



ARTS IN MOTION

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Enriching the community and lives of individuals with disabilities through expressive arts.



Reflecting on 2024

Our year was jam-packed with community performances, art exhibits, additional Day Program days, new classes, and lots of hugs and laughter. We created new partnerships such as Congress Elementary's community garden, and sustained long-held partnerships with the DSAWM and IKUS. All the while our goals of accessible art and community impact have continued to be driving forces. I am grateful to be a part of such a passionate team. Our staff, board, and supporters played a crucial role in making decisions in 2024 that will impact AIM for years to come.

Written By : Lisa Glover, Executive Director

- **1,736 hours** of in-studio teaching
- **400 hours** of off-site teaching
- **\$14,000** given out in scholarship



A Note from one of our Families

"Our family has been involved with Arts in Motion since 2017. I was searching for some place for my child, Emery, to take dance lessons but was struggling to find a place that was able and willing to accommodate the unique challenges of an autistic student. The second the dance instructor knew what I meant when I said "vestibular input", I knew we were home. Since then, Arts in Motion has been a second home and a haven, where Emery has been able to build creative skills in a wide variety of the arts, boosted their confidence, and helped develop a sense of community, all in an environment that understands and supports them and their unique needs and challenges. I've seen the joy and pride in their face when they sold their first art piece, seen laughter and joy in friendships with fellow students and staff, and seen their confidence soar when they create a beautiful art piece or overcome challenges that previously prevented them from creating what they really wanted to bring to fruition in their creative vision. As the Mother to a special needs child, these things are precious and life changing in a way that only fellow Special Needs parents can truly understand. Community and socialization can be a big challenge for people with disabilities to develop, but at Arts in Motion studio our family has always had a second family, a sense of community, and security within its walls and at every event, from every staff member and fellow students and I am so grateful to have them in our lives." - Dorrie, mom of student



Art Exhibits & Performances

Community Performances

- Festival of the Arts
- ADA Celebration
- DSAWM Step Up Event
- Noorthoek Academy Big Step Walk
- Art Prize
- Annual Show
- Holiday Show
- Grace CRC

Art Exhibits

- Hall Street Bakery
- Wealthy Street Bakery
- Art Prize in the Blackport Building
- Grand Rapids Art Museum
- Monroe Community Church
- Global Infusions



Community Partnerships

Kent County:

Down Syndrome Association of West Michigan
Ready for Life
David’s House Ministries
Kentwood Parks & Rec
Living in Fullness Together
Alternative Pathways
Disability Advocates of Kent County
Noorthoek Academy
Eastown Community Association
Congress Elementary
Kent ISD

Montcalm County:

Seiter Educational Center

Ottawa County:

OAISD Holland
OAISD Coopersville
OASID Grand Haven
Holland Deacons Center
Momentum Center
IKUS Life Enrichment Services/Indian Trails Camp
Harbor House
Heritage Homes



Corporate Connections Volunteering

We welcomed several business groups in to come join classes or help with some deep cleaning at the studio! Some of the groups who volunteered in 2024 included:

- GR Cuban Salsa
- Service Express
- PSG
- 616 Realty
- Fishbeck
- Cherie Inn
- Sloan Delores Flowers



Fundraising

2024 Dance On!

Our Dance On! Event was a huge success with over 125 people in attendance and over \$8,000 raised. We were able to partner with Indian Trails Camp, GR Cuban Salsa group, The Whitecaps, and East Grand Rapids High School students to put on a fun-filled community event.



A Chair Affair 2024

Our Chair Affair fundraiser this year was held at a new off-site location rather than in our studio space. It was so fun to create a night out for students, families, and community members. The event featured over 70 pieces of student artwork on display and student dance performances. Students and local artists repurposed chairs to be functional works of art, which were auctioned off to benefit Arts in Motion. This year's event raised \$40,000 for our programs!





Thank you to our Sponsors

We are so thankful for the community support we receive from grants, sponsorship, and in-kind donations. These gifts make it possible for us to continue creating accessible programming.

FS Foundation
Michigan Arts and Culture Council
Professional Women Who Care
Mary Free Bed Guild
Grand Rapids Community Foundation
Diane Sullivan
Hurst Mechanical
Glover Financial Advisors
Scott Group Studio
Scarlett Inc
Down Syndrome Association of West Michigan
Warner Norcross + Judd
Meijer
Rack Processing
PRS Manufacturing
Lacks Enterprises
Cherie Inn
Grand Rapids Jaycees Foundation
The Mitten Foundation
Steelcase Foundation
The Theresa Robinson Group
DeNora
Scarlett Family
Hill Family
Bradbury Family
Simescu Family
Doyle Family
Smith Family
Fishbeck
The Pantry
Indian Trails Camp
Steve & Brenda Heacock
King Team - Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices
Willey Family Foundation
Uptown Business Association
Harmony Brewing Company
Global Infusion
Nylaan Dental
Woosah
TenFinger Fish
Edward Groeschel
MI State Council Knights of Columbus
Sara Placencia