The mission of the Northwest Michigan Arts and Culture Network is to harness the collective power of the creative sector to cultivate vibrant communities by strengthening the regional ecosystem that supports arts and culture.

We do this by connecting individual artists, culture bearers, arts and cultural organizations and community projects throughout the region with resources and opportunities to collaborate, learn, promote, advocate, access funding, strengthen capacity and build engagement.

We believe, by working together, our collective voice is strong, and our impact is greater.

MISSION

As we close the books on 2021, we share gratitude for the talent, resiliency and spirit of the artists, culture bearers, organizations and creative communities that drive arts, culture and vibrancy in Northwest Michigan.

The Northwest Michigan Arts and Culture Network was a young organization with a big mission when it formed from the grassroots to work together serving artists and organizations in the region. We became a 501(c)3 in 2018 and began the hard work of strengthening the system to support a thriving creative sector.

We are harnessing our collective power to “connect the dots” and share resources, build capacity and advocate through backbone services and an entrepreneurial spirit ... all while navigating a pandemic!

We are proud of the progress and impact the Network is making.
We are happy to share our 2021 annual report and our goals moving forward in 2022.
...Much more valuable and dependable than financial resources are the shared resources of our arts and cultural community. No one does more in northern Michigan to keep essential connections and resources flowing than Northwest Michigan Arts & Culture Network. They are the tide that lifts so many...
“...The knowledge I have gained by attending workshops and discussion groups, both in-person and now virtual, have helped me on so many occasions...”

learning
Providing opportunities for professional development, technical training, mentoring and educational resources.

2021 HIGHLIGHTS
• Led the 2021 Northwest Michigan Arts & Cultural Summit pivoting to a robust virtual format with 28 speakers, 78 attendees, 2 keynotes, 3 panels, 8 breakouts and a 7-hour Zoom with engagement across the region and beyond. Resources remain at www.nwmiarts.org
• Provided over 250 hours in training, webinars and individual assistance.
• Built and continue strengthening the Network’s online platform to share toolboxes, training, best practices and resources at www.nwmiarts.org.

28 speakers
78 attendees
250+ training hours
advocacy

Promoting arts, culture and creativity throughout Northwest Lower Michigan. Advocating for the creative sector and demonstrating the impact of arts and culture with elected officials, community leaders and stakeholders across the region and the state.

“...The Network understands Arts and Culture professionals because they are the focus. Rather than pigeon-holing “the arts” into a corner of the larger community landscape, the Network puts them front and center...”

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- Continue expanding www.nwmiarts.org to serve as a hub for PR, marketing tools, member spotlights, cross promotion and a “go to” site for members, stakeholders and public.
- Launched greater social media presence and cross promotion. @nwmichiganarts
- Member of the Michigan Cultural Advocacy Network
- Represented the Network and Northwest Michigan’s creative sector during Michigan Legislative Advocacy Day and the National Arts Action Summit including legislative and congressional meetings with Northwest Michigan’s elected officials.
The Network helped us navigate through the pool of grants to help our organization find the best funding. They have also connected us to other like-minded nonprofits and made itself approachable and available to answer our questions or to point us in the right direction...

Sharing funding opportunities, serving as a fiscal sponsor, partnering, and advocating for investment into the region’s creative sector. The Network also serves as the regional partner for Michigan Arts & Culture Council to administer the Region 2 Regrant program — "the minigrants" — for Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee and Wexford counties.

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

• Awarded $55,480 in MACC minigrants for projects and professional and organizational development ("POD") which leveraged an additional $243,438 in economic activity and $67,374 in-kind contributions. Minigrants benefited 23 organizations, 164 artists and 3,500+ attendees.

• Monitored, shared and supported COVID-19 resources, relief funding and related state, federal and private support throughout the pandemic.

• Received funding from Michigan Arts & Culture Council, Michigan Humanities, Rotary Charities of Traverse City and private donors to support and strengthen the Network’s ability to serve the sector and leverage resources.

$55,480 MACC minigrants

$72,100 Network support
Northwest Michigan Arts & Culture Network

Statement of Financial Position Summary

As of September 30, 2021

<table>
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<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Current Assets</th>
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<td>TOTAL ASSETS</td>
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Northwest Michigan Arts & Culture Network

Statement of Activity

October 2020 - September 2021

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looking ahead

As the Network moves through 2022, our commitment to strengthening Northwest Michigan’s creative sector and the ecosystem that supports it grows. We look to build on the foundation created when the Network organized to scale up, increase capacity, and build the programming and relationships needed for a healthy, sustainable and service-driven future.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS

• The Network is gathering input and research as it maps its future during a one-year planning project.
• Launch of our New Leaders initiatives to support young artists and the next generation of arts and cultural administrators.
• Community projects using arts and culture as valued partners in community development.
• Increased promotion of the strength, depth and impact of the Network members – individually and collectively.
• Continued leadership as a regional advocate, resource and MACC grantee partner.
• Recovery from the pandemic years with greater resiliency, relevancy and impact.
• Moving the Network office to its new home with Commonplace at Commongrounds on 8th Street in Traverse City.

MEMBERS

Art Rapids!
Arts for All of Northern Michigan
Beaver Island Historical Society
Blissfest Music Organization
Benzie Area Historical Society & Museum
Cadillac Area Visitors Bureau
Cedar North Gallery & Studios
Charlevoix Circle of Arts
City Opera House
Crooked Tree Arts Center
Crosshatch Center for Art & Ecology
Dennos Museum Center
Downtown Traverse City
Drama Kids
Elizabeth Lane Oliver Center for the Arts
Glen Arbor Arts Center
Good Hart Artist Residency
Grand Traverse Lighthouse Museum
Grand Traverse Pavilions
Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra
Great Lakes Center for the Arts
Harbor Springs Festival of the Book
Historic Vogue Theatre
Higher Art Gallery
Jordan River Art Center
Interlochen Center for the Arts
Leelanau Community Cultural Center
Leelanau Historical Society & Museum
Manistee Civic Theater
Mashup Rock & Roll Musical
Michigan Legacy Art Park
Michigan’s Creative Coast
National Writers Series
Northport Arts Association
Old Town Playhouse
Ordinary Virtues
Parallel 45 Theatre
Ramsdell Regional Center for the Arts
Raven & Lotus
Traverse City Dance Project
Traverse City Arts Commission
Traverse Symphony Orchestra
Twisted Fish Gallery
Up North Arts
Voices Without Borders

*Organizational memberships
LEADERSHIP 2020-2021

President
Gary Gatzke, Interlochen Center for the Arts
Vice President
Megan Holtrey, Dennos Museum Center
Secretary
Nicholas Walsh, A-Peel Design & Visual Artist
Treasurer
Diane Baribeau, City Opera House
Past President
Mercedes Michalowski, Elizabeth Lane Oliver Center for the Arts

Elizabeth Calcutt, Traverse Area Recreational & Transportation Trails
Leslie Donaldson, Carnegie Mellon University
Sara Herberger, Historic Vogue Theatre
Renee Hintz, The Children’s House
Ian Jones, Interlochen Center for the Arts
Kim Kelderhouse, Leelanau Historical Society
Amanda Kik, Crosshatch Center for Arts & Ecology
Katy McCain, Traverse City Arts Commission
Susan Wenzlick, Consultant
Kristi Wodek, Crooked Tree Art Center

Mary Bevans Gillett, Convener

The Network programs & activities are supported in part by an award from the Michigan Arts & Culture Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Network benefits from a MI H.O.P.E grant provided by Michigan Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act economic stabilization plan.