

CREATIVE G R O W T H

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

REBIRTH + REGROWTH
2022-2023





HELLO FROM

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR

GINGER
SHULICK
PORCELLA

This past year marked an exciting time of change, achievement, hope, and new beginnings for Creative Growth. It also marked my first six months as Executive Director of Creative Growth, an organization I have long admired as a curator and art collector. It is incredibly humbling to be selected as the next leader of Creative Growth as we enter into our 50th year and build up positive momentum coming out of the pandemic. I look forward to leading this organization into the future, always looking to the artists and their wants and needs as my north star.

Over the last year, we found numerous opportunities to underscore Creative Growth's core mission of advancing the inclusion of artists with developmental disabilities in contemporary art. Fall 2022 marked the reopening of our gallery and the first time that the Creative Growth community came together in person to celebrate Beyond Trend since before the pandemic. We are honored to have worked with Cheryl Dunn to create a short documentary highlighting the impact, exuberance, and importance of this seminal Creative Growth event, which will be returning in person in 2024. The film, *Beyond I Wanna Go*, has since been screened coast-to-coast, including at a special screening during the SF Doc Fest where CG artists participated with Cheryl for a Q&A.

Creative Growth's Oakland Gallery reopened for regular hours with our popular Holiday Show. We continued to rebuild our relationship post-pandemic with our Oakland neighbors through important community-building initiatives such as Access Oaktown. Our annual CG Symposium returned, this year in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, concurrent with the Creative! Growth! exhibition at the Kohler Art Center. Perhaps most exciting this year was the opening of *Into the Brightness* at the Oakland Museum. This far-reaching exhibition features all 140+ Creative Growth artists alongside their peers working at Creativity Explored and NIAD, and will be on display through January 2024. The opening was a joyous occasion for everyone to celebrate and share their collective talents.

Creative Growth received new and returning support to fund our important studio and exhibition programs from The Windgate Foundation, The Ruth Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, The California Arts Council, the City of Oakland, and more. The overwhelming generosity and positive feedback from funders, artists, and supporters alike demonstrated the need for continued critical conversations around disability justice—particularly through the unique lens of contemporary art that Creative Growth is able to provide. Ongoing accessibility initiatives such as our descriptive tours of exhibitions for individuals who are b/Blind as well as our new tactile exhibition station where b/Blind visitors can feel and engage with various art media allow us to better communicate with our diverse constituents.

All of this work could not have been done without the dedicated staff and board at Creative Growth, and without putting the artists and their talents first. It is incredibly fulfilling to be welcomed into such a supportive, creative community of talented, kind, and authentic individuals. I look forward to seeing Creative Growth develop, evolve, and grow over the coming years and celebrating our 50th Anniversary with you in 2024. Thank you for welcoming me into your community

With gratitude

Ginger Shulick Porcella
Executive Director
Creative Growth Art Center

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CHALLENGE

Individuals with developmental disabilities are federally mandated to live in poverty and remain amongst the poorest and most marginalized populations in the United States.

At Creative Growth, artists with disabilities are given a platform to express themselves and live fulfilling and meaningful lives as professional artists.

For 50 years we have been supporting and equipping artists with resources, a fabulous art studio, gallery, and worldwide representation to reshape dialogues around representation in contemporary art.



MISSION

Creative Growth Art Center advances the inclusion of artists with developmental disabilities in contemporary art and strengthens community by providing a supportive studio environment and gallery representation.

VALUES

The Creative Growth community values access in all its forms, a culture of care and respect, diversity of people, and artistic expression.

STUDIO PROGRAM

Creative Growth facilitates programs in ceramics, woodworking, digital media, drawing, fiber arts, painting, printmaking, and textiles, all offered free of charge to artists, supplies included.

Teaching artists foster the professional development of each Creative Growth artist's unique artistic voice, and every artist decides when work is finished, what work is gallery ready, and how they want their work presented to the public.



For the New York Times:

Mr. Higgs discovered Creative Growth in 2002, when he was curator for contemporary art at the California College of Arts in San Francisco. Walking past the center one day, he peered through the windows to see a lively scene of creativity.

"It was immediately apparent that something amazing was going on," he said in an interview. He called it "the most transformative moment in my career in art."



Artwork by Nathan Aubry

YOUTH PROGRAM

Through Creative Growth's Saturday Youth Program, young adults aged 15-22 can explore art as a vocation before transitioning into Creative Growth's adult program. Nearly 20% of participating youth go on to become professional, practicing artists at Creative Growth.

Creative Growth's Youth Program is supported, in part, by the Banks Family Foundation.

"Creative Growth is the best place. Honestly it just makes me want to try new things and learn more all the time"

- Lynn Pisco, 2023

CREATIVE GROWTH ARTISTS

Nearly 140 artists, aged 23-85, make up the Creative Growth community. Over **30% of Creative Growth artists have been practicing in the studio for 20 years or longer.**

Juan Aguilera	Raydell Early	Emma Holbrook	Donald Mitchell	William Scott	George Wilson
Joseph Alef	Heather Edgar	Bruce Howell	Brian Nakahara	Dina Shapiro	Emily Witkin
Ricketta <u>Algarva</u>	Robert Erion III	Isaiah Jackson	Gregg Nakanishi	Meyeshe Shapiro-Nygren	Alice Wong
Sherrie Arandanas	Jordan Evans	Jason Jackson	Stephanie Nguyen	Caesarian Shepard	Edwin Zalenski
Abraham Ascencio	Carlos Fernandez	Susan Janow	Latefa Noorzai	Charles Smith	Kathy Zhong
Avery Babon	Paul Fields	Cedric Johnson	Julian Ou	Lulu Sotelo	Ying Ge Zhou
Walter Baldwin	Rosena Finister	Trinity Joseph	Nicholas Pagan	Joe Spears	
Joanna Beal	D'Lisa Fort	Jordan King	Tony Pedemonte	Ruth Stafford	
Marion Bolton	Sher-ron Freeman	Donna Kurtz	Steven Pho	Sherry Stanley	
Terri Bowden	James Freid	Jack Lahaderne	Lynn Pisco	Jack Starbuck	
Reginald Burton	Carol Fullen	Teresa Lambert	Melissa Poe	Nicole Storm	
Casey Byrnes	Ricardo Gaitan	Laura Larson	Shui Wah Poon	Joe Sturtevant-Stuart	
Akasha Canonizado	Jamie Ghilardi	Andrea Leber	Aurie Ramirez	Julie Swartout	
Kristian Cheek	Rosa Giron	Gail Lewis	Malia Ramsey	Christine Szeto	
Shirley Chiu	Susan Glikbarg	Lisa Lipton	Larry Randolph	Vallerie Tribble	
Lawrence Choy	Jose Gomez	Diana Lo	Lizzy Rangel	Henry Trockle	
Maureen Clay	Emanuel Gonzalez	Allan Lofberg	Barry Regan	William Tyler	
Eli Cooper	Mayra Gonzalez	Franna Lusson	Karen Ridge	Alice Ung	
Lisa Craib	Natascha Haehlen	John Martin	Jessica Rodriguez	Monica Valentine	
Jay Daley	Zina Hall	Paulino Martin	Lena Saavedra	Ron Veasey	
Gina Damerell	Dan Hamilton	Barbara Mealey	Lena Salk	Ray Vickers	
Janis Danker	AJ Herzfeld	Dan Miller	Peter Salsman	Angela Villalobos	
Lauren Dare	Stephanie Hill	Kathleen Miller	Jade Saren	Tanisha Warren	
James Davis	Betty Hinman	Hyo Ju Mims	Alex Schaffer	Nancy Weigen	

CREATIVE GROWTH YOUTH ARTISTS

Artists experience the excitement of discovering their creative potential and the reward of having their artwork exhibited and sold in the Creative Growth Gallery.

"It's an amazing program that empowers our young teens and adults with disabilities to create, express, and further their interest in art. And for parents it provides a needed respite, knowing our kids are productive and in a safe space for a few hours on the weekend. Thank you for all you do to support families with disabilities."

- Creative Growth Youth Parent

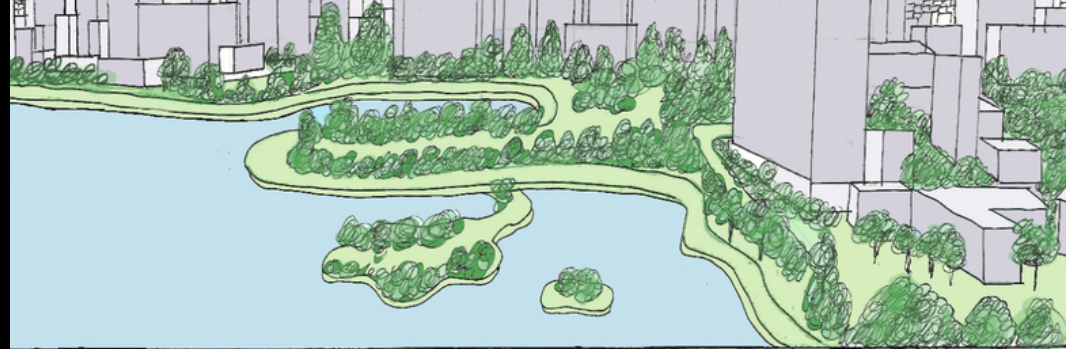
Jorge Ramon Aguilera
Sai Ajoy
Nathan Aubry
Adumasa Ayinde
Madison Brandy
Isaac Bar-Zeev
Keon Barnes
Andy Bowersox
Malia Cosino
Tristam Day Schott
Nicholas Driscoll
Will Glasser
William Goodwin
Johanna Gueverra
Marina Hancher
Kavon Hojati
Isaiah Jackson
Joshua Jianoran
Erik Kadono
Camille Khor
Thomas Le
Moises Martinez
Cristian Medina-Hernandez
Tristan Mora

Katheryn Murdoch
Sunnan Mushtaq
Katherine Plasencia
Roan Purpura-Pontonicre
Vanessa Ramirez
Jarius Ranillo
Clio Rasler
Gabriel Rieza
Nicos Riley-Hubbard
Oliver Santana
Markelle Talley
Vivian Tarbox
Faith Vanderbuilt
Steven Wilkinson
Sydney Wilkinson
Taylor Woodward



ACCESS OAKTOWN

In March 2023, Creative Growth launched the inaugural “Access Oaktown” festival to kickoff Disabilities Awareness Month. The event took place at Creative Growth and surrounding neighborhoods across Oakland, featuring artist-designed posters of their favorite locations across the city. The posters were accompanied by an audio tour, interactive map, and free public tours.



ACCESS OAKTOWN

ART FAIRS & EXHIBITIONS

By expanding our visibility and impact in the Bay Area and beyond, Creative Growth serves a growing audience of nearly 12,000 on-site visitors via our Oakland Gallery and over two million annual visitors via our partnerships and exhibitions with galleries and museums worldwide. With the pandemic waning, Creative Growth once again had a significant presence at national and international art fairs. We re-opened our gallery to the public with the 2022 Holiday Show, and celebrated coming out of the pandemic with our peers NIAD and Creativity Explored via the stunning exhibition, “Into the Brightness”, currently on view at the Oakland Museum.



ADVANCING OUR COMMUNITIES

4TH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM



CHICAGO, IL +
SHEBOYGAN, WI

May 17-21, 2023

CREATIVE GROWTH SYMPOSIUM

From May 17-21st 2023, Creative Growth staff and additional participants from eight states, two countries and 10 centers gathered together for the 4th Annual Creating Community Symposium in Chicago, Illinois and Sheboygan, Wisconsin. We are always struck by what a supportive and creative community we have.

BEYOND TREND

Creative Growth's signature Beyond Trend community event and fundraiser features a celebratory fashion performance highlighting wearable art created and modeled by Creative Growth artists. In honor of our 10th anniversary of the event, Creative Growth released a set of films and a magazine highlighting the incredible fashion from the studio.



FASHION / FASHION FEATURES

Creative Growth Artists Are Celebrated in Documentary

The upcoming event will highlight fashion and art that has been created through the nonprofit for years.

By ROSEMARY FEITELBERG  OCTOBER 28, 2022, 1:50PM

AUDIENCES

Currently:

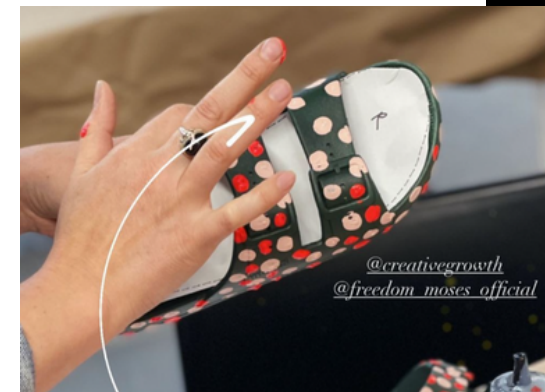
- artists
- museums
- friends
- family
- partnerships
- donors and funders

Hopefully:

- influencers
- tastemakers
- policy makers
- people who are unfamiliar with Creative Growth and the opportunities we help to provide.



BAGGU



@creativegrowth
@freedom_moses_official

PARTNERSHIPS

- 6397
- Au Boulot
- Baggu
- Erica Tanov
- REVOLVE
- Freedom Moses
- Target



PRESS HIGHLIGHTS

Creative Growth Art Center has garnered widespread recognition and acclaim, with features in prestigious publications such as The New York Times, San Francisco Chronicle, Hyperallergic, Oaklandside, and 7x7, underscoring its profound impact on the art world and the lives of the artists it supports. These prominent media appearances spotlight the center's remarkable contributions to the art community and its mission of supporting artists with disabilities.

The
New York
Times

HYPERALLERGIC

WWD
WOMEN'S WEAR DAILY

San Francisco
Chronicle

CALIFORNIA TODAY

These Are Your Favorite Places to See Art in California

Readers recommended street art in Eureka, a new Chicano art museum in Riverside and more across the state.

THE WEEKENDER / CULTURE

Creative Growth Center: An unwavering community in an ever-changing Oakland



ART & EXHIBITS

Visual arts bloom in the Bay Area this spring



Tony Bravo | March 21, 2023 Updated: March 21, 2023, 12:08 pm



Art

10 Art Shows to See in the Bay Area This Summer

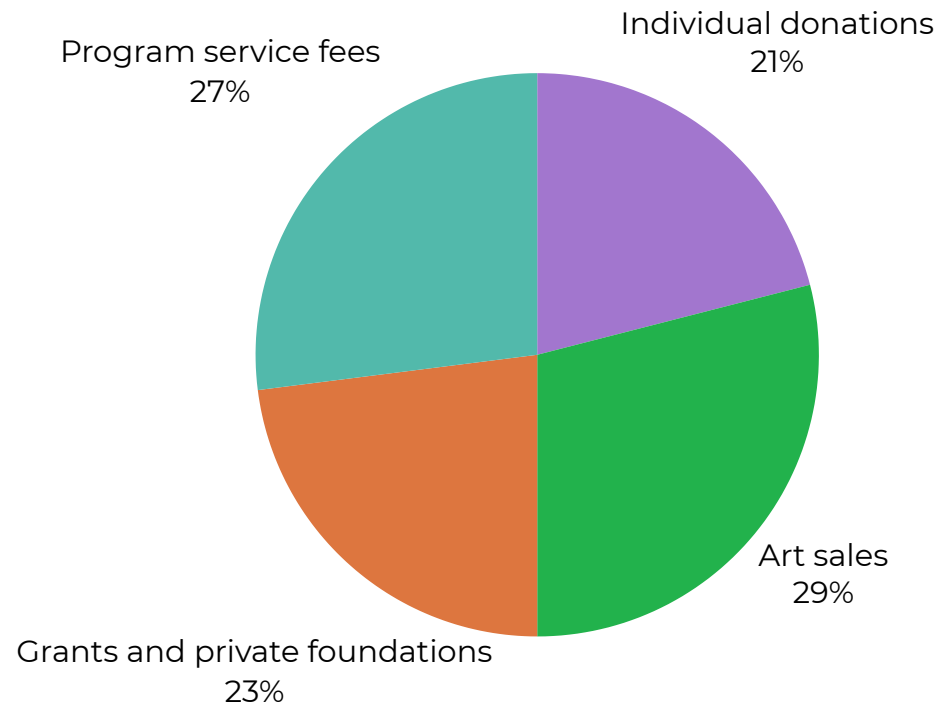
Insightful, generous, radical, and very “Bay way” shows, including Bernice Bing, Estefania Puerta, Alicia McCarthy, Sadie Barnette, and more.



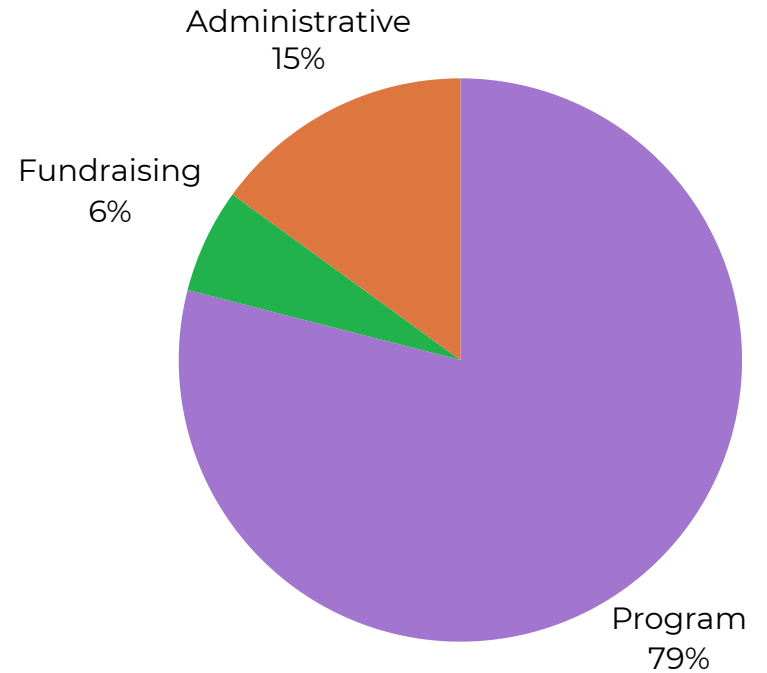
FINANCIALS

Revenue from artwork sales, grants, individual contributions, and government program fees help Creative Growth fulfill its mission. 50% of the net proceeds of art sales are paid to artists.

TOTAL REVENUE: \$2,967,376



TOTAL EXPENSES: \$3,421,894



PEOPLE

The team at Creative Growth can only be described as a family; on any one day we may be laughing, crying, or celebrating together. Our love for the artists and their immense talent is the secret sauce that keeps Creative Growth strong and thriving, even through the toughest of times.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Ginger Shulick Porcella, Executive Director
Tom di Maria, Director Emeritus

Sennett Allard, Gallery Assistant
Amir Bahman, Bookkeeper
Haideh Bahman-Vincent, Accountant
Arielle Berrick, Volunteer Coordinator
Morgan Brady, HR & Operations Director
Jen Cesario, Development Director
Quinn Dukes, Gallery Manager
Nadia Ghani, Gallery Director
Tracy Jones, Registrar
Erin Mendez, Social Media & Marketing Coordinator
Charlotte Moses, Artist Care Manager
Meegan Nolan, Art Program Manager
Emma Peyton, Language & Access Aide
David Polka, Gallery Assistant
Josie Porter, Studio Aide
Ibby Sasso, PR & Marketing Director
Amelia Whittlesey, Artist Services Director

STUDIO INSTRUCTORS

Whitney Austin
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Madelyn Covey
Greg Crawford
Emma Fenton-Miller
Daisy Jaber
Amy Keefer
Steph Kudisch
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Martin Segobia
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SUBSTITUTE INSTRUCTORS

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Jennifer Quintanilla
Jonhi Renganno
Hillary Shipway
Melinda Sterne

**SPECIAL SHOUT OUT TO THE DOZENS OF
VOLUNTEERS AND INTERPRETERS THAT CHOOSE
TO SUPPORT CREATIVE GROWTH WITH THEIR
TIME.**

THANK YOU!!!

SUPPORTERS

Thank you to our FY22 Major Supporters, especially those who have made a sustaining contribution to Creative Growth. Individual donations have a significant impact on our continued growth, demonstrating the strong and lasting commitment our community has to support artists with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

If you would like to join our list of committed patrons, sponsor a program, or make a corporate or planned gift, please contact Jen Cesario at jen@creativegrowth.org or call 510.836.2340.

\$50,000+

Council on Library and Information Resources
The Ford Foundation
National Endowment for the Arts
Ruth Foundation for the Arts
State of California, Department of Developmental Services
Target Corporation

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Watson Trust
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\$25,000-\$49,999

Art Dealers Association of America
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CSAA Insurance Corporation
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\$5,000-\$9,999

The Baker Street Foundation
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East Bay Community Foundation
The Fullen-Smith Foundation
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