ANNUAL REPORT 2018–19

RICHMOND ART CENTER
The Richmond Art Center originated in 1936 when local artist Hazel Salmi, who worked for the Federal Works Progress Administration (WPA), walked the streets of Richmond with a suite of art supplies, eager to teach art to anyone interested. WPA employed millions of people to help recover the economy from the great depression. Federal Project Number One employed musicians, artists, writers, actors, and directors in large art, drama, media, and literary projects.

From 1942–1951 Richmond Art Center occupied the upper floor of a two-story building on Ninth Street and MacDonald. A small, flat-façade Victorian, the building was well-equipped with standing rooms, ceramic studio with kilns, mosaic construction, metal and woodworking equipment.

In 1944 the Richmond Art Center was incorporated into the city of Richmond’s plans for the Civic Center Plaza. Opened in 1951, the new city complex provided the art center with expanded space for exhibitions and studios. Berkeley City Planning expert Mel Scott described Richmond Art Center as “probably the Bay Area’s most famous example of an alliance between a recreation department and a non-profit corporation.”

Over the past decade, RAC entered an era of curating notable individuals involved in the arts from throughout the Bay Area and California. Admission to the exhibits and public programs is free for all.

This year the Exhibition Program partnered with RYSE, Latina Center, the Sewing Academy of Social Justice, Richmond Senior Center, the Art of the Living Black, Contra Costa Arts Commission, NIAD, Richmond Rotary Club, and WCCUSD. Guest curators included Michael Dean, Ron Rael, and Inez Brooks-Meier.

ART IN THE COMMUNITY

The AIC program brings art education to ten public schools and nine community organizations in Richmond. In collaboration with West Contra Costa County School District, we conducted after-school programs in two high schools, one middle school, and seven elementary schools. We provide visual arts experiences to underserved communities at schools with little or no art programming. Additionally, AIC offers classes and workshops at community sites including Richmond Public Library, Latina Center, Rosie’s Girls, Athichon Village, Nevins, Shields Reid, and Booker T. Washington Community Centers. Last year the AIC program served nearly 1,800 students. This year, eight high school students from the AIC program became the first team of high school interns to assist in the summer camp program. In addition, AIC provided professional development workshops to 40 elementary teachers to integrate art into their lesson plans.
The 2018–19 fiscal year was remarkable for the Art Center thanks to generous support from the City of Richmond along with increases in foundation support and class revenue.

**TOTAL INCOME:** $1,465,544

**TOTAL EXPENSE:** $1,451,243

**NET INCOME:** $14,301

**CONTRIBUTED INCOME:**
- City of Richmond 22%
- Foundations 16%
- Individual/Corporate Support 12%
- Fundraising Events 6%

**EARNED INCOME:**
- Program Fees 40%
- Membership 4%

**EXPENSES:**
- Studio Art 35%
- Art in the Community 24%
- Administration 14%
- Exhibition 11%
- Fundraising 6%
- Facility 6%
- Marketing 4%