



Utah Division of
Arts & Museums

CREATIVE AGING IMPACT REPORT

2021

2022



A LIFETIME OF ARTS ELEVATED

Message

Thanks to support from the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) and E.A. Michelson Philanthropies, Utah Arts & Museums (UA&M) was thrilled to be able to host our "A Lifetime of Arts Elevated" initiative this past year. Participating in creative aging work has been incredibly gratifying. We received so many positive comments from older adults who participated in the classes hosted by a variety of organizations across the state, including museums, art centers, and senior living facilities. We expected positive outcomes but have been pleasantly surprised at just how much people have enjoyed mastering a new art form and making friends in a creative learning environment.

We are excited to provide more training from Lifetime Arts this year, and we look forward to running another round of grant funding to support creative aging projects. Older adults make up almost 20% of Utah's total population, and we are eager to help support organizations in engaging and elevating their lives across Utah.

Thanks to Jason Bowcutt and Tracy Hansford who took the lead in this initiative. Other UA&M staff who were instrumental in this initiative include Jean Tokuda Irwin, Jim Glenn, Laurel Cannon Alder, and Natalie Petersen. We are so appreciative of our partnership with the Utah Commission on Aging, who have highlighted this work on their website and have been an important sounding board for us. Like me, I hope this report inspires you to continue or try a new art form!



Victoria Panella Bourns, Division Director



PHOTO: RIRIE-WOODBURY DANCE COMPANY



PHOTO: BRIGHAM CITY MUSEUM

Project Overview

In 2021 the Utah Division of Arts & Museums received a grant from the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA), in collaboration with E.A. Michelson Philanthropy, to support creative aging through NASAA's Leveraging State Investments in Creative Aging (LSICA) initiative. UA&M provided additional funding in order to create a robust creative aging program.

REVENUE

\$60,000	UA&M received a grant from the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies and E.A. Michelson Philanthropies
\$48,699	UA&M's state funding
\$108,699	TOTAL REVENUE

EXPENSES

\$20,000	Contracted Lifetime Arts to provide 4 training sessions on "Creative Aging Foundations" for cultural organizations, teaching artists, and organizations that serve older adults. A total of 99 people across Utah were trained.
\$5,000	Sponsored the 2022 Creative Age Conference in St. George
\$5,000	Sponsored the Arts & Aging section of the Utah Commission on Aging website, including a roster of artists endorsed by UA&M to teach creative aging
\$70,874	Grants to fund 27 art classes for older adults hosted by a variety of organizations (see pg 5 for list)
\$7,825	Other expenses
\$108,699	TOTAL EXPENSES

BY THE NUMBERS

PHOTO: SOUTH SALT LAKE ARTS COUNCIL

TOTAL FUNDING TO 27 CREATIVE AGING PROGRAMS

\$70,874

PERCENTAGE OF FUNDS FOR TEACHING ARTIST FEES

57%

TEACHING ARTISTS ENGAGED BY LIFETIME ARTS

48 TEACHING ARTISTS

OLDER ADULT LEARNING HOURS

5,339 HOURS

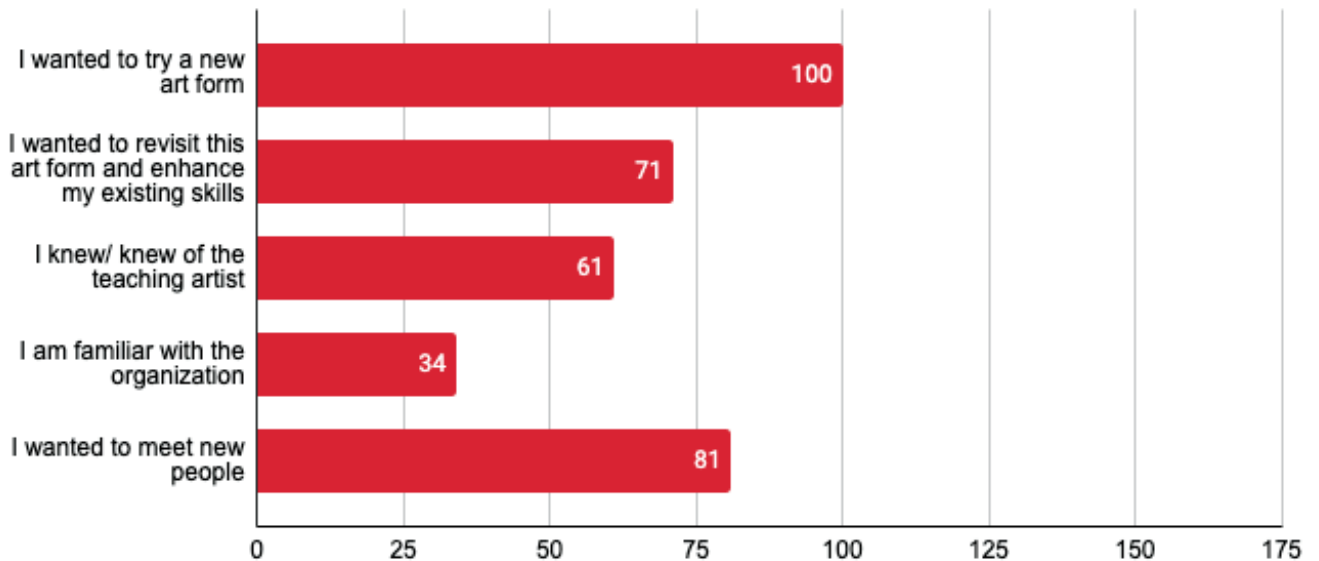
TOTAL PARTICIPANTS

315 OLDER ADULTS

27 PROJECT GRANTEES & 31 TEACHING ARTISTS

- ART Provides | St. George | **Elizabeth Gunter**
- Bad Dog Arts | SLC | **Victoria Lyons**
- Bountiful Davis Art Center | Bountiful | **Jennifer Love**
- Brigham City Corporation | Brigham City | **Cody Wolford**
- Brigham City Museum of Art & History | Brigham City | **Christian Knudsen**
- Cedar City Public Library | Cedar City | **Mona Woolsey**
- Jewish Family Services | SLC | **Donna Pence**
- Crescent Senior Living | Sandy | **Maddie Michael**
- Granary Art Center | Ephraim | **Kim Gordan**
- Holladay Arts Council | Holladay | **Nan Seymour & Kandace Steadman**
- **Kathy Cieslewicz** | Toquerville
- Mundi Project | SLC | **Dr. Erika Qureshi**
- Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art | Logan | **John Westenskow**
- Ogden Nature Center | Ogden | **Deja Mitchell**
- Plan-B Theatre Company | SLC | **Elaine Jarvik, Julie Jensen, Kay Shean, & Debora Threedy**
- Red Butte Garden & Arboretum | SLC | **Doug Allen**
- Repertory Dance Theatre | SLC | **Meghan Durham Wall**
- Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company | SLC | **Juan Carlos Claudio**
- South Salt Lake Arts Council | South SL | **Stefanie Dykes**
- Southern Utah Museum of Art | Cedar City | **Sue Cotter**
- Story Crossroads | West Jordan | **Laurie Allen**
- Sunshine Terrace Foundation | Logan | **Dana Worley**
- The Johnson Center for Community Arts & Education | Cedar City | **Carrie Trenholm**
- Uintah County Heritage Museum | Vernal | **Janeal Johnson**
- Utah Chinese Association | SLC | **Nan Li**
- West Valley Arts & Cultural Foundation | WVC | **Natalie Keezer**
- West Valley City/Harman Home | WVC | **Kindra Fehr**

Why did you choose to participate in this particular creative aging program?



Participants were asked to select all that applied to them.



PHOTOS: JOHNSON CENTER FOR COMMUNITY ARTS & EDUCATION

46% participated in order to meet new people. **57%** participated in order to learn a new art form.

Data reported based on 175 survey responses



**KIM GORDAN WITH
GRANARY ART CENTER**

Very knowledgeable and willing to share experience in a positive way that made the class fun to attend.

-Charles C. about Donna Pence

Meghan created a safe and fun environment in which to learn, create and share. Her enthusiasm and generosity always allowed me to give the best of myself in the moment.

-Linda R. about RDT



**STEPHANIE DYKES WITH
SOUTH SALT LAKE ARTS COUNCIL**

All of the teaching artists brought so much experience to the class and were forthright, serious, kind and generous with their instruction, encouragement, and feedback.

-Megan M. about Plan-B Theatre



**NATALIE KEEZER WITH
WEST VALLEY ARTS & CULTURAL FOUNDATION**

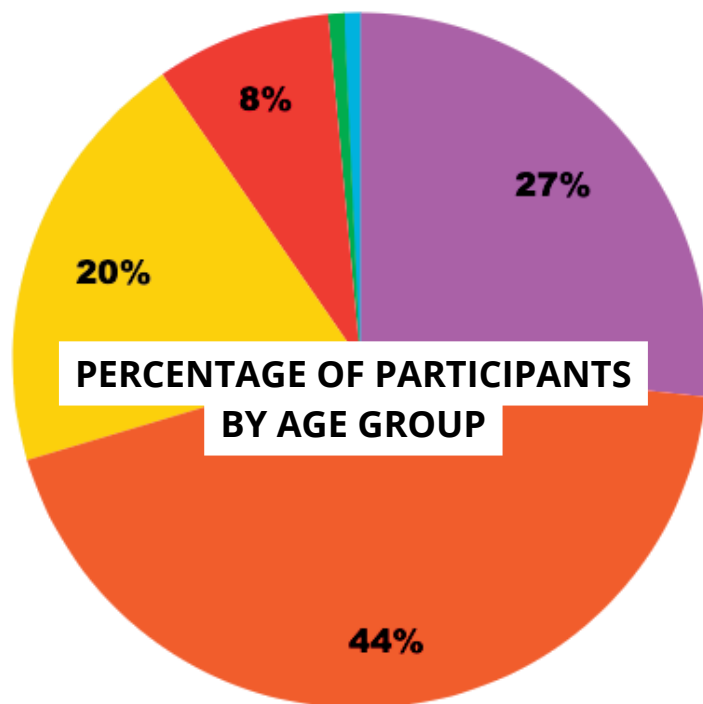
100%

All participants found their teaching artist to be effective with the art form and creative aging program experience.

Data reported based on 191 survey responses

AGE DEMOGRAPHIC

Creative aging programs are specifically designed for adults 55+.



TOP 3 BY PERCENTAGE

● Ages 65-74 = 44%

● Ages 55-64 = 27%

● Ages 75-84 = 20%

OTHER AGE GROUPS

● Ages 85-94 = 8%

● Ages 95-104 = 1 participant

● Ages 105 = 1 participant



PHOTO: PLAN-B THEATRE



PHOTO: STORY CROSSROADS

71

was the average age of participants. 55 was the minimum age for participation and Betty, who participated in the program at Crescent Senior Living, was the oldest participant at 105.

Data reported based on 135 survey responses

Program Highlights

PAINTING & DRAWING AT ART PROVIDES WITH ELIZABETH GUNTER



PHOTO: ART PROVIDES*

“

Merry Kay: 4th session I walked away with art I created, had fun with, AND felt comfortable with displaying it in my home. As a total newbie to painting, I started to have fun instead of worrying about the end product.

”

ART IN THE GARDEN AT RED BUTTE GARDEN WITH DOUG ALLEN

“

Vivian: I especially enjoyed making weaved watercolors- two paintings cut in strips then weaved together.

Heidi: I liked the critiques at the end of class- the way it was done and the observations made that enhanced my level of understanding.

”



PHOTO: RED BUTTE GARDEN*

99%

felt the program they participated in helped them be more knowledgeable about the art form.

Data reported based on 191 survey responses

*Photo may not depict participant(s) quoted



PHOTO: SOUTH SALT LAKE ARTS COUNCIL*

PRINTMAKING AT SOUTH SALT LAKE ARTS COUNCIL WITH STEPHANIE DYKES

“

Marla: Stephanie made us think and understand the process and then helped as needed.

This was an awesome level of higher learning and connectedness.

”

CREATIVE AGING THROUGH ACTIVE LISTENING AT RIVER'S BEND SENIOR CENTER WITH ERIKA QURESHI

“

Dolores: Erika encouraged broadening your musical horizons and learning to really listen and identify various instruments.

Reece: It helped me rekindle my passion for music.

”



PHOTO: MUNDI PROJECT*

97%

individuals felt the program they participated in helped them be more social and connected to a community.

Data reported based on 191 survey responses

*Photo may not depict participant(s) quoted



PHOTO: UINTAH COUNTY LIBRARY*

TACTILE ART AT UINTAH COUNTY LIBRARY WITH JANEAL JOHNSON

“

Madeline: I loved the background that Janeal told us about the art form and to learn about an art form that visually impaired people could feel and experience.

Alan: The highlight was meeting new people. Janeal taught from experience and not from a book.

”

LIFE MANDALAS AT HOLLADAY ARTS COUNCIL WITH NAN SEYMOUR & KANDANCE STEADMAN



PHOTO: HOLLADAY ARTS COUNCIL*

“

Patti: There was such a feeling of opening up myself with this group. The whole group was open, honest, and non-judgmental. This connection occurred so quickly.

”

Note from Teaching Artist

“

As a teaching artist, the UA&M creative aging training was a great source of information about why learning new creative pursuits is important as we age and why a social atmosphere is important for seniors. Even better, the Basic Drawing Skills class I taught was super fun! Everyone in the class was supportive and encouraging of each other, and I was able to make some good friends whom I am still in contact with.



PHOTO: BOUNTIFUL DAVIS ARTS CENTER

Classmates connected with each other, making social plans to get together outside of the classroom for other social activities. It was a perfect setting for making new friends as well as learning new skills. The entire experience was very rewarding for me as a person and an instructor. It has also led to additional teaching opportunities for art classes with other organizations focused on serving

senior communities. I highly recommend the program!

*–Jennifer Love, Teaching Artist
Bountiful Davis Arts Center*

”

97%

would recommend the creative aging program they participated in to their friend and/or relative.

3% selected "Yes, with some reservation"

Data reported based on 191 survey responses

Acknowledgements

Thank you to the **National Assembly of State Arts Agencies** in partnership with **E.A. Michelson Philanthropy** and the **Utah State Legislature** for funding Utah's creative aging initiative.

Training, coaching, consulting, and resources for "*A Lifetime of Arts Elevated*" were provided by **Lifetime Arts**, the national leader in creative aging programs and services, via Zoom sessions for 99 artists and 45 organizations from August through September 2021.

Thank you to **Utah Commission on Aging** for being Utah's official statewide virtual resource center for older adults. UCOA convenes expert stakeholders to share resources and best practices from our communities, public policy, education, and research to help Utahns navigate the opportunities and challenges of the aging experience. *For more info, visit UtahAging.org.*



CONTACT

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