



WAYNE
CENTER
FOR THE ARTS

IMPACT REPORT



2025-2026

A LETTER TO OUR COMMUNITY

Dear Friends,

What a landmark year this has been for Wayne Center for the Arts!

Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of our donors, corporate sponsors, foundation partners, and community, we turned a bold vision into reality with the opening of our new Arts Park and FabLab. For more than fifty years we've witnessed firsthand how art enriches lives and strengthens communities. This year, that truth has become more visible than ever.

The Arts Park has quickly become a place where children explore, families gather, and neighbors connect. Inside the FabLab, people of all ages are discovering woodworking, glass arts, metalsmithing, and other hands-on creative experiences that have never before been publicly available in our region.

This summer also marked another exciting milestone with the launch of the Levitt AMP Wooster Music Series. Supported through a three-year grant from the Levitt Family Foundation, these free concerts have transformed Wednesday evenings into celebrations of community. Week after week, we've watched our lawn fill with neighbors, families, and friends enjoying great music and great company. It's been wonderful to see WCA become an even more vibrant gathering place in the heart of downtown Wooster.

As exciting as these milestones are, what inspires us most is what they represent. They are proof that when a community invests in the arts, everyone benefits. Every child discovering a new passion, every artist finding a place to create, every family enjoying a free concert, and every visitor exploring our campus is part of the legacy you have helped create.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to building on this momentum. We'll continue expanding educational opportunities, strengthening partnerships, presenting exceptional performances and exhibitions, and ensuring the arts are accessible to everyone.

Thank you for believing in our mission and for helping shape this remarkable chapter in WCA's story. We are honored to have you as partners in creating a more creative, connected, and vibrant community.



Sara Starr Brink
Executive Director



Reid Delaney
Incoming Board Chair



2025-26 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chris Pycraft
President

Jill Munro
Vice President

Sara Reith
Secretary

Reid Delaney
Co-Treasurer

Susan Marlar
Co-Treasurer

Joanna Martinez
Past President

Adam Briggs

Robin Carlton

Dr. Ryan Chenevey

Trevor Dunlap

Dr. James Gesler

Michael McClintock

Josh Nolan

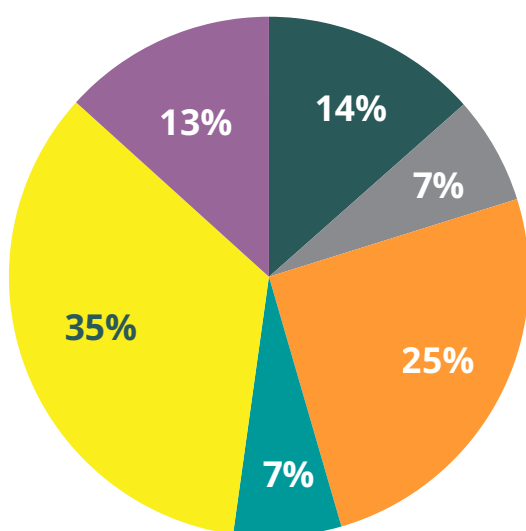
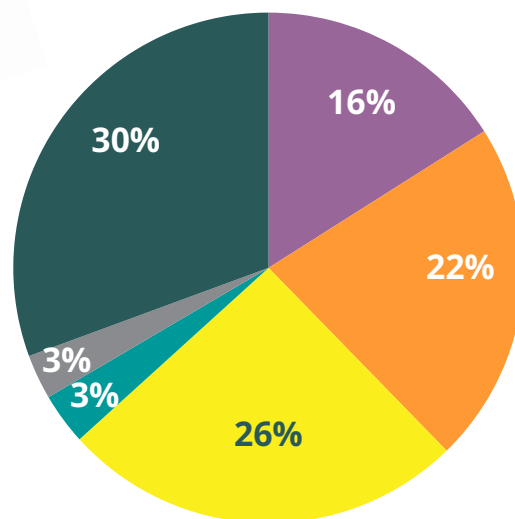
Sara L. Patton

**We extend our
gratitude to departing
board members**

Joanna Martinez
Susan Marlar

FY25-26 INCOME

Grants.....	\$190,642
Donations.....	\$258,205
Classes & Outreach.....	\$304,339
Events & Performances.....	\$38,909
Sales Commissions.....	\$33,844
Investment Income.....	\$364,388
TOTAL INCOME.....	\$1,190,327



FY25-26 EXPENSE

Program Materials & Expense.....	\$143,056
Artistic Staff & Instructors.....	\$371,170
Administrative Staff.....	\$272,563
Marketing & Fundraising.....	\$72,074
Occupancy Expense.....	\$144,931
Office Expense.....	\$72,060
TOTAL EXPENSE.....	\$1,075,854

OF SPECIAL NOTE

During the 2025-26 Fiscal Year, Wayne Center for the Arts engaged in a capital campaign to help fund the construction of our new Arts Park & FabLab. These financials do not represent the additional \$2.6 million in funds raised and infrastructure development.





A NEW CHAPTER BEGINS

After years of planning, fundraising, design, and construction, Wayne Center for the Arts proudly celebrated the opening of the Ralph R. and Grace B. Jones Arts Park and the FabLab for Creativity & Innovation, made possible by The Seaman Family Foundation and Seaman Corporation—a transformational project that expands arts access, strengthens our community, and creates new opportunities for innovation for generations to come.

Hundreds of community members joined us for the grand opening celebration. Families explored the accessible playground and Harmony Garden, visitors toured the new FabLab, and aspiring makers created fused glass artwork during hands-on demonstrations. The event reflected exactly what this project was intended to be: a welcoming place where people of all ages gather, learn, create, and connect.



Pictured above: The official groundbreaking of the Arts Park and FabLab, featuring (left to right) Heather Dean, Wayne Holmes Mental Health and Recovery Board; Joel Montgomery, City of Wooster; Brian Bogner, Bogner Corp.; Sara Brink, WCA Executive Director; Chris Pycraft, WCA Board President; Matt Long, Ralph R. and Grace B. Jones Foundation

The Arts Park has already become a vibrant community destination. Children have embraced the playground as their own, and visitors are discovering a new creative gathering space in the heart of downtown Wooster. Designed with accessibility at its core, the park features inclusive play elements, accessible musical instruments, and pathways that invite everyone to participate.



CHAMPIONED BY THE COMMUNITY



**Ground-Breaking
October 2025**

**\$2.6 million
capital campaign**



**14 foundations
272 individual donors
11 corporate partners
3 public funding partners**

**Ribbon-Cutting
June 2026**



Inside, the FabLab represents an exciting new chapter for Wayne Center for the Arts. Purpose-built for fabrication arts, the facility introduces students and adults to woodworking, welding, metalworking, glass, enameling, and other creative technologies while fostering problem-solving, craftsmanship, and innovation. The community response has been immediate, with introductory workshops filling quickly and additional classes added to meet demand.

This remarkable project would not have been possible without the vision, generosity, and collaboration of so many individuals, businesses, foundations, government partners, volunteers, and community organizations. Together, they have created far more than a building and a park—they have created a place where creativity flourishes, neighbors connect, and the arts continue to enrich lives and strengthen our community.



JOINING THE LEVITT FAMILY

Over 1,300 attendees and growing!

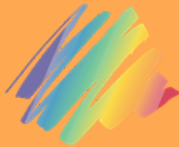


Wayne Center for the Arts was proud to become part of the national Levitt network in 2026 with the launch of the Levitt AMP Wooster Music Series. Through this partnership, WCA joined communities across the country in using free, live music to bring people together, activate public spaces, and create welcoming places to gather. In 2026 alone, the Levitt Family Foundation is supporting more than 900 free concerts in over 90 towns and cities nationwide. National and Internationally touring acts graced the stage as the WCA front lawn became THE place to be on Wednesday nights in the summer!

SERIES PARTNERS



LEVITT
FAMILY FOUNDATION



Wooster Color Point
Print Marketing Company



WVIZ WKSU WCLV JazzNEO



WOOSTER
RECREATION

"Every single act you brought in this year has been two-fold over the quality I expect from a local music series like this. Ya'll have really nailed it and I hope it continues for many, many years. Really a feather in our little town's cap."





INSPIRE

Inspiration happens when we encounter something that moves us—a remarkable performance, a new artistic experience, or the encouragement to try something we never thought we could do. WCA creates those moments for people of all ages, sparking curiosity, confidence, and a lifelong connection to the arts.



"I felt like more comfortable than ever in an art class and a lot of that stems from the generous, warm way that we were encouraged to try different techniques and to push ourselves out of our comfort zone in a good way."



CREATE

Creativity grows when people have the opportunity, encouragement, and space to explore. Through hands-on learning and meaningful artistic experiences, WCA helps people of all ages develop new skills, build confidence, express themselves, and discover what they are capable of creating.



76

Free Art
Classes in
Wooster AND
Orrville

"There are very few oil painting classes in Wayne and surrounding counties. The fact that WCA offers oil painting classes at an affordable price, in a community setting, on an ongoing basis is a BIG deal for our community. Lacey is a wonderful and very talented teacher and we in Wayne County are lucky to have both WCA and Lacey in our community."



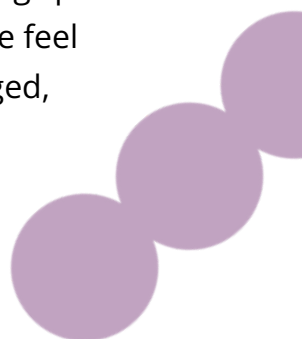
\$2.6+ Million

in economic
development and
reinvestment



CONNECT

Art creates connection—between students and teachers, among neighbors, and across organizations working toward a stronger community. By creating welcoming spaces and shared experiences where people feel supported, valued, and encouraged, WCA helps foster relationships, reduce isolation, and build a deeper sense of belonging.



FIGURES THAT MULTIPLY

7,000+ youth served annually through arts-access and education programs that remove barriers and build confidence

12,000+ visitors and touchpoints annually via classes in our historic building and outreach in the community

100% Positive Interactions between instructors and students and peer-to-peer during Community Outreach Programming based on instructor and partner organization feedback.

86% of participants report stronger social connections, reducing isolation and supporting youth well-being



PROGRAM PARTNERS

Jean H. Baird Memorial
Fund for the Arts

Kathryn G. Freed Fund

Laura B. Frick
Charitable Trust

Charles E. Loehr Trust

The Robert and Esther Black Family
Foundation and Fund of the

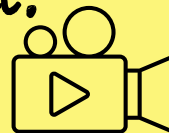


HEALING THROUGH ART



This year, Wayne Center for the Arts was honored to be featured by Ideastream Public Media's *Applause* in a story highlighting our partnership with OneEighty and the healing power of the arts in addiction recovery. The feature explored how pottery provides participants with opportunities to build confidence, process trauma, embrace imperfection, and rediscover hope through creative expression. We are grateful to our partners at OneEighty for their collaboration and to Ideastream for helping share the transformative impact of the arts with audiences across Ohio.

WATCH HERE!



THANK YOU, SUPPORTERS

Our Circles of Giving supporters make arts access and education possible throughout the year. From classes and outreach programs to performances, community events, and opportunities for connection, your generosity reaches across everything we do. Thank you for making a lasting impact through the arts.

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

Ralph R. and Grace B. Jones Foundation

CRITCHFIELD

BENEFACTOR CIRCLE

Carol Briggs

Steve & Cheryl Shapiro



Bogner Construction Company
Since 1897

JARRETT®
LOGISTICS | TRANSPORTATION | WAREHOUSING | FLEET

PATRON CIRCLE

Vikki and Adam Briggs

Kathryn G. Freed

Kenneth Shafer

Tim and Jenny Smucker

The Willard E. Smucker Foundation



BRIGGS & STARR
WEALTH MANAGEMENT

MARIOLA
ITALIAN
FOR SPAGHETTI & PIZZA PIE

THE
CITY
SQUARE
STEAKHOUSE



McClintock
ELECTRIC, INC.

RIVERVIEW
INDUSTRIAL WOOD
PRODUCTS

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

Greg and Darby Buehler

Robin Carlton

Scott and Barb Friedhoff

Greg and Kathy Long

Matt Long and Lynette Mattson

Michael and Robyn McClintock

Sara Patton

Amy Reardon and Mike Huddleston

Harry & Kathy Zink

The logo for Bell Stores features a cartoon dog's head inside a red square.
BellStores



BUCKEYE OIL
PRODUCING CO.

CSB
The Commercial
& Savings Bank



The logo for Meaden & Moore features a blue 'M' icon.
MEADEN & MOORE

INTERNET / TV / PHONE
MeTV
We go the extra smile.

The logo for Seaman Corporation features a stylized blue 'S' icon.
Seaman Corporation

The logo for Weaver Custom Homes features a stylized 'W' icon.
WEAVER CUSTOM HOMES



The logo for Wooster Community Hospital Health System features a stylized blue 'W' icon.
Wooster Community Hospital
HEALTH SYSTEM

The logo for Wooster Eye Center features a stylized blue eye icon.
Wooster
Eye Center

NEIGHBOR CIRCLE

Brian and Amy Bogner - Nancy Bogner - Doug and Joy Drown -

Jim & Lana Gesler - Patricia Mathews & Douglas Eck -

Mike and Beth Meenan - Julie Mennes - Jan Steinbrenner -

Janet Welty

The logo for Hummel features a stylized orange sun icon.
Hummel

The logo for Main Street Bank features a blue shield icon.
Main
Street
Bank

The logo for Miller Custom Exteriors features a stylized green 'M' icon.
Miller
CUSTOM EXTERIORS

Sustainability funding provided by

Ohio Arts
COUNCIL





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Tiffany Leeper, Director of Development
tiffany@wayneartscenter.org

WAYNEARTSCENTER.ORG