Program Mission

University of Iowa Arts Share continues the long tradition of sharing arts resources at The University of Iowa with the greater Iowa community. Through outreach efforts in collaboration with the Division of Performing Arts (Music, Dance, Theatre Arts), the School of Art and Art History, and the Iowa Writers’ Workshop, it is the goal of Arts Share to strengthen the arts, providing access to life-enriching arts experiences throughout Iowa.

Arts Share has coordinated events in 82 of Iowa’s 99 counties, including many rural and diverse communities, and it is our goal to reach all counties in Iowa. Each academic year, over 300 events are coordinated through Arts Share, serving over 10,000 people. Workshops and performances take place in K-12 schools, community colleges, libraries, museums, hospitals, retirement homes, and performance venues. We find that once an organization discovers Arts Share, they often utilize the program year after year.

Brief History

The University of Iowa established Arts Share in the summer of 1995 to continue the arts education outreach efforts that had been in existence for nearly twenty years under the auspices of the former Arts Education and Outreach Program. In 2015 Arts Share moved from the Division of Performing Arts to the Provost’s Office of Outreach and Engagement. This was for a couple’s reasons: First, Arts Share had received Better Futures for Iowans funding in 2013 from the Provost’s office and expanded significantly due to that grant, and second, Arts Share began to partner with more programs, such as the Iowa Initiative and Sustainable Communities and the Grant Wood Art Colony, that have similar missions and goals.

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