### Texas Center for Arts + Academics

# Annual Report

### TEXAS CENTER FOR ARTS+ ACADEMICS

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, TCA+A supports two nationally ranked charter schools serving almost 1000 students, the Grammy award-winning Texas Boys Choir, the Singing Girls of Texas, and several after-school artistic conservatories.

We believe that fostering artistic expression in children is a worthy endeavor that produces empathic, well rounded adults and creative thinkers.

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# From the CEO

Welcome to the Annual Report of Texas Center for Arts + Academics (TCA+A), home to Fort Worth Academy of Fine Arts (FWAFA) and Texas School of the Arts (TeSA). It is with immense pleasure and pride that we reflect on the remarkable journey and achievements of the past year.

In the realm of arts and academics, our institutions serve as beacons of excellence, nurturing talent, fostering creativity, and shaping the minds of tomorrow's leaders. As we delve into the highlights of 2023, we celebrate the countless milestones, triumphs, and breakthroughs that defined our collective pursuit of excellence.

Our organization experienced a remarkable journey filled with growth, innovation, and unparalleled achievement. Celebrate with us the highlights of this past year:

Artistic Excellence: Throughout 2023, FWAFA and TeSA continued to shine brightly on the artistic stage, with our students showcasing their exceptional talents in a myriad of disciplines. From captivating theatrical and dance productions to mesmerizing choir performances and stunning visual arts exhibitions, our students demonstrated a level of skill and creativity that is truly awe-inspiring.
National and International Recognition: The artistic prowess of Texas Boys Choir, Singing Girls of Texas, and our other artistic programs gained attention not only locally but also nationally and internationally. Our performers and artists were invited to participate in prestigious competitions, festivals, and exhibitions, where they garnered accolades and recognition for their outstanding work, further cementing our reputation as a beacon of artistic excellence.

 Academic Achievement: Beyond the arts, FWAFA and TeSA remained committed to academic excellence, empowering students to excel in their studies and pursue their passions with diligence and dedication. Through rigorous coursework, interdisciplinary projects, and experiential learning opportunities, our students continued to thrive academically, demonstrating their ability to balance artistic pursuits with scholastic achievement.
Community Engagement: TCA+A stayed deeply engaged with the local community, enriching the cultural landscape of Fort Worth and beyond. Through outreach programs like our afterschool and summer conservatories, collaborative initiatives, and partnerships with local organizations, our students and staff shared their talents with a wider audience while giving back to the community who supports them.
Resilience and Adaptability: In the face of unprecedented challenges posed by coming out of the global pandemic, FWAFA and TeSA demonstrated remarkable resilience and adaptability. Through innovative approaches to teaching, learning, and performances, we ensured our students continued to receive the highest quality education and artistic training in a safe and supportive environment.

As we look back on 2023, we are filled with gratitude for the unwavering support of our dedicated faculty and staff, the boundless talent and dedication of our students, and the steadfast commitment of our parents and community partners.

Together, we overcame obstacles, achieved milestones, and forged ahead on our journey of artistic and academic excellence. As we embark on the year ahead, let us carry forward the spirit of innovation, collaboration, and creativity that defines us, as we continue to inspire, educate, and empower the next generation of artists, scholars, and leaders.

Sincerely,

Dr. Anika Perkins President/CEO and Superintendent



# Congratulations

# to the Class of









### **College Acceptances**

Abilene Christian University American Dramatic and Music Academy (AMDA) Austin College Arizona State University **Baylor University Belmont University Benedictine College** Bethel Conservatory of the Arts Brenau University Centenary College of Louisiana Champlain College Chapman University Coastal Carolina University Colorado State University Cornish College of the Arts Dallas Baptist University Dean College Drexel University Elon University **Emerson College** Fordham University Furman University Hollins University Ithaca College Jacksonville University Louisiana State University Marymount Manhattan College Marquette University Millikin University Molloy College New York University North Carolina A&T State University Northeastern University Northern Michigan University Northwest College of Art and Design Norwalk Conservatory Oakland University Ohio Northern University Ohio State University Oklahoma State University Otterbein University Pace University Pennsylvania State University Point Park University Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design Santa Clara University Sam Houston State University Sarah Lawrence College Savannah College of Art and Design

# \$6.6 million

School of the Art Institute of Chicago School of Visual Arts Shenandoah University Southern Methodist University State University of New York at Fredonia St. Louis University Syracuse University Tarleton State University Texas A&M University Texas Christian University Texas State University Texas Tech University Texas Wesleyan University Texas Woman's University Universidad de Puerto Rico Universidad del Sagrado Corazón University of Alabama University of Arizona University of Arkansas University of Birmingham (UK) University of California Berkeley University of California Santa Barbara University of Central Oklahoma University of Charleston University of Colorado Boulder University of Colorado-Colorado Springs University of Exeter (UK) University of Georgia University of Idaho University of Law (UK) University of Michigan University of Minnesota University of North Carolina University of North Texas University of Oklahoma University of Pittsburgh University of San Francisco University of Southern California University of South Florida University of Texas at Arlington University of Texas at Austin University of the Arts University of the Pacific University of Utah Virginia Tech Weatherford College West Virginia University Wilmington University



### 642 students at FWAFA 334 students at TeSA







# Best Dance Studio

Texas Dance Conservatory voted Silver BEST Dance Studio in 2023 DFW favorites



62 total performances including, musicals, plays, dance and choir concerts, and collaborative works



Between the Schmidt and Jones, Betty Lynn Buckley, and Broadway Dallas Awards



Above Standard Achievement FIRST rating by TEA

### **By the Numbers**

### **Superior Scores and Ratings**

Our artists compete in UIL, VASE, and other local, national and international competitions, placing top among their peers

### **Art Shows**

Students at FWAFA and TeSA were able to showcase their artwork on campus

### Awards

Including Outstanding Choreography and Best Choreography

### **Tickets Sold**

Several performances sold out, requiring encore shows to be added

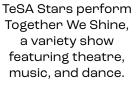


Superior Rating FIRST rating by TEA

Convocation: TCA+A brings together all faculty and staff for the 2nd annual Convocation. Guest speakers included Deborah Ferguson from NBC5, Director of Regional Advocacy, Ari Kinney, and TCA+A Board Chairman, Dan Bates. The event featured several special student performances and an award ceremony for staff celebrating milestones.



*Oklahoma*!The Musical a sensational performance goes on to be nominated for various Schmidt and Jones and Betty Buckley awards.





Texas Children's Choir and their fearless leader are recognized at TMEA. An unforgetable performance and achievement.

TeSA Poetry Slam, an annual event that allows students an opportunity to showcase their talent in writing and perfroming.



Student and youngest drummer signed with Mapex Drums, Austin Arbelaez had the pleasure of spending the day backstage and onset with Pitbull's drummer, Carlos Palmet.





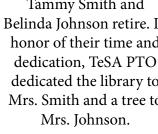
Nine FWAFA Thespians earned Superior ratings at Texas Thespians State Festival in Grapevine. The International Thespian Excellence Awards recognize the highest level of achievement in school theatre performance, technical theatre, writing, and filmmaking.

FWAFA Faculty gave it their all at the annual Faculty Talent Show.





Singing Girls of Texas Tour Choir received Sweepstakes at UIL.







Oklahoma! The Musical won the following at Broadway Dallas awards in May 2023: Outstanding Choreography: Krista Langford, Jenna Williamson, Avery Jessie Best Supporting Actress: Mia Jacob

Thespian Director Darla Jones was recognized by TCA+A for her continuing work as Secretary of the Texas Thespians Board of Directors and as event director for the Texas Thespians Educator Conference. The 2024 **Texas Thespians Educator** Conference included over 250 theatre educators, master teachers, and industry professionals.

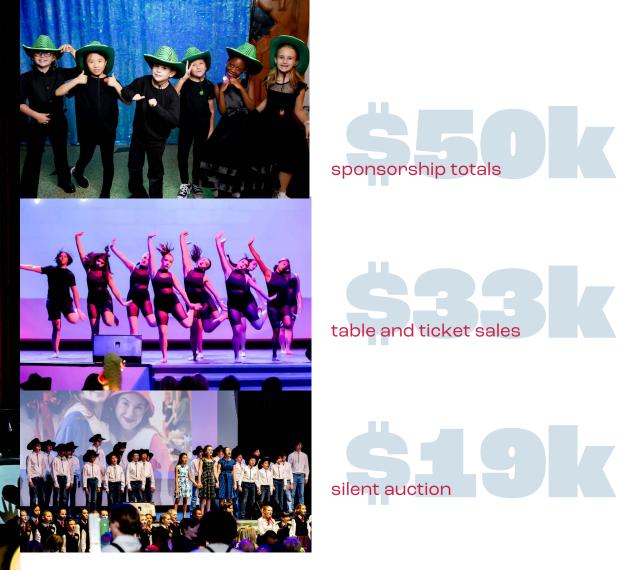


Tammy Smith and Belinda Johnson retire. In honor of their time and dedicated the library to Mrs. Smith and a tree to Mrs. Johnson.





Summer camps in full swing. Once again TCA+A provides much needed summer educational and fun camps for students interested in art of all types.



The TCA+A Gala show was produced by Lindy Heath. The show featured performances by students from Fort Worth Academy of Fine Arts, Texas School of the Arts, Children's Choir of Texas, Academy Dance Company, Singing Girls of Texas, Advanced Acting, and Texas Boys Choir.

In addition to the show, guests were treated to a hosted bar and catering from Magdalena's. VIP guests enjoyed a performance by Big City Duo featuring FWAFA and Texas Boys Choir alumnus, Keith Groh II. The after party carried on until midnight with live music from Neon Prophets.

TCA+A community, and community sponsors, the 2023 Neon Moon Gala raised more than \$100,000. A major component of our TCA+A annual Gala are the community sponsors who graciously give towards our largest fundraiser. This year, we raised over \$50,000 in community sponsorships!

Thanks to the generosity of our FWAFA and TeSA families, the

Penny Clay accepted the inaugural award named after her.

The Penny Clay award was initiated in August 2023 to honor a stakeholder or stakeholders who have significantly contributed to the continued prosperity and resilience of the organization as a whole.



ala 2023



Save The Date The 2024 TCA+A Gala will be held on August 24, 2024! ArtsAcademics.org/gala



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How are Charter Schools Funded? Charter schools receive state funds based on the number of students who attend (same as traditional public schools). However, charter schools receive less funding than traditional public schools as they do not receive any local taxpayer dollars. -txcharterschools.org

> Due to the absence of local tax dollars, charters receive of the funding that traditional ISDs collect.



### **Grants and Awards**

•December 2022 Rea Charitable Trust awards TCA+A \$10,000 for general operations.

• July 2023 Amon G. Carter Foundation donated \$5,000 to support Texas Boys Choir.

•\$50,000 awarded from the Sid Richardson Foundation. -\$25,000 was allocated for IT upgrades -\$25,000 was used to update the FWAFA auditorium projector

• \$10,000 Grant is awarded to TCA+A for renovations of TeSA's floors in the black box theater.

•The annual Gala raised more than \$100,000.

### **Other Funding**

**2022 North Texas** Giving Day Contributions of 85 donors



\$7,500,179 - Instructional and Leadership Services \$1,048,256 - Support Services \$1,040,618 - Administrative Support \$627,274 - Student Support \$141,936 - Debt Services \$231,774 - Fundraising

# Expenses

venue

Total - \$10.590.037

Total - \$10,801,000

\$9,168,999 - State Programs \$469,622 - Program Services \$356,996 - Federal Programs \$313,196 - Cocurricular & Enterprising Activities \$200,773 - Contributions \$110,376 - Fundraising \$68.943 - Other

# 2022-2023 Fundraising

Sid W. Richardson Foundation

### 510,000-\$25,000 Frost Bank

Rea Charitable Trust William and Catherine Bryce Memorial Trust

# Amon G. Carter Foundation

Amon G. Carter Foundation Daniel & Shelli Bates Patrick & Penny Clay Matthew Deen Higginbotham Carolyn Martchenke Taylor Farms Virginia Watson

# Monique Johr

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\*Every effort is made to recognize all donors. If a mistake is made in the list, please accept our apologies, and notify us immediately at 817-766-2390 ext. 172 or email Torie Skinner, Director of Development torie.skinner@artsacademics.org

Dana Adams-Wal Cary Adkinson Stacy Aguilar Lindsey Akey Michelle Albian Natoya Alee Gregory Alvarado Amazon Smile **Tina Andrews** Larry & Karen Anfin Kellev Angle David Arbelaez Tammy Austin Stephanie Ayala Elizabeth Azerad Evan Baierlipp Kim, Scott and Miles Baker Paula Bang Alex Barther & Delicia Barther-Baxter **Ronald Barton** Patricia and Michael Baumann Jacob Belk Jennifer Bellamy Alvcia Bennett **Brian Best** Kayla Bradford **Regina Brady** Tyler Bray Glendon Brewster James Brittain Alisha Brown Mandy Brunson **Britney Burnett** Stephen Byford Brandy & Casey Caldwell Jan Carden Brie Carlson Leah Carnahan Maria & Miguel Carranza **Cheryl** Caruso Olivia Case Miiken Castillo Sarah Cavanaugh Cecile Montgomery Charitable Account Myrian & Isabelo Cerno Juana Y Cervantes Stephanie Chabora Nancy Champion Janet Charon Keisha Clayton Gary Clayton Larry and Jeannie Coggins Bruce Collins Linda S Collins Rusty Collins Sara Compton Betsy Compton Bill Cook Leslie Cook Christian & Sara Cox Brandy Cox Tracie Cox Summer Cox Shelea Crecy Karen Crow Diana Cruz Steve and Marcy Dages Lisa & Russell Dalton Pam Davis Stacy & Donovan Decuir

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Photography: Michelle Haas, Natalie Bracke, Ali Cooley, Ryan Wiggins Kelsey Kilgore, Laura DeLuna, FWAFA and TeSA teachers and staff.

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