

ANNUAL REPORT

2021



ART
Connection
RHODE ISLAND

Connecting Lives with Art
for **10 years.**

*"Just Kiddin'" by Judi Dill. Placed at the Boys
and Girls Club of Newport.*



Photos from 2021 AC-RI Art Workshops include West End Community Center, Providence (top left and right), Martin Luther King Jr. Center, Newport (top center), and PACE, East Providence (lower left).

Platinum
Transparency
2022

Candid.

2021 Highlights

Ongoing success

While the Covid-19 pandemic continued last year, through our "Connecting Lives with Art" program we provided 119 pieces of original art at no cost to 7 community service organizations in Rhode Island, serving nearly 12,500 of our less fortunate residents. Since AC-RI's founding in 2011, we have provided 1,517 original works of art to 95 of Rhode Island's valued service organizations.

Art Workshops

Since 2017, AC-RI has provided children and adolescents, who are largely from low income, minority communities, with after-school, hands-on, creative art education by professional artists. AC-RI pays a stipend to the artists. One of our participating artists reported: "You get a real sense of how enriching and nourishing art can be in their lives." In 2021, in spite of Covid, we were able to support 8 art workshops (one remote and seven in-person) in Providence, Pawtucket and Newport serving more than 90 children, preteens and teenagers in all.

Platinum Seal Awarded

For the third year in a row, AC-RI has received the "Platinum Seal for Transparency" from Candid (formerly GuideStar!), the organization which gathers, holds and provides data on 501(c)(3) organizations like ours to foundations, trusts, corporations and other funders. The Platinum Seal recognizes a non-profit organization which has provided the highest amount of information about itself required for use by potential funding organizations and individuals. The seal appears on our website as well as on our information at Candid.



Left to right: Michael Phelan, Tom Boucher, Wendy Ingram, Carolyn Kent, and Jim Scott receiving the Community partnership Award.

Community Partnership Award Received From PACE-RI

“Our organization relies on staff and community members who believe in our mission to help elders, and we’re proud to recognize these folks.”

—JOAN KWIATKOWSKI
CEO of PACE-RI

In December, we were honored to be recognized by PACE Organization of Rhode Island with the 2021 Community Partnership Award. This staff-nominated award is given each year to a community partner who has demonstrated exceptional commitment to the mission and values of the organization. Our work has beautified the day centers in East Providence and Westerly, donating more than 30 individual works from local artists.

Thank you for the recognition!

PACE-RI is a health plan for adults 55 and older who have chronic health needs and wish to remain living at home. It provides both the insurance and medical care, as well as a range of health and social services.



Tom Boucher and John Robinson, representing PACE-RI at our 10 Year Celebration at the Botanical Center in Cranston.



Artwork donated by AC-RI, hanging in the new East Providence PACE headquarters.



Above left, "Yellow House" painted by Richard Harrington. Above right, award winning artist and donor, Richard Harrington.

Artist Spotlight

Long time AC-RI donor, Richard Harrington, makes generous donation

Richard has been a major force for many decades in the Providence art community – as both an artist and teacher.

In 2021, he submitted over 200 pieces of artwork, and in total has donated well over 300 pieces of art. His artwork is always well received by our nonprofits and among the first chosen during art selections.

Richard has been an long standing advocate of AC-RI over the past seven years and many nonprofits and the communities they serve will enjoy his art for years to come.

“It’s been a great feeling to know that my work of 30+ years will be handled well, be respected and sent to places where it will be appreciated.”

–Richard Harrington
Donating Artist and 2021 Award Recipient

**“The art that [AC-RI]
and [its] artist community have donated
brings warmth, interest
and character to our sites.”**

–TOM BOUCHER

PACE-RI Chief of Marketing & External Affairs

Papitto Opportunity Connection

Our Newest Supporter

We are very pleased that The Papitto Opportunity Connection joined us for the first time to provide financial support for our art workshops in 2022. The Papitto Opportunity Connection strengthens opportunities for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color in Rhode Island by investing in educational, skills-training and entrepreneurial programs. We thank them for their generous support and belief in our mission.



Meet the Board: Kayla David

In December, we welcomed Kayla to the board. Kayla is a Marriage and Family Therapist and Director at FSRI, a local nonprofit providing social services to Rhode Island families. She founded the Hope and Resiliency Art Exhibit, an annual exhibit of art created by children in mental health recovery. Kayla believes in the healing power of art and ensuring all children have avenues for creative expression no matter their socio-economic status. She holds a Bachelor's in Women and Gender Studies from Rhode Island College and a Master's in Marriage and Family Therapy from Antioch University of New England.



Meet the Board: Victoria Sokolowski

Also in December, we welcomed Victoria to the board. Victoria is a licensed independent clinical social worker who runs a private psychotherapy practice in Providence. She holds a Bachelors of Social Work and a Masters of Social Work, both from Rhode Island College. Prior to opening her own practice, Victoria worked in various nonprofit settings and came to AC-RI with a passion for connecting local nonprofits to the arts. When not working, she enjoys spending time with her partner and two dogs, Marshall and Engine.



Artwork by Flying Shuttles, auctioned at the event.

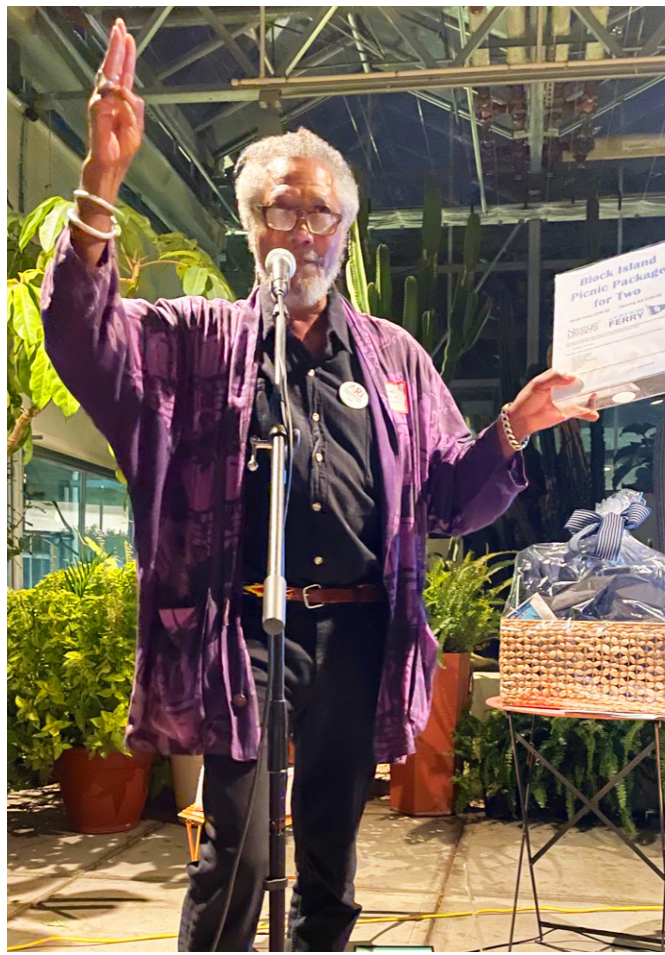
Celebrating a Decade Connecting Lives with Art

In October, AC-RI celebrated our 10th anniversary at the Botanical Gardens at Roger Williams Park. We hosted a gathering of about 100 artists, donors, sponsors, and non-profits who have selected art for their facilities. This was our first event since the Covid-19 lock-down and everyone was thrilled to be together in person. AC-RI long-term supporters Allison Bologna (the MC), and Len Cabral (the auctioneer for art created by local artists at Flying Shuttles in Pawtucket) gave their time to help make our celebration even more successful. We also presented awards to publicly recognize those who have made significant contributions to our organization, and to honor Wendy Ingram who founded AC-RI 10 years ago, and contributes a significant amount of her time to our success, and to fulfill our mission.



Flying Shuttles Auction winner, Judith Queen.

Page 7, top: Mary Shepherd, Len Cabral, Wendy Ingram. Second row: Flying Shuttles artists; Brenda Wilkinson, Jennifer June Buckley, Paul Almeida, Michelle Peloquin. Third row: Audience participating in the auction. Fourth row: Jim Scott, Debbie Dobbins. Lower right: MC Len Cabral.



2021 SUPPORTERS

Bank Newport	McMillan-Stewart Foundation
Bank RI	Nordson Corp. Foundation
Carter Family Charitable Funds	Papitto Opportunity Connection
City of Pawtucket	RI State Council on the Arts
Fay Slover Fund	The Felicia Fund
Ida Ballou Littlefield Trust	Washington Trust Charitable Foundation
June Rockwell Levy Foundation	

DONORS

Tom & Dotty Blair	Bill & Linna Kite
Elizabeth Buckley	Rebecca Leuchak & Bill Monroe
Len Cabral	Janice Libby
Dr. Joseph Chazan	Harold Mackinder
Lo Cosgrove	Paula Martiesian
Lewis & Betty Dana	Alice Miles
Danny Dehoney	Rob Panoff
Susan Erstling	Regina & John Partridge
Frank Faltus	B.T. Robinson
Mike Fink	Roberta Segal
Sarah Gleason	Mary Shepard
Nancy Godfray	Deming Sherman
George Goodwin	Andrew & Louise Swanson
Peter & Teresa Hacunda	

BOARD DONORS

Jim Scott
Liz Martino
Wendy Ingram
Carey Terranova
Kate Botelho Sibya

MISSION

Art Connection–Rhode Island enriches and inspires underserved populations by providing community service organizations access to original works of art created by local artists at no cost. ■



119
ARTWORKS
PLACED



1517 TOTAL
PLACED
WORKS OF
ART

7
ART
PLACEMENTS

2021 ART PLACEMENTS

Newport Mental Health
One Neighborhood Builders, Providence
Operation Stand Down Rhode Island
Pace Organization, Westerly
Pace Organization, East Providence
Pace Organization, Woonsocket
Pace Organization, East Providence

95
NONPROFITS
SERVED SINCE 2011

GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY

IDA BALLOU LITTLEFIELD
MEMORIAL TRUST



THE FELICIA FUND

June Rockwell
Levy Foundation



Fay Slover Fund at
tBf The Boston
Foundation



CARTER FAMILY
CHARITABLE FUNDS



Papitto
Opportunity
Connection

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