



2022

ERIE CENTER FOR ARTS & TECHNOLOGY
ANNUAL REPORT



Message from the Executive Director: Daria Devlin

I still pinch myself when I think about what we've been able to accomplish in launching ECAT over the past few years. January 2023 will mark my fourth anniversary as Executive Director of this exciting organization and, together with our amazing board of directors, I'm so proud of all that we've done in such a short time. I'm also incredibly proud and grateful of our fantastic staff who have embraced our philosophy and heeded Bill Strickland's call to "make the impossible possible."

With the completion of 2022, ECAT marks the milestone of ending a year in which we became fully operational. In many ways, we're writing the last words of our story's introduction and turning the page to begin our first real chapter.

We'll do that with a constant focus on our core philosophies—that all people are assets, that environment shapes behavior, and that creativity fuels enterprise. These north stars will continue to guide us in 2023 and beyond as we strengthen our existing programs, elevate our work with new opportunities, and expand our mission to include additional neighborhood and community development.

If we've learned anything over these past years, it's that life will continue to challenge us in unexpected ways. Like the students we serve, we recognize that this work requires deep commitment and, often, a whole lot of faith in ourselves and each other. But also like our students, we know that we aren't alone. We begin our next chapter knowing that you—our partners, neighbors, friends and supporters—will be with us on the next phase of the journey. You have made our hopes and plans a reality, and, for that, we will always be grateful. I can't wait to see what more we can do together.

With gratitude,

Daria Devlin



Board of Directors

We are grateful to our board members for their dedication and guidance:

Charles "Boo" Hagerty, *President*

Brenda Sandberg, *Vice-Chair*

Paul Wojcik, *Treasurer*

Sarah Holland, *Secretary*

Thomas C. Hoffman

Laura Guncheon

Cesar Westbrook

Heather McBrier

Danny Jones

Gary Clark

Jill Crable

Linda Graff

ECAT WAYNE:

We celebrated our one year anniversary in the ECAT Wayne building in August. In that time we have found a strong community in our neighborhood on Erie's Eastside. Alongside our partners in the building, we have created a hub for resources including healthcare, education, recreation, and career development.

Milestones from the past year include:

- Dedicating of the Community Room in honor of Ada Lawrence
- Hosting the Wayne Health Fair in partnership with 17 organizations
- 167 unique bookings of the Ada Lawrence Community Room
- 400+ attending the first annual HalloWAYNE event
- Becoming a Jefferson Educational Society Satellite Site
- ServErie and Love Your Block hosting a weekend of community service on East Ave.
- The opening of Darling's Pharmacy, a locally-owned business
- Graduating the first cohort of the ErieMade Business Academy in August



Adult Career Training

Program Growth:

With the support of the Young Erie Philanthropists, we were able to reimagine and expand our ECAT Construction program, formerly Tech After Hours, hosted in collaboration with Erie's Public Schools. We opened enrollment this fall and are proud to have nine students working towards their Carpenter's Apprenticeship certification. Students will graduate from this hands-on training program prepared to work in a variety of jobs in the growing construction industry here in Erie.



Our tuition-free Clinical Medical Assistant program launched in February 2022 and we are now proud to host two cohorts working towards their diploma. Students enrolled in this 7-month program are trained through a combination of classroom instruction, hands-on learning, and an externship at a local practice. In addition to a low student-instructor ratio, our team provides targeted support to students through a dedicated Student Support Specialist who assists with challenges our students face that may be barriers to graduation.



Mark your calendar for May 13, 2023 at 11AM to celebrate our first graduation of Cohorts 1 & 2.

Arts Programs: Summer Camps

What Professional Artists Do

This year, high school camp attendees were given a design brief, outlining the needs of a real-life client that included a budget, timeline and must-have deliverables. For every student, this was their first experience being challenged to design a creative solution for a client.

It wasn't easy. Students described "working as a team" and "revising our projects after client feedback" as the most difficult parts of camp.

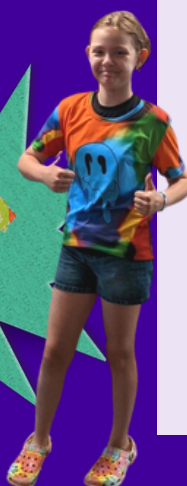
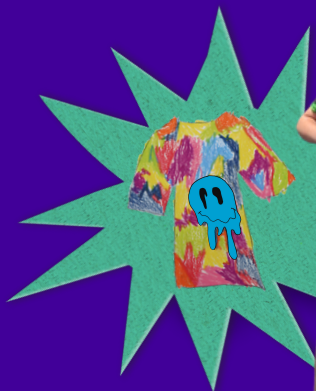
Their favorite parts? "Seeing the final project in the community" and "having adults take my ideas seriously." At the end of the two-week program, students completed a mural, 7-foot ceramic sculpture, photography exhibit "Hidden in Plain Sight", and digital interactive artwork for the downtown Celebrate Erie festival.



Camp Classes:

In addition to high school camps, our middle school camps focused on exploring a variety of different art forms.

- Ceramics
- Photography
- Videography
- Animation
- Community Mural
- Printmaking
- Interactive Art
- Clothing Design
- Painting
- Drawing



Highlight: East Ave Mural

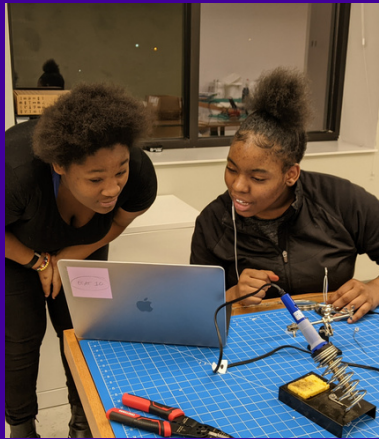
Two students in our Community Mural camp were recently impacted by tragic gun-related violence. Because of their experiences, the entire class quickly identified community gun violence as their chosen theme for the camp mural project. In their first designs, students developed imagery that reclaimed handguns into hope and renewal. However, their clients were concerned with the images of handguns, worried the design might glorify weapons. The feedback was difficult to hear and presented a challenge: how do you balance the client's needs without compromising on a message you believe in?

Teaching artists Steve Mik and Brian Bonner helped navigate students through the design process which resulted in the handguns being broken down by vines. The process was transformational for students and validated that their ideas and voices matter.

Jude Shingle
Arts Program Director



Afterschool Teen Arts



Numbers to Date:

FA 21 276

SP 22 756

FA 22 1,220

CLASSROOM HOURS

141
STUDENTS
ENROLLED

18
ARTISTS
EMPLOYED

23
CLASSES

2022 Student Art Show

THURS. DEC. 8TH • 5 - 7 PM

650 East Ave. Erie, PA 16503

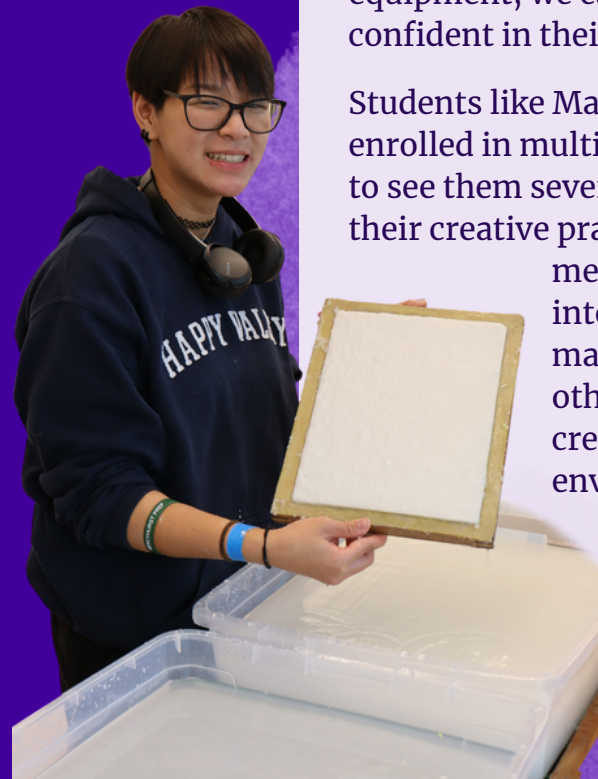
All are welcome to join us for a celebration of the Fall arts season! Our teen artists will be displaying their work and select pieces will be available for purchase.

The Classroom Experience

As we enter our third season of teen afterschool classes, we're celebrating the growth of our programs from 13 unique students attending regularly in 2021 to 31 students this Fall.

Each day the community we are building grows stronger. As students become more comfortable in the studios and with the equipment, we can see them growing more confident in their creativity and in themselves.

Students like Matti (*pictured left*) have enrolled in multiple classes and we're thrilled to see them several times per week developing their creative practice by exploring different mediums. Other students dive into one area and focus on mastering those skills. And still others simply enjoy being creative in a safe environment that prioritizes relationship building and mentorship.



Wayne Health & Wealth Equity District

Creating a Neighborhood Development Plan

The Equity District was created to facilitate positive change in the East Ave. neighborhood. The Equity District team is led by ECAT staff and consultants in collaboration with a Steering Committee of area residents and business owners. This dedicated team will work together to implement change on Erie's Eastside.

With feedback from the community, we are creating a neighborhood development plan that will guide our work. Community members have been asked to share their vision for the neighborhood through public events and door-to-door outreach. The Equity District is for the community, envisioned by the community.

Visit our website to view:



An interactive map of the District



Our goals



Upcoming events and opportunities



Progress Updates



Project timelines

Stay tuned for a first draft of our neighborhood development plan in spring 2023.

eriecat.org/wayne-equity-district

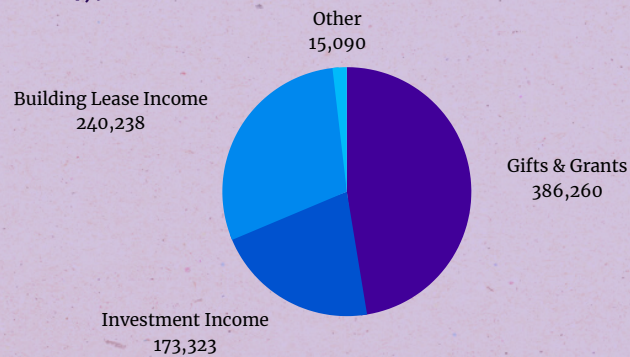


2021 Financial Highlights

Erie Center for Arts & Technology (Operating Entity)

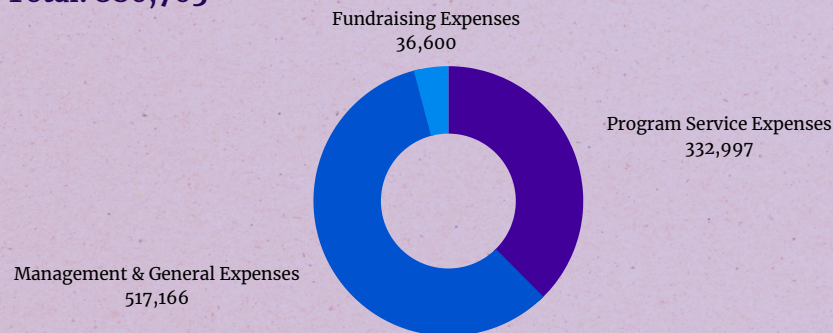
2021 Revenue

Total: 814,911



2021 Expenses

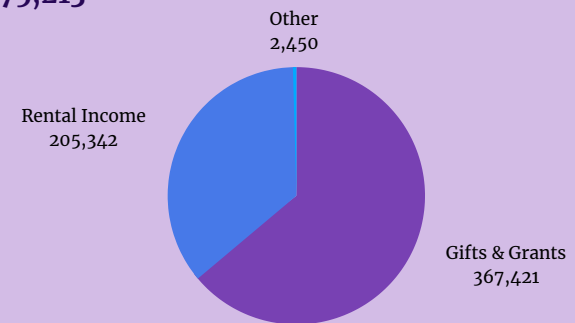
Total: 886,763



ECAT Wayne (Building Entity)

2021 Revenue

Total: 575,213



2021 Expenses

Total: 555,163





The Erie Center for Arts & Technology (ECAT) is a community-based educational arts and career training facility that inspires, educates and empowers people of all ages with adult job training and creative youth programs.

650 East Ave. Erie, PA 16503 • eriecat.org • 814-651-0901

The ECAT Team

DARIA DEVLIN
Executive Director

TAMIKA CRAIG
Adult Support Specialist

JUDE SHINGLE
Arts Program Director

DREVELL SHOWERS
Community Outreach
Coordinator

HANNAH MORAN
Administrative
Assistant

MICHELLE ALTMAN
Lead Clinical Medical
Assistant Program Instructor

NITA PLATT
Teen Arts Program Assistant

JAMAINE GAMBILL
ECAT Building
Custodian

CYNDI ROBIE
Clinical Medical Assistant
Program Instructor

