



  
**West Palm Beach**  
Center for Arts & Technology

**ANNUAL  
REPORT**  
2022



Dear Friends of the West Palm Beach Center for Arts & Technology:

From the very first time I heard Bill Strickland speak about Manchester Bidwell, I knew we needed this innovative program of supporting young people through the arts and preparing unemployed and underemployed adults for jobs, here in West Palm Beach.

We reached out to the Manchester Bidwell Corporation and after an extensive feasibility study, the West Palm Beach Center for Arts and Technology (WPBCAT) was born. We became part of the National Center for Arts and Technology, a network of twelve other cities replicating the Manchester Bidwell model.

This past year has been an exciting one for WPBCAT as it was our first offering programs. Thank you to our Executive Director, Rhonda Rogers, and our Program Director, Shani Simpson, for all your hard work with developing the new programming and raising money to cover the cost of programming.

We began our programming with a successful Spring Break Camp followed by Unity Summer Camp. In April we hosted a Career Fair in collaboration with the Association of Builders and Contractors. Twenty-four participants in the career fair and six of them completed our Pre-Construction Apprenticeship program. They were offered jobs and began working the Tuesday after graduation. A special thanks goes out to Ned Grace, of NDT Development for donating space for us to conduct our programs.

Since March 2022, we successfully served 423 adults and children.

I am proud of the work accomplished by our staff and the board of directors and look forward to another banner year.

Sincerely,

*Jeri Muoio*

Board Chair

**LETTER  
FROM  
BOARD  
CHAIR**

Jeri Muoio  
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John Howe  
*Vice Chair*

Don Chester  
Christina Worley  
*Treasurer*

Michael Corbit  
*Secretary*

Fred Barch  
Darryl Bey  
Stewart Bosley  
John Carpenter  
Peter Dyga  
Salvatore Faso  
Bruce Lewis  
Martine Pierre Paul  
Pamela Stewart Wade

**2022  
BOARD  
MEMBERS  
& STAFF**

RHONDA ROGERS  
Executive Director



SHANI SIMPSON  
Program Director





The mission of the WPBCAT is to be innovative in our approach to inspire, motivate, and prepare youth and adults for career opportunities and success through arts and job training programs.

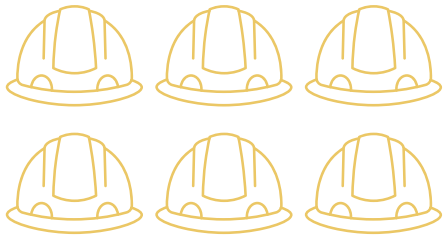
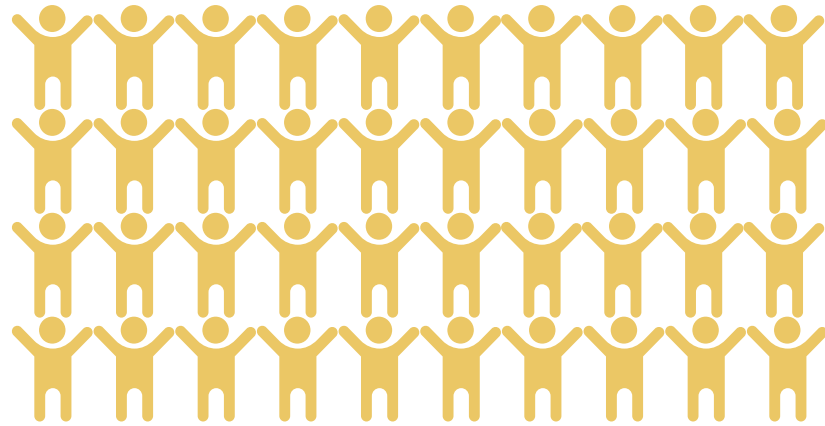
*"Realize the genius in everyone!"*

# QUICK FACTS

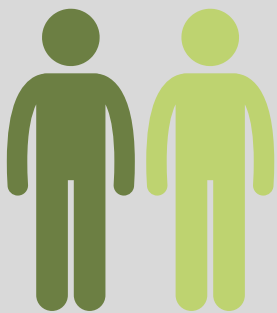
Served

# 423

adults and children in 2022



completed our 1st Pre-Construction program.



# 67

attended a focus group for our Daddy and Me program and actively participated.

Rhonda Rogers, WPBCAT Executive Director & Bill Strickland, Founder and Executive Chairman of Manchester Bidwell Corporation



# 2022 HIGHLIGHTS

1

We facilitated a Spring Break Camp from March 14-18, 2022, for the students in grades 3-10. The theme was Site-Specific Installations. The Spring Break camp was successful and introduced the students to the arts and how to make a place look good using interesting and unique materials.

10

students for Spring Break camp.



OUR FIRST PROGRAM





2

On Saturday, March 19, 2022, we hosted our Open House. The Open House was well attended by several community leaders and residents. The attendees assisted with preparing the wall for the student mural project.

There were 36 adults and student volunteers from Palm Beach Atlantic University at the open house and participated in the mural project.

3

In April 2022, WPBCAT facilitated joint programming with the Boys & Girls Club of Palm Beach County Bright Futures Program at Forest Hill Community High School- an *Aerial + 360° Photography Course* taught by drone pilot, Reese Hendrik Blanke. We served 28 high school students.





4

In April 2022, WBPCAT facilitated a 2-part collaborative community service project with the Youth Empowered 2 Prosper (Ye2P) group from Palm Beach Lakes High School—in a session facilitated by Executive Director, Rhonda Rogers, students learned about entrepreneurship from local sunscreen company Florida Squeezed and then came to WBPCAT's location two weeks later to paint, "Le Mural", an over 40-ft mural curated by Program Director, Shani Simpson, from images students drew inspired from Florida Squeezed's online presence. We served **18** high school students.



5

On April 16, 2022, we hosted a Family Fun Day. Families created Easter themed art projects together and the families left with goodies and baskets. We served **73** adults and youth.



6

On Saturday, May 14, 2022, the *Mural Painting Project* was held (mural project, which was a beautiful and co-branding of our space with the images of Florida Squeezed and the WPBCAT) completed by 14 young ladies from Palm Beach Lakes High School.







8

We hosted and facilitated a *Unity Summer Camp* for students in grades 3-12 for three weeks this summer. The dates were June 6-10, June 20 – June 24 and July 18 – July 22. The camp offered lunch the first week only, snacks, different daily themes, several field trips that covered the ARTS, STEM, sports, the environment, and history. We partnered with the Reggie Dee Foundation and received sponsorships and donations from Digital Vibez, Freeman Injury Law, ECF Engineering Consultants and Bus One. We served **34 students** over the three-week summer camp.



7

We conducted a Basic Figure Drawing: Where Art & Science Collide workshop on May 21, 2022, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm for students in grades 6-12. This workshop was in partnership with South University Student Nurses' Association. The student nurses taught attendees about healthy eating habits. We served **14 students** at the basic figure drawing class.



We hosted a Career Fair in conjunction with the Associated Builders and Contractors Florida East Coast Chapter (ABC). The Career Fair was hosted on August 22, 2022. The attendees of the fair were introduced to career exploration in construction and the career fair. We served 24 adults at the career fair, 7 of the career fair attendees completed the 35-hour Pre-Construction program and 6 graduated from the program and were offered jobs with Meisner Electric and began working the Tuesday after graduation.



Hosted a focus group for our Daddy and Me program on Thursday, September 29, 2022, at 6:00 pm. 1,191 men registered for the Focus Group and 67 attended and actively participated. This program is being funded by the Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County Great Idea Initiative. We have hosted two sessions with the dads for a total of 10 dads served thus far. The program concludes in June 2023.

WPBCAT's great idea is to provide a safe, supportive, and creative space for fathers to strengthen relationships with their daughters, using arts and technology as a bridge to bonding. This idea is an innovative approach to inspire and motivate fathers to become their child's best advocate. Positive father involvement is known to improve a child's self-esteem and wellness.





11

Family Fall Festival: Halloween Edition on Saturday, October 23, 2022, from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm. We painted pumpkins, pinned the tail on the donkey Halloween style, and face painting. Seven children, three adults and three college students from Palm Beach Atlantic University participated. **13 participants**

12

Launched the Youth Leading the Way Program at Forest Hill High School on October 11, 2022. This program is funded by Quantum Foundation. We have served **52 high students** in this program. The program enhances students' health, as well as addressing the social determinants of health, by helping students stay in school, make career plans, and break the cycle of poverty. The program provides after-school health education and arts instruction to low-income, at-risk high school students to improve healthy behaviors and promote community health.

13

Partnered with the West Palm Beach Community Redevelopment Agency on the Winter in Paradise at Heart and Soul Park on December 9, 2022. Worked with over **30 children** during art activity at Winter in Paradise event. Some of them donated their holiday card designs to be displayed at Palm Beach Children's Hospital located at St. Mary's Hospital.

helping  
students  
stay in  
school

Served

52

high students

make  
career  
plans.

break the  
cycle of  
poverty



## INDIVIDUALS

Luisa Acosta  
Alfred Barch  
Darryl Bey  
Don Chester  
Michael Corbit

Peter Dyga  
Salvatore Faso  
Jack Frost  
Geraldine Muoio

Rhonda Rogers  
Shani Simpson  
Mary Stoney  
Christina Worley

## ORGANIZATIONS



FHC LLC



**SHEAR**  
FAMILY  
FOUNDATION

**South**  
UNIVERSITY<sup>SM</sup>  
ESTABLISHED 1899



**COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**  
for Palm Beach and Martin Counties

Elise M Besthoff Charitable Foundation

2022  
DONORS

WEST PALM BEACH CENTER FOR ARTS & TECHNOLOGY INC

Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2022

	Dec 31, 22
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Valley Checking	176,117.96
Total Checking/Savings	176,117.96
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	60,333.32
Total Accounts Receivable	60,333.32
Total Current Assets	236,451.28
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>236,451.28</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable	2,399.06
Total Accounts Payable	2,399.06
Other Current Liabilities	
Prepaid Contributions	51,849.98
Total Other Current Liabilities	51,849.98
Total Current Liabilities	54,249.04
Total Liabilities	54,249.04
Equity	
Temp. Restricted Net Assets	
Capital Campaign - Bldg Fund	3,000.00
Constr Pre App	31,415.24
Daddy & Me Exploring the World	4,874.75
Youth Arts	34,421.87
Youth Leading the Way	9,094.39
Total Temp. Restricted Net Assets	82,806.25
Unrestricted Net Assets	2,540.27
Net Income	96,855.72
Total Equity	182,202.24
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>236,451.28</b>

FINANCIAL  
SUMMARY



[www.wpbcats.org](http://www.wpbcats.org)