



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022**

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This year has been both a return to normalcy and one of big transitions. Although Covid is still with us, we have spent the year returning to many of our core in person activities and events. We were able to celebrate our 50th anniversary of the Holiday Pottery & Art Sale, which had been postponed during Covid restrictions. Not only was it a long-awaited celebration of a true South County institution, but it was also a record-breaking sale, grossing over \$84,000.

We also resumed in person exhibit openings, one of the staples of our event calendar and an integral way for exhibiting artists to engage with the viewing public. With Evening Under the Trees and The Great Art Heist, we enjoyed great weather, stellar attendance, entertaining juror remarks—thank you Kevin Gilmore, and the triumphant return of Steve Palmer as Heist emcee! One of the most important reasons why we thrive as an organization is because of the hard work and dedication of our staff. Jason Fong, Todd Kenney, and Jeanne Wettlaufer continue to be the stalwart talent in the office, gallery, and studios making absolutely everything happen. And our newest staff addition, Sarah Lawhorne, was promoted to Education Coordinator and is quickly becoming another indispensable member of the team. Make no mistake, the staff is truly the heartbeat of SCAA.

As we welcomed the ways this year felt more normal, we also experienced notable transitions. Kathleen Carland, our executive director of 5 years “retired” to a part time position as our Director of Development. We grew and prospered under her direction. We also navigated rough waters through the pandemic as smoothly as possible with Kathleen at our “Helme”. Now will keep benefiting from her expertise in this new role, while Jen Ferry was promoted to Executive Director of the organization that she knows so well from her years as Associate Director. We very much look forward to Jen’s sound stewardship and creative direction. The Board has also experienced transition this year. Christine Sullivan stepped down as President in January, while continuing to serve out her sixth year of service on the Board. She spearheaded many great initiatives at SCAA, not the least of which was our logo rebranding and the new and improved website all of which we are still enjoying today. It was also her vision that led us to uncover the windows in the gallery. Like Kathleen, Christine will continue to contribute to SCAA with future fundraising efforts to complete the upgrades to the pottery studio to become ADA compliant.

When I took over as President, I immediately revived a membership survey that Christine had spearheaded and which the pandemic derailed. We expanded the survey’s scope to serve as an overall Organizational Needs Assessment. We surveyed over 300 people engaged with SCAA as members, students, and patrons to gather feedback on what we offer our community. The survey culminated in a report I presented to the Board in May and is available in the main office

for anyone to read. Doing this type of assessment is valued by outside funding organizations and the valuable feedback it generated will help us with all future strategic planning.

I want to end my report by noting that this year the Board has seen more exits than additions. Life circumstances affecting several Board members have necessitated their stepping down in the past two years. We wish only the best for those members who have had to step down and thank them for their service. For sure in the year ahead, we will continue to focus our effort at rebuilding our numbers on the Board. We encourage any SCAA member with interest to serve in this capacity to reach out to the office or anyone currently serving to discuss joining us.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Lynne Moulton

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## From the Executive Directors

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### Part I – Kathleen Carland, Executive Director through June 2022

After five years, my official tenure as Executive Director ended June 2022, however I continue to work part-time on development projects for the SCAA. I am sorry to miss this annual meeting because of a planned trip. It is always a special pleasure to see our members gather. I know how well Jen Ferry is fulfilling her role as the new Executive Director and I am excited to hear about the plans that she, Lynne Moulton, President, and the board have for the SCAA in FY 2023. Part I is the section that covers our accomplishments from October 2021 thru June 2022 and Part II Jen's efforts since then through September 2022. The following goals were realized because of the support of our donors, sponsors, members, dedicated staff, and students.

The organization has realized many of the goals set forth for the year.

1. Goal: Continue to preserve and enhance the SCAA buildings.
  - A. All the projects determined by the Champlin grant for \$44,900 were completed in the past year and a half: the gallery renovations, new lighting, and the final phase this past spring, air conditioning for both galleries.
  - B. The SCAA received a Challenge Grant from the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts (RISCA Cultural Facilities grants) for \$128,525 to make our studios accessible for people of all abilities with a handicap ramp, accessible restroom, air cleaners for the pottery studio, an HVAC system for the Studio Annex, and ADA pottery wheel(s). The SCAA has three years to complete all phases of the project.
2. Goal: Seek to create efficient, safe, and welcoming spaces for arts education.
  - A. For additional security, we added more outdoor lighting behind the buildings and security cameras in the offices and galleries.
  - B. The Stone Studio was renovated with these funds into a new paint, draw, mixed media studio and meeting space.
3. Goal: Enhance connections to you, our donors, members, and students.
  - A. The SCAA completed an organization wide Needs Assessment created by Lynn Moulton which helped us see the SCAA through your eyes. This needs assessment will inform planning for the years ahead.

4. Continue to foster opportunities to connect the community to art.
  - A. Created a Scholarship Program for the first time.
5. Milestone: Voted Best Gallery in South County and celebrated our 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

## **Part II – Jen Ferry, June 2022 – September 30, 2022**

I'm so grateful for the opportunity to be the new Executive Director. I've learned a lot working with Kathleen over the past five years and know, with the support of the board and staff, that we'll continue to expand on all of our goals. This organization is a special place for so many and we try hard to provide opportunities that will let artists grow in their practice and art lovers to enjoy their creations.

I will continue to expand our scholarship program to underserved communities with our collaboration with the Jonnycake Center for Hope to offer scholarships to their clients. It's one step forward towards being an all-inclusive organization. Our ADA compliant project in the pottery studio is another example of how we will provide accessibility to our educational program for everyone. As a nonprofit, it is our responsibility to be socially responsible to our community and to reduce barriers to people who want to use our facilities. We're doing good by this.

Outreach is another important goal. I'm currently working with the South Kingstown's 300th Anniversary Steering Committee organizing the first Wakefield Arts & Culture Festival and Open Studio Tour that's planned for September 9, 2023. I'm also on the Public Art Installation Committee working on a public arts project that will be installed on the Peace Dale Green next year. I know how important it is for our organization to go beyond our walls and into the community. It will not only benefit us; it will also benefit our members. The more people know about us, the more we'll grow and thrive.

Internally, I'm so thankful for our staff and their historical perspective. Jason celebrated his 15th anniversary with us this year and Todd is at a close second with 10 years. Jeanne has been a long-time supporter with multiple roles as board member, president, pottery studio member and office manager. When you've been with an organization for this long, you become personally invested in its success. That kind of commitment is hard to find these days. Kathy, Sarah and I seem new compared to them, but it's a good thing. We bring a fresh perspective and create a nice balance where history is preserved and new ideas are accepted.

Be on the lookout for new ways we're changing the way we provide the arts to you. We're initiating a new Art and Wellness program beginning in January involving a series of classes that focus on the healing benefits of art promoting self-care, health, and wellbeing. Connection to ourselves and to others is critical during these times. Once a month you'll see our Maker

Mondays come to your email highlighting our members and their art practices. The more we know about each other, the more we learn and grow. Art is an evolving process. The same can be said about ourselves.

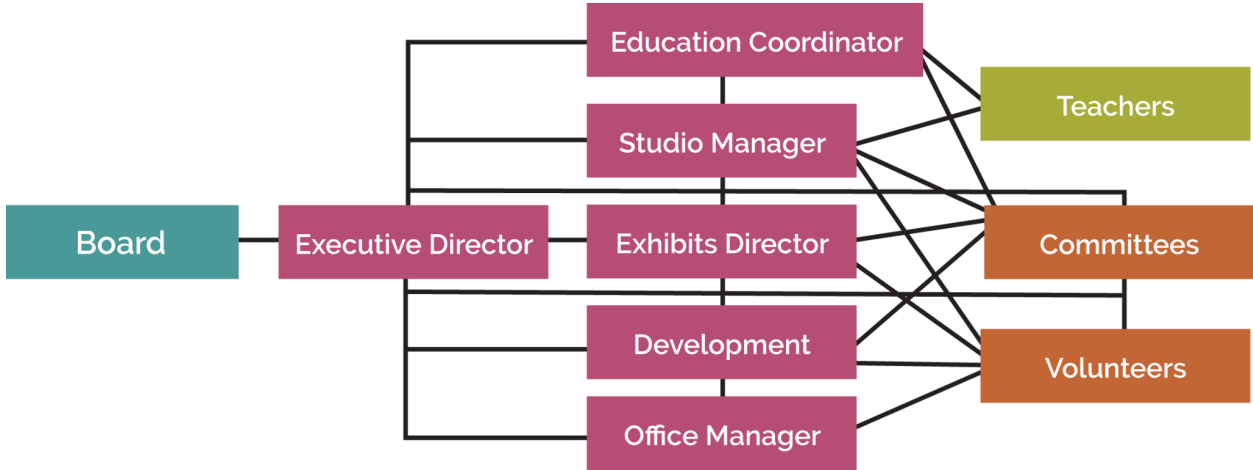
Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Carland and Jen Ferry

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**Organizational Chart**

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**EDUCATIONAL DATA**

2021-2022	9 new teachers	90 classes	607 Registrations
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SCAA's Educational Program has continued to grow and flourish over the last year as we meet an increased demand for accessible art classes in the community. We set a new record with class income and number of classes offered. We also had the opportunity to serve 142 students who were new to the organization.

**Pottery Classes**

Demand for our pottery classes has been steadily increasing and we have responded to the needs of our community in several ways. First, we have expanded our pottery studio into the upstairs space which was formerly used as a painting studio. This allowed students to better social distance as well as providing more time slots to sign up for studio use. We have also offered more pottery classes each quarter, including a 5th 8-week class, and have seen an increase in the number of students signing up for classes.

**Painting, Drawing, Printmaking & Mixed Media Classes**

In response to Covid, we were holding classes in our large gallery last winter. However, thanks to a RISCA grant, we were able to renovate the former Stone Studio into a new painting studio in which we could hold classes. Many students were grateful for the new first floor location as it made accessibility much easier than the previous classroom location upstairs.

In an effort to revitalize our printmaking program, we have been speaking with several accomplished printmakers about improving the print studio. Based on their recommendations, we have begun purchasing new supplies to benefit students in the program as well as being able to provide a wider range of different printmaking classes. Our goal is to increase our Print Studio membership and participation in printmaking classes.

**Scholarships**

Over the last year, we offered a new scholarship program which is available for anyone in the community to apply for. These scholarships can be used to offset the cost of classes, general SCAA memberships, or studio memberships. In FY21-22, \$168 was awarded to applicants. Our goal in the coming year is to raise awareness of this program in an effort to reach a wider audience and facilitate greater participation in the organization.

Exhibitions in the 2021-2022 fiscal began with the All Media 2 exhibit in October. After a very successful 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Holiday Sale, a Member Invitational Exhibit was scheduled which was to include a retrospective show of Richard Parker's artwork. Richard, a talented watercolorist, had been involved at the SCAA for many years. The Ann Lewis Parker Award for Best Watercolor, which we continue to award each year at our Member Annual show, was begun by Richard and is named for his late wife. Richard, who recently had his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, had to back out of the exhibit due to health issues. In its place, an impromptu but impressive show was put together featuring the work of our resident artists from the Helme House studios.

2022 exhibits continued, returning to our pre-pandemic schedule for the first time since 2019. A highlight was the first All Media show that was given the theme Diaspora. A challenging theme for the artists, the show also created many challenges for us, including the collection and display of narratives by the artists describing their works. Although less work was submitted than a typical All Media show, the resulting exhibit was extremely interesting and thought-provoking and dealt with many timely and important issues. This show caught the interest of RISCA who requested that the show be exhibited at the State House Atrium Gallery in Providence, October of this year.

Several new records were achieved in 2022. Notably a record number of work was displayed in the Member Annual Exhibit (166 pieces), a record number of artwork donations were received for the Great Art Heist (129 Pieces), and a new record for number of pieces submitted for an exhibit was received in our current All media 2 show (which will be reflected in next year's fiscal year report).

A new award was established this year, initially funded by a donation from Theresa Gerard, named the Support Women Artists award which will be awarded in our Members Annual exhibits to the piece chosen as Best Abstract. Artist Participation increased this year going from 978 artworks submitted for shows to 1224, probably due to our ability to host a full slate of exhibitions free of any shutdowns due to pandemic or renovations.

Improvements to the gallery included replacing the track lighting in the smaller exhibition space and adding additional track lighting to the gallery store. All the track lighting on the first floor of the Helme House is now on the same system which allows the same lighting heads to be used and moved throughout. Enough heads were purchased to light the small gallery and future plans include replacement of all the old lighting heads in the large gallery. Also, in 2021/2022 air conditioning units were installed in the gallery spaces which also can also function as dehumidifiers or be used for supplemental heat.



**Exhibition Income Comparison (entry fees, gallery sales, gallery store sales)**

Exhibit Income 2021-2022 \$36,551 (holiday sale income excluded)

Exhibit Income 2020-2021 \$46,815 (Includes sales from expanded gallery store during Holiday Season)

Exhibit Income 2019-2020 \$13,913

Exhibit Income 2018-2019 \$22,638

Exhibit Income 2017-2018 \$21,955

Exhibit Income 2016-2017 \$19,663

Exhibit Income 2015-2016 \$18,758

**Fiscal 2022 Performance to Objectives:**

- Total Direct Public Support \$21,205 (-12% from 2021). Biggest miss was the Annual Appeal.
- 2022 Membership Goal: 500 Members (approximately 30% increase); did not achieve. Membership currently at 422

**Highlights:**

- Sponsorships: Maintained sponsorships with existing corporate partners; added Parsons Capital Management as sponsor for the Art Heist
- DEM Summer Farmers Market: Raised public awareness for SCAA; Member Artists earned over \$5000 in sales
- Database: Launched Bloomerang for member & donor connection/development
- Scholarship Program established
- Rhode Island State Council on the Arts (RISCA) – Diaspora Exhibit \$1,200
- Rhode Island State Council on the Arts Cultural Facilities Grant for ADA Renovations - \$128,535.

**Fiscal 2023 Objectives:**

- Increase Direct Public Support to \$28,000. Activate Development Committee Members to thank and cultivate donors and members
- Raise Membership to 500+ through active solicitation and presence at all 2023 Exhibits and Events.
- Re-apply for DEM Summer Farmers Market
- Increased Grant Funds through Development Director
- Substantially increase Volunteer force overall

This year, architectural CAD drawings were finished by an architect for the entire Helme House. The Stone Studio was renovated to be our new 2D classroom.

Pottery has taken over the second floor front room of the annex with five used wheels purchased and one donated wheel, donated Slab Roller, donated Extruder, tables built by Jason and Todd, and added ten cubbies.

The MAC sale is back after taking a year off due to covid. This year it brought in \$2,826, a record total.

Upcoming year:

- Make the first floor more efficient for class use.
- Bathroom to provide access for wheelchairs.
- Possible return of Empty Bowls.
- Possible fundraiser for the studio.

Committee Purpose: The purpose of the PSAC is to serve as an advisory committee to the Executive Director and Board regarding issues from or affecting the Pottery Studio and its membership and as a conduit for reciprocal transmission of information, ideas, and requests between the members of the pottery studio and the SCAA Board of Directors.

SCAA Executive Director is ex-officio staff to the committee as well as Jason Fong and joined by Board Members Nancy Vettters and Michael Mosca, and Todd Kenney, Studio Manager as needed.

Committee members are Susan Barbato and Rose Donner Chairpersons, and committee members Maria Fay and Marc Ladin. Susan Barbato and Rose Donner will be stepping down after serving two years on the committee.

#### 2021-2022 Highlights:

- Students and members continue to reserve space in the studio through a sign up now located on the dedicated page for the Pottery Studio on the SCAA website.
- The second floor of the studio annex can now accommodate 5 members or students and is available for use while classes are in session.
- New slip containers were purchased as requested by the membership.
- New cleaning procedure posters for both the wheel room, upstairs and glaze room were posted.
- A new Pottery Studio Member page was added to the SCAA website where important updates can be found as well as a place for comments. This allows greater communication between the staff and pottery studio members. All meeting notes are posted there as well.
- Everyone is eagerly anticipating the re-organization and upgrades the pottery studio will undergo. The RISCA Grant we received to make the pottery studio ADA compliant will allow certain upgrades to create a better studio environment.

We celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the sale with some reflection on the sale's history, some new setup upgrades, and a record-breaking sales total. Paula Guida, a member Potter who has been a very active member and chair of the Holiday Sale committee, interviewed some of the sale participants from over the last five decades. Based on these conversations, she wrote a beautiful piece about the history of the sale that we posted on the SCAA website throughout the sale. It was fascinating to think about how long the sale has been around and how much it has evolved and grown over the years.

Because of the recent gallery renovation that reopened the hidden windows throughout the gallery space, the Holiday Sale Committee had to re-imagine the setup arrangements in every way. The committee put the new display cases from the gallery store and new display benches (Courtesy of LM Woodworks) to great use in the re-configured sale spaces. We also debuted a new sign for the mug wall and announced our 50<sup>th</sup> year with a marquee lighted "50" hung on the side of the building (both also courtesy of LM Woodworks—it was a busy fall in the shop!). We also discounted the registration fee for the sale from \$60 down to \$50 to celebrate the milestone anniversary.

The attention to history, the reinvigorated setup, and 100s of hours of volunteer and staff time resulted in our most successful sale yet. We sold over \$84,000 in art, which meant that the 93 participating member artists earned over \$57,000 in commissions for their creative efforts. Thanks to all who were involved in planning and participating in this huge event.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Lynne Moulton (2021 HS Committee Chair)

**Rhode Island Foundation Investments**

Founders Fund: \$128,929

SCAA Fund: \$270,753

**Brokerage Account**

Parsons Capital Management: \$172,400

**Grants 2021-2022**

**RISCA Online Diaspora Exhibit**

\$1,200

**RI Foundation Potter Fund**

\$5,000

**RISCA Cultural Facilities Grant**

\$128,535

**Total Grants: \$134,735**

## FY 22/23 Budget

Income	Direct Public Support	\$28,000
	Paint Studios	\$25,630
	Investment Income	\$15,700
	Mixed Media	\$5,200
	Painting	\$21,000
	Photography	\$3,500
	Drawing	\$10,300
	Printing	\$1,500
	Pottery/Memberships	\$148,800
	Credit Card Fee	\$1,300
	Total Educational Income	\$191,600
	Exhibition	\$33,200
	Membership	\$26,000
	Special Events	\$91,600
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$411,730</b>	
Expenses	Education	\$66,300
	Exhibition	\$18,890
	Special Events	\$44,580
	Personnel	\$190,172
	Administrative	\$98,770
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$418,712</b>
	<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-\$6,982</b>

### For 2023 and Beyond...

- Increase scholarship funds for memberships and classes.
- Enhance connections to you, our donors, members and students through a robust educational program, member benefits and donor opportunities.
- Expand public and corporate sponsorships.
- It is good business to support the arts.
- Continue to foster opportunities to connect the community to art.
- Promote the purchase of original art from our exhibits and gift shop.
- Create physical accessibility for all abilities in our studios.