



CONTENTS

03	MISSION, VISION AND VALUES / STAFF AND BOARD LIST
05	LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
07	INWOOD FILM FESTIVAL OPENING NIGHT BENEFIT,
	FESTIVAL OVERVIEW, AND FILM FESTIVAL FUND AWARDS
11	FILMMAKER FUND
15	FILM WORKS ALFRESCO
17	ON AIR PODCAST
19	COMMUNITY CONCERTS
23	SPECIAL EVENTS
25	2023 SEASON BY THE NUMBERS
27	FINANCIAL PRESENTATION
29	CORPORATE SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

www.inwoodartworks.nyc 01 02 @InwoodArtWorks

MISSION

Inwood Art Works is a nonprofit organization with a **mission** to create and curate professional performing and visual arts in Inwood and its surrounding community.

Founded in response to a neighborhood bereft of cultural arts venues, Inwood Art Works (IAW) has quickly established itself in Inwood and Northern Manhattan as a leading multidisciplinary cultural arts hub. Through creative placemaking, Inwood Art Works creates arts programming for a historically underrepresented community, and champions local professional artists by giving them an opportunity to create through its Film Works (Inwood Film Festival, Film Works Alfresco), Art Works (Gallery), and Stage Works (On Air, Mendelssohn on the Hudson, Live Performances) programs.

Our **vision** is to establish a dedicated cultural arts destination that fosters a vibrant multicultural community nourished by local connectivity and sustained by artistic equity.

We **value** encouraging positive social engagement, goodwill, and unity through live theater, music, dance, film, new media, and visual arts within accessible proximity at affordable prices or free of charge. We **value** and champion the craft and cultural diversity of local professional and emerging artists. And we **value** the education of youth through the arts.

STAFF AND BOARD LIST

FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Aaron Simms

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Ken Coughlin

DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT

Susan Mathisen

GRANT WRITER Lisa Robinson

EDUCATION CONSULTANT Gordon Ostrowski

WEB DESIGN
Philip Goldsmith

GRAPHIC DESIGN Jeff Ballard

PRESS

Erika Sanchez, Braid Communications

PHOTOGRAPHER

Ethan David Kent Photography

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dean M. Dolan, Melissa Driscoll, Rud Morales, Carole Guss Mulligan, Aaron

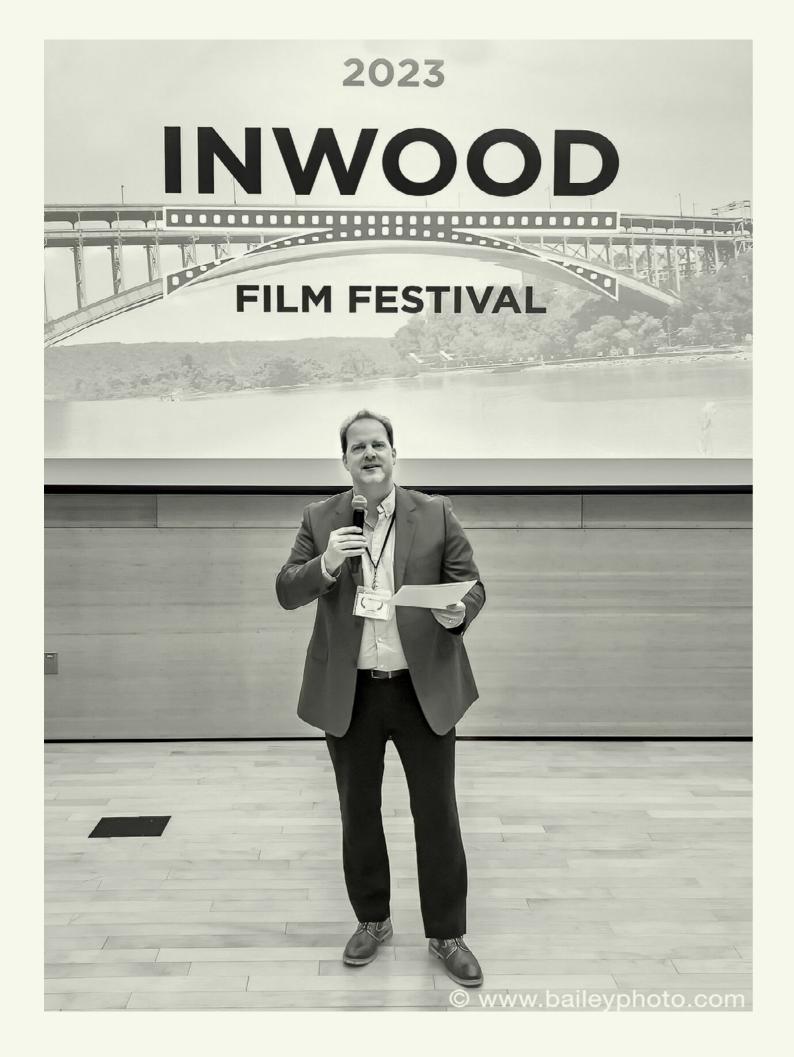
Simms

ADVISORY BOARD

Martin Collins, Natalie Espino, Eva Okada,

Tricia Ross

www.inwoodartworks.nyc 03 04 @InwoodArtWorks



Dear Friends,

The tale of Inwood Art Works 2023 season is one of artistic growth and solid financial achievements.

Hollywood came to Inwood, as two blockbusters bookended our 7th annual Inwood Film Festival at Columbia University's Campbell Sports Center from May 25-28 (page 7). The award winning film, The Whale, written by local resident Samuel D. Hunter, opened the festival to a sold-out crowd. After presenting twenty seven films in four days, the festival concluded with an exclusive free screening of The Greatest Beer Run Ever starring Zac Efron, as Inwood native, Chick Donahue. In addition, IAW continued its commitment to invest in our local artists by awarding a record amount of \$32,000 in funding to "green light" the projects of seven local filmmakers through our Filmmaker Fund (page 11).

From the top of Manhattan to the bottom of my heart, thank you.

Our **Film Works Alfresco** program returned to a strong reception by the community, with over 2,300 attending an exciting summer of bilingual cinema and live musical performances hosted by The Hudson at Dyckman Marina in Inwood Hill Park (page 15).

In addition to our in person programming, IAW proudly continued to foster online engagement with our weekly local, national, and international audience reaching **On Air** podcast for a 4th season (page 17); which for the first time, included the capture of three live chamber concert performances.

Speaking of live music, this year we presented five Community Concerts (page 19) featuring arrangements and new compositions performed by local classical and jazz musicians, and a world premiere Latin dance theater piece Oh! The Showgirl Life by local choreographer, Ximena Saldago.

Reflecting on our 2023 season, I'm most encouraged by the strong numbers in our ledgers due to an outpour of \$155,000 in individual giving by our local constituency (\$46,000 in FY22). This leap in support is a direct response to presenting, as one patron put it "an Inwood Film Festival for the ages," hyper-local weekly podcast programming, and the continued cultivation of in-person events with the expansion of our community concert series. One of our favorite elderly donors tells me at every concert, "This is a gift. I don't have to go downtown." With this guidance, IAW will continue finding creative ways to utilize local resources to bring people together, put our equity in local artists, cultivate our local arts community in Upper Manhattan, while investing in our capacity for more live performance opportunities.

From the top of Manhattan and the bottom of my heart, thank you. Your enthusiasm for our mission keeps us going, and I hope the following pages communicate "the gift" of our programming, and realize the impact IAW is making in our artistic community.

Aaron Simms

Founder and Executive Producer

Inwood Art Works

05

INWOOD FILM FESTIVAL

The Inwood Film Festival (IFF) completed its seventh annual festival May 25-28, 2023, at Columbia University's Campbell Sports Center. The festival opened with a special presentation of *The Whale*, with a post screening interview with Inwood-based screenwriter **Samuel D. Hunter** to a sold out house. To meet demand, the festival programming presented ten unique programs consisting of twenty-seven films and two pay-what-you-can seminars. Of the films presented, seventeen were world premieres. All films presented were made in the Inwood community or by local Inwood community filmmakers; 62% of which were created by those from historically underrepresented groups.

The seminars offered at the IFF addressed vital industry topics, such as "Contracts for the Indie Filmmaker" presented in partnership with **NY SAG-AFTRA** chapter, and "Budgeting for Filmmaking." The festival closed with a free screening of the Inwood-based blockbuster *The Greatest Beer Run Ever* followed by a post-screening discussion with the subject of the film, **John "Chickie" Donohue**, and the producer, **Andrew Muscato**. The in person festival drew a total attendance of 1,100, and the online extension of the festival (IFF+) engaged over one hundred viewers through June 8.

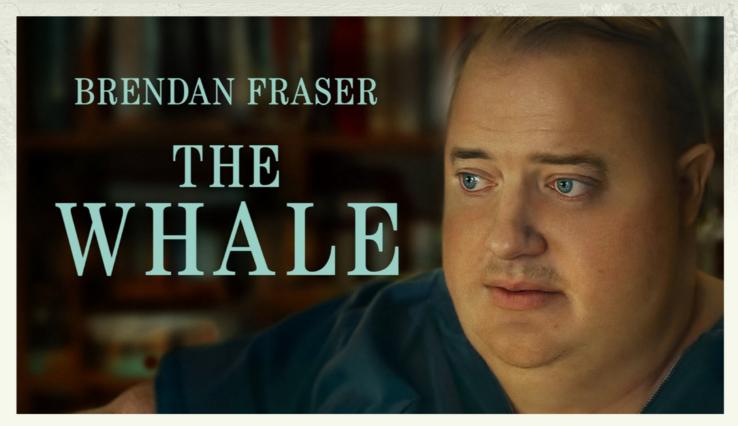
4 days | 10 events | 27 films | 17 world premieres 62% created by historically underrepresented filmmakers Over 1,100 in attendance

INWOOD

FILM FESTIVAL

OPENING NIGHT BENEFIT

Special feature presentation of the award-winning film **The Whale** with post screening conversation with screenwriter **Samuel D. Hunter**.



Enjoy delicious food from **Amores Café** and refreshments from **Dyckman Beer Company**.

May 25 | CAMPBELL SPORTS CENTER Broadway & 218 St, New York, NY

INWOOD FILM FESTIVAL

BY THE NUMBERS

+ Visitors

Films Presented

104 Women and Underrepresented Filmmakers

World Premieres

Volunteers

Unique Programs

Screenings

Grants to Local Filmmakers

Days of Professional Film

Student Films Presented

Educational Seminars

1 Vision Achieved for Celebrating and Showcasing Inwood and its surrounding community through the moving image



FILMMAKER FUND

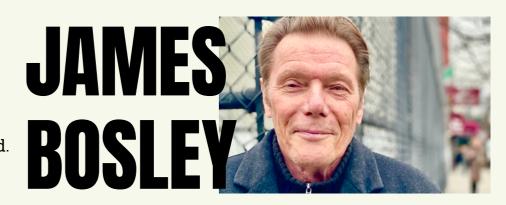
Congratulations to all the recipients of the **2023-24** Inwood Film Festival Filmmaker Fund. These are their stories that IAW is helping bring to the screen.

The Fund was created to financially support and encourage the creation of locally made **independent** cinema in the Inwood NYC community, which includes Inwood, Washington Heights, Harlem, Marble Hill, Kingsbridge, and Riverdale. Now in its **fifth** year, IAW "green lit" the visions of seven local filmmakers with awards totaling \$32,000 – a new record. This was possible thanks to an increase in individual giving specifically ear-marked to support the "fund."

This award not only functions as an unrestricted production grant for the creation of new work, this initiative funnels capital into our local artistic economy, providing over \$107,000 in grants to 32 local filmmakers. More than 70% of the grant money this year was awarded to women and minority filmmakers as part of our goal to reflect the diversity of New York City and the Uptown (Manhattan/Bronx) community in our programming.

Project Title: The Hessians and the Pastelito

A trio of Hessian Soldiers who have been living in the Hessian Hut behind Dyckman House since the Revolutionary War, venture out into modern day Inwood





Project Title: The Poet's Daughter

A little girl watches her brilliant, artistic mother battle with the subtle oppression of being a housewife in 1956.

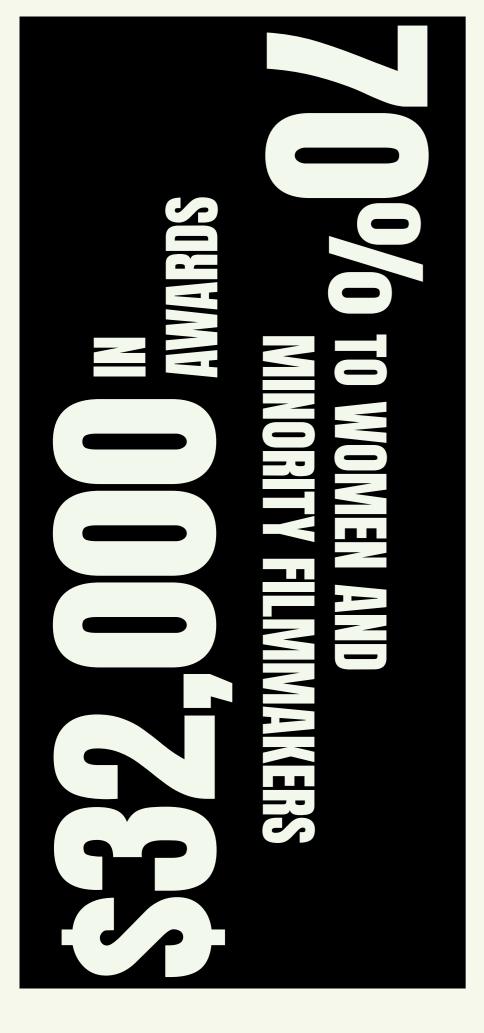
Project Title: Chapel

The multi-faith chapel in the JFK airport has a long and complicated history. It is both a beacon of American multiculturalism and an illuminating example of some of the troubles of public displays of religion and religious diversity within the United States.





www.inwoodartworks.nyc 11 12 @InwoodArtWorks





Project Title: WorkHomePlay

A story about two office employees who work in an office cubicle, which also happens to be their home. They navigate relationships in this hybrid environment as they face the closure of their work/home.

Project Title: December 1965

In 1960s New York, a young accountant is sent to audit a phony company. There, he quickly finds himself pulled into a political conspiracy, forcing him to reckon with the validity of the institutions he once trusted. Based on a true story from the director's grandfather.

MALCOLM QUINN SILVEI VAN METER



ARLERE SCHULMAN

Project Title: Keeping the Faith: Meet The Romaniotes

Keeping the Faith: Meet The Romaniotes, a documentary about tradition, identity and survival, takes a quirky look at one New York City community that's on the verge of vanishing.

Project Title: Ladylike

Two young society women disguise themselves as men to sneak into the Players Club to meet their hero, Sarah Bernhardt, on her 1911 visit to New York City. Inspired by a true event.





INWOOD ART WORKS FILM WORKS ALFRESCO

SERIE DE VERANO DE CINE AL AIRE LIBRE EN INGLÉS Y ESPAÑOL

Películas GRATIS TODOS LOS LUNES POR LA NOCHE | El Hudson

de junio a agosto al atardecer iPresentando un pre-show de artistas locales como entretenimiento previo al espectáculo!

Ubicado en la marina de Dyckman en Inwood Hill Park 348 Dyckman Street, NY NY 10034





JULIO

AUGOSTO



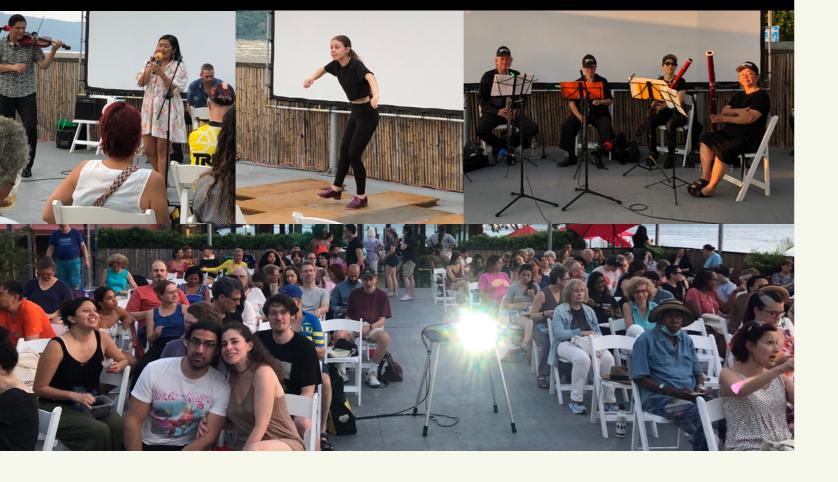








13 SCREENINGS | 2300 PEOPLE ATTENDED | 16% SENIORS | 18% KIDS | 36% LATINO



2023 SUMMARY

FILM WORKS **ALFRESO**

In 2023, Inwood Art Works presented its 6th season of Film Works Alfresco, which is the only free outdoor summer cinema series in New York City presenting English and Spanish language films. In a neighborhood bereft of a single movie theater, IAW presented a season of thirteen free screenings consecutively presented every Monday evening June through August at The Hudson in Dyckman Marina in Inwood Hill Park. This curated film series focuses foremost on presenting independent and popular films with local relevance that culturally resonate with the Northern Manhattan community. Not only does this English and Spanish language seasonal cinema series expand public access to professional filmmaking, it presents as diverse an array of films as the community it serves. As part of presenting a dynamic live event, Inwood Art Works employs local musical and theatrical artists and arts groups as live pre-show acts before each screening.

The majority of funding for this "free" \$70,000 program is underwritten by government support by the NEA, NYSCA, NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, discretionary funding by Councilmember Carmen De La Rosa, and the support of local small businesses. Less than 3% is given by walk-up donations.

In the 2023 summer season, over 2,300 people attended Film Works Alfresco. This matched our attendance goal from 2022. Categorically, of those who attended, there was a 19% growth in attendance by Latinos, a 4% increase from attendance by children, and 11% increase in engagement with our senior population. Our primary target audience was the residents of Inwood and Washington Heights who live in the zip codes of 10031, 10032, 10033, 10034, 10040.

www.inwoodartworks.nvc @InwoodArtWorks 15 16

The *On Air* podcast showcases film, stage, music, visual artists and writers from Inwood and neighboring communities. The programming consists of two featured segments: Artist Spotlight and Live N' Local. In Artist Spotlight segments we tell the stories of Inwood artists and creators recorded at beloved local haunts in the community. In Live N' Local segments, we provide an intimate platform to feature a live showcase of the talents of local musicians.

In 2023, we presented our **4th season** which published **45 podcasts**. IAW On Air is the only podcast which documents and champions the work of the Upper Manhattan and NW Bronx artists of our time, and creates a portrait of them for audiences to experience for free in audio and video formats.

Unique to this season we enhanced our On Air programming by capturing three chamber concert performances in their entirety as podcasts so they can live on for future audiences to enjoy.

57% of our episodes profile local artists from historically underrepresented backgrounds. New episodes aired in both audio and video formats to provide multiple access points to the program through major distribution platforms, such as Spotify and YouTube. New York City is the podcast's primary audience, with 5,021 local listeners and 5,092 viewers.

Subscribe wherever you get your podcasts and on Inwood Art Works You Tube channel at youtube.com/inwoodartworks.





Inwood Art Works ON AIR podcast presents a Who's Who of the multicultural artistic community who make their home in "Upstate Manhattan". Who do you know?





www.inwoodartworks.nyc 17 18 @InwoodArtWorks



Inwood Art Works' Community Concerts series was created with the intention to present world-class classical and contemporary music played, and sometimes composed, by local professional musicians. IAW believes professional musical artists are vital to the existence of the cultural landscape of Upper Manhattan and New York City. In commitment to this idea in 2023, we presented **five pay-what you-will concerts** to champion local professional musicians. However, by making it free for all, we also intend to create what has been a rare occurrence in our community: an accessible opportunity to experience the joy of a live musical performance.

COMMUNITY CONCERTS

We kicked off the season on January 28 with a *Hope* and *Healing Song Cycle* program at Our Savior's Atonement featuring The Mercury Chamber Players playing works from Ernest Bloch, Paul Hindemith, Dietrich Buxtehude, J.S. Bach, and a world premiere composition "Four American Songs" from the written and performed by **Paul Brantley**, cellist, with guests Steven Beck, piano and Ariadne Greif, soprano.

On Sunday, February 19, 2023 we presented **Rumbamena's** dance theater production of

CONTINUED

20

19

Oh, The Showgirl Life! The choreography and the rhinestones and feathered costumes carried the spirit of Rio's Carnaval through Good Shepherd Auditorium and had audiences on their feet.

On June 4, the Inwood Chamber Players performed a Mostly French concert at Good Shepherd Auditorium with arrangements by local resident, Gilbert Dejean at Good Shepherd Auditorium. Featured soloists included, violinist, Claudia Schaer on Antonin Dvorak's "Romance for Violin and Orchestra" and Serge Rachmaninoff's "Hungarian Dance" and harpist, Violetta Marie Norrie, performing Gabriel Pierne's "Concertstuck for Harp and Orchestra."

The Inwood Chamber Players bookended the summer

with *The Mighty Winds* on September 7 at Good Shepherd Auditorium. This concert featured an

IAW believes professional musical artists are vital to the existence of the cultural landscape of Upper Manhattan and New York City.

introduction to the instruments of the wind quintet in arrangements by **Gilbert Dejean**. The program included

600 in attendance 44% from historically underrepresented groups.

Georges Bizet's *Suite from Carmen*, Julius Fucik's *The Old Brown Bear*, and a rousing version of John Phillip Sousa's *The Liberty Bell March*.

On October 20, local composer **Charlie Kirchen** debuted a new experimental jazz sextet—**Schemes and Dreams**. Kirchen balances rigorous polyphonic craft alongside a deep respect for the registers of expression attainable through improvisation, all calibrated to get the most out of the remarkable acoustic environment

of the Church of Good Shepherd.

Building upon success of the previous year's Holiday
Concert, IAW presented the Double Entendre Music
Ensemble on December 3 to a standing-room-only
crowd in Good Shepherd Auditorium featuring a
performance of highlights from George Frideric
Handel's Messiah and Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's The
Nutcracker arranged by local resident, Gilbert Dejean.





Músicos de la de Cámara de Inwood

Con una presentación de música clásica popular de Gabriel Pierne, Claude Debussy, Gabriel Faure, John Phillip Sousa, Johannes Brahms, and Sergei Rachmaninoff arreglado de residente de Inwood, Gilbert Dejean.

Recepción con refrigerios y bebidas después de la actuación.

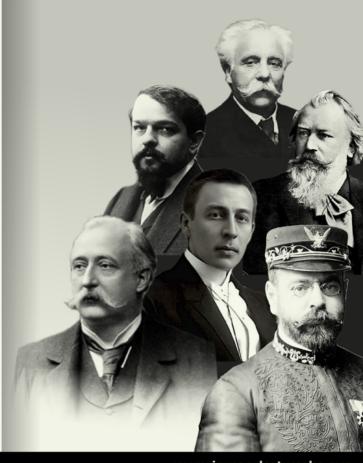
Domingo, 4 de Junio de 2023 - 2:00pm

Auditorio del Buen Pastor

620 Isham Street, New York, NY

Donación mínima sugerida de \$ 20 adultos y \$ 5 niños

Todo lo recaudado será para beneficio de la Escuela Buen Pastor



www.inwoodartworks.nyc

www.eixanopdleactomorks.nyc 21 22 @InwoodArtWorks

SPECIAL EVENTS

Fish Fry

Inwood Art Works in collaboration with Knights of Columbus St. Joseph Council 443 produced a community Fish Fry on February 24, 2024. Over 150 attended this popular annual event!



IAW connects community through the art of food, fun, and music.



Bourbon, Brews and Blues

Inwood Art Works presented a sensational evening of live blues music, smooth bourbon, and delightful wine & brews at our first Bourbon, Brews, and Blues fall fundraiser on Sunday, October 1 from 4-7pm at The Hudson at Dyckman Marina! Patrons enjoyed a premium Bourbon tasting, unlimited select craft beer

from Alternative Medicine Brewing Company and Dyckman Beer Co., delicious hors d'oeurves, and a live blues set by The Fabulous Faustones. Over 125 people came together for an unforgettable afternoon filled with great community vibes, delicious drinks, and fantastic tunes on the gorgeous Hudson River.

2023 BY THE NUMBERS

WORLD PREMIER CONTRACT THEATER

PRODUCTION

COMMUNITY CONCERTS

GRANTS TO LOCAL FILM-MAKERS TO GREENLIGHT

THEIR FILMS

WORLD PREMIERE FILMS

FILM WORKS ALFRESCO EVENTS

@InwoodArtWorks

23

DAYS OF FILM PRESENTED IN INWOOD

24

LIVE PERFORMANCES

45

ON AIR PODCASTS

69

UNIQUE PROGRAMS PRESENTED THIS YEAR

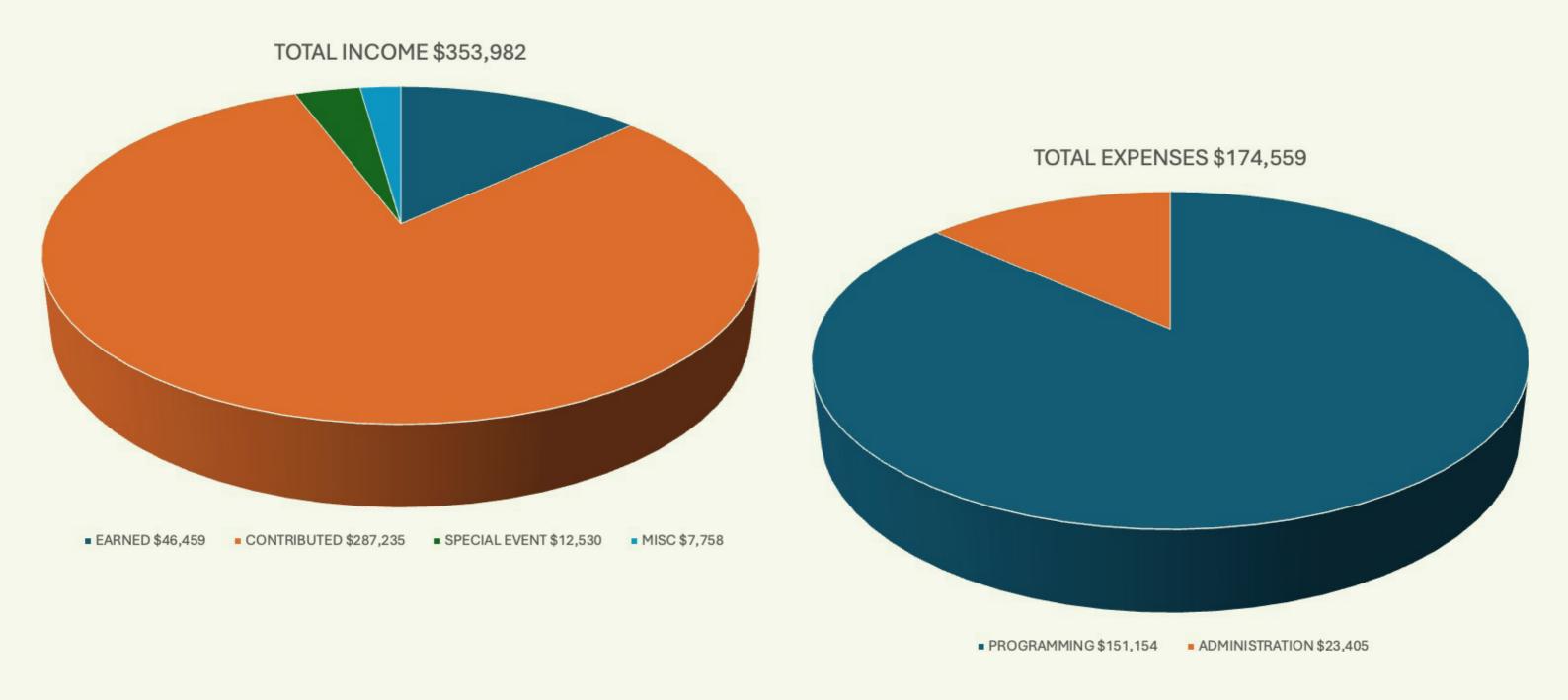
4,028

IN-PERSON AUDIENCE MEMBERS

19,226

ONLINE AUDIENCE MEMBERS

2023 FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN



SPONSORS IN

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GRATITUDE

To the following individual donors for their generous support:

Gail Addiss, John Affleck, Ching-Hua Chen, Joann and Stan Benson, Sujata Bharani, Tim Brown, Joseph Bruno, Emily C. Buckley, Elizabeth Amy Cambron, Jennifer Cameron, John P. Carrol, Vern Calhoun, Lonnie Cooper, Kevin Coughlin, Leslie Day, Gilbert Dejean, Carla DeVore, Jerry DeVore, Zammy Diaz, Clara Dolan, Dean M. Dolan, Elisa Dunn, Elephant Rock Foundation, Natalie Espino, Shana Farr, Kelly Jean Fitzsimmons, Elisa Gore, Regina Gradess, Claire Anne Gray, Marcy Gregory, Leon Grayson, Elizabeth Haggerty, Rebecca Hall, Tom Hall, Jamie Hamilton, Steven Hansen, Billy Hart, Amelia Haywood, Delena Cambron Hardaway, George Hermann, Christopher Hickens, Sloka Iyengar, Andrea Janz, Eric Jensen, Ethan David Kent, Rebecca Klein, Edward Kneafsy, Gene Lefebvre, Roxana Lehman-Haupt, Brian Lehrer, Marcos Lopez, Tony Lopez, Gregory Marcy, Peter Marino, James McCormick, Mary McCune, John McDermott, Edward McTiernan, David Mold, Shawn Moore, The Gates & Barbara Moss Foundation, Carole Guss Mulligan, Daniel Mulligan, Jim Mutton, Deborah Nabavian, Victoria Nahorn, James Noyes, Tom Okada, Gordon Ostrowski, Skye Pape, Allison Simms Parmiter, Janet Parmiter, Ingrid Price, Kavita Ramdas, Sharon Razor, Don Rice, Mary Richman, Elizabeth Ritter, Wend Roig, Tricia Ross, Erin Brooke Roth, Patrick Saling, Nelly Saviñon, Darlene Scheer, Sandra Alisa Schein, Anne Schlomer, Jessica Schulte, Mary Shannon, John Sheridan, Mary Sheridan, Allison Simms, Debby Simms, Matt Simms, Jon and Jeanine Simon, Karin Sokolove, Jonathan Spencer, Ann Sprayregen, Jonathan Spencer, Barbara Taff, Wade Trefethen, Gina Verdi, Lucy Ogburn Weaver, Ryan Wedig, Brannan Whitehead, Greg Wilson & Kristin Price-Wilson, Bob Windbeil, Tony & Katie Wright, Alison Yu, and many anonymous but no less impactful donors!

To our community corporate sponsors:

Chamber of Commerce of Washington Heights and Inwood, ChocNYC, Columbia University, Evydent Dentistry, Grandpa's Pizza, Inwood Farm, Josie's Beauty Center and Spa, New York-Presbyterian Allen Hospital, New Heights Realty, Ray's Barber Shop, Serrano Salsa, The Medical Center Neighborhood Fund, Tryon Public House, Tubby Hook Tavern, UPS Store Dyckman & Broadway, Uptown Movement, Washington Heights Inwood Business Improvement District (WHBID).

To our government supporters:

Manhattan Borough President, Mark Levine, New York State Assemblymember, Manny De Los Santos, New York State Senator, Robert Jackson, New York City Councilmember Carmen De La Rosa, New York City Council, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, New York State Council on the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Arts.







29

Inwood Art Works is a 501(c)(3) not for-profit arts organization. Contributions can be made online at inwoodartworks.nyc/support/donate-now/ or addressed to: "Inwood Art Works" | 97 Park Terrace West | New York, NY 10034.

For more information on how you get involved and support our mission contact aaron@inwoodartworks.nyc.



















































