

2022-2023 Annual Report



North Carolina Arts in Action



North Carolina Arts in Action (NC AIA) 's mission is to empower elementary school children through dance and live music programs accessible to all students regardless of abilities and socio-economic status. Active in Title I schools, NC AIA develops the life skills necessary for success in the classroom and in life.



2022 – 2023

A Year of Worthy Snapshots

Thanks to our foundation partners, business supporters, and individual donors, in the 2022 -23 school year NC AIA offered dance classes with live music to 1700 students in 64 classrooms throughout Wake, Durham, Orange and Chatham counties. NC AIA teaching artists and musicians were in 14 public schools leading 21 programs (including LEAP) – all employing our award-winning pedagogy that strategically engages, motivates, and inspires diverse learners.

Everyone at NC AIA, including our 11 professional teaching artists, 7 musicians and administrators is committed to the success of each child participating in our programs. We applaud the principals and teachers at each of our partner schools. Their determination, resourcefulness, and creativity help us bring excellence and joy to the children we serve.

Since 2005, NC AIA has reached more than 18,600 children of all abilities and backgrounds using performing arts as a unique force for engaging and motivating students to realize their full potential. NC AIA's primary focus is the 16-week in-school program for fourth graders. We also offer after-school programs and an advanced Saturday program (LEAP). At C.C. Spaulding Elementary School in Durham, every class in every grade participates in the programming for the entire year.

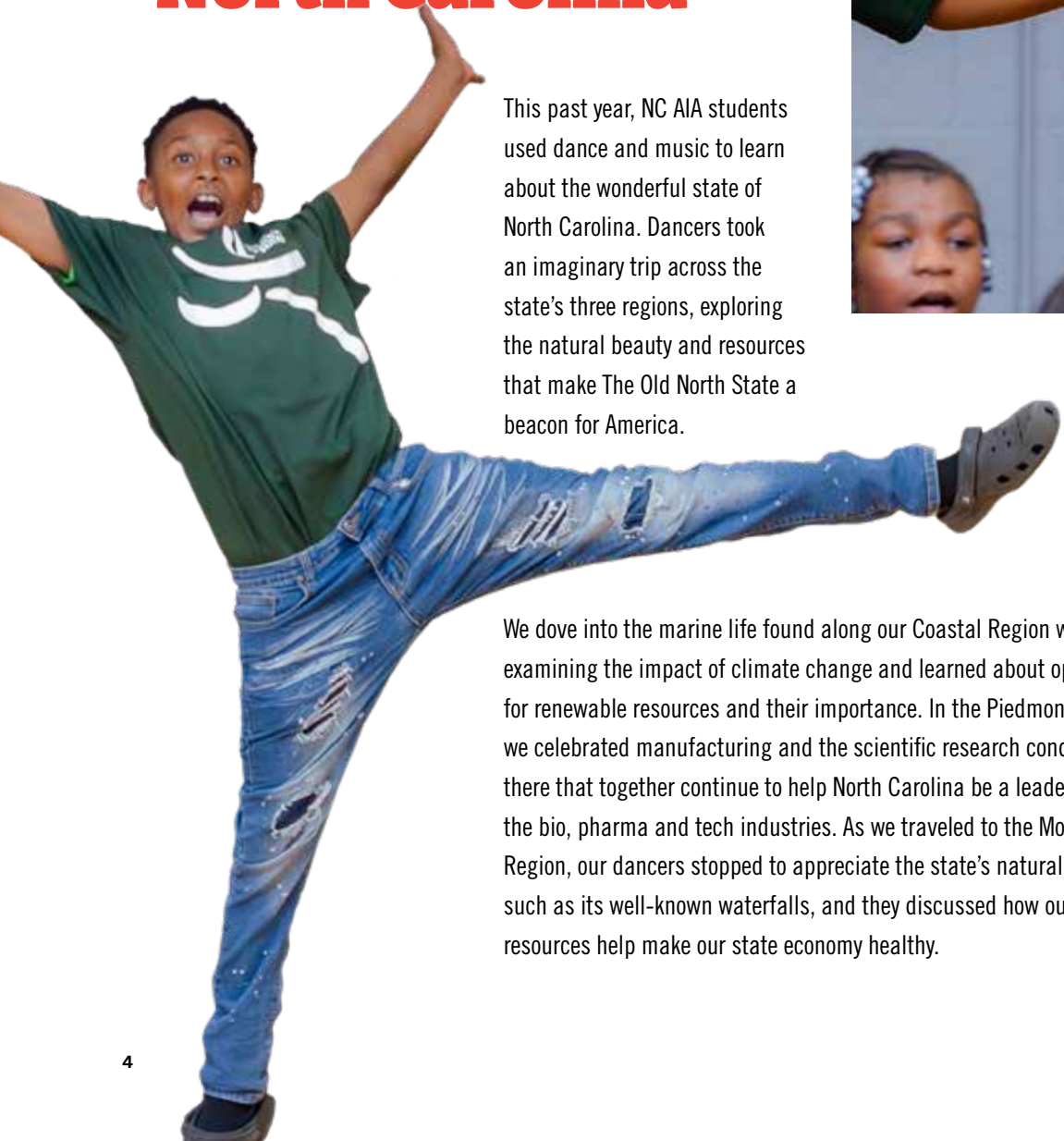
Your support over this past year helped us give children the hope and resilience they need to succeed in and out of school.

We thank you for your belief in our mission and your financial support.



Our 2022-23 Theme

Snap Shots Across North Carolina



This past year, NC AIA students used dance and music to learn about the wonderful state of North Carolina. Dancers took an imaginary trip across the state's three regions, exploring the natural beauty and resources that make The Old North State a beacon for America.

We dove into the marine life found along our Coastal Region while examining the impact of climate change and learned about options for renewable resources and their importance. In the Piedmont Region, we celebrated manufacturing and the scientific research conducted there that together continue to help North Carolina be a leader in the bio, pharma and tech industries. As we traveled to the Mountain Region, our dancers stopped to appreciate the state's natural beauty, such as its well-known waterfalls, and they discussed how our natural resources help make our state economy healthy.



Planning for and Expanding our Reach



NC Arts In Action's strategic plan, which was developed in partnership with Board members and staff, charts growth to offer 31 programs in 25 schools by 2026, nearly doubling our impact in the Triangle. With support from the consulting firm moss + ross, a special Leadership Cabinet, Board members and other volunteers, NC AIA is making plans so we can expand our reach to more children. We hope you will help us bring the transformative power of the arts to teach life skills to more children by joining our efforts in growing NC AIA. More information will be available in late Fall 2023.



Participating Schools

We are delighted by our partnerships with the following schools this past year:

Mel & Zora Rashkis Elementary School

Wakelon Elementary School

Millbrook Magnet Elementary School

J.W. York Elementary School

Baileywick Road Elementary School

Lynn Road Elementary School

Holt Elementary Language Academy

Pittsboro Elementary School

East Garner Elementary School

Green Magnet Elementary School

Lakewood Elementary School

C.C. Spaulding Elementary School

Southeast Raleigh Elementary School

Wildwood Forest Elementary School

1,274

individual dance
classes with live music

1,700

students

65

classrooms

professional teaching
artists, musicians
and administrators

25

14

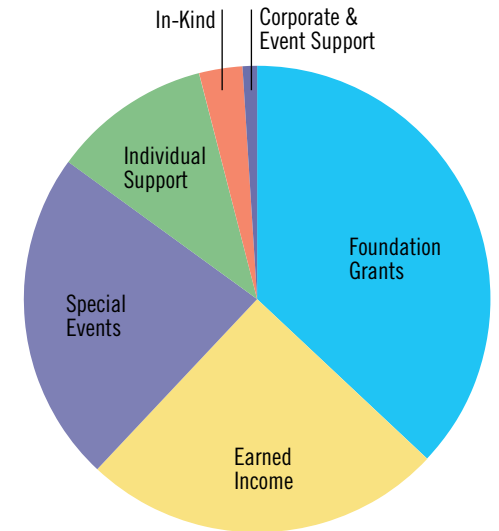
schools

cost to children
to participate

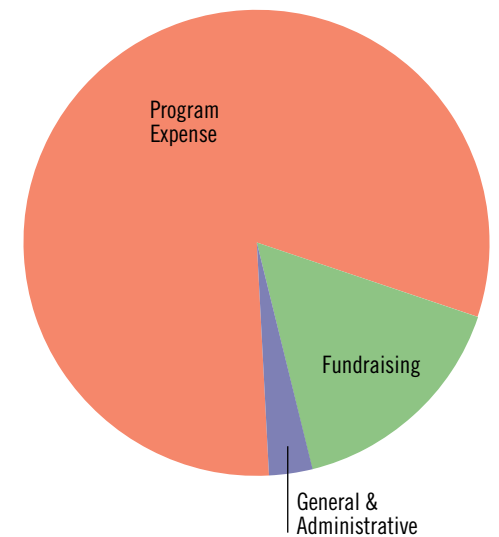
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Our FY 2022-23 By the Numbers

Foundation Grants	\$234,653
Earned Income	\$161,880
Special Events	\$144,843
Individual Support	\$71,593
In-Kind	\$20,200
Corporate & Event Support	\$9,308
TOTAL REVENUE	\$642,477



Program Expense	\$705,002
Fundraising	\$142,524
General & Administrative	\$24,386
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$871,912



The shortage is the result of a \$130,000 shortfall in foundation support due to timing in the receipt of grant payments. Our reserves covered this difference.



Impact

In a six year review of student surveys taken from 2017–2023 our program continues to show a positive impact on students.

Students report feeling better about coming to school and paying more attention on days they had NC Arts in Action. They also report that the program made them feel good about accomplishments in school, gave them self-confidence, and made them feel good about exercising.

The Link Group in Durham has conducted our Surveys on a pro bono basis these past six years and we deeply appreciate their services.



77% report that NC AIA made them feel good or great about exercising



73% report that NC AIA gave them self-confidence

76% report that NC AIA made them feel good or great about their accomplishments in school

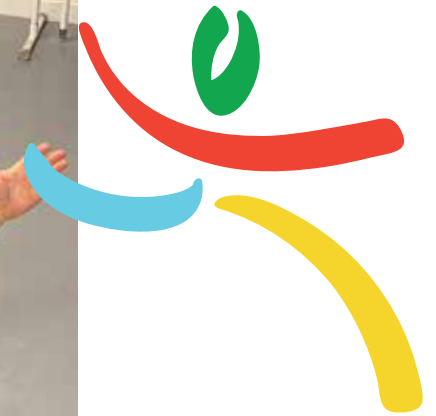
LEAP Team

Our LEAP Team dancers, led by Associate Artistic Director Tiana Sutton, Music Director Andrew Crowe, and Teaching Assistant Briana Scott had an exciting year. All participated in over 30 rehearsals, workshops and masterclasses. The LEAP Team's year began with eight returning LEAP Team dancers and through successful recruitment, grew to a team of 18. Rehearsals were held every Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon at City Ballet in Raleigh.

Masterclasses included: Willie Hinton led a Jazz Dance Masterclass which reviewed the fundamentals of NDI techniques while infusing elements of Jazz dance and African movements. Chris Thompson led the LEAP Team dancers in Traditional African Dance Masterclasses. An Indian Classical Dance and Music masterclass with Seema and live musician playing the Tabla and Sitar was another well received class.

From February through April the Theatre of Movement nine-week residency with Duane Cyrus, Journee Smith and Rashod Wells was held, supported by Spark the Arts funding from the NC Arts Council.

LEAP Team highlights included performances at the NC Museum of Art Family Day and Block Party Celebration, a video shoot at the NC Museum of Art, showcase of NC Explorers and film debut at NC Museum of Art's Spectrum Theater. In April LEAP Team dancers Senior dancers, Mia Joyner, Carla Yarbro and Aliya Jenkins were honored with "Capturing Good in Action" trophies at the NC Arts in Action Snapshot Gala.



Why do I Support North Carolina Arts in Action?

Jodi Schwartz

Co-founder of
Centerline Digital
and Board Member
of North Carolina
Arts in Action



I feel fortunate that I was able to bring music and performing arts to my children's lives and want to be able to bring that opportunity into other children's lives.

The more involved I get with NC AIA, the more I see the children affected by this — with their heads held high, instilling self esteem and bringing movement into their lives, so they get to experience this. I wish every kid could be exposed to it.

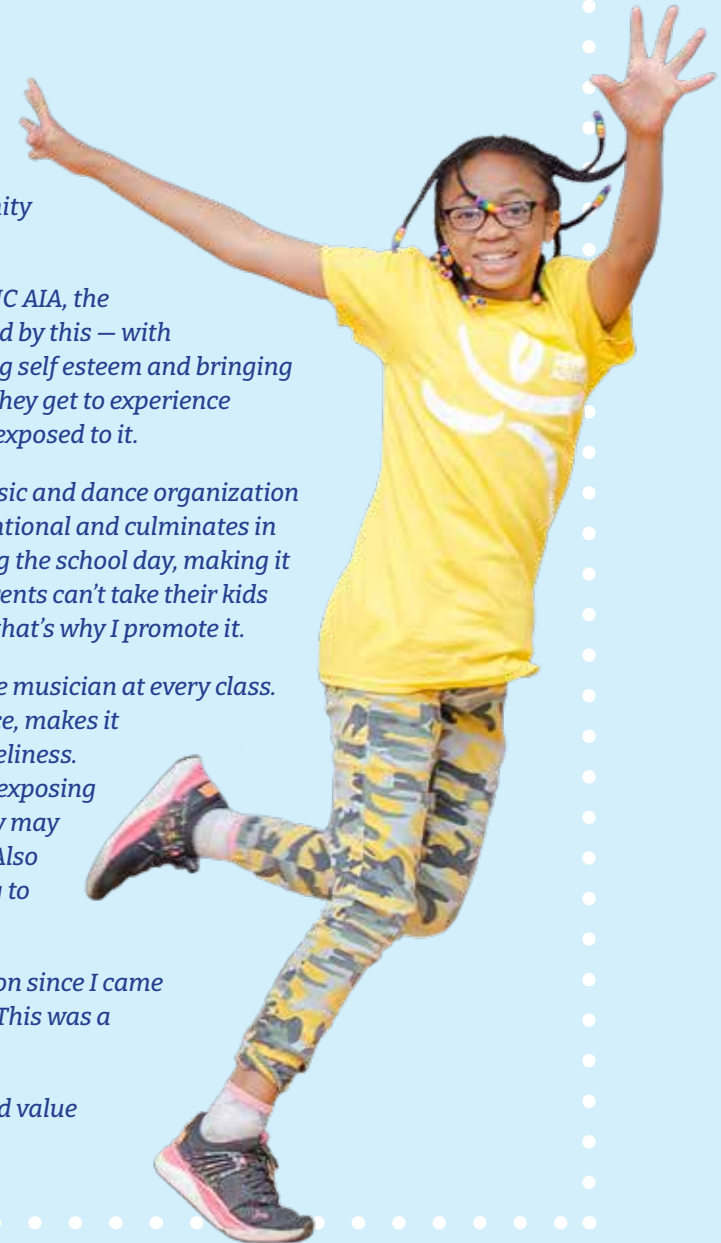
To me it's not just another music and dance organization for kids. The pedagogy is intentional and culminates in a performance. It's held during the school day, making it accessible, whereas many parents can't take their kids to after school activities, and that's why I promote it.

I love the fact that there's a live musician at every class. This brings a vibrancy to dance, makes it go up a level in quality and liveliness. The pedagogy, live music and exposing the children to something they may not have experienced before. Also

in keeping the program going during COVID, even when the children were trying to do it from home, this shows sustainability and resiliency of NC AIA's program.

Why serve on the board? *I originally felt it was complementary board to serve on since I came from a marketing agency with lots of folks interested in music and performing. This was a good cross over for professional life, instilling arts in children.*

With other boards I serve on, I only felt I was advising. With this board I feel I add value to it and I like giving back to the community.



Snapshots Gala

On April 22, NC AIA held its fourth annual gala, *Snapshots*, at the North Carolina Museum of Art. It may have poured outside but our guests fully enjoyed stopping for photos with TapSnap, eating delicious food from CateringWorks, watching a grand performance by the LEAP Team dancers, and of course, bidding in the auctions – silent, live, and (last but not least) Crown the Last Hero!

The gala raised over \$150,000, which is a vital part of our annual fundraising. We've already started planning for our 2024 Gala, which will be held at Raleigh Union Station on Thursday, April 18.



Why do I Support North Carolina Arts in Action?

Shawna Cannon Lemon

patent attorney with Stanek Lemon Crouse & Meeks, PA and a board member of North Carolina Arts in Action.

Shawna gave this talk to attendees of the 2023 Snapshots Gala

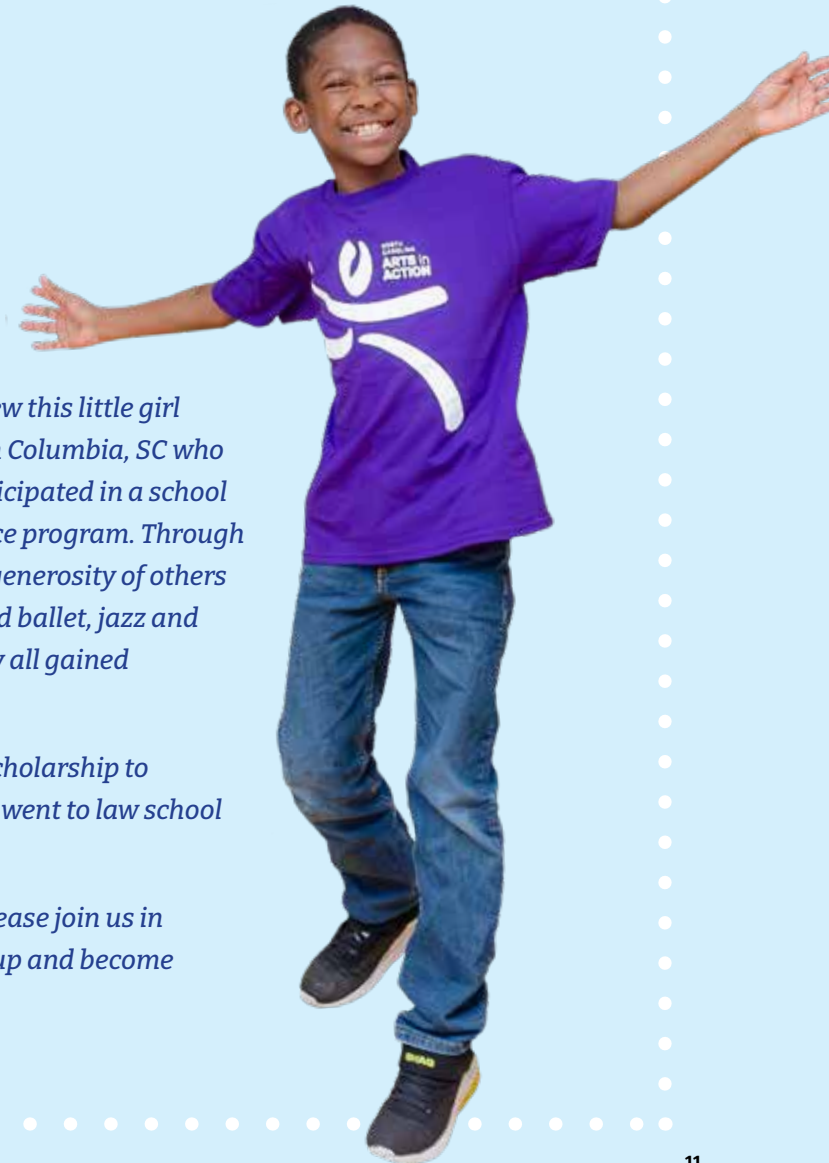


I knew this little girl from Columbia, SC who participated in a school dance program. Through the generosity of others

like yourselves, she and other students from all backgrounds studied ballet, jazz and creative dance. None of them became professional dancers, but they all gained confidence and learned the value of teamwork.

With the confidence she gained, that young girl later earned a full scholarship to college, she earned a PhD, and she had so much confidence that she went to law school and is now a patent attorney.

I was that young girl and now I pay it forward. I am asking you to please join us in supporting NC AIA so that children right here in our area can grow up and become anything they want to be!



Every gift helps us ensure that the arts remain at the center of children's lives.

We thank our wonderful donors

July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

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\$25,000 +**

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“Being able to integrate this program as part of the school day is great for our students.”

– Principal Carmen Graf, East Garner Elementary School

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Michael Borka
Thomas and Elizabeth Caine
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Kristina Clossick
Mary Coleman
Betsy Collie
Irina and Walter Daniel
Lucy Daniels
Merianne De Merode

“I love how the students were actively involved. The instructors were incredibly patient and understanding of the students who struggled with participating. The program had opportunities for all students to shine.”

– Wildwood Forests Elementary School Fourth Grade teacher

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July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

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Fund for Triangle -
Triangle Community Foundation
Trinity Properties
Wake County Public School System
WCPE Radio Education Fund
White Memorial Presbyterian Church
J.W. York Elementary School P.T.A.
100 Women Who Give a Hoot Fund

***“The perseverance required to master new dance moves
is carrying over to the classroom, and my students
are now excelling in other areas of their curriculum.”***

– 4th grade teacher

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