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 We are a collective of creative people cultivating the tools and strength of spirit to meet every moment, every trauma, and every triumph head on.

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 ART180

 art_180

Cover photo:
Atlas Artist Resident Fabrise Nitiyanga works on his final project, a self-portrait with his young cousin—a milestone as he explores oil painting for the first time.

Annual Report 2023

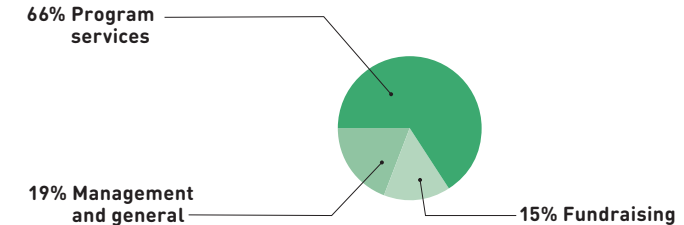
2023 Income



*includes a one-time Employee Retention Tax Credit

Total income: \$783,533

2023 Expenses



Total expenses: \$798,151

Total assets: \$1,041,475

A copy of our 2023 audit will be available upon request after June 1, 2024.

585 youth served

Age*
13-18 = 98%
19+ = 2%

Gender*
Male = 32%
Female = 58%
non-binary or gender nonconforming = 10%

Race*
Black/African American = 75%
White/Caucasian = 10%
Multiracial = 8%
Latino/Hispanic = 5%
Native American = 2%

*data based on responses received

2023 partners

- All City Art Club
- Boushall Middle School
- Boys & Girls Clubs at Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School, Southside, and the Teen & Community Center
- Broken Men Foundation
- Charterhouse School
- City of Richmond Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities
- Cultural Roots
- Dogwood Middle School, formerly Binford Middle School
- Henderson Middle School
- Howard University's Alternative Spring Break program

In 2023, we led **38** programs for youth

We contracted **47** teaching artists

In 2023, we paid a total of \$82,467 to artists leading ART 180 art experiences, workshops, art events, and in our Atlas Artist Residency. Of that total, over \$13,000 went directly to youth artists, 18 and under.

- Initiatives of Change
- Lucille M. Brown Middle School
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School
- Microsoft
- Next City
- NextUp RVA
- River City Middle School
- Richmond Alternative School
- Richmond Public Schools and their Department of Culture, Climate, and Student Services
- Shenandoah National Park Trust
- The Well Collective



25 years: expanding on the true power of arts and healing

As we commemorated our 25th anniversary, ART 180 marked a milestone in the journey of using art as a catalyst for positive change. We introduced a new mission, vision, and values, a 40-foot collaborative mural at Atlas, and the Many Faces, One Collective installation in our windows honoring the countless people who’ve contributed to our history and impact.

Youth art experiences

Youth programming remains the core of our work, offering diverse experiences that encourage young people to explore new mediums, push boundaries, and express their unique voices. In 2023, our teaching artists led youth in stop motion animation, filmmaking, meditation through abstract painting, beatmaking and song writing, hand built ceramics, and more.

We’re focused on expanding the scope and access to artist residencies. Our middle school residencies establish space inside schools during the day for students to feel safe, heard, and free to create with mentorship from a professional artist. Distinct from school art classes, the residencies build connections with peers, develop entrepreneurial skills, and establish an open, collaborative space of creativity.

Our Atlas Artist Residency, one of the country’s only paid residency programs just for youth, entered its third year with 10 artists guided by Barry O’Keefe

and Alliannah Hamilton. The group quickly established bonds through daily meditation, creative exploration, field trips to Richmond art venues and DC museums, and camping in Shenandoah National Park. At SNP, the group explored new environments, pushing them outside comfort zones and shaping their creativity. Reflecting their growth through the residency, the teens titled their exhibition Bloom: Blossoming Through Self-Reflection, multi-media self-portraits showcasing their creativity through the exhibition and VPM’s Focal Point series.

One of my favorite things about this experience was the people... They share the kind of creative mind that I have. They love, appreciate, and are passionate about art the same way I am.

— Shiane Taylor, 17, youth artist, Atlas Artist Residency

Having a space where [teens’] unique creativity is encouraged and embraced can be a huge boost to their self esteem which can affect how they operate in their community.

— Khalid Thompson, artist resident, Boushall Middle School

I felt a sense of power because every time we came the session always had a way to make me feel better about myself. I love great new experiences every session.

— Leah Johnson, 15, Urban Art Experience

Community engagement and collaborations

Engagement reached new heights through a series of events, workshops, and partnerships. Atlas served as a vibrant hub for community gatherings, hosting such events as healing circles lead by Restorative Richmond, workshops with youth from the Broken Men Foundation and Cultural Roots, our Urban Art Experience—a layered week of experiences for young people in connection with the City of Richmond’s Parks and Recreation and Initiatives of Change, as well as a curated weeklong event with Howard University’s Alternative Spring Break. Collaborating with community partners provides healing-centered experiences for individuals across Richmond, reinforcing ART 180’s role as a dynamic cultural hub and destination in Jackson Ward.

Our Easel series transformed a city block into an immersive art experience, featuring a new artist monthly creating art before a lunchtime audience. Staged in the public parklet we steward, this interactive event brought together friends, neighbors, and passersby in a feedback loop of creativity and community engagement, accompanied by local food trucks. The Easel serves to disrupt routines with healing outcomes, bringing together 460 community members, seven artists, and seven food trucks.

Vision for the future

ART 180 remains committed to cultivating a community where art is not only expression but a catalyst for holistic well-being, social connection, and personal growth. We’re sowing seeds for international partnerships, pushing the expectations of opportunities for young artists, and living into our values. By embodying these motivations, ART 180 continues to inspire creativity and resilience, shaping a more vibrant future for all. Through art, transformational change is possible in ourselves and the world at large.

Photo details (left to right):

- A Lucille Brown Middle School student paints an entryway mural as part of our residency there.
- Youth display their Kokedama balls during the Urban Art Experience.
- ART 180 teaching artist and alumnus Chris Oliver speaks at Next City’s Vanguard Conference held in ART 180’s Atlas Gallery.
- Board member Faith Walker attends the Cosmic Block Party with her astronaut daughter and niece.
- Atlas Artist Residents, staff, and friends from Shenandoah National Park Trust embark on a multi-day excursion into the park.
- Students film a kinetic scene in their experimental film in their Digital Canvas class.
- Amiri Richardson-Keys paints live during Easel while a crowd enjoys from the parklet.