



# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

## ADVOCATE | SUPPORT | NURTURE

THE MEDINA COUNTY

**ARTS**  
COUNCIL

The Medina County Arts Council, along with our friends and partners, is committed to inspiring each generation to experience and participate in the arts through outreach, promotions and enriching the quality of life, and celebrating our artistic heritage. We strive to make art accessible to all people throughout Medina County and to advocate for all forms of artistic expression essential to building vibrant, diverse, and inclusive communities. We encourage education, career opportunities, and entrepreneurship in the arts, and we will continue to sustain and grow the organization.





**“Great things are done by a series of small things brought together.”**

**– Vincent Van Gogh**

Since 1983, The Medina County Arts Council (MCAC) has worked to promote creativity and build community excellence by advocating for, supporting, and nurturing the Arts in Medina County.

MCAC focuses on providing philanthropic support and increased awareness to all art disciplines and the variety of talent that exists throughout the county.

Our board of trustees includes art teachers, arts professionals, and community leaders whose passion is to encourage each of us to pursue the arts as a life endeavor or a journey of self expression.

*The MCAC Board developed this strategy to assist in the pursuit of the arts in these focus areas:*

### **Advocate for Artists and Arts Organizations**

- Provide grants to local community organizations
- Promote local arts activities and events
- Position the arts as a valuable community asset

### **Support the Arts in Medina County**

- Sponsor Arts Week annually as a free event across Medina County featuring local artists
- Partner with Medina County Show Biz Company and Medina County Historical Society to honor local history and raise funds by presenting Spirits of the Past reenactments
- Reward and celebrate local artists and arts organizations with Service to the Arts Awards

### **Nurture the Youth with Arts Programs**

- Provide annual scholarships to graduating seniors
- Provide tools for teachers to support arts education
- Provide educational arts activities for children

In our third annual report, we celebrate the talented and generous people of Medina County who along with us, strive to bring the arts to everyone!

Kelly Parks  
MCAC President

## **Celebration of the Arts**

### **40th Annual Arts Week Festival**

MCAC hosted Arts Week from July 8-16, a celebration of local performances and arts activities in Medina, Homerville, Brunswick, Lodi, Sharon Center, Granger, Wadsworth, Valley City and Seville.

Musical performances were enjoyed all week across the county from Jazz Under the Stars (ORMACO); Live at the Library with Megan Sullivan (ORMACO); Music at the Lodge: Circle of Friends; Lodi Music Students Recital; Sarah’s Violin Studio and Medina High Choral/Harmony Helpers at 40th Birthday Celebration of the Arts; Medina Community Band & Medina Chorus combined concert; and Medina’s Got Talent.

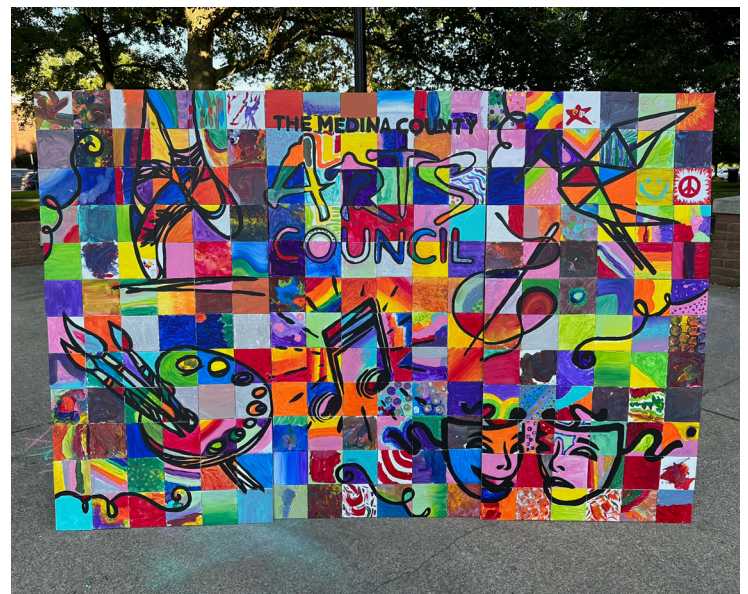
Musical workshops such as African Drumming at the Brunswick Library and Hearts for Music at the Medina Library were attended all week.

Local artists, crafters and vendors were supported at the Evergreen Artists Exhibit, Mill Street Makers’ Market, Medina Square Farmers Market, The Marketplace at Heartland Church, and Art in the Park.

Interactive art activities were made accessible for all ages, learning how to make watercolor postcards, knit and crochet workshop, jungle themed crafts, paper pinwheels, finger painting, tie dye bandanas, and denim/shirt bleaching.

Theatrical performances were carried out by Medina County Show Biz Co. and Ohio Youth Ensemble Stage at the 40th Birthday Celebration, and The Wadsworth Footlighters - Finding Nemo Jr. production.

A Teen Writers Group was hosted at Brunswick Library to inspire our future writers.



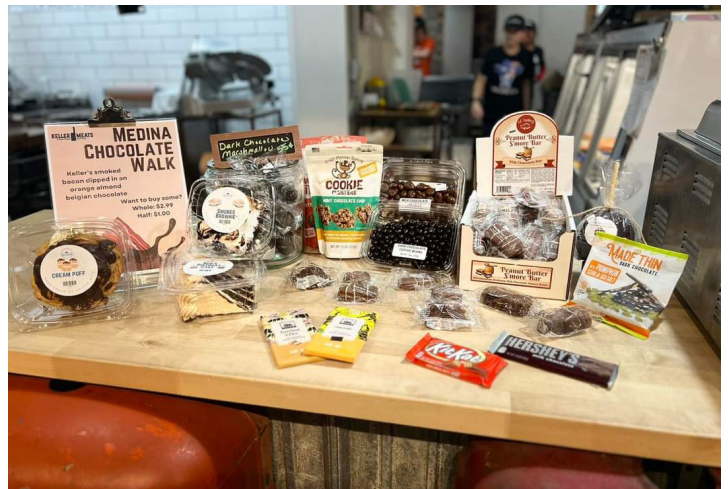






## Second Annual Chocolate Walk

Participants walked Medina's Public Square to visit local businesses for chocolate treats on Sweetest Day. Proceeds raised from the Chocolate Walk helped MCAC continue to provide grants to Medina County educators, art programs, and scholarships for graduating seniors who have excelled in the arts.



## A Walk with Spirits of the Past

For more than 20 years, the Medina County Arts Council has co-sponsored Spirits of the Past, the dramatic history walk featuring Medina's Historic Square, in cooperation with The Medina County Historical Society and Medina County Show Biz Co.



## 2023 MCAC Scholarship Recipients

We were able to increase our awards from \$3,000 to \$4,000 because of our generous donors.



**Adam Kennedy**  
**Brunswick High School**  
**\$1,000**

Adam will be attending the Baldwin Wallace University Conservatory of Music to study Music Education. He plans to teach choir or orchestra to grade levels 6-12 in a public school.



**Abigail Huml**  
**Highland High School**  
**\$1,000**

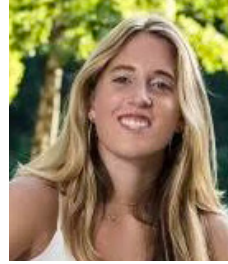
Abigail will be attending Kent State University to major in Graphic Arts. She intends to pursue a career in graphic design or a related field.



**Faith Rawlins**  
**Medina High School**  
**\$500**

Faith plans to attend Baldwin Wallace University and plans to study Music Composition. She wants to be a music composer for movies, television shows, and any

other media that contains music. She hopes to work with computer technology and live orchestras and bands to create music pieces that bring her creative ideas to life.



**Nicole Rawlins**  
**Medina High School**  
**\$500**

Nicole will be attending Baldwin Wallace University and will be majoring in both Theater and Psychology in hopes of acting and directing her own productions in the future. She also wants to be able to help others with her degrees and continue her study of the arts in the future.



**Christina Chen**  
**Wadsworth High School**  
**\$500**

Christina will attend Boston University to major in Advertising and Marketing. She plans to blend the creative fields of Art and Design with Psychology, which is another one of her interests.

In the same way people are moved by viewing artwork, she wants to move or persuade others with ads.



**Sara Render**  
**Cloverleaf High School**  
**\$500**

Sara will attend the Cleveland Institute of Art where she will study Illustration. She plans to share her art and story around the world with commissions and merchandise.

## 2023 MCAC Educator Grant Recipients

The total grant funds provided this year for Educator Grants totals to \$1,600.



**Kristy Handlin, Cloverleaf Elementary,**  
**\$400**

Young Authors and Illustrators - 200 first grade students will learn different types of writing: narrative, informational, and opinion. They will write their own fictional or informational story and illustrate it. They will have their very own book to keep and share at the end.



**Samantha Quallich, Wadsworth Middle School, \$400**

Our First Microphone for Recordings - 300 students will record themselves through the use of technology. Choir students will use the microphone to record and listen to themselves, and the general music students will record their group STOMP compositions.



**SACRED HEART OF JESUS** PARISH & SCHOOL

**Theresa Gorbach, Sacred Heart of Jesus School, Wadsworth, \$400**

Arts Based Enrichment Electives - 230 students will be educated in a variety of arts education. From learning a new instrument, exposure to ceramics, to theater and vocal instruction, these students will have an exposure to many disciplines to learn to become creative thinkers.



**Andrea Risenhoover, Blake Elementary School, Medina, \$400**

Play and Explore Color-Changing Light Center - 425 students will be able to experiment with light, color mixing, color theory and problem-solving strategies using this portable LED light table.

## 2023 MCAC Organization Grant Program Recipients

Awarded a total of \$5,000 to county organizations with an arts-centered focus or arts related projects.



**Wadsworth Community Radio 97.1 FM & On the Web** – For production and airing of Wadsworth schools and Wadsworth Community Band Christmas programs.



**Buckeye Community Theatre** – To cover the cost of musical scripts for actors and directors for the production of “Legally Blonde” - open to all county students.



**Medina Chorus** – For operating expenses to include purchase of music, director and accompanist fees, rehearsal and performance hall rental.



**Hope Recovery Community** – For funds to be used to hire a Peer Recovery Art Specialist to oversee Art of Recovery programming for adults and children impacted by addiction.



**Planet Joy Studio/Peaceworks** – To support operating costs such as supplies to help empower artists to expand their creativity skills and art mediums.



**Integrated Community Solutions** – To pay for a guest artist instructor once a month for one year for this organization that provides programming for children, teens and adults living with developmental disabilities.



**Medina Community Band** – To provide operating expenses for the costs of presenting 8-10 concerts a year.



**Main Street Wadsworth/Downtown Wadsworth** – To secure the services of a professional artist who will design and create an art mural in downtown Wadsworth.



## A Year to Remember

The Medina County Arts Council Trustees thank you for supporting the arts in Medina County. Your generosity has helped to make a difference for many budding artists and arts organizations over the years. Your engagement with local arts professionals and your attendance at local arts events has helped to improve our quality of life in Medina County. Because of the support like yours, the Medina County Arts Council had an amazing year! Here are some highlights of what we've accomplished in 2023:

### Arts Education – Jane Back, Chair

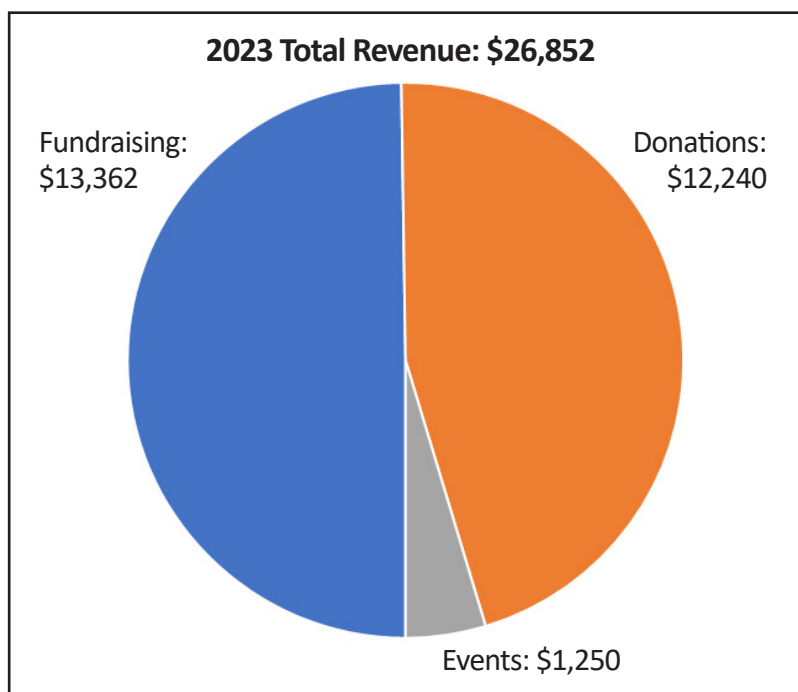
- Awarded \$4,000 in scholarships to four high school students in Medina County
- Awarded \$1,600 in grants to arts teachers for student arts programs in Medina County
- Sponsored several arts workshops in the local parks during our 40th Annual Arts Week Celebration and throughout the year in Medina County

### Community Outreach – Linda Loveless, Chair

- Awarded over \$5,000 in grants to organizations with an arts-centered focus or arts-related projects in Medina County
- Held the 40th Annual Arts Week Celebration from July 8-16 across nine communities
- Artists/Arts Organizations' Advocacy
- Community Partnerships
- Continued to share and promote local arts and arts organizations events and activities in Medina County
- Unveiled the MCAC & Medina Hardware Community Window Art Gallery to display work from local artists

### Development – Kelly Butler, Chair

- Donor Campaigns raised funds to help support 2024 programs
- Raised funds for Arts/Community Foundation Grants during our 2nd Annual Chocolate Walk event
- Partnered with community groups in local events to raise funds for the arts



### 2023 MCAC Officers

Kelly Parks, *President*

Abigail Sweigert, *Vice President*

Kelly Butler, *Treasurer*

Jane Back, *Secretary*

2023 MCAC Board of Trustees:

Sarah Bullington, Janet George, Christal Kaple, Mike Kovack, Linda Loveless, and Sheila Noel

### Special Thanks

We owe much gratitude to Linda Loveless for her long-time commitment to Medina County's arts community. Her leadership has expanded past the eight years involved as a trustee for Medina County Arts Council and we are grateful for her unwavering talents. By leaving the board as a trustee, the value she adds will be greatly missed, but we are thankful for her continued involvement in the board's outreach committee as we enter 2024.

We thank our outgoing trustees Jeff Young, Yvonne Sivard and Kelly Harrison for their commitment to volunteering, their work with development, and outreach in our county's arts community.

We honor the life of retired teacher and past board member, Jill Morton, who passed away in 2023. She was awarded the Service to the Arts award in 2021 for her tireless work in the community supporting the arts, planning children's art classes, art shows, and events. She will be deeply missed.

## Our 2023 Donors

### Platinum Level - \$500+

Julie Keener  
Mark & Kelly Butler  
Murray VanEpp  
Ann Cole & Bob Smith  
Gary & Mary Baker  
William & Sue Van Epp

### Gold Level - \$250-499

Sarah Ingraham  
Clampco - Linda Venner  
Herb & Mary Marquis  
Dinah Wright  
Medina County District Library  
Doug & Missy Williams  
Edmund & Dinah Wright

### Silver Level - \$100-249

Michael Sprowls  
Elaine & Bill Lamb  
Elizabeth Sprowls  
Christalyn Kaple  
Marcus L. Neiman  
Victoria Druley  
Arnold & Cheri Ingraham  
Barbara Foy  
Bice Pauline Bittner  
Georgia Loutzenhiser  
Judith Parish  
Patricia Cox  
Paulette Grubb  
Pete & Syd Benson  
Roger & Smalley  
Shelley Malkin  
Susanne Apple  
Victoria Eberhart

### Bronze Level - \$50-99

Jane Back  
Deborah Skidmore  
Keith Holliday  
Todd Power  
Jennifer Brenner  
David & Eleanor Smith  
David Vasquez  
Doris & Richard Christy  
Howard Hall  
Katie Power  
Kelly Jadach  
Lucy Sondles  
Medina Show Biz Co  
Theresa Laffey & Walt Berry  
William Eligott

### Friends of the Arts - \$49 and under

Carol Thombs  
Ruth Rodgers  
Helen Graf  
Rachael Hall  
Allayne Reese  
Barbara Ortiz  
Brian & Carole Feron  
Chet & Jan Simmons  
Cynthia White  
Dan & Amy Hostetler  
John Bingle  
Lynne Herrke  
Marie Longacre  
Suzanne Hawley  
William Oberli  
William Thombs  
Abigail Sweigert  
Alex Hitch  
Joan Samkow

Julie Gililand  
Kathleen Dickason  
Lynda Nussman  
Sarah Zona  
Marsha Pappalardo  
Kelly Horvath

### Sprowls Memorial Fund

Patricia Hofstetter  
Thomas Sprowls

### In Memory of Jill Morton

Linda Loveless  
Judith Parish  
Theresa Laffery

### Event Sponsors

Foster's Tavern of Hinckley - \$500  
Medina County Convention and Visitors Bureau - \$500  
Medina County Showbiz Co.- \$410  
Medina Centre for Dance Art - \$400  
Berry's Blooms - \$150  
Sweets & Geeks - \$150  
Medina County District Library - \$150  
Buehler's Fresh Foods - \$50



# Thank You!

## All the ways you can make a donation today:

1. Visit [medinacountyartscouncil.org/join-support](http://medinacountyartscouncil.org/join-support)
2. Mail a check payable to "Medina County Arts Council" at PO Box 532, Medina, OH 44258
3. Scan the QR code with your camera's phone.

Your donation is fully tax deductible.

