

The
Clay
Studio

annual report

fiscal year 2023



Message From The Executive Director



Dear Friends:

The Clay Studio 2023 Fiscal Year - June 1, 2022, to May 31, 2023 - was an amazing journey. From a move to a grand opening to settling in, you, the members of our community, made the first year in our new home in South Kensington so memorable. You participated in our programs, attended events, and contributed your time, talents, money, and ceramics to ensure we flourished.

Because of your efforts, The Clay Studio successfully began this new chapter in South Kensington. Our classrooms are filled with new and returning students, and I am happy to report that since the fall of 2022, we have welcomed more than 600 students each term, almost double our previous capacity. Guest artists returned to the program, enriching our whole community with new ideas and fresh voices. We continue to build our exhibition programming, highlighting the very best of contemporary ceramics. Throughout this journey, we never slowed down in engaging with the community. Claymobile continues to serve children, youth, and adults throughout Philadelphia, and our new home allows us to invite many more people into the facility to experience the wonders of ceramics.

If you told me when I started at The Clay Studio more than a decade ago that I would be the Executive Director of a 32,000 sq. foot purpose-built facility with 24 kilns, six classrooms, space for 54 working artists (associates and residents) and 30 outstanding staff members, I might have laughed out loud. However, over my years with the organization, I learned that this institution and its people - the artists, students, board members, staff, and supporters - can do amazing work. This new building and all that is being done inside and outside its walls is proof of that fact.

My thanks and gratitude to all who are a part of our community. The Clay Studio is here and thriving because of you.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jennifer D. Martin". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jennifer D. Martin
Executive Director

Vision and Mission Statement

WHAT WE SHAPE
WITH OUR HANDS
—TRANSFORMS
OUR FUTURE.

Mission As artists, advocates, and educators, The Clay Studio is committed to ensuring the space, support, and inspiration necessary for expression and learning in the ceramic arts. We work in partnership with artists and the community to advance the ceramic arts as a force for good to build connections where all can flourish.

- Core Values**
- Serving a diverse community.
 - Maintaining an open and welcoming environment.
 - Delivering inspiring arts experiences.
 - Maintaining high-quality services and programs.
 - Serving as a resource for artists.

Since 1974 our vision, mission, and values ensure that we strive to create a space where everyone can access the arts regardless of age, experience, or background. We strive to reach audiences who lack access to hands-on artmaking. We are where artists from across the street, country, and world cultivate their careers. We are a vital resource for local schoolchildren. We are a community where people discover and nurture their creativity. We are artists and makers, teachers and students, innovators and visionaries. We believe that ceramic art is a force for good.



The Clay Studio



One Year At a Glance: Our New Home

From a new building to new faces, this year of **THE CLAY STUDIO** was marked by expansion. As an organization we have looked more diligently at what it takes to be a part of the community and how to continue to broaden our community. This has been a year of getting to know our neighbors, a year of gratitude, and a year of giving back.

35000

People served

10480

People walking
through our doors

39

Associate Artists

18

Guest artists

12

Resident artist

300+

Artists represented
in Exhibitions

6015

Claymobile students

88%

More kiln
capacity

846

Participants in 26 free
community workshops

1000

Works of art shipped

1200

Works of art made
at Clay Fest



2022-23 Timeline

April 2022

[The Grand Opening](#) at 1425 N. American Street & Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Debut of Pew grant awarded “[Making Place Matter](#)” Exhibition, symposium, and publication



June 2022

Unveiling of mural designed by Roberto Lugo, executed by the Mural Arts Program

[Hands on Clay](#): Monthly Summer Series proudly sponsored by PNC Arts Alive

Awarded [Creative Communities Grants](#) by William Penn Foundation

[Summer Camp](#) Program Begins



July 2022

State of the art [Bailey Gas and Blaauw Kilns](#) are installed, drastically increasing ceramic production

Molly Hatch, one of three artists in Making Place Matter joined us as a Guest Artist



August 2022

7th Annual Clay Fest: a celebration of clay and community

Ibrahim Said, Making Place Matter artist, was a Guest Artist and a special guest at Clay Fest



September 2022

Mud Ball: Gala & Art Auction

Fall Term Classes begin; First time offering quarterly youth classes

Our After-School Artists Program launches; begins partnering with local elementary schools



October 2022

Celebrating the life of Leroy Johnson: In Memoriam Exhibition

George Rodriguez led, Collaborative Community tile project

Jeanne Blissett-Robertson begins residency



December 2022

Saturday Community Workshop Series begins

Bi-weekly Clay & Conversations program continues for a third year with hybrid artists talks



January 2023

[NEA Grant awarded exhibition Figuring Space opens](#) with a hybrid symposium featuring all twelve artists and co-curator, Kelli Morgan

Annual Board and Leadership DEAI training



February 2023

[Jennifer Martin](#) begins tenure as the featured Guest Artist

Philadelphia Eagles play in the Superbowl

Soda kiln was installed and had its inaugural firing

Record breaking Valentine's Date Nights serve 100 couples



March 2023

Inaugural [PhilaBowl: An Empty Bowls Fundraiser](#)

Resident Artists exhibit at the national ceramics conference (NCECA) in Cincinnati, OH



April 2023

One Year Anniversary of our new building

[Small Favors](#) returns after a one year hiatus featuring over 500 works of art under 4 inches.



May 2023

Annual Pottery Sale

[Raymond Rorke](#), Graphic Designer and beloved colleague, passed away

Passed our Fiscal Year 2024 Budget

Exhibitions

Our exhibitions represent the broad spectrum of styles, techniques, and concepts possible in ceramic art. We present works by a diverse range of local, national, and international emerging and established artists in the field. In addition to an exciting roster of exhibitions, the 2023 fiscal year included the debut of The Clay Studio's permanent collection.

During fiscal year 2023, The Clay Studio inaugurated our new gallery at 1425 N American Street with the major exhibition *Making Place Matter*, funded by the Pew Center for Arts and Heritage. The season included 16 other shows across three exhibition spaces - the Jill Bonovitz Gallery, the Maker's Space for guest artists, and the Feature Wall, which showcases members of our community and the latest exciting additions to our shop. An additional exhibition was presented at the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA) Conference in Cincinnati, OH.

Supported by



2022-23 Exhibitions



Making Place Matter

April 23—October 22, 2022



The William Daley Library and Archival Collection

Unveiled April 30



The Clay Studio Collection

Unveiled April 30



Jordan McDonald: Lights and Mirrors

July 1—July 31, 2022



Philly Flavors: The Clay Studio Residents

October 7—October 30, 2022



Nathan Willever: Softening

October 13—December 31, 2022

June 1, 2022–May 31, 2023



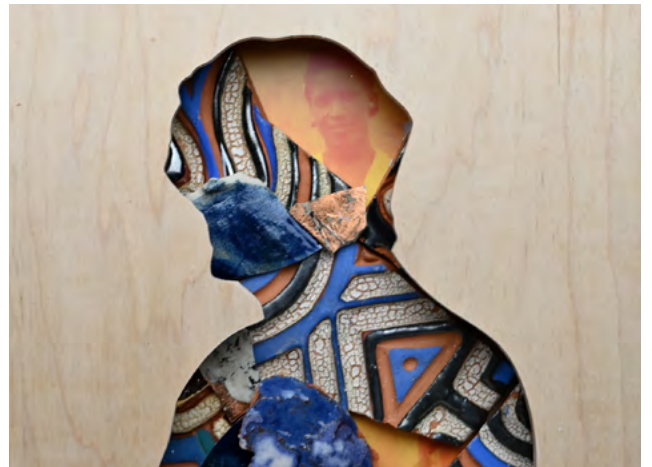
Better Lovers: Urschrei
October 13—December 31, 2022



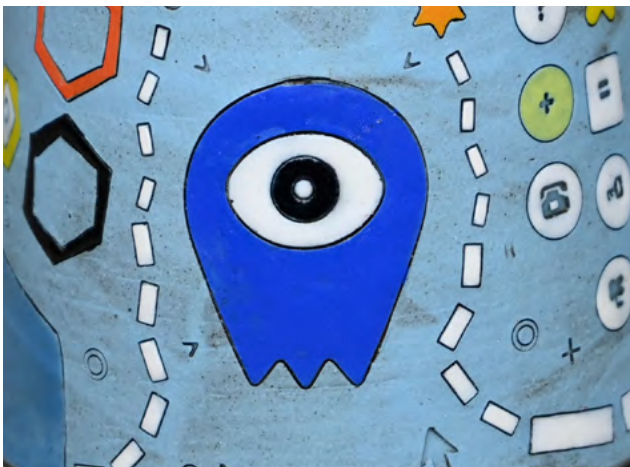
Leroy Johnson: In Memoriam
October 13—December 31st, 2022



Andrea Marquis: Matter in a Floating World
October 13—December 31, 2022



Malene Barnett: What's Left Behind
November 1—December 31, 2022



Masa Sasaki: Double Happiness
December 1—December 31, 2022



Claymobile Creations
January 7—January 31, 2023



Juan Barroso: Mano de Obra

January 9—February 5, 2023



Figuring Space

January 12—April 16, 2023



500 Degrees (2023 NCECA Exhibition)

March 15—March 18, 2023



Alex Stadler: Gone & Forever

April 28—July 3, 2023



Heather Mae Erickson: Pride Pots

April 28—July 3, 2023



Small Favors 2023

April 28—July 3, 2023

June 1, 2022–May 31, 2023

Resident Artists

The Resident Artist Program offers the top emerging ceramic talent in the U.S. and abroad the space, time, and resources to develop their artwork and professional lives. The program reflects diverse experiences, aesthetic approaches, cultures, and perspectives. A significant grant from the Windgate Foundation allows us to offer each Resident free studio space and a monthly stipend for up to three years.

The program is highly competitive, with only approximately 5% of applicants selected to join each year. During their tenure the Resident Artists join the community by teaching classes, exhibiting in group shows, selling work in the shop, accessing mentorship and mounting a solo exhibition.

Supported by



Fellowships generously supported by individual donors



Ruth Easterbrook

The Founders Fellow



Dante Gambardella

The Sybille Zeldin Fellow



Adebunmi Gbadebo

The Windgate Fellow



Akiko Jackson

The Lisa Naples Fellow



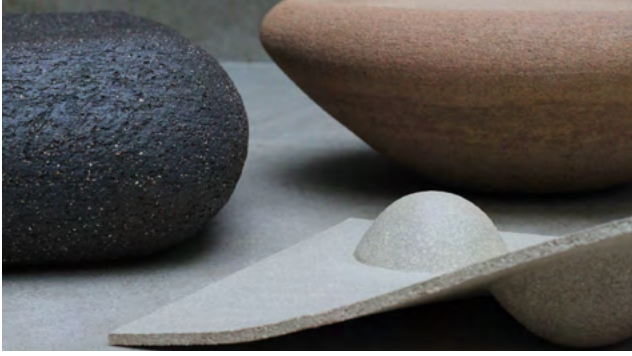
Stephanie Kantor

The Windgate Fellow



Minah Kim

The William Daley Fellow



Josephine Mette Larsen

A Clay Studio Fellow



Liisa Nelson

The Windgate Fellow



Chris Rodgers

The Windgate Fellow



Jeanne Blissett Robertson

The Windgate Fellow



Kevin Snipes

The Sybille Zeldin Fellow



Jinsik Yoo

The Windgate Fellow

Associate Artists

The Associate Artist Program provides individuals seeking to deepen their ceramic art practice with affordable rented workspace, discounted tools and supplies, and a communal creative culture. The communal nature of the program provides an environment that accommodates artists at many levels of commitment and accomplishment, in which all benefit from a diversity of experience and expertise. The program reflects a vast aesthetic range of artists—potters work side by side with both abstract and representational sculptors.

Jenifer Baldwin
Fred Cohen
Celia Feldberg
Saskia Fleishman
Vicky Gold
Ellen Greenberg
Jani Gross
Karen Harmelin
Daphne Hawkins Parker
Cheryl Hendershott
Julie Jung
Melissa Koenig
Ivan Krevolin
Brenda Levin
Samantha Lockwood
Nick Milando
Chuck Morris
Ron Mulray
Don Nakamura
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Marjorie Robbins
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Dora Savignac
Jillian Schley
Margarita Schmid
Margo Schreiber
Sandrine Sheon
Conni Spiegle
Eileen Stanfield
JoAnne Sutkin
Liz Swanson
Samantha Szura
Meghan Tranaukas
Carol Ventura
Corey Weiser-Vahey
Robin Williams-Turnage



Guest Artists

Since 1992 the Clay Studio's Guest Artist in Residence program has hosted artists from over thirty five countries. The program offers one to three month residencies for ceramic artists from around the world, serving as an international hub of creative exchange. This year's Guest Artists contributed to our first permanent exhibitions in the new building, taught numerous workshops, and each became a vital part of our local community during their time in the studio.

Molly Hatch
María Albornoz
Jeanne Quinn
Paolo Porelli & Lori-Ann Touchette
Ibrahim Said
Stefani Threet
George Rodriguez
Jennifer Martin
Hiroe Hanazono
Walter Moore
Kathie Regan Dalzell
Amy Sarnier Williams
Linda Cordell
Alex Stadler
Sugar Jaws: Grace Tessein & Dennis Ritter
Nick Lenker
Rose B. Simpson





School

Supported by

The Ira B. And Lucille A. Grossman Scholarship Fund

The Bladen Family Fund Scholarship

The Zeldin Family Foundation

And supported by individual donors

The Clay Studio offers classes year-round in hand-building, wheel throwing, casting, and glazing, from beginner to advanced. Top practitioners teach in our school, including many of our Resident Artists and alumni. We are an inclusive and vibrant community where people of all backgrounds, ages, and skill levels can learn, connect, and create art side by side. The Clay Studio also offers a wide range of youth education programming, including a summer camp and Saturday youth classes.

Education is at the heart of what we do at The Clay Studio, and we are proud of the quality of instruction offered within our walls. Our purpose-built studios are stocked with the latest technology that not only opens up artistic opportunities but also makes a ceramics art practice more accessible.

284

Classes & workshops

62

Teaching artists

74

Youth & adult scholarships awarded

4520

Students served

409

Students utilizing our sliding-scale tuition.



Claymobile

Supported by

Zeldin Family
Foundation

*Connelly
Foundation*



The Robbins de
Beaumont Foundation



John And Robyn Horn
Foundation

And supported by
individual donors

Claymobile is The Clay Studio's award-winning Community Engagement program. Since 1994, Claymobile has served over 50,000 Philadelphia school children and is recognized as one of the most cost-effective arts education opportunities in the region featuring both in-school and Out of School Time (OST) programming. As the name suggests, the program is completely mobile: teaching artists bring everything needed for ceramic arts lessons with them, ensuring the partner sites experience minimal logistical disruptions.

FY23 was a big year for Claymobile, filled with exciting developments and opportunities for growth:

Our new facility at 1425 N. American Street features a dedicated Claymobile space, making preparing for visits to partner sites and the processing of work much easier.

During FY23 all Claymobile programming began to intentionally incorporate [Social-Emotional Learning](#) into the classes, ensuring that all curriculum options available help students recognize and manage their emotions, solve problems, and form positive, empathetic relationships with their peers.

Three exciting free new programs launched—the After-School Program, led by our FAO Schwarz Fellow [Kayla Johnson](#), and Clay, Play, Read, our early-age literacy program, and our free intergenerational workshops on Saturdays.

6015

Claymobile students

561

Students in free
in-house workshops

120

Partner sites

40

Senior sites

136

After-school classes
for neighborhood youth

Hands on Clay

Funded by PNC Arts Alive, Hands on Clay events target those who experience economic and geographic barriers to arts and culture opportunities. This special initiative aims to remove these barriers by bringing free public arts programming directly into neighborhoods and festivals, reaching more individuals of all backgrounds.

Hands on Clay has successfully grown since its inception in 2015 and become a sought-after opportunity with participants returning year after year. It is a cornerstone of our Community Engagement and contributes to our increasingly outward looking mission for the organization with events such as Clay Fest.

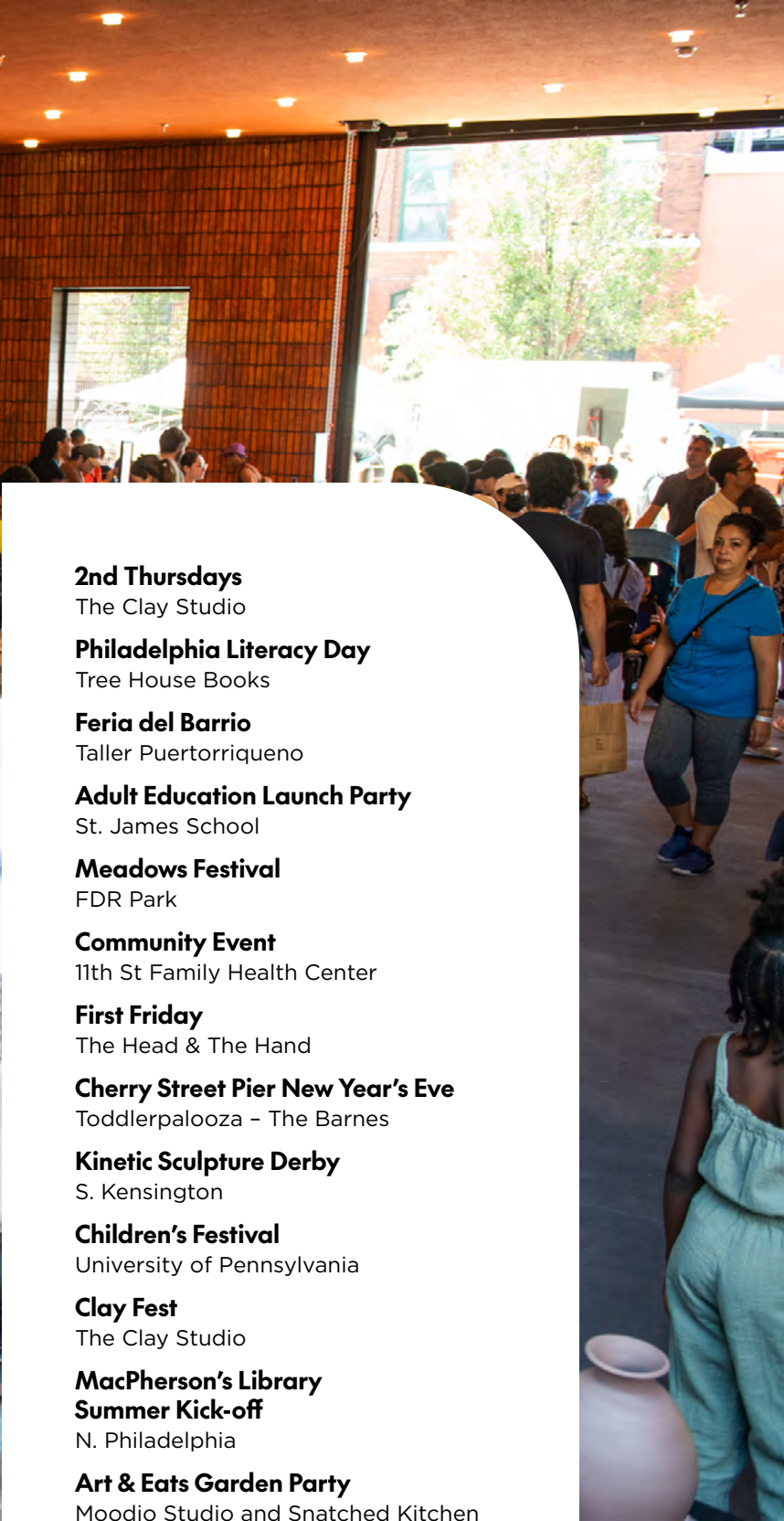
The 2023 Fiscal Year saw the 7th iteration of Clay Fest, the first held at our new facility. Hundreds of people came through our doors to join the festivities, producing over 600 artworks!

5000+

People served

Supported by





2023 Events

2nd Thursdays

The Clay Studio

Philadelphia Literacy Day

Tree House Books

Feria del Barrio

Taller Puertorriqueno

Adult Education Launch Party

St. James School

Meadows Festival

FDR Park

Community Event

11th St Family Health Center

First Friday

The Head & The Hand

Cherry Street Pier New Year's Eve

Toddlerpalooza - The Barnes

Kinetic Sculpture Derby

S. Kensington

Children's Festival

University of Pennsylvania

Clay Fest

The Clay Studio

MacPherson's Library

Summer Kick-off

N. Philadelphia

Art & Eats Garden Party

Moodio Studio and Snatched Kitchen

Barnes on the Block

The Barnes

Saturday Workshops

The Clay Studio





In Memoriam—Raymond Rorke

Raymond Rorke was our Communications Designer for six years and his special talents are everywhere at The Clay Studio. He was truly one of the most interesting, creative, lovely, dedicated people we have ever known. He was a wonderful collaborator, and a kind person.

Raymond's talents as a designer helped us let the world know about the great things that happened every day at The Clay Studio. His insightful designs have improved every program that we produce and can be found in every corner of the building.

We are deeply saddened by Raymond's passing and feel his absence every day. We are also grateful for his passion, his commitment, and the joy that he shared with us.

“What clay has given me over the years — as have my teachers and students—is a way forward, where daily awareness and creation can be practiced and deepened. These days at the studio I’m surrounded by clay in all its glory—from the beginner’s first encounter holding a lump of clay to the master’s skilled transformation of clay into a cultural touchstone— and as I myself work with clay, I am also on a journey of learning and mentoring in an ever-widening community of clay practitioners.”

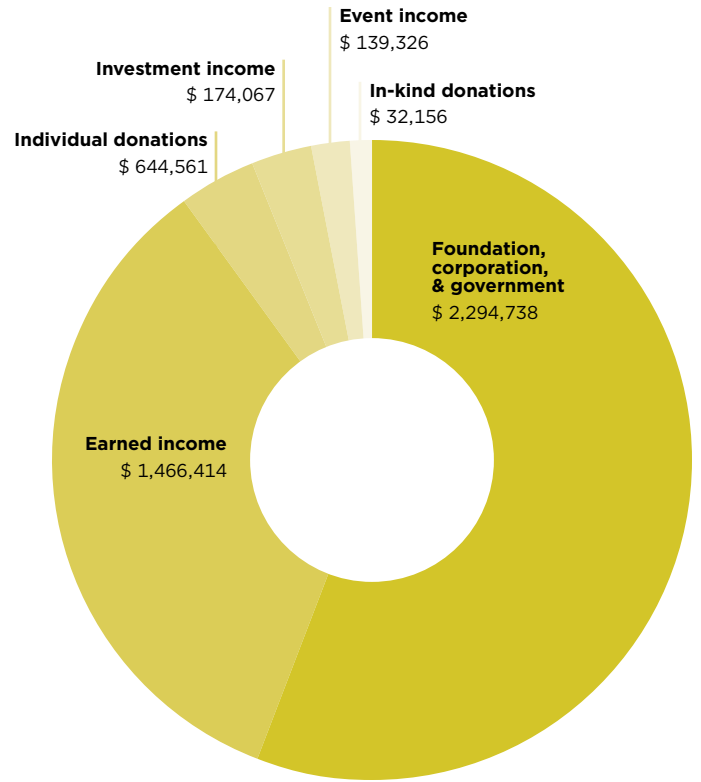
—Raymond Rorke

Financial Information

Revenue

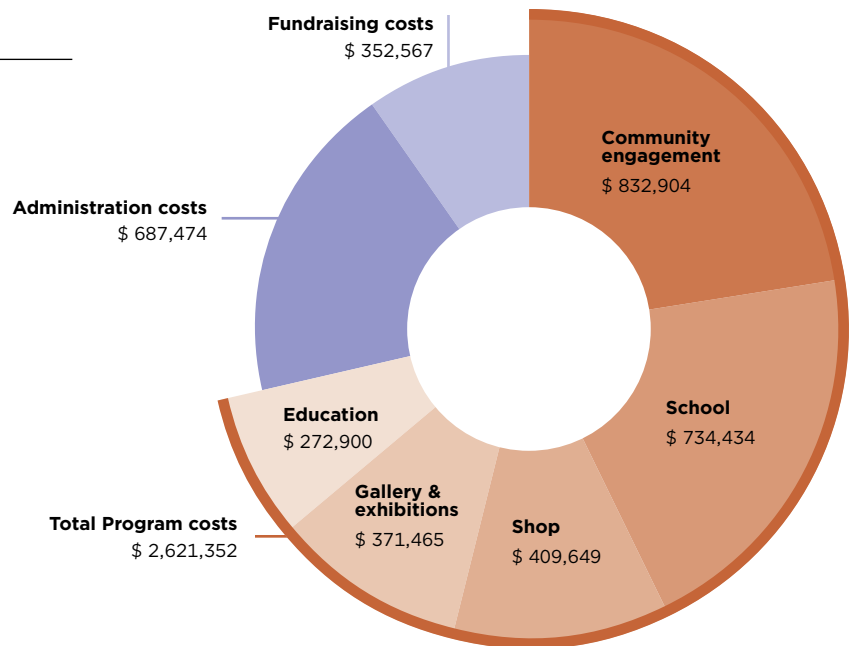
INCLUDES RESTRICTED
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN INCOME

\$ 4,500,054



Expenses

\$ 3,661,393



Funders

The Clay Studio wishes to thank the many supporters who make our educational and artistic programs possible. In addition to the foundation, corporate, government, and individual donors listed below, The Clay Studio is grateful for the generosity of its entire community who attend openings, volunteer, and contribute their artistic talent to events. Together we are raising the profile of the ceramic arts, supporting the development of ceramic artists, bringing the joy of the arts to our most underserved communities, and ensuring the future of our organization. Thank you!

Foundation, Government, and Corporate

The Windgate Foundation	The Philadelphia Foundation
	RJ Foundation
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<i>Figuring Space</i>	The Ira B. and Lucille A. Grossman
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<i>Between Horizons</i>	C. Eugene Ireland Foundation
PNC Arts Alive	Christian R. & Mary F. Lindback
Zeldin Family Foundation	Foundation
	The Christopher Ludwick
Independence Foundation	Foundation
Lenfest Capital, LLC	Henrietta Tower Wurts Memorial
Pennsylvania Council on the Arts	

Bertram Horowitz was a true champion of The Clay Studio. In addition to being a Philadelphia lawyer and insurance professional, he was also a civic activist and community leader. The organization nearly ceased to exist after a devastating fire hit The Clay Studio in 1980. Through his dedication and support, we were able to take stock, reorganize, and chart a path to become even stronger. We are proud to honor Bertram's legacy of service, dedication, and growth at The Clay Studio.

Chairman's Circle (\$5,000+)

Altman Philadelphia Fund
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The Lisa Naples Resident Artist Fellowship and The William Daley Resident Artist Fellowship supported by Charles J. Hess
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 Kathie Regan Dalzell
 James G. Fulton and Eric Rymshaw
In Honor of My terrific sister, and Clay Studio board member, Leah Kaplan from Rachel Kaplan and Bob Riesman
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 Anonymous donation for Claymobile
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In honor of Kim Kamens Birthday from Bernie & Toby Rothman
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In honor of our beautiful daughter, Theresa DeAngelis from Cherie Schaffer and Sonya Gish
In honor of Marianne Tebbens from Karyn Scher
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 Tiffany Schmierer
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In honor of Jim Fulton's Birthday from Stephanie and Steven Weiss
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 Anne Marie Whalen and David Dolinger
 John Williams and Michelle Miller
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 Patricia A. Young
 Juliann Zheng

#Giving Tuesday

Thanks to the donors who supported Giving Tuesday - proceeds go to support our community engagement program, The Claymobile.

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List Alphabetical

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Karen Holland	Susan Tomita O'Connor	<i>List Alphabetical</i>

Event Sponsors

Thanks to sponsors and in-kind donors of PhilaBowl and Mud Ball. Your generous contributions ensured the success of these events that supported our community engagement efforts and scholarships. We also thank the people who attended PhilaBowl and Mud Ball (attendees not listed) your participation made them a huge success!

Almanack Investment Partners	FREEMAN'S	Franz Rabauer & Brian Daggett
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Vicky Gold
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Kate Hartman of Good Spoon
Soups
Halcyon Floats
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Neuman's Catering
Kip O'Krongly

Judy Pote
Pub on Passyunk East
Franz Rabauer
ReAnimator Coffee
Chris Rodgers
Raymond Rorke
Margarita Schmit
Margot Schreiber
Paul Serena
Kopal Seth
Kevin Snipes
Stateside Vodka
Naimah Stith
Mike Strumbras
Joann Sutkin
Rachel Tait
Charlie Teft
Sandra Torres
Weckerly's Ice Cream
Nate Willever
Jinsik Yoo

List Alphabetical

The Jim Fulton Fund

Gifts received in honor of Jim's retirement from The Clay Studio Board of Directors. These gifts helped ensure the Board and Resource Room at The Clay Studio is named in remembrance of Jim.

David and Hallee Adelman
Ben and Nancy Shein from
the Benjamin Shein Family
Foundation
Bryna Berman
Bluebell Kitchens
Andy Bronstein
John Campbell
Cheryl Cook
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Jurgita Stahlecker
Mark Stein
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Richard Wilson
John Wind

List Alphabetical

Brick Campaign

In honor of our first year in the building we added bricks to the walkway in the sculpture garden. Thank you to the individuals and families who added their names to the space.

George J. Ahern
Alisha and Azin Asili
Cynthia Bayer
Peter Beaugard
Kimberly Camp
Madeline Donnerstag
Lynne M. Dorman
Brianna Dougherty
Leslie Friedman
Ellie Gluck
Kathleen Godbold
Janie Gross

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Cheryl Hendershott
Julie Jung
Adrienne and Nic Justice
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Tara Redding
Jean and Frank Robertson
George Rodriguez

Marjorie Rosenblum
Mark D. Smith
Emily Snedden Yates
Eileen C. Stanfield
Paul Stark
Joanie Turbek
Jim Turnbull
Mercedes Weathers
Patricia A. Young

List Alphabetical

For corrections, please contact Chase Pendleton CPENDLETON@THECLAYSTUDIO.ORG

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Josie Bockelman, Deputy Director

Tracy E. Segal, Director of Development

Jennifer Zwilling, Curator & Director of Artistic Programs

Corrine Kula, Education Manager

Chase Pendelton, Development Manager

Julie Rosen, Community Engagement Manager

Naimah Stith, Retail Manager & Gallery Coordinator

Charity Thackston, Operations & Finance Manager

Emily Wallace, Communications Designer

C Aguilera, Facilities & Education Assistant

María Albornoz, Community Engagement Teaching Artist

Jay Bilinsky, Programs Assistant

Sarah Chenoweith Davis, Retail & Gallery Coordinator

Trinity DuBois, Exhibition Projects Coordinator

Kayla Johnson, After School Coordinator, Teaching Artist

Kash Jones, Facilities Technician

Laure Krumenacker, Community Engagement Teaching Artist

Abby O'Brien, Community Engagement Teaching Artist

Tunde Peters, Development Assistant

Carin Sankus, Social Media Coordinator

Nikki Seng, Administrative and Programs Assistant

Paul Serena, Senior Studio Technician

Dairian Smith, Events Coordinator

Duc Tang, Studio Technician

Nitza Walesca, Community Engagement Teaching Artist & Studio Coordinator

Maya Wasileski, Studio Technician

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