

LIVING OUR VALUES

*Impact Report
Fiscal Year 2023*



STRATHMORE

Living Our Values



With a new strategic plan, *Building Creative Communities*, we've set the stage for a vibrant future in a post-pandemic world where the arts play a central role in fostering innovation, connection, and engagement. Your support has enabled us to place distinct and diverse voices at the center of our programs and create meaningful experiences that enrich individuals and strengthen communities.

Three guiding values shape this purpose-driven work:

Nourishing Potential of artists at every stage drives our signature initiatives, such as our Artist in Residence (AIR) program, and new projects like AMPlify, launched in January 2023.

Choosing Inclusion as an operating imperative ensures that we engage the full diversity of our community, exemplified by ongoing efforts such as providing free access to our programs.

Going Deeper invites our community to connect with the arts in profound and transformative ways through projects like Allison Miller's residency for her *Rivers In Our Veins* project.

Thank you for supporting Strathmore and for helping us enrich every life through the arts. Together, we are building a strong and resilient community where creativity thrives, and dreams can flourish.

Monica Jeffries Hazangeles
President and CEO

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FY23 HIGHLIGHTS *July 2022–June 2023*

GOING DEEPER

CONNECTING ART, NATURE + COMMUNITY

In February 2023, Montgomery County-native and critically acclaimed jazz drummer Allison Miller brought her multisensory journey into the cultural and ecological life of our regional waterways, *Rivers in Our Veins*, to the Music Center at Strathmore. Blending jazz, tap dance, and visual storytelling, *Rivers in Our Veins* featured the musical stylings of Miller's band, Boom Tic Boom; expressive dancing by Claudia Rahardjanoto, Maleek Washington, Luke Hickey, and Gerson Lanza; and Todd Winkler's immersive video projections. This powerful performance not only explored the role rivers play in nature but also underscored their importance to human life and community connections.

Before the concert, patrons were invited to a thought-provoking panel discussion, "Critical Currents: The Life-Sustaining Rivers of the DMV," connecting Miller's artistic vision with environmental issues happening closer to home. Local riverkeepers delved into the health of the region's Anacostia and Potomac Rivers, examining the challenges of water pollution and the importance of conservation.

Miller further engaged with the wider community through a residency at Strathmore. During that time, she participated in interviews with local river experts, conducted an Artist in Residence workshop at our nightclub, AMP, and led a music workshop at her alma mater, Sherwood High School in Olney, Maryland.

Nearly **1,000** attendees at Windows events to dive deep before the concert.

9,740 visitors enjoyed the Mansion's art exhibitions, teas, and gift shop.

184 middle and high school students received tuition-free after-school music instruction through Bloom strings programs.

172 students benefitted from Strathmore's partnership with Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) through our high-dosage Bloom programs, including Step Up!, Spring Break Camp, Think Big Café, and our Arts and Social Justice Fellowship.



IT TAKES A VILLAGE

The dynamic dystopian opera *Parable of the Sower*, created by Toshi Reagon and Bernice Johnson Reagon, returned to the Concert Hall stage in June 2023 for an encore engagement. Inspired by Octavia E. Butler's acclaimed science fiction novel, the show tells the story of a community fighting to survive dire circumstances, with a thrilling score that draws from 200 years of African American music.

Building on our 2022 efforts to bring people together and elevate consciousness around the themes of the work, we introduced the Parable Village, a two-day community-driven marketplace. Participants like Montgomery County Public Libraries, Sankofa Video Books & Café, and Food Justice DMV gathered in the Lockheed Martin Lobby to share community-led solutions and strategies in the face of climate catastrophe, threatened resources, and systemic oppression.



Jim Saath



NEW PERSPECTIVES

This year, we presented 10 performances with accompanying programs as part of our Windows series, an initiative designed to inspire conversation and broaden our appreciation of diverse cultures and voices. For example, creation of art during conflict was the topic of discussion before Ukrainian quartet DakhaBrakha's performance, and an exploration of innovative approaches to South Asian music preceded *Love in Exile*, featuring Arooj Aftab, Vijay Iyer, and Shahzad Ismaili. These types of preshow events provide artists, activists, educators, and others platforms for the exchange of fresh perspectives.



Ceylon Mitchell



Ceylon Mitchell

NOURISHING ARTISTS

SUPPORTING THE CREATIVE PROCESS

In January 2023, we introduced AMPlify, an intensive residency program developed to support artists beyond the stage and gallery. Emphasizing growth and creation over performance, AMPlify offers working artists the time and space to concentrate on the creative process. Alongside free multi-day use of AMP for content development and rehearsals, the program provides compensation, travel and accommodations, and connections to our network of industry partners.

AMPlify also serves as an educational resource for our community of emerging artists, including Strathmore's Artists in Residence (AIR). Through open rehearsals and conversations with AMPlify artists, local artists on the rise gain insight into the process of composing new work and developing special projects.

Grammy-nominated composer Miho Hazama was AMPlify's inaugural participant. She used her residency to prepare for an upcoming recording project, which included nine hours of rehearsal with her 13-piece jazz chamber orchestra, m_unit. Hazama had never spent that much time rehearsing with her ensemble for a recording because the cost of working in New York City, her home base, was too expensive. The opportunity that AMPlify provided to focus solely on one project was a luxury, she explained.



JOURNEY TO THE TOP

A past Invitational Gallery artist, Emon Surakitkason, known for her bold black-and-white compositions, returned to Strathmore in the winter of 2023 to co-curate a selection of artwork from O Street Studio artists. This Mansion exhibition, titled *Here We Show Again*, celebrated the resilience of the artist community amidst pandemic challenges, providing a platform for artists at a time when there were few exhibition opportunities. Later that spring, Emon returned to showcase her large-scale mixed-media paintings in the solo exhibition, *Sorry About My Accent*.



NOURISHING PARTNER POTENTIAL

Our partnership with the Boulanger Initiative continued to thrive in 2023. Boulanger began offering curatorial services for our Music in the Mansion series, and Strathmore assumed the role of co-presenter for WoCo Fest, an annual event showcasing female and non-binary composers. To bolster Boulanger's expanding nonprofit efforts, Strathmore staff offered mentorship and provided office space in the Mansion, supporting the organization as it pursues greater stability and impact.

2,537 total artists—from students to professionals—performed on our stages and appeared in our galleries.

18th year of Strathmore's Artist in Residence (AIR) program provided mentorship and performance opportunities to a class of **6** rising artists, who performed **16** public concerts and led **6** free educational workshops.

550 student musicians in Maryland Classic Youth Orchestras of Strathmore performed **7** concerts at the Music Center.

140 student singers performed **2** Main Stage concerts as part of Strathmore Children's Chorus.



EXPANDING ACCESS

ARTS ARE FOR EVERYONE

In the FY23 season, Strathmore welcomed over 48,000 attendees to programs free of charge—representing 45% of our total attendance. By offering community access tickets for select Music Center performances, hosting free outdoor concerts on campus and at the Good Hope Neighborhood Recreation Center, presenting educational concerts for MCPS students, and never charging admission to visit our art openings and galleries, our doors were wide open to everyone in our community.



48,000 patrons experienced the arts at no cost through Strathmore. This includes **24,000** MCPS 2nd and 5th graders who attended free educational concerts at the Music Center, deepening their understanding of classical and blues music traditions.

340 students enjoyed free arts instruction at Silver Spring/Langley Park-area camps.



BLOOMING TOGETHER

In summer 2022, Strathmore partnered with YMCA Youth & Family Services and Linkages to Learning to offer quality arts-based summer programming for elementary-aged children in the Silver Spring and Takoma Park areas. These organizations, deeply rooted in the local community and schools, provide a range of essential services, such as counseling, immigration information, language support, and mental health resources. Through two camps, we helped bridge the gap between programming and community needs while fostering creativity and arts enrichment.

“This partnership is a shining example of what can be achieved when a school and a cultural institution come together with a shared vision of nurturing young minds and fostering a love for the arts.”

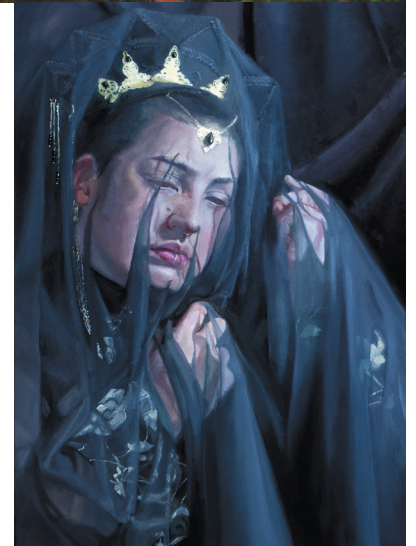
– Kristen Reza, Assistant Principal,
JoAnn Leleck Elementary School, Silver Spring

OPENING DOORS

In winter 2023, graduates of The Compass Atelier’s three-year, part-time Master Artist Program displayed their thesis work at the Mansion. The exhibition, which attracted record-breaking attendance of more than 500 visitors at its opening reception, featured a diverse array of compelling and deeply personal artwork, reflecting the artists’ dedication to artistic growth and proficiency in oil painting.



Congregants by Stewart



Enveloped by Kara Allen

FY23 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Production Income	\$3,576,170
Rental Income	\$3,080,977
Other Income	\$349,582
Contributed Revenue–Non Emergency	\$3,751,618
Investment Income	\$838,026
TOTAL REVENUE	\$11,596,373

Program Expenses	\$9,883,178
General and Administrative Expenses	\$1,799,837
Fundraising Expenses	\$870,352
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$12,553,367

Net Income (Before Emergency Funding)	(\$956,994)
Emergency Funding	\$2,066,056
Net Income (With Emergency Funding)	\$1,109,062*

*Amounts do not include in-kind goods and services.

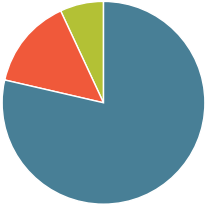
REVENUE

- Production Income
- Rental Income
- Other Income
- Contributed Revenue—Non Emergency



EXPENSES

- Program Expenses
- General & Administrative Expenses
- Fundraising Expenses



THANK YOU, DONORS & SUPPORTERS

Strathmore thanks the individuals and organizations who have made contributions between July 1, 2022, and June 30, 2023. Their gift of at least \$500 and continued commitment enables us to spotlight distinctive, dynamic, and diverse artistic voices on stage, on our gallery walls, and throughout our community.

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