



Connecting Community and Culture

Portland's 5 Centers for the Arts
FY 2021-22 Report

Keeping art and culture alive

Art can provide a beacon of hope, even in the most challenging times. After an 18-month closure during the pandemic, Portland’s was eager to reopen our five beloved theaters and bring back the artists, comedians, musicians, and performances central to Portland’s unique arts and culture scene. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the Portland’s staff and volunteers, all five theaters received the Global Biorisk Advisory Council’s GBAC STAR Service Accreditation — the gold standard in cleaning, disinfecting, and safety protocols — so that patrons, artists, and staff could safely enjoy the entertainment that gives us joy, inspires minds and brings us together.

“People will always have the human need to connect to art and each other. I’m so grateful to our staff and volunteers who prioritized creating an environment where patrons and artists could feel safe, comfortable, and welcome.”

Robyn Williams,
Portland’s Executive
Director



A Portland icon achieves greater resonance

Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall, a cherished Portland institution, received an exciting acoustical upgrade. The historic space’s sound was completely upgraded with the Constellation Acoustic System, a technologically advanced acoustic system tailored to this historic building’s unique physical characteristics. With these improvements, every guest can savor a fully immersive experience, enjoying the sounds of the performance from the front row to the upper balcony.

Economic Impact FY 21-22

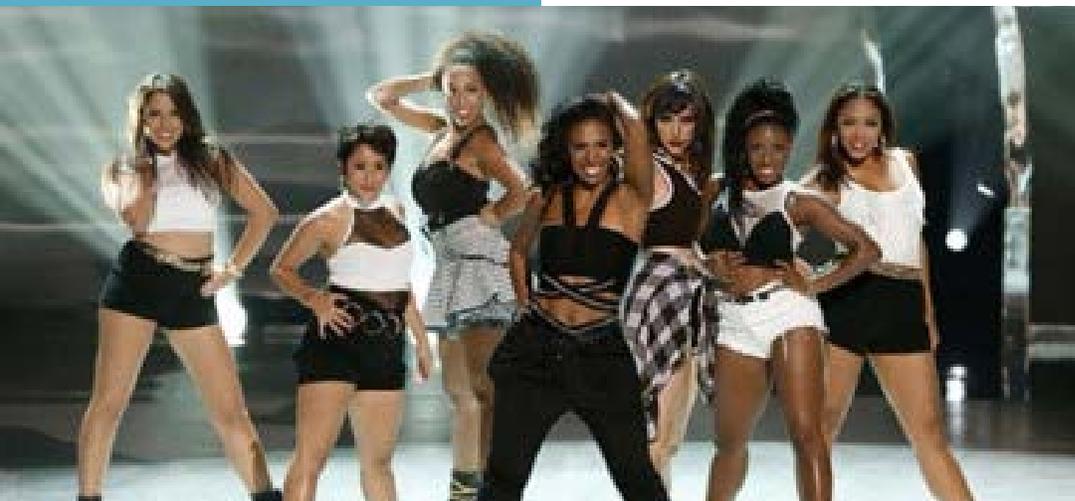
Total spending:	\$55.7M
Total jobs:	400
Total earnings:	\$25.8M
Total tax revenues:	\$2.1M

“My K-5 students absolutely loved the Syncopated Ladies! It was powerful for students to watch and connect with — many students were excited to learn more about dance after watching.”

Teacher, Davis Elementary

Education programs take new form

The education program at Portland’s Centers for the Arts removes barriers and provides access to a diverse selection of world-class performing arts events. Our education program intentionally seeks to make the transformational wonder of art accessible to teachers and students in Title 1 schools in Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington counties. The program pivoted to a virtual format so students could continue enjoying the art safely, reaching more students than ever. A puppet-making workshop and performances by the all-woman tap dance group Syncopated Ladies delighted young audiences, as did genre-defying hip-hop classical duo Black Violin.



Event Highlights

586

Number
of Events

560,300

Total
Attendance

Portland’s Presents shows returned!

- Hip Hop Nutcracker
- Price is Right Live
- AK Dan Gwang Chil (ADG7)
- Sugar Skulls-2925 students served at no cost
- Oregon Ballet performances of The Nutcracker were back - 30,100 tickets sold
- Broadway took off with an extended run of Hamilton
- New York cartoonist Shannon Wheeler returned the first rotunda art exhibit in almost two years!

Opening November 30th
Up Through December, 2021

Art Show
Shannon Wheeler

"Don't even think about it."

New Yorker Cartoon Originals and Roughs
PORTLAND'S Centers for the Arts
1111 SW Broadway, Portland OR

From the Director

The performing arts are integral to our cultural landscape and shared humanity — they bring us together, inspire new ideas, and unite communities. During the COVID-19 pandemic, we made the difficult decision to close the doors of our five performing arts venues for the safety of our communities. Yet, we found innovative ways to continue our mission to bring people together through the arts. An example was our decision to transition our education program to virtual programming, which allowed us to serve even more youth than before.

When we reopened our doors, we felt overwhelming joy to be together with our communities in person again. We were able to bring back favorite events like the Music on Main Street series and welcome back to Portland Broadway shows that our audiences love.

At the same time, our teams were continuously committed to the safety of our guests. Our venues achieved GBAC STAR Service Accreditation—the highest level of security and sanitation for multi-purpose venues — proving that they set the industry standard for excellence. It is with sincere gratitude that we thank our staff for their work during a period of change and unique challenges.

As we look to the future, we have renewed energy to continue to build upon our recovery and preserve our premier arts and culture venues for generations to come.

Robyn Williams
Portland'5 Executive Director



Oregon Convention Center
Portland'5 Centers for the Arts
Portland Expo Center
Oregon Zoo

oregonmetro.gov/venues

Portland'5
Centers for
the Arts

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