

# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

120 Years of Art and Community





## 120 YEARS. ONE INCREDIBLE COMMUNITY. ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES AHEAD.

In 2025, the Academy Center of the Arts, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, celebrated the 120th anniversary of the Historic Theatre building—a milestone that honors our legacy while looking ahead to an exciting future. More than 110,000 people experienced the transformative power of the arts through Academy programming this year, reinforcing what we know to be true: the arts connect us, inspire us, and strengthen our community.

The year also marked the conclusion of an extraordinary decade of leadership by CEO Geoffrey Kershner. During his tenure, the Historic Theatre was restored and reopened, helping establish the Academy as a vibrant cultural anchor for the City of Lynchburg. His leadership leaves a lasting legacy of vision, growth, and community impact.

In 2026, we will embrace new leadership and new possibilities, and our belief will remain unchanged: the arts belong to everyone. From a child attending their first performance to seniors discovering creativity and joy through Opening Minds Through Art, the Academy continues to create opportunities for connection, discovery, and expression.

As we step into our next chapter, we carry forward the lessons of 120 years—staying true to our mission while evolving to meet the needs of our community. The future of the Academy is bright, and together we will continue to ensure the arts remain accessible, inspiring, and transformative for generations to come.

### Program Impact & Delivery

<b>108,818</b> PEOPLE ENGAGED IN ACADEMY PROGRAMMING	<b>630</b> EVENTS HOSTED	<b>881</b> ACADEMY MEMBERS <i>12% Increase from 2024</i>
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### Audience & Access

<b>6,318</b> FREE AND SUBSIDIZED TICKETS	<b>40%</b> OF PATRONS ARE OUTSIDE OF LYNCHBURG
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# LETTER FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

As I look back on 2025, I am struck not only by what the Academy Center of the Arts accomplished this year, but by how it continues to evolve—honoring its past while boldly shaping its future—and I am deeply appreciative to the many people who sustain this institution with their time, talent, and generosity.

This year underscored what makes the Academy truly distinctive: its ability to bring people together across age, background, and experience through the power of the arts. From world-class performances to intimate classroom moments, from community celebrations to quiet creative exploration, the Academy created countless opportunities for connection and meaning. Bringing people together doesn't happen by accident; it is the core of our mission. We are here to serve all of the people who make up the wonderfully diverse community that is Central Virginia.

We honored a significant leadership transition, celebrating Geoffrey Kershner's extraordinary decade of service. Under Geoff's guidance, our Historic Theatre was restored and reopened, our educational reach expanded, and our role as a community partner strengthened. His legacy is woven into the very fabric of this organization, and we are profoundly grateful for his vision and dedication to the Academy.

As we welcome new leadership in 2026, your Board is committed to continuity of mission, while welcoming fresh ideas and opportunities that will carry the Academy into its next act. We have continued to prioritize thoughtful stewardship of our historic facilities and prudent financial planning, recognizing that strong infrastructure is essential to vibrant programming. Through the Facilities Investment Fund, the Merryman Cultural Impact Fund, our endowment and legacy giving, we are ensuring that future generations will inherit a thriving, adaptable institution.

The Academy stands poised for an exciting future. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, thank you for your partnership, your generosity, and your belief in the Academy. None of this would be possible without our staff, donors, members, artists, educators, and volunteers—each of whom plays an essential role in the Academy's story. Together, we are ensuring that this extraordinary institution continues to inspire, educate, and unite our community—today and well into the future.

Thank you for being part of this journey.

Sincerely,

*Jim Wright, MD*  
CHAIR, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## WHERE THE ARTS THRIVE, COMMUNITIES FLOURISH

Vibrant arts communities are built together. Thanks to businesses, foundations, grants, donors, and community members, our region continues to grow as a place of creativity and connection.

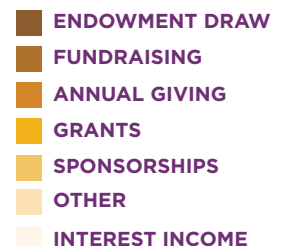
## Financial Overview



## Earned Revenue



## Contributed Revenue



## Education Access

**157**

SCHOLARSHIPS GRANTED

**40%**

PARTICIPANTS RECEIVED  
TUITION SUPPORT THROUGH  
COMMUNITY ACCESS FUND

**\$17,000**

IN SCHOLARSHIPS  
DISTRIBUTED THROUGH  
EDUCATION ACCESS FUND

## Academy Youth Theatre

**690**

STUDENTS

**9**

PLAYS

**20**

PERFORMANCES

## Pottery Studio

**1,317**

STUDENTS

**102**

CLASSES &  
WORKSHOPS

**3**

NEW POTTERY WHEELS  
ADDED (17 TOTAL)

### STUDIO EXPANSION

160-SQUARE-FEET OF ADDED  
CLIMATE-CONTROLLED STORAGE

## Art Studio

**748**

STUDENTS

**76**

CLASSES &  
WORKSHOPS

**11**

BWXT STUDENT GALLERY  
EXHIBITIONS

## PERFORMANCE & VISUAL ARTS EDUCATION

As we celebrate 120 years of artistic education, our commitment to unlocking creative potential has never been stronger. In our studios and classrooms, we continue the Academy's long tradition of meeting learners where they are, providing pathways for artistic discovery that span generations and skill levels.

This year, our programs engaged 4,871 participants across all age groups: 2,759 youth, 1,815 adults, and 355 seniors. Building on community feedback and emerging interests, we expanded our offerings to include innovative workshops while maintaining the foundational programs that have served our community for decades.



# OUR GALLERIES

Our gallery spaces serve as windows into the artistic soul of our region and beyond. Through six dynamic exhibition spaces—three on-campus and three satellite venues—we create ongoing dialogues between artists, audiences, and community. Each monthly rotation brings fresh perspectives, ensuring that Downtown Lynchburg’s cultural landscape remains vibrant and evolving.



## ARTISTICA.SHOP

The Academy’s digital presence through Artistica.shop continues to expand our community’s artistic reach far beyond Central Virginia. This innovative platform connects over 27 local and regional artists with collectors and art enthusiasts nationwide, creating sustainable revenue streams for our creative community while amplifying the quality and diversity of work being produced in our region.

Through quarterly industry events and First Friday integration, Artistica.shop bridges our physical and digital spaces, ensuring that the Academy’s support for artists extends beyond studio walls into real-world career development.



## TED BATT VISUAL ARTS FUND

Ensuring the continuation of exceptional visual arts programming that has defined our community for over two decades, this dedicated funding stream provides essential support for our pottery studio, exhibition spaces, and educational initiatives that serve artists and art enthusiasts of all ages.

**37**  
EXHIBITS

**194**  
ARTISTS REPRESENTED

**12,000**  
VISITORS



**\$48,000**  
GALLERY SALES

**23,271**  
WEBSITE VISITS

**27**  
ARTIST MEMBERS

### FUNDING SUPPORTS

- Gallery exhibitions and juried shows in our 6 on-campus and satellite galleries
- Visual arts education supplies and instruction for youth and adult classes, workshops, and camps
- Pottery studio equipment maintenance and class expansion for all skill levels
- Local artist promotion through Academy opportunities and Artistica.shop



Big Daddy Kane | June 6, 2025

# “ACADEMY PRESENTS” PERFORMANCES

Our Historic Stage welcomed extraordinary artists from around the world, reinforcing the Academy’s role as a cultural destination in Central Virginia and supporting local economic vitality through cultural tourism.

**22,639**  
ATTENDEES



Yamato | February 8, 2025

**124**  
EVENTS



Josh Turner  
March 21, 2025



Vitamin String Quartet | October 15, 2025

## THE MUSIC HALL

The Music Hall at 722 Commerce Street provides an intimate 100-seat venue, celebrating Lynchburg’s musical heritage and contemporary artists. Opened in 2024, it serves as an essential complement to our larger performance spaces.

**4,316** | **61**  
ATTENDEES | EVENTS



Music Hall Event 2025 - LFK

# RESIDENT COMPANIES & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The Academy's role in delivering community infrastructure is most evident through our partnerships with regional arts organizations. Our three versatile venues—the Historic Academy of Music Theatre, Joy and Lynch Christian Warehouse Theatre, and Anne White Gallery—hosted 221 events this year, providing essential spaces for established organizations and emerging community initiatives.



Lynchburg Symphony Orchestra



Opera on the James



Jefferson Choral Society

**5**

## RESIDENT COMPANIES

Charlottesville Ballet  
Jefferson Choral Society  
Lynchburg Symphony Orchestra  
Opera on the James  
Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest

**18**

EVENTS

**9,088**

TICKETS

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**5**

## PERFORMANCE PARTNERS

Daniel Barksdale  
Ecclesia School of the Arts  
Lynchburg Dance Connection  
Lynchburg Pops  
Masterworx Community Theater

**23**

EVENTS

**7,727**

TICKETS

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## TICKETED RENTAL PERFORMANCES

**46**

EVENTS

**11,881**

TICKETS

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## PRIVATE RENTALS

**56**

ORGANIZATIONS

**134**

EVENTS

**37,627**

ATTENDEES

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ACCESS

## REACHING BEYOND OUR WALLS

**Academy in Motion** removes barriers by bringing professional arts programming directly to underserved and rural communities. From libraries to community centers, we reached **26,275 people** through **92 events**, ensuring geography and finances never limit access to transformative arts experiences.



## HONORING SENIORS THROUGH CREATIVITY

**Opening Minds Through Art** serves individuals with Alzheimer's and related dementia through evidence-based, artistic partnerships. Our 14 cohorts across multiple facilities maintain one-on-one participant-to-volunteer engagement, training **82 community volunteers** while creating powerful intergenerational connections for **272 participants**.



## AMPLIFYING STUDENT VOICES

**Young Storytellers Program** launched at Amelon Elementary School in Amherst County, empowering **12 students** to craft personal narratives brought to life by **17 actors** and **12 mentors**. This inaugural program celebrated unique voices through red carpet premieres that built confidence and social-emotional growth.



## CONNECTING ARTS TO LEARNING

**Field Trip Program** transforms education by aligning artistic exploration with Virginia Standards of Learning. Through **39 field trips** serving **2,116 participants**, students experience live performance, hands-on activities, and behind-the-scenes collaboration, connecting academic standards in History and Fine Arts while inspiring curiosity about creative careers and cultural resources in their own community.



# COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Academy's free community events represent our commitment to cultural celebration and accessibility. These gatherings demonstrate that the arts can be both a bridge between diverse communities and a catalyst for joy, learning, and connection.

These intergenerational programs embody our mission to foster cultural connections while building empathy and understanding across our diverse community. Through free admission and family-friendly programming, we ensure that economic barriers never prevent participation in these celebratory moments.



**3,370+**  
ATTENDANCE

**6**  
EVENTS

## ANIMATION FESTIVAL

Celebrated Chuck Jones' legacy with a free showcase of his groundbreaking work.

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Multiple events across several stages throughout February celebrating Black history, culture, and creativity

## JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

Highlighted local talent with a vibrant gospel program in collaboration with the Juneteenth Coalition

## VIVA LA CULTURA: HISPANIC HERITAGE CELEBRATION

Showcased Hispanic culture through music, dance, and cuisine in partnership with Centro Comunitario Latino Americano Lynchburg Chapter and others

## CLAY FESTIVAL

Celebrated ceramic arts with hands-on activities and displays

## HOLIDAY MAKERS MARKET

Drew record-breaking crowds with a campus-wide celebration of regional artisans and festive cheer



# THE MERRYMAN CULTURAL IMPACT FUND

In 2025, Pat Merryman—champion of the arts and long-time supporter of the Academy Center of the Arts—established the Merryman Cultural Impact Fund with a visionary and generous purpose:

*To enable the Academy to bring nationally recognized artists and performances to our community, without the constraints of commercial viability.*

With this support and other contributors to the fund, the Academy may prioritize artistic excellence and cultural enrichment, ensuring that each season features transformative performances for our community. We are grateful to these contributors who are making bold programming possible.



MOMIX: Alice | April 6, 2025

## The Merryman Cultural Impact Fund Contributors

Anonymous  
Jim & Susan Ackley  
Anthony Andrews  
Sallie & Mike Anthony  
Mary Babbitt  
David L. Bowen  
Debbie & Scott Brabrand  
Patricia E. Bradbury  
Alisha Childress  
Jessica & Nathan Clarkson  
Marge C. Dillard  
Ann & Rodger Fauber  
Libby & Paul Fitzgerald  
Charlyne M. Flippin  
Rachel and Ryan Gagen  
Frances J. Giles

Becky Green  
Michelline & Jawansa Hall  
Rebecca A. Hawkins  
Christie & Kevin Hooper  
Megan & Matt Huffman  
Ula & Alan Kauppi  
Lauren & Philip Kershner  
Nancy & Bill Kershner  
Amy & Scott Kowalski  
Kimberly Lankford  
Catherine & Mike Madden  
Anna & Paul McWane  
Patricia Merryman  
Phyllistine & Samuel Mosley  
Michael Nevarez  
Peggy & Bill Nolley

Becky & Bobby O'Brian  
Sue H. Ott Rowlands  
Kappa McGee Peddy  
Becky & Greg Porter  
Pat & Reggie Pugh  
Ellen & Richard Saunders  
Betty Skeen  
Amanda & Ian Smithson  
Shelby Staples  
Jacalyn Thomason  
Laurie & Toby Tomko  
Catherine Varner & Curt Baker  
Christine & Dennies Vrooman  
Anitra B. Webster  
Alex & Sackett Wood  
Pat E. Young



Melissa Etheridge  
October 1, 2025



Black Violin | September 28, 2025



Phil Vassar | October 27, 2025

# INVESTING IN OUR INFRASTRUCTURE: THE FACILITIES INVESTMENT FUND

Great institutions require strong foundations. As we prepare to celebrate our 125th anniversary in 2030, the Academy has prioritized essential investments in our historic infrastructure through the **Facilities Investment Fund (FIF)**.

## WHAT THE FACILITIES INVESTMENT FUND SUPPORTS

This board-managed, quasi-endowment addresses essential facility maintenance and capital improvements across our historic campus:

- Building preservation for our National Historic Landmark theatre
- Infrastructure upgrades including roofing, HVAC, and accessibility improvements
- Safety and operational systems to ensure venues remain welcoming and efficient
- Arts education spaces that serve thousands of students and families annually

## THIS YEAR'S IMPACT

During this reporting period, generous supporters made significant contributions to our building preservation efforts through the FIF, ensuring our facilities remain operational, safe, and accessible for our community.



## Facilities Investment Fund Contributors

Anonymous  
Terry & Bob Brennan  
BWX Technologies, Inc.  
Tom Capps, Sr.  
Melanie & Lynch Christian  
City of Lynchburg  
Rosemary & George Dawson  
Ann & Rodger Fauber  
Jill & John Fees

Kathy & David Firth  
Libby & Paul Fitzgerald  
Foster Fuels  
Frances J. Giles  
Elizabeth & Michael Harrington  
Rebecca A. Hawkins  
Christie & Kevin Hooper  
Jamerson-Lewis Construction, Inc.  
Leslie & Kimball Payne

Catherine & Mike Madden  
The Mary Morton Parsons Foundation  
Michael Nolan  
Mary Jane & Charlie Pryor  
Ellen & David Petty  
Cary Roberts  
Barb & Marc Schewel  
Sallie & Walker Sydnor  
Mary & Rob Taylor

Kay & Kent Van Allen  
Sally & Davis Von Oesen  
Randall & John Watts  
Anitra B. Webster  
Heather & George Zippel  
Catherine Varner & Curt Baker



# JOHN MORTON FLIPPIN FUND



The Academy's endowment as a whole, including the John Morton Flippin Fund, provides the financial foundation to launch new initiatives, plan for the future, seize opportunities for institutional advancement, and confront unexpected challenges.

Named after the late John Morton Flippin—an early champion of the vision to restore the historic theatre—the Endowment Fund is part of our comprehensive approach to institutional sustainability as we approach our 125th anniversary milestone in 2030.



## Learn more about supporting the Academy's future



[academycenter.org/endowment](https://academycenter.org/endowment)

## John Morton Flippin Fund Contributors

Anonymous (3)

Sharon Ainslie

Brookfield Asset Management

Melanie & Lynch Christian

Mary & Jud Dalton

Estate of Betty Lou Stroh

Estate of Brian H. M. Bowen

Estate of Edythe Elizabeth Stauffer-Scott

Charlyne M. Flippin

Anne & Jack Flippin

Foster Fuels

Gail & Peter Gibson

James M. Gilley

Greater Lynchburg Community Foundation

Doni C. Guggenheimer

Elizabeth & Michael Harrington

Patricia Harrington

Christie & Kevin Hooper

Ula & Alan Kauppi

Tina & Skip Kughn

Anne Langley

Lydia Langley

Elizabeth B. Laundon

Catherine & Mike Madden

Gail & Paul Mudrick

Katy & Chal Nunn

Donald G. Pendleton

Becky & Greg Porter

Mary Jane & Charlie Pryor

Barb & Marc Schewel

Kay & Kent Van Allen

Randall & John Watts

Kenneth White

Alex & Sackett Wood

Mina & Robin Wood

Phyllis B. Workman

Andrea Wright

# 1905

LEGACY GIVING SOCIETY



Since February 1, 1905, the Historic Academy of Music Theatre has stood as a beacon of artistic excellence in Lynchburg. From hosting luminaries like Sarah Bernhardt and Will Rogers to surviving closure and triumphantly reopening in 2018, our theater embodies resilience, cultural significance, and the enduring power of community spirit.

By joining the 1905 Legacy Society, you become part of this remarkable journey. Your legacy gift ensures that the curtain will continue to rise, the lights will shine brightly, and new generations will experience the magic of the performing arts in this meticulously restored landmark.

Just as the visionary business leaders and investors of the early 20th century recognized the importance of the arts to Lynchburg's cultural landscape, your contribution will help us:

- Inspire individuals of all ages through transformative artistic experiences
- Maintain our state-of-the-art facilities, preserving a piece of Lynchburg's history
- Foster community connections and personal growth through the arts
- Ensure that our theater remains a space where all are welcome

## Scan to complete the Academy's Planned Giving Intent Form



or visit: [academycenter.org/legacy-giving](https://academycenter.org/legacy-giving)

Be part of our encore. Leave your legacy and help us continue to light up Lynchburg's cultural landscape for the next century and beyond.

*All planned gifts, regardless of the amount contributed, enroll donors into the 1905 Legacy Society, making this a meaningful way for anyone to leave a lasting impact on Lynchburg's arts community.*

Contact:

**Tom Bentson** at [tbentson@academycenter.org](mailto:tbentson@academycenter.org)



# Perennial Society

## LEVEL 7

**\$10,000+**

Anonymous (3)  
Sharon Ainslie  
Terry & Bob Brennan  
Melanie & Lynch Christian  
Karen & Drake Covey  
Jill & John Fees  
Elizabeth & Michael Harrington  
Rebecca A. Hawkins  
Robin & Rick Loving  
Patricia Merryman  
Barb & Marc Schewel  
Mary & Rob Taylor  
Heather & George Zippel

## LEVEL 6

**\$5,000 - \$9,999**

Anthony Andrews  
Molly & Andrew Deppensmith  
Charlyne M. Flippin  
Rebecca & Nick Frye  
Frances J. Giles  
Sue & Brad Malcolm  
F. Lee Morey  
Michael Nolan  
Sue Ott Rowlands  
Leslie & Kimball Payne  
Susan B. Piepho  
Verna & Preston Sellers  
Kelly & Kirk Tattersall  
Roger Vaden  
Kay & Kent Van Allen  
Sally & Davis Von Oesen  
Randall & John Watts  
Anitra B. Webster  
Kenneth White  
Ernest Williams

## LEVEL 5

**\$2,000 - \$4,999**

Anonymous  
Sallie & Mike Anthony  
Moirra Rafferty & Robert Bass  
Laurie & David Black  
Danielle & Stephen Blair  
Rose M. Blankenship  
David L. Bowen  
Betsy & Mike Brogan  
Kitty & Wilton Burgess  
Valerie & Jim Burruss  
Randy Carr  
Bettye & Al Chambers  
Cornelia Christian  
Julie Clark  
Lucy & Robert Cook  
Joni & Carrington Crawford  
Emily & Brian Crowder  
Rachel & Douglas Dalton  
Lynn & Jim Daly  
Rosemary & George Dawson  
Adgie & Alex Dirom  
Julie & Peter Doyle

Clarkie & Tom Eppes  
Margaret Anne & Cap Eschenroeder  
Ann & Rodger Fauber  
Kathy & David Firth  
Libby & Paul Fitzgerald  
Anne & Jack Flippin  
Judy & David Frantz  
Doni C. Guggenheimer  
Janie & Tom Hall  
Jean & Scott Hoffman  
Christie & Kevin Hooper  
Megan & Matt Huffman  
Betsy Jones  
Ula & Alan Kauppi  
Nancy & Bill Kershner  
Kristen & Richard Kuk  
Elizabeth B. Laundon  
Gordon Leggett  
April & Will Likins  
Cheryl & Dean Lindeman  
Catherine & Mike Madden  
Patti S. McCue  
Kari & Edwin McIlvaine  
Anna & Paul McWane  
Susan & John Mullin  
Peggy & Bill Nolley  
Katy & Chal Nunn  
Ellen & Thomas Nygaard  
Whitney & Robert O'Brian  
Becky & Bobby O'Brian  
Cindy & Joseph Orchowski  
Elaine & Corey Passman  
Kappa McGee Peddy  
Florence & Ned Perrow  
Ellen & David Petty  
Becky & Greg Porter  
Dorothy & Clifton Potter  
Michael & Brittany Powers  
Dana & Jim Redmond  
Sue & Larry H. Redmond  
Alexis V. Richards  
Cary Roberts  
Laura Weant & Steve Scoles  
Kandy & Rick Scruggs  
Betsy & Ben Smith  
Lisa & Jeff Smith  
Sunny Smith  
Amanda & Ian Smithson  
Bill Stuart  
Stephanie & Bob Sullivan  
Joan & Ted Swanson  
Sallie & Walker Sydnor  
Susan & Tim Timmons  
Marjette & T. Upshur  
Catherine Varner & Curt Baker  
Ashley-Rae & Jeremy Vaughan  
Emily & Lynch Vranian  
Diane & Billy Walker  
Robin & Jim Warner  
Jessica & Drake Watts  
Alex & Sackett Wood  
Mary Catherine Garrison &  
B. Marshall Wood  
Marty & Jim Wright  
Melinda & James Youngblood

## LEVEL 4

**\$1,000 - \$1,999**

Andrea Adams  
Ellen & Lloyd Agnew  
Caroline & Brian Assent  
Heather & John Barnard  
Laren & Sam Baum  
Debbie & Scott Brabrand  
Pam & Michael Bradford  
Vivian & Howard Brown  
Mary & Stuart Brust  
Nancy J. Cameron  
Kim & Matt Combs  
Connie & Steve Crank  
Carrie & Jace Crockett  
Nancy Harvey Davidson  
Beth Doyle  
Ann & Stephen Fabirkiewicz  
John C. Farnandez  
Stelios Tzoutzis & Stephanie Fees  
David Flippin  
Debbie H. Foster  
Jussara & Ismael Gama  
Helen Gilmer  
Patricia & Tony Gowen  
Carey Gravely  
Tony Guthrie  
Karen Hall  
Andrea & Allen Harris  
Chip Harvey  
Maria & Lucas Hayden  
Donna & Robert Headley  
Hermine & Donnie Hendricks  
Courtney & Ted Hunt  
Ellen Jamerson  
Sharan & Steve Julian  
Karen & Eric Kenny  
Angie & Ted Kraje  
Lyn & Brennan Kraje  
Mary Ellen & Matt LaFreniere  
Jane Larkin  
Heather & Kenneth Leopold  
Gairy Lynch  
Marcia & Gary Marple  
Debbie Martin  
Sally McBratney  
Jean & Sam Meeks  
Muriel Mickles  
Jennifer Wills & Javaun Moradi  
Susan & Richard Morris  
Dorothy & Richard Niles  
Nancy & Peter O'Brien  
Bree & Richard Oldham  
Bill Overacre  
Cyrus Pace  
Bill & Ida Perkins  
Mae Pickford  
Sarah & Andrew Proctor  
Edna & Steve Puckette  
Pat & Reggie Pugh  
Cyndi & Jeff Riley  
Lori & Jon Roark  
Ellen & Richard Saunders  
Stevie & Dan Savage  
Tami & Mike Shadler  
Bill Skinner  
Anh-Thu & Jonathan Smith  
Laura & Darrell St. John  
Diane Stroud  
Betty & Bob Sullivan

Katherine & Baird Taylor  
Sophie & Michael Taylor  
Stephanie & Alan Thomas  
Mary Lynn & Lee Tucker  
Judy & John Walker  
Darlene Wallace  
Joseph Warren  
Gwen & Jimmy Windle  
Anne & Bunny Wood  
Trisha & Lester Wooldridge  
Betsy & Dick Worthington  
Kate & Chris Zabriskie

### **LEVEL 3**

#### **\$500 - \$999**

Sloan & Douglas Albert  
Anne & John Alfieri  
Benjamin A. Anderson  
Alice Austin & Bob Armock  
Debbie & Fadi Bahouth  
Tracy & Albert Baker  
Veronica & Clinton Beverly  
Dave Bing  
Deliece & Fred Blanchard  
Sara W. Bond  
Ed Burnette  
Anne & Bill Calohan  
Mary Chamberlin & Parker Campanella  
Kathy & Bob Chase  
Elinor Ann Clark  
Ida Cole  
E.D. Craggette-Wallman  
Breanne Crandall  
Lisa Schenkel & Gregory Crandall  
Frances & Joe Crouch  
Laura & Jess Crumbley  
Kathy Cudlin  
Sharon Cummings  
Charlotte & G.R. Cyrus  
Gayle & Michael Daly  
Kimberly Diello  
Eleanor Dunn  
Sarah & Jim Dunstan  
Julie & Reid Ebert  
Ann Echols  
Betty D. Edmunds  
Cheryl Elliott  
Anja & John Falcone  
Carla & Joe Fedeler  
Jessica Field  
Rachel & Ryan Gagen  
Sally & Blair Godsey  
Becky Green  
Andrea & Jeremy Greenmun  
Pegeen & John Griessmayer  
Charles Guggenheimer  
Joyce Hamilton  
Gail & Wayne Harris  
Emily & Tom Hartka  
Mary Jane & Bill Hobbs  
Sandra Kay Jackson  
Susan & Glen Jenkins  
Carter & Tom Jennings  
Holly Johnson  
Cheryle & Lewis Johnson  
Lori Johnson  
Ashley & Geoffrey Kershner  
Kimberly Lankford  
Beverley & Rodney Laughon  
Robert Lenn  
Heidi Lipp

Jan Lojek  
Rood Maldini Guerrier  
Susan & Peter Manion  
Ruth Mast  
Phil Mauger  
Middy & Justin McCarthy  
Sara M. McElwee  
Linda & Mike Milam  
Madeline Pyle & Jesse Miller  
Laura & Mark Miner  
Susan D. Molumphy  
Kaye & Ben Moomaw  
Norman Moon  
Mike Morris  
Phyllistine & Samuel Mosley  
Susan & Larry Moxley  
Margaret D. Mundy  
Joshua D. Newman  
Darlene & Joe Nigro  
Chantal O'Keefe  
Ruth Pillow  
Gregory R. Plasters  
Susan & Eames A. Powers  
Mary Jane & Charlie Pryor  
Kathryn & Richard Pumphrey  
Donna & Rick Read  
Leslie Binns & Phillip Reiman  
Debbie Repass  
Alison & Jason Richardson  
Leslie Riehl  
Carole M. Royer  
Leslie Salmon  
Yvonne Z. Schewel  
Peggy & Wayne Schwartz  
Sally Curtis & William Sellari  
Becky & Bill Semones  
Gertrude & Thomas Shahady  
Alison Morrison-Shetlar & Robert Shetlar  
Kate & Walker Sigler  
Kerry & Jose Silva  
Jennifer & Shep Sittason  
Kathy Terrell & David Spangler  
Donna St. Clair  
Shelley & John Stone  
Michelle & Gar Sydnor  
Laurie & Craig Szczykowski  
Anne Talley  
Anne & Rodney Taylor  
Amy Thornburg  
Laurie & Toby Tomko  
Jenny & Richard Tugman  
Kathy & Gary Urquhart  
Shannon & Mike Valentine  
Kim & Jeremy VandeBogart  
Melissa Ventre  
Corinne & Massie Ware  
Michael & Dinah Watson  
Christiane Ploch & Joseph Wawro  
Sheila & Doug Webb  
Jeanette & Glenn Wertz  
Pamela Westgate  
Kennon & Charles White  
Anne & Alex Winstead

### **LEVEL 2**

#### **\$200 - \$499**

Anonymous (5)  
Monica & Philip Abatecola  
Wilson Acevedo  
Susan & Jim Ackley  
Brenda P. Adams

Ann & Jimmy Alexander  
Ankida Ridge Vineyards  
Deborah A. Armstrong  
Robin Armstrong  
Scott E. Ashman  
Mary Babbitt  
Laura & Bob Bailey  
Paula & Edward Banks  
Kelsey & Will Barker  
Libby & Mike Barksdale  
Gigi & Ted Batt  
Jaclyn Beard  
Carolyn P. Becker  
Judy & T.C. Berryman  
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For 120 years, the Academy has depended on community investment to bridge the gap between earned revenue and the true cost of artistic excellence and accessibility. This partnership model ensures that ticket sales, which cover approximately half of our operating expenses, never limit our ability to serve diverse audiences or maintain our historic facilities.

**Academy Membership** provides the unrestricted support essential for innovation, community access programming, and institutional flexibility. These gifts enable us to respond to community needs, weather unexpected challenges, and invest in new opportunities for artistic and educational impact.

As we transition to new leadership and prepare for our next century, member support becomes even more crucial. Your investment demonstrates confidence in our mission and provides the foundation for continued growth, adaptation, and community service.



## OUR 120<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY & LEADERSHIP TRANSITION



Geoffrey Kershner's decade of transformational leadership concluded this year, leaving the Academy stronger, more community-connected, and better positioned for the future than ever before. Under his guidance, the Historic Theatre reopened, community partnerships flourished, and the Academy's reach expanded throughout Greater Lynchburg and beyond.

As we welcome new leadership, we carry forward Geoff's most important lessons: that institutions succeed by staying connected to their communities, that access and excellence can coexist, and that the arts are essential infrastructure for healthy, vibrant communities.

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