

ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022



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.

WHERE WE ARE

July 2021 - June 2022

BENNINGTON MUSEUM | 02

Bennington Museum is emerging from fiscal year 2022 (FY22) standing on solid ground operationally, fiscally, and programmatically. This is a result of making forward looking financial decisions such as beginning a building fund from which we can draw each year for both unforeseen and expected expenses, and rebuilding and supporting our staff whose capacity was severely diminished during the COVID crisis.

Thanks to these efforts, in FY22 the Museum has been able to invest in long deferred improvements and repairs to the HVAC, electrical, security, window and roofing systems. This work will ensure that generations to come will be able to enjoy and learn from the objects the Museum holds in the public trust. Improvements within the galleries such as new floors, enhanced signage, and a general freshening of many of the Museum's spaces have made great strides towards improving the overall visitors' experience.

Meanwhile, the Museum's curatorial and education staff utilized the hard lessons learned from the pandemic, producing a number of successful online and in-person programs that brought visitors and participants from all over the world. We continued to offer free programming, such as Museum ABCS, Music at the Museum, Concerts in the Courtyard, and the Bennington Historical Society lectures. 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.

In FY22 we took this concept a step further by producing and supporting exhibitions and programming with the goal of becoming a more inclusive institution representative of all of our community members. By incorporating the many voices that have lived and participated in our shared history we have been able to tell deeper, more nuanced and richer stories that incorporate aspects of traditionally underrepresented voices in the museum .

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 its continued success. Capitalizing on the strong financial support of our patrons, the Museum has been able to leverage these generous donations with an aggressive and successful grant campaign. A number of foundation and government gifts have come to fruition that allow for significant operational improvements and will set the trajectory for future engagement initiatives. One such grant is a \$25,000 Digital Capacity award made by the Vermont Arts Council. In the coming year, you can look forward to a complete website overhaul with the goal of modernizing our digital interface and making your user experience easier and more pleasant.

Thank you to all of you who continue to believe in this Museum, who support this institution through donating not only financially, but also through sharing your 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 2021 - June 2022

How Does Bennington Museum Serve the Community?

Exhibitions



In FY22 Bennington Museum hosted 17 changing exhibitions onsite which were viewed by nearly 13,054 visitors from all 50 states and 13 foreign countries.

Events



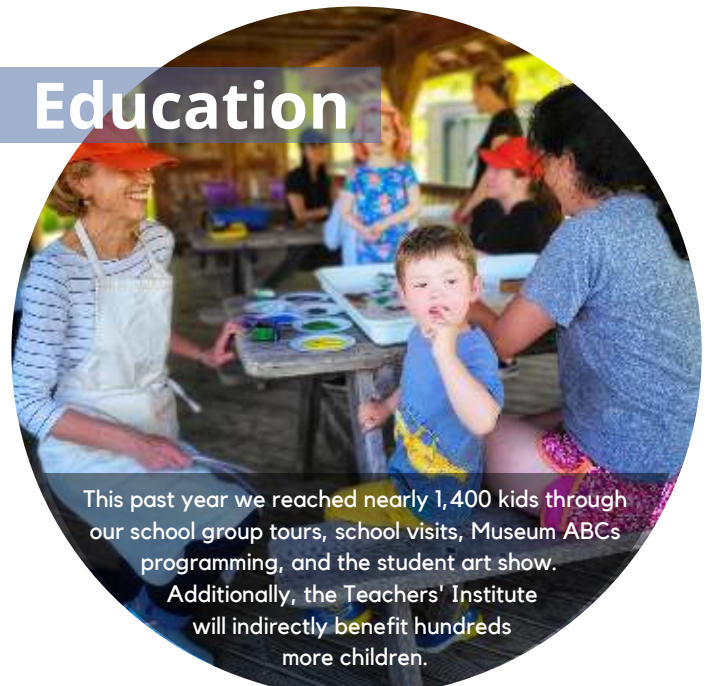
Bennington Museum hosted nearly 100 events and workshops last year. We also began to rent our space for community gatherings and weddings once more.

Outdoors



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

Education



This past year we reached nearly 1,400 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 2021 - June 2022

This past year Bennington Museum turned its attention towards some much needed building repairs. With your help, and the aid of several strategic grants, totaling over \$178,000 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.

Anonymous: internship fund

Ben & Jerry's Foundation: Stopping Stones

Harris and Francis Block Foundation: new signage on the Wildflower Trail

Helen Frankenthaler Foundation: window insulation

Historic New England: Stopping Stones

Golub Foundation: Concerts in the Courtyard

Mergens Foundation: support for a programming assistant position

National Endowment for the Humanities: window insulation*

Robert and Ann Newburger Foundation: unrestricted

Nora Roberts Foundation: Museum ABCs

Tarrant Foundation: Vandalism repair

Vermont Arts Council: Concerts in the Courtyard, electrical rewiring, website redesign*

Vermont Community Foundation: Professional development, Soul Steps,
and trail signage

Vermont Humanities Council: unrestricted and Teacher's Institute

Vermont Preservation Trust: window insulation*

Webster Foundation: window insulation and HVAC

Whipstock Hill Preservation Society: Wildflower Trail repair and maintenance

** signifies that a grant has been awarded but will be paid out in FY23 at the completion of a project.*



ACQUISITIONS

July 2021 - June 2022

BENNINGTON MUSEUM | 05

Pair of wedding caps and 4 posters made for Pride:
Received from Queer Connect

Black and white photograph of Walter Stockwell:
Anonymous Gift

Bennington Potters Christmas/New Years ornament,
1999 and Kennedy Johnson tray, 1960:
Gift of Tom and Jennifer Fels

**Daniel Shapiro (1920-1982), Two print
blocks for "Lamenting Angel", 1953 Wood:
Gift of the Shapiro Family**



Glazed Redware Jar with Copper Slip Decoration, attributed to Edward William Farrar,
Middlebury, VT, circa 1825-1835: Museum Purchase,
funds provided by exchange from the Channing Hare-Mountford Coolidge Collection



**Abigail Wilder (1806-1838) Sampler, silk on linen 1820:
Gift of John and Michele (Pietryka) Pagan**

J & E Norton, 1850-1859 4 Gallon jug:
Gift of Marie Miller



**Greg Winterhalter, "Hoosac Valley,
Ochre Light," 2015, Oil wash, pastel,
and graphite on paper:
Gift of Paul and Anima Katz**

THE ARNOLD RICKS AWARD

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 2021 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 first Arnold Ricks Award recipients were Michele and John Pagán. They were selected to honor their visionary foundational gift to a curatorial internship endowment fund for local high schooler students. Since they made their initial gift, the fund has grown to nearly \$60,000 - halfway to the the total goal which will ultimately fully fund two internship postions each summer.



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:

1982 Gene E. Irons

1983 George J. Cushing

1984 Dr. Dudley M. Baker

1985 Russell Bagley and Ronald Cox

1986 Antiques and the Arts Weekly

1987 Henry Marvin Dodge

1988 Herbert T. Woodman

1989 Tirzah Sweet

1990 The Volunteers Corps

1991 Catherine Cumpston

1992 Eugene Kosche

1993 David L. Thomas

1994 Ella Graves and Townsend K. Wellington

1995 S. Lane Faison

1996 Hemmings Motor News

1997 Marie and George Hadwen

1998 Alan H. Morrison

1999 Edith Lambert

2000 Will Moses

2001 Ed Cotter

2002 Pat Guerrero

2003 Hal and Betsy Ehrenfreund

2004 Norman Wilder

2005 Ted Atkinson

2006 Verrall and Don Keelan

2007 Fred Ehrich

2008 Fred and Constance West

2009 Bruce and Elizabeth Putnam

2010 Mel and Michael Madison, MBC

2011 Sheela Harden

2012 Don and Bettenell Miller

2013 Tony and Jackie Marro

2014 Tom Fels

2015 Galerie St. Etienne

2016 Joyce Hall

2017 Anne Bugbee

2018 Frances Holbrook

2019 The George Aiken Trail Volunteers

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Active as of June 30, 2022

BENNINGTON MUSEUM | 07

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Michael Chovonec and Richard Connor
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Kenneth Clarke
Katie Cleaver and Peter Crabtree
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Active as of June 30, 2022

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Corinne Warner
Patrick and Kim Winburn

NON PROFIT

Albany Public Library - Washington Avenue Branch
Babcock Lake Property Owners Association
Bennington Free Library
Bennington Garden Club, Inc.
Cambridge Public Library
Columbia County Libraries Association
David & Joyce Milne Public Library
East Greenbush Community Library
Guilderland Public Library
John G. McCullough Free Library
Manchester Community Library
Martha Canfield Library
Petersburgh Public Library
Pettee Memorial Library
Solomon Wright Public Library
William K. Sanford Town Library

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Active as of June 30, 2022

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Karen Bachman
Sandra Bechtel
Divine Bradley
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Leigh and Anne Short
Liz Titus Putnam

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BENNINGTON MUSEUM | 12

July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

Donations listed represent cumulative giving throughout FY22, 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
Alcyon Foundation
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Edwin S. Webster Foundation
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George W. Mergens Foundation
Helen Frankenthaler Foundation
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Sandra and Richard Johnson
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Lyman Orton and Janice Izzi
Denise Sobel
Vermont Community Foundation
Vermont Arts Council
Vermont Humanities Council
Consie West

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Susan Hunter
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Edie Sawitsky and Michael Keane
Whipstock Hill Preservation Society, Inc.
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Edd Lyon and Heather Hamilton
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Adele Pollis and Robert Menicocci
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James and Meghan Sawtelle
Marc and Fronia Simpson
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\$1,000 to \$2,499

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Susan Borden
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Brian Campion and Eric Hatch
Gertrude Cleave Carter
Centerline Architects
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Susan and Terrence Dermody
William Deveneau
Tom and Jennifer Fels
Four Chimneys Inn

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July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

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Historic New England
Hoyt Electric
Francis Jones
Judith Kniffin and Bruce Lierman
Steven Korn and Nancy Coseo
Alexina Jones and Jason Dolmetsch
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Mt. Anthony Country Club
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BENNINGTON MUSEUM | 14

\$250 to \$499

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July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

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Ellen Adalman
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Ronald and Doris Alderman
Jilliam Alexander
Bonnie Allen
Pelletier Alyssa
Amara Farm
Kathy AmRhein
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Karine Ansede
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Lydia Bailey and David Pac
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Stephanie Hanson

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Eilene Peckham
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Marge Smith
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Pemberley Vander Linden
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Marta Walker Betts
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This simple act of recognition by a peer or customer positively reinforces the impact of these gifts and underscores the reach and value of your Bennington Museum.

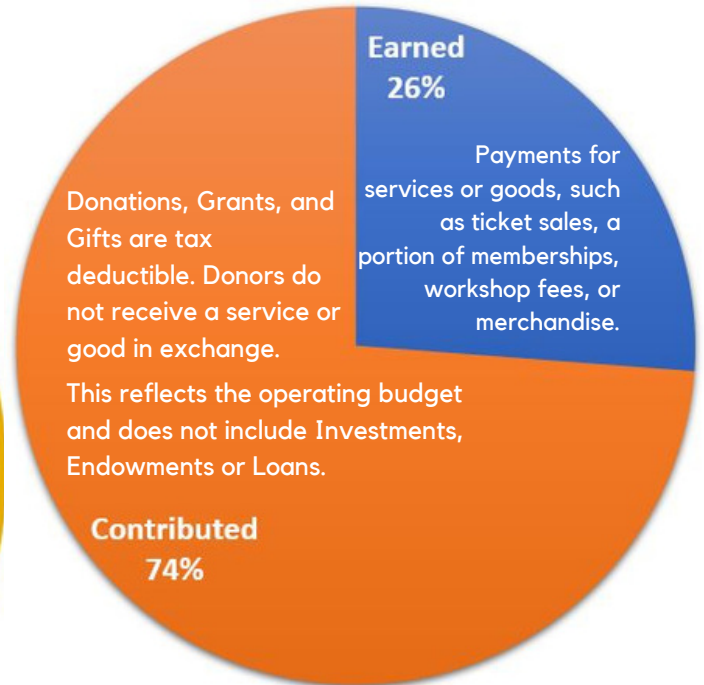
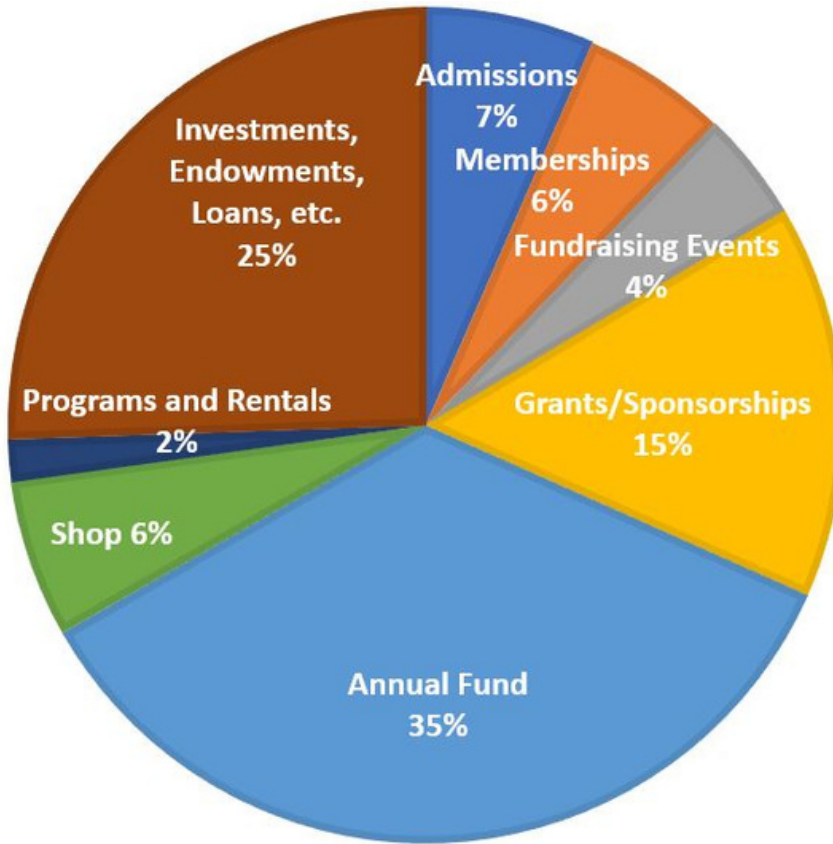
THANK YOU!

REVENUE REPORT

Selected Financial Data: July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

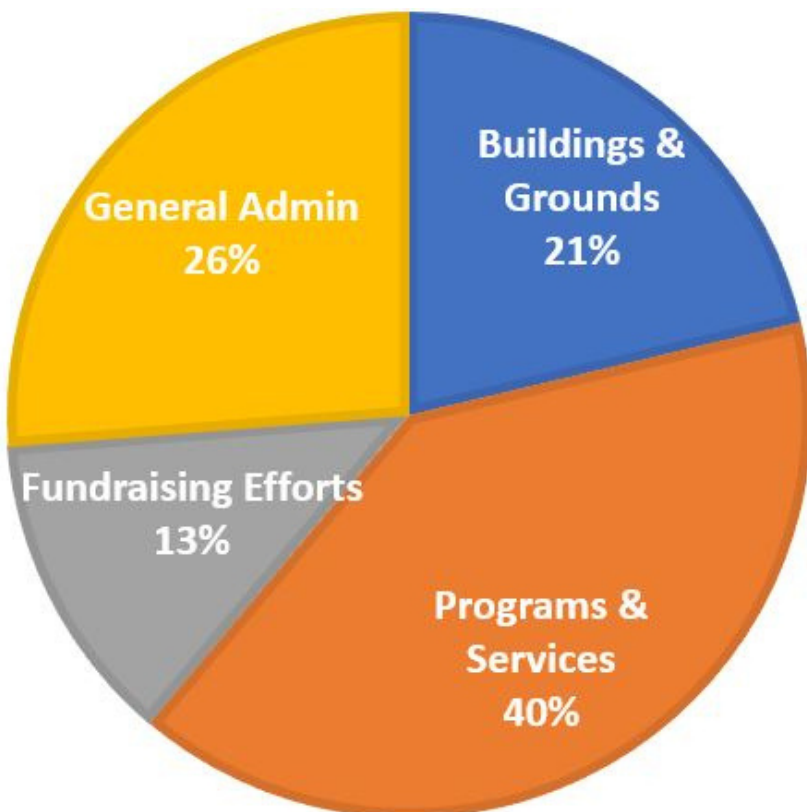
Revenue Sources and Allocation

Where is the money coming from?



Revenue Ratio

During this period, Bennington Museum has relied on gifts and grants that have helped to offset losses in program revenue and admissions due to COVID. Ideally, we would want to see this reflect closer to a 60/40 split in either direction.



How are we spending it?

Museums have more overhead than other types of non-profit organizations because of insurance, building maintenance, and security needs. With this in mind, typically, a Museum will spend between 33% and 50% of funds on programming. At Bennington Museum, we estimate that 40 cents of every dollar raised or earned went directly towards Museum programming during this period - increased from 29 cents in FY21.



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Martin Mahoney

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Ryan Senecal- Associate
Marie Thibodeau- Admin Assistant
Vicki Dejnozka- Bookkeeper

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Sheila Burks- Rental Manager

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Jamie Franklin- Curator
Callie Raspuzzi- Collections Manager

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Jasen Frederickson- Store Manager
Matthew Greene- Store Assistant

Buildings & Grounds

Tom Moriarty- Building Superintendent



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