

ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 2022 - JUNE 2023



Bennington Museum engages and transforms our visitors and our community by connecting them to our region's diverse arts, rich history, and lush New England landscape.

July 2022 - June 2023

Bennington Museum is emerging from fiscal year 2023 (FY23) standing on solid ground operationally, fiscally, and programmatically. Our contributed revenue continues on an upwards trajectory, in part thanks to a surge of individual gifts and grants awarded for specific projects which has helped place the museum solidly in the black for the third year in a row. Thanks to your investments, in FY23 the Museum improved drainage onsite, completed the window insulation project, and focused on shoring up the exterior of our building and on conditioning the interior. The completion of roof repair work and HVAC replacements will provide a stable base from which we can confidently launch larger scale infrastructure projects over the next several years.

In conjunction with infrastructure projects, the Museum continued to offer robust programming throughout FY23. We contracted with a conservator to have the Washington Benevolent Society historic banner repaired, funded the Teacher's Institute and the Curatorial Internship, and supported community projects like Stopping Stones, the Walloomsac Inn presentation, and a marker installation for the only known witch trial in Vermont which will take place in September of this year. These events, along with staple programming like Museum ABCS, Music at the Museum, Concerts in the Courtyard, and the Bennington Historical Society lectures, have entertained and enlightened visitors and participants of all ages from across the region. All of these programs are underwritten by generous supporters who believe the Museum should be accessible and relevant to everyone. These programs raise the Museum's profile within the community and move our institution forward in our journey to be one of the most significant and accessible cultural resources for our local population.

This year, capitalizing on the strong financial support of our patrons, the Museum's curatorial and education staff will be turning their attention towards augmenting the Grandma Moses gallery and expanding it into adjacent spaces. Our goal is to provide additional context for Grandma Moses and insight into her personal life. Why was she able to make such a lasting mark on the art world? What was remarkable about her journey to fame? What role did she play in reigniting interest in the folk art movement of the mid 20th century?

Our members and patrons believe in the importance of this institution as a place where ideas can be discussed, presented, and debated, and are committed to sustaining its success. Thank you to everyone who believes in this Museum, who supports this institution financially, and who shares precious time and talent. With your help in the coming year we will continue to captivate the attention and imagination of both our immediate community and those from afar who are visiting our unique corner of the world.

Martin Mahoney
Executive Director

ENGAGEMENT REPORT

July 2022 - June 2023

BENNINGTON MUSEUM | 03

How Does Bennington Museum Serve the Community?

Exhibitions



In FY23 Bennington Museum hosted 17 changing exhibitions onsite which were viewed by nearly 12,916 visitors from all 50 states and 24 foreign countries.

Events



Bennington Museum hosted nearly 100 events and workshops last year. We also rented our space for community gatherings and weddings.

Outdoors



From the Wildflower Trail to NBOSS to Concerts in the Courtyard, the outdoors play a big part in bringing our community together.

Education



This past year we reached nearly 2,000 kids through our school group tours, school visits, Museum ABCs programming, and the student art show. Additionally, the Teachers' Institute will indirectly benefit hundreds more children.

GRANTS

July 2022 - June 2023

BENNINGTON MUSEUM | 04

This past year, Bennington Museum addressed some much needed building repairs. With your help, and the aid of several strategic grants totaling almost \$218,000 in received funds, we were able to bring new programming to the community and address many infrastructure projects that will keep our collections safe and accessible for years to come.

Edwin S. Webster Foundation: Operational support

Foundation for Advancement in Conservation: Restoration of the 1811 Washington Benevolent Society flag

Golub Foundation: Winter holidays family activities

National Endowment for the Humanities: Window insulation

National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution:

Restoration of the 1811 Washington Benevolent Society flag

Peckham Foundation: "Critical Conversations" lecture series

The Preservation Trust of Vermont: The History of the Walloomsac Inn, window insulation

Vermont Arts Council: website redesign, operations

Vermont Humanities Council: Teacher's Institute

Vermont Preservation Trust: Window insulation

William H. Pomeroy Foundation: Historical marker



ACQUISITIONS

July 2022 - June 2023

BENNINGTON MUSEUM | 05

Bennington Potters Collection: Gift of Susan and David Bonser

10th Cavalry passing through Bennington August 29, 1912 Real photo postcard: Gift in Memory of Catherine McOuatt Goddard

Frank Howard (1924-2013) "Shaftsbury, Looking North" Oil on canvas, "Frost Farm" Oil on canvas: Gift of Tom and Jennifer Fels

Bennington Potters "Split Head," sculpture, made around 1970-1978: Gift of Susan and David Bonser



H.T. Cushman Manufacturing Company Mission style style clock, 1903: Gift of Susan and David Bonser

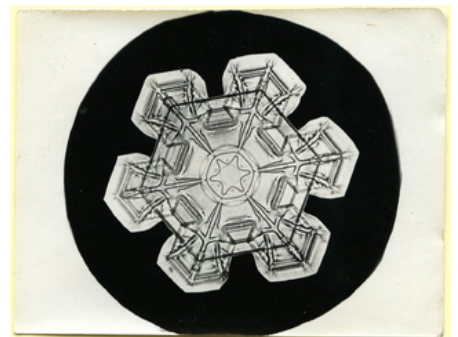
Group of archival materials related to Patsy Santo: Unaccredited

Poster for stud service for stallion Walloomsac, owned by A.J. Dewey, 1886 Color printed poster, framed, Ticket for stud service by stallion Walloomsac, 188_ Printed paper, framed: Gift of Philip and Louise Dewey



Paedra Bramhall blown glass sculptures, 1972: Museum Purchase, funds provided by exchange from the Gertrude D. Webster Collection, shown here "Breast Chalice" 1976

Deidre Scherer Stories, 1986 Fabric and thread: Gift of Frank and Sharron Kropa



Margaret Mousseau COVID-19 Psychosis, 2020 Signed, titled, dated and annotated on verso. Colored pencil on paper: Museum Purchase, funds provided by exchange from Mrs. Sarita Weeks

Black and white photomicrograph of snowflake by Wilson Bentley, 1920: Gift of Raymond Grant

Shirley Jackson Collection: Gift of Laurence Jackson Hyman

Sheldon Rockwood drawing, 1884 Pen and ink drawing, framed, Studio portrait of Sheldon Rockwood Wills T. White Silver gelatin print: Gift in honor of Ruth Alice Rockwood



Silk fabric, Patt # 1058L Tzaims Luksus: Gift of the Estate of Thomas and Martha Veitch

Each One a Soul, 2021 Archival ink on Japanese Kinwashi (golden) paper, thread, handwritten text in archival ink In-camera collage on orthochromatic film using a custom pinhole camera: Gift of the Artists, EvenSteve

THE ARNOLD RICKS AWARD

BENNINGTON MUSEUM | 06

This award is presented by the Museum to an individual or organization in recognition of exceptional contributions to the Bennington community and Bennington Museum.

In 2022 the Museum Development Committee voted to change the name of the Hiland Hall Award to the Arnold Ricks Award in his honor and to offer it as the only annual award.

The second **Arnold Ricks Award** recipient was Bob Tagert. He was selected to honor his outstanding leadership for both the Bennington Historical Society (BHS) and the Regional History Room (aka the Library). He has been diligently culling, organizing, digitizing, and cataloging the genealogical library resources. As well as he also arranged speakers for a popular, vibrant monthly series, presiding over gatherings, and chairing monthly BHS board meetings. In 2022, the first ever Arnold Ricks Award recipients were Michele and John Pagán.



The following have received **The Hiland Hall Award**:
2015 Tyler Resch, 2013 Pat Adams and R. Arnold Ricks

The following have been past **General Stark Award** recipients (this award was retired in 2019):

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1982 Gene E. Irons | 2001 Ed Cotter |
| 1983 George J. Cushing | 2002 Pat Guerrero |
| 1984 Dr. Dudley M. Baker | 2003 Hal and Betsy Ehrenfreund |
| 1985 Russell Bagley and Ronald Cox | 2004 Norman Wilder |
| 1986 Antiques and the Arts Weekly | 2005 Ted Atkinson |
| 1987 Henry Marvin Dodge | 2006 Verrall and Don Keelan |
| 1988 Herbert T. Woodman | 2007 Fred Ehrich |
| 1989 Tirzah Sweet | 2008 Fred and Constance West |
| 1990 The Volunteers Corps | 2009 Bruce and Elizabeth Putnam |
| 1991 Catherine Cumpston | 2010 Mel and Michael Madison, MBC |
| 1992 Eugene Kosche | 2011 Sheela Harden |
| 1993 David L. Thomas | 2012 Don and Bettenell Miller |
| 1994 Ella Graves and Townsend K. Wellington | 2013 Tony and Jackie Marro |
| 1995 S. Lane Faison | 2014 Tom Fels |
| 1996 Hemmings Motor News | 2015 Galerie St. Etienne |
| 1997 Marie and George Hadwen | 2016 Joyce Hall |
| 1998 Alan H. Morrison | 2017 Anne Bugbee |
| 1999 Edith Lambert | 2018 Frances Holbrook |
| 2000 Will Moses | 2019 The George Aiken Trail Volunteers |
-

MEMBERS

BENNINGTON MUSEUM | 07

Active as of June 30, 2023

Members are the backbone of Bennington Museum. Your support helps us achieve our goals and secure grant funding. Your input helps shape our programming and exhibitions in the coming year.

All Museum members are recognized in the donor roll on the following pages with an asterisk, but here we will take a moment to recognize our highest level Museum members who join us on quarterly cultural tours and are part of an intimate philanthropic group. You have demonstrated a strong dedication to Bennington Museum's mission and we have enjoyed getting to know you better this year! Your commitment and investment makes it possible to engage our visitors and our community with our region's diverse arts, rich history, and culture of innovation. Thank you.

MONUMENT SOCIETY

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Bill and Ruth Botzow
Brian Campion and Eric Hatch
Jane Childs
Ted Cutsumpas and Alicia Holden
Kelly and Olive DePonte
Susan and Terrence Dermody
Kate Goble and Marc Baetens
Claudia and Peter Kinder
Steven Korn and Nancy Coseo
Edd Lyon and Heather Hamilton
Anthony and Jacqueline Marro
Kenneth and Jane Moriarty
David and Marsha Pilachowski
Edie Sawitsky and Michael Keane
Will and Katie Schmidt
Marc and Fronia Simpson
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Donald Trachte and Michel Kimball
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Tom and Jennifer Fels
Frances and Timothy Holbrook
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Robert Mello
Bill Morgan and Judy Matz
Richard and Leslie Morgenthal
Jane Sobel and Stanley Rosen
Stanley Stroup

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Alexandra Ernst and Dean Garret Siegel
Timothy and Ann McCann
Michael Nigro and Sarah Perrin
Justine Scanlon and Stuart Hurd

CORPORATE SUSTAINING

Nexus Consulting



SUPPORTERS

BENNINGTON MUSEUM | 08

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

Donations listed represent cumulative giving throughout FY23, including Annual Fund donations, donations to specific projects, grants, sponsorships, event support, gifts to the endowment, bequests, memorials, memberships, and ticket purchases. Cumulative totals include both cash and in-kind gifts. We do our best to compile a complete listing, but if you have any questions, please let us know!

\$10,000 and above

Anonymous
Robert Cane and Alison Nowak*
The Edwin S. Webster Foundation
Ruth Ekstrom*
Sandra and Richard Johnson
Claudia and Peter Kinder*
Masterworks
National Endowment for the Humanities
Lyman Orton and Janice Izzi
Anne Slattery*
The Preservation Trust of Vermont
The Vermont Community Foundation
Vermont Arts Council
Consie West*

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Bennington Banner
Sheela Harden
Frances and Timothy Holbrook*
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Susan Hunter
Leslie and Peter Knapp
Anthony and Jacqueline Marro*
Kenneth and Jane Moriarty*
Mt. Anthony Veterinary Hospital
National Society Daughters of the American Revolution
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Vermont Humanities Council
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\$2,500 to \$4,999

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**An asterisk indicates a donor is a member as of June 30, 2023!*

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July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

BENNINGTON MUSEUM | 09

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Darcy Webb
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July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

BENNINGTON MUSEUM | 10

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Up to \$99

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BENNINGTON MUSEUM | 13

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

Up to \$99 (cont.)

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July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

BENNINGTON MUSEUM | 14

Up to \$99 (Cont.)

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David Silver*
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Kendy Skidmore
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Rob Steuer
Lori Stewart
Julia Stifler
Paul Stolzer
Harriet Sullivan-Bibee
Robert Swift
Ahren Tatro
Leslie Taylor
Anthony Terranova
The Harwood Hill
The Publyk House
Town of Ballston Community Library*
Elizabeth Townsend
Bernie Trilling and Jennifer Kane*
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Jeff Uhas and Katherine Heekin
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Pauline Violette
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Lynn Wachtel
Justin Walraed

Corinne Warner*
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Nicholas West
Dawn Wetmore
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you to take a look at your
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thank you when you visit their shops
or when you pass each other on the street.

This simple act of recognition by
a peer or customer positively reinforces the
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the reach and value of your
Bennington Museum.

THANK YOU!

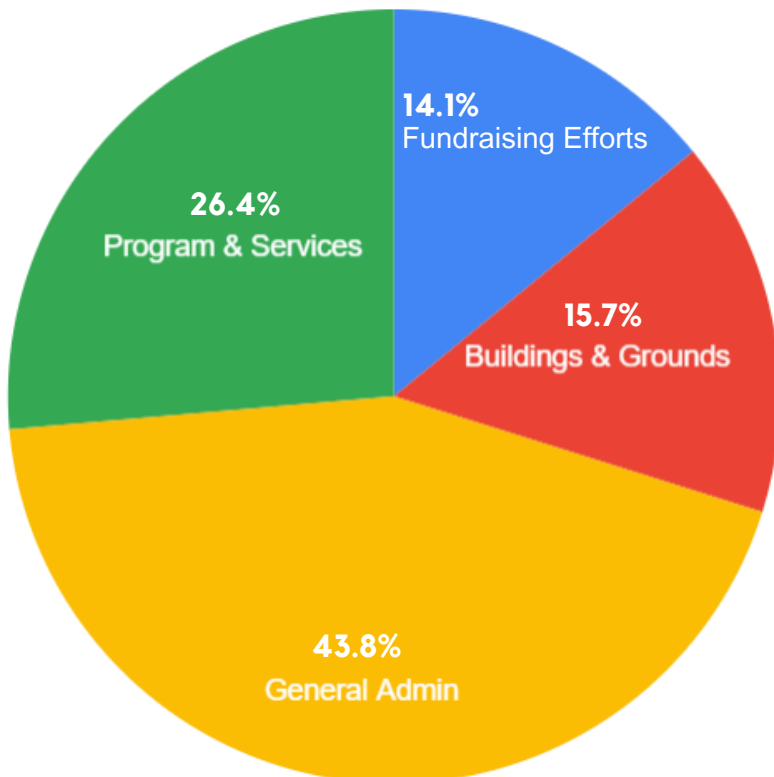
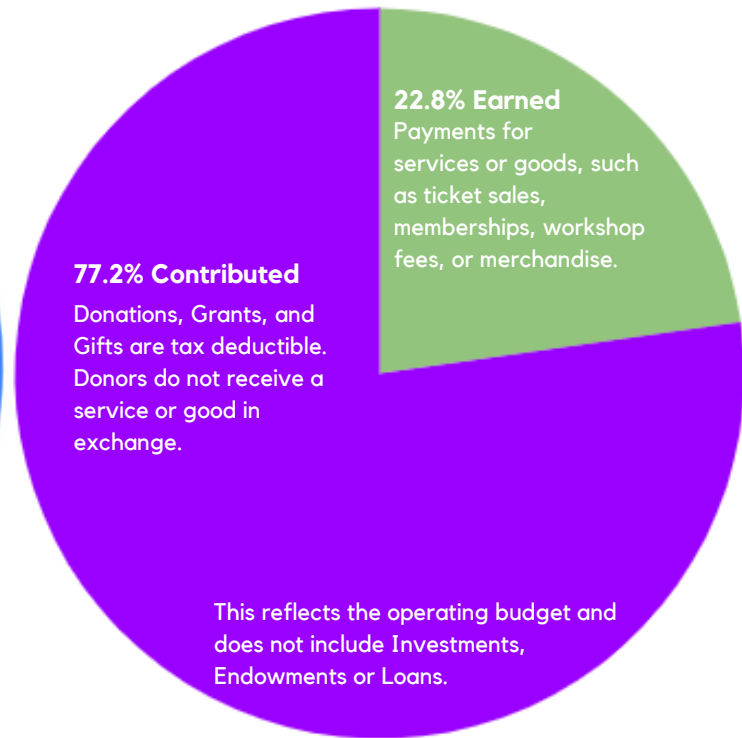
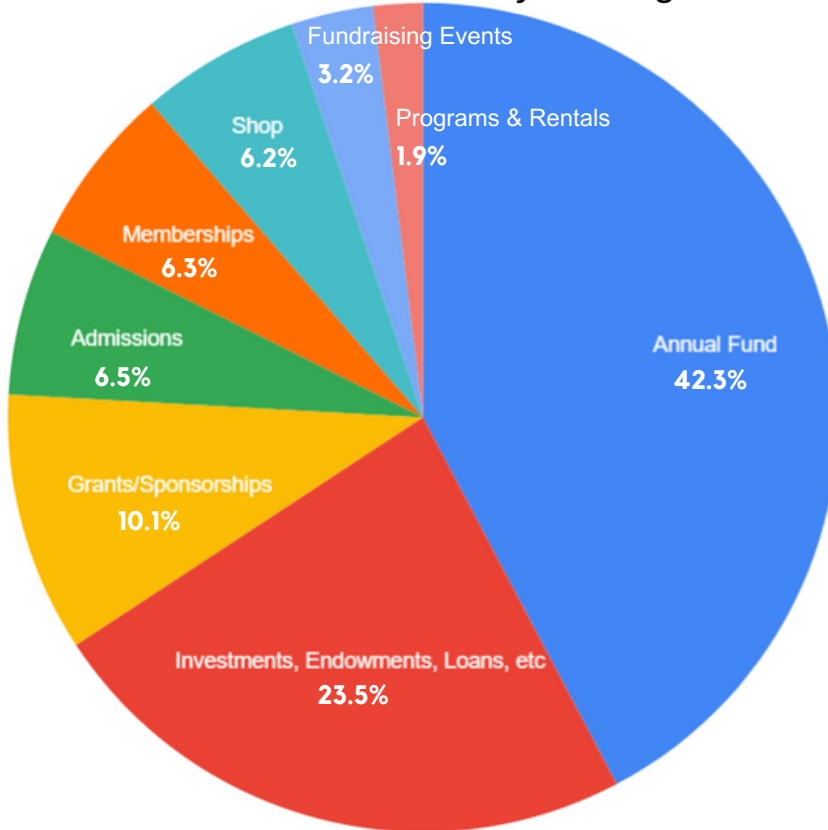
REVENUE REPORT

BENNINGTON MUSEUM | 15

Selected Financial Data: July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

Revenue Sources and Allocation

Where is the money coming from?



How are we spending it?

Ideally, a Museum will spend between 33% and 50% of funds on programming. At Bennington Museum, we estimate that 26.4 cents of every dollar raised or earned went directly towards Museum programming during this period.

General Admin takes a larger portion of the pie than in previous years due to increased staffing and also because several of the grants received in FY23 were operational (ex: website redesign) and therefore had to be expended in this way.

STAFF & BOARD

BENNINGTON MUSEUM | 16

Executive Director- Martin Mahoney

Advancement

Alexina Jones- Director of Advancement

Ryan Senecal- Development Associate

Marie Thibodeau- Office Manager

Vicki Dejnozka- Bookkeeper

Public Programming

Deana Mallory- Director of Public Programs

Sheila Burks- Events Coordinator

Damien McCaffery- Community Engagement Assistant

Curatorial

Jamie Franklin- Curator

Callie Raspuzzi- Collections Manager

Curatorial Interns-

Sophia Anisman '22, Thomas Sheetz '23

Museum Store

Jasen Frederickson- Store Manager

Anne Marie Jarvis- Visitor Services Associate

Sheri Delaine- Visitor Services Associate

Buildings & Grounds

Tom Moriarty- Facilities Manager



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