Rather than take the required minimum distribution, call your IRA administrator and ask them to gift all or part of the RMD to our organization. Make sure the distribution comes directly to our mission and not to you.

When you do, you:

- Do not pay income tax on the distribution
- Satisfy your RMD up to \$100,000

Contact Niki Richardson at niki@toarts.org to set up your legacy gift to TOArts, and support arts education for children for years to come.

STAFF LIST

Jonathan Serret,
Executive Director

Niki Richardson, Associate Director

Colleen Debler, Marketing Director

Ethan Craig,
Program & Development
Coordinator

CONTACT

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SOCIAL MEDIA



@thousandoaksarts

DONATE

toarts.org/donate

"TOLD Foundation salutes the good work done by TOArts as you continue to deliver essential arts education to local school children. We are proud to partner with your organization in creating a sustainable future for this type of learning; it's central to our philanthropic mission."

ROD GILBERT
President TOLD Foundation

YOUR SUPPORT ENSURES THAT OUR COMMUNITY IS A PLACE

WHERE THE ARTS THRIVE FOR ALL.

To join us and support our work in education, advocacy, and presentation of the arts, please contact niki@toarts.org.

Arts

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