



# ACRE *Year In Review*

Artists' Cooperative Residency, & Exhibitions

Annual  
Report

2022



# Artists' Cooperative Residency & Exhibitions

is an artist-run non-profit devoted to providing resources to emerging artists and nurturing a diverse community of cultural producers.



ACRE's Residency Program takes place every summer in the Driftless region of Southwest Wisconsin. Set on 1,000 acres of wetland, hills, and farmland, the residency hosts artists who live and work in a communal setting that includes expansive work spaces, mess hall kitchen, performance stage, and eight specialized studio areas.

Each year ACRE welcomes approximately 75 emerging artists of all disciplines to attend one of three 14-day residency sessions. A corresponding year-long program of exhibitions and events based in Chicago creates ongoing opportunities for idea exchange, feedback, and growth.

*"I felt fully seen,  
understood, loved  
and supported at  
ACRE and I learned  
oh-so-many things!"*

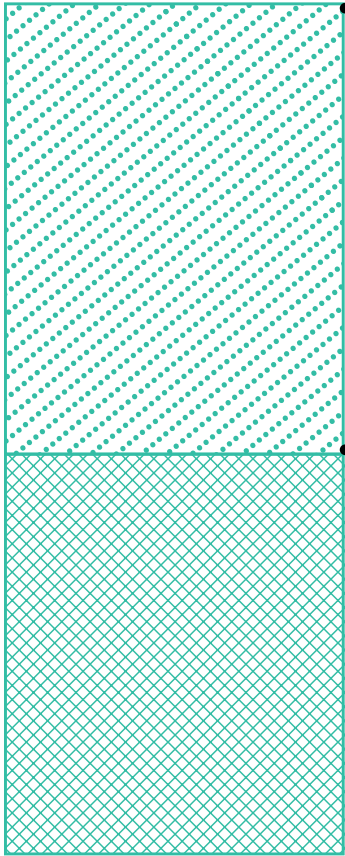
— Ruby Que,  
2022 Resident

*(Introduction Image)*  
The Steuben Lodge in morning  
sunlight during Session 1, 2022.  
Photo by Levi Shand.

*(Top Image)*  
Members of the collaborative  
Chair Piece during a 24-hour  
performance in the pasture during  
Session 1. Photo by Levi Shand.

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**56**  
Artists

Participated in the  
2022 Residency  
Program

**50**  
Alumni  
Volunteers

Led residency studios,  
offered workshops and  
demos, prepared meals,  
and collaborated with  
residents

**8**  
Studio  
Areas

Area Index

- 🔱 Ceramic
- 🔱 Fibers
- 🔱 Woodshop
- 🔱 High Fire
- 🔱 Screen Printing
- 🔱 A/V Tech
- 🔱 Sound
- 🔱 Performance Stage

**2**  
Weeks Per  
Session

**3**  
Residency  
Sessions



In 2022 we  
awarded **\$10,200**  
in scholarships.

*“ACRE is the  
most intentional  
and equitable  
residency I have  
ever attended”*

— 2022 Session 3  
Resident

(Top Image)  
Session 3 Resident Angelica Millan Lozano  
pulls screenprints in the ACRE Print Shack.  
Photo by Hannah Patterson.

(Bottom Image)  
Session 2 residents stretch and get ready for  
a group exercise led by Layla Marcelle and  
Zachary Hutchinson. Photo by Kate Bowen.

# Our *Exhibitions*

Program provides artists opportunities to expand their practice, develop professionally, and build community with a thriving nationwide network of peers and arts professionals.



**5**  
Exhibitions



*"I connected with great people and I felt that ACRE created the perfect conditions for creativity to flourish."*

— 2022 Session 3  
Resident

**21**  
Artists  
Presenting  
Work

**18**  
Public  
Programs

(Left Image)

Documentation of the exhibition *Kickin' The Can* curated by Anisa Olufemi and R. Treshawn Williamson. Featuring work by Jada-Amina, Jermaine Jet Carter, Ayana Zaire Cotton, Kenyssa Evans, Janelle Ayana Miller, Shala Miller, Breanna Robinson, Sydney Elexis Vernon, and R. Treshawn Williamson. ACRE Projects Gallery, May 6 – 28, 2022.

(Top Image)

Documentation of Johanna Winters' sculptures and performance objects in her exhibition *BAYTHUR*, April 1 – 22, 2022 at ACRE Projects Gallery. Photo by Kate Bowen

*ACRE Kitchen* provides healthy and creative meals while supporting sustainable food producers in the Driftless region of Wisconsin.

**Farm Partners**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Driftless Organics<br>2015 - present      | 7. St Brigid's Meadows<br>2016 - present |
| 2. Harmony Valley<br>2013 - present          | 8. Tortilleria Zepeda<br>2022 - present  |
| 3. Kickapoo Exchange Co-op<br>2013 - present |  |
| 4. Natural Direct<br>2014 - present          |  |
| 5. Pioneer Gardens Farm<br>2017 - present    |  |
| 6. Preston Valley Produce<br>2010 - present  |  |

*Past Partners:*

*Cedar Grove Cheese  
Circadian Organics  
The Cottage Baker  
Coulee View Family Farm  
Hazard Free Farm  
Hidden Springs Creamery  
Lange Farms*

*Local Foods  
The Lone Goat Farm  
Lonesome Stone Milling  
Nelson Trout Farm  
Spring Creek Cattle Co.  
Violet Dreams Bakery*



**126**  
Locally-Sourced  
Meals

**\$2,647**  
Cost of  
Meals  
Per Week

**11**  
Number of  
'Kadabra'  
cookbook  
volumes  
published

*"I found my time generative,  
expansive, beautifully vulnerable,  
full of starry nights, unexpected  
artistic collaborations and damn  
fine food."*

— Lois Bielefeld,  
2022 Resident

*(Image)*  
Session 3 residents and visitors chat  
over lunch in the ACRE Kitchen.  
Photo by Kate Bowen.

# The *Chicago Arts Census* is a comprehensive, cross-discipline data collection effort created by and for the arts workers of Chicago.

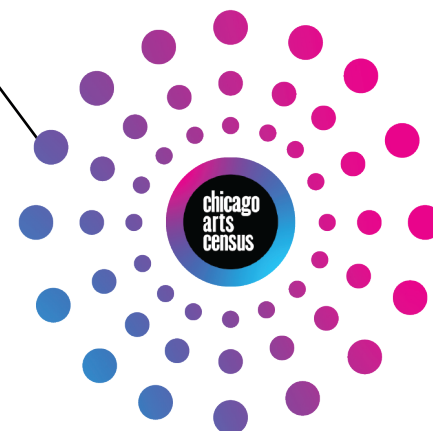
## 1st Chicago Arts Census

The Chicago Arts Census collects, maps, and visualizes data that illuminates the lived experiences and working conditions of arts workers in Chicago. The collected data will be translated into a series of maps, a website, a publication, and public programs that demonstrate

the interwoven and dependent relationships that make up Chicago's art ecosystem.

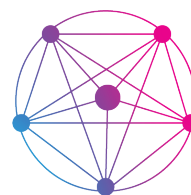
In the second phase of the project, we will focus on public programming to build coalition and developing actionable strategies.

**2,279**  
Survey  
Responses



ACRE Year In Review

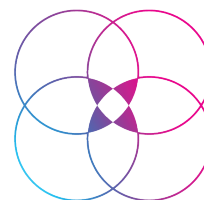
2022



**5**  
Committees

*“Personally, taking the Census deftly affirmed the axiom that self care and community care are inextricably linked and directly impact each other.”*

— Felicia Holman

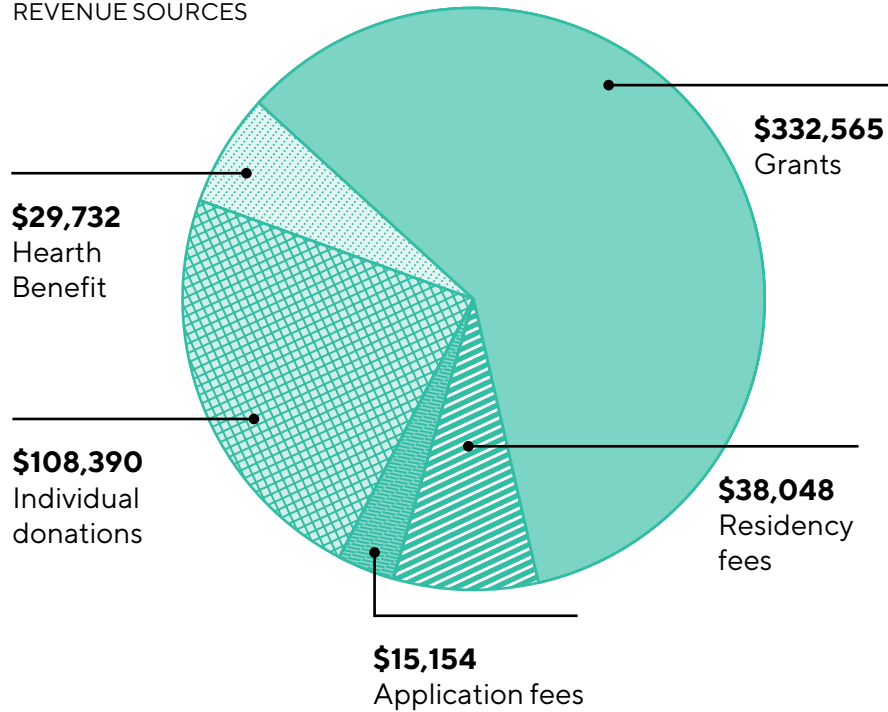


**4**  
Core  
Organizers

*(From “Radically Galvanizing Chicago’s Arts Worker Ecosystem, via Data” by Felicia Holman, March 30, 2022, Published by Sixty Inches From Center, part of a six-part series of commissioned articles for the Chicago Arts Census. Edited by Adia Sykes of Chicago Arts Census and Greg Ruffing of Sixty Inches From Center.)*

ACRE’s Executive Director Kate Bowen and The Chicago Arts Census featured in ***Newcity’s Art 50: Chicago’s Visual Vanguard.***

## REVENUE SOURCES



## PROGRAM FUNDERS

### Residency Program

- National Endowment for the Arts
- MacArthur Funds for Culture, Equity, and the Arts at the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation
- Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelley Foundation
- Illinois Arts Council Agency
- Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events
- Ruth Foundation for the Arts

### Chicago Arts Census

- Walder Foundation
- Arts Work Fund
- Builders Initiative
- Chrysalis Project supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and hosted by Fractured Atlas

### Annual Sponsorships

- Valerie Carberry and Richard Wright
- Document
- Other People's Pixels

### In-Kind Sponsors

- Exfolia Botanical
- Maison Ferrand
- All Together Now

## COST PER ARTIST

**\$700**  
Residency Fee

**\$1,784**  
Total Operating Cost Per Artist



(Left Image)  
The bathtub outside the ACRE Kitchen, a favorite spot for watching the sunset, taking a selfie, or private chats. Photo by Kate Bowen.



(Right Image)  
Members of the Session 1 Poetry Union perform poems for fellow residents and union members. Photo by Levi Shand.

*"I left ACRE feeling inspired and empowered because of the conversations I had with my peers."*

— Stephen Proski,  
2022 Resident



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