

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

# BEHIND *the* SCENES



**WATERSHED**  
center for the ceramic arts



**Cover photo:** Working hands harvesting wild clay during Malley Weber's 2023 K-12 workshop. *Photo by Christina Wnek.*

**Above photo:** Zelda Mayer, a resident during Session VI, trims down a bowl.

#### **Annual Report Credits**

Design: Claire Brassil & Georgia Howe; writing & editing: Watershed staff; photography: Claire Brassil, Lindsay Heald, Christina Wnek, & David Dostie. With special thanks to Courtney Brecht & Sadie Bliss.



## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

With profound and joyful progress well underway in 2024, it's my privilege to pause and look back to 2023 and reflect.

2023 was a transitional year for Watershed and important visions and pillars grounded our work. Our people changed, our facilities changed, the world around us continued to change. But, clay was still found in the earth and artists' deep need to find inspiration, create, and be in community never wavered.

The changes created openings for new people to enter and new foundations, literally and figuratively, to be laid—while clay and community remained as our north star. Late in the year we broke ground on the Commons, our new resident-life building designed for artists to gather while in residence, and we welcomed Sadie Bliss to support the organization as interim director. With the great support of our friends, patrons, and funders, led by significant support from the Windgate Foundation, in 2023 we continued to grow, support, and engage our community.

I look forward to all of 2024 with great excitement and hope, but bittersweet as my last year as board president. When the year winds to a close, I'll join the ranks as a supporter, artist, and participant—another change, but as we've learned, with change comes growth and progress!

Onward,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bernie Toale', is written in a cursive style.

Bernie Toale  
President, Board of Trustees

# MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Watershed Artists and Community,

I stepped into the role of interim executive director at Watershed in fall 2023 to support the organization through the year-end processes, 2024 residencies and operations, and the transition to a new permanent executive director. While this wasn't easy, it was joyful—as so many of you know time at Watershed is. From six months as the Salad Days resident artist, to one day as an attendee at Salad Days or as a raku kiln firing participant, to a full summer as a seasonal staff person, or more than a decade in a leadership role, it is time well spent for each of us. Watershed is a place for generating ideas and problem solving and connecting—both in the studio and in the office, and I welcomed the opportunity to do all of those things.

Along with a full slate of programming, partnerships, and events, Watershed's year burst with behind-the-scenes work leading to incredible growth and opportunities. 2023 marked the conclusion of the Watershed Now campaign raising funds to build the Windgate Studio and the Watershed Commons, for which we broke ground in fall 2023 and watched emerge each 2x4 at a time, from a frozen hillside over the winter.

My time is bookended by two greats. Fran Rudoff, Watershed's previous director, supported my success as interim and David S. East gently took the director reins over the course of early 2024. At moments Watershed was carried in all of our hands, past, present, and future—a true collaborative effort only worthy of an organization such as Watershed; envisioned by brilliant and dedicated founders, for artists at all stages of their careers to find inspiration and community and with a network of generous supporters.

Thank you all for having me, for all the notes of support and appreciation I received during my time as interim, and to all the past and present staff for their efforts each day and to make this annual report—a celebration of our progress—come together!

With Gratitude & Joy,



Sadie Bliss





“I had never been with so many other ceramicists all at once! It was such a special experience to all have that in common. I loved that there was such an age range and that we were all at different points in our ceramic careers and journeys. There wasn't ever any judgment of where we were at in our creative process or what we spent our time doing during the residency. Everyone was constantly encouraging each other and I was inspired the entire time. I was able to relearn how to make a plaster mold. The facilities had everything I needed—all I had to do was do the research.”

— Adriana Lemus  
2023 Artist-in-Residence



1. Resident breaks up clay outside the Windgate Studio.
2. Watershed friend Stuart Gair prepares for an atmospheric firing.
3. Session V residents make their way up the hill from the studio to the cabins.

# SUMMER RESIDENCIES

## *Artists Nurture Connections, Practice, and Soul at Watershed*

Artists who took part in Watershed's summer residencies gathered from around the country and the world to take their craft to the next level. Themed sessions supplied artists with the time and space to hone new skills while forming multigenerational and multicultural relationships.



## **DONOR IMPACT ON RESIDENCIES**

Artists' time and experiences at Watershed residencies and workshops influence their practices and relationships for years to come. We are proud to provide this transformational time and space with the help of our many donors. Watershed donors make possible these profound opportunities for growth that change artists' lives and careers. *Forty percent* of every artist's residency was subsidized by gifts from individuals and foundations who believe in our mission and the value of artists.

1. The Session V: Research & Practice crew jumps for a group photo in a sunny field.
2. Session V artist-in-residence, Alecia Dawn Young, carves a geometric pattern into a pot.

“Attending a residency at Watershed created a truly once-in-a-lifetime experience for me. I came to better understand my own practice. I created a long-lasting network with so many truly inspiring artists. I was able to talk to them about my future goals and ideas and learn from them. It was a truly incredible experience.”

— Jillian Blackwell

2023 Artist-in-Residence



3. Session VI: Collectivity residents pose next to the lush spread of food they shared during a collaborative dinner.

4. Shay Gerassy, 2023 recipient of the AIDASHED award, slides a brick back into place during an atmospheric gas firing.

# RESIDENCY SCHOLARSHIPS

*Supporting Diverse and Talented Artists Working in Clay*



1

## SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENTS

Archipelago Foundation Ceramic Residency Award  
Pat Doran Funded Residency Endowment  
Howard Kottler Testamentary Trust  
Barry L. Thurman Funded Residency Endowment  
Judith S. Schwartz Legacy Award  
Alfred & Hanina ShaSha Foundation  
AIDASHED Award

## NAMED AWARDS

Anonymous - Zenobia Award  
The Color Network - The Color Network Award  
Rose Esson-Dawson - Bruce Dawson Award  
Chris Gustin & Nancy Train Smith -  
Angus L. Graham Memorial Award



2

1. Zenobia scholarship awardee Vani Aguilar works on a sculpture.
2. Anne Adams, a 2023 recipient of the Zenobia Award, shapes and carves figurines.



“I thought [Watershed] brought together an amazing, self-selecting group of folks who are using ceramics in so many different ways to build and share community. Not everyone’s artistic practice has to be community-oriented, but it was so lovely to be in a space where we all had common threads and values; and to see how others were interpreting community.”

— Jenny Ibsen

2023 Artist-in-Residence & scholarship recipient



3

## SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT AT WORK

*Watershed’s general Scholarship Fund, Zenobia Fund, and funds from the Maxwell Hanrahan Foundation supported 4 partial awards and 14 full awards in 2023 equal to \$31,175 in artist support.*

- All residency and room & board fees are subsidized by the generosity of our donors. Artist fees cover a portion of the true expense of a residency.
- One in five summer artists-in-residence received additional full or partial scholarship support.
- 85% of scholarship recipients identify as artists from an underrepresented community.



4

3. Bruce Dawson Award recipient Ashley Campbell attaches a ceramic chain to a vase.

4. Kiran Joan, recipient of The Color Network Award, poses with a large sculpture.

# CREATIVE CONNECTIONS

## *Supporting Our Maine Craft Community*

Again this year, Watershed partnered with the Maine Crafts Association (MCA) to host its 2023 Craft Apprentice Program (CAP) Capstone Exhibition in the Barkan Gallery, as well as the CAP Alumni Gathering. CAP supports emerging craft artists through a structured seven-month apprenticeship with an accomplished mentor. On display for the month of October, the exhibition featured the work of nine pairs of mentor and apprentice artists, including artists in the fields of ceramics, woodworking, printmaking, leather, textiles, and book arts.



Watershed welcomed more than 100 people to campus for Maine Craft Weekend, a statewide celebration organized by MCA, with participants attending the aforementioned exhibition reception and the opening of our catenary arch wood kiln fired by Maine ceramic artists Tim Christensen, Aidan Fraser, Jon Ho, Keanne Petrie, and Ellie Porta-Barnet.



1. 2023 CAP mentor Matthew Arcara strums a handmade banjo in Watershed's field. *Photo by David Dostie.*
2. Members of the public peruse work by Tim Christensen on Watershed's kiln pad.
3. Artists and members of the public mingle inside Watershed's Barkan Gallery. *Photo by David Dostie.*

# WORKSHOPS

## *In 2023 Our Public Workshops Flourished*

In 2023, we held six guest artist workshops (compared to one in recent years) and a studio manager-led wood firing.

Watershed's educational programming served 135 workshop participants and 51 Maine K-12 art educators with workshops exploring techniques with local and national instructors. Guest artist instructors included Nicole Aquillano (MA), Stuart Gair (OH), Ariela Kuh (ME), Kyungmin Park (MA), Kari Radasch (ME), Siem van der Ven (ME), Malley Weber (ME), and Kensuke Yamada (AR).



## ART EDUCATOR COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

We hosted four professional development workshops for K-12 Maine school teachers. Watershed also offered greatly reduced pricing for teachers to take part in several public workshops. Grant funds from the Anonimo Foundation, Onion Foundation, and Margaret E. Burnham Charitable Trust support this program and help us bring guest artists to Watershed for K-12 teacher programs and public workshops.

1. Teaching artist Malley Weber leads a workshop in digging up wild clay on a shoreline. *Photo by Christina Wnek.*

2. Teaching artist Kensuke Yamada shapes a large head during his workshop on narrative sculpture.

# SALAD DAYS

## Our Signature Summer Celebration & Fundraiser

We welcomed more than 500 attendees to campus for Watershed's 28th Salad Days event! During the annual fundraiser, guests selected handmade plates by Ali Saunders, engaged with our artist demonstrators, shopped the pottery sale, enjoyed the reverse raffle, and learned about Watershed's history and mission as they toured the Windgate Studio with our founders.



1

Ali Saunders was Watershed's 2023 Salad Days artist-in-residence. For the seven months Saunders lived on campus, Watershed's studio looked something like a digital textile pattern factory. Inspired by her mother and grandmother's handmade quilts, Saunders created 475 plates with colors and patterns reminiscent of a cozy, mid-century modern home. Through a process of digital design, laser cutting, and stenciling, Saunders' bold designs came to life, layer by painstaking layer.



2

1. Guests load up on farm-fresh salads prepared at Watershed. Photo by Lindsay Heald.

2. Stacks of colorful Salad Days plates are on display for guests to browse. Photo by Lindsay Heald.



## SALAD DAYS EVENT SPONSORS

- Lucy Lacoste Gallery
- JF Scott Construction
- Spicer Tree Specialists
- Bailey Pottery Equipment
- First National Wealth Management
- J. Edward Knight Insurance
- MainEx
- Page Gallery
- Renys
- One River CPAs

## SALAD DAYS IN-KIND SPONSORS

- Bunker Brewing
- Cod Cove Inn
- Laguna Clay
- Maine Root



3. 2023 Salad Days Artist Ali Saunders proudly poses with two of the nearly 500 plates she created. *Photo by Lindsay Heald.*

4. Event attendee clutches their pick of the 2023 Salad Days plates. *Photo by Lindsay Heald.*

5. Members of the public scope out their favorite prizes in the annual reverse raffle. *Photo by Lindsay Heald.*



Session VI: Collectivity artists gather around their community dinner.

# LEADERSHIP GIVING

Sustaining donors made significant gifts or multiyear commitments to support Watershed's artist programs and operations in 2023. Their vital support enables Watershed to look ahead and meet our most pressing needs as we plan and deliver programming designed to best serve diverse artists working in clay.

## GRIGGS CIRCLE

Our loyal Griggs Circle members provide a reliable revenue stream that creates art-changing and life-changing experiences for artists. These 2023 members made a three-year commitment of at least \$1,500 annually.

- |                            |                          |                      |                     |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| B Bruce Armitage           | Brenda Erickson          | Mark Lyman           | Jan Schachter       |
| E. John Bullard            | Evan & Kressa Evans      | & Anne Meszko        | Paul & Konnie Stark |
| Marie Causey               | Carol S. Green           | Joseph & Marianne Mc | Caroline Taggart    |
| <b>Trudy Evard Chiddix</b> | Linsey Herman            | Caffery              | Judith Weisman      |
| & Jim Chiddix              | David Kalan              | <b>Tim Mitchell</b>  | Susan Whitehead     |
| Joyce & Allan Cohen        | <b>Gretchen Keyworth</b> | Clemmer Montague     | Mary Toale Wood     |
| <b>Lynn Duryea</b>         | Lucy Lacoste             | Chris Rifkin         |                     |

## PATRONS CIRCLE

These donors gave \$500 or more to support the Annual Fund, Scholarship Fund, or Zenobia Fund in 2023.

- |                             |                                |                                  |                                 |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Norman Abram                | Eva Rose Goetz                 | Lin Lougheed                     | Don Thomas & Jorge Cao          |
| & Elise Hauenstein          | Philanthropic Fund of          | Marilyn Lysohir                  | Mariana Vasquez-Crede           |
| William W. Alcorn           | the Dallas Jewish              | Ginger Miller & Marlin Miller Jr | <i>The Color Network</i>        |
| Pamela Alexander            | Community Foundation           | Jennifer Morrison & Dick Marks   | Claudyne Wilder                 |
| Anne & Jim Bailey           | Marjorie Greville              | Theodore & Mary Gene Myer        | <i>In memory of Betsy Roden</i> |
| Hope & Mel Barkan           | Joan Shafran                   | Plimpton-Shattuck Fund of The    |                                 |
| The Bassett-Spindel Family  | & Robert Haimes                | Boston Foundation                |                                 |
| Fund of Vanguard Charitable | Foundation                     | <i>In honor of Chris Gustin</i>  |                                 |
| Betty Bothereau             | Pamela & Stephen Hootkin       | Bernard Pucker                   |                                 |
| David Charak                | JF Scott Construction          | Eleanor Rosenfeld                |                                 |
| Sydney Cohen                | Company                        | <b>Martha Sears</b> & Gary Baker |                                 |
| Yogen & Peggy Dalal         | Alyce & Steve Kaplan           | Arlene Snyder & Paul Rabin       |                                 |
| Bettina Doulton             | <b>Elizabeth Kendall</b>       | Ruth & Rick Snyderman            |                                 |
| Patrick Doust               | <b>Karen Kuff-Demicco</b>      | <b>Kristen Struebing-Beazley</b> |                                 |
| & Richard North             | <b>Jim Lawton</b>              | <i>In honor of Gretchen</i>      |                                 |
| Miriam & Leon Ellsworth     | LEF Foundation                 | <i>Keyworth</i>                  |                                 |
| John Evans                  | <b>Elizabeth Harvey Levine</b> | Margaret Sullivan & Joe Alvarado |                                 |

*Bold text indicates a Watershed residency alum.*



Session V artists take a break from working in the Windgate Studio during a warm summer afternoon.

# SCHOLARSHIP FOR CHANGE

Established in honor of former Watershed executive director Fran Rudoff, the annually awarded Scholarship for Change supports artists whose work brings attention to social, cultural, or environmental issues of our time. Many thanks to the following donors for marking Fran's legacy and commitment to making positive change in our community with this annually awarded scholarship.

Chris Asch  
 The Bassett-Spindel Family Fund of  
 Vanguard Charitable  
**Mark Bell**  
 Emily Bessey  
 Emily Bley  
 Betty Bothereau  
 Brenda & Wade Brickhouse  
 Donna Burkhardt  
 Robert Carver  
**Linda Casbon**  
 Martha Cederstrom  
 Chuck Cohen  
 & Mary-Beth Paquette-Cohen  
 Joyce & Allan Cohen  
**Patrick Coughlin**  
 Jeanne Baker Driscoll  
**Lynn Duryea**  
**David East**  
 Tina Clark Edwards  
 Miriam & Leon Ellsworth  
 Gail Fels

**Lisa Floryshak-Windman**  
 Tim Gagne  
 Beth Ann Gerstein  
 Linsey Herman  
 Elizabeth Hertz  
**Ayumi Horie**  
 Sarah Yardly Jenkins  
 Barbara Kaufman  
**Elizabeth Kendall**  
**Gretchen Keyworth**  
 Cree Krull  
 LEF Foundation  
 Hannah Lennett  
**Elizabeth Harvey Levine**  
 Janna Longacre  
 Jacquie Luke  
 Mark Lyman & Anne Meszko  
 Marissa Mandel  
**George Mason**  
 & Susan Weiser Mason  
 Alan Melchior  
 Theodore & Mary Gene Myer

Beth Nagusky  
**Helen Otterson**  
 Josie Quintrell  
 Kay Rand  
 Chris Rifkin  
 Matt Robinson  
 Susie Rubenstein  
 Gerald Rudoff  
 Linda & Andrew Rudoff  
 Jan Schachter  
 Fran Schulberg  
**Nancy Selvin**  
 Deb Sewall  
 Marcia Silcox  
**Malcolm Mobutu Smith**  
 Ruth & Rick Snyderman  
 Paul Stark  
**Kristen Struebing-Beazley**  
 Sue Sturtevant  
 Don Thomas & Jorge Cao  
 Lynn & Mike Thompson  
 Bernie Toale & Joe Zina

**Sharon Townshend**  
 Rusty Tunnard  
*In honor of Bobbie Tunnard\* and  
 her respect for Fran*  
 Suzanne Van Wye  
 & Richard Barnes  
 John Washburn

*Bold text indicates a Watershed residency alum.*

\*Deceased

# 2023 INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Thank you to the following individuals who support Watershed's important work providing time and space for artists working in clay.

## \$10,000+

Bettina Doulton  
Anne F. Forbes Family  
Foundation

David Charak  
Joyce & Allan Cohen  
Jeanne Baker Driscoll  
LEF Foundation  
**Sharon Townshend**

Beth Ann Gerstein  
Carol S. Green Donor Advised  
Fund  
*In honor of Alfred A. and Hanina  
Z. Shasha*

*in memory of Angus Graham*  
**Sin-ying Ho**  
JF Scott Construction Company  
Mark Lyman & Anne Meszko  
Jyoti Puri & Rohin Mhatre  
**Martha Sears & Gary Baker**  
Paul & Konnie Stark  
Susan Whitehead

## \$5,000–\$9,999

Anonymous  
Hope & Mel Barkan

**\$2,500–\$4,999**  
Brenda Erickson

**Christopher S. Gustin  
& Nancy T. Smith**  
*A portion of this gift was given*

## \$1,000–\$2,499

Norman Abram & Elise  
Hauenstein  
William W. Alcorn  
Pamela Alexander  
Bruce Armitage  
Anne & Jim Bailey  
E. John Bullard  
Marie Causey  
**Trudy Evard Chiddix**  
& Jim Chiddix  
Sydney Cohen  
Yogen & Peggy Dalal

Lenny & Anne Dowhie Trusts  
**Lynn Duryea**  
Evan & Kressa Evans  
Eva Rose Goetz Philanthropic  
Fund of the Dallas Jewish  
Community Foundation  
Joan Shafran & Robert  
Haimes Foundation  
Linsey Herman  
Sarah Yardly Jenkins  
David Kalan  
Alyce & Steve Kaplan  
**Gretchen Keyworth**

Lucy Lacoste  
**Elizabeth Harvey Levine**  
**Joseph McCaffery**  
& Marianne McCaffery  
Ginger Miller & Marlin Miller Jr  
**Tim Mitchell**  
Clemmer Montague  
Jennifer Morrison & Dick Marks  
Plimpton-Shattuck Fund of The  
Boston Foundation  
*In honor of Chris Gustin*  
Don & Lisa Ridley  
Chris Rifkin

Eleanor Rosenfeld  
**Nancy Selvin & Steve Selvin**  
John Smith  
**Malcolm Mobutu Smith**  
Arlene Snyder & Paul Rabin  
**Kristen Struebing-Beazley**  
*A portion of this gift is given in  
honor of Gretchen Keyworth*  
Margaret Sullivan & Joe Alvarado  
Caroline Taggart & Robert Sachs  
Bernie Toale & Joe Zina  
Greg Triggs  
Mary Toale Wood

## \$500–\$999

Anonymous  
The Bassett-Spindel Family Fund  
of Vanguard Charitable  
Betty Bothereau  
**Linda Casbon**  
**Patrick Coughlin**  
Lauren Dombrowiak  
**Paul Donnelly**

Patrick Doust & Richard North  
Miriam & Leon Ellsworth  
John Evans  
Catherine Futter  
Marjorie Greville  
Pamela & Stephen Hootkin  
John Horst & Barbara Wallace  
**Elizabeth Kendall**  
**Karen Kuff-Demicco**

**Jim Lawton**  
**Linda Lopez**  
Lin Lougheed  
**Marilyn Lysohir**  
Theodore & Mary Gene Myer  
Bernard Pucker  
**Stephanie Rozene**  
**Amy Santoferraro**  
Jan & Vic Schachter

Ruth & Rick Snyderman  
Don Thomas & Jorge Cao  
Mariana Vasquez-Crede  
*The Color Network*  
Claudyne Wilder  
*In memory of Betsy Roden*

## \$100–\$499

**Caroline Anderson**  
& **Daniel Anderson\***  
Anonymous  
Lucy Aptekar  
Chris Asch  
Anne Elise Aubry  
Katherine Bach  
**Mary Barringer**  
**Ingrid Bathe**  
**Mark Bell**  
Rose Lee Bensen  
Barbara Berlin  
Sadie Bliss & Laughlin Chanler  
**Joe Bova**  
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Robert Carver

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Chuck Cohen  
& Mary-Beth Paquette-  
Cohen  
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Stuart Kestenbaum  
& Susan Webster  
Lynn Kneeder  
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**Lynn Landor**  
Pnina Levine & Al Gold  
*In honor of Don Ridley*  
Janna Longacre  
Jacquie Luke  
Marissa Mandel  
**Shalya Marsh**  
**George Mason**  
& Susan Weiser Mason

*Bold text indicates a Watershed residency alum.*

\*Deceased



**\$100–\$499 continued**

**Anna Metcalfe**  
**Sequoia Miller**  
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**John Morrill-Read**  
Russell Mount  
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Matt Robinson  
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*In honor of Izzy Zimmerman &  
Arnie Zimmerman*  
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Melinda Sanders  
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Dorothy Saxe  
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Katherine & Dan Stockel  
Lynn & Mike Thompson  
Matthew Towers  
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Tunnard*  
United Way of Massachusetts  
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Suzanne Van Wye  
& Richard Barnes  
Jay Vogt  
**Holly Walker**  
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Julia Weckstein  
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**Susan Winton**  
Patricia Young  
**Scott Zimmer**

**Up to \$99**

Merry Alexander  
Renee Altman  
AmazonSmile Foundation  
Anonymous (2)  
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Ilene Barr  
Christine & David Beneman  
Adrian Bennett  
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Joan Biren  
Emily Bley  
**Lucy Breslin**  
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**Shenny Cruces**  
Ginnon Cunningham  
Stephen Currier  
Sarah de Besche  
Katie Donahue  
Ellen Durkee  
Susan Elizalde-Henson  
Anne Evans

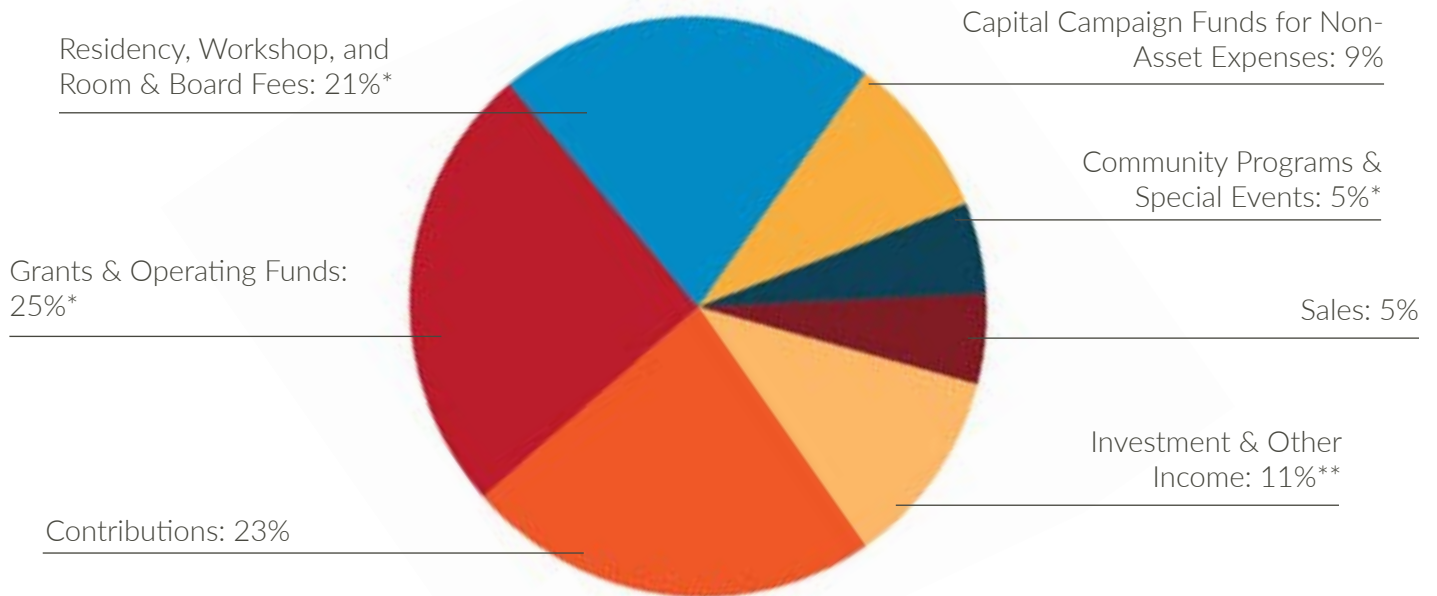
Patty Fagan  
**Carole Ann Fer** & Ellen Wieske  
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Jessica Fujimori  
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Tamsen Brooke Warner  
John Washburn  
Katharine Watson

**Paige Wilder**  
Elizabeth Williams  
Zach Wollert  
Shannon Wood

# 2023 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

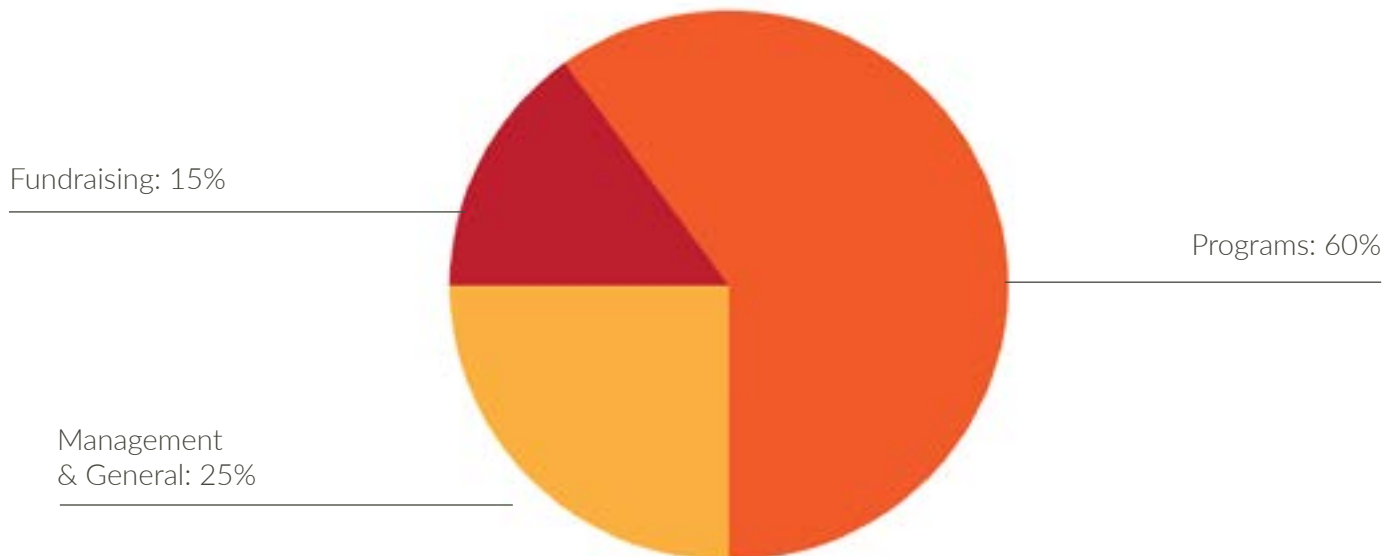
## ▶ Operating Revenue

**\$825,834**



## ▶ Operating Expenses

**\$830,290**



Does not include depreciation nor FAME Thrive Forgiveable Loan funds received in 2023, which offset a 2022 loss.

\*Net assets released from restriction

\*\*Interest, dividends, stock sales, credit card rewards & EIDL loan

## Balance Sheet

<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 47,865	\$ 60,125
Restricted cash for programs	\$ 158,671	\$ 190,257
Restricted cash for capital improvements	\$ 1,409,628	\$ 2,386,905
Inventory & prepaid expenses	\$ 2,157	\$ 4,682
Promises to give <sup>+</sup>	\$ 95,639	\$ 102,426
Investments	\$ 1,769,837	\$ 1,078,159
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 3,483,797</b>	<b>\$ 3,822,554</b>
Property: buildings, land & equipment <sup>++</sup>	\$ 5,437,943	\$ 4,125,179
<hr/>		
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 8,921,740</b>	<b>\$ 7,947,733</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Line of credit	\$ 30,000	\$ 60,000
Accounts payable	\$ 313,373	\$ 22,068
Deferred revenue	\$ 3,635	\$ 8,690
Long-term liabilities	\$ 196,824	\$ 155,592
Accrued expenses <sup>*</sup>	\$ 133,718	\$ 0
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 677,550</b>	<b>\$ 246,350</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		
Without donor restrictions	\$ 5,465,268	\$ 4,123,510
With donor restrictions <sup>**</sup>	\$ 2,778,922	\$ 3,577,873
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>\$ 8,244,190</b>	<b>\$ 7,701,383</b>
<hr/>		
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 8,921,740</b>	<b>\$ 7,947,733</b>

<sup>+</sup>Bulk of invested funds are restricted for capital improvements

<sup>++</sup>Net of accumulated depreciation. Includes in-progress construction of Commons building

<sup>\*</sup>SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan

<sup>\*\*</sup>Includes capital campaign gifts

# FINAL PHASE OF *WATERSHED NOW*: CONSTRUCTING THE COMMONS



The Watershed Now campaign concluded with a challenge grant from the Windgate Foundation in 2023. The year rounded out with a final design phase with architect Jane Gleason, GreyWork LLC and breaking ground with our trusted building team at JF Scott Construction.

**WATERSHED NOW**  
BUILDING SPACE FOR INSPIRATION



1. Unfinished Commons building stands tall against a blue sky.
2. Interim Executive Director Sadie Bliss and Project Manager Fran Rudoff examine the ongoing build.

“In 2023 we bid farewell to Thompson Hall, a nostalgic but tired building Watershed had repurposed from its many previous purposes for our kitchen and dining room, seasonal administrative offices, and even artist lodging. It is a gift and a glorious privilege to imagine and bring to life a facility specifically designed for artists to gather, meals to be made and enjoyed together, staff to work comfortably, and to be more physically accessible for artists and visitors through ADA-compliant design.

Thanks to the support of so many, Watershed broke ground on our new Commons building. This final phase of the Watershed Now campaign will broaden the reach and capacity of Watershed’s programming, allowing us to expand our support of artists and their work!”

— Sadie Bliss  
Interim Executive Director



3. Framing is erected in what will be the state-of-the-art commercial kitchen.

## WITH GRATEFUL APPRECIATION TO THE FOLLOWING DONORS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE WINDGATE FOUNDATION CHALLENGE

The Manton Foundation, in memory of Bruce Dawson  
Ginger Miller & Marlin Miller Jr.  
S. Donald Sussman  
Jeanne Baker Driscoll, in honor of Fran Rudoff  
Lynn Duryea  
Beth Ann Gerstein  
Roberta Griffith  
Chris Gustin & Nancy Train Smith  
Sarah Yardly Jenkins  
Lenny & Anne Dowhie Trusts  
Charles Marboe & Barbara Hewson, in honor of Kari Marboe & Nancy Selvin  
Diane Master  
Jennifer Morrison & Dick Marks  
Christine Marie O’Donnell  
Jyoti Puri, in honor of M.A. Mhatre  
Don & Lisa Ridley  
Amy Santoferraro  
JoAnn Schnabel  
Liz Seaton  
Nancy & Steve Selvin  
John W. Smith  
Margaret Sullivan & Joe Alvarado  
Phyllis Kudder Sullivan  
Caroline Taggart & Robert Sachs  
Don Thomas & Jorge Cao  
Bernie Toale & Joe Zina  
Sharon Townshend

# GRANTS

These grantmakers supported Watershed's activities in 2023, including our popular workshops for K-12 educators in Maine and expanding opportunities for underrepresented artists.

The Anonimo Foundation    Davis Family Foundation    Maine Arts Commission    Maxwell/Hanrahan Foundation

# IN-KIND DONORS

Watershed received dozens of in-kind donations in 2023 from these donors, many of which were pieces of art donated to our Salad Days auction and reverse raffle fundraisers.

- |   |                               |                                       |                             |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Joe Bova</b><br>Bunker Brewing LLC         | Jana Evans<br>Katelyn Gettner | Clemmer Montague<br><b>Matt Nolen</b> | <b>Malcolm Mobutu Smith</b> |
| <b>Linda Casbon</b>                           | Marsha Gold                   | <b>Frank Pitcher</b>                  | <b>Yelani Stieg</b>         |
| <b>Patrick Coughlin</b><br>Julie Cunningham   | <b>Rain Harris</b>            | <b>Kari Radasch</b>                   | Caroline Stran              |
| <b>Chandra DeBuse</b>                         | <b>Sin-ying Ho</b>            | Don Ridley                            | Susan Strickler             |
| <b>Paul Donnelly</b><br>Jeanne Baker Driscoll | Grace Kerr                    | Ann Rosenthal                         | <b>Grace Tessein</b>        |
| Jennie Driscoll                               | Lucy Lacoste                  | <b>Amy Santoferraro</b>               | Sharon Townshend            |
| <b>Lynn Duryea</b><br>Brenda Erickson         | <b>Jim Lawton</b>             | <b>Ali Saunders</b>                   | Rusty Tunnard               |
|   | <b>Linda Lopez</b>            | Kate Schroeder                        | <b>Holly Walker</b>         |
|   | <b>Anna Metcalfe</b>          | Liz Seaton                            | Michaelene Walsh            |
|   | Heidi Mollenhauer             | <b>Nancy Selvin</b>                   | <b>Alex Watson</b>          |

*Bold text indicates a Watershed residency alum.*

# BRICK HILL SOCIETY

Watershed's Brick Hill Society recognizes the generosity and vision of those who plan their giving through estate or deferred gifts. Like bricks of a kiln, society members provide foundational support to ensure Watershed's future financial stability. These generous donors made legacy gifts to commemorate their commitment to Watershed's mission and to ensure that artists may experience Watershed's innovative programs for generations to come. Gifts include unrestricted contributions and gifts for specific program areas, such as scholarships.

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| <b>Lynn Duryea</b>                                | Clemmer & David Montague       |
| <b>Chris Gustin</b><br>& <b>Nancy Train Smith</b> | <b>Liz Quackenbush</b>         |
| Martha Mason                                      | Susie Rubenstein & Dirk Hagner |
|   | <b>JoAnn Schnabel</b>          |



A double rainbow appears on the horizon over Watershed's campus..

# 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

## TRUSTEES

Bernie Toale, President, *Boston, MA*  
Beth Ann Gerstein, Vice President, *Claremont, CA*  
Jeanne Baker Driscoll, Treasurer, *New York, NY*  
Paul Donnelly, Secretary, *Kansas City, MO*  
Sharon Townshend, Past President, *Pownal, ME*  
Patrick Coughlin, *Portland, ME*  
Lauren Dombrowiak, *Philadelphia, PA*  
Lenny Dowhie, *Evansville, IN*  
Sin-ying Ho, *Flushing, NY*  
Sarah Yardly Jenkins, *Libertyville, IA*  
Linda Lopez, *Fayetteville, AR*  
Jyoti Puri, *Lexington, MA*  
Don Ridley, *Scottsdale, AZ*  
Stephanie Rozene, *Oneonta, NY*  
Amy Santoferraro, *Pomona, CA*  
Nancy Selvin, *Berkeley, CA*  
Malcolm Mobutu Smith, *Bloomington, IN*  
John W. Smith, *Damariscotta, ME*  
Greg Triggs, *Narrowsburg, NY*

## FOUNDERS

Lynn Duryea, *Deer Isle, ME*  
Margaret Griggs\*, *Newcastle, ME*  
Chris Gustin, *South Dartmouth, MA*  
George Mason, *Nobleboro, ME*

\*Deceased

## FAREWELLS

We bid farewell to Beth Ann Gerstein, John W. Smith, and Sharon Townshend, our three trustees who completed their terms of service at the end of 2023. John joined the board in 2022 after moving to the midcoast area upon retiring from his role as director of the RISD Museum. Beth Ann and Sharon have each served on the Watershed board for decades, stewarding the organization through numerous changes and developments. Beth Ann is currently executive director of the American Museum of Ceramic Art and Sharon will continue her board work with TEMPOart in Portland, ME. We are so grateful for John's recent support and for Sharon's and Beth Ann's long-standing leadership, commitment, and vision that has shaped Watershed's present and future!

## YEAR-ROUND STAFF

Sadie Bliss, Interim Executive Director  
Claire Brassil, Communications & Outreach Director  
Courtney Brecht, Donor Relations & Major Gifts Manager  
W. Reeder Fahnestock, Studio & Facilities Manager  
Courtney Norian, Assoc. Director of Development & Events  
Fran Rudoff, Executive Director  
Elizabeth Seaton, Executive Director  
Tamsen Brooke Warner, Finance & Operations Manager

## SEASONAL STAFF

Julia Arredondo, Residency Liaison  
Maren Berglund, House & Dining Assistant  
Gordon Gleason, Assistant Cook  
Emily Gunning, Studio Assistant  
Ibrahim Khazzaka, Studio Coordinator  
August Lantz, Studio Coordinator  
Cat Mills, Assistant Cook  
Giovanna Pizzoferrato, House & Dining Manager  
Kariska Puchalski, Cook  
Brad Purdy, Cook  
Ram Ramirez, House & Dining Manager  
Hope Rovelto, Cook  
Susan Viets, Development Associate  
Jack Wehrle, Assistant Cook



**WATERSHED**  
center for the ceramic arts

Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts  
[www.watershedceramics.org](http://www.watershedceramics.org)  
(207) 882-6075

**Back cover photo:**  
A barnyard friend from Watershed neighbor  
Straw's Farm roots through a clover-spotted field.  
*Photo by Lindsay Heald.*

