

WE ARE SHAPED BY WHAT WE LOVE.

- MARY SZYBIST, POET

Seattle Arts & Lectures | 2015/16 Annual Report



If we could pick just one word to capture SAL's 2015/16 year, it would be *momentum*

We celebrated record-breaking attendance—our subscribers almost doubled from the prior year, and overall attendance was more than one-and-a-half times the attendance two years ago. We attracted many new partners to invest in our work, and individual donors grew by 67%. And, most importantly, we engaged the Puget Sound community in the most important conversations of our time.

From Claudia Rankine, who reminded us all of the importance of staying proximate and being active in the ethical structure of our lives; to Ta-Nehisi Coates, who spoke wrenchingly of the legacy and present-day realities of violence against African Americans; to Anthony Doerr, who reminded us of the importance of artistic failure, it was a year filled with conversation, inspiration, and community. "Writing is about testimony," Teju Cole mused, "about being present in the world" and then asked: "How do we speak to the miracle of our shared space?"

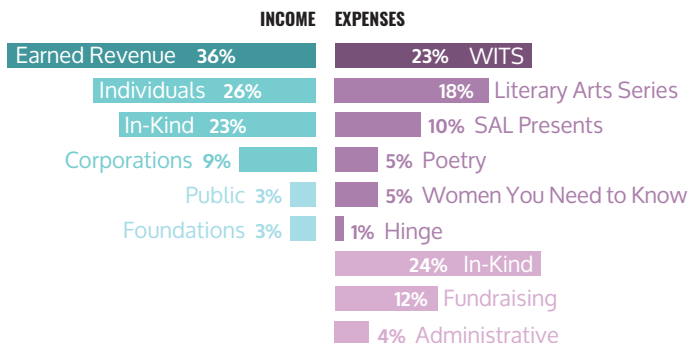
Whether we are bringing the best writers to SAL stages or to classrooms around our region, we are proud to be actively building the miracle of shared spaces in which we may read closely, listen deeply, and talk together. We are profoundly grateful to all of you who joined us in this important work.

In gratitude and onward,

Tim Griffith
BOARD PRESIDENT

Ruth Dickey
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

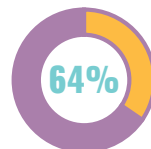
INCOME & EXPENSES: 2015/16 OVERVIEW



TOTAL INCOME **\$1,923,709**
TOTAL EXPENSES **\$1,876,175**



84¢ of every dollar goes directly to programs.



64% of income comes from charitable gifts.

THANK YOU

Seattle Arts & Lectures is tremendously grateful to the following corporate, public and foundation partners for their generous support of our work in 2015/16.

We are also profoundly thankful for the many individuals and additional partners who so generously contributed to our work last year. A full list is featured on our website at www.lectures.org.

PRESENTING SPONSOR: THE SEATTLE TIMES

ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT: 4Culture; Agave Oaxaca; AlphaGraphics; Amazon.com; ArtsFund; Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; Bing; BNY Mellon Wealth Management; Boeing Company; Books I Love; City of Seattle Office of Arts & Culture; Confidence Foundation; Davis Wright Tremaine, LLP; Elizabeth George Foundation; Elliott Bay Book Company; Eulalie Bloedel Schneider Foundation; Expedia, Inc.; Fales Foundation Trust; Gateway Construction Services; Goldman, Sachs & Co.; Harvest Foundation; HUB International; Krekow Jennings; Lighting Supply; Mannix Canby Foundation; Medina Foundation; MFA Creative Writing & Poetics at UW Bothell; National Endowment for the Arts; Norcliffe Foundation; Nordstrom; O'Donnell Family Foundation; Olson Kundig Architects; Pershing Advisor Solutions; Petunia Charitable Fund; Poetry Northwest; Poets & Writers; Power2Give presented by ArtsFund; Pride Foundation; RealNetworks Foundation; Reed, Longyear, Malnati, & Ahrens, PLLC; Schmidt Financial Group, Inc.; Seattle Office for Civil Rights; Stoel Rives, LLP; Tom Douglas Seatown Restaurants; University Book Store; Whittier Trust Company of Washington
POETRY SERIES SPONSOR: Charles & Barbara Wright WYNK SERIES SPONSOR: Women's Funding Alliance HOTEL SPONSOR: Hotel Sorrento; Sheraton Seattle WINE SPONSOR: Woodinville Wine Country

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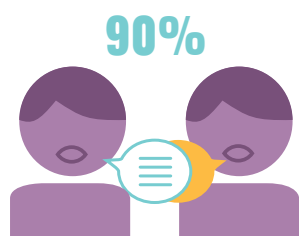
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SEATTLE ARTS & LECTURES CHAMPIONS THE LITERARY ARTS...

Since 1987, SAL has brought the leading writers and thinkers of our times to the Puget Sound region. Our vision is a future in which imaginative acts such as reading, writing, and creative thinking are indispensable to a curious, engaged, democratic society.



Of attendees said they talked about the event with a friend or acquaintance

22,689
2015/16 SEASON
ATTENDEES

Attendance increased by 163% since 2013/14

77%



Read one of the author's books before or after the event

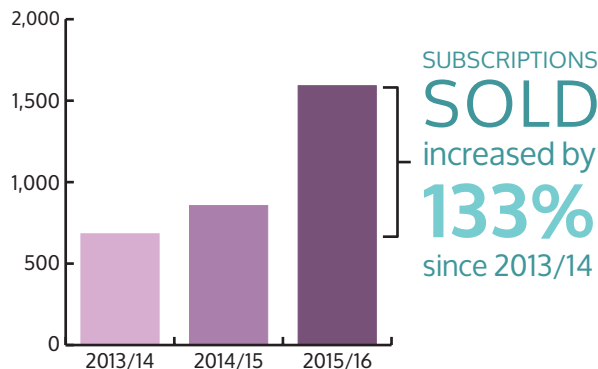
66%



Said the event changed or deepened how they thought about something

"Seattle is a thinking town, and I love that SAL supports critical thinking, learning, reading and community engagement between citizens."

- SAL PATRON

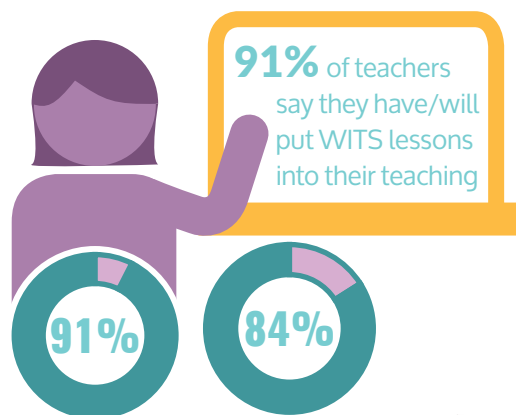


"It's by writing—by stepping back to look at the real thing—that we are most fully present."

- ALISON BECHDEL

BY ENGAGING AND INSPIRING READERS AND WRITERS...

Writers in the Schools (WITS) matches accomplished creative writers with local K-12 public schools for yearlong writing residencies. WITS students discover their authentic voices, build community, and develop writing skills that will support them throughout their lives.



91%
Of teachers say their students are stronger writers

84%
Say their students' overall self-confidence increased

"WITS brings students out of their shells—to find their voices and become new people, not just better-prepared students."

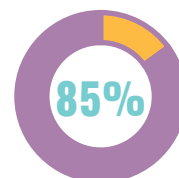
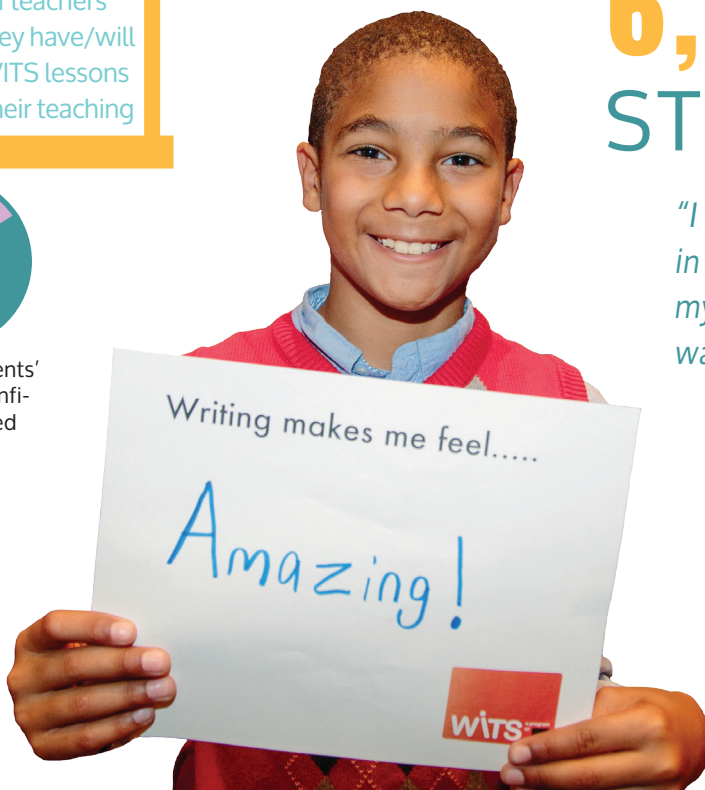
- WITS TEACHER



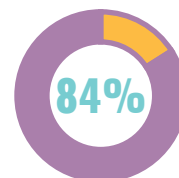
6,704
AT SPOTLIGHT AUTHOR VISITS & WORKING WITH WRITERS IN RESIDENCE
STUDENTS

"I got to do something that I love in class...Being able to express myself with powerful words, it was just awesome."

-WITS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT



Of students say they had fun writing



Say they believe they can continue to get better at writing

OF ALL GENERATIONS IN THE GREATER PUGET SOUND REGION.