

Annual Report FY25

Wiregrass Museum of Art

10/1/24 - 9/30/25



Art Elevates the Everyday



On behalf of the Board of Trustees and staff of the Wiregrass Museum of Art, we are pleased to present the Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Report, highlighting the museum's work from October 2024 through September 2025. Throughout the year, WMA delivers a dynamic schedule of arts programs for audiences of all ages, from toddlers to seniors. These programs foster creativity, spark innovation, and strengthen the cultural fabric of the Wiregrass region. As a vital gathering place for learning, connection, and artistic exchange, WMA continues to nurture meaningful experiences that enrich our entire community. In this report, we are proud to share the museum's impact over the past year and the ways in which our exhibitions, educational initiatives and community partnerships advance our mission.

Thank you for your continued support of WMA and for helping us make the Wiregrass a vibrant place to live, work, and learn.

Dana-Marie Lemmer
Executive Director

Dan Johnson
President, WMA Board of Trustees

Education and Lifelong Learning

WMA is a welcoming place for children, families, and newcomers to gather. With 312 days of activity at WMA during the year, the museum’s extensive programs are designed to cultivate lifelong learning and meaningful social connection at all ages, from toddlers to seniors.



80
tours

1,750
students participated in tours

388
adults participated in tours

31
public, private, and home schools



Tours and School Partnerships

School partnerships and art education at WMA foster creativity and critical thinking in students, offering meaningful, curriculum-connected experiences that spark a lifelong appreciation for the arts. At the same time, our adult tours emphasize wellbeing, reflection, and connection, creating space for visitors of every age and ability to engage with art in ways that support personal growth. Together, these student-centered and wellbeing-focused tours reflect WMA’s commitment to lifelong learning—guided by staff, volunteers, and trained docents who ensure that every visitor can learn from and enjoy the museum’s galleries and studios.

Youth Art Month

Youth Art Month at WMA celebrates the creativity and talent of young artists across the Wiregrass region. Each March, the museum showcases hundreds of student artworks, highlighting the vital role that arts education plays in developing imagination, confidence, and community pride.

874

students submitted artwork

155

works were showcased

23

public schools, 8 private schools, 2 homeschools and local art teachers from seven counties participated, including the Alabama School for the Blind and the DoDEA Americas Southeast District



Design/Build Challenge: Students Shaping Public Space

WMA's second annual Art and Design Challenge brought together area designers, architects, educators, and students from Dothan Technology Center for an immersive, design/build public art project that mirrors real-world creative practice. Students from multiple disciplines — including graphic arts, engineering, and construction — worked collaboratively to move a concept from initial sketches to a fully realized public artwork. Juniors and seniors received hands-on mentorship from local artists and industry professionals as they refined their designs, fabricated components, and executed on-site installation in partnership with Parks Chapel AME Church.

This year's project, *Celestial Haven*, demonstrates how art, design, and technical skill can strengthen community by creating spaces of beauty, hope, and opportunity in District 2. Installed at 1053 East Selma Street, the piece will remain in place for the next one to three years and serves as a catalyst for broader revitalization efforts in the area, including future public art installations and planned park improvements.



Community Outreach

WMA strengthens its work through strategic partnerships that expand access to the arts and deepen community impact. Collaborations with schools, youth-serving organizations, and health and wellness partners allow the museum to bring creative learning beyond its walls—supporting youth development, social-emotional learning, and programs that promote mental and physical wellbeing. These partnerships ensure that WMA's educational and outreach initiatives remain responsive to community needs while advancing the museum's mission to improve quality of life across the Wiregrass.

2,424

people served through outreach partnerships.

18

partner organizations

1,812

free art kits distributed to families during summer outreach and through little art supply libraries



All About Art

25

works acquired for the permanent collection

130

artists supported through exhibitions and programs

11

exhibitions

Exhibitions

Enduring Images: Highlights from the Permanent Collection

Beyond the Horizon: Landscapes from the Permanent Collection

Form in Motion: Sculpture from the Permanent Collection

In Focus: Portraits from the Permanent Collection

Helen Keller Art Show of Alabama

Sarah Painter Hayes: Florida Girls

Denise Treizman: Hard Yes, Soft Excess

Vitus Shell: Life of the Party

Adding Layers: WMA Studio Artists

Constructions: Contemporary Fiber

Youth Art Month



Acquired Works

Fandra Chang, American, born Taiwan, 1964
Red, 1990
 Acrylic and fiber on wood panel
 Gift of Scott Miller, 2025.8

Fandra Chang, American, born Taiwan, 1964
Slot, 2002
 Acrylic and fiber on wood panel
 Gift of Scott Miller, 2025.9

Clayton Colvin, American, born 1976
Rumors, 2018
 Acrylic and ink on linen on wood
 Gift of Guido and Magali Maus in honor of Clayton Colvin, 2025.24

Jen Dwyer, American, born 1988
Michelle, 2021
 Ceramics, glitter, enamel paint, rhinestone gems
 Gift of Tina Ruggieri, 2025.4

John Knuth, American, born 1978
Heavy Atmosphere, 2014
 Gouache, watercolor/flyspeck and acrylic on canvas
 Gift of Tina Ruggieri, 2025.2

John Knuth, American, born 1978
 Untitled, 2014
 Gouache, watercolor/flyspeck and acrylic on canvas
 Gift of Tina Ruggieri, 2025.3

Michael Mason, American, 1896 – 1963
Ten Lithographs, 1940 - 1960
 Lithograph
 Gift of Dr. Bill Mason and Mr. Bob Scharfenstein, 2025.14-23

Seth McBride, American
 Untitled, ca. 2003
 Digital print on canvas
 Gift of Scott Miller, 2025.11

Jill Moser, American, born 1956
Port of Egypt, 1997
 Oil on canvas
 Gift of Scott Miller, 2025.5

Jill Moser, American, born 1956
SR 1, ca. 2000
 Casein on paper
 Gift of Scott Miller, 2025.6

Jill Moser, American, born 1956
 Untitled, 1999
 Casein and ink on paper
 Gift of Scott Miller, 2025.7

Kelsie Rudolph, American, born 1990
Stripey Jar, 2019
 Ceramic, glaze
 Gift of Tina Ruggieri, 2025.10

Emily Stollery, British, born 1996
 Untitled (Neon Purple), 2020
 Foam and concrete and pigment
 Gift of Tina Ruggieri, 2025.12

Emily Stollery, British, born 1996
 Untitled (Neon Blue), 2020
 Foam and concrete and pigment
 Gift of Tina Ruggieri, 2025.13

Lawrence Weiner, American, 1942 - 2021
A Simple Vector, 2012
 Color silkscreen print
 Gift of Tina Ruggieri, 2025.1

Yvonne Wells, American, born 1939
Sewing Patriotism, 2024
 Serigraph
 Anonymous gift in honor of Margaret Lynne Ausfeld, Jan Barrett and Paul Barrett, Jr, Caroline Cargo, Rebecca and Jack Drake, Ryan Morgan and Amy Harries, and Becky M. Patterson, 2025.25



Public Programs and Events

WMA's public programs and special events, like Art After Hours, Write Night, the Pumpkin Patch Family Art Festival, and the Sip n' Series have drawn thousands of attendees, creating opportunities for community connection and cultural engagement. With over 200 events and programs hosted throughout the year, WMA is a lively hub where art, creativity, and community come together to inspire and entertain.

3,111

event and program attendees

229

happenings



Cultural Tourism and Economic Impact

In FY25, WMA welcomed visitors from across Dothan, the Wiregrass, and well beyond, reflecting the museum's growing role as both a cultural anchor and a regional destination.

Museums like WMA contribute significantly to cultural vitality by fostering creativity, sparking curiosity, and offering spaces where diverse communities can connect through shared experiences. This broad and engaged visitation also supports local economic development, as cultural institutions draw travelers, encourage spending in surrounding businesses, and enhance the overall quality of life in the region. Through its exhibitions, programs, and partnerships, WMA continues to play a meaningful role in strengthening both the cultural and economic landscape of the Wiregrass.

19,346

people served

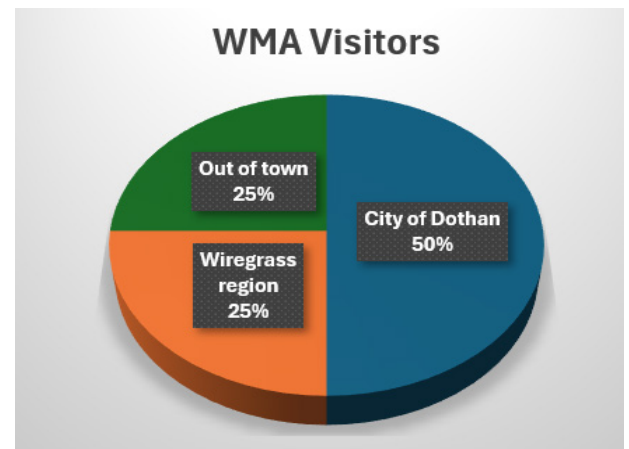
1,196,620.90

contributed to the local economy

visitors came from

31

 states, England, and Holland



50% of WMA visitors are from the City of Dothan, 25% from the Wiregrass and 25% are from out of town

Annual Financial Summary

Earned Income	39,307.65
Contributed Income	708,371.78
Restricted Income / Capital	1,000,000.00
Investments/ other income	67,025.84
Total Income	1,814,705.27
Operating Expenses	719,385.92
Net Income	1,095,319.35



The Year Ahead

Looking ahead, WMA is embracing a bold vision for the future—one that expands the museum’s capacity to serve the public in new and transformative ways. Plans for a new, state-of-the-art museum facility will create innovative gallery spaces, studios, and community gathering areas that reflect the growing needs of the Wiregrass region. Pursuing national accreditation will further elevate WMA’s standards of excellence, strengthen professional practice, and deepen public trust. Together, these strategic priorities position the museum to broaden its reach, enhance educational offerings, and deliver impactful cultural experiences that inspire and empower future generations.



Support

WMA's works diligently to advocate for the role of art in the Wiregrass community, and faithfully stewards contributions which help to advance the museum's mission and vision. Support from The City of Dothan, Houston County Commission, Visit Dothan, corporate and individual memberships and donations, and grantmaking organizations gave a foundation of support for WMA to sustain annual arts programming, plan for the future, and respond to needs in the community as they arise.



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Walmart

Pumpkin Patch

20/20 Eyecare
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Sweet Home Alabama, AL Tourism Dept.
Wiregrass Electric Cooperative
Coca Cola Bottling Company, Dothan

Student Design Challenge

Tyndall Federal Credit Union

Youth Art Month

Dothan Pediatric Dentistry
Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce
Gosselin Architecture
Publix Supermarkets Charities
The Caring Foundation Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama

Summer Outreach & Scholarships

Wiregrass Foundation

Grants

Alabama State Council on the Arts

Art and Design Challenge \$5,100

Operating Grant \$27,500

Alabama Tourism Department Legislative Grants

The Pumpkin Patch Family Art Festival Representative Paul Lee's office- \$2,600

Senator Donnie Chesteen's office- \$3,900

Southeast Alabama Community Foundation-\$3,000 for First Saturday Family Day

Southeast Alabama Community Foundation

\$1,000,000 Capital Campaign

The Daniel Foundation -\$40,000 challenge grant for operating support

Windgate Foundation-\$15,000 for Bus on Us and School Tours 2023-25

Windgate Foundation-\$8,715 Rapid Response Grant

Wiregrass Foundation-\$10,000 for summer outreach programs

Donations

Gifts of \$5000 - up

Susan and Leslie Blumberg

Gifts of \$1,000 - \$4,999

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Collins and Scott Trott

Donations cont..

Gifts of \$250-\$499

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Sam and Jeannie Maddox in memory of Glenda Wheelless

Joan McDonald

Calencia Perry in memory of Patricia "Pumpkin" Johnson

David Wade

Gifts of \$100-\$249

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Charles McPeak

Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine Arts in Medicine Club

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Destiny Oliver

Myrian and Roy Owen in memory of Mike Owen

Sandra Spengler

Dr. Steven and Angela Stokes

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Student \$20

Grant Monaghan
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Jada Talton
Evelyn Whiddon



WMA Volunteers

Heartfelt thank you to 134 volunteers for contributing more than 604.75 hours of service to the museum's mission.

Addison Alonzo
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Taylor Barron
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Leah Bilal
Kim Bowen
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Maribel Wright
Kaye Yearta



Mission + Vision

The Wiregrass Museum of Art inspires a lifelong appreciation for the visual arts by providing innovative educational programs that engage diverse audiences through the collection and exhibition of quality works.

As a cultural anchor, the Wiregrass Museum of Art inspires creativity to enhance the everyday lives of its community and leads the regional conversation on the importance of the arts.

Core Values

Power of Art / Inspiration / Creativity

We believe in the transformative experience of art and are dedicated to providing our audience with exceptional experiences of direct contact with unique objects and works of art through access to our collections and diverse exhibition schedule. These works of art are at the core of the museum's identity.

Integrity

We believe that we are accountable for the care and preservation of the collections and all objects entrusted to us. We stand for our values in making difficult decisions and will maintain accountability to our donors through good stewardship of donations and generous giving.

Excellence and Leadership/Professionalis

We believe in treating all visitors and colleagues with respect and will strive for best practices in all we do. Creative expression is central to how we plan, teach, and face adversity.

Excellence in Education

We believe in a welcoming environment for all to learn. We will provide life-changing educational experiences through research and direct interactions with visual art. We will encourage lifelong learning and a diverse student body to express new and challenging ideas at every age.

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