



Guy Conners  
North Avenue Beach, 2017  
Watercolor on paper

# Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2017

Thanks to you, Arts of Life has had a year of transformation. We looked to the future and asked ourselves what impact do we want to have in the creative arts community. This reflection led to a new mission statement that focuses not only on our artists' individual practices but their much-deserved role in the broader arts community and launched our Artist Enterprise Program (AEP) that further supports their practice and professional development as individual artists.

Despite turbulent times nationally and at the state level, and maybe because of them, we came together to solidify our goals for the future and recognize that we need our artists' voices and strengths more than ever.

We're happy to share our FY2017 annual report with you and look forward to another successful FY2018.

All the best,

*Denise Fisher*



**Denise Fisher**  
Executive Director

"Volunteering at Arts of Life, you learn how to communicate much more effectively, to listen to your own voice, and to pause when things get a bit chaotic. The artists show you how to be a better human, a better individual, and a better friend. You slow down and you actually grow."



**Jamie Yuen**  
Volunteer

## Our Mission

The Arts of Life advances the creative arts community by providing artists with intellectual and developmental disabilities a collective space to expand their practice and strengthen their leadership.

**216**

Works of Art Sold

**\$168,111**

Value of Programming Volunteer Hours

**76,708**

People Reached IRL

**231,210**

Twitter Impressions

**5,595**

Unique Facebook Engagements

**164%**

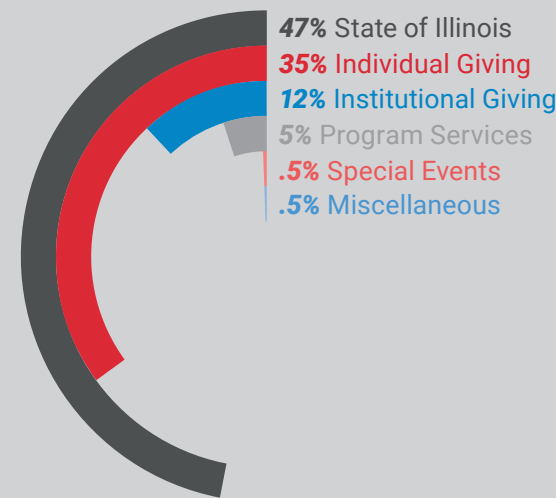
Increase in Instagram Followers

**29,000**

Social Media Engagements

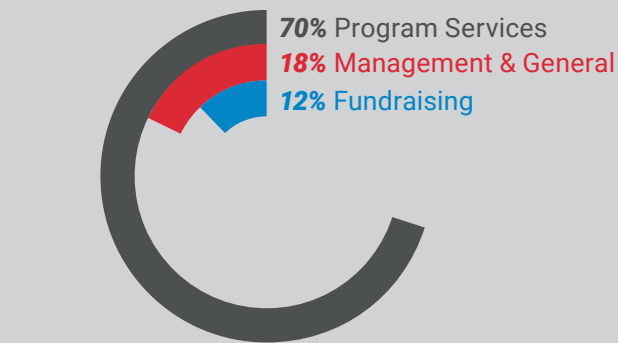
**\$922,819**

Revenue



**\$854,789**

Expenses



## Thank You

### \$10,000+

Beam Suntory  
Chicago Community Trust  
The Coleman Foundation  
The Leo S. Guthman Fund  
Illinois Arts Council Agency  
David Warn\*\* & Autumn Smith  
Chicago Community Foundation  
Glenview State Bank  
Henrietta Lange Burk Fund  
Metropolitan Capital Bank and Trust  
New Trier Township  
Niles Township  
Anonymous (3)  
Earl Abramson  
Bryan R. Bienias\*\*  
Black Dog Gelato\*  
Jeff Boarini & Rocky Kunz  
Gregory Brinkman  
Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events  
Michelle Comer\*\*  
Division Street Cross Fit  
Scott Fisher  
David Frownfelter  
Mother of Daniel Frownfelter  
Leslie Haviland\*\*  
Illinicare Health  
Greg Hunt & Cindy Lazard-Hunt\*\*  
Dale & Ellen Kelley  
Lagunitas Brewing Company  
Adam Lesnicki  
Music Garage\*  
Northfield Township  
PayPal Giving  
Pitchfork Music Festival  
Michael Schafer  
Julie Schauer  
Josh Shames\*\*

Larry & Cindy Shanker  
Socius Foundation  
Phillip Spahn  
Gabriela Sparacio  
Theodore & Heather van Blyenburgh  
West Town Chamber of Commerce  
Windy City Cafe  
Anselmo Lindberg Oliver LLC\*  
Artists Frame Services\*  
Celia Berdes  
Gail Borgerd\*  
Bottle & Bottega Chicago (Lakeview)\*  
Ann Brunett  
Anne Cauley  
Richard Conners  
David Eigenberg  
Perry & Rhonda Fisher  
Charles Fox & Family  
Marci Freedman\*  
Melanie Freeman  
Hamburger Mary's  
Home Advisor  
Kaitlyn Housepian\*  
Melanie Jansen  
Johnny's Kitchen & Tap\*  
Bronwyn & Andy Kelly  
Bob Kritt  
Caitlin Law  
Jere A. Law  
Ellen & Ed McManus  
James Perry & Robert Horton  
Swarna Rao\*\*  
Tim Sarrantonio  
Jeannette & Bob Sindt  
Marguerite Tompkins  
Nan Trowbridge  
Anonymous  
David & Leslie Abramson  
Yali Amit & Sara Spoonheim Amit  
Art Post Gallery\*  
Kyle Backer\*  
Julie Bauer

John Borta  
Jordan Feiger  
Leah Feldman\*  
Betty & Bob Fisher  
Jewel's Friend  
Neville Gerson\*  
Barbara Goldman  
LuAnn, Ted, & Royce Hamel  
Carrie Healy  
Brent Holman-Gomez  
Faye Jacobs  
Mark Joly  
Ann Jonaitis  
Kristin Kelley  
Debby Kubica  
Bruce Lamont  
Mary Lippa  
Adedayo Odunsi  
Marv & Doris Pfau  
Annette V. Sloan  
Pegeen Smith  
Smylie Brothers Brewing Co.\*  
Frank Solano  
Meaghan Sparacio  
Unison Home\*  
Michael Walther  
Daniele Wilmouth  
Anonymous  
Melanie Adamo  
Marlene & Rajan Ahmad  
Alcala's Western Wear  
Aloni Catering\*  
Mic Altena  
AmazonSmile Foundation  
Kristin August  
Peter Ayres  
Victoria Bates  
Hanna Bemer  
Alexandra Blanchard  
Rosemarie Burroughs  
Joanna Cacciola  
Chicago Athletic Clubs\*  
Chipotle\*  
Judy Deutch  
Direction Tour Marketing & Printworks\*

Marcus Duncan  
Robin Fern  
Finch's Beer Company\*  
Tyler & Leah Fisher  
Valerie Foradas  
Susan Fordham  
Mark Furlong  
Brian Garrett\*  
Mary Beth Gerlach  
Carol Goodman  
Susan Greenburg  
Luyun Han  
Todd Haney  
Sheila Harrigan  
Bernie Haviland & Maggie Annerino  
Kelly A. Heath  
Dr. Robert Henry  
Constance & Domitilo Hernandez  
Jennifer Hoch\*  
Evelyn Hoffman  
Debra Jensen  
Jason Kalajainen  
Luke\*\* & Isabel Kaplan  
Kernel's Gourmet Popcorn & More\*  
Elizabeth Keys  
Kathy Kiebala Tomasik  
Susan Kilner  
Michelle & Albert Korzec  
Kristin Lingren  
Brian Maher  
Sheryl & Scott Marshall  
Kathy Marino  
Pamela Martin  
Marz Brewing Company\*  
Frank Mauceri  
Shaaron McCabe  
Mary McCarthy  
Dianne McDermott  
Michele Melnick  
Elizabeth Melchers  
Beata Meyers  
Patricia C. Miller

Karin Msall  
Catherine Norcott  
Mary O'Connell  
Ana Olivares  
Deirdre O'Reilly  
Bethany & David Parnell  
Rocio Perez  
Jason Pickleman  
Molly Quinlan  
Angela Ramas  
Jose Randall  
Jeanne Reed  
James Richards  
Marsha Rosenberg  
Alice Rybak  
Lynda Santrella  
Savers Thrift Store Glenview  
Paul Scheuerlein  
The Second City\*  
Rebecca Seligman  
Alun Shore  
Bryan Smith  
Tom Sougstad  
Nils St Cyr & Shayna Swanson  
Emily Steuber\*  
Theodore Stone  
Susan Strauss  
Margaret Tanenberg  
Temperance Beer Company\*  
Patti Tobin  
Diane Turner  
Susan & Bob Underwood  
Angela & Aaron Underwood  
Julie Vincent  
Gail Weisman  
Ron & Pam Williams  
Jennifer Wolfe  
Matching Gifts  
Chicago Tribune Foundation  
Arthur J. Gallagher Foundation  
The Options Clearing Corporation

## Notable Exhibition Venues

- Waisman Foundation
- stArtup Art Fair
- Evanston Art Center
- Co-Prosperity Sphere
- Grey Matter Museum of Art
- Heaven Gallery
- Carsons Furniture Gallery
- InVision Imaging Center
- Empty Bottle
- Left Field
- Groupon Headquarters
- Representative Jan Schakowsky's Office



\*Reflecting donors who made a cumulative contribution of \$100+ between July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017.