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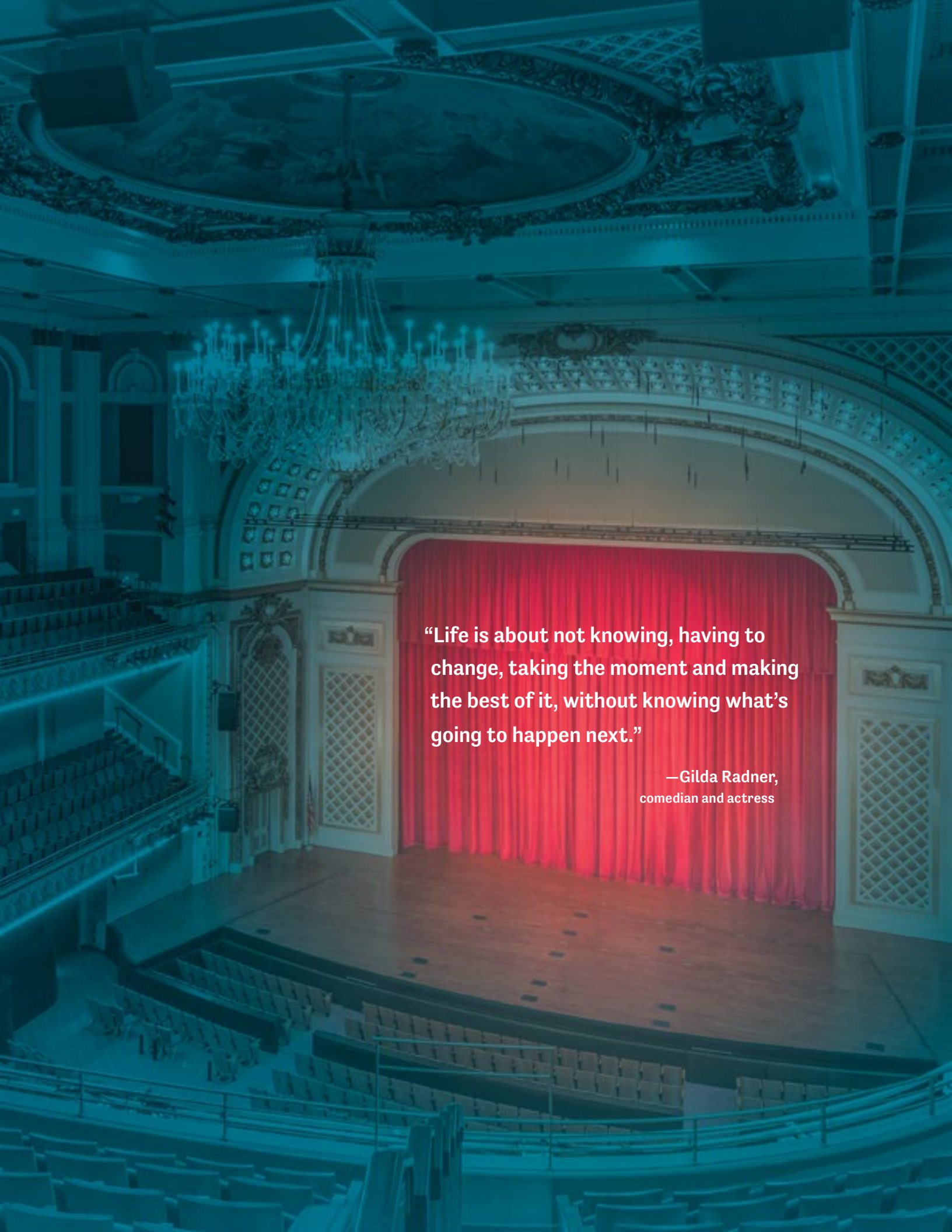


ARONOFF CENTER
MUSIC HALL

2021

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

PROCTER & GAMBLE AVENUE

A photograph of a grand theater interior, viewed from the audience's perspective. The stage is covered with a vibrant red curtain. A large, ornate chandelier hangs from the ceiling. The theater has multiple levels of seating, and the architecture is highly detailed with arches and decorative elements. The lighting is a mix of the red from the curtain and the blue from the overall scene.

“Life is about not knowing, having to change, taking the moment and making the best of it, without knowing what’s going to happen next.”

—Gilda Radner,
comedian and actress

DEAR FRIENDS OF THE ARTS,

ONE OF THE MANY THINGS WE LEARNED during this full season of the pandemic is that the only certainty during these uncertain times is change. Yet through even the darkest of moments, we witnessed bright rays of light—inspiring creativity and innovation that triumphed over the adversity impacting our beloved arts community.

We connected with our audiences through engaging digital content. We developed and implemented multi-layered health and safety protocols, procedures, and communications. We touched the lives of more than 60,000 students and adults through reimagined education, Arts in Healing, and community programming. Many of our resident arts companies found new ways to reach audiences through limited-capacity, streaming, and outdoor performances.

We have never been more grateful for the many people and organizations that supported these efforts: a thoughtful and caring Board of Trustees; a resilient and tireless staff; resourceful resident companies; generous members, donors, sponsors, and volunteers; talented artists and technicians; and loyal subscribers and audiences. In addition, we are extremely thankful for local and national government leaders who advocated for relief funding for the arts, and the many health experts who offered invaluable guidance, especially our friends at TriHealth.

We are pleased to present to you our 2021 Report to the Community, which highlights much of our work on the road to recovery as we moved toward the reopening of Music Hall and the Aronoff Center. We hope you will be reminded how important the arts are in our lives, especially

during a season with limited live performance opportunities and connections.

Never in our wildest dreams did we imagine that our 26th season of the combined operation of the Aronoff Center and Music Hall would be so adversely impacted by an extended global pandemic. This was also the year of the Aronoff Center's 25th Anniversary, and due to COVID-19 restrictions and protocols, we missed celebrating this milestone and full-capacity performances with you in person.

Our world continues to be uncertain. But even in this uncertainty, we are reminded of the power of the arts to bring relief and change in the midst of our individual and collective anxiety. With your ongoing dedication and support, we promise to remain part of this transformation and to be responsible stewards of the Aronoff Center and Music Hall, where we can all come to together to laugh, to learn, to hope, and to breathe.

See you at the theater!



Stephen A. Loftin
*President,
Cincinnati Arts Association*



Dudley S. Taft
*Chairman, Board of Trustees
Cincinnati Arts Association*



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CAA PRESENTS



DUE TO RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY THE PANDEMIC, CAA was unable to present any national touring shows live and in-person until four days before the end of the 2020–21 Season, when the curtain finally rose again on a CAA Presents event after more than seventeen months. This was one of our first opportunities to implement our new health and safety protocols at the Aronoff Center with a full-capacity audience.

Johnny Mathis: 65 Years of Romance Tour

August 28 (original date: March 14, 2020)
Aronoff Center–Procter & Gamble Hall

This nearly sold-out, much-anticipated concert was the first CAA Presents show to be impacted by the March 2020 shut down, and after rescheduling numerous times, it was the first CAA Presents event to reopen the Aronoff. We are grateful to the thousands of loyal Mathis fans who held on to their tickets, and who were wowed by the incomparable charm and talents of this legendary artist.

CAA'S EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DEPARTMENT presented a series of three ticketed, streaming events to the general public that illuminated various aspects of the African American experience and reinforced the need for greater diversity, inclusion, and equity in our nation.

In conjunction with these virtual performances, CAA and its Building Diverse Audiences Advisory Committee (BDAAC) presented a series of Candid Conversations live via Zoom. These intimate events included a representative from each show and a panel of local BIPOC artists in revealing discussions about the impact of their work on social justice, community wellbeing, and equity.

A bonus Creative Conversation was presented with Black Violin, a classically trained violist and violinist duo who blend classical, hip-hop, rock, R&B, and bluegrass music to create a unique and high energy style they call "Classical Boom." A streaming performance by Black Violin was only available to schools.



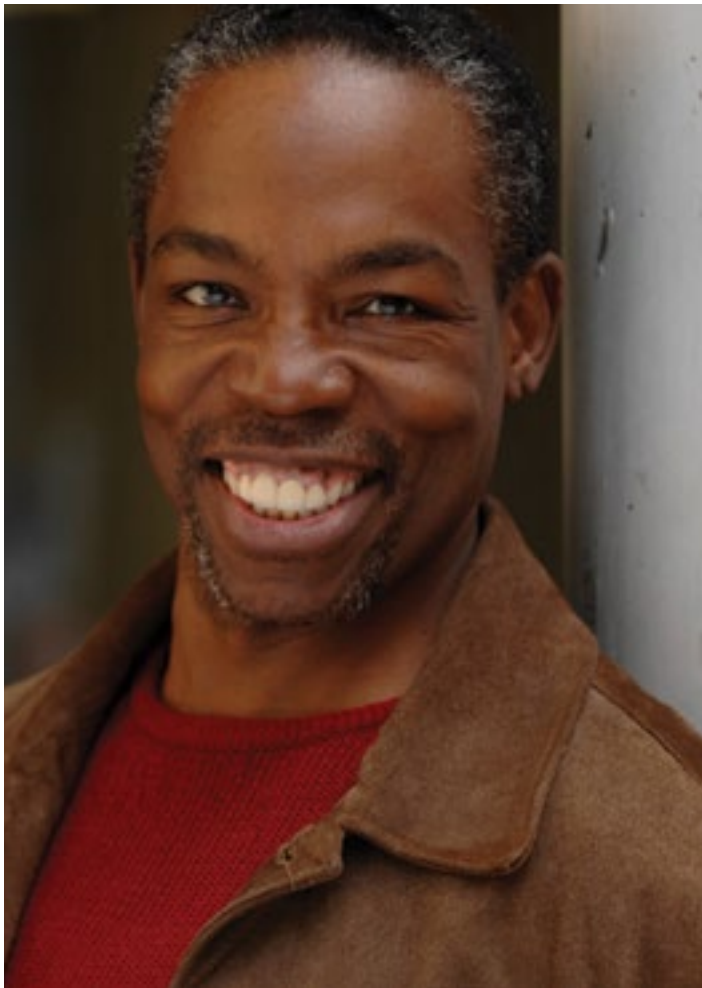
Lena: A Moment With a Lady

Streaming date: March 17–31

Acclaimed Broadway actress Syndee Winters portrayed legendary Hollywood star Lena Horne in this virtual one-woman show that transported viewers back in time to relish and rediscover the life of this trailblazing performer and activist.

Candid Conversation: March 24

Winters joined a panel of local artists for a lively discussion about passing along information regarding individual legends of change to new generations; the value and importance of teaching a broad, truthful history; and what the participating artists believe needs to change to increase the awareness of the contributions of artists of color.



Black Violin

Candid Conversation: April 6

Grammy-nominated Black Violin artists Kev Marcus and Wil Baptiste dialogued with local artists about challenging stereotypes and status quo conventions, and how pathways to equity in the arts will require commitment and unwavering dedication by everyone involved in the process.

Rhapsody in Black

Streaming dates: May 4–17

Written and performed by acclaimed actor LeLand Gantt and developed at NYC's Actors Studio, this one-man show explored LeLand's personal journey to understand and eventually transcend racism in America.

Candid Conversation: May 11

Gantt was joined by local artists for an open discussion about how persons of color define racism as they claim their identities while working, living, and creating in racist systems.



Step Afrika! presents *Stono*

Streaming dates: June 5–18

Integrating songs, storytelling, and humor in this powerful dance performance, *Stono* highlighted the spirit of resistance and activism of a part of American history that has often been overlooked—the largest insurrection of enslaved Africans in North America on September 9, 1739, which began in South Carolina on the banks of the Stono River.

Candid Conversation: June 8

C. Brian Williams, Founder and Artistic Director of Step Afrika!, was joined by local artists for an honest discussion about how their personal journeys and their work relate to the history and practice of racism in our country.



2020 / 21
ALICE F. AND HARRIS K.
WESTON ART GALLERY

THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC impacted every aspect of the Weston Art Gallery’s programming and operations throughout the 2020–21 season, including closure to the public in December and January. Additional impacts included the layoff of all Gallery staff in June except its Director, Dennis Harrington; deep cuts to the Gallery’s operating budget, and a reduction of public hours to twenty per week due to limited staff and reduced hours of operation at the Aronoff.

These responses to the pandemic resulted in the temporary suspension of the *Families Create!* workshops and the *Docentitos Academy* youth docent program, the cancellation of the annual *CANstruction* display that was presented instead as a virtual fundraiser, and the cancellation of the *Summerfair Select* exhibition intended to pair with *CANstruction*. All of the above programs are on schedule to return during the 2021–22 season.

Despite these setbacks, the Gallery presented the vast majority of its scheduled exhibitions along with five Gallery Talks and two concert performances by SouthBank Quartet. In addition, six video interviews with artists, and two virtual tours of exhibitions, were posted on the Gallery’s website and social media pages, which helped expand its audience beyond the constraints of the physical space.

Maintaining a live presence at the Aronoff, when all other performances and activities were suspended, was an accomplishment in itself. While daily attendance was modest, it was important to provide a safe outlet for people to view art and offer some relief from the daily constraints on social activities that the pandemic imposed.

Overall attendance for the 2020–21 season fell to 1,803 visitors, which was well below the Gallery’s annual yearly attendance of 25,000. But in light of the pandemic and daily challenges, these were positive numbers, with the hope that the Gallery would soon return to more regular attendance with the full reopening of the Aronoff.

September 12–November 21

Beacon

Curated by independent curator C. M. Turner (Camden, ME), *Beacon* was a conceptually driven group exhibition exploring objects, subjects, spaces, and ideologies that guide us through everyday life. Participating artists included Noel W Anderson (New York, NY); Bruce Bennett (Jersey City, NJ); Britni Bicknaver, Else Daniel, Emily Hanako Momohara (all Cincinnati, OH); Justin Hodges (Americus, GA); Esmeralda Kosmatopoulos (Cairo, EG/ Paris, FR); Cody Perkins (Burlington, KY); Jared Thorne (Columbus, OH); and Nicole White (Berkeley, CA).





January 30–February 27

Johnny Coleman: And the Presence of Light

Coleman (Oberlin, OH) constructed a multi-media immersive installation in the Weston’s street-level atrium honoring the historical plight of Lee Howard Dobbins, an adopted child, and eight enslaved women seeking freedom and a future in Canada in 1853.

Heather Jones: A Sense of Place

Through her textile work, Jones (Springboro, OH) investigated the historical and socio-political relationship between women and textiles and women’s work as she pushed the boundaries between fine art and craft.



**A Piece of My Mind:
Quilts by Carolyn Mazloomi**

Through her narrative quilts, Mazloomi (Cincinnati, OH) examined the metaphorical links between textiles and human beings to pay tribute to vulnerable people (the disenfranchised, dispossessed, and outsiders) and the injustice and harsh realities of the daily lives of those in need.



**March 13–April 24
Social Recession:
2021 NCECA Ceramic Art Invitational**

This exhibition was presented in conjunction with the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts’ 55th annual conference (presented virtually due to the pandemic from March 17–20). Curator Shannon R. Stratton, Executive Director at Ox-Bow School of Art and Artists’ Residency (Saugatuck, MI), chose to address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on social interaction. Forty-three artists from across the United States and Canada participated in the exhibition.



May 15–June 26

Material Message: Photographs of Fabric

Curated by Marcella Hackbardt (Mt. Vernon, OH), this group photography exhibition responded to fabric’s aesthetic, formal, and conceptual potential, exploiting the medium’s malleability. Participating artists included Patty Carroll (Chicago, IL), Elizabeth M. Claffey (Bloomington, IN), John Mann (Oak Park, IL), Selina Román (Tampa, FL), Jacinda Russell (Indianapolis, IN), Leonard Suryajaya (Chicago, IL), and Morgan Ford Willingham (Emporia, KS).

July 10–August 28

Eric S. England: 25¢ Gods

Exploring the American mythology of comic books through two- and three-dimensional avenues, England (Oxford, OH) imparted the motivation, verve, and insights he found in this come-of-age medium.



Paul Thie: Copy Cave–Cincinnati

Pulling text, imagery, and ideas out of the everyday printed matter of our lives, Paul Thie (Cincinnati, OH) created dimensional paintings that celebrated the analog and embraced the physical world.



Breanne Trammell: Slow Burn

Trammell (Fayetteville, AR) presented a survey of print-related works that celebrated the confluence of high and popular culture, explored objects and icons from mainstream media, and shared moments of importance mined from the everyday and her personal history.



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EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

“The measure of intelligence is the ability to change.”

–Albert Einstein

THE ONGOING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

continued to impact CAA’s Education & Community Engagement (ECE) efforts throughout the year. However, the 2020–21 season reach decreased by only 2% from 2019–20.

Some programs were placed on hold, while others shifted to a virtual or blended virtual/live delivery, which engaged new audiences to experience CAA programs for the first time. These changes resulted in profound programming discovery and evolution into higher relevancy and community response.

These programs would not have been possible without CAA’s community, education, and financial partnerships that ensured the arts would continue to be accessible, equitable, inclusive, and diverse during this unprecedented time. This support allowed us to discover new ways to engage and serve our community through the arts.



SchoolTime & SchoolTime–On Demand

Reach: 18,841

SchoolTime traditionally brings students to the Aronoff Center and Music Hall to experience touring performances;

however, this season, the program went virtual. A collaboration with the national Performing Arts Center Consortium (PACC) commissioned three productions—*Black Violin*, *Step Afrika!*, and *Rhapsody in Black*—to create high-level cinematic recordings of their performances. CAA provided these virtual performances at no cost to classrooms across the Tri-state area through the Virtual Arts Programming Accessibility Subsidy. With the support of national professionals, CAA advanced this work during a challenging time and inspired best practices for virtual implementation.

Artists on Tour

Reach: 6,218

Artists on Tour serves schools in a twenty-county region across southeast Indiana, southwest Ohio, and northeast Kentucky, engaging many schools, including rural locations,

through school-site events. Artists on Tour pivoted to on-demand and live-streaming opportunities with local artists this season.



Overture Awards

Reach: 612

The Overture Awards recognizes and rewards excellence in the arts among Greater Cincinnati students in grades 9–12. As the region’s largest arts competition, Overture’s mission is to create an experience that encourages training and appreciation of the arts. The Overture program offers awards in six artistic disciplines: creative writing, dance, instrumental music, theatre, visual art, and vocal music. This season, the program shifted from a live, in-person competition to a virtual event with a new delivery and rating system.





Arts in Healing Initiative (AIH)

Reach: 10,383; Contact Hours: 18,928

AIH is a non-clinical artists-in-residency program that enhances the medical experience for patients, medical staff, and families. This season, ECE obtained financial support to shift the program to both virtual and in-person services.

Aronoff Center Rental Subsidy Program

Reach: 4 projects

Due to the Aronoff Center being closed September through July, the Greater Cincinnati Foundation Rental Subsidy Program distributed funds for events only held from July to December.

Arts Programming Accessibility Subsidy (previously Artists on Tour Grants / New Audiences Ticket & Transportation Subsidy)

Reach: 24,770

This support allowed schools and after-school programs to continue engaging in the arts through streaming workshops, performances, study guides, and/or in-person workshops and performances during June–August. 1,108 classrooms and after-school agencies received accessibility and 98% of these received 90–100% subsidy, allowing classrooms and after-school partners to engage student learning through the arts.

Building Diverse Audiences Advisory Committee (BDAAC)

Reach: 105

BDAAC works with CAA's ECE and Marketing departments to increase our organization's community connections and program awareness. BDAAC's support of CAA Connectors (a group





Cincy Emerging Arts Leaders (Cincy EAL)

Reach: 857

Cincy EAL's programs provided opportunities for local emerging and mid-career arts professionals to network with each other and discuss relevant topics in the field.

Community Arts Initiatives / Special Projects

Reach: 2,249

- After several disappointing cancellations, CAA supported community artist Annie Ruth's November 20 live-streamed presentation of *Dada Rafiki: Conversations—Celebrating the Year of the Woman!*
- Working with the Cincinnati Public Schools Summer Scholars, four bathroom murals completed a five-year project at Western Hills University High School.

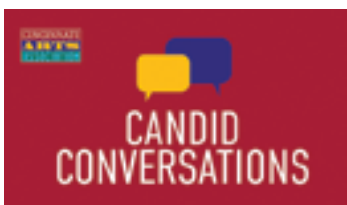
of approximately twenty African American influencers) has increased ticket sales to our events and given CAA a broader and deeper imprint in the community. Since 1996, BDAAC members have served as advisors and ambassadors for CAA's programs and policies in diversity, equity, inclusion, and access. BDAAC assisted in planning and moderating Candid Conversations, a public health and wellbeing program.

Candid Conversations

Reach: 989

This series of streamed performances and virtual live discussions connected nineteen national and local BIPOC artists who addressed

intriguing topics on racism in the arts and how their work impacts social justice, community wellbeing, and equity.




Total Reach:
65,028

During a season like no other, we dealt with forces of change. We found ways to improve our services to the community and imagine forward as we live our belief that the arts can transform us into a healthy, vibrant, equitable, and inclusionary society.



2020 / 21
SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

Broadway in Cincinnati Sets Record

Aronoff Center

Even though Fifth Third Bank Broadway in Cincinnati, presented by TriHealth, was unable to present its popular national tours due to the pandemic, it set a subscription sales record this season. This was due in large part to its ability to reschedule all of its shows that were postponed from the 2020–21 season into the 2021–22 Season, including the much-anticipated return of *Hamilton*.



Aronoff Center's 25th Anniversary

October 21

October 21 marked the 25th Anniversary of the grand opening of the Aronoff Center for the Arts. Due to pandemic restrictions, there were no large gatherings or celebrations at the venue. However, the anniversary received substantial coverage from numerous media outlets, and our 25th Anniversary Name-A-Seat (in the Procter & Gamble Hall) fundraising campaign was extremely successful.

Holiday Pops

December 12 • Music Hall

Holiday Pops, a long-standing Cincinnati tradition, went digital in 2020, reaching over 7,000 households. The Cincinnati Pops, led by John Morris Russell and featuring vocalists Nikki Renee Daniels and Jeff Kready, brought the joy and light of the holiday season from the Music Hall stage to screens around the world.





The Nutcracker at Home

December 24 • Music Hall

Due to pandemic restrictions, Cincinnati Ballet created a special broadcast version of *The Nutcracker* that was filmed at Music Hall and broadcast in primetime on WLWT-TV on Christmas Eve at 8:00 PM. The hour-long version was broadcast six additional times on WLWT-TV and MeTV, and was streamed on cballet.org.



Langrée & Gerstein: Impressions of Folk

January 30–31 • Music Hall

Impressions of Folk was the first weekend of concerts to welcome a live public audience since March 2020. Louis Langrée led the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra for George Walkers' *Folksongs for Orchestra* and Zoltán Kodály's *Dance of Galánta*. Pianist Kirill Gerstein joined the CSO for Dmitri Shostakovich's Piano Concerto No. 2.

Wanderlust

**March 5–21 • Music Hall–Wilks Studio;
digital presentation**

As part of its all-digital Winter Festival, Cincinnati Opera presented *Wanderlust*, a special remote concert filmed at Music Hall's Wilks Studio, which combined the talents of Grammy-nominated soprano Talise Trevigne, rising-star conductor William R. Langley, and the provocative chamber ensemble concert:nova. Highlights of the program included Debussy's *Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun*, three stunning Debussy songs featuring Trevigne as vocalist and the CSO's Louis Langrée as pianist, and the Cincinnati premiere of a small ensemble orchestration of Ravel's Eastern-flavored *Shéhérazade*.





Hearts and Voices Soar

May 29–30 • Music Hall

Sections of the May Festival Chorus returned to the stage for the first time since March 2020. Soprano Joëlle Harvey and tenor Paul Appleby joined the chorus and the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra led by Juanjo Mena in a concert that let voices soar. Two of these live, in-person concerts were live streamed.

The Finial Restoration Project

Spring and Summer • Music Hall—exterior

In June 2021, the Friends of Music Hall completed the restoration of ten finials and a lyre atop Music Hall's gables. Designed by architect Samuel Hannaford, these sandstone ornaments had deteriorated since their installation in 1878. This restoration project, led by FOMH Historian, Thea Tjepkema, was part of the continuing effort by FOMH to renew the architectural integrity of this National Historic Landmark. These details help to proclaim Cincinnati Music Hall as a cathedral of the arts.



Planet Dance Cincinnati Summer Showcase

June 5 • Aronoff Center–Jarson-Kaplan Theater

Presented by Exhale Dance Tribe, this fun-filled night showcased the talents of Planet Dance students as well as the choreographic skills of Exhale's Artistic Directors Missy and Andrew Hubbard. This event marked the first live, in-person performance at the Aronoff Center since the shutdown.



Bold Moves Plus

June 16–20 • Aronoff Center–Procter & Gamble Hall

Cincinnati Ballet made a triumphant return to live-audience performance with Bold Moves Plus. The mixed-rep production featured works by choreographers Annabelle Lopez Ochoa, Stephanie Martinez, Heather Britt, and Mark Morris.



Summer at Summit

July 11–August 1 • Summit Park, Blue Ash

Due to continued safety concerns related to producing opera in indoor venues, Cincinnati Opera reimagined its 2021 season and relocated its entire operation outdoors. The company built a temporary opera house from scratch at Blue Ash's Summit Park and presented ten sold-out performances, featuring internationally acclaimed singers, the Cincinnati Opera Chorus, and the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. CAA staff members from Music Hall provided operational support for the Summer at Summit season.



Area Choreographers Festival–21

August 14 & 15 • Aronoff Center–
Jarson-Kaplan Theater

Contemporary Dance Theater presented its final concert before the company merged with Mutual Dance Theatre in September. ACF–21 presented five adjudicated contemporary dances by seven area choreographers: Glenda Figueiredo & Colleen Byrne, Susan Honer, Kelsey Lee, Chloe Napoletano & Hana Newfeld, and Hannah Williamson.

Celebrating Twenty Years of Classical Roots

August 15 • Music Hall

John Morris Russell was joined by 2019 MAC Music Innovator and pianist Michelle Cann, members of the Classical Roots Community Chorus, and the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra to celebrate twenty years of the Classical Roots program. In addition, the CSO presented programs in three local churches which were part of the creation of Classical Roots.





2020 / 21
OPERATIONS

FROM THE TIME THE PANDEMIC forced public-assembly venues to shutter their doors in March 2020 and throughout the 2020–21 season, CAA’s operations leadership was active in a variety of national forums about the ongoing impact of and response to COVID-19. Working closely with infectious disease experts, CAA’s operations team created and reworked health and safety protocols, including mask requirements for staff and guests, physically-distanced seating plans, and COVID-19 screening procedures.

We implemented new enhanced cleaning methods, improved air filtration, vaccination or negative COVID-19 test requirements, and on-site testing. We partnered with Hoxworth Blood Center and Music Hall’s resident companies on a semi-annual blood drive in the venue’s Ballroom. We were in regular communication with the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County Health Departments, and we made the Aronoff Center and Music Hall available for vaccination clinics.

Our resident companies at Music Hall were remarkably resilient, and we continuously worked with them to achieve a safe environment for activity. The Cincinnati Ballet returned in October with a special program in the Ballroom that allowed physically-distanced seating at café tables, and again in December to film a special televised performance of *The Nutcracker* in Springer Auditorium.

Whom do we call during a global pandemic?



Our loyal sponsor TriHealth! When we needed expert advice and support, they were at the ready to offer

invaluable information to our team and resident companies. We are eternally grateful to our TriHealth partners, including CAA board member Jeanette Altenau (Director of Community Relations and Government Affairs), who connected us with Dr. Kevin Joseph (Chief Medical Officer). Dr. Joseph recruited other medical experts—most notably infectious disease specialist Dr. Stephen Blatt—to help us problem solve and plan for reopening.

CAA supported the Cincinnati Symphony and Pops Orchestras during their return to live, limited-capacity, physically distanced events, starting in October with a small number of open rehearsals and continuing from January through May with more than forty concerts that reached more than 2,700 households. In addition, CAA supported many of the Orchestras’ digital events that were seen by over 1.5 million viewers around the world. As the May Festival Chorus returned in May with five live, in-person performances, we could feel the positive momentum build toward a full reopening.

The Music Hall operations team assisted the Cincinnati Opera with its 2021 Summer Festival, which was relocated outdoors to Summit Park in Blue Ash. We supported the Opera with event safety and house management staff, stage crew members, and volunteer ushers. During the three-week Festival, we staffed thirteen open rehearsals and performances and helped more than 11,000 guests.

The Friends of Music Hall (FOMH) resumed its outdoor guided tours of the historic venue in April and its indoor tours in July. In addition, FOMH funded a project to restore the decorative sandstone finials on the exterior of the building. In early summer, CAA assisted them with the installation of these beautiful architectural ornaments on the east and west facades of Music Hall.

At the Aronoff Center, capital projects included a security system upgrade, chiller replacements, and new sewer equipment. Thanks to a generous gift from the Kaplan Family Foundation, we were able to replace the Jarson-Kaplan Theater stage floor.

During the summer, some of the Aronoff’s small resident companies began to reactivate our performance spaces with new programs. And with the advent of planning meetings for the upcoming Broadway in Cincinnati 2021–22 season, the routing of national tours, and agreements to local health and safety protocols, we began to see the promise of reopening to full houses on the horizon in the fall of 2021.

Resident Companies

We were especially pleased to support our resident companies this season as they planned for their reopening and/or presented performances in reimagined ways. These remarkable arts organizations, both large and small, navigated the pandemic with agility, creativity, and patience. We look forward to our continued partnerships with them as we work together to build a new future of arts and entertainment experiences for our audiences.

Aronoff Center



Revolution Dance Theatre

Music Hall



Aronoff Center/ Music Hall





2020 / 21
DEVELOPMENT

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Season Support

Memberships	\$131,623
Sponsorships	\$445,380
Name-A-Seat Campaign	\$96,000
Additional Donations	\$47,383

THE PANDEMIC ONCE AGAIN put us in a state of limbo during the 2020–21 season. Local and national COVID-19 health and safety protocols restricted our ability to come together in person for performances, fundraisers, and other community events in our venues. Our two primary fundraisers for CAA were postponed for the second year in a row: *Dancing for the Stars* and *Backstage Treasures Online Auction*. Both of these events were rescheduled to the 2021–22 season.

We are extremely grateful for the valuable support we received during the shutdown, including numerous online donations. Our members, donors, and sponsors continued to invest in CAA’s arts education and community programs (many of which were provided virtually to local and regional schools) and visual art exhibitions. Several sponsors of other CAA programs redirected their funding to help make these virtual programs a reality.



Backstage Treasures Online Auction

This annual online fundraiser typically raises \$28,000–\$35,000 for CAA’s arts education programs. We are hopeful the many businesses and donors of past auctions will once again collaborate with us and continue to support this worthwhile fundraiser when it is rescheduled. Special thanks to our annual auction sponsors: Bortz Jewelers, Graphic Village, UNTAPPED, and WOW Windowboxes.



Dancing for the Stars

This popular annual event was rescheduled to June 2022 at the Music Hall Ballroom for its 15th season, and several of our *Dancing for the Stars* 2020 volunteer celebrities are slated to participate. We are grateful for the continued support of our *Dancing for the Stars* sponsors: TriHealth (Title Sponsor), Arthur Murray–Cincinnati, Doreen Beatrice, Bonita Brockert, Brandon Etheridge, Maura Garuccio, Graphic Village, Jozsef Parragh, Phoenix Rising Ballroom, and Joshua Tilford, as well as a collection of Cincinnati’s finest restaurants, caterers, and beverage distributors!

Exhibitionism: Carnivale II

This fundraiser was to be reimaged for 2021, but was also postponed. The Weston Art Gallery will reschedule this event of “artistic proportions” to 2022.



Name-A-Seat Campaign

This bright spot during an otherwise dim 2020–21 season was an online fundraising campaign that celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the Aronoff Center.



Name-A-Seat launched in November 2020 and garnered 142 donations for custom-

engraved plaques on seats in the Aronoff’s Procter & Gamble Hall. The remarkably successful campaign was a vital funding source for CAA during the 2020–21 season.

2020 / 21
SUPPORT

The Cincinnati Arts Association recognizes
 and thanks the following individuals,
 corporations and foundations
 for their generous support.

**Individual Donors
 and Members**

Gifts of \$5,000 and above

Craig and Anne Maier
 Dr. Robert and
 Mrs. Jackie Prichard
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Gifts of \$2,500–\$4,999

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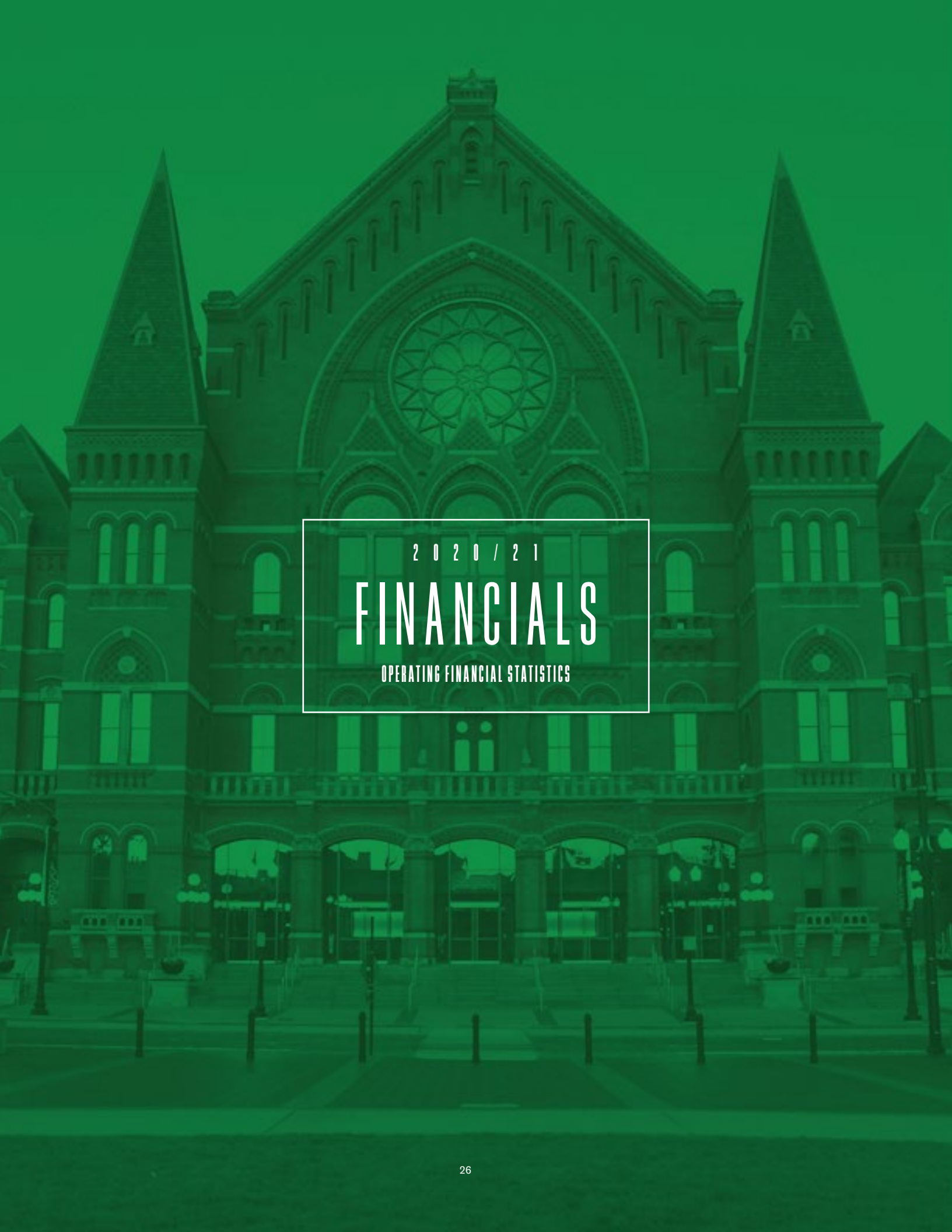
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FINANCIALS

OPERATING FINANCIAL STATISTICS

BY THE NUMBERS

2020–21 Season

Aronoff Center shutdown for most of season; Music Hall open for limited-capacity performances starting in January.

Attendance

Aronoff Center.....	4,495
Music Hall.....	18,253
Total.....	22,748

Events

Aronoff Center.....	36
Music Hall.....	188
Total.....	224

Total tickets sold through CAA Ticketing Services*3,033

2019–20 Season

Shutdown of Aronoff Center and Music Hall—March 2020

Attendance

Aronoff Center.....	318,984
Music Hall.....	203,884
Total.....	522,868

Events

Aronoff Center.....	273
Music Hall.....	229
Total.....	502

Total tickets sold through CAA Ticketing Services*134,255

2018–19 Season

Regular season—pre-pandemic

Attendance

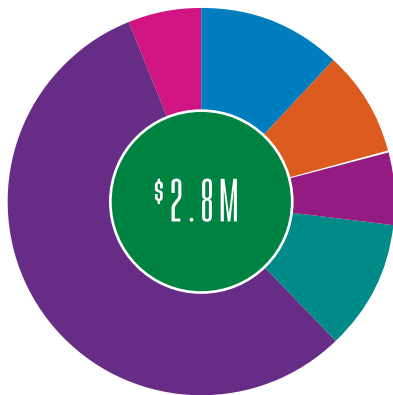
Aronoff Center.....	391,549
Music Hall.....	284,763
Total.....	676,312

Events

Aronoff Center.....	448
Music Hall.....	337
Total.....	785

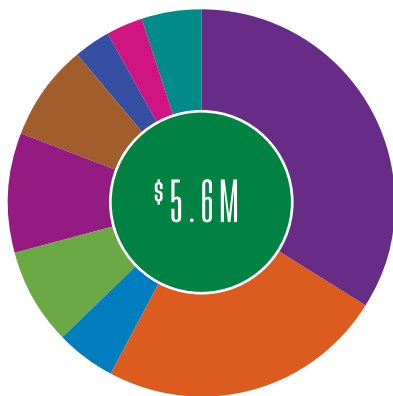
Total tickets sold through CAA Ticketing Services*161,207

*Annual CAA ticket sales total does not include Broadway in Cincinnati subscriptions or tickets sold by the Cincinnati Ballet, Cincinnati Opera, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Cincinnati Pops Orchestra, and May Festival.



OPERATING REVENUE

Rental.....	12%	Ticketing services.....	11%
Stagehand and other reimbursements.....	9%	Contributions and endowment earnings.....	56%
Concessions and commissions.....	0%	Other.....	6%
Ticket sales.....	6%		



OPERATING EXPENSES

Operational payroll.....	34%	Education.....	8%
Administrative payroll.....	24%	Weston Art Gallery.....	3%
Stagehands.....	5%	Presenting.....	3%
Building related.....	8%	Other.....	5%
Administrative.....	10%		

The financial operating information listed above does not include direct funding or expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Becky Cole
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Assistant Director
Sly Yeo
Exhibition Preparator

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Teresa M. Myers
Senior Manager, Client Relations

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Kaitlyne C. Jones
Guest Relations Event Supervisor

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Odayues D. Leonard
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Aronoff Center

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Candace LoFrumento
Senior Event Manager
Emma C. Garry
Event Manager
Jennifer M. Picone
Event Manager
Raneboe H. Maul
Rentals Manager
Chandler J. Hull
House Manager
R. DeAndre Smith
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Mykayla E. Kroeger
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Administrative Coordinator

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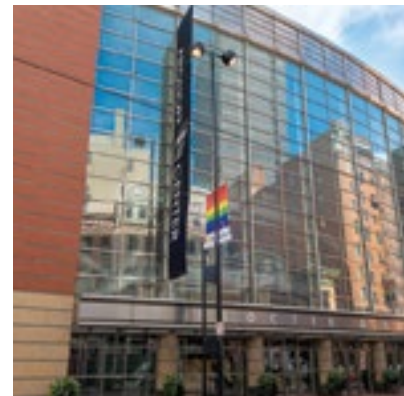
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