Thank you for reading our Community Report, covering our recent work at Springboard for the Arts. At Springboard, our vision is for a future where artists, culture bearers, and creative workers are essential to creating just and equitable local economies and more human-centered systems. These interdependent parts of our vision create an ecosystem of support for culture and creative work. The last two years have been a kind of horrible validation of the need for this ecosystem and the lack of it in many places. More and more, people are understanding the fragility of artists’ livelihoods and the compounding emergency of inequity as artists and their communities continue to be impacted by multiple crises.
The last two years have also made clear that in order for communities to benefit from the contributions that artists can make to a more human, equitable, and just future, life as an artist must be more sustainable and more equitable. Springboard’s work over the last two years has been focused both on intense amounts of short-term emergency relief, and on developing the longer-term system change we need to alleviate future crises. To help guide us on this path, we developed a new strategic framework for our work and updated our mission statement to better reflect our work.

Amongst this work, we have also honored important milestones for Springboard for the Arts. We entered our 30th year as a nonprofit organization, which is possible entirely because of the creativity, tenacity, and commitment of thousands of artists, volunteers, supporters, mentors, friends, and partners. In 2021, we celebrated the 10th anniversary of our Fergus Falls office. Springboard’s work in Fergus Falls and in building resources and opportunities for rural artists has extended our depth of understanding and commitment to finding and illuminating the ways that small towns, rural places, and urban neighborhoods can find commonality and solidarity. Last October, we officially opened our new home on University Avenue in Saint Paul, a hub for artists, community, and creative people power. This space makes so many of Springboard’s values tangible and provides us with a new way to support our neighborhood and the many ways that artists and culture bearers can bring people together, make meaning, and create change.

I could not be more grateful to the staff, board, partners, and supporters of Springboard. There are no words for how much your support, investment, and faith in our work mean to me.

Laura Zabel
Executive Director
Over the past two years, our communities have faced multiple crises and traumas, including the COVID-19 pandemic, the murder of George Floyd, and the uprising and demand for racial justice. Throughout these crises, art and artists have provided the means to connect, to express grief and joy, to comfort and soothe, and help imagine new and more just futures.
In the moment of crisis, we had the muscle to react, using our long-standing **Emergency Relief Fund** to raise and distribute dollars to artists, creative workers, and culture bearers in Minnesota. What started as a $10,000 investment from our general operating funds on March 13, 2020 turned into a fundraiser across the state, and thanks to the generosity of individual donors, foundations, and businesses, to date we have been able to raise and distribute almost $1.4M to 2,799 Minnesota artists, creative workers, and culture bearers. This would not have happened without people stepping up to see the essential value of artists making a living and a life—thank you!

Springboard also worked to support communities across the country to start their own Emergency Relief Funds. We began by creating and sharing a field guide for starting a Relief Fund that was shared over 900 times, and convening national gatherings on the process and practice of creating Emergency Relief Funds. These calls hosted 172 leaders from around the country, and supported fund distribution to artists nationally. We partnered with Racing Magpie, The Arts Partnership, ImagineMKE, CultureSource, and the CrossHatch Center for Art & Ecology to raise and distribute funds through the Upper Midwest Emergency Relief Fund Coalition. These funds supported 729 artists across the region through locally rooted and relevant processes, demonstrating how connected network hubs can make a big impact by disseminating resources where they are needed most.

The arts and culture sector has been hit disproportionately hard by the pandemic. People’s livelihoods for the year disappeared in a matter of days as performances, commissions, teaching jobs, and other opportunities were canceled. These losses are not only economic but also represent a significant loss of creative work and opportunity. Two years in, the creative sector is coming back more slowly than the economy as a whole and the National Endowment for the Arts reports that the unemployment rate for artists is still twice what it was two years ago.
In addition to direct relief work for artists, we know that artists needed and wanted to bring their creative skills to address and engage the issues facing their communities. To address urgent community needs, we have supported artists’ projects through our Artists Respond program. This series builds on our core work of engaging artists in community, and has provided outlets and opportunities for creative action.

Artists Respond: On Plywood supported Black artists in creating messages and responses to the uprisings on University Avenue in St. Paul and hosted community members to engage with and participate in these expressions of grief, rage, pride and hope.

Artists Respond: Combating Social Isolation supported over 80 artists across Minnesota to bring people together and reach vulnerable communities in the depths of the pandemic, supporting outdoor concerts, coloring kits, and zines.

Artists Respond: Equitable Rural Futures brought together a cohort of artists who are Black, Indigenous, and/or People of Color from rural Minnesota to tell their own stories of what it means to live in rural America.

Artists Respond: People, Place, and Prosperity created a cohort of artists in St. Paul to support storytelling and share the impact of Guaranteed Income on residents of the city.

All these projects have brought people together to make meaning and connection during incredibly difficult times and demonstrate the power of artists to bridge difference, imagine better futures and connect us to our neighbors.
“I am so grateful to Springboard for providing this relief fund—not just for myself, but for the health of our community and artists. I’ve been lucky enough to maintain my teaching income during this time, but all my gigs for the foreseeable future are canceled, and my financial plans took a significant hit. Receiving funds has allowed me to stay solvent as we navigate uncertain times.”

– Emergency Relief Fund Recipient
Springboard’s national work has grown over the past decade, fueled by our commitment to openly sharing toolkits and resources, our expansion of virtual workshops and trainings, and consulting to support other sectors and communities to collaborate with artists. Over the past two years we have expanded our work to take the programs and offerings we’ve developed in Minnesota so that we can share them nationally, finding new ways to lead the national conversation about the impact of artists.

Part of this work is to ensure that artists are represented in the broader work around economic justice and system change. In April 2021 we launched our Guaranteed Income for Artists pilot, supporting 25 artists in the Frogtown & Rondo neighborhoods in St. Paul with $500 a month in guaranteed income for 18 months. Supported by the McKnight, Bush and Kresge Foundations, our pilot sits alongside the City of St. Paul’s People’s Prosperity Pilot and is one of the first in the nation focusing on the creative sector. Our goal for this work is to demonstrate the impact of guaranteed income on creative work, local economies, and neighborhood culture and to demonstrate that artists can be powerful partners in movements for economic justice. We also engaged a cohort of artists in the narrative change work around the impact of guaranteed income because we believe that artists should be both participants in and important contributors to these kinds of system change efforts.

“Having a little comfort means I can get back to creating. Before, it felt like I couldn’t create unless it was generating income, like I couldn’t justify it.”

– Guaranteed Income for Artists Pilot Participant
We are in a moment when we urgently need artists, culture bearers, and creative workers who can help us envision and build a future of justice, health and wholeness. And we know that many leaders in public agencies and community organizations would like to collaborate with artists on their work but often don’t have the resources or confidence to find and partner with their creative community. To address this need, we are offering Art-Train, a national training program developed in partnership with the Center for Performance and Civic Practice. Art-Train offers training for individual artists on how to partner with community members, organizations, and local governments, and offers training to those organizations and government agencies to work with artists. Over 1,100 artists and community leaders have participated in Art Train so far and are working on strategies to help business districts come back to life, change narratives around economic justice, and improve mental health and social connections in their communities.

“I can’t thank you enough for the incredible space that is Art-Train! So many groups could benefit from participating because it’s so accessible, especially to those new to working with artists, and just need some onboarding to the ways artists can serve communities.”

- Geneva Vest, Community Strategies Program Manager, Trust for Public Land

Our national work is rooted in our commitment to make tools for artists that are widely usable, shareable, and replicable, as we strive to create an ecosystem of support for creative people with as few barriers as possible. In 2020, we released an updated version of our core Work of Art: Business Skills for Artists curriculum, which has been used in our workshops and replicated across the country. We also launched the Handbook for Artists Working in Community, a practical, artist-centered guide for artists to effectively engage in community projects and spark change through their work. These toolkits have been downloaded over 3,500 times over the past 2 years, continuing to expand Springboard’s impact across the country.

“I love how they are spiral bound and have water proof, thick covers. Brilliant forethought for getting into messy artist hands or to be near that cup of tea.”

- Workbook Reader
In addition to these practical resources, we have also put our energy into making sure that artists and culture bearers are represented in national conversations around relief and recovery.

Executive Director Laura Zabel participated as a member of the Arts Commission of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, chairing the Arts and Economic Development work that led to the 2021 report *Art is Work*. The report and its policy recommendations for more equitable support for artists and creative workers was the topic of a Congressional briefing and Bloomberg Citylab editorial.
“Change is an act of creation, and that’s what artists do: Through a process of imagining, trying and building, artists create experiences that connect us to our own agency and power. We are in a moment when we urgently need these artists, culture bearers and creative workers who can help us envision and build a future of justice, health and wholeness.”

- Laura Zabel for Bloomberg City Lab
INVESTING IN ARTISTS’ WORK

Springboard for the Arts’ work has always been about supporting artists with the tools and resources to make a living and a life. These services have filled a particularly critical need over the past two years.

We have continued to deliver workshops, technical assistance, and resources to artists and creative entrepreneurs:

402 WORKSHOPS
10,777 PARTICIPANTS
581 ONE-ON-ONE CONSULTATIONS
27 ARTIST CAREER CONSULTANTS

Our workshops and consultations are designed to be as accessible to as many people as possible, often underwritten by partners and donor support so that we can offer these services at low or no cost. Demand for this work has exploded over the last two years, which has demonstrated how precarious the creative economy is, and how necessary it is to include artists and creative businesses in work towards more just economies. We are grateful to have partnered with the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, Hennepin and Ramsey Counties, and the City of Minneapolis to deliver technical assistance over the past two years.

“I felt empowered and good about my work. I felt affirmation and clear steps in how I want to try and get into the fine art world.”

– Artist Career Consultation Review

“Thoroughness, patience, rapport, expertise.”

– Artist Career Consultation Review

“I think I just leveled up.”

– Handbook for Artists Working in Community workshop participant
Springboard continues to find ways to deepen investment in artists across the region. Our 3-year 20/20 Fellowship pilot has evolved into the Creative Economy Fellowship, which supports a cohort of artists in Minnesota who are Black, Native, and/or People of Color, recognizing their work building platforms and opportunities for artists. Fellows receive a year-long cohort experience and an unrestricted $10,000 stipend, which helps support their leadership in our creative ecosystem.

Funded by Bush Foundation, Springboard relaunched the Creative Community Leadership Institute in 2019, in partnership with Racing Magpie. CCLI creates learning and connection opportunities for artists, community organizers, and creative leaders across Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and the 23 Native Nations that share that geography, and we are honored to continue the legacy of this program. Despite the pandemic, the first cohorts were able to be completed virtually and continue on today.

“The most effective part was the welcoming and inquisitive connection we were able to develop. The specific aspects of the session that will be very useful were: Them being able to listen for my priorities and reflect them back to me. Specific ideas about where I can develop ways to bring in income, and ideas on the cost of infrastructure pieces that I will need for the future.”

– Artist Career Consultation Review
“What I realized was that I am not doing this ‘artist’ thing wrong in my town/region. This is just what the work is, and it was good to be around folks who were also working in challenging communities, feeling isolated, and being inspired.”

- 2021 Rural Regenerator Fellow

We recently celebrated the 10th anniversary of our rural office in Fergus Falls. Building on the last decade of work, we launched a new Rural Regenerator Fellowship. This program is helping to support and build networks of rural artists and community leaders across the Upper Midwest. Supported by the Builder’s Initiative, this two-year cohort experience expands on our work with the Rural Arts & Culture Summit, and provides Fellows with an unrestricted $10,000 award to advance the role of art, culture, and creativity in rural development and community building.
“I think as artists we all know that at times it’s hard to come by authentic and caring individuals and organizations who really want to help artists and communities in the ways that we see and feel passionate about. Thank you for enriching us with this program and via the retreat’s empowering programming. I will never forget what this program has done for me and my artistry.”

- 2021 Rural Regenerator Fellow
A NEW NEIGHBORHOOD HOME IN SAINT PAUL

On University Avenue in St. Paul, in the Rondo and Frogtown neighborhoods, and just down the street from the Minnesota State Capitol, what was once a vacant used car dealership amid a sea of asphalt has been transformed by artists and community members into a dynamic, welcoming space, and we are so excited to share it with you. The idea for this new home sprouted nine years ago and we acquired the site officially in 2018. The last four years of our capital campaign have been filled with joy and challenges. This project has brought thousands of people and hundreds of organizations into its creation process, and we couldn’t be more proud to have our doors open today.

This space reimagines how an unloved and untended space with a history of extraction in the neighborhood can become healthy, generative, and creative. Through our commitment to responsible environmental stewardship, our rooftop deck has innovative, semi-translucent solar panels installed which provide both shade and about 30% of our building’s electricity. We have taken the asphalt parking lot and transformed much of it into green space, with a rain garden and a walking path. Our onsite cistern captures runoff water and uses it to maintain the plantings and front yard, and we were honored by our partners at the Capitol Region Watershed District with their 2021 Project of the Year Award.
PUBLIC ART

• Artists Myc Batson and Megan Tate transformed a drab wall into a vibrant, playful mural highlighting creative people power.

• Sarah Agaton Howes, Nedahness Greene, and Holly Young created a Native Presence installation to honor the Dakota and Anishinaabe lands on which we reside and work.

• Ua Si Creative – Ka Ly, Teeko Yang, Christina Vang – worked with artists and elders Sharon M. Day, Louis Alemayehu, Narate Keys, and Aleksandra Gurneau on Refraction, an installation on the journey of water throughout the building.

• Blayze Buseth created Tom’s Adventure, a playful water feature for our rooftop.

• Artists Kao Lee Thao and Ash Kubesh took the old Ford sign, and transformed it into The Gathering Tree, a bright sign calling out the creativity of the neighborhood.

We are grateful for the journey, and thrilled to open the space for our programs and community use. Programming on site is up and running, and we can’t wait to share it with you.
Launched Ready Made, a platform to highlight local makers and connect them to buyers – shop Minnesota Makers at springboardforthearts.org/ready-made

Hosted Ask Me Anything sessions with our Artist Career Consultants.

Offered virtual and in-person residencies with the Hinge Arts Residency in Fergus Falls, including the Hannah Kempfer Residency which honored one of the first women elected to the MN State Legislature.

Partnered with Otter Tail County Solid Waste Department to open the Lakes Area Precious Plastics Lab, offering new ways for artists to reuse plastic waste.

Continued to host 19 artist mobile tools on the Ready Go roster, to offer creative interactions for hire.
Hosted Saturdays at Springboard at our St. Paul location, partnering with artists DejaJoelle and Aki Shibata, and organizations Arts Us and TruArtSpeaks to activate our open space and Front Yard.

In partnership with Rethos, facilitated Artists on Main Street programs in Bowman, ND, Mahnomen, MN, Cloquet, MN, Two Harbors, MN, and Cook, MN, resulting in hundreds of artist-led projects addressing downtown vibrancy and activity in small towns.

Relaunched our popular Community Support Art (CSA) program in 2021, delivering local artists work to people through USPS on the themes of Care, Comfort, and Craft.

Partnered with Trust for Public Land to hire an Artist Organizer for Central Village Park. Olga Nichols is working collaboratively with neighbors of Central Village Park, project partners, Summit-University Planning Council, and the City of St. Paul to design, produce, and facilitate community activities and events meant to engage neighbors and build upon community knowledge and experience.
We asked staff to share personal, professional, and creative highlights from the past two years!

**Adia Morris Swanger**  
Program Manager, Professional Development  
I kept my child alive for four years. (And continued to produce creative monologues for Twin Cities Public Television’s Almanac program!)

**Al Valdovinos**  
Office Coordinator  
Al uses acrylic and crayon mediums to express scenes of quotidian life around them in paintings and drawings. Al looks forward to learning how to make all resources and information even more accessible to the community around Springboard.

**Amanda Cortés**  
Community Development Program Manager  
I’m grateful and proud that I became a parent to Sixto F. García-Cortés and joined Springboard for the Arts.

**Amanda Kaler**  
Development Director  
Co-founded M‘AAM!, a trio of makers and mamas collaborating on artist’s books, letterpress prints, and motherhood.

**Andy Sturdevant**  
Artist Resources Director  
My imprint, Birchwood Palace Industries, continues to produce printed ephemera, esoterica, and novelties of the mundane and fantastic, including new books by Trina Fernandez and Monica Sheets. I also became a father!

**Carl Atiya Swanson**  
Associate Director, Operations & Communications  
Glad to have navigated parenting in a pandemic, and published poems in Crooked Arrow Press, Trouble Child Magazine, MEAL Magazine, and with the Hennepin County History Museum. Joined the board of Catalyst Music, supporting all ages venues in the Twin Cities.

**Caroline Taiwo**  
Economic Opportunity Director  
I became an auntie, and that’s been wonderful.
**Cassie McDuffie**
Community Coordinator

I started at Springboard in 2021 and graduated the same year from Metropolitan State University. I am a DJ and Beatmaker born and raised in Saint Paul. Check out my latest album “The Constellation” streaming on all platforms featuring award winning artists from all over the Twin Cities!

**Laura Zabel**
Executive Director

Pre-pandemic, had the opportunity to play Sarah Weddington, the attorney who argued Roe v. Wade at the Supreme Court in Mixed Blood Theater’s production of ROE.

**Destiny Davison**
Communications Manager

Just glad to be here! First solo art exhibition, “Thanks for Being Here” at the White Bear Center for the Arts, and looking forward to more!

**Michele Anderson**
Rural Director

Pre-pandemic, I published an op-ed in the New York Times, and brought my baby Ashton into the world. Early in the pandemic, I launched my campaign for State Senate, District 8, and my most recent creative joy was playing keys with the Blue Red Roses at Stella’s in Battle Lake.

**John Bell**
Business Manager

I had a solo exhibition “A Pigeon Year” at ArtStart Rhinelander in 2021.

**Molly Johnston**
Rural Program Manager

My most recent accomplishments include bringing a 10 pound baby into the world, navigating pandemic preschool, and dancing in the streets of Battle Lake with my organization DanceBARN Collective.

**Jun-Li Wang**
Associate Director, Programs

Awarded my first competitive grant in 2021, created “Murmuration” with Aki Shibata, an installation of 1200 paper cranes for the Coalition of Asian American Leaders, and helped distribute 750,000 KN95 masks to essential workers in the early days of the pandemic.

**Peter Haakon Thompson**
Site Manager

Traveled to 28 different libraries across the state of Minnesota with the Mobile Sign Shop. Helped participants make over 1400 carved, hand painted signs!
Ricardo Beaird  
Community Development Director  
I wrote a play! DOOMSCROLL with MK and Tia! is a play that follows two podcasts hosts as they fall down a rabbit hole of online secret societies and internet conspiracies involving 5G frequency paranoia. It was presented virtually at the Guthrie Theatre’s Blackness Is Festival.

Sam Buffington  
Community Organizer  
Created a podcast with my dad called Revolutionary Spirits, exploring revolutions and the spirits that shape them. Season One focuses on Mexican revolutionary Francisco Madero.

Zaraawar Mistry  
Program Specialist  
We kept Dreamland Arts, our independent theater, running through the pandemic, and just reopened for live performances!

Dominic Facio  
Rural Program Coordinator  
I was awarded a Career Development grant for screen printing, and an Minnesota State Arts Board Individual Support grant to continue producing niche events in rural MN. Produced two Catwalk Party events, and a portrait from my photograph work was selected for my regional art council’s juried portrait exhibition.

SPRINGBOARD AWARDS

2019  
Celebrate Business Success Award  
Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce

2021  
Reader’s Recommend Favorite Arts Organization  
Minnesota Women’s Press  
National Philanthropy Day Award  
Association of Fundraising Professionals Minnesota Chapter  
Project of the Year Award  
Capitol Region Watershed District

2022  
Reader’s Recommend Favorite Arts Organization  
Minnesota Women’s Press
FY20 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Stinson Leonard Street

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Center for Rural Policy and Development

Jeremy Cohen, At-Large
The Playwrights’ Center

Bo Thao-Urabe
Coalition of Asian American Leaders

Ben Bonestroo
Gray Plant Mooty

Sarina Otaibi
Department of Public Transformation

Andriana Abariotes
Project for Pride in Living

Shannon Pettitt
Ecolab

Maureen Ramirez
Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development

Jarrett Reed
Target

Rose Teng
US Bank

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Jeremy Cohen
The Playwrights’ Center

Ben Bonestroo
Gray Plant Mooty

Sarina Otaibi
Department of Public Transformation

Maureen Ramirez
Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development

Rose Teng
US Bank

Anisha Murphy
Community Reinvestment Fund

Sarah Swedburg
Kandiyohi County & City of Willmar EDC
ARTIST

CIVIC PRACTICE ARTIST

CREATIVE

COMMUNITY ARTIST

COMMUNITY WORKER

CULTURE BEARER

CULTURE KEEPER

PARTICIPATORY ARTIST

SOCIALLY ENGAGED ARTIST

SOCIAL PRACTICE ARTIST
ARTISTS RESPOND: COMBATING SOCIAL ISOLATION

Abby Sunde
Ahmed Anzaldua El Samkary
Alanna Morris-Van Tassel
Alison Bergblom Johnson
Allison Tenney
Alyssa Anderson
Amy Felegy
Anne Labovitz
Anne Pinkerton
Anne Sawyer
Artika Tyner
Asako Hirabayashi
Ashleigh Lambert
Benjamin Kreibich
Bethany Lacktorin
Bonita Goggleye
Brianna Crockett
Briana Williams
Bryce Davidson
Carolyn Olson
Cedar Thomas
Chris Rackley
Christy Goulet
Cindy Kolling
Colleen O'Shaughnessy
Connie Chang
Dana Sikkila
Dani Prados
Douglas Spartz
Emilia Mettenbrink
Emily Dzieweczynski
Erinn Liebhard
Esther Ouray
Garret Ross
Geno Okok
Hamsa Hassan
Heather C. Lou
Heidi Jeub
Jacob Roske
Jamie Schwaba
Jennifer Kramer
Jessica Eckerstorfer
Joanne Bolles
Joey Clark
John Kellen
Joko Sutrisno
Karen Gray
Karetta Gooch
Kat Purcell
Kathy Stewart
Katie Taylor
Kelly Anderson
Kris Frykman
Lacey Woida
Laurel Armstrong
Madeline Reagan
Madelyn Hartke
Marcela Michelle
Maria Isa Perez-Hedges
Mary Plaster
Marya Hart
Melissa Wickwire
Nancy Cook
Nancy Leasman
Nancy XiáoRong Valentine
Natalie VanBurkleo-Carbonara
Patrick O'Brien
Peg Churchwell
Phillip St John
Rebecca Merblum
Roshan Ganu
Ryan Evans
Sarah Larsson
Savannah Pemberton
Selena Lerma
Shannon Lucas Westrum
Silvana Agostoni
Snoti Jappah
Stephanie Henry
Susan Smith-Grier
Tara Perron
Thomas Bierer
Tinne Rosenmeier
Tobias Zikmund
Toni Hughes
Vernita Clinton
Yan Pang

ARTISTS RESPOND: EQUITABLE RURAL FUTURES

Mai’a Williams
Joyce LaPorte
Nancy XiáoRong Valentine
Inkpa Mani
Christy Goulet
Michelle de la Vega

ARTISTS RESPOND: ARTISTS ON PLYWOOD

Alex Smith
Aurum Oro
Canaan Ray-Strong

Geno Okok
Myc Daz
Noval Noir
Seitu Jones
Tony Johnson
Ta-Coumba Aiken
Ua Si Creative
ARTISTS RESPOND: PEOPLE PLACE, PROSPERITY

Briauna Williams
DejaJoelle
Kashimana
Katey DeCelle
Nicole Mary Milligan

COMMUNITY SUPPORTED ART 2021

Arnée Martin
Austin Nash
Blanca Dahlin
Caitlin Warner
Calvin Stalvig
Elizabeth Belz
Jessica Lopez Lyman, Ph.D.
Josephine Everett
Kathy Masterson

COMMUNITY SUPPORTED ART 2022

Azania Tripp
Anika Hsuing Schneider
Deanna Croaker
Heather C. Lou
Jelani Ellis
KOBI
L Kling/Pickle Witch
Margaret Vergara
Nouf Saleh
Sam Zimmerman
Wendy Savage

CREATIVE COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE 2021

Alex Romero-Frederick
Amanda Cortes
Ana Rusness-Petersen
Angie Stover
Anne O’Keefe-Jackson
Ashley Pourier
Austin Red Dog
Bethany Lacktorin
Brandi Malarkey
Chanda Kraft
Chelsea Steffes
Christopher Bordeaux
Clementine Bordeaux
Dawnee LeBeau
Denise Lajimodiere
Elizabeth Lone Eagle
Focus Smith
Heather Allen
Heather Peebles
Heather Wood
Heidi Jeub
Jada Bell
James Bergman
Janette Yiran
Jeannine Burnette
Jennilee Rooks
Jesus Ramirez
Jonathan Wong
Joshua Rudnik
Kahomy Souksavath
Katarina Hansen
Keith BraveHeart
Kia Lee
Libbie Anderson
Linnea Schluessler
Lydia Four Horns-Powless
Mayumi Park
Micah Eubanks
Micheal Two Bulls
Natalie Stites Means

Nicole Gagner
Rachel Asleson
Rachel Prazak
Rebecca Dallinger
Renee Newton
Sara Lum
Sarah Swedburg
Star Means
Tosa Two Heart
Vynetta A. Morrow
Yvette Reyes

CREATIVE ECONOMY FELLOWS 2020–2021

Amoke Kubat
Atlese Robinson
Ayolanda Evans
Chamindika Wanduragala
Chitra Vairavan
Herb Johnson III
Heather C. Lou
Joseph Allen
Ka Oskar Ly
Maia Maiden

CREATIVE ECONOMY FELLOWS 2021–2022

Adrienne Doyle
DejaJoelle
Duaba Unenra
Garrett McQueen
Kenna-Camara Cottman
María Isa
Marlina Gonzalez
Ricky Collins
Sharon Mansur
Za’Nia Coleman
PARTICIPATING ARTISTS

INCUBATOR PROJECTS AS OF JUNE 2021

10th Wave
A 20/20 Life
AC3
Agate Magazine
Al-Bahira Dance Theatre
Alanna Morris-Van Tassel Productions
All St. Paul’s A Stage
Alzheimer’s Poetry Project
Ambiance Theatre Company
an alleged Theatre Company
Analog Dance Works
Ancia Saxophone Quartet
Andal Flamenco
APIA MN
Arbeit Opera Theatre
Art from the Inside MN
The Artists’ Well
Arts Garden
Aspire Music Academy
Autoptic
Aya Collective
B-Sides Art Song Collective
Bill Simenson Orchestra
Black Dirt Theatre
Black Market
Black Women Speak
Breast Cancer Superheroes
Bucket Brigade
Build
Cahoot Physical Theatre
Carlyle Brown & Co.
Catalyst Arts
Cellular Cinema
CENTERPLAY
Chain Reaction Theater Project

The Colu.mn
Comedy Suitcase
Como Pops
Cow Tipping Press
Creating Language Through The Arts
Creative Leadership Studio
Cromulent Shakespeare Company
Dance & Other Behaviors
Dance MN
DanceCO
Dans Askina Turkish Dance
Danza Espanola
Dial Group
Draw By You
DrawingConnections
Dream Lodge
E/D
Emerging Curators Institute
F/10 Photography
Fireweed Community Workshop
FluteSpiration Quartet
Follow the Yellowstone Trail
Fortune’s Fool
Four Humors Theatre
Fox & Beggar Theater
Freshwater Theatre
Funny Asian Women Kollective
Grace Minnesota
Greenline Mascot Project
Hatch Dance
Haunted Basement
Hinterhands Puppet Company
Holy Cow! Press
Honeywell Concert Band
How to Have Fun in a Civil War
Hypanic Jerk Theatre
Isles Ensemble

Jeffrey Peterson Dance
Kaleena Miller Dance
Karen Sherman
Katie Ka Vang Productions
Kinship of Rivers
LABRADOR Mpls
Ladyslipper Ensemble
Legacy Arts Group
Lightning Rod
Little Lifeboats
Locally Grown Theatre
lumin theater lab
Mad King Thomas
Mad Munchkin
Maggie Bergeron and Co.
Make A Scene Scenario Festival
Marine Candlelight Series
Match.Bomb The Musical
Million Artist Movement
Minne Opera Project
Mixed Precipitation
Moonplay Cinema
Morgan Thorson & Co.
Movement Architecture
MOVO SPACE
Neurodivergent Youth Choir
New Epic Theater
North Star Printmakers Studio
On Stage
One Earth United
Opera on the Lake
Opera Reading Project
Orchard Theater Collective
Patrick Scully Productions
Penelope Freeh
Persistence of Vision
Picasso Projects
Playable Artworks
Poetry Asylum
Poetry for People
Points of Light
Praxis Photo Arts Center
Proof Public
Rachel Perlmetter Productions
RARE Productions
The Recital
Red Bird Theatre
Rondo Family Reunion
Sacred Grounds Coffee House
Scenius Studio
Second Fiddle Productions
See Change Treble Choir
See- Saw Theatre Lab
Serpentina Arts Talks Shift
shOUT
Sigma’s Bookshelf
Silver Swan
Sonora Winds
Speaking Out Collective
Spit Take Comedy Series
Strive Publishing
STRONGmovement
Subversive Sirens
Transforming Black Lives Supergroup
Survival System
Syncopated Silents
T2P2
Tangible Collective
TC Music Therapy Scholarships
TC Photo
The Performance Collective
Theatre 55
Theatre Coup d’Etat
Theatre Elision
Threshold Theater
Tlalnepantla Arts
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Transatlantic Love Affair
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262 UNIVERSITY PUBLIC ART COMMISSIONS

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Kao Lee Thao and Ash Kubesh
Ua Si Creative
Blayze Buseth
Sarah Agaton Howes, Holly Young and Nedahness Greene
Third Daughter Restless Daughter
## FY20 & FY21 Organizational Financials

### Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>FY21</th>
<th>FY20</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributed Income (Foundation &amp; Government Grants)</td>
<td>$1,858,923</td>
<td>$1,626,068</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributed Income (Individuals)</td>
<td>$347,074</td>
<td>$852,904</td>
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<tr>
<td>Earned Income</td>
<td>$627,386</td>
<td>$594,663</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-Kind</td>
<td>$11,100</td>
<td>$11,100</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,844,483</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,084,735</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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### Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>FY21</th>
<th>FY20</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personnel</td>
<td>$1,063,150</td>
<td>$1,090,771</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Professional Fees</td>
<td>$828,558</td>
<td>$658,527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>$144,147</td>
<td>$141,501</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Programs</td>
<td>$126,034</td>
<td>$136,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Projects (includes Emergency Relief Fund)</td>
<td>$334,640</td>
<td>$995,515</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,496,530</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,022,510</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These financials accurately represent Springboard’s organizational operations, but are not presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. For full audited financials, visit springboardforthearts.org/about-us/financial-overview/
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Special thanks to 4RM+ULA, Flannery Construction, Mercury Mosaics, Christie Coffin, and Yung-Ling Chen.
FRONT COVER
Fergus Falls office, photo by Eric Santwire.
Saint Paul office, photo by Laura Zabel.

Introduction, pages 1-2
Saint Paul office, photo by Morgan Scheff.
Strategic Plan illustrations by Heather C. Lou.

CRISIS RESPONSE, PAGES 3–4
Artists Respond: Combating Social Isolation performance by Summit Music TC, photo by Uche Iroegbu.
Artists Respond: On Plywood community painting at Springboard, photo by Uche Iroegbu.

CRISIS RESPONSE, PAGES 5–6
Artists Respond: On Plywood community painting on University Avenue, photo by Uche Iroegbu.
Artist Ta-coumba Aiken at Artists Respond: On Plywood, photo by Uche Iroegbu.
Ua Si Creative at Artists Respond: On Plywood, photo by Uche Iroegbu.
Nancy XiàoRong Valentine presents “The Audacity to be Asian in Rural America: we owe you no apologies,” part of Artists Respond: Equitable Rural Futures, photo by Eric Santwire.
Artists Respond: People, Place, and Prosperity coloring book illustration by Briana Williams.
Healing Hands installation by Ifrah Mansour at the People’s Center, photo by Bruce Silcox.

NATIONAL MODELS, PAGES 7–8
Saturdays at Springboard: How We Steward, curated by Aki Shibata featuring Kalpulli Yaocenoxtli, photo by Destiny Roberts.
La Luchadora screenprinting cart, photo by Bruce Silcox.

NATIONAL MODELS, PAGES 11–12
Saturdays at Springboard: How We Imagine, curated by TruArtSpeaks featuring Tish Jones, photo by Destiny Roberts.
Saturdays at Springboard: How We Imagine, curated by TruArtSpeaks, photo by Destiny Roberts.

NATIONAL MODELS, PAGES 13–14
2019 Rural Arts & Culture Summit opening plenary featuring musician Annie Humphrey, photo by Holly Diestler.
Amber Buckanaga fashion show at the 2019 Rural Arts & Culture Summit, photo by Holly Diestler.
Rural Regenerator Fellow retreat, photo by Michele Anderson.
Rural Regenerator Fellow group picture, photo by Michele Anderson.
Rural Regenerator Fellows at the Precious Plastics Lab, photo by Domnic Facio.
A NEW NEIGHBORHOOD HOME IN SAINT PAUL, PAGES 15–16
Saint Paul office, photo by Destiny Davison.
Ribbon-cutting at the Grand Opening Celebration in Saint Paul, photo by Destiny Roberts.
Robot Dance Floor by Nick Knutson at the Grand Opening Celebration in Saint Paul, photo by Destiny Roberts.
Water cistern with mural by Aleksandra Gurneau, part of Refraction, by Ua Si Creative at the Saint Paul office, photo by Destiny Davison.
Heart & Soul Drum Academy at the Grand Opening Celebration in Saint Paul, photo by Destiny Roberts.
Lady Midnight at the Grand Opening Celebration in Saint Paul, photo by Destiny Roberts.
Nibi (Water) Walk led by Sharon M. Day, part of Refraction, by Ua Si Creative at the Saint Paul office, photo by Destiny Davison.

OTHER PROGRAMS & OFFERINGS, PAGES 17–18
Ready Made photo illustration by Destiny Davison.
Precious Plastics Lab creation, photo by Michele Anderson.
Ready Go’s Mobile Sign Shop in action, photo by Peter Haakon Thompson.
Saturdays at Springboard: How We Heal, curated by DejaJoelle, photo by TJ Lor/JUAL Visuals.
All For One mural by Michael Cimino, part of Artists on Main Street in Mankato, photo by Visit Mankato.
Raven Cries Out, by Sam Zimmerman, part of Community Supported Art 2022.

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS, PAGES 23–24
“Artist” illustration by Cori Nakamura Lin from the Handbook for Artists Working in Community.

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS, PAGES 27–28
Visitors to “Time Sensitive,” an installation facilitated by Hinge Artist Elyse-Krista Mische, photo by Eric Santwire.
Love Makes the World Go Round sculpture by Suzanne and Mark Daehlin for Artists on Main Street in Northfield, photo by Northfield Downtown Development Corporation.
Ready Go’s Paper Plains mobile art project in action, photo by Michele Anderson.

FY20 & FY21 DONORS, PAGES 31–32
Sunflower illustration by Asahi Nagata.

EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND DONORS, PAGES 33–34
Workbook illustration by Cori Nakamura Lin.
Art Supplies illustration by Destiny Davison.

EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND DONORS, PAGES 35–36
Springboard for the Arts illustration by Destiny Davison.
Arty Mouse illustration by Asahi Nagata.

EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND DONORS, PAGES 37–38
Reading Bunny illustration by Magdalena Mora.
Robot Dance Floor by Nick Knutson at the Grand Opening Celebration in Saint Paul, photo by Destiny Roberts.

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Saturdays at Springboard: How We Build, curated by Arts–Us, photo by Destiny Roberts.
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