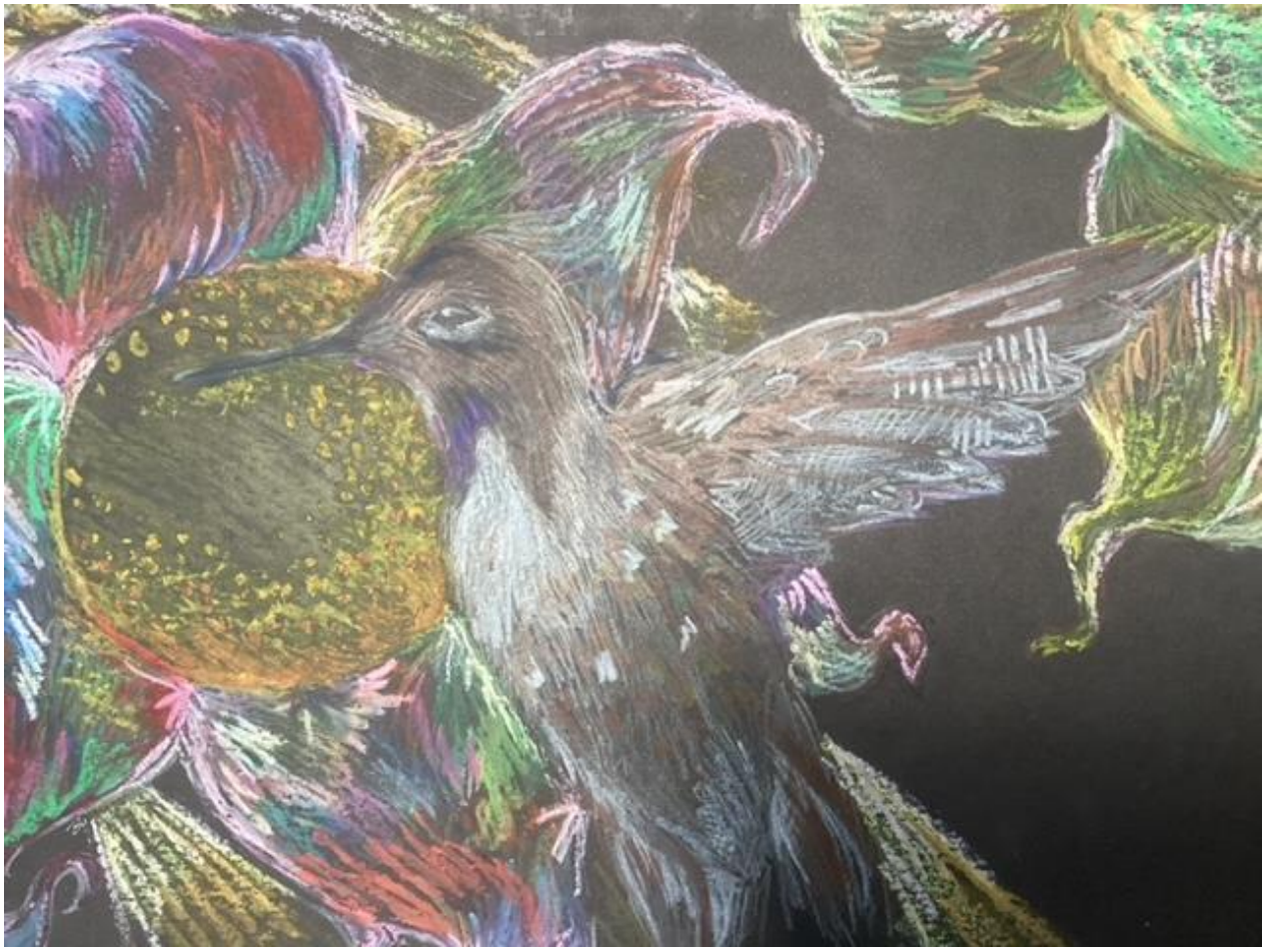
Salt Lake Arts Academy
A Public Charter School



Artwork by Ruby T., 8th Grade

Annual Report to the Community
2023-24

Dear Salt Lake Arts Academy Community – The 2023-2024 school year saw the joyful celebration of 20 successful years for SLArts. A highlight for us was seeing so many of our alumni students came back to join in the party, bringing fond memories of their experiences at SLArts, along with stories of their adventures after graduation.

We are fortunate that many of the teachers who have helped make SLArts such a special place continue to inspire and engage with our current students on a daily basis. Our teachers, old and new, remain the key to building the creative minds of our students.

As you will note in the halls on campus and the following pages, those students in turn continue to produce interesting and enjoyable artwork across all disciplines, along with strong marks on the standardized tests that are the more traditional measure of academic achievement.

The SLArts administrative team, wonderfully led by Deborah Candler, works tirelessly to provide an environment at SLArts where teachers can do their best work and students can feel supported, all without losing sight of the importance of careful financial stewardship.

The SLArts Governing Board, administrative team, and teachers are committed to preparing students to become confident and creative builders of their future and we look forward to working closely with students and families to achieve this goal.

Greg Ostrander
Chair, Salt Lake Arts Academy Governing Board

Greetings, Families and Friends – We are so happy to share this review of our 20th year at SLArts! Last year was full of celebration, hard work and validation of the excellence our school has offered middle school students since our founding in the 2003 - 2004 school year.

In the fall of 2003, SLArts opened its doors to 116 students, housed in the St. Paul Episcopal Church's classroom wing, while we looked for a permanent home. In the ensuing years, our student body grew incrementally while our address continued to change. We held school in the former Salt Lake Public Library (before the Leonardo!) and in a downtown office building, until we were able to secure our current home in 2006.



Our 20th Anniversary Celebration included a wonderful Alumni Open House last December, where over 200 former students (ages 15 – 33!) gathered to visit teachers, see classrooms and reminisce about their time at SLArts. This was a very meaningful night for Teachers, demonstrating the deep connections our faculty forms with students. We continued the celebration with alumni parents, founders and Governing Board members last May at Fisher Brewing, to raise a toast to the past, and to our school's bright future!

Today, after twenty years of solid educational practice, with leadership from dedicated and visionary founders and Governing Board members, guided by sound financial management, we serve 416 students in a building that we own, with an affordable carrying cost, allowing us to put most of our state funding into teachers' salaries. We've come a long way from those early start-up days!

Arts Every Day Daily engagement in the Arts for all students continues to be at the heart of our school's mission. Led by our full-time arts faculty, students mounted multiple dramatic productions throughout the year including performances of "Macbeth" and "Romeo and Juliet. Dance students choregraphed delightful flash mobs and capped their experience with a full-length student-choregraphed Dance Concert in April. Our Music students collaborated on performances with Dance students, and also hosted their annual Holiday Concert and Spring Pops Concert. Our Visual Arts students displayed wonderful work throughout our building all year long and had two community exhibitions at the Salt Lake Library downtown.

Our kids' daily arts experiences teach them important "creative habits of mind" as they observe, persevere through obstacles, refine, practice and present, which they carry with them in their academic pursuits.



Digital Portfolios / Academic Achievement / RISE Assessments

Salt Lake Arts Academy continues our work on students in reflective practices to understand and own their educational journey. All our SLArts students are creating a Digital Portfolio showcasing their work in academic subjects, the arts, and their accomplishments outside of school. In the Spring of 2024, our we held our first set of Student-Led Conferences, where students presented their Digital Portfolio to parents, facilitated by an advisor. SLArts' Digital Portfolio initiative and student-led conferences are teaching critical 21st century skills to our students including self-reflection, communication, collaboration and presentation.

Spring RISE Assessments, the state-mandated standardized tests, were administered to our students in May, testing student proficiency in Math, Science and English Language Arts. Numbers shown below reflect the percentage of students achieving a score of 3 (Proficient) or 4 (Above Proficient.) SLArts students continue to score well above the Utah averages, and students tend to better on the tests the longer they attend SLArts

Utah RISE Scores	5th	6th	7th	8th
Spring 2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Spring 2021				
ELA	44	44	41	43
Math	42	32	42	37
Science	45	52	44	48
Spring 2022				
ELA	47	46	41	42
Math	44	35	45	38
Science	48	54	44	48
Spring 2023				
ELA	49	45	41	42
Math	45	35	46	39
Science	51	55	45	48
Spring 2024				
ELA	48	47	42	42
Math	44	35	46	41
Science	52	56	45	49

SLArts RISE Scores	5th	6th	7th	8th
Spring 2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Spring 2021				
ELA	59	61	62	52
Math	46	43	52	56
Science	54	57	58	49
Spring 2022				
ELA	66	56	69	66
Math	52	44	77	65
Science	62	65	66	60
Spring 2023				
ELA	58	62	63	64
Math	47	43	61	74
Science	68	62	66	70
Spring 2024				
ELA	67	59	63	60
Math	49	35	46	62
Science	68	66	65	58

Accreditation with Cognia

Over the last year, our Leadership Team and Faculty have undertaken an extensive review of our school's culture of learning, leadership and student engagement and growth, in partnership with our national Accreditation grantor, Cognia. Every five years we go through this process, achieving Accreditation status, an indicator of a school's educational program quality. SLArts' final report from Cognia described our strong school culture, faculty and student engagement, and involvement of stakeholders as noteworthy practices within our school.

Financial Report FY24

Salt Lake Arts Academy undergoes an independent audit each year. To see detailed financial statements, and learn the results of those Audits, visit our website, www.slarts.org, and view the documents under "About Us/Financials."

Revenue – Fiscal Year 2024	Funding Source
$4,224,577.23	State of Utah
$98,325.06	Federal
$100,265.83	Student Fees, Tetons Science School Fees
$48,30.60	UTA/Trax Passes Purchases by Families
$172, 013.34	Individual Giving, Corporate Gifts and Philanthropic Foundations
$233,588.86	After School Fees
$4,877,300.92 TOTAL REVENUE	

Expenses – Fiscal Year 2024	Category
$2,960,165.67	Instruction – Teacher and staff salaries, benefits, supplies, equipment.
$554,222.87	Facility – Bond payment, utilities, improvements, custodial, repairs.
$403,779.49	Administration – Salaries, benefits, supplies and equipment.
$190,3324.96	After School – Teacher salaries and benefits.
$414,639.00	Student Support – Staff salaries and benefits.
$57,294.49	Transportation – UTA /Trax Passes, Bus Hires
$4,580,426.48 TOTAL EXPENSES	

A Community Invested in Success

We continue to be incredibly grateful to our parent community, and the philanthropic community at large for their support of our school. One again, **The Catalyst Foundation** and **Diana Lady Dougan** inspired our community to stretch by making Challenge Grants to our **Annual Giving Campaign** and the **SLArts 24 Day of Giving**. Both initiatives raised money to fund student needs – including technology, equipment, Teton Science School scholarships, arts supplies and more. The **Utah State Board of Education (USBE)'s Digital Teaching and Learning (DTL) program** continues to fund our Digital Portfolio program for all students, teaching important 21st Century skills. The following individuals and organizations made donations to SLArts in FY 24:

Annual Giving

Stacy Ackerlind
Anonymous
Brian McPherson
Myna Ackerlind-Paxton
Michael Adair
Amalgamated Foundation
Katie Amundsen
Krista and Michael Anderson
John and Katy Andrews
Jennifer and John Bakken
Julie and Ken Bartel
Marriott Bartholomew
Elizabeth and Keith Benson
Katherine Biele
Charlene and Chris Blackburn
MIchelle and Matthew Brinkerhoff
Jennifer Burrow-Sanchez
Diana Cabrales and Alexander Pastuszak
Meghan and Thomas Candee
Shaun and Lauren Carris
Travis and Starlyn Chaston
Janet Christensen
Michael and Jenny Clark
Sarah Clemensen
John Conde
Dan Cushman
Jamie and Brandon Dansie
Henry Daubrez and Dorine Leenders
Marion andJames Davis
Bryan and Michelle Debbink
Rachel and Bryn Dentinger
Rachel Dentinger
Jennifer and John Desha
Mary Dickerson and Marcus Monroe
Paul Dougan
Diana Dougan / Catalyst Foundation
Kathryn Holly Duke
Nadja Durbach and
Benjamin Cohen
Robyn and Rick Ensor
Angela Fagerlin and Tony Tsai
Jennifer and Aaron Fargo
Formula H20
Arrika Fullmer and Matthew Walker
Amanda and Katsu Funai
Jasmine Furnish and Dane Spencer
Yasmin Garcia and Pedro Hernandez
Darcy Goddard
Ashley Greenwell
Jamie and Jon Gregersen
Maurena and Nathan Grossman
Jen Guillory
Shawn Gurtcheff
David Johnson
Julieanne and Michael Hall
Jon and Jennifer Hart
Rachel Hayes-Harb and Basil Harb
Diane Hesley
Jennifer and Trip Hoffman
Patricia Hornya
Kerry Jones and Stuart Pitkin
Juan Carlos Judd
Heather and Karim Khader
Jennifer and Brent Kious
Jeremy and Nicole Laird
William and Bettie Lambeth
Lou Lingstuyl
Christopher and Julie Lister
Tracy Llanos
Jason Lytwyniuk and Denee Hayes
Kristin Maanum and David Nichols
Tara and Jeff Martin
Chrisopher Mautz
Natasha Mileusnic and Tom Ness
TC and David Mohr
Florence and Nicolas Moies-Delval
Chad and Molly Mullane
Teri Mumm
Jon and Lillia Nepstad
Brendan and Elizabeth Nicholson
Delphine and Laurent Node-Langlois
Kelly Nolan
Betsy and Greg Ostrander
Peggy and Rick Ostrander
Robin and Kent Palmer
Karin and Vincent Peragine
Stephanie and Steven Petersen
Chelsea Peterson
Richard Postlethwait
Robert Prentice and Tisha Meyers
Amy Redford
David Richardson
Joshua Rivkin and Erin Beeghly
Abby and Nabil Rizk
Jennifer Robinson
Shawn Robinson and Erica Livingstone
Marlena and Chad Rogers
Erik and Rhonda Rolth
Jestine Salazar
Mary Ellen Sampe
Carrie Schildroth and Paul Rivera
Clark and Jennie Stacey
Christopher and Jaymie Stepanek
Lauren Stephan
Shantel and Mario Stoff
Karen Tao and Zac Imel
Marie Taylor
Tania and Shon Taylor
The Merryweather Family Charity Fund
Katie and Kent Tschanz
Lola Van Wagenen
Val Vardeny
Jessica Wade
Paul Watkins
Mr. David Wilson and Ms. Judith B. Wilson
Mary Wilson
Susan and Stephen Wilson
Amy Yuda and Leandru Schiau
John and Linda Yuda
Katherine and Zack Zavodni
Jennifer and Jeffery Zivkovic

SLArts 24 – A Day of Giving

Stacy Ackerlind
Manessa and Paul Adams
Tiffini Adams
Emily Andrews
John and Katy Andrews
Brooke Aris
Pete Ashdown
John Bakken
Daryl and Steve Barrett
Erin Beeghly
Katharine Biele
McKenzie Blatt
Jennifer Bone
Jennifer Bowen Crockett
Tara Bowman-Hare
Jennifer Brennan
Michele Brinkerhoff

Jennifer Burrow-Sanchez
Collin and LeeAnn Bywaters
Diana Cabrales
Colonae Christensen
Jenny Clark
Brady Crockett
Dan Cushman
Katharine Dalton
Marion Davis
Niki Davis
Bryan Debbink
Jenny Desha
Mary Dickerson
Paul and Terrell Dougan
Holly Duke
Amy Edwards
Robyn Ensor
Angie Fagerlin
Bartel Family
The Ostrander Family
Amy Fehlberg
Karin Fenn
Kathleen Ferdon
Jennifer Foth
Arikka Fullmer
Amanda Funai
Miguel Galindo
Adina Gardner
Claudia Geist
Barbara & Bill Gibbons
Teri Gibson
The Goff Family
Marie Grudzien
Heather Guanajuato
Jen Guillory
Shawn E. Gurtcheff
Sarah Hadley
Liz Harris
Jennifer Hart
Jonathan Heider
Pedro Hernandez
Christina Hesley
Nan Hodge
Laura Horn
Meghan Horner
Andrew Huffaker
Elizabeth Huser
Lulu Imel
James Jenkin
Bob and Sue Jensen
Jon Jepsen
Cory Jessop
Siobhan Jolley
Jen Kious
Nicole Laird
Rick and Bettie Lambeth
Robert Dick and Leanne Johnston
Paula Lee
Emmanuel Levarek
Lou Lingstuyl
Tonya Linky
Tracy Llanos
Ryan Looper
Ciani Lords
Carol Louder
Kirstin Maanum
Tara Martin
Juan Martinez-Ross
JoAnna Matthes
Amy Mautz
Natasha Mileusnic
Marina Miranda
TC Mohr
Nicolas Moies-Delval
Kimberly Mueller
Rachel Murthy
Jon Nepstad
Heather Newell
Brendan Nicholson
Kelly Nolan
Erin Ostrander
Peggy and Rick Ostrander
Cat Palmer
Stephanie Petersen
Cory Pike
Katherine Pioli
Caitlin Postlethwait
Reid Prentice
Amy Redford
Amera Rizk
Abigai Rizk
Susan Roberts
Sara Rose
Daniel Rose
Joshua Ross
Carri Schildroth
Sarah Scott
Mary Ellen Sessions
Annabel Sheinberg
Dane Spencer
Jennie Stacey
Shantel and Mario Stoff
Amy Stowe
Jerilyn Stowe
Gretchen Strear
Mandi Taylor
Leigh Tolboe
Barbara and Jeff Troxell
Heidi Troxell
Mary Troxell
Kathryn Tschanz
Kimberly Venable
Nick Vienneau
Jessica Wade
Amy Wadsworth
Samuel West
Elizabeth Wilson
Amy Yuda
Kathy Zurn





Salt Lake Arts Academy Governing Board 2023-24

John Bakken
Julie Bartel, Chair
Kelly Goff
Meg Orsini
Greg Ostrander
Leanne Hawken
Amy Redford
Abby Rizk
Jennie Stacey
Shantel Stoff
Nick Vienneau
Amy Yuda

Salt Lake Arts Academy Administration

Deborah Candler, Principal and CAO
Nicole Laird, Business Manager
Dan Rose, Dean of Students
Markell McCubbin, Academic Engagement
Katy Andrews, Advancement Director
Jen Guillory, Office Manager / Registrar



Artwork by Flavia A., 8th Grade