

SPACE FOR ART FOUNDATION

IMPACT REPORT ~ 2023



Space for Art Foundation

Mission

Uniting a Planetary Community of Children through the Awe and Wonder of Space Exploration and the Healing Power of Art

Vision

A world where children experiencing life's challenges are inspired to imagine and create a positive future for themselves.

A future that transcends those challenges and is brought to life through an understanding of their role as crewmates here on Spaceship Earth.

Board of Directors

Nicole Stott

President / Director /
Secretary / Co-Founder

Maria Lanas

Director / Treasurer / Co-Founder

David Graziosi

Director / Co-Founder



February 2024 (how is it already February?!)

Dear Friends of the Space for Art Foundation ~

As another year has come to a close ~ 2023 being the 5th anniversary of Space for Art ~ we're filled with gratitude for the wonderful support we receive from all of you!

We find ourselves reflecting on the past year and all the people and moments that made it so special.

Thanks to your generosity we're able to continue our work with inspirational children and organizations around the world! While we are saddened by the growing planetary challenges, it makes us realize, even more, how important it is to continue our 'space, art, and healing' work that's based on a philosophy of unity, on the connection between personal and planetary health, and how vital it is for us all to accept our role as crewmates here on Spaceship Earth.

In 2023 we expanded our global community participation, engaged in activities that supported all three of our strategic programmatic focus areas, and were able to creatively and purposefully share the Space for Art story. We are especially happy to have completed the collection of artwork and start assembly of our new art spacesuit ~ named INFINITY. We hope you'll read on for some more of the year's highlights!

We look forward to more awesomeness to come in 2024!

And we are so thankful to have you with us on this mission of space, art, and healing.

Nicole, Maria, and David



SPACE FOR ART FOUNDATION

Metrics... At A Glance... In our 5 years... We've engaged with more than...



6000 Artonauts



90 Organizations



All 7 Continents and 180 Countries



25 Global Community Projects & Exhibits



2023 Impact Report

Strategic Programmatic Focus Area 1

Facilitating and Implementing Space-themed Art and Wellness Programs

Art programs and space camps with kids around the world
In 2023, we engaged with over 1500 children in 22 countries

We are thrilled to have completed the collection of artwork and for our friends at ILC Dover Astrospace to begin the assembly of our new [INFINITY Art Spacesuit](#). INFINITY is created from the artwork of over 450 children across 27 organizations in 22 countries. The kids were encouraged to consider the inspiration of their place in the universe and the infinite possibilities that exist for their future.

We look forward to sharing the completed suit with you in 2024 and fingers crossed we'll get the chance to fly INFINITY to space!!!



[2023 Event Mix](#)

Postcards to Space, Space Camps, and Programs
with our Partners in Purpose!
Special thanks to our friends at [Space for A Better World](#)



Strategic Programmatic Focus Area 1, continued

Facilitating and Implementing Space-themed Art and Wellness Programs

Sharing the 'Space for Art' Story: Art Sessions ~ Exhibits ~ Interactive Experiences



On the Big Screen

~ Piccadilly Circus in London ~
Kid's artwork brought to life with our partners in purpose

[Space for A Better World](#) and
[ABlok Interactive Experiences](#)

Oct 2023



Strategic Programmatic Focus Area 1, continued

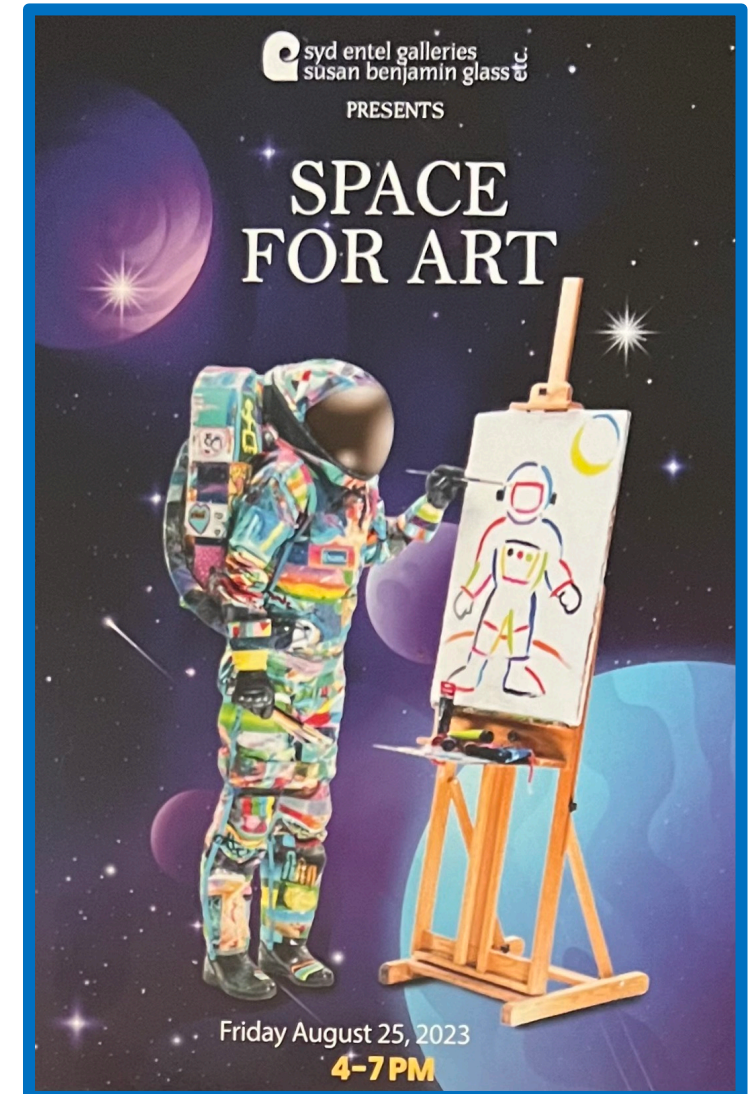
Facilitating and Implementing Space-themed Art and Wellness Programs

We're excited to share the beta release of the [Art Spacesuit Interactive Experience](#). Please click on Explore to discover an early introduction to BEYOND and this experience. (***)We are still working as fast as we can to identify all of the artwork so there might be some links still missing(***)



The screenshot shows a dark space-themed interface with a blue border. At the top, the title "Art Spacesuit Interactive" is displayed in large white font. Below it, the text reads: "We're happy to introduce you to a new interactive experience for the BEYOND Art Spacesuit Ambassador for Spaceship Earth On a Mission of Space, Art, and Healing". A central graphic features a bright orange planet with a glowing cyan ring. At the bottom, a white button with the word "Explore" in blue text is visible.

[Space for Art Exhibit & Fundraiser](#) ~ Aug 2023
Graciously hosted by [Syd Entel Galleries](#)



The poster features a colorful astronaut in a spacesuit made of various national flags, standing next to an easel. The astronaut is painting a simple drawing of another astronaut on the easel. The background is a dark space with stars, a purple planet, and a blue planet. The text at the top reads: "syd entel galleries susan benjamin glass PRESENTS SPACE FOR ART". At the bottom, the date and time are listed: "Friday August 25, 2023 4-7 PM".

Strategic Programmatic Focus Area 1, continued

Facilitating and Implementing Space-themed Art and Wellness Programs

Sharing the 'Space for Art' Story: Art Sessions ~ Exhibits ~ Interactive Experiences

We are really excited about this and can't wait to share it with you all on the big screen!
🍿 In the meantime, check out the film trailer 🍿

'Space for Art' Documentary Film

Completed in 2023

To be released in 2024

Ginormous thanks to our dear friends and producers
[Michael Potter](#) and [Margaret McCarthy](#)
and the whole production team
for bringing the story of the Space for Art mission to life



Strategic Programmatic Focus Area 2

Grant Award Program

Our grant program continued successfully in 2023 with continuation of work by our two 2022 grantees

1 / George Washington University Art Therapy Graduate Program ~ Student Project

This is our 2nd student supported through the GWU grant

Project summary and thanks provided by GWU as excerpt from their university impact report ~

THE GEORGE
WASHINGTON
UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, DC

SPACE FOR ART FOUNDATION AWARD

IMPACT REPORT: 2022-2023



Your generosity in action:

The student beneficiary for the 2022-2023 academic year was Deanna Nash, M.A. '23, Art Therapy

Reflections from the student beneficiary:

This project sought to understand the impact of an open studio art therapy approach on the development of social skills in elementary students with autism spectrum disorder. The students selected ranged between 3rd-6th grade (ages 8-12), and all were currently receiving special education services under the category of autism spectrum disorder.

Over the course of the five, 50-minute sessions, the students worked independently and collaboratively to create a safe space through both their art and social engagement. We provided the students with full access to a wide range of materials typically found within an elementary school art classroom to use in their artmaking. The students were encouraged to select their own materials. While most of each session was focused on artmaking, we also reserved time for group discussions focused on building group connections.

Throughout this study, the exploration of outer space was utilized as a topic of interest for art and group discussion. During the first two sessions, the students worked independently on creating their own space-exploration avatars. The final three sessions focused on a cumulative, collaborative project (supporting team building and social interaction). The students worked in both small groups and all together, with the goal of creating space or environment where all their avatars could peacefully coexist.



2023 Impact Report

Strategic Programmatic Focus Area 2, continued

Grant Award Program

2 / Your Song My Song is a 2-person (Jaime & Eric Hart) creative organization that along with band mate Rainbow Rubin, write music about our planet & our connection to it. They invite children & families to participate with them to tell stories that inspire positive mental health & paradigm-shifting change through music, movement, video, theatre, & dance. Through their latest creation, "Water: The Musical," space is now an integral theme for their art & music programs.

"[WATER THE MUSICAL](#) is a one-of-a-kind experience that brings together people of all ages to celebrate our planet. These interactive, free, live concerts invite audiences to dance, sing, & play with themed puppets while also engaging in conversations about our changing climate. The show encourages citizens to take action & participate in local conservation projects to help better our planetary health. With support from the Space For Art Foundation, we spread their mission of seeing ourselves as crewmates & not just passengers here on our dynamic, alive, oasis in space.

As we continue to face the challenges of climate change, it's more important than ever to come together as a community & work towards a better future for our planet. WATER: THE MUSICAL provides a playful & imaginative way to engage with environmentalism that is optimistic about the future of Spaceship Earth & all her crew mates. Through collective conversations, we can slow climate change & enjoy the beauty of the planet we call home."

Participating Conservation Groups ~ Coastwatch, Elakha Alliance, Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition, Solve, & Friends of Otter Rock Marine Reserve
 More shows will continue in 2024 – go [here](#) to find out if there's a show near you!



5 shows in Oregon
 192 children & adults served
 5 local conservation groups participated
 4 small venues supported
 10 artists paid



Strategic Programmatic Focus Area 3

Support of Research in the Field of Art and Wellness

While all of our work is supportive in one way or another of developing a better understanding of the interplay of art and wellness, this focus area is one that we are really excited to continue to develop and grow..

This year's activities continued with a focus on the practice of space-themed art and wellness projects, and supporting others who were inspired by the Space for Art Foundation's work and how they might implement their own take on these types of projects.

Our grants, as described in Focus Area 2 also achieve this; and with a little different twist, we're also pleased to introduce you to a young woman, Sharife Gacel ~ mental health consultant, artist, analog astronaut ~ who channeled the space, art, and wellness inspiration into a project of her own. We are excited to see how she will continue to carry this work forward through her own artistic and professional practice - both in partnership with and independent of the Space for Art Foundation.

We are also pleased to share with you some thoughts from our very own Maria Lanas regarding her artist experience and the contemporary work being done with regards to the positive impact of the the integration of the arts and medicine. And also of note, the work of the Foundation was also highlighted in a new book on the art and medicine subject titled "Artists Remaking Medicine".

Learn more on the next 2 pages...



Strategic Programmatic Focus Area 3, continued

Support of Research in the Field of Art and Wellness

Sharife Gacel is a mental health counselor ([The Space Therapist](#)), analog astronaut, and artist. She recently participated as a crewmember on the 2-week HI-SEAS "Lokahi" analog space mission. In addition to her primary experiment to study "The Impact of Crew Isolation and Lunar Simulation on Human Behavior" and her role as crew medical officer, Sharife combined her skills and expertise to carry out a secondary experiment that involved the creation of a spacesuit using art that the crew created during the mission. As they felt inspired, the crew would paint or draw on swatches of fabric. They were asked to choose something from the mission or their own lives that they wanted to illustrate. Following the mission, Sharife's mom joined the 'crew' by sharing her creative talents and thoughtfully and carefully sewed all of the fabric artwork on to a blue flightsuit.

Before her mission, Sharife reached out to us with her idea, and we are honored that this project and art spacesuit Lokahi were inspired by the Space for Art Foundation's art spacesuits and mission of space, art, and healing.

The Lokahi Spacesuit Art Project is based on the realization that art, space, and healing are all connected; and integrates concepts such as the Overview Effect. In Hawaiian, Lokahi means unity, which as Sharife describes, is a representation of both the suit and the crew who created it.

As part of her counseling and space outreach activities, Sharife now utilizes the Lokahi spacesuit "as a traveling art exhibit with the intention of inspiring others to unify aspects of their own lives that might seem unrelated, but are connected, as we all are on our planet Earth."



Strategic Programmatic Focus Area 3, continued

Support of Research in the Field of Art and Wellness

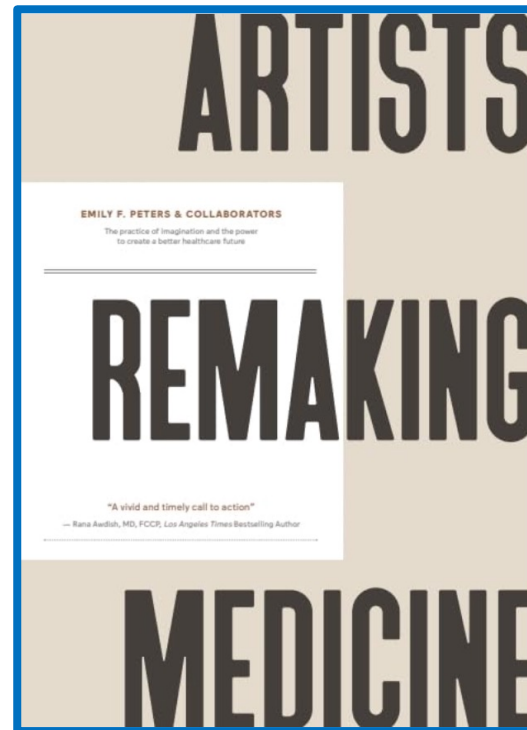
Some thoughts from our very own Maria Lanas
[‘The Transformative and Positive Power of Art’](#)

~ [Art and Our Brain](#) ~



Maria has also been continuing our research into the ways we can engage with the growing community of scientists and creatives developing our better understanding of the powerful intersection between art and wellness. One reference particularly relevant is a book titled [“Your Brain on Art”](#) by Susan Magsamen and Ivy Ross. We’re looking forward to connecting with them through their work at the [International Arts + Minds Lab](#) at Johns Hopkins University.

“Art and science together are potent medicine, capable of radically transforming our physical health”



Along these same lines of study, our very own Nicole Stott, in support of our friends at [TRISH](#) and their Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board, [Lisa Suennen, MA](#), provided content for the ‘Dreamspace’ chapter of a book titled [“Artists Remaking Medicine”](#) by [Emily Peters](#)

“When art offers a giant leap forward for the benefit of all mankind”

We are grateful that the work of the Space for Art Foundation and the experience our astronauts have in space and then bring back to Earth, is a valuable contributor to the study, and more importantly to the implementation and practice, of the benefit of an integrated arts and medicine approach to wellness.



2023 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

As we celebrated our 5 year anniversary in 2023 (time flies!!!), we were struck once again with feelings of gratitude for the generous support we have received and continue to receive from all of you. We work hard to be responsible stewards of the funds and projects in our care.

We are thankful for all of your donations, which sustain our work and allow us to grow and creatively engage with our global project community. We are also thankful to our partnering organizations, board members, and volunteers for their generous contributions of time, talent, and monetary support.

The Space for Art Foundation remains a fully volunteer-based organization. All of the administrative, management, and operational activities are supported primarily by our three board members, who are also three of the four original co-founders. The bulk of our expenses for 2023 are associated with travel, art supplies, promotional materials, tax preparation, insurance, software/website, hardware, and shipping costs (Overall representing about 1% of our total available funds). Other project-specific expenses of substance in 2023 (equating to about 6% total), were associated with large-scale installations of the children's artwork (e.g. video development by ABlok for content presented on Piccadilly Circus jumbo screen and interactive experiences), development of the Art Spacesuit Interactive 3D Model by Airnauts, and grant allocation to Your Song My Song for the 'Water Musical' events. As always, we believe our primary fiduciary responsibility is to protect and grow our fund base to insure availability as necessary for both near- and longer-term mission support.

Given the current market, all of our monetary funds continue to be maintained and grown through investment in accessible cash accounts ~ a mix of high interest bearing savings and money market – which have all performed quite well.

We still maintain the physical assets reported in 2022 (see [2022 Impact Report](#) for details).



Ginormous Shout Out to 5 Years of Space for Art!!

WOO HOO!!!!

2018



Postcards to Space



UNITY

EXPLORATION Art Spacesuit



2019



BECOME A STAR
STEP ON THE CIRCLE



"We Are Stars"
Interactive



Miami Fundraiser/Exhibit

2020



MOSI Exhibit



#AIM HIGHER

2021



Club19 Grant Awarded



BEYOND Art Spacesuit
Ambassador for Spaceship Earth
at COP26



2022



Our First Grantee Awards
George Washington Univ Art Therapy Program



Your Song My Song
Beginnings With Bernice

Thrilled to launch our partnership in purpose with our friends at [Space for a Better World](#)



#AIM HIGHER



LOVE THE EARTH

2023 Impact Report

THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT.....2024

We're excited for what lies ahead in 2024 and beyond...

A few of the major things to look forward to in 2024 are:

- More global community art projects along with our partners in purpose and kids around the world.
- Completing the new art spacesuit "INFINITY" ~ the theme for this suit is focused on "Time, the magnificence of our universe, and the significance of our place in it."
- Release of the 3D Interactive Experience of BEYOND, and completing the gallery of 3D suits to include EXPLORATION and INFINITY.
- Premiere showing of the new documentary film "Space for Art ~ Mission: Space, Art, Healing."



We're continuing to grow our "partners in purpose" network, which allows the Space for Art mission and vision to be realized in a more powerful and expansive way. We're looking forward to more activities with organizations like ILC Dover AstroSpace, Space for A Better World, Club for the Future, and ABlok Interactive Experiences.

We will be restructuring our grantee selection and distribution process, but will continue to provide grants to support more talented artists and art organizations who want to bring space-themed art and wellness projects to life through their own unique talents. We are also looking forward to discovering more ways we can work with others to help further quantify the benefit of art and wellness programs and therapies.



Please follow along with us ~

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Phone: 727-220-2248



We'd love an introduction to any organizations, hospitals, refugee centers, or orphanages you think would benefit from participating in our projects; and we welcome any ideas you might have for our work.

Please subscribe to our mailing list by emailing us at art@spaceforartfoundation.org

Thank you!!!