

MICA

MERCER ISLAND CENTER FOR THE ARTS

2015 ANNUAL REPORT: A SENSE OF PLACE



Art Brings Us Together.

“ It’s time for Mercer Island to have a year-round central gathering place for its citizens of all ages and abilities, and it’s time to nurture both the artists and the audience. ”

– Nancy Stewart, singer-songwriter and longtime member of the Mercer Island Community

Mercer Island Center for the Arts

P.O. Box 1702 | Mercer Island, WA 98040

Office: 7710 SE 29th Street, Mercer Island

MERCERISLANDARTS.ORG | 206.715.7671

MICA RESIDENT ARTS GROUPS & USERS

Youth Theatre Northwest | Children’s Dance Conservatory

Island Youth Ballet | Music Works NW | Musical Mind Studio

Russian Chamber Music Foundation | Mercer Island Visual Arts League

The City of Mercer Island | Mercer Island Farmers Market



MICA: A TREASURE FOR GENERATIONS.

Welcome to the first annual report for the Mercer Island Center for the Arts.

A remarkable group of your fellow citizens have volunteered their time and money to create a beautiful new home for theater, music, dance and the visual arts on the Island. It will also be the permanent home of Youth Theatre Northwest and the thousands of children it serves. The design for MICA began with an inventory of the needs and desires of our artists and arts educators, students, parents, and all Islanders who care about art and culture. Its spaces are carefully calibrated in size and scope to serve the cultural and educational needs of our community now and in the future. It replaces the abandoned recycling center, revitalizes Mercerdale Park, and will bring new life and focus to the Town Center.

A complex undertaking like MICA is an ongoing process of making the best plans possible and responding creatively to issues as they develop. We've been helped by an outstanding team of design, engineering, construction, and arts management professionals. We want to continue to hear from you. We invite you to join us, and become a Friend of MICA. This is our moment to create a treasure for all generations, that will be here for generations.

John Gordon Hill
President/Board Chair

The MICA Board of Directors is a group of 15 community volunteers who represent significant professional experience and community service in finance, legal, construction, fundraising, nonprofit and arts management, and provide the leadership for the project. The founding board held its inaugural meeting on March 15, 2014.

John Gordon Hill, President/Board Chair
Producer/Director/Cinematographer, Hill Film, Inc.
Board of Trustees, Cornish College of the Arts

Joshua Rosenstein, Vice President
Partner, Hanson Baker Law Firm

Peter Hutt, Treasurer
Director of Finance, Nordstrom

Dirk van der Burch, Comptroller
Retired Principal Actuary, Milliman & Robertson
Former Mercer Island School Board Member

Anna Gordon, Chair, Advancement
Management Consultant; Managing Director,
Systems Operations, Alaska Airlines - Retired

Ralph Bufano, Director
Museum & Non-profit Consultant
Former Executive Director, Museum of Flight

Bernel Goldberg, Director
General Counsel, Seattle Symphony

Virl Hill, Director
Director, Strategic Partnerships,
Entertainment & Video, Microsoft

Markus Kunz, Director
Executive Director, Teatro ZinZanni

Patty Lazarus, Director
Former Microsoft, Published Author

Bruce C. Lorig, Director
Founder, Lorig Associates,
Development and Real Estate Services

Pradyumna K. Misra, Director
Social Venture Partner, Entrepreneur,
Former Microsoft

Ben Pariser, Director
Entrepreneur, Real Estate Development and Construction

Sue Sherwood, Director
Broker, Coldwell Banker Bain Real Estate

Vijay Vashee, Director
Retired Microsoft

“ In the darkest days, we turn to music and art for light and hope. — Unknown ”

“One of the things that I have observed over the years is that a majority of the athletes I coach are also involved in our community’s artistic offerings. We are fortunate to have access to excellent parks and athletic facilities for our boys and girls sports teams to practice and compete on. I believe Mercer Island Center for the Arts is an opportunity to provide a similarly excellent facility for our youth to pursue their artistic endeavors.”

- Toby Suhm, 23 year MI resident, Coach and President Mercer Island FC (youth soccer)

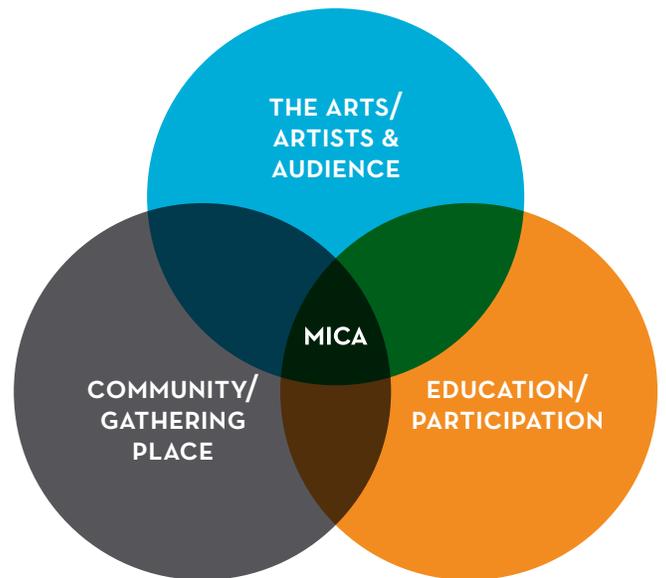
ART BRINGS US TOGETHER

Art defines and binds us together as a community and a civilization. It is an essential element in brain development. Habits of creativity and flights of imagination are at the heart of all human achievement. Experiencing the great art of our own time and ages past is the foundation for a rich and meaningful life.

Mercer Island Center for the Arts stands as a focal point for creating and experiencing art in all its forms.

- » It will benefit all from preschoolers to seniors.
- » It will redefine our town center, focusing and nourishing our social and economic life.

This is our time. This is our legacy. Supporting the Mercer Island Center for the Arts is that rare opportunity to help give birth to a new institution that will shape the cultural life of our community for generations to come.



MICA's mission lives in the union of the arts, community, and education.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR MERCER ISLAND CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Life-to-Date as of 12.31.15

Over the first two years of MICA's existence, a majority of our disbursements have related to the study, planning, and design of the arts facility with emphases on the resident artists and long term operational sustainability. These expenditures were in line with our overall \$25 million project budget. Disbursements were covered by early donations leaving a comfortable level of liquidity for the organization as we enter 2016. MICA has raised over \$5 million in cash and pledges - more than enough to fund preconstruction expenses.

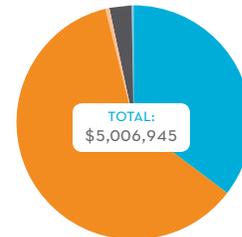
Contributed income for unrestricted operating activity came from individual donors, corporate matching gifts and in-kind support. A relatively small amount of our pledges are restricted – contingent upon MICA securing a lease or other milestones.

Creating urgency for the 2016 capital campaign is the increasing costs of construction in the Seattle area, which has been increasing at ~4% per annum.

Peter Hutt, *Treasurer* Dirk van der Burch, *Comptroller*

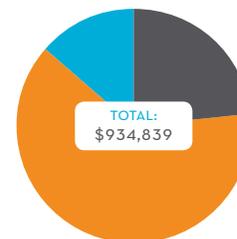
Mercer Island Center for the Arts is a nonprofit organization, Federal Tax ID#46-4319988. NTEE Category: Arts, Culture and Humanities. All gifts to MICA are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. MICA is registered with Washington State's Charities Program as required by law, and additional information is available by calling 800-332-4483 or visiting www.sos.wa.gov/charities.

REVENUE



● INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED	\$1,774,538
● INDIVIDUAL PLEDGES OUTSTANDING	\$3,038,273
● IN KIND GIFTS	\$30,935
● GRANTS	\$161,818
● OTHER	\$1,381

EXPENSES



● ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE	\$220,716
● PLANNING & DESIGN	\$587,712
● FUND RAISING EXPENSE	\$126,411



Sharon Perez
Capital Campaign Director



Jami Cairnes
Office Administrator

FUNDRAISING AND THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR MICA

MICA is ready for the next phase of the Capital Campaign and is under the able leadership of Mercer Island resident and experienced fundraising professional, Sharon Perez, Capital Campaign Director; Jami Cairnes, MICA Office Administrator; and a Campaign Planning Committee of 12 community members. MICA has hired a national fundraising consulting firm, Collins Group, a division of Campbell & Company, to conduct a campaign planning study to help solicit input from the community regarding support for the MICA vision and plans. We welcome and invite your input in the process. Please send us your comments, or let us know if you would like to meet and visit in person. Email info@MercerIslandArts.org or call us at 206-715-7671.

“On behalf of the board of directors, I share our great appreciation to our early donors and supporters for securing the funding to cover all the operational costs of the project planning and capital campaign. We look forward to kicking off the next phase of the capital campaign with full community participation.”

— Anna Gordon, 17 year MI resident, MICA Advancement Committee Chair and Mercer Island Farmers Market, Board President.



FRIENDS OF MICA

You can support MICA today - Join the founding group of Friends of MICA.

The generous support of the Mercer Island community, and especially the Friends of MICA, donors, and partners enables:

- » **Operational support** to fund the Mercer Island Arts Calendar, community outreach, special events and community programs, and the conception and design of a Center for the Arts on Mercer Island
- » **A home** for the many distinguished and valued Mercer Island artists and arts groups to exhibit and perform their work
- » **Arts performance spaces** for concerts, recitals, classes, performances, and art exhibitions
- » **Community venues** for special events, Farmers Market, Summer Celebration, public restrooms, and emergency shelter

ALL FRIENDS OF MICA RECEIVE:

- » Friend of MICA static sticker for car or window
- » Monthly e-newsletter with inside scoop on MICA programs, project updates, and events
- » Invitations to events, including annual Friends of MICA meeting
- » Invitation to annual Friends of MICA appreciation event
- » Recognition in MICA Annual Report

FRIENDS OF MICA SUPPORT LEVELS:

ARTS CIRCLE	FRIENDS
\$1000 Patron	\$40 Family
\$500 Advocate	\$25 Individual
\$100 Enthusiast	\$20 Senior
	\$20 Artist / Educator
	\$15 Student

Businesses, not-for-profit groups, and arts organizations can also be FRIENDS OF MICA

FRIENDS OF MICA PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVE:

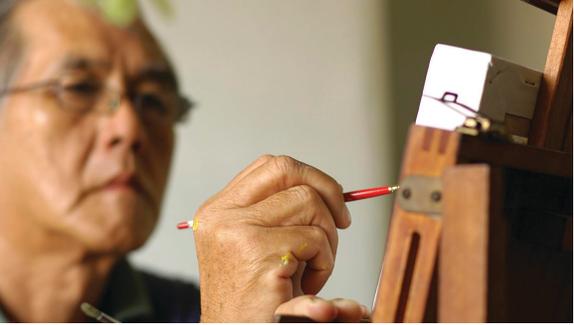
- » Friend of MICA static sticker for public display
- » Named recognition on MICA website
- » Monthly e-newsletter with inside scoop on MICA programs, project updates, and events
- » Invitations to events, including annual Friends of MICA meeting
- » Invitation to annual Friends of MICA appreciation event
- » Recognition in MICA Annual Report

FRIENDS OF MICA PARTNER ORGANIZATION SUPPORT LEVELS:

- \$150 Professional Partner
- \$100 Community Not-for-Profit Partner
- \$ 50 Arts Organization Partner



*I support Mercer Island Center for the Arts and want to be a Friend of MICA:
Return the enclosed envelope, or become a Friend at MERCERISLANDARTS.ORG/FRIENDS*



MICA will provide activities for preschoolers to seniors, providing a home to art classes, lecture series, demonstrations, travelogues, and film presentations. The facility will also be an accessible space for the exhibition of visual arts.

MEET MICA'S RESIDENT USERS

YOUTH THEATRE NORTHWEST nurtures the intellectual, artistic and personal development of children and youth through drama, education, performing opportunities and live theatre experience. Founded in 1984, YTN has served tens of thousands of children and provided high-quality performances for hundreds of thousands of audience members. For many young students and audience members, YTN is their first exposure to the performing arts. Both a theatre and a school, YTN provides a wide range of dynamic classes and programs serving up to 2,000 children (ages 3-18) per year.

CHILDREN'S DANCE CONSERVATORY/ISLAND YOUTH BALLET provides the best classical ballet training possible. Annual performances offer students the opportunity to have pleasurable and inspiring experiences that only the stage experience can offer. Classical ballet is a precise physical art. Today's training reflects an even greater use of the knowledge gathered from the exercise sciences such as kinesiology, biomechanics and proprioceptive awareness to provide the highest possible teaching and training standards.

MUSICAL MIND STUDIO offers a warm and creative environment with encouragement and training, helping all ages become thinking musicians who enjoy music for life. The studio specializes in working with children with Autism, ADD, ADHD, and other conditions using a creative approach of teaching that works best for the child. Musical Mind believes that music is a joy and music lessons should be fun.

MUSIC WORKS NORTHWEST is dedicated to providing accessible music education and experiences, regardless of financial means. Since 1966, Music Works has served thousands of students with music instruction, free concerts, and a vibrant music therapy program. Last year over 3,000 people attended free concerts at Music Works, and hundreds of public school music students participated in free music classes at their schools, provided by Music Works.

RUSSIAN CHAMBER MUSIC FOUNDATION brings the best of Russian classical music to American audiences. RCMF presents concerts and recitals by major international artists and sponsors festivals and competitions for children and young adults. Outreach programs in schools increases the diversity in their music programs. RCMF has also partnered with the prestigious Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center in New York among others.

MERCER ISLAND VISUAL ARTS LEAGUE (MIVAL) has been involved for more than 50 years creating community through the visual arts. MIVAL welcomes all artists, all mediums, and all levels of interest. Monthly meetings with guest speakers are held each month. Special art shows such as Summer Celebration, Junior Art Show, and the Holiday Show as well as MIVAL Gallery, support all artists and their endeavors.

AND THE BEST OF THE NORTHWEST

Strategically located between Seattle and the Eastside, MICA has generated a lot of enthusiasm among some of the finest arts organizations in the region. Groups that have expressed interest in performing at MICA include ACT Theater, The Seattle Shakespeare Company, Book-It Repertory Theater, Seattle Symphony, Teatro ZinZanni, Pacific Musicworks, Byron Schenkman & Friends, and many others. MICA will bring the best of the arts to Mercer Island.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

According to *ArtsFund*, the activity of nonprofit cultural organizations and their patrons in King, Kitsap, Pierce and Snohomish Counties generated \$2.4 billion in the Washington State economy and created 35,376 jobs, \$996 million in labor income and \$105 million in taxes. Locally, Edmonds, Kirkland, Bainbridge Island, and especially Issaquah have experienced major positive economic impact on their town centers as a result of new cultural facilities. Mercer Island's town center is ripe for the focus, energy, and economic revitalization that MICA is poised to bring.

LOCATION

In 2013, a City task force determined that the best location for an Arts Center was the city-owned land adjacent to the northwest corner of Mercerdale Park on the site of the abandoned recycling center and surrounding area. MICA will not interfere with any current park activities and will remain outside the walking path. MICA will provide facility support for the Farmers Market, Summer Celebration, the Mostly Music in the Park series, and other community events.



THE FACILITY

MICA's plan and scope was developed in close consultation with its users to include a three-theater complex for the presentation of plays, musicals, dance, concerts, recitals, lectures, films, and visual art. The plans are for a 300-seat Main Stage, 100-seat Recital Studio, 100-seat Theater Lab, classrooms, studios, meetings, office space and community gathering space.

The facility will be owned and operated by the non-profit organization Mercer Island Center for the Arts. The land will continue to be owned by the City of Mercer Island and leased to MICA for the purpose of presenting arts and cultural events and activities for the community. MICA will oversee all use and upkeep of the facility and coordinating space/event scheduling.

Currently estimated construction costs are \$18-20 million and overall campaign costs around \$25 million. The proposed lease with the City lists specific benefits MICA will provide to the City and the public, and requires MICA to pay all operating costs. The City must approve MICA's design, parking plan, operating plan and budget, and issue building permits, and MICA must have financial commitments to cover all of the construction costs and a construction performance bond before construction begins.

The facility design is led by some of the region's pre-eminent architects / urban designers. Lesley Bain, FAIA, LEED AP, (Theatre Commons, Seattle Center, Seattle Rep Additions) is a nationally recognized member of the AIA's College of Fellows, and is a native and current resident of Mercer Island. Owen Richards, AIA, LEED AP, (McCaw Hall, Chihuly Garden and Glass) brings design experience of more than 20 performing arts and cultural facilities. Adam Shalleck, AIA, Theater Designer, will lead systems planning and design for all the technical areas. Michael Yantis, Acoustical Engineer and Design, P.E. will provide full acoustical engineering services. OLIN, landscape architects, (Bryant Park, Getty Museum) will bring beautiful and environmentally sensitive landscaping to MICA.

A SUSTAINABLE OPERATIONAL MODEL

MICA's operating projections were built from the bottom up by the global arts and entertainment expert, AMS Planning and Research, in consultation with MICA resident users. Multiple venues and resident users diversify the revenue streams and arts education provides a major portion of the revenue model. The pro forma uses the industry best practices, conservative estimates, and annual contributed income well within the expected range for a community arts venue.

MORE INFORMATION AND YOUR THOUGHTS

We have created several resources to provide answers and detailed information and updates on the conception and planning for MICA:

- » Visit [MERCERISLANDARTS.ORG/FAQ](https://mercerislandarts.org/faq) for project updates and specific information on frequently asked questions.
- » You can also send your questions to askMICA@mercerislandarts.org or just stop by our Mercer Island office at 7710 SE 29th St.
- » The new year will bring more opportunities for community feedback and involvement. We invite you to participate in creating the cultural heart of our community with your input, participation, and support as a Friend of MICA.

MICA

MERCER ISLAND CENTER FOR THE ARTS

P.O. Box 1702, Mercer Island, WA 98040

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Become a Friend of MICA today - use the enclosed envelope or visit:
MERCERISLANDARTS.ORG/FRIENDS

Ladies and Gentlemen...we are proud to announce the new

MERCER ISLAND ARTS CALENDAR

A listing and resource for all the arts activities on Mercer Island. We're lucky to have many talented artists living and producing in our community. We also have visiting artists and events that come right to us each month. Let us be your guide to enjoying the arts on Mercer Island.

Visit mercerislandarts.org/calendar for a schedule and information on events and shows.

MERCERISLANDARTS.ORG/CALENDAR



Image Credit: Matt Brashears/Special To Mercer Island Reporter

MERCERISLANDARTS.ORG

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