

2023
2024

ANNUAL REPORT



A Year of Growth:
**Amplifying
Arts Education
for Every Child**



OUR VISION

Arts education for every student, every school, every community.

OUR MISSION

To advance equitable experiences in arts education for all Alabama students through partnerships, advocacy, and resource development.





WHO WE ARE

Amp Up Arts is a statewide 501(c)3 nonprofit arts education organization with a **strong commitment to promoting increased access to arts education and fostering artistic talents in our communities.**

We believe in equitable arts access for all Alabama students through art teachers, teaching artists, and arts organization partnerships.

We focus on statewide development of arts education for preK-12 schools through networking, advocacy, and professional development, and we support local collaborative sites statewide.

We believe in empowering communities to use their local resources and knowledge to create sustainable arts education that is specific to the local culture and needs.

Partners





Amp Up Arts works to promote increased access to arts education for every Alabama student:

HOW WE DO IT

01. Super Arts Network

Connect students, teachers, and schools to artists, arts organizations, & community resources to create individualized opportunities for students to experience and learn through the arts by providing teaching artist residencies, schoolwide programming, after school and summer programs, and community events

02. Collaborative Sites

Each collaborative site uses strategic community development and an integrative school and community partner approach to determine needs, resources, and future planning for how to best support equitable arts education and experiences in the region

03. Funding Guidance

Assist schools, partners, and teaching artists with finding and applying for grants and funding opportunities

04. Professional Development

Identify and provide high quality professional development for teachers, schools, arts organizations, and artists, and connect with other states on best practices to bring to Alabama to support our students, as well as focus on the importance of place-based learning

OUR OBJECTIVES



01.

Position: Making the case for the value of arts education for every Alabama student at every stage of learning.

02.

Advocating for education policy to ensure sustainable support of Alabama arts education.

03.

Developing a position as the primary resource for arts education in Alabama.

WE ARE PURPOSE-DRIVEN

We put **purpose before organization** by prioritizing Amp Up Art's purpose, versus our organization.

We **respect the ecosystem** by acknowledging that our actions can positively or negatively impact its surrounding ecosystem, and we commit to being a respectful and responsible ecosystem player.

We **value an equity mindset** by committing to advancing equitable outcomes, and interrogating and avoiding the ways in which our strategies and work may reinforce systemic inequities.

We recognize that **our voice and power must be authorized** by those impacted by our work.



A LETTER FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear Amp Up Arts Family,

As we reflect on a transformative year at Amp Up Arts, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for what we've accomplished together. This past year has been a testament to our shared commitment to advancing arts education for all Alabama students, and we have continued to grow as a trusted resource and advocate for our communities.

In 2023, we made significant strides in growing direct impact among Amp Up Arts Collaborative Sites, forging new key partnerships and networks, and growing the community of arts educators. For example:

- We had a **204.4%** increase in students directly impacted by the work of Amp Up Arts Collaborative Sites.
- Forged **key partnerships** with government and private agencies, statewide and locally.
- Expanded work into **Troy** and **Andalusia** through the Johnson Center for the Arts and the Lower Alabama Arts Coalition.

These milestones were achieved thanks to the dedication of our incredible team, the guidance of our Board of Directors, and the active participation of our communities and partners. Your contributions have been instrumental in helping us address challenges and seize opportunities that will shape the future of our impact.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to increasing access to arts education and experiences for all Alabama students. Our focus will be on building capacity, leveraging data collection, and strengthening advocacy efforts.

On behalf of the entire Amp Up Arts team, thank you for your unwavering support and belief in our mission. Together, we are building a more innovative and creative future for Alabama. Here's to another year of collaboration and success!

With gratitude,
Kevin King
Board President





OUR TEAM

Ashley Lucier
Executive Director

Kerri-Noelle Humphrey
Secretary

Carey Andrzejewski, Ph.D.

Kevin King
President

Jonathan Avant
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Ruth Jatib O'Connor

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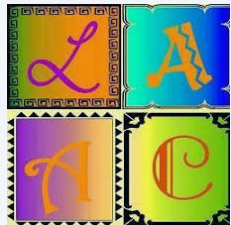
Pame Cavellos

Mike Winkelman

COLLABORATIVE SITES

Amp Up Arts leads a statewide collective impact model with various collaborative sites.

We are the backbone support for the work of our collaborative sites, and we support them through resources, funding guidance, professional development, and advocacy. Each site is provided a collaborative site director and programming funding through our partnership with the Alabama State Council on the Arts, and the site directors work with local school districts, arts and community organizations, and artists to provide equitable arts education and experiences to K-12 students.



ANDALUSIA

Amp Up Arts Andy

Lower Alabama Arts
Coalition

Kristy White



BIRMINGHAM

Arts Collab

Arts Collab

Eric Marable, Jr.



HUNTSVILLE

Creative Launchpad

Arts Huntsville

Chris Carter



MOBILE

Mobile Arts Council

Arts Collab

Kat Stoves



TROY

Amp Up Arts Troy

Johnson Center
for the Arts

Brenda Cambell



TUSCALOOSA

West Alabama Arts Education Collaborative

The Arts and Humanities
Council of Tuscaloosa
County

Autumn Fuller



FINANCIALS

Through a public-private partnership with the Alabama State Council on the Arts, Amp Up Arts receives funding for our backbone role in the Amp Up Arts Initiative. Collaborative sites receive individual funding through the Alabama State Council on the Arts, as well as through additional outside grants and donations. Our work goes beyond our budget, providing access to additional funding opportunities for schools and teaching artists through our funding guidance and assistance.



Government Grants
& Contracts

\$159,562

Program
Service Fees

\$21,450

*not included: **\$325,000** granted to collaborative sites from Amp Up Arts Initiative*



Programming
Services

\$100,047

Administrative

\$120,514

*not included: **\$501,500** in funding opportunities for teaching artists and schools through the Amp Up Arts Initiative*



BY THE NUMBERS

16 SCHOOL DISTRICTS

100% increase from previous year

63 SCHOOLS

80% increase from previous year

85 TEACHING ARTISTS

66.7% increase from previous year

28

school arts education strategic plans created

15,986

STUDENTS

204.4% increase from previous year

68 RESIDENCIES

13 FIELD TRIPS

12 PERFORMANCES

247 EDUCATORS PARTICIPATED IN

14 PROFESSIONAL TRAININGS

Amp Up Arts is the statewide coordinator for the Amp Up Arts Initiative, a collective impact model. Through Amp Up Arts Collaborative Sites, vital access to arts education in Alabama becomes a reality. Arts education and its outcomes can be difficult to measure - students gain

skills and development beyond what tests can measure when they are working with creative programming and initiatives. While we have important stories to tell in this report, this is a snapshot of the numbers of our impact in Alabama.



DIRECT IMPACT in Alabama Schools

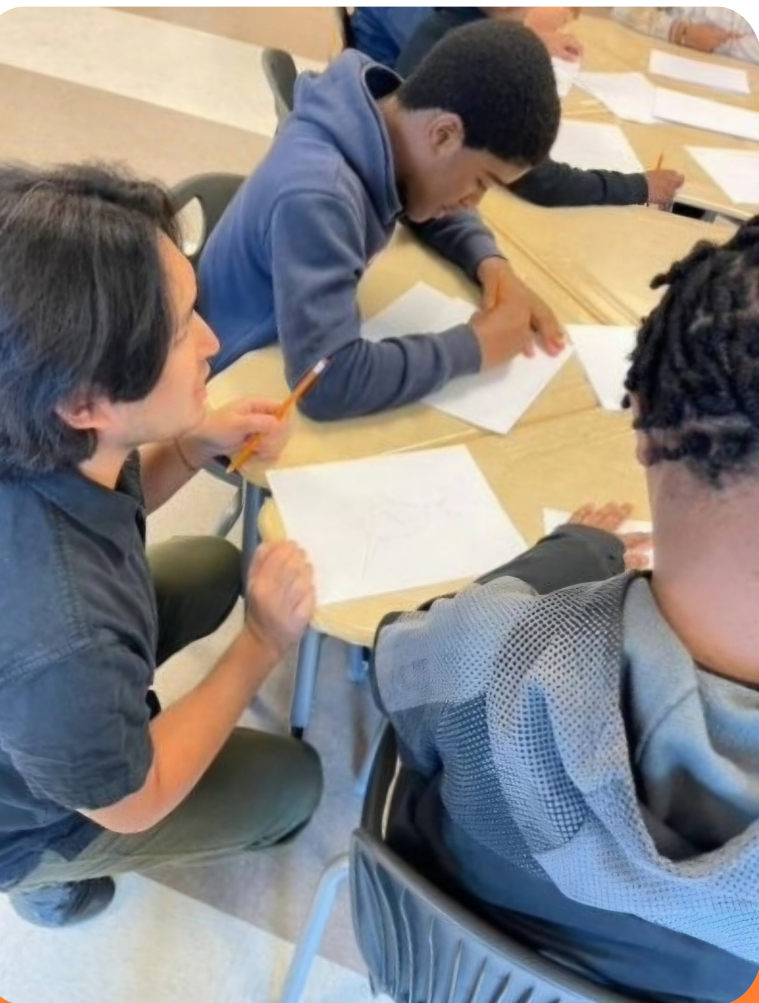


Amp Up Arts holds the belief that all Alabama students have the right to arts education and experiences. To make this a reality, we support collaborative sites that implement artists residencies and experiences in schools that have little or no arts education. Our direct impact helps more students learn, grow, and become future innovators, equipped with creativity and critical thinking skills.





85 artists worked in
63 schools, providing
arts classes, art
integration lessons,
field trips, and
performances



Residencies in 2023
included programming in:

- 3D Sculpture
- Art & Military Technology
- Clay
- Creative Movement
- Dance
- Digital Music Production
- Drums
- Gardening/Visual Arts Integration
- Music
- Piano
- Puppeteering
- Songwriting
- Theatre
- Drawing
- Painting
- Watercolor

NETWORKS & PARTNERSHIPS



In 2023, Amp Up Arts strengthened its role as a connector within the arts education community by expanding our networks and partnerships across Alabama. Collaborating with schools, community organizations, and state leaders, we brought together diverse voices to advocate for equitable access to the arts.

Notably, our partnerships through collaborative sites enabled us to reach over **15,000** students and educators, fostering new opportunities for creative expression. These collaborations have not only amplified the impact of arts education in local communities but also laid the groundwork for statewide initiatives that ensure every student benefits from a robust arts education.

Through state level work, our partners include the following:

- A+ Education Partnership
- Alabama Dance Council
- Alabama State Council on the Arts
- Alabama State Department of Education
 - Office of Extended Learning
 - Office of School Improvement
- Department of Early Childhood
- Department of Human Resources
- Department of Mental Health
- Governor's Office of Education and Workforce Transformation



OUR PARTNERS

In addition, Amp Up Arts Collaborative Sites partners include:

- Alabama Choir School
- Alabama Contemporary Arts Center
- Alabama Dance Theatre
- Alabama School of Fine Arts
- Alabama Symphony Orchestra
- Alabama Youth Ballet School
- ArtPlay
- Azalea City Center for the Arts
- Bay Area Art Educators
- Bib & Tucker Sew-Op.
- Birmingham Children's Theatre
- Broadway Theatre League
- Burritt on the Mountain
- Children's Hands-On Museum
- Classic Ballet of Mobile
- Dawson Music Academy
- Desert Island Supply CO (DISCO)
- DRUM the Program
- Eastern Shore Arts center
- Ed Farm
- Ezell's Productions
- Fantasy Playhouse
- Find Arts Find Life
- Firehouse Community Arts center
- Fuse Project
- Gradient Dance Theater
- Gulf Coast Ethnic and Heritage Jazz Festival
- Homewood Theatre
- Huntsville Ballet Company
- Huntsville Museum of Arts
- Huntsville Symphony Orchestra
- Magic City Performing Arts
- Maitland Conservatory
- MEOW Academy
- Microwave Dave Music Education Foundation
- Mobile Ballet
- Mobile Botanical Gardens
- Mobile International Festival
- Mobile Museum of Arts
- Mobile Museum of Arts
- Mobile Symphony Orchestra
- Muffinjaw
- Nathifa Dance Company & Outreach
- North Jefferson Arts Alliance
- Opera Huntsville
- Red Mountain Theatre
- Shelby County Arts Council
- Sidewalk Film Center
- Sloss Metal Arts
- Space One Eleven
- STEP Birmingham
- STREAM Innovations
- Sunnyside Theatre
- The Alabama Blues Project
- The Art Garage
- The Cohill Foundation
- The Dance Foundation
- The Flourish
- The King's Canvas
- The Learning Center at the Armory
- The Pioneer Museum
- The Weeden House Museum
- Theatre UAB
- Tuscaloosa Children's Theatre
- Tuscaloosa Community Dancers
- Tuscaloosa Symphony Orchestra
- UAB Arts in Medicine
- University of Alabama School of Music
- Vulcan Park and Museum
- Wave, Inc.
- Wordz & Rhythmx
- YOGI DADA

plus hundreds of teaching artists across the state!



ARTIST TRAINING

This year, the Amp Up Arts Initiative delivered dynamic professional development opportunities designed to empower educators and advocates in the arts education field. Through workshops, webinars, and in-person training sessions, we equipped over **247** participants with the tools and strategies to enhance arts instruction and advocacy. From integrating culturally responsive teaching practices to mastering the latest arts education technologies, our programs focused on building capacity and fostering innovation. The overwhelmingly positive feedback from participants underscores our commitment to meeting the evolving needs of arts educators and ensuring lasting impact in classrooms and communities.

TEACHING ARTIST & GRANT WORKSHOPS

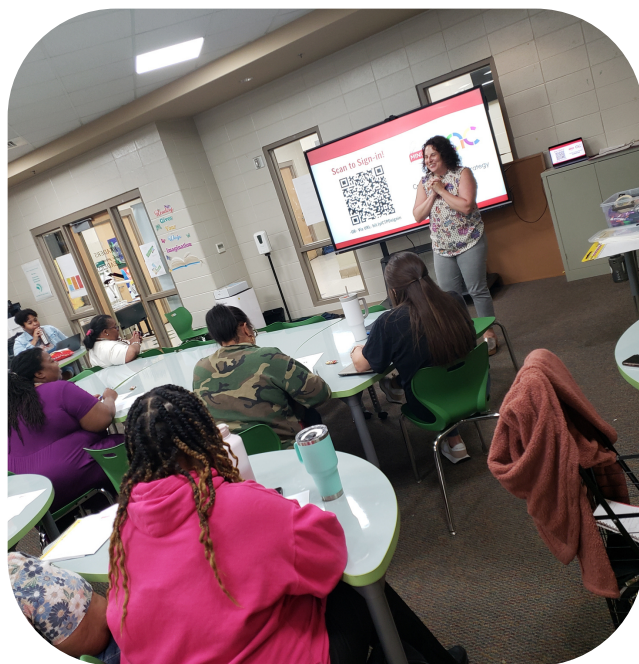
Amp Up Arts provides teaching artist workshops intended for artists of all art forms interested in working in schools. These workshops encompass lesson planning, understanding of standards and rigor, classroom management, and student engagement. In addition, we work with the Alabama State Council on the Arts to provide grant guidance and application training and support during the workshops, empowering teaching artists to explore opportunities and funding independently.





PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Creative Launchpad and the **Arts Collab** specialize in Creative Teaching Strategies workshops for certified teachers and teaching artists. These multi-day trainings equip teachers with a research-backed pedagogical approach that integrates arts-inspired frameworks for academic depth, emphasizing core subjects through creative thinking. It fosters personalized learning, student agency, and joy by involving idea generation, model construction, analysis, translation, and diverse perspectives. This approach cultivates critical thinking, innovation, and diverse interpretations while promoting personalized learning based on individual strengths, needs, and skills. Regulated routines encourage learning risks, and joy arises from self-expression and community building.



- **100%** of educators express that our sessions are engaging, inspiring, and relevant.
- **99%** of educators believe their students will benefit from the content they learn in the Creative Teaching sessions.
- **97%** of teachers agree or strongly agree that our workshops increase their skill and comfort with arts education planning and teaching.
- **96%** of teachers agree or strongly agree that our workshops provide them with effective teaching tools they can use with their students immediately.



GET INVOLVED

**DONATE TO
SUPPORT OUR
WORK.**



Access these
resources &
donate today!

**LEARN MORE ABOUT ARTS
EDUCATION SOLUTIONS
FOR ALABAMA.**



Sign up for The Reverb to receive monthly information on events, resources, and funding opportunities.



Visit our website to find advocacy resources and funding information.



**HELP US AMPLIFY
THE ARTS FOR ALL
ALABAMA
STUDENTS!**



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