

## Metropolitan Atlanta Arts Fund

Created in 1992 as a partnership of The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta and the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, the Arts Fund supports small to mid-sized metro Atlanta arts organizations through sizable annual grants and programs that strengthen their business and financial operations. The three primary programs of the Arts Fund are:

### Arts Stabilization Grant Program:

- providing major grants for to strengthen arts organizations with annual operating budgets under \$2 million
- Total grant awards in 2008: \$500,000
- 130 grants totaling \$5.6 million to 62 Atlanta area arts organizations
- Grant awarded up to \$150,000 over three years
- Average grant size overall: \$43,009
- Average grant size 2008: \$83,333

### Arts Stabilization Toolbox:

- Partnership with Georgia Center for Nonprofits, providing management consulting packages
- Since 2001, 78 Toolbox awards to 51 organizations with a total investment of \$503,475
- Average Toolbox award cost: \$7,795

### Arts Loan Fund:

- Created in 2003 to provide loan financing for small and medium-sized art groups experiencing short term cash flow shortages
- 13 loans have been issued totaling \$228,000. Six of the 13 have been made in the last 12 months.
- Currently, three loans are outstanding. To date there have been no defaults.

**Current endowment:** \$6 million

### Beneficiaries:

In 16 annual grant cycles completed since the Fund became operational, a total of 130 grants totaling \$5.6 million have been given to 62 Atlanta area arts organizations. They include: **7 Stages**, Academy Theatre, Actor's Express, Arts Clayton, ART Station, Alternate ROOTS, Art Papers, Atlanta Boy Choir, Atlanta Celebrates Photography, Atlanta Coalition of Performing Arts, The Atlanta Contemporary Art Center, Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus, **Atlanta Lyric Theatre**, Museum of Design / Atlanta, Atlanta Shakespeare Company, Atlanta Young Singers of Callanwolde, Ballethnic Dance Company, The Callanwolde Foundation, Cobb Symphony Orchestra, Conyers/Rockdale Council for the Arts, Cultural Arts Council of Douglasville/Douglas County, Dad's Garage, Dancer's Collective, DeKalb Symphony Orchestra, Full Radius Dance, Gainesville Ballet, The Georgia Ballet, Georgia Ensemble Theatre, Georgia Shakespeare, Gwinnett Ballet Theatre, Gwinnett Fine Arts Center, Gwinnett Philharmonic,

**Hammonds House Museum**, Horizon Theatre, **IMAGE Film & Video**, Jomandi Productions, Madison/Morgan Cultural Center, Marietta/Cobb Museum of Art, **Micheal O'Neal Singers**, Moving in the Spirit, Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia, Neighborhood Playhouse, Northeast Atlanta Ballet Ensemble, Out of Hand Theater, Pandean Players, PushPush Theatre, Radio Free Georgia Broadcasting

(WRFG), Several Dancers Core, Soapstone Center for the Arts, Soweto Street Beat Dance Theatre, Spruill Center for the Arts, Synchronicity Performance Group, Tell Tale Theatre, Theatre Gael, Theatre In The Square, Theatrical Outfit, True Colors Theatre Company, VSA arts of Georgia, Walton County Music Guild, **William Breman Jewish Heritage Museum** and Youth Ensemble of Atlanta. (2008 recipients are in bold face.)

Through the Stabilization Toolbox Award, the Arts Fund has supported 51 organizations with 78 Toolbox awards. Many of these awards mark the first time the organization has received support from the Arts Fund. The organizations who have received a Toolbox but have not received a grant include: ARCH Productions, Art Within, Cherokee Council for the Arts, Fly-By Theatre, Georgia Lawyers for the Arts, Georgia Young Singers, Imagine It! The Children's Museum, Metropolitan Ballet Theatre, New Arts Exchange, Ocee Arts Center, Orchestra Atlanta, Ruth Mitchell Dance Theatre, Steffen Thomas Museum and The Wren's Nest.

### **Governance:**

The Fund's Advisory Board, appointed by the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, oversees all activities. Its grant and policy recommendations are reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors of The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta. The Advisory Board includes arts, community, and business leaders.

### **2009 Arts Fund Advisory Board:**

Carol B. Tomé, Chair, *The Home Depot*

Andrea Barnwell Brownlee, *Spelman College Museum of Fine Art*

Barry Berlin, *Atlantic Trust*

Kenny Blank, *Atlanta Jewish Film Festival*

Ron Brill, *The Home Depot, retired*

John Burd, *Brenau University, retired*

Susana Chavez, *Parking Company of America*

Lynda Courts, *Community Volunteer*

Mark Goldman, *Community Volunteer*

Mira Hirsch, *Artist and Educator*

John Lambert, *KPMG*

Camille Love, *City of Atlanta, Office of Cultural Affairs*

Shirley Mitchell, *Bank of America*

Veronica Njoku, *Fulton County Arts Council*

Karen Webster Parks, *Community Volunteer*

M. Kasim Reed, *Holland & Knight LLP*

Jan Smith, *GE Energy*

Bahnsen Stanley, *Ellis, McQuary & Stanley*

Mark Williamson, *Alston & Bird*

Lesley Grady (ex officio), *The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta*

Rob Hollis (ex officio), *The Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce*