



# ANNUAL REPORT



*Cover image: Ceramic mask created by a participant in  
Clayworks' Culture Blocks program at Hickory Grove Library*

**2018-2019**

## MISSION

Clayworks is a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of ceramic arts, advancement of artists and students, and enrichment of the communities it serves.

## VISION

Clayworks engages, enriches, and inspires diverse populations in the discovery, creation, and celebration of the ceramic arts.

## IMPACT STATEMENT

Clayworks is a leader in the field of ceramic arts, providing its students and artists unparalleled access to top-quality facilities, equipment, and instruction. It provides robust arts education programming, centered on hands-on experiences with clay, to diverse populations across Mecklenburg County with many programs at low cost, or no cost, to the participant. Clayworks enriches its community by helping individuals reach their potential for creativity and personal growth, and connecting people from a variety of backgrounds through shared values.

## Letter From Our Executive Director

2018-2019 was an extraordinary year of continued growth and expansion for Clayworks. We developed a robust strategic plan to help guide the organization forward. Now in the first year of our five-year plan, Clayworks aspires to double our impact on our community by enhancing our support for students and artists who want to build their creative skills and expanding the role of Clayworks as a community resource dedicated to enriching lives. The goals of this initiative are: to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of current programs; to expand access to existing programs to more people; to broaden our reach to audiences of need; to increase opportunities for learning, creativity, inspiration and collaboration among ceramic artists, students, and community members; and to expand opportunities to collect, own, and gift ceramic art.

Doubling the Impact will be a multi-faceted approach that allows us to touch many lives in every corner of our community. Associated with each of the broad initiatives above are projects that we intend to pursue after additional analysis and design, ensuring we have the right resources and capacity for success. Currently, the ability to undertake these projects is constrained by limitations in our staff capacity, our operating funds, and our investment in capital assets.

Over the past five years, Clayworks has experienced tremendous growth in participation in our programs. With this growth we have added new staff positions to support the organization including a Community Engagement Coordinator, Administrative Assistant, and a Technical Assistant. We have re-organized our studio and office space to improve efficiency.

Clayworks is a major provider for the Arts and Science Council's Culture Blocks program. Funded by Mecklenburg County, this program supports cultural experiences that are planned with input from the community and take place at libraries, recreation centers, parks, and relevant community spaces. In addition, over the past five years, we have supported community programs with grants from the NC Arts Council, the Charlotte Lesbian and Gay Fund, BB&T, Wells Fargo, Knight Foundation, Speedway Children's Charities and private foundations. Overall, our Community Engagement programs involved individuals more than 12,000 times last year.

In 2019, Clayworks was awarded a second grant from the Women's Impact Fund in the amount \$70,000 to purchase an additional Mudmobile van and provide 90 sessions of enrichment classes to support our Community Engagement work throughout Mecklenburg County. It is an honor to be recognized again by the Women's Impact Fund. Clayworks is the first organization to receive this grant twice in the Arts and Culture category by WIF.

The first Clayworks Mudmobile was out almost every day last year, transporting the necessary equipment and materials to partners across the county in order to share the joys of working with the ceramic medium. The arrival of the second van in July 2019 provided capacity and flexibility for expanding work in the community. People of all ages, abilities, and interests had their hands in clay.

Now, more than ever, we are poised to grow, doubling our impact within the community we serve. You can help us make a difference by contributing to Clayworks to reach more schools, more community partners, and more participants within Mecklenburg County. Your donation helps us continue our presence in the lives of individuals across our community. Clayworks is making an impact in the community we serve. Thank you to our talented staff, our instructors, teaching artists, dedicated board members, and our generous supporters! With your enthusiasm and generosity, Clayworks can Double the Impact.

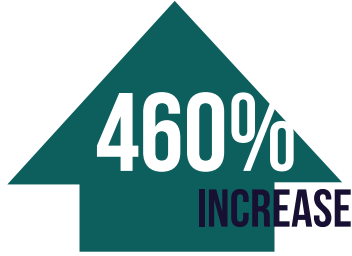
**Adrienne Dellinger, Executive Director**

# Growth in Clayworks Programing

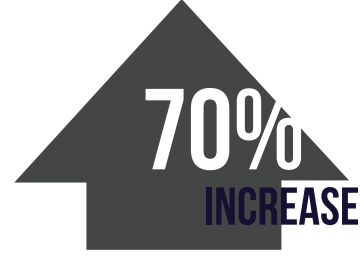
Youth Community  
Engagement Programs  
2014-2019



Adult Community  
Engagement Programs  
2014-2019



Regular Adult and  
Youth Programing  
2014-2019



## DURING FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019



334

Off-site Community  
Engagement Programs

THAT'S



6.4  
Programs per Week

83 Programs  
across



24

Schools

An average of...

32 

Participants

1.7 

Instructors

Per program

# double THE IMPACT

Through our Double the Impact campaign, Clayworks will extend the reach of our programming to more audiences of need, bringing our recognized healing power, enhanced mindfulness, and other positive impacts to participants.

## HELP CLAYWORKS DOUBLE THE IMPACT IN CHARLOTTE. YOUR CONTRIBUTION REACHES PEOPLE THROUGHOUT OUR COMMUNITY AND ENRICHES:

- Economically disadvantaged children
- Seniors
- At-risk LGBTQ youth
- Developmentally disabled persons
- and many other groups

Clayworks brings the magic of clay to people young and old in Charlotte through innovative community engagement programs, our mobile studio, classes for children and adults, studio space for professional ceramic artists, and exceptional teaching artists

Double The Impact is a commitment to provide enhanced opportunities for learning, creativity, inspiration, and collaboration among ceramic artists, students, and community members.



## Great Teachers Make a Difference



### DANIELLE CARELOCK: A TEACHER'S PERSPECTIVE WORKING WITH STUDENTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

I get to know several of my students on a personal level, but the pair that I have gotten to know the most is Byron and his helper, Paulette.

Early Tuesday mornings they're both working away before class, creating a variety of work. Prior to this year, Byron was never really keen on the idea of touching the clay or making very much. However, he has since opened up more to making. Paulette, his helper, would do most of the making and he'd usually sit beside her watching and reading. After a full year of being in my class, Paulette was able to get Byron to make something, which was so fulfilling to see and be a small part of. She was able to get him to not only touch the clay, but participate long enough to get two hand prints to make his mom a votive wall sconce!

It's been a journey to get to that point and it hasn't been easy for either of them. There are some days that are quite difficult for Byron. Occasionally, he will have seizures in class, but Paulette always makes sure that he's safe and is able to come out of them without any injury.

Having both Byron and Paulette in my class has made us connected and has allowed me to grow as a teacher and as a human being. Paulette has given me a great deal of advice about my older brother, who has Down syndrome and the needs that he has and will have. Byron has also brought me so much joy and being able to watch his growth and development over such a short period of time has been just incredible to see. He is resilient, smart, kind, and incredibly patient, all the things we should aspire to be. I couldn't have ever expected such a relationship to form with students of mine, but I am eternally grateful that it did and that I have been able to share this past year of life with each of them.



### JEN BOURNE, AND HER FATHER SAM

Community member, Jen Bourne, reached out to us this year to share the story of how Clayworks has touched her family through the Culture Blocks program at the Hickory Grove Library. Jen first started attending classes alone and eventually brought her three children and her father, who has stage 6 dementia. She told us, *"Your staff always makes us feel welcome. We are treated with kindness, compassion and respect. The most heartbreaking part of my father's disease has been to know that anyone he meets now will never know or see the incredible work he did for families, people with disabilities, and those suffering in his community. They will only know his deficits. This reality has fostered a deep gratitude*

*for community initiatives and individuals who serve disabled populations. It is so important for my dad to have access to opportunities to create, feel safe, and do what he can... you have helped open a closed door, and keep the lights on for my dad. I will always be full of gratitude for the gift of sitting at a table with my dad and my daughter, and having 'muddy fun.'"*

### KIRA CAMPBELL, INSTRUCTOR

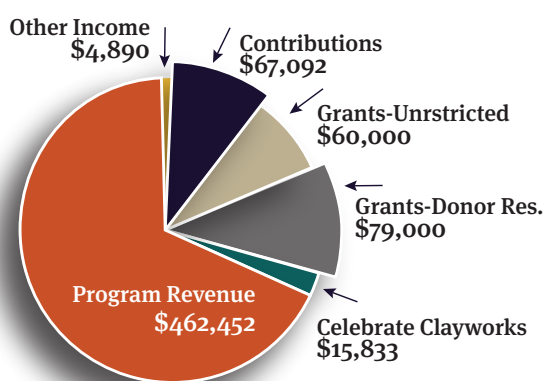
Working at Time Out Youth (TOY) for Clayworks allowed me to see the true power of ceramics. At TOY, clay was a catalyst for the exchange of ideas, creativity, and emotional expression. What stands out to me is not so much the individual artifacts that were created, but the spirit of camaraderie, the welcoming atmosphere, and dialogue facilitated by the medium of clay. In many spaces, the youth I worked with at TOY feel ostracized and unwelcome. Working with clay, in a safe and welcoming space, I often saw connections made at a visceral level.

I remember a young man, just 14, developing a rapport with an older college-aged participant. They shared that they were scared of the clay because they didn't want to make "bad" art. I reassured them that there was no such thing as bad art and talked with them to lessen their fear. Gradually, their conversation blossomed. They worked and talked—trading newly discovered textures and ways of forming their work—while forging a connection. At the end of the session, they had both made figurative sculptures that were unique and honest. Their joy at what they had accomplished was contagious and affirming.

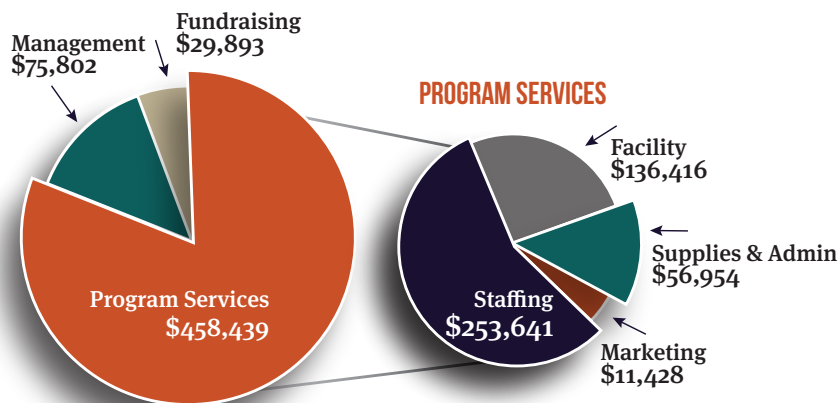
The most powerful part of making art is not the art itself, but the process of making. When Clayworks takes clay into spaces like TOY, we become part of the process, making experiences that transcend the objects made.

# Financial Highlights

## CLAYWORKS REVENUE



## CLAYWORKS EXPENSES



## 2019 YEAR-END BALANCE SHEET

Operating Cash	\$123,345
Cash-Restricted by Donor	\$79,769
Reserves-Restricted by Board	\$120,212
Other Current Assets	\$28,993
Noncurrent Assets	
Property & Equipment, net	\$1,013,170
Investments (scholarship fund)	\$44,433
Other Assets	\$1,500
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$1,411,422</b>
Current Liabilities	\$99,362
Long Term Debt	\$469,146
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$568,508</b>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$842,914</b>

# Donors 2018-2019

Clayworks gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the following donors who made gifts between July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019.

\* indicates 5+ years of consecutive giving

\*\* indicates 10+ years of consecutive giving

† Indicates Memorial Gift, in memory of Jean Davis Eagle

## PORCELAIN (\$1,000 AND ABOVE)

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Premier Healthcare Solutions Inc.  
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Wells Fargo Community Support Program  
Women's Impact Fund

## CELEBRATE CLAYWORKS! 2019 SPONSORS

Clayworks gratefully acknowledges the following donors who made the inaugural Celebrate Clayworks! annual event possible.

## PRESENTING SPONSOR (\$2,500)

Wells Fargo

## PORCELAIN (\$1,000)

Dorothea L. West  
Ascent Real Estate Partners

## HOST (\$500)

Pam Davis & Steve Carroll  
Barbara Laughlin  
Edwin Rasberry  
Greer Walker, CPA

## INDIVIDUAL (\$250)

Jacqueline Howell  
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Janet & Lowell Nelson  
Kathryn Preyer



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Culture For All.

