



Seattle Arts & Lectures | 2016/17 Annual Report

In 2016/17 Seattle Arts & Lectures (SAL) served more youth and adults than ever before, more thoughtfully and deeply than ever before, as we completed our 2014-2017 Strategic Plan.

To support our continued momentum, we were thrilled to move our Literary Arts Series back to Benaroya Hall a year ahead of schedule. We also secured a generous capacity-building grant from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust along with matching funds from dedicated SAL supporters for our Bridge-to-30 initiative. As a result, in early 2018, we will celebrate our 30th anniversary with a new website, database, and ticketing system. This critical infrastructure will provide us the capacity to robustly serve our community for the next 30 years—and beyond. This funding also allows us to digitize and preserve our rich archive of lectures and to launch a podcast to share them with the community.

2016/17 was a complex and challenging year—for our community, our nation, and our world. We wrestled together with deep divisions, injustice, and the fraying of civil discourse. Through SAL we gathered to read, to listen, to learn, and to engage with others. We heard lawyer Bryan Stevenson remind us that “the opposite of poverty is not wealth, but justice,” and we heard poet Ross Gay remind us that “finding delight is a muscle” that we can and must build. In short, we gathered to consider alternate perspectives: from our youth in SAL’s Writers in the Schools (WITS) program to the outstanding authors and thought-leaders on our stages. We came away changed and enriched by listening deeply to stories and voices different from our own.

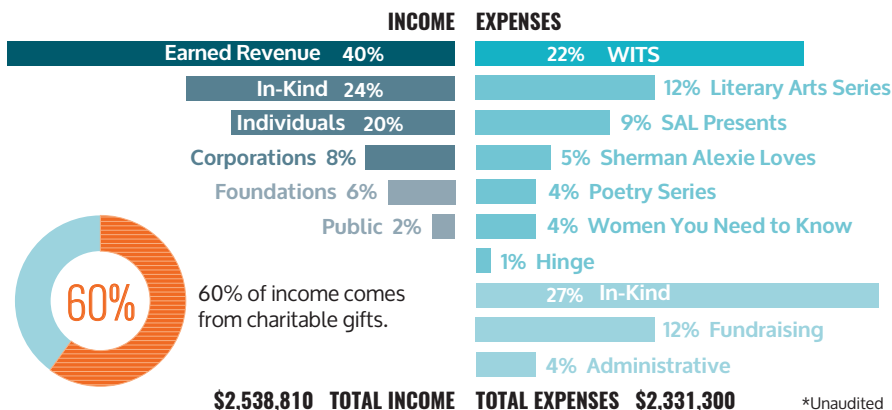
This work could not have happened without the dedicated partnership of many. We are proud to share what you helped us make possible over this past year.

Abundant gratitude, and onward,


Ruth Dickey
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR


Tim Griffith
BOARD PRESIDENT

INCOME & EXPENSES: 2016/17 OVERVIEW



THANK YOU

Seattle Arts & Lectures is deeply grateful to the following corporate, public, and foundation partners for their generous support of our work in 2016/17.

We also extend heartfelt thanks to the many individuals and additional partners who so generously contributed to our work last year. A full list of our current donors is featured on our website at lectures.org.

PRESENTING SPONSOR: **The Seattle Times**

MAJOR SUPPORT (\$10,000+): 4Culture • Amazon Literary Partnership • ArtsFund • The Boeing Company • Charles & Barbara Wright • City of Seattle Office of Arts & Culture • Elizabeth George Foundation • Expedia, Inc. • glassybaby • Golden Lasso • Harvest Foundation • Krekow Jennings • Medina Foundation • M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust • National Endowment for the Arts • Nesholm Family Foundation • The Norcliffe Foundation • Nordstrom • Petunia Charitable Fund

ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT: AlphaGraphics • Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation • BNY Mellon Wealth Management • Brian Carter Cellars • Chihuly Garden & Glass • Chihuly Studio • Confidence Foundation • Davis Wright Tremaine LLP • Elliott Bay Book Company • Equity Matters • Fairmont Olympic Hotel • Fales Foundation • Gateway Construction Services Inc. • Goldfinch Tavern at Four Seasons Hotel Seattle • Goldman Sachs • Hedgebrook • HUB International • Jeffris Wood Foundation • Mannix Canby Foundation • Marjorie Restaurant • MFA in Creative Writing & Poetics—UW Bothell • O'Donnell Family Foundation • Olson Kundig Architects • Perkins Coie • Poets & Writers • Reed Longyear Malnati & Ahrens PLLC • Schmidt Financial Group, Inc. • School of Visual Concepts • Seattle Foundation • Seattle Office for Civil Rights • Seattle Pacific University • Seattle University • Sheraton Seattle • Hotel Sorrento • Stoel Rives LLP • Teutsch Partners LLC • The Capital Grille • Treiger Law • University Book Store • University of Washington • Whittier Trust Company of WA • Wild Ginger • Women's Funding Alliance

HOTEL SPONSOR: Four Seasons Hotel Seattle **WINE SPONSOR:** Woodinville Wine Country

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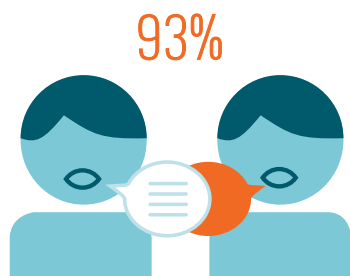
CONTACT

340 15th Ave E., #301 Seattle, WA 98112
206-621-2230 / lectures.org

 @SeattleArtsAndLectures  @seattleartsandlectures
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SAL'S PUBLIC PROGRAMS INCLUDE THE LITERARY ARTS SERIES, THE POETRY SERIES, WOMEN YOU NEED TO KNOW (WYNK), SHERMAN ALEXIE LOVES, HINGE, AND SAL PRESENTS.

"Seattle is a better, kinder, and more thoughtful place because of the work that you all do. Thank you." - SAL PATRON

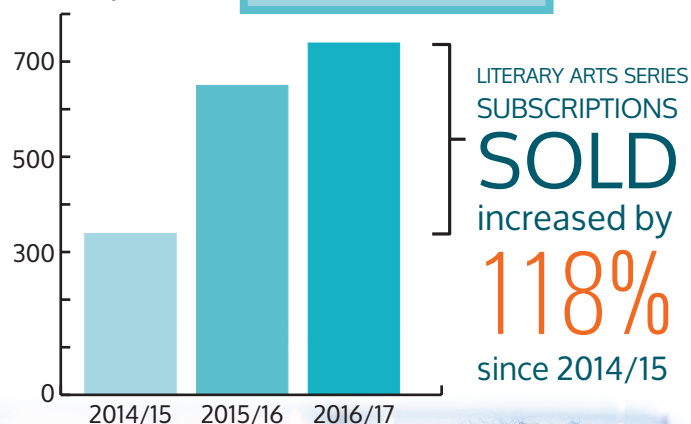


Of attendees said they talked about the event with a friend or acquaintance

25,514 **ATTENDEES**

2016/17
SEASON

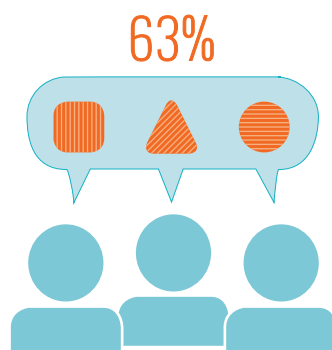
Attendance increased by 53% since 2014/15



77%
Read one of the author's books before or after the event



70%
Said the event changed or deepened how they thought about something



63%
Said they gained a deeper awareness of different perspectives & communities

WRITERS IN THE SCHOOLS (WITS) MATCHES ACCOMPLISHED CREATIVE WRITERS WITH LOCAL K-12 PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS FOR YEARLONG WRITING RESIDENCIES. STUDENTS DISCOVER THEIR AUTHENTIC VOICES, BUILD COMMUNITY, AND DEVELOP WRITING SKILLS THAT WILL SUPPORT THEM THROUGHOUT THEIR LIVES.

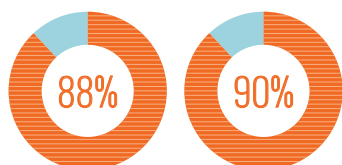
7,845

WORKED WITH WRITERS-
IN-RESIDENCE & AT
SPOTLIGHT AUTHOR VISITS

K-12 STUDENTS

"WITS gave me a platform from which to express myself to the world and really be heard."

-WITS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT

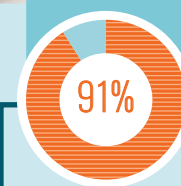


Of students said they are proud of their writing

Believed they can continue to get better at writing



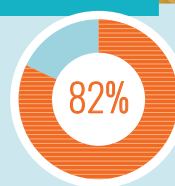
EACH CHILD
RECEIVED 9-14 HOURS OF
DIRECT WRITING
INSPIRATION &
INSTRUCTION



Of teachers said their students enjoy writing more



Said that students are more confident in their writing



Said that students improved their writing skills

163 CLASSROOM TEACHERS



Seattle Arts & Lectures champions the literary arts by engaging and inspiring readers and writers of all generations in the greater Puget Sound region.