



Artists' Cooperative Residency & Exhibitions
2020 ANNUAL REPORT



**ACRE
2010 - Present**

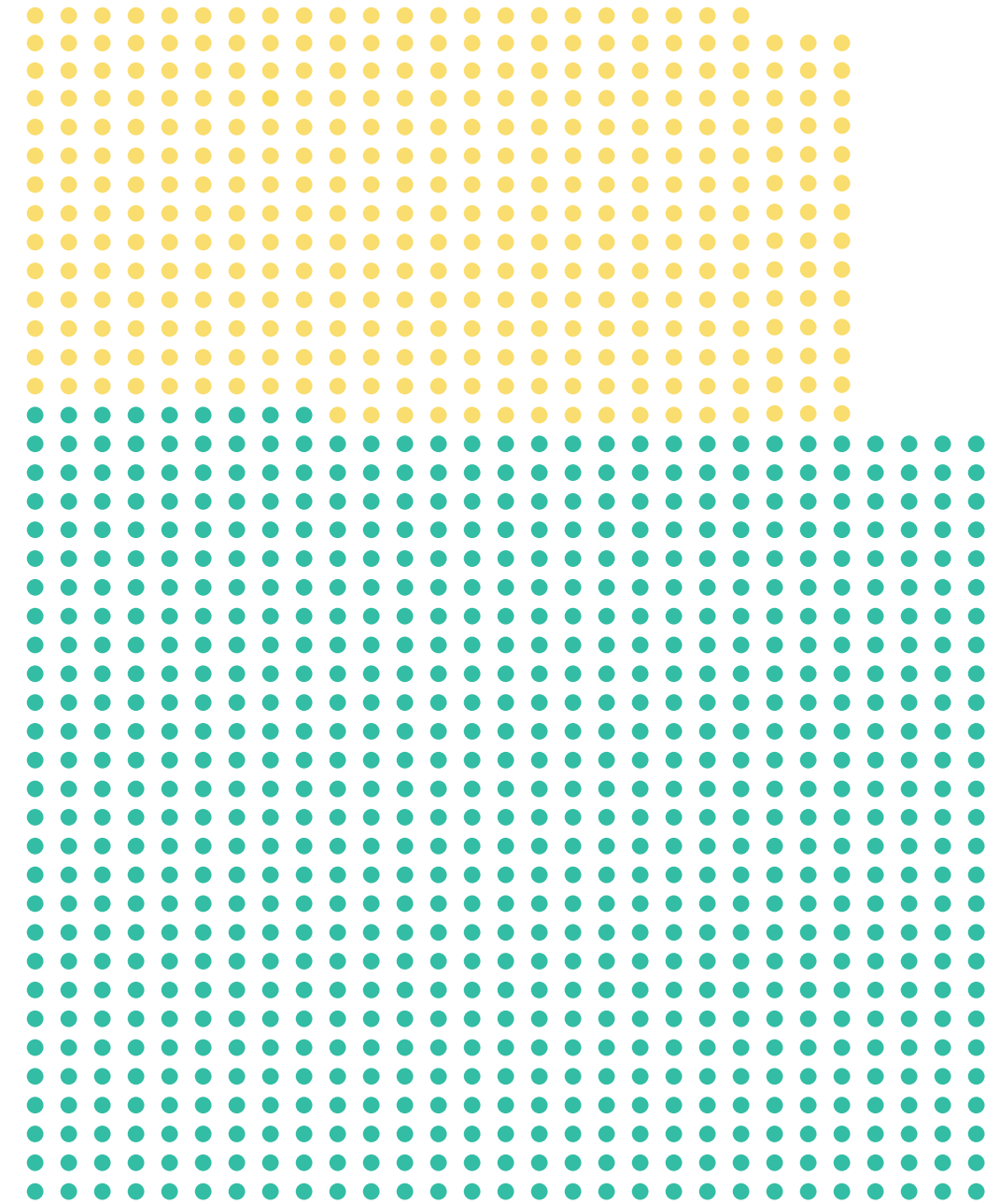
Front Cover:
Session 2 residents collaborate in the field
for a video by resident Andy Davis.
PHOTO BY ZACHARY HUTCHINSON

Above:
Artist Kasem Kydd poses with their site
specific installation *Was, Is, An, Eclipse* for
the ACRE Steubiennale, an open studios
night during their residency in Session 3
of 2019.
PHOTO BY LEVI SHAND

ACRE's Residency Program takes place every summer in the Driftless region of Southwest Wisconsin. Set on 1,000 acres of wetland, hills, and farmland, the residency hosts artists who live and work in a communal setting that includes expansive work spaces, mess hall kitchen, performance stage, and seven specialized studio areas. The Visiting Artist program invites established artists to the residency to conduct studio visits and present lectures, discussions, or workshops.

Each year ACRE welcomes approximately 75 emerging artists of all disciplines to attend one of three 14-day residency session

*Number of visiting artists
welcomed to the residency: 363*



*Number of artists who have attended
the residency: 793*

Number of meals served in the ACRE Kitchen: 1,128

ACRE Kitchen

ACRE Kitchen is a volunteer, artist-run kitchen dedicated to providing healthy meals and supporting sustainable food producers in the Driftless region of Wisconsin.

ACRE Kitchen serves three thoughtful and nourishing meals per day to 60+ residents, staff, and visiting artists at the residency.



Lunch Session 2, 2017. PHOTO BY RYAN BACH

Number of 'Kadabra' cookbook volumes published: 10

FARM PARTNERS

- | | |
|---|--|
| Cedar Grove Cheese
2013 | Local Foods
2013-2014 |
| Circadian Organics
2018 | The Lone Goat Farm
2015-2017 |
| The Cottage Baker
2015-2016 | Lonesome Stone Milling
2012-present |
| Coulee View Family Farm
2010-2017 | Natural Direct
2014-present |
| Driftless Organics
2015-present | Nelson Trout Farm
2013 |
| Harmony Valley
2013-present | Pioneer Gardens Farm
2017-present |
| Hazard Free Farm
2014-2015 | Preston Valley Produce
2010-present |
| Hidden Springs Creamery
2013-2014 | Spring Creek Cattle Co.
2010-2014 |
| Kickapoo Exchange Co-op
2013-present | St Brigid's Meadows
2016-present |
| Lange Farms
2014 | Violet Dreams Bakery
2012-2013 |



Cherrie Yu's *Four Little Swans Study* translated the classical ballet routine from *Swan Lake* onto four pairs of corn dogs, performed with Leena Joshi, Jonathan Soto, and Jesse Meredith.
PHOTO BY LEVI SHAND



Top: *These Spaces Hold Us* at ACRE Projects with Yasmeen Nematt Alla, Jonathan Herrera Soto, Annie Kielman, curated by Rohan Ayinde.
 Bottom Left: *To Hold Space* with Bonny Nahmias at Ground Level Platform. PHOTO COURTESY OF GROUND LEVEL PLATFORM
 Bottom Right: *Field Measure* with Ruth Burke, Zack Ingram, and Libbi Ponce at LVL 3. PHOTO COURTESY OF LVL 3

Exhibitions

ACRE's Exhibitions Program provides artists opportunities to expand their practice, develop professionally, and build community with a thriving nationwide network of peers and arts professionals. Each year a board of Curatorial Fellows works with artists to produce exhibitions, present public programs, and create publications.

Number of partner galleries: 52

Number of exhibitions presented: 207

Number of artists who have presented work: 685

CURATORIAL FELLOWS

- Anthony Stepter
- Kate Bowen
- Alicia Eler
- Ruslana Lichtzier
- Pat Elifritz
- Raven Munsell
- Liz McCarthy
- Cecilia Vargas
- Jennifer Mefford
- Ross Jordan
- Lauren Fulton
- Matt Coleman
- Anastasia Tinari
- Danny Floyd
- Make Space (Lynette Miranda, Etta Sandry, and Kathy Cho)
- Ann Meisinger
- Kate Sierzputowski
- Josh Rios
- Sabrina Grieg
- Alexandria Eregbu
- Adia Sykes
- Lauren Leving
- Felisha Mings
- Elizabeth Lalley
- Max Guy
- Lucy Stranger
- Stephanie Koch
- Rachel McDermott
- Sarita Hernández
- Lindsay Hutchens
- Gee Wesley
- Rohan Ayinde

In response to the outbreak of COVID-19, ACRE cancelled all in-person public programs and deferred our summer 2020 Residency Program to 2021.



Artists Ben Driggs and Javier Jasso pouring molten copper under the instruction of sculptor Tamsie Ringler as a part of ACRE High Fire, a newly launched studio area focused on metal work and ceramics processes including Raku and pit fire.

PHOTO BY KATE BOWEN

ACRE 2020

8 STUDIO SPACES

- | | |
|----------|------------------------|
| Woodshop | Screen Printing |
| Fibers | Sound |
| AV Tech | Ceramics |
| Stage | + New High Fire Studio |

In July-August the farm in Steuben, WI was offered to use, to gather, to create, to rest, to work internally as an organization and community, and to plan for the future.

Our two priorities included:

- Providing space for rest, relaxation, and retreat, prioritizing BIPOC staff and alumni with emphasis on queer and trans artists.
- Working together on building projects, improvements, and program development for ACRE which will help us prepare for our future.

This summer ACRE and CAPE (Chicago Arts Partnerships in Education) began a partnership as part of the CAPE 2020 Summer Remote Learning Program in six CPS schools. ACRE's guest artists joined classes led by CAPE teachers and artists to make live presentations, share their work, and collaborate. The new parameters of remote learning encouraged new thinking and experimentation around art in pedagogical spaces.



A view from the ACRE kitchen. PHOTO BY DIANA ROSE HARPER

ADMINISTRATIVE

Kate Bowen
Executive Director

Erin Nixon
Development Director

Caitlin Arnold
Kitchen Director

John Kyle Cronan
Technology Director

Danny Floyd
Exhibitions Director

Nathan Florsheim
Communications Manager

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board of Directors
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Aron Gent
Jenny Kendler
Raven Falquez Munsell
Patrick "Q" Quilao
Lena Singer
Nicholas Wylie
Latham Zearfoss

FUNDERS

National Endowment for the Arts
Illinois Arts Council Agency
City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs & Special Events
MacArthur Funds for Arts and Culture at The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation
Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelley Foundation
Sustainable Arts Foundation
Whole Foods Community Giving

ANNUAL SPONSORSHIPS

Dawoud Bey
Valerie Carberry and Richard Wright
Document
Other People's Pixels

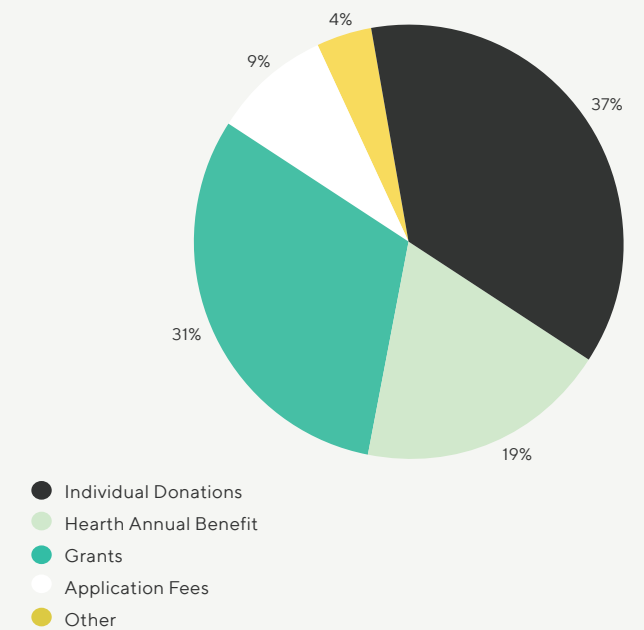
IN-KIND SPONSORSHIPS

Intelligentsia Coffee
Exfolia Botanical
Lula Cafe
Letherbee Distillers
Maison Ferrand
Apologue Spirited Liqueurs
Cream Wines

RESIDENCY PARTNER

Mother Earth Green Center

Revenue Sources





Our guests Anna's pose for a group photo at the end of a 4 day retreat. PHOTO BY KATE BOWEN

“The space ACRE created this summer epitomizes their dedication to caring for and fostering spaces of community building. Everyone in the Anna’s cohort felt restored and hopeful.”

- Alden Burke,
Co-Director of Anna’s, ACRE Partner Gallery

ACRE Looks to the Future

In collaboration with Adia Sykes, and Annas Projects (Stephanie Koch and Alden Burke) ACRE will launch the Chicago Arts Census. The Arts Census collects, maps, and visualizes data that illuminates the lived experiences and working conditions of arts workers in Chicago. The collected data will be translated into a series of maps, a website, a publication, and public programs that demonstrate the interwoven and dependent relationships that make up Chicago’s art ecosystem.



Top: The Atmo reading group poses for a screenshot after our first session this summer. Atmo #3 begins November 25. Bottom: Leadership of the Pilsen Alliance pose for a photo after a visit to the farm in September.

ACRE will be adapting its Residency Program to weather uncertain circumstances and enable the organization to safely host residents. This includes expanded session options and more focused programming. By monitoring our occupancy, practicing social distancing and enhanced cleaning procedures, and working with our incoming residents we will shape a safe and healthy environment together.



Session 1, 2019



acreresidency.org