2021
ARTS IGNITE
Annual Report
Dear Friend,

The past year at Arts Ignite has been one of the most exciting growth periods in our 16-year history. We have both taken on new roles in the leadership team. Mary-Mitchell has taken on the role of President, and Carl is serving as Executive Director. The organization is now fully operating using a professional Teaching Artist model, a change from our previous volunteer-based model, which opens up more opportunities to create experiences for young people alongside artists with shared lived experiences.

The most visible change we’ve made is our name! ASTEP is now Arts Ignite. This is more than just a new name. We are now able to more accurately express our identity and purpose as an organization, deepening our connection to our mission of "developing agency in young people through the arts."

Our vision is to support young people as they grow and to expose them to the arts as a way to expand their world as bright, creative, thoughtful, and capable individuals. We come alongside young people by partnering with community organizations where they feel safe and supported.

Our goal is to foster growth as we move forward; growth in young people; growth in our teaching artist community; growth in our instruction methods including culturally responsive classroom practices that affirm student identity; growth in deep relationships with existing partner organizations; and growth through building a more sustainable organizational model.

Thank you for your continued support, and together we will make impactful changes in the lives of many children around the world.

Carl Sylvestre  
Executive Director

Mary-Mitchell Campbell  
Founder and President
We are a community of artists and educators, committed to a better life for all. We believe that the arts are a powerful force for sparking imagination, cultivating a sense of self, and breaking cycles of poverty. Arts education can create a ripple effect of hope and positive change within ourselves, our communities, and society.

We inspire young people as they build critical life skills and develop agency. We create justice-driven programs in deep partnership with schools and community organizations. We foster a community of exceptional teaching artists that forge enduring relationships with those we serve.

We are Arts Ignite.
CELEBRATING 2021 & CONTINUAL GROWTH

Introducing Arts Ignite
Formerly known as Artists Striving to End Poverty (ASTEP), we have re-envisioned and recommitted to our values of developing agency in young people through the arts.

New Programs and Partner Structure
We have initiated and maintained new community-led partnerships to identify programs that combine an arts-integrated curriculum with diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility based models.

2021 Christmas Concert
For the first time after two years of virtual celebration, we held our annual Christmas Concert in-person in NYC to supplement our fundraising efforts.

Teaching Artist Compensation
Previously powered by volunteers, Arts Ignite transitioned to a paid, fair wage Teaching Artist model to honor their exceptional talent and continuous commitment to the young people we serve.

Our New Executive Director
We have welcomed Carl Sylvestre as our new Executive Director to establish a framework for sustainable programming and create enduring relationships that spread our mission across the world.

Hiring New Programs and Development Directors
We hired Lindsay Roberts Greene as our new Director of Programs to build justice-driven, innovative programs and training. Kate Garst transitioned from her previous role into our Director of Development and Communications to strengthen our development department structure.
29 professional and talented Teaching Artists were hired to join forces with Arts Ignite.

1,304 young people in the US, India, and South Africa spent time in an Arts Ignite classroom, watching Arts ignite YouTube videos, or engaging with our physical asynchronous learning materials.

354 views on our weekly Arts Ignite NOW! YouTube Art Workshops.

719 Creative Activity Kits, filled with art supplies and specially crafted workbooks, delivered to youth in New York City and Philadelphia.

204 hours of instruction and training for Arts Ignite students and Teaching Artists.
Arts Ignite Waterloo!

Arts Ignite newly partnered with the Waterloo Community School District for this two-week residency for 150 emerging multilingual learners.

Creative Activity Kits

We are celebrating a year of our Creative Activity Kit initiative that offers technology-free activities and supplies to young people.

I/magine, NYC

Arts Ignite piloted the I/magine program, inviting 50 high school students to develop their self-definition through artistic expression.
It is well documented that second language acquisition is most successful when students are engaged, motivated, and confident.

Simona Boroianu
Arts Ignite Partner,
Waterloo Community School District

An important facet of many Arts Ignite programs is to advance the opportunity for students to engage in arts-rich learning that focuses on strengthening students’ English language proficiency, fostering positive interactions with their community, and positive peer relationships.
## SUPPORT AND REVENUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2021</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions and Grants</td>
<td>972,578</td>
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<tr>
<td>Government Grants</td>
<td>10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-kind Contributions</td>
<td>72,917</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Events</td>
<td>67,991</td>
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<td>Program Fees</td>
<td>23,843</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>3,040</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest and Dividends</td>
<td>13,424</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,163,793</strong></td>
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## EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>529,908</td>
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<tr>
<td>Payroll Taxes and Benefits</td>
<td>167,607</td>
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<td>Travel</td>
<td>22,476</td>
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<td>Boarding Expenses</td>
<td>20,861</td>
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<td>Professional Fees</td>
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<td>Occupancy</td>
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<td>Insurance</td>
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<td>Volunteer and Students Expenses</td>
<td>102,835</td>
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<td>Contracted Services</td>
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<td>Business registration fees</td>
<td>2,342</td>
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<tr>
<td>Depreciation expense</td>
<td>367</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Operating Expenses</td>
<td>30,050</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,087,692</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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2021 Audited Financials and 990 can be found on our website.
THANK YOU

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Our Team
Carl Sylvestre - Executive Director
Mary-Mitchell Campell - President and Founder
Kate Garst - Director of Development and Communications
Lindsay Roberts Greene - Director of Programs
Jamiya Leach - Development and Communications Associate
Hannah Martin - Development Assistant
Andrea Moore - Program Coordinator
Tiffany Ramos - Program Manager
Davinia Troughton - Director of Finance and Operations
THANK YOU

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Arts Ignite would like to thank all of our individual supporters. A partial list can be found here. Your continued generous support is greatly appreciated.