

MILTON ARTISTS' GUILD



Annual Report June 1, 2025-May 31, 2026



ABOUT THE GUILD

The Milton Artists' Guild (MAG) was established in 1988 by a group of artists in Milton, Vermont looking for a creative community with whom to share their passion. The group met in living rooms and studios, and put on shows and exhibits all over Milton and the neighboring area. With annual shows and membership consistently growing, the group decided it was time to evolve and officially gained non-profit status in 2011.

In 2017, MAG opened its 6,000+ square feet of retail gallery space at 199 US Route-7 South in the plaza behind the Milton Post Office. MAG showcases the work of over 100+ artists and has become a hub for the arts in Milton and the state. MAG features both permanent and rotating exhibits, as well as a workshop space.

MISSION AND VISION

Since the organization began, MAG has grown into a gallery that not only supports its artists but the local community as a whole. Our mission as a non-profit organization is to make art accessible to all people, promote artistic expression, and support the creative economy. We strive to make our communities more beautiful. We bring people joy through art by establishing a hub for all artists to experiment and create at all skill levels and in any way they like. MAG believes art is for all!

THE TEAM

The Staff

Shea Harvie | Gallery Director

Kat Licata | Gallery Attendant

Lena Wagner | Gallery Attendant

Lorraine Manley | Volunteer Curator

The Board

Kelli Shepherd | President

AJ Murray | Secretary

Jo Daly | Treasurer

Matt Wolf | Director

Julie Jones | Director

*Our thanks to former staff members
Evan Kennedy, Sylvia Oblak, Judy
Hayes, and Corrina Thurston for their
work at MAG during 2025 and 2026.*



NOTE FROM THE BOARD

As we reflect on this past year at the Milton Artists' Guild, we are filled with both gratitude and pride for what we continue to build together. Our mission to provide accessible, meaningful arts programming for our community remains at the heart of everything we do, and this year has been a powerful reminder of just how impactful that work can be.

This year also marked a meaningful period of transition. Throughout the fall and winter, we took a thoughtful look at how we operate and made important changes to strengthen the organization for the future. We restructured our membership program to better align with non-profit best practices, implemented systems to improve efficiency and transparency, and were intentional in designing programming that prioritized low and no-cost access for our community. We also rekindled partnerships that had lapsed, recognizing that collaboration is essential to expanding our reach and impact. Each of these efforts was grounded in our commitment to supporting our artists, serving our community, and advancing our mission.



NOTE FROM THE BOARD (CON'T)

None of this work would be possible without the generosity of our supporters and the dedication of our volunteers, instructors, and board members. Their commitment allows us to provide materials and instruction at no cost, ensuring that financial barriers do not stand in the way of creative expression.

It is an honor to serve on the Board of this organization, and we are continually inspired by the passion, resilience, and creativity that define the Milton Artists' Guild. Thank you for being part of this work and for helping us make the arts accessible to all.

Sincerely,
The Board of Directors
Milton Artists' Guild



2025 PARTNERS

Georgia Rest Area
Hannaford
Lake Champlain Chamber
Maquam Winery
Milton Elementary School
Milton Family Community Center
Milton High School
Milton Historical Society
Milton Middle School
Milton PTA
Milton Public Library
Milton Recreation & Parks
Milton Town Hall
M&T Charitable Foundation
Paul, Frank & Collins
Phoenix Books
Pomerleau Real Estate
The Nest Cafe
Vermont Arts Council
Vermont Community Foundation
Vermont Federal Credit Union
Vermont Public
Williston Rest Area
Vermont Suzuki Youth Violinists



Art credit: Milton Inclusion Festival (top)
Community Glow Workshop (middle)
Milton Middle School (bottom)

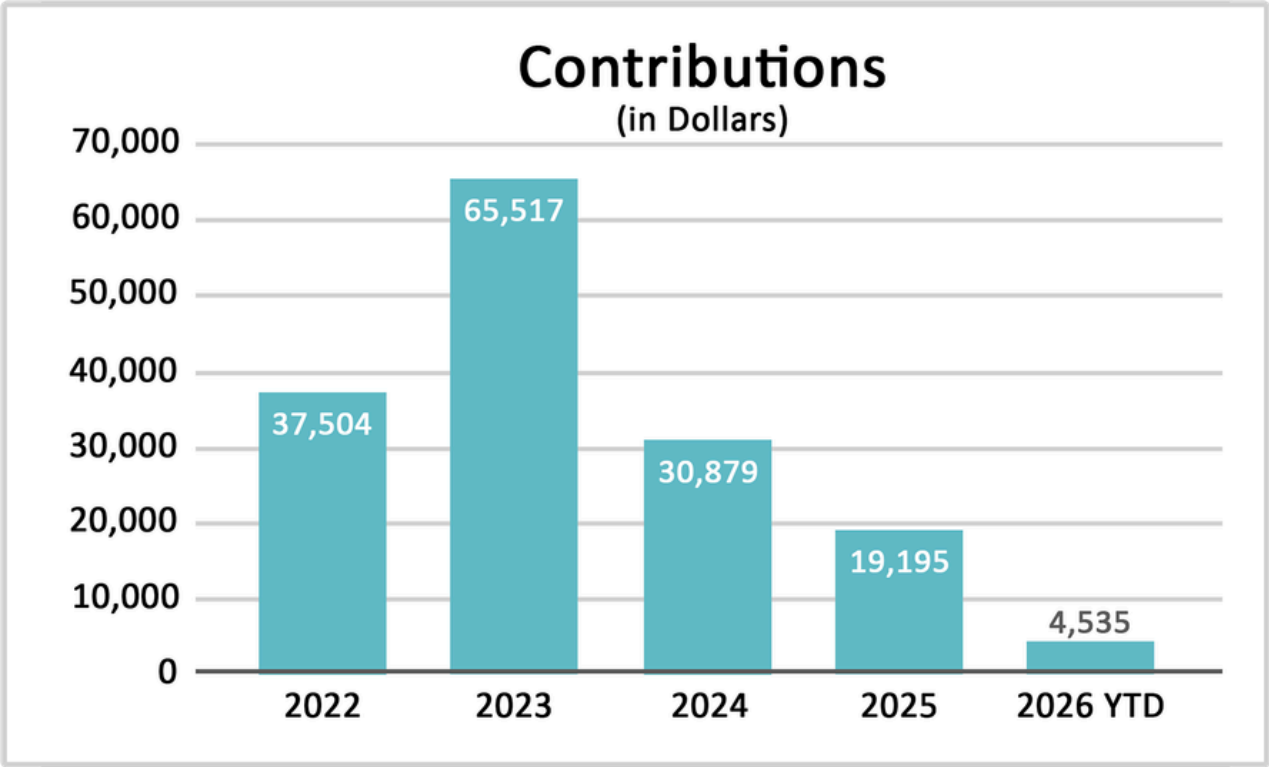
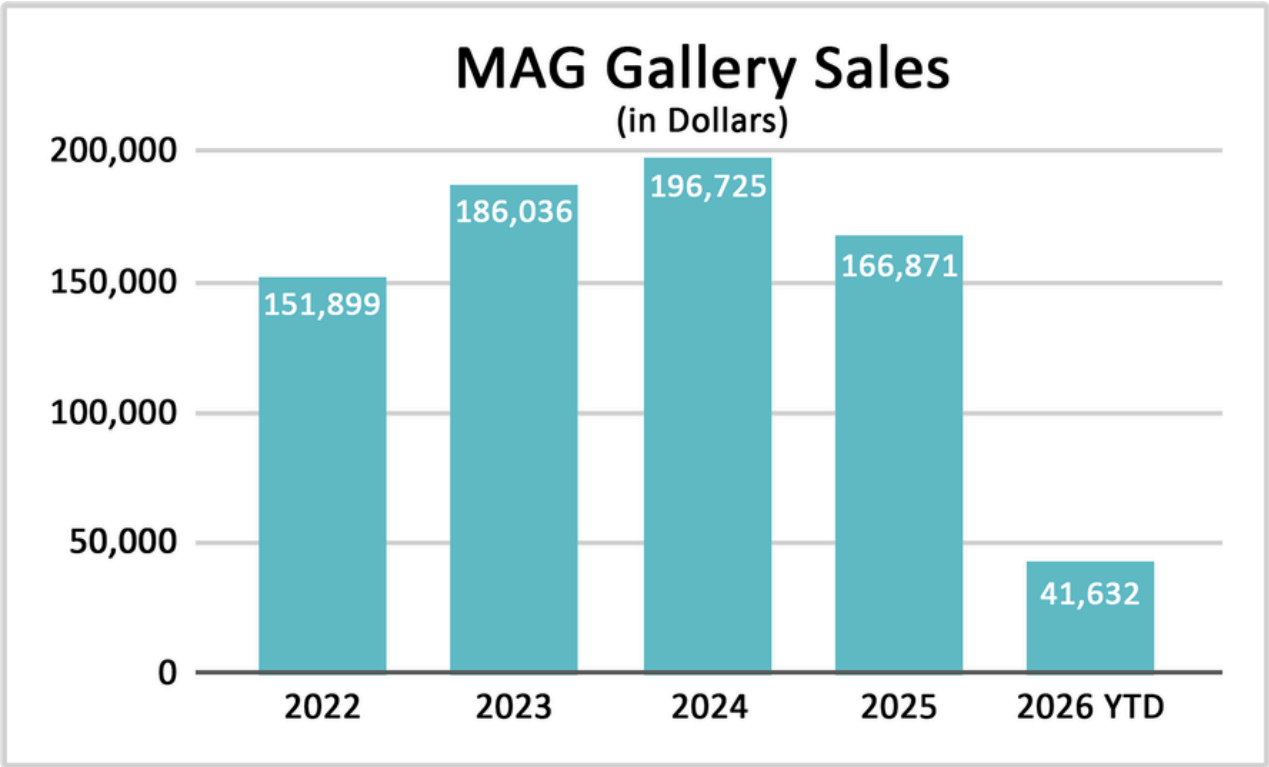


REVENUE & EXPENSES

Revenue (June 1-May 31)	2024-'25	2025-'26
Membership	\$27,758	\$21,371
Grants & Fundraising	\$31,954	\$19,057
Contributions	\$33,884	\$20,175
Art Center Sales & Programs	\$197,772	\$175,630
TOTAL	\$291,368	\$236,233

Expenses (June 1-May 31)	2024-'25	2025-'26
Building/Maintenance	\$9,504	\$10,886
Payroll	\$134,470	\$82,265
Operating Expenses	\$11,190	\$13,613
Fundraising Expenses	\$6,292	\$5,668
Art Center & Programs	\$165,508	\$124,390
TOTAL	\$326,964	\$246,822
NET GAIN/LOSS	-\$35,596	-\$10,589

REVENUE & EXPENSES (CON'T)



The 2026 data is from January 1 through May 31.



PROGRAMS & WORKSHOPS

Creative Arts

- Belly Dance Veil Workshop
- Live Model Figure Drawing
- Intro to Quilting
- Needle Felting
- Crochet Classes
- Beginner and Advanced Drawing classes
- Seasonal Zentangle classes
- Paint & Sip classes
- Beginner and Advanced Watercolor classes
- Colored Pencil on Wood Earrings
- Intro to Photography (free)
- Blackout Poetry
- Resin Ocean Wave Charcuterie Board
- Acrylic Pour Painting
- Ink and Resin Christmas Ornaments
- Mixed Media Pumpkins
- Acrylic Paintings on Wood
- Beginner Pastels
- Impasto Oil Painting

Kids and Families

- Gingerbread Creation Station
- Kindness and Cookies: A Valentine Celebration
- Stories in Motion (free)
- Community Glow Workshop: Create a Paper Lantern for the Milton Winter Festival (free)

Professional Development

- From Manuscript to Marketplace
- Craft Fairs 101
- Brushstrokes & Hashtags (free)
- Understanding Your Business Finances (free)

Programs

- Cantonese Club
- Queer Art Club
- Social Sundays
- Yarn & Yak

EVENTS & FUNDRAISERS

Art & Craft Supply Sale

2025 Art & Stroll Festival

The 21st Annual ArtFest

Jingle Bills 50/50 Raffle

Mini Masterpieces
Silent Auction

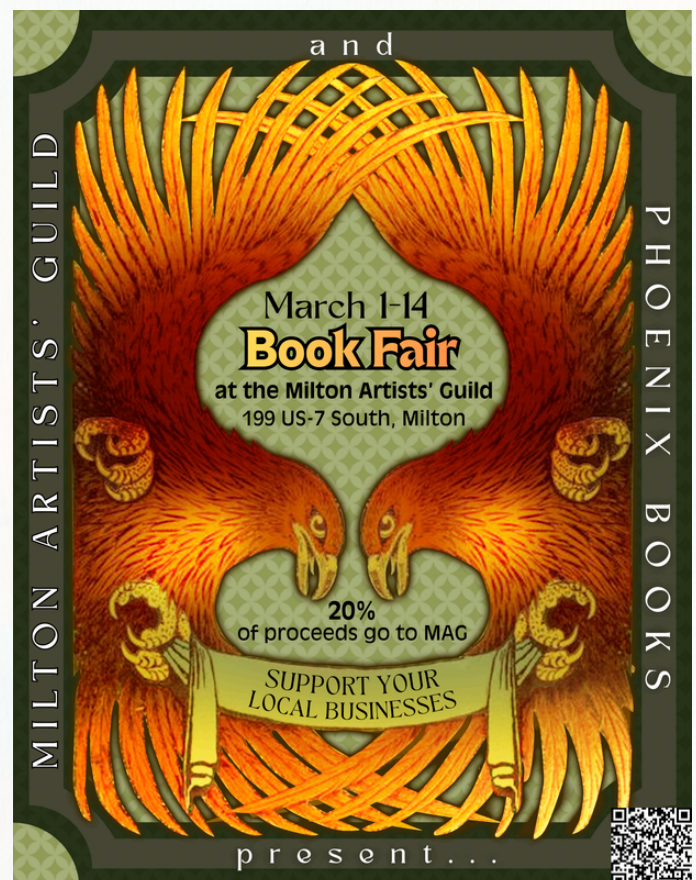
The Phoenix Books & Milton
Artists' Guild Book Fair

9th Anniversary Party

Spring Open Studio Weekend

Plant Sale

Quarterly Raffle Table



Art credit; The 2026 Plant Sale (top)
The Phoenix Books and Milton
Artists' Guild Book Fair (bottom)

GRANTS

Vermont Community Foundation Social Cohesion Grant

This grant supported a Cantonese Club Storytime program led by MAG member Katherine Leung in partnership with the Vermont Cantonese Club. The Milton Artists' Guild has hosted seven multicultural storytime sessions for families, featuring crafts, free books, and Hong Kong-style baos from Morning Light Bakery in Winooski.

More than 60 people attended, including a diverse group of families, with half of participants identifying as BIPOC. The program compensated six BIPOC instructors, supported six BIPOC authors, and directed over \$1,500 to BIPOC-owned businesses.

Vermont Federal Credit Union

Social Sundays, a free weekly arts program for children and families, was held year-round with the support of Vermont Federal Credit Union as a sponsor. The art projects were taught by a rotation of local artists as instructors. We have served approximately 95 children since September of 2025.

Vermont Community Foundation Samara Fund, National Art Strategies Alumni Seed Grant and Outright Vermont GSA Seed Grant

Queer Art Club, fiscally sponsored by the Milton Artists' Guild through these grants, is an inclusive, drop-in creative space where artists of all skill levels and orientations are welcome to join and express themselves freely in a supportive, judgement-free environment. These casual meet-ups invite participants to explore a variety of hands-on art forms such as zine making, product photography, embroidery, pebble art, and more.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Developed a 2026 Strategic Plan to guide MAG's priorities and initiatives.
- Implemented a formal budget for 2026.
- Formed 10 committees to better support MAG's mission including the Workshop Committee, Events Committee, and Community Outreach Committee.
- Increased monthly workshop offerings to 5+.
- Launched paid advertising campaigns to increase brand awareness.
- Developed a revised membership structure that is more equitable for our artists and better aligned with non-profit best practices.
- Created the online "MAG Portal" system to help manage sales reporting and operations, increase staff efficiency, and keep artists up to date with their sales and MAG news.





LOOKING AHEAD

We have some exciting events to look forward to this summer and fall:

- Midsummer Nights Special Exhibit July 1-August 3
- Milton's Fourth of July Parade on July 4
- MAG's first ever Calcutta fundraiser on August 1
- The annual Art Supply Sale on August 16
- The 2026 Art & Stroll Festival on September 19
- Fall Open Studio Weekend on October 3 & 4
- The 22nd Annual ArtFest on November 14

ORGANIZATIONAL GOALS

- Continue to increase engagement with the community.
- Continue to explore new revenue streams for better financial security.
- Relaunch the MAG brand with an improved online/social media logo and new website in August 2026.
- Launch an online store and begin taking orders from customers across the country (launch date TBD.)
- Recruit new Board members.
- Expand low cost and youth programming.
- Define 2027 goals and programming.

THANK YOU!

Milton Artists' Guild would like to thank our volunteers, staff, members, patrons, community partners, and supporters whose dedication keeps us thriving.

Thank you for helping us make art accessible for all!

Keep in Touch

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-  **Milton Artists' Guild**

