



► FISCAL YEAR 2024

Return on Investment Report Michigan



I want to extend our heartfelt thanks for your continued partnership with Arts Midwest. Together, we are amplifying creativity across Michigan and beyond.

In FY2024, we took steps to make the arts more inclusive. We launched the Midwest Award for Artists with Disabilities, giving \$3,000 awards to support visual artists and help them build their careers.

Our Creativity News Desk shared stories about the power of Midwestern creativity, focusing on Native, rural, and communities of color. We published 120 stories from across the region and brought together the Creative Midwest Media Cohort for an in-person learning retreat.

We also advanced our shared commitment to building new partnerships with federal agencies. In FY24, we connected with organizations like USDA Rural Development and Health and Human Services, working to identify new opportunities for the Midwest's creative sector.

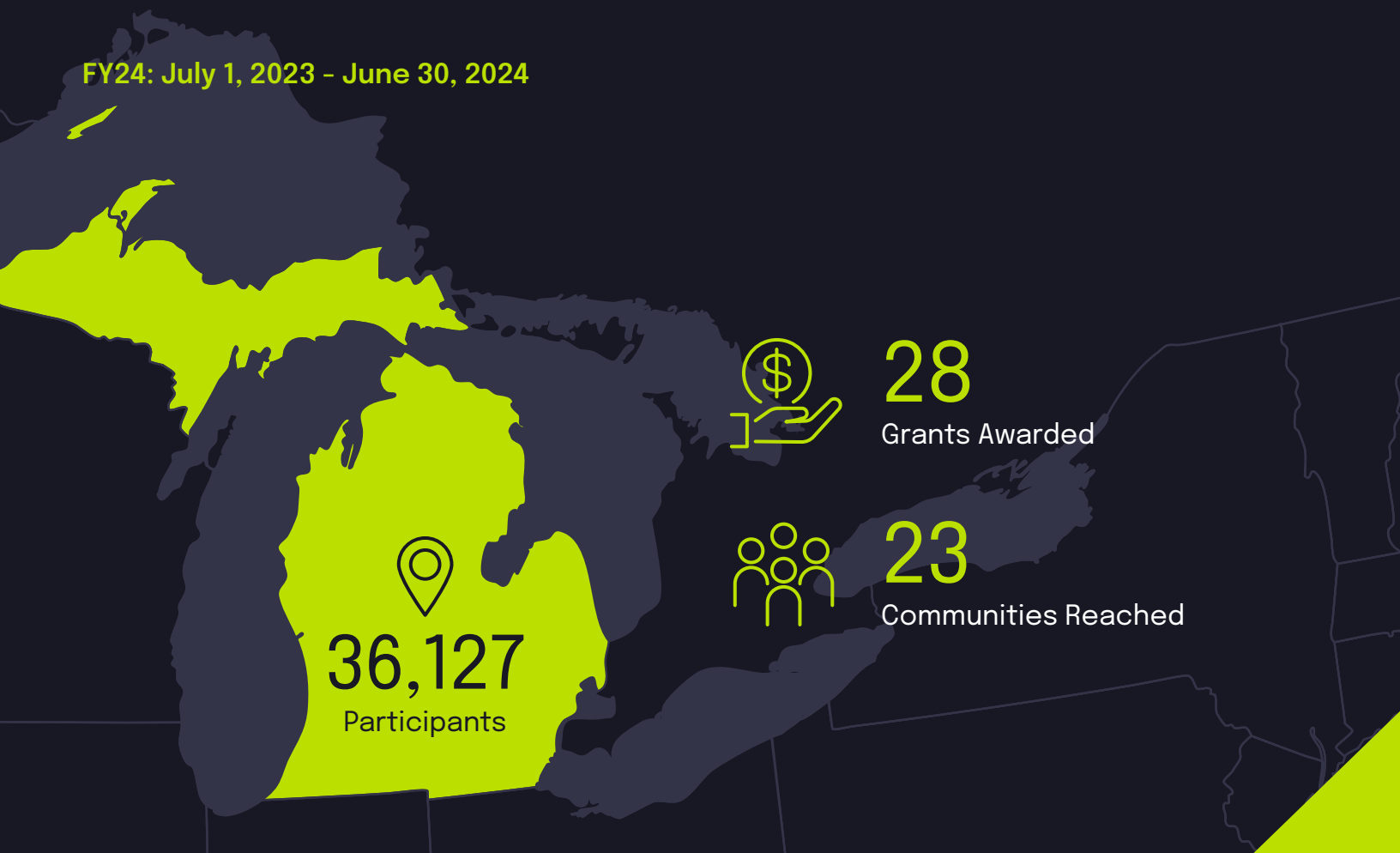
Throughout our grants, programs, and other services, we're proud to support creativity, arts, and culture in Michigan, delivering a 423% return on investment to your constituents in FY24. We're excited for what lies ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Torrie Allen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Torrie Allen
President & CEO, Arts Midwest

Michigan At A Glance

FY24: July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024



\$70,000
State Dues



\$366,336
Returned

423%

Return On Investment

See the last page of this report for a full breakdown of our FY24 investment in Michigan.



The Ark Band perform at the Mackinac Arts Council's Jamaican Celebration at the Grand Hotel in Mackinac Island, Michigan, supported by Arts Midwest's GIG Fund. Photo by Kristi Gustafson Graham.

We invest time, funds, and resources in organizations and individuals that advance creativity in Michigan.

<p>Creative Midwest Media Cohort</p> <p>We supported organizations in producing media projects that cover stories of Midwestern creativity through the Creative Midwest Media Cohort. This year-long pilot program included grants for storytelling projects and an in-person cohort convening in May 2024.</p>	<p>1 Organization Supported</p>	<p>\$15,000 Awarded</p>	<p>1 Participant in Michigan</p>
<p>GIG Fund</p> <p>We distribute grants through the GIG Fund that support creative projects and educational events in the Midwest. These flexible funds help organizations present artists in their community by supporting programming and touring costs.</p>	<p>19 Organizations Supported</p>	<p>\$70,300 Awarded</p>	<p>13,131 Participants in Michigan</p>
<p>Midwest Award for Artists with Disabilities</p> <p>We support accessibility in the arts and celebrate Midwestern creativity through the Midwest Award for Artists with Disabilities. Awardees receive \$3,000 and are encouraged to use it toward growing their artistic career.</p>	<p>1 Artist Supported</p>	<p>\$3,000 Awarded</p>	
<p>NEA Big Read</p> <p>We partner with the National Endowment for the Arts to deliver the NEA Big Read. The NEA Big Read provides grants to organizations that bring communities together to read and discuss a book.</p>	<p>1 Organization Supported</p>	<p>\$20,000 Awarded</p>	<p>13,369 Participants in Michigan</p>
<p>Shakespeare in American Communities</p> <p>We partner with the National Endowment for the Arts to deliver Shakespeare in American Communities. Grants support performances of and workshops about Shakespeare's plays in schools, community centers, and the juvenile justice system.</p>	<p>2 Organizations Supported</p>	<p>\$50,000 Awarded</p>	<p>2,144 Participants in Michigan</p>



A Moving Sound plays in a workshop for kids and families at the Kids 'N' Stuff Children's Museum in Albion, Michigan as part of their World Fest residency. Photo by Cassidy Porter.

We support convenings, community artist residencies, and resource sharing opportunities in Michigan.

<h3>Creativity News Desk</h3> <p>The Creativity News Desk amplifies stories about the power of arts and creativity in the Midwest. We commission stories from writers, photographers, videographers, illustrators, and podcasters across our region.</p>	15 Stories Featuring Michigan	6,320 Readers in Michigan	
<h3>Ideas Hub</h3> <p>We added ten new resources to the Ideas Hub, an online collection of free, curated articles and tools that help creative leaders foster growth within their organizations.</p>	1,150 Readers in Michigan		
<h3>Jazz Road</h3> <p>We partnered with South Arts on Jazz Road, an artist-centric touring and residency grants program that works to spread jazz throughout the country. In September 2023, Arts Midwest held an Artistic Career Workshop in Minneapolis, MN for jazz artists to expand and enhance their careers.</p>	3 Artists Supported	\$93,739 Awarded	
<h3>National Leaders of Color Fellowship</h3> <p>We partnered with the other United States Regional Arts Organizations on this professional development and networking initiative that aims to support multicultural leadership in the creative and cultural sector.</p>	1 Michigan Participant		
<h3>World Fest</h3> <p>Through World Fest, we tour musicians to Midwestern communities to foster an understanding of and appreciation for global uniqueness and differences. In FY2024, World Fest artists engaged with communities in Michigan through weeklong in-person residencies.</p>	27 Events	3,240 Participants in Michigan	\$5,000 Awarded

We provide opportunities for staff at our partner State Arts Agencies to connect, learn, and give feedback.

State Arts Agency Connections

We hold semi-annual SAA Executive Director summits, bi-monthly video calls, regular check ins about our program and grants, and we gather when able at events like the NASAA Assembly. These conversations invite our members to discuss challenges and opportunities facing them, share ideas and resources, and consider future strategies for action. Our Board of Directors includes two SAA Executive Directors, who bring their expertise to Board meetings and discussions.

Federal Agency Work

Arts Midwest partners with the Midwest state arts agencies to build relationships with representatives of federal agencies. In FY24, this work included continued research into federal funding opportunities throughout the year; planning meetings to determine next steps with federal agencies; meetings with representatives of the National Endowment for the Arts, USDA Rural Development, Health & Human Services, and Economic Development Administration; and presenting on Arts Midwest and the Midwest State Arts Agencies to the Chicago Federal Executive Board.

Accessibility Support

We provide State Arts Agency accessibility coordinators with funding to attend the Leadership Exchange in Arts and Disability (LEAD®) conference.

Site Visits

Our staff visited Michigan for 3 days this year for World Fest Programming.

We collaborate with a network of writers, photographers, videographers, and illustrators to amplify impactful stories of arts, culture, and creativity in the Midwest.



Ghanaian Music Moves Rural Michigan

By Alana Horton

Okaidja Afroso’s week-long World Fest residency brought music into schools, stores, and a Main Street theater, spreading connection and curiosity in small town Albion.



Kayla Powers Embraces Native Michigan Botanicals

By Kate Mothes

This Detroit-based artist uses foraged plants from uninhabited lots to create natural dyes, pigments, quilts, and more.



This Exhibition Illuminates Black Detroit Narratives

By Kate Mothes

Twenty figurative artists share works featuring “a spectrum of lived experiences—joy, intimacy, reverie, danger, tension” in exhibition ‘Skilled Labor: Black Realism in Detroit.’



Relic's childrens' concert presented by the Kalamazoo Junior Symphony Orchestra in Kalamazoo, Michigan, supported by Arts Midwest's GIG Fund. Photo by Mark Bugnaski, courtesy of Relic.

FY24 Grants Awarded

Grant Opportunity	Grantee or Awardee	City	Congressional District	Grant Amount
GIG Fund	Accent Pontiac Inc	Pontiac	11	\$2,500
GIG Fund	ACT	Grand Rapids	3	\$4,000
Jazz Road	Ali Jackson	Detroit	13	\$40,000
Jazz Road	Anthony Stanco Quartet	Lansing	7	\$13,738
World Fest	Bohm Theatre	Albion	5	\$5,000
GIG Fund	Capital City Film Festival	Lansing	7	\$4,000
GIG Fund	Casa de Rosado	Lansing	7	\$4,000
GIG Fund	City of Asylum/Detroit	Detroit	13	\$4,000
Creative Midwest Media Cohort	Detroit Metro Times	Detroit	13	\$15,000
GIG Fund	Detroit Sound	Detroit	13	\$4,000
GIG Fund	Erickson Center for the Arts	Curtis	1	\$2,000
GIG Fund	Franke Center for the Arts	Marshall	5	\$4,000
GIG Fund	Friends of the Dawn Theater of Hillsdale Michigan	Hillsdale	5	\$2,700
GIG Fund	Good Hart Artist Residency	Harbor Springs	1	\$4,000
GIG Fund	Hessel School House - Avery Arts & Nature Learning Center	Hessel	1	\$3,100
NEA Big Read	Hope College	Holland	4	\$20,000
Jazz Road	Jesse Palter	Huntington Woods	11	\$40,000
GIG Fund	Kalamazoo Junior Symphony Orchestras; KJSO	Kalamazoo	4	\$4,000
GIG Fund	Mackinac Arts Council	Mackinac Island	1	\$4,000
Midwest Award for Artists with Disabilities	Maggie Laycock	Sterling Heights	10	\$3,000

FY24 Grants Awarded

Grant Opportunity	Grantee or Awardee	City	Congressional District	Grant Amount
GIG Fund	Merze Tate Explorers	Kalamazoo	4	\$4,000
GIG Fund	MSO	Marquette	1	\$4,000
GIG Fund	People for Palmer Park	Detroit	13	\$4,000
GIG Fund	Polynesian Arts Advocacy Council of Michigan	Novi	6	\$4,000
Shakespeare in American Communities	Shakespeare Behind Bars	Macatawa	2	\$25,000
Shakespeare in American Communities	Shakespeare in Detroit	Dearborn	13	\$25,000
GIG Fund	Sidewalk Detroit	Detroit	13	\$4,000
GIG Fund	The Allegan Chapter of the K'zoo Folklife Organization	Allegan	4	\$4,000
28 Awardees				\$257,038

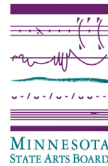
Arts Midwest leverages public and private dollars to bring services to Michigan.

Grants + Programs	GIG Fund	\$70,300
	NEA Big Read	\$20,000
	Shakespeare in American Communities	\$50,000
	Midwest Award for Artists with Disabilities	\$3,000
	World Fest	
	Programming Costs	\$61,407
	Grants	\$5,000
	Creativity News Desk	
	Programming Costs	\$38,585
	Grants	\$15,000
	National Leaders of Color Fellowship	
	Programming Costs	\$2,113
	Jazz Road	
	Programming Costs	\$1,869
Grants	\$93,739	
Services	SAA Summits	\$3,990
	Accessibility Support	\$1,333
	Total services and grants	\$366,336
	FY24 State Dues	\$70,000
	Services and grants in excess of dues	\$296,336
	Return on Investment	423%

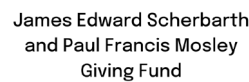
National Endowment for the Arts



State Arts Agencies



Foundations, Corporations, and Other Government Funders



Arts Midwest's activities are made possible by a grant provided by the Minnesota State Arts Board through an appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature general fund.

Thank You

If you have questions about the information in this report, or if you would like more information about Arts Midwest's programs and services, please contact:

Anne Romens

Vice President

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Cover: Joe Reilly Band & All Nations Dancers perform at the Palmer Park Art Fair presented by People for Palmer Park in Detroit, Michigan, supported by Arts Midwest's GIG Fund. Photo by Nicholas Worden.