

2023-2024

Annual Report

SC Governor's School for the Arts
and Humanities Foundation



Boundless: The Musical

Fully composed by Mary Fishburne, Govie alum

Letter from the Executive Director and the Board Chair

Dear Community,

Reflecting on our first year as the executive director and board chair of the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities Foundation, we are deeply grateful for YOU, our esteemed donors.

In the following pages, you'll discover how you have made a significant impact on the lives of these talented students through our three core pillars: Access, Outreach, and Excellence. Thanks to your generosity, students with financial needs could attend critical college auditions in Chicago, opening doors to their future. The Office of Outreach expanded its impact by launching a new program to support afterschool teachers, and students experienced transformational guest artist visits that enriched their learning. Your support ensures that students have access to the life-changing opportunities at the Governor's School, including financial assistance for those who otherwise couldn't afford to attend.

Thank you for supporting our students and teachers last year making it possible for them to pursue their artistic passions. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Governor's School, a milestone we could not have reached without your continued support. We look forward to celebrating this achievement with you and coming together to make an even more significant impact on arts education in the years to come! We are truly grateful for your partnership and look forward to continuing this journey together.

We value your input and would love to hear from you. Feel free to reach out and share your thoughts.

Sincerely,



Amanda Herlihy
Amanda Herlihy
Executive Director



Fain L. McDaniel
Fain L. McDaniel
Board Chair

*Because of your support, the Foundation provided **\$1,397,703** to the Governor's School in 2023-24.*

Letter from the School's President

Dear Supporters,

As our annual theme *Many Paths, One Community: Govie Unity* continues to inform the work of the Governor's School, it has not only been a guiding principle, but a driving force behind our remarkable achievements. It has propelled us to legendary levels of success and ushered in a transformative season in which we have not only achieved our greatest artistic and academic goals but exceeded them.

Our focus on 'One Community' has strengthened our collaborative efforts across disciplines and allowed for some of the most unique and significant learning experiences ever offered at the Governor's School. This philosophy has fostered unprecedented collaboration, exemplified by the groundbreaking initiative that saw four art departments uniting for the first time in our history to produce a singular, awe-inspiring production of *Boundless: The Musical*. This momentous occasion is a testament to the power of unity, creativity, and collective effort, and it is a success we all shared and of which the entire community should be proud.

Our outreach efforts have grown steadily for the last several years and I am pleased to report that, for the first time, we have been able to serve students and teachers in all 46 counties in South Carolina in a single academic year. This accomplishment demonstrates our commitment to fulfilling all components of our school's mission and supports the fact that when we come together as one cohesive community, we can break barriers, transcend boundaries, and achieve extraordinary feats beyond imagination.

The vital contributions from you, our generous community of Governor's School Foundation donors, have played a crucial role in ensuring that students from across the state can remove barriers to their academic success. We thank you for your commitment to providing meal plans for 24% of our students, allowing us to bring guest artists to provide amazing learning opportunities, and supporting outreach experiences for students and teachers throughout the state. As we look forward to celebrating our 25th Anniversary this year, we will continue working with you to build on this amazing community and accomplish even greater goals in the future.

On behalf of our students, employees, and board of directors, I extend our heartfelt gratitude for your invaluable contributions throughout the past year. Your ongoing dedication to the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities is not just recognized, but deeply appreciated. Please know that your support has made a significant difference in the lives of our students and the success of our very special learning community, and we are truly grateful for your commitment to our work.



Cedric Adderley
Cedric Adderley, DMA
President



Looking towards the future, the Foundation’s Board of Directors approved a three-year strategic plan for 2024-2027 that is designed to ignite passion for the Foundation’s mission and drive impactful change through three dynamic initiatives:

01

Empowering Donor Engagement:

We’re revolutionizing how we connect with donors to fuel our mission. By refining our engagement strategies and building lasting relationships, we aim to secure the funds needed to provide exceptional opportunities for our students. Your support is opening doors for a budding artist to achieve their dreams.

02

Cultivating School Collaboration:

By collaborating closely with faculty and staff, we ensure everyone is united in championing our students and creating a vibrant culture of philanthropy within our school. Parents can take pride in knowing their child’s education is backed by a community that values and nurtures their artistic talents.

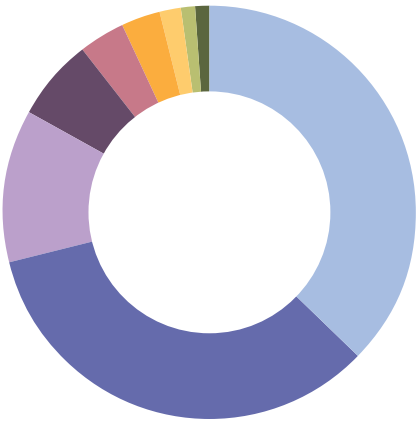
03

Expanding Statewide Awareness:

The Governor’s School is a cornerstone of South Carolina’s cultural landscape. Through powerful storytelling and strategic outreach, the Foundation aims to inspire communities across the state to support our cause.

By supporting the Governor’s School for the Arts and Humanities Foundation, you are investing in the future of South Carolina’s youth, empowering students to reach their full potential, and enhancing our community with the beauty and creativity of the arts. Join us in making a lasting impact and fueling the dreams of the next generation of artists.

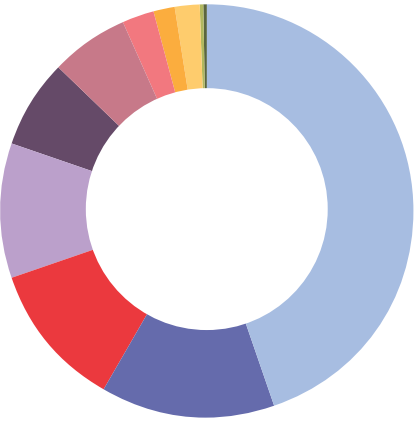
Revenue



Total Revenue
\$2,917,040

Foundation and Government Grants	\$1,091,774	Miscellaneous Receipts and Earned Income	\$49,875
Investment Income	\$985,766	Corporate Contributions	\$33,124
Capital and Special Campaigns	\$350,000	In-Kind Contributions	\$27,600
Special Events	\$189,595		
Legacy Gifts and Donations to Endowed Funds	\$91,653		
Individual Contributions	\$97,653		

Expense
by Function

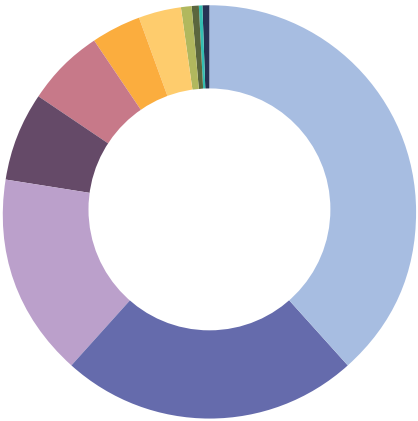


Total Expenses
\$1,699,235

School Support: Outreach	\$760,424	School Support: Advocacy	\$24,208
School Support: Student Financial Support	\$232,132	School Support: Capital Expenses	\$6,150
School Support: Program Administration	\$175,839	School Support: Public Relations Department	\$1,980
School Support: Other Direct Financial Assistance	\$119,120		
School Support: Department Support	\$43,718		
School Support: Guest Artists	\$34,132		

School Support Total	\$1,397,703
Foundation Expenses: Fundraising	\$195,864
Foundation Expenses: Administration	\$105,668
Foundation Expense Total	\$301,532

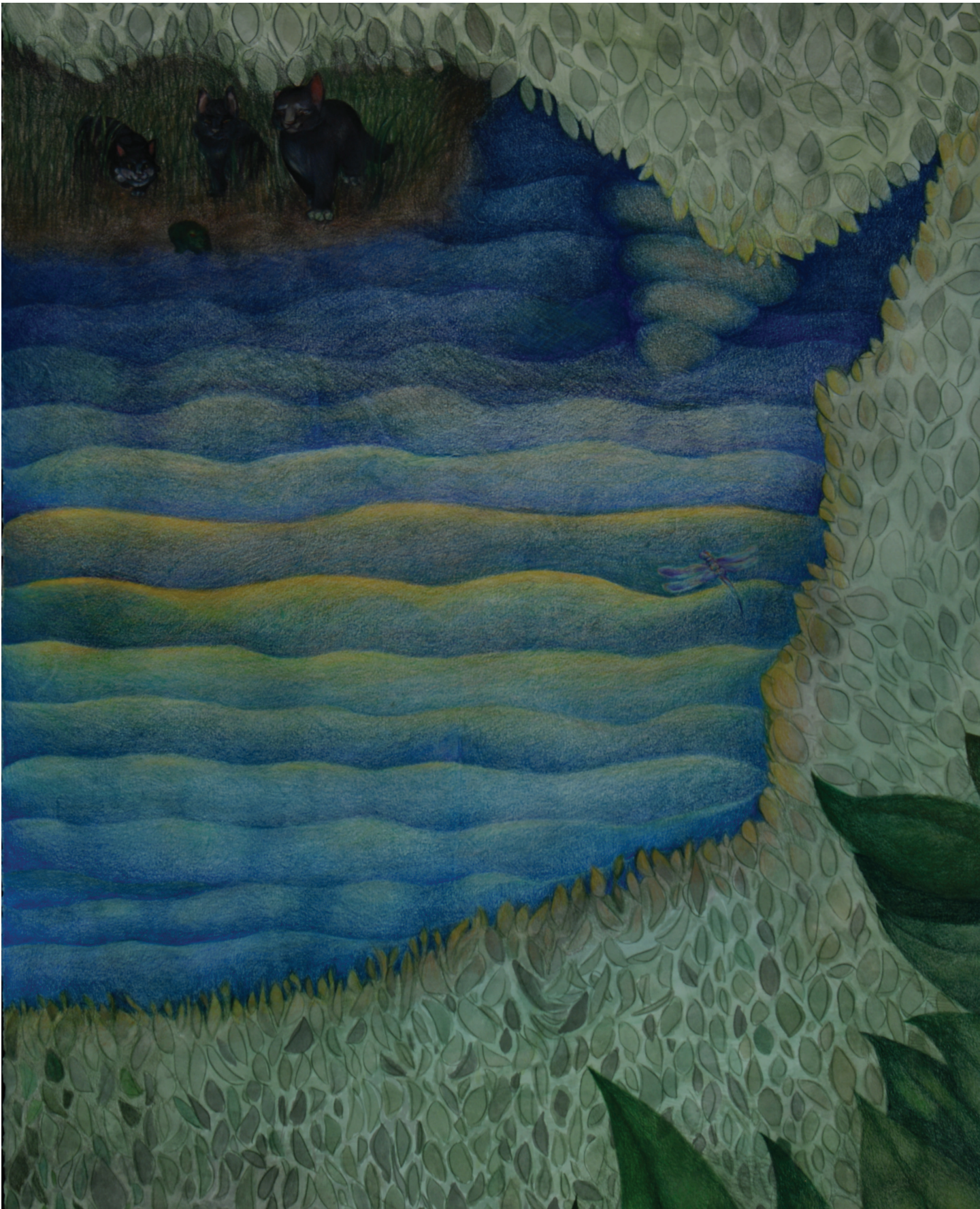
Expense
by Nature



Total Expenses
\$1,699,235

Meal Plans and Miscellaneous Support	\$653,639	Information Technology	\$59,959
Contract and Professional Fees	\$394,257	Marketing and Promotions	\$13,265
Payroll Expenses	\$272,286	Insurance	\$9,311
Meetings and Events	\$116,787	Capital Expenses	\$6,150
Travel	\$106,331	Occupancy	\$5,526
Office Expenses	\$61,724		

Non-Audited Financials as of 6/30/2024



Ethan Ratchford '24

Access

Your gifts provide:
Meal Plan Assistance · Audition Travel & Lodging
Emergency Health & Wellness Support

Meal Plan Assistance

24% of our high school students and **22%** of our summer students required financial assistance to cover their \$3,900 meal plans. While costs around the country continue to rise, Governor’s School students can rest assured that they will be able to pursue their arts education thanks to supporters like you!



“He LOVES this school, this is his DREAM, and you made it come true.”

Govie Parent



Chicago Auditions

For over twenty years, drama students at the Governor’s School have been traveling to the National Unified Theatre Auditions in Chicago, where they can showcase their skills to more than 25 universities at once. This trip, while worthwhile, is an expensive investment for many families. The cost of food, travel, and headshots might not be feasible for some.

Fortunately, through your generous donations, students with financial needs can fully participate in this vital opportunity.

Governor’s School students are the ones to watch as they audition, receive callbacks, and ultimately become accepted to some of the nation’s top BFA and BA theatre programs. **Thank you for making this trip possible!**



The Office of Outreach had a record-breaking year, delivering essential resources and services to **EVERY COUNTY** in South Carolina. Thanks to your support, we provided:

643 experiences that enriched the lives of

160,609 students

8,271 teachers

168,880 total people in

46 counties



Arts Education
in underserved
communities

Your generosity ensures that students have equal access to enriching art experiences and can participate in the many programs the school provides, which include *Spark*, Lowcountry Youth Dance Academy (LYDA), Ignite, SCGSAH Field Trips to Campus and more.

- Did you know that you provide?
- Art Supplies
 - Costumes
 - Musical Instruments
 - Technology Needs
 - Space to park buses

Public School and
Afterschool Teacher Training

Not only do your donations support our students, but you also empower public school teachers and afterschool providers across the state by providing them with teacher retreats. While some students have access to private or school-based arts lessons, many others spend the majority of their time in afterschool programs and summer camps. This year, teachers had the opportunity to attend a specialized two-day retreat tailored to afterschool providers. This retreat aims to reach broader audiences by equipping the key adults in students’ lives with essential skills and knowledge in the arts.

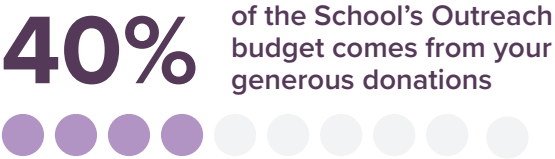
Without your crucial support, we would be unable to provide hotel accommodations, meals, and substitute coverage for teachers. Your donations allowed educators to fully immerse themselves in the retreat, enhance their skills, and return to their programs with new insights and techniques. In turn, they can significantly enrich the learning experiences of the students they serve and positively impact their communities.

Thanks to you, afterschool providers can attend a new teacher retreat tailored just for them.



“This workshop gave me insight into how to push students outside their comfort zones in a way that is fun and engaging and still incredibly effective.”

Teacher Retreat Participant



Your gifts provide:

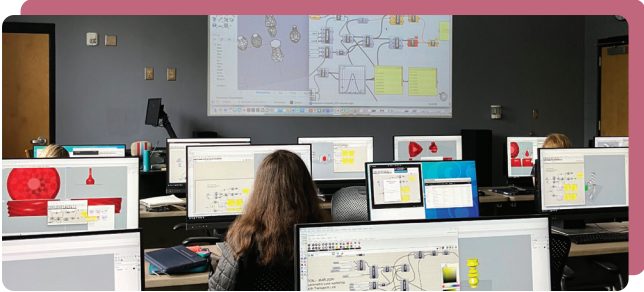
Guest Artists · Behind the Scenes Production Support · Capital Enhancements · Supplies & Support for All 6 Art Areas · National Arts Conferences & Competition Fees · Specialized Equipment & Costumes

Guest Artist Program Spotlight

Your generous support enables our Guest Artist program to thrive as one of the most vital learning experiences for students. You allowed **53 guest artists** to share their expertise with our students. Here is what just one of those special visits was like:



1 Interdisciplinary Artist & Assistant Professor of Graphic Design at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Taekyeom Lee, visited the Visual Arts Department for a day of workshops and an artist talk. He has exhibited work, led workshops, and given lectures across the country and abroad.



2 Students learned how Lee uses unconventional materials and techniques to create tangible typography, graphics, and design objects by blending technology with tradition, digital fabrication, and 3D printing.



3 He then guided them to create and print their own designs on the school's 3D Potterbot ceramic printer!



\$25,000+

Aramark
Estate of Gerald L. Davis Jr.
SC Arts Commission

\$5,000 - \$9,999

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“Thank you so much! We appreciate everything you do for us!
You help make the Governor’s School the place that it is.”
Govie Student 2023-24

*Alum | ^2023-24 Foundation Board Member | +Governor’s School Staff/Faculty | ~Govie Parent or Grandparent

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Donors listed are those who contributed between July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024. We make every effort to ensure the accuracy of our donor list, but if we've omitted your name or made an error, please contact us at 864-282-1570.



“Thank you so much for your support of the Governor’s School! I am a 2017 alum that now works in the school’s Visual Arts and Communications Departments. I not only see the impact of your gift every day, but I live that impact. There are no words to express what this place means to me and countless others. Thank you!”

Mary-Bryant Charles, Creative Writing ‘17 and Governor’s School Staff

“Thank you so much for bringing these amazing guest artists to our school! As a visual artist, it is so great to be able to meet and learn from professionals in my field! Thank you, Thank you, Thank you.”

Govie Student 2023-24

Board Leadership 2023-2024

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Accountant



Save the Date

April 26, 2025

**Governor's School 25th
Anniversary Gala
Celebration**



Scan here to learn more

Platinum
Transparency
2024

Candid.

Charity ✨
Navigator



★ FOUR-STAR ★

We just achieved a 4-Star Charity rating from Charity Navigator in addition to proudly displaying a Candid (GuideStar) Platinum Seal. These coveted achievements demonstrate strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency, verifying that the Governor's School Foundation exceeds industry standards and outperforms in our area of work. We are proud to support art education throughout South Carolina.

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