

2022-2023 IMPACT REPORT

JAZZARTS CHARLOTTE

Connecting the cultural community
and developing an audience for jazz
through quality education, performance
excellence and musician support



A Message From Leadership



As we reflect on the past 18 months, JazzArts Charlotte can now fully assess the journey and remarkable challenges that lay before us. We do not take lightly that not only did the organization survive the very challenging period of uncertainty, but we have managed to thrive.

We are grateful for the support that has allowed JazzArts to continue to serve the community in a meaningful way, with the complete restart of our in-person programming in both education and performance. With an overwhelming demand for our educational programs in the past year, the organization has seen record enrollment numbers in our JazzArts Academy. We are also proud of our newly formed and continuing partnerships with some of the most respected institutions in our community and will continue to work to build those meaningful relationships that will help serve the JazzArts mission and core values.

As we finally turn the corner and are on the road to normalcy post-pandemic, we have you, our loyal supporters, to thank. Because of you, JazzArts Charlotte completed a successful FY23, with an even brighter outlook ahead.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We look forward to continuing to serve the Charlotte community with innovative and impactful jazz programming.

Sincerely,

Lonnie Davis
President and CEO

For the past two years I have had the honor of serving as Board Chair for JazzArts Charlotte and have been privileged to enjoy a front row seat to the continued growth and development of the organization. During this time, we have onboarded a larger staff with additional full-time positions, had a record number of students and program participants, and produced multiple groundbreaking shows while developing new and deeper community partnerships.

During 2023, we began a process to develop a new strategic plan, which will guide the organization's steps toward meeting our mission over the coming years. While our mission remains unchanged, our Board, staff, and supportive community continue to develop new and exciting ways to execute and realize that mission every day.

The support of our community has made the work of JazzArts Charlotte possible, and this impact report reflects just some of what we have been able to achieve together in FY23. I am confident that we will continue to be amazed at what the future holds for JazzArts and our students, musicians, and community. I thank you for all that you have done and for your continuing support.

Warm Regards,

Jerri Kallam
FY23 Board Chair



2023 HIGHLIGHTS

New to JazzArts Charlotte

JazzArts Charlotte introduced two new staff positions in FY23. Dr. Patrick Brown joined us as the Education Director and Joseph Riggi joined us as the Digital Media Content Manager.

Before joining JazzArts Charlotte, Patrick was Assistant Professor of Music at Middle Georgia State University, where he directed the jazz ensemble, and taught applied woodwinds, commercial music theory, and improvisation. Before his time in Georgia, Patrick taught at University of Nebraska at Omaha, Davidson College, Lenoir-Rhyne University, Union College, Wingate University, and Mitchell Community College. As a performer, he has shared the stage with



Dr. Patrick Brown

artists such as Aretha Franklin, The Temptations, The Four Tops, Johnny Mathis, Glenn Miller Orchestra, and Nelson Riddle Orchestra. Patrick is thrilled to be back home in the Charlotte area leading the JazzArts Academy!

With creativity in his bones, Joseph comes to JazzArts Charlotte with an extensive background in visual effects, graphic design, and animation. You've probably seen him behind the scenes at JAZZ ROOM grabbing video and photos to feature on our social media accounts. He is bringing JazzArts to a new level, digitally, allowing more people to learn about the services JazzArts provides.



Joseph Riggi

Jazz Education Network Board President

JazzArts Charlotte President and CEO Lonnie Davis was recently selected to serve as Board President of the Jazz Education Network (JEN). Jazz Education Network is an international nonprofit founded in 2008, dedicated to building the jazz arts community by advancing education, promoting performance, and developing new audiences. As Board President, Lonnie represents JazzArts Charlotte at the global level through relationships with international jazz performers, educators, and students.



Photo by Frances Scanlon



Introducing New Education Program: Nuestro Tiempo Latin Jazz Youth Ensemble

In spring 2022, JazzArts Charlotte piloted a new and free educational program, Nuestro Tiempo Latin Jazz Youth Ensemble. This program was made possible thanks to our supportive sponsors at BCBS NC and Arts & Science Council. Serving middle and high school students, both Latino American and non-Latino American, the program is designed to connect the community and educate students, celebrating the rich contributions and heritage of Latin Americans in jazz. **Over 40 students participated in Nuestro Tiempo Latin Jazz Youth Ensemble in its first year!**

Nuestro Tiempo (meaning "Our Time") provides students with a unique opportunity to play jazz orchestra repertoire and learn fundamentals including clave, improvisation, and Latin

jazz history. As a current student, Victoria shares, *"What I love about the [Nuestro Tiempo] Latin Jazz ensemble is learning about the music of my heritage. I have so much fun."* One of the special programmatic components for students in Nuestro Tiempo is learning about dance and rhythm. A whole session is dedicated to exploring Latin dance movements that correlate with the Latin and Afro-Cuban rhythms.

Outside of the benefits to students, JazzArts has had the opportunity to engage with partners within the Latinx community, including Camino Health Center and Latin American Coalition, providing diverse and accessible music instruction geared specifically towards the Hispanic American community, which is the fastest growing demographic in North Carolina.



39%
of JazzArts
Academy
Students
received
scholarships
OR free
tuition for our
programs.



JazzArts Youth Ensembles + Workshops

JazzArts Charlotte's flagship educational program, Youth Ensembles + Workshops, soared to new heights by increasing student registration by 91% over the past year and reaching our highest enrollment in the history of the program. Serving middle and high school students, this program provides students with the opportunity to grow their individual skills within a supportive and relaxed ensemble environment while concentrating on exploring jazz styles, standard repertoire, jazz improvisation, and history. Additionally, students gain life skills by learning leadership, building confidence, and improving communication and social skills.

Lisa's son, Jason, has been with JazzArts for many years. As Jason graduates, Lisa reminisces, *"His time with JazzArts Charlotte has been such a gift. His experience has not only helped him grow as a musician but inspired him to pursue a degree in Music Education. We will forever be grateful to each staff member, especially the musicians who generously shared their love of the art. As a parent, they seemed more [like] mentors than instructors."*

102 students participated in Youth Ensembles + Workshops.
JazzArts reached students from **42** Charlotte area zip codes.



JazzArts Summer Music Camp

From June 26 to 30th, students at Summer Music Camp learned jazz history, improvisation, and performance all while gaining self-confidence and creativity! These young musicians learned from some of the best jazz performers and educators from across our region (and beyond) and were joined by special guest clinician, award-winning and internationally acclaimed trombonist and educator, Wycliffe Gordon. JazzArts Charlotte was also thrilled to welcome Dr. Will Campbell, Director of Jazz Studies at UNC Charlotte.

For siblings and jazz vocal students, Clover and Peyton, this was their first-time attending camp. *"To meet all these people who share [our] same interests is so cool!"* The highlight of their week was working with jazz vocalist and JazzArts faculty member, Dawn Anthony, and performing with their peers in the camp's public performance on June 30th.

They were not the only students performing for the first time with JazzArts. **This year, Summer Music Camp registration increased by 70% from last year and was our largest enrollment to date!** We are grateful to our sponsors, donors, and partners at UNC Charlotte for helping to make our 2023 JazzArts Summer Music Camp an overwhelming success.



FREE Education Workshops



One of the ways JazzArts bridges the gap between professional jazz performance and student education is through free JAZZ ROOM applied learning masterclasses and clinics. Throughout the year, international JAZZ ROOM artists teach these educational sessions, providing students from all backgrounds with rare and invaluable access to musical guidance/instruction, development strategies, and life lessons from some of the best jazz educators in the world.

In 2023, JAZZ ROOM international educators included: Drummer Jeff "Tain" Watts, Percussionist Pedrito Martinez, Flutist Itai Kriss, Clarinetist Even Christopher, Saxophonist Tia Fuller, and Pianist Emmet Cohen. These unique educational offerings provide local students with opportunities to learn from world-class jazz performers.

A parent shares, *"I liked that my daughter got to witness a professional musician showing her what the clarinet could do if she sticks with it. I loved that [the workshop] challenged her to improvise on her own in front of a room full of strangers. She was nervous but I was so proud of her for doing it!"* The experience of interacting with some of the best musicians in the world is a distinctive opportunity that the JazzArts Academy provides to students in the Charlotte region and beyond!



219
students registered
for the free jazz
workshops!





More than
100
musicians are supported
through performances
and teaching
opportunities.

Did You Know?

JazzArts Charlotte is the liaison that hires local, regional, and national jazz musicians for corporate, private, and community events all year round!

Supporting Musicians to Keep Jazz Thriving

JazzArts Charlotte is dedicated to ensuring that local and regional musicians can support themselves (financially) by doing what they love most of all, performing and teaching. In December, JazzArts produced its largest production to date. JazzArts Charlotte's "Nutcracker Swing" featured Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn's arrangement of Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite, under the musical direction of Grammy-winning trumpeter and Charlotte native, Ashlin Parker. The production also featured choreography from award-winning choreographer Lula Elzy. JazzArts Charlotte hired 17 of the region's top jazz artists, 12 modern dancers (both local and national), and featured students from 3 of the JazzArts Academy's Jazz Youth Ensembles as a part of the three-day festivity.

Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker will always be a holiday favorite, but Duke Ellington's Nutcracker rendition is a new holiday favorite, made special because of its historic significance to America's classical music, Jazz. Irving Townsend, record producer for many jazz legends, wrote, "For the first time in Ellington history, Duke had decided to devote an entire album to arrangements of another composer's works instead of his own." These arrangements were very "personal," as in many Ellington compositions. The individual instrumental parts were written for specific musicians, with their unique playing strengths highlighted in the arrangements. Therefore, this music is highly challenging to many musicians and requires extensive study to recreate and perform authentically.



THE JAZZ ROOM

Since its inception, JazzArts Charlotte has been dedicated to bringing high-quality, world-class jazz entertainment to the Queen City, and in doing so, has built a thriving jazz audience. In response to the growing demand and community post-pandemic, JazzArts evolved its JAZZ ROOM programming to introduce a greater number of national and internationally renowned artists to Charlotte. Throughout the year, many of these jazz icons made their Charlotte debut with us, right here at the JAZZ ROOM!

Jazz music is a broad genre, and JazzArts Charlotte provides opportunities for not only audience members to enjoy the music, but for up-and-coming young musicians to learn from some of the best artists in the world. We thank you for playing a part in the future of this music and supporting live jazz in our community!



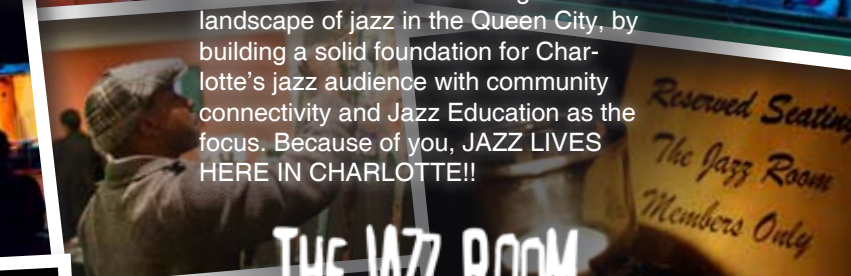
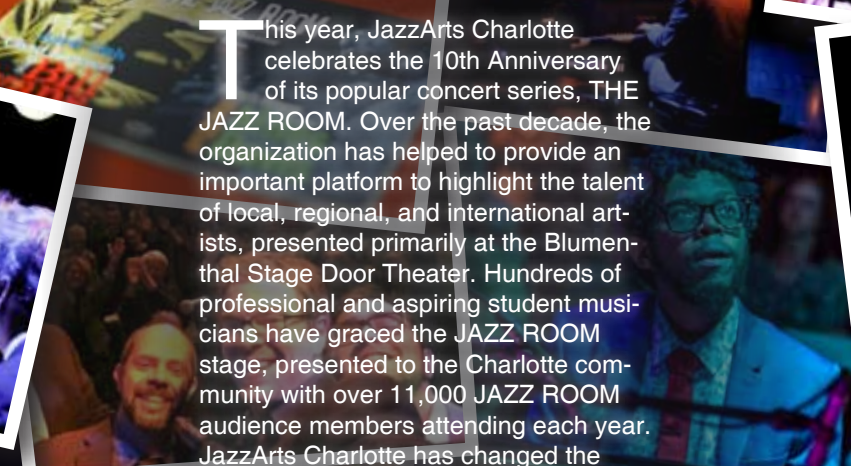
JAZZ ROOM featured great names such as:

Legendary saxophonist Branford Marsalis
Modern jazz drumming legend Jeff "Tain" Watts
Piano virtuoso Emmet Cohen

JAZZ ROOM highlights a variety of cultures through the music with artists like:

Internationally renowned percussionist Pedrito Martinez playing Sound of Cuba
Israeli Flutist Itai Kriss and his group Telavana, sharing music of Israel with a Caribbean twist
Vocalist Tatiana Eva-Maria reliving 20th-century Paris through Gypsy jazz





A decade in the making ...

This year, JazzArts Charlotte celebrates the 10th Anniversary of its popular concert series, THE JAZZ ROOM. Over the past decade, the organization has helped to provide an important platform to highlight the talent of local, regional, and international artists, presented primarily at the Blumenthal Stage Door Theater. Hundreds of professional and aspiring student musicians have graced the JAZZ ROOM stage, presented to the Charlotte community with over 11,000 JAZZ ROOM audience members attending each year. JazzArts Charlotte has changed the landscape of jazz in the Queen City, by building a solid foundation for Charlotte's jazz audience with community connectivity and Jazz Education as the focus. Because of you, JAZZ LIVES HERE IN CHARLOTTE!!

THE JAZZ ROOM

*Reserved Seating
The Jazz Room
Members Only*

Your Impact





Romare Bearden Collaboration



JazzArts Charlotte had the opportunity to partner with The Mint Museum during their exhibition of Picasso Landscapes: Out of Bounds and Bearden/Picasso: Rhythms and Reverberations. The exhibition examined the impact of Pablo Picasso's rich artistic practice on Romare Bearden and his work. Many people only know Bearden for his visual artwork, but he was less known as a lyricist and music composer of jazz compositions.

Through this partnership, JazzArts held free public events at The Mint Museum to provide contextual education relating to aspects of the artists' work and its cross-section with jazz music during that era. The American Jazz in Paris program uncovered some of the musical sounds of Montmartre, and the relationships between jazz, symphonic jazz, and modernism, as heard in Paris during this distinct period in history.

As a culminating program of the exhibition, JazzArts Charlotte featured legendary jazz master, saxophonist Branford Marsalis and his ensemble for its May 2023 JAZZ

ROOM concert performance. Marsalis performed a unique program of his album, Romare Bearden Revealed, a tribute to the work of the famed Charlotte native artist. The performance also included Bearden's compositions, the most well-known selection, "Seabreeze." This was only the second time since the album's recording in 2003, that Marsalis has performed these works publicly.

As a part of the JazzArts Charlotte mission to "connect the cultural community", we are thrilled to collaborate with other Charlotte-based organizations and businesses. We believe that together, we can further enrich the community with high quality and unique educational creative and cultural programs for our community to enjoy.





CATS

Bringing Jazz to the Community

An important part of JazzArts Charlotte's mission is to help develop a thriving jazz audience in our community. One of the ways JazzArts does this is through the creation of new partnerships that expands opportunities to experience live and accessible jazz entertainment for everyone to enjoy. Last fall, we partnered with the Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS) on the "Ride with the Music" Program to present free live jazz performances along the Blue Line light rail stations across the city for the public to enjoy while moving through their busy days. These special pop-up public performances featured local and regional musicians and provided opportunities for several of our JazzArts Academy students to perform as well.



JazzArts Charlotte is proud to have a long-standing partnership with the College of Arts + Architecture at UNC Charlotte. In January 2022, the Department of Music's faculty members participated in a special JAZZ ROOM concert event called, "Bird Lives!" in recognition of UNC Charlotte's Charlie Parker 101 celebration. The performance featured Charlie Parker's well-known bebop compositions and selections rarely heard live from his *Charlie Parker with Strings* album. Additionally, JazzArts Charlotte's annual Summer Music Camp is hosted on the main campus of UNC Charlotte, allowing our student access to state of the art academic and music facilities.

Dr. Will Campbell, UNC Charlotte Director of Jazz Studies, shares, "The UNC Charlotte Department of Music has benefited greatly from our partnership with JazzArts Charlotte. In addition to us working together to host the annual Summer Jazz Camp, we greatly appreciate the invitation for our students to participate in JazzArts events. Charlotte is a much more "jazz friendly" town thanks to the vision and hard work of JazzArts!"



Diversity, Inclusion and Access

Since its inception, JazzArts Charlotte has been committed to creating an organizational culture and practices that support and enforce diversity, inclusion, and access. As an African American-led non-profit organization, it is intentional about incorporating practices of racial equity and diversity throughout our governance, operations, and programming.

As reflected in both performance curation and educational programs, JazzArts engages musicians and artists with racial balance and diversity front of mind. We are intentional about displaying content and balance that reflects the complex history of jazz music and the diverse cultures within our community today.

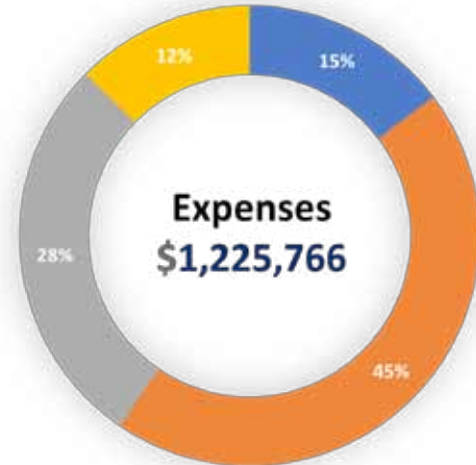
Access is also an important value for JazzArts Charlotte. To help ensure that our programs are accessible to the broadest range of people in our community, we work to lower barriers that may prevent participation by providing scholarships and free educational programs to youth as well as discounted and reasonably priced tickets for our JazzArts performance events.



Revenue and Expenses



INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS	12%
CORPORATE GIVING & SPONSORSHIPS	5%
IN-KIND GOODS & SERVICES	4%
GRANTS	44%
FUNDRAISING EVENTS	2%
EARNED REVENUE	27%
EMPLOYEE RETENTION CREDIT REFUND	6%



JAZZARTS ACADEMY	15%
PERFORMANCES & MUSICIAN SUPPORT	45%
GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE	28%
DEVELOPMENT	12%

JazzArts Charlotte's annual budget operates on a fiscal year, July 1-June 30. At the time of this publication JazzArts Charlotte was conducting a financial audit. Financial documents will be available at www.thejazzarts.org/about/financials/.

JazzArts Charlotte Awarded Southern Cultural Treasure Funding

JazzArts Charlotte is a proud recipient and member of South Art's inaugural cohort of Southern Cultural Treasures: a four-year initiative supporting Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) – led and – serving arts and cultural organizations throughout the Southeast.

As a member of the cohort, JazzArts receives a total of \$300,000 as multi-year funding, an additional project grant of \$7,500, access to provided consultants, and a network and community of like-minded organizations. Historically, arts and cultural organizations in the South have not received the same level of funding as other regions of the U.S. We are honored to join alongside our 16 cohort member organizations paving a way to bring change and representation to arts and culture in the South.



We want to say a special thank you to all of our volunteers.
We are grateful for the time and dedication of your service in keeping jazz alive here in Charlotte.

Thank You!

Although there is not space to list every gift received, we are grateful for each donor's generosity and everyone who makes JazzArts Charlotte's vision possible.

Sustainers (\$10,000 & above)

Joel Burris
Oscar & Heide Groomes

Benefactors (\$5,000 – \$9,999)

William & Jan Cook
David Goodstein
Michael & Sarah Masci
Linda May & James Juhl
Arthur & Joanne Rogers
Frank & Lindsay Schall
The Scott & Tracey Tozier Fund
Alvaro & Tracy Zapata

Maestros (\$2,500 – \$4,999)

Howard Adams & Carol McPhee
JoAnna Anderson
Ronald Baldwin
Paul Brooks
Jim & Chris Drost
Lorine & Ray Edwards
Angela & Michael Friedland
Peter Guild
Brad & Kathy Keller
Peter & Mary Kelly Family Fund
Vincent & Dana Luciani
Nancy Nyberg and Bruce Thomas
Dr. Robert Petty & Carol Hitselberger

Arrangers (\$1,000 – \$2,499)

William & Julie Abt
Ron & Pamela Ancrum
Ronnie Bryant
Karen Bernhardt & Marc Tiegel
Ken Bernhardt
Lauren & Josh Bickerstaff
Susan Carr
Barbara & Rex Caton
Tim & Ashley Christman
Stephen Duniec

Bernadette & Gene Flavors
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Bo & Carolyn Proctor
Katie Ramseur
Thomas & Rita Robinson
Farrah Scales
Wayne & Vaneta Smiley
Joseph Smith & Brianna Hendryx
Eric & Connie Tiegel
Rebecca & Jay Thomas
Barbara & Charles Williams

Composers (\$500 – \$999)

Mark Abrams & Iris Prandi
Lynn Avampato & Kurt King
Bob & Angela Baron
Virginia Benson & Bruce Cardos
Robert & Deborah Bove
Chip Celley
Donna DeCesare
Brent & Kristy Evans
Madhu Engineer
Stephen & Lisa Fadero
David & Marilyn Furman
Michael & Nancy Heafner
James & Deborah Keenan
Dr. Kelsey Klotz
Drs. Jean Kois & Jose Pena
Richard Lancaster
Dr. Sonya Maynor

Jeff McCraw
Raymond & Kimberly McGregor
Patricia McLaughlin & Eric Benishek
Leah & Dan Miller
Michelle Monteilh & Brian Smith
Henry & Raquel Murphy
Susan Patterson & George Tyree
Rosalia & Herb Peck
Coleen Postilio & Ed Jones
Joan Rasmussen & Morry Alter
Aaron & Rebecca Valenstein
Kurt Waldthausen & Patricia Sciarra
Leo & Tammy Ward

Soloists (\$250 – \$499)

Luther & Carolyn Allison
David Arone & Shirley Xu
Kathy & Bill Bambach
Casey Beck
Andrew & Christine Beloni
Barbara Birge
Thomas Clark & Linda Bain-Clark
Bridget Cornelius
Elizabeth & Christopher Daly
Sabine Detzel
Miriam Dixon
Gwenn & Thomas Freeman
Thomas & Lynne Hennig
Barbara & Mark Holt
Andrew Howe
Yolanda Johnson
Isabelle & Peter Kalshoven
Kelly & John Keeling
Robert & Linda Keene
Leslie & Drew Ladau
John & Beverly Lassiter
Jean Leier
Justin Lyons
Sabrina Martin
Richard Mei
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Rebecka Nelli
Charise Patterson
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Kathleen Reardon & James Horton
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Karen Sentelle
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Jeff & Karla Stovall
Lisa & Linwood Toppin
Heidi & Tim Weatherspoon
Paul Wetenhall & Kathy Pearce
Sandra & Robert Wolf
Michael & Nancy Yaffe
Karen York & James Elder



*Includes individual contributions received
July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023*

JAZZARTS CHARLOTTE

VAPA Center
Attn: JazzArts Charlotte
700 N. Tryon St.
Charlotte, NC
28202



www.thejazzarts.org

Thank you to our funders, donors, and partners who make fulfilling our mission possible.
Your generosity and dedication to jazz education, performance and musician support
make a difference in the lives of people every day.



Want more information?

If you would like more information about JazzArts Charlotte and our programs, please visit
www.thejazzarts.org or contact the Development Office at development@thejazzarts.org or 704.503.9565.