



**HERITAGE  
FOUNDATION**  
WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TN

DOWNTOWN  
**FRANKLIN**  
ASSOCIATION

*The*  
**FRANKLIN**  
THEATRE

**FRANKLIN**  
*Creek*  
ESTATE & GARDENS

History and  
Culture Center  
WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TN

## REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

20  
22







# HORIZONS

Photos by Kris Rae, Daniel C. White, and Keoni Keur



Watch our  
2022 Year in Review

*(take a photo with your phone)*



[WilliamsonHeritage.org/ReportToTheCommunity](https://WilliamsonHeritage.org/ReportToTheCommunity)



## 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Executive Committee*

**DAVID GARRETT**

*Chairman of the Board*

**JOHN BOND**

*Chair, Downtown Franklin Association*

**TYLER BORDERS**

**STEPHANIE FARMER**

*Secretary*

**CHRIS KNOPF**

*Treasurer*

**EMILY MAGID**

**SONDRA MORRIS**  
*Chair, Franklin Grove Estate & Gardens*

**JENNIFER PARKER**

*Chair, The Franklin Theatre*

**DR. ALLEN SILLS**

**ELLEN SMITH**

## 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**SYDNEY BALL**

**JACKIE ALEXANDER**

**BRADEN DAHL**

**TRACY FRIST**

**JEFF LEDBETTER**

**WILLIAM C. SCALES, JR.**

**ED SILVA**

**SUSAN WHITAKER**

**SHEA WOOD**

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### HERITAGE FOUNDATION OF WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TN

**BARI BEASLEY**

*President and Chief Executive Officer*

**MEG HERSHEY**

*Vice President and Chief Operating Officer*

**WENDY DUNAVANT**

*Vice President and Chief Financial Officer*

**GRANT MARTIN**

*Chief Advancement Officer*

**TODD MCKEE**

*General Counsel*

**STEVE CITERIN**

*Assistant Vice President of Marketing  
& Communications*

**RACHAEL FINCH**

*Senior Director of Preservation & Education*

**NOAH GRAY**

*Events Marketing &  
Communications Manager*

**JONATHAN GOSS**

*Facilities Manager*

**IAN HUNT**

*Event Service and Festivals Manager*

**HEATHER KANTOR**

*Database & Volunteer Manager*

**CHRISTINA METZGAR**

*Executive Assistant & Office Manager*

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*Director of Sponsorship*

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*Events & Finance Assistant*

**JESSICA PFRANGER**

*Director of Event & Tourism Sales*

**JULIE ROBERTS**

*Receptionist*

**JAYME SMITH**

*Director of Event Management*

**EMILY MAGID**

*Office Volunteer*

## DIVISIONS

### DOWNTOWN FRANKLIN ASSOCIATION

**HEIDI HOOD**

*Managing Director*

### THE FRANKLIN THEATRE

**ERIC DILTS**

*Managing Director*

**JULIE JACKSON**

*Hospitality Manager*

**EMILY KIVI**

*Event and Program Manager*

**SHEA MCKISSACK**

*Technical Director*

**MADISON PENDLETON**

*Operations Manager*

**AMY SAPP**

*Programming and Booking Consultant*

**KAY MUSGROVE**

*Lead Volunteers*

**BOB STEELE**

*Lead Volunteers*



# A Letter from Our President

Dear Friends,

Who doesn't love a horizon? The people of Williamson County certainly know great horizons, they're one of the vital aspects of this community that the Heritage Foundation fights to preserve. One thing that I especially appreciate about horizons is their aspirational nature...how they motivate you to be in their presence, yet make you work to get there.

For the Heritage Foundation, 2022 was a year of horizons. Across the entire organization, we discovered new ones and drew closer to those already before us.

After emerging from the pandemic, the future we envisioned for The Franklin Theatre feels closer than ever before. Sold-out shows with smiling faces that once seemed far away were once again a present reality. This reclaimed virtue of community gathering permeated into new programs from our Education & Preservation Department, the Downtown Franklin Association, and the record-setting attendance at our Heritage Ball and annual festivals.

As we advanced toward the Franklin Grove horizon, it proved to look different as we got closer. Off to the side was a different perspective where a previously unforeseen History & Culture Center opportunity offered a path for two distinct ideas to complement each other in a new, exciting vision for Franklin.

The vantage point that the Heritage Foundation team and I get to see every day is absolutely inspirational. Not only did 2022 see public discourse about historic preservation reach passionate new levels, but it reaffirmed that the horizons this nonprofit is pursuing are within reach and are accompanied by other beautiful opportunities right behind them.

Sincerely,

Bari Beasley  
President & CEO



HERITAGE  
FOUNDATION  
WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TN

## MISSION

*To preserve and share regional history, local historic places and signature events that carry on our community traditions and cultural heritage through fundraising, research, advocacy, education, preservation, and community engagement.*

## EDUCATION, PRESERVATION, ADVOCACY

The Heritage Foundation's Preservation, Education, and Advocacy department remained active within the community in 2022 to help empower historic preservationists throughout the region.

Nine community education events were presented by the team, including our Warwick Lecture Series, Summer Educator Institute, and the creation of a new Practical Preservation Series that offered advice on maintaining and rehabilitating historic homes in preservation-minded ways.

The 5th annual Preservation Symposium welcomed speakers from the Historic Charleston Foundation, Kinkead Foundation, and University of Mississippi to Franklin. Under the theme of "Perspectives of Preservation," they discussed historic preservation's impact on communities, especially at the intersection of commerce, history, education, and advocacy.

We also continued to shine a spotlight on at-risk historic resources and preservation champions with the announcement of fourteen Sites To Save and watchlist members, along with our annual Preservation Award winners. The community-

nominated Sites To Save list spanned across Williamson County and included Historic Franklin Masonic Hall, Old Natchez Trace, Burns Farm, Natchez Historic District, Gaylor House, Creekside Property, Beard's Grocery & Market, Frierson-Voorhies Cemetery, Daniel McMahan House, and Nolensville Historic Corridor. The 2022 Preservation Award winners were the Hard Bargain Neighborhood Association, the town of Thompson's Station, McLemore House, as well as 906 Architects for the Faup-Salazar residence and LeHew Mansion.

Other preservation and education initiatives included an in-depth ground penetrating radar (GPR) and archaeological excavation at Franklin Grove, delivering several preservation plans, property histories, and conditions assessment, launching our first college internship program, and partnering with numerous community organizations to teach and exhibit local history.

We concluded the year participating in and guiding a groundswell of community interest in preservation advocacy and activism while we worked to present a plan for preservation to the property owners of historic Beechwood Hall.







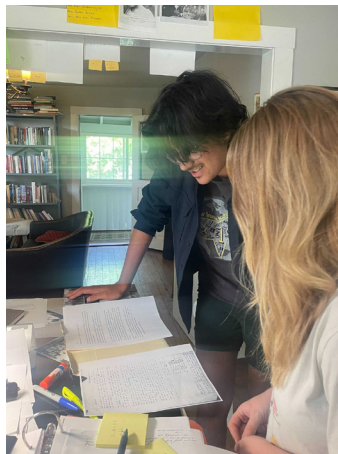
- Humanities TN SHARP Grant helps fund our Preservation & Education initiatives
- Grant Martin joins the team as Chief Advancement Officer



- Warwick Lecture Series: author Leigh Ann Gardner discusses “African American Lodges and Cemeteries in Tennessee”



- Annual Year in Review packs Franklin Theatre with surprise Emily West performance
- New Practical Preservation Series kicks off with Grace Abernethy, “The Art of Painting”
- Rachael Finch presents “Enslaved to Enlisted Men” at the College of William and Mary’s Lemon Project Symposium
- Cordia and Tom Harrington announced as chairs for the 49th Annual Heritage Ball



- Rachael Finch selected for the Southeastern Museum Conference’s 2nd annual Leadership Institute
- Frances Valentine brand hosts an exclusive pop-up shop fundraiser at the historic home of Ellen Smith



- 2nd annual Sites to Save list identifies 14 at-risk historic resources
- Warwick Lecture Series: University of the South professor Dr. Tiffany Momon, discusses “Black Craftspeople on the Tennessee Landscape”
- NextGen’s Spring Picnic hosts Williamson, Inc. Young Professionals, and the African American Heritage Society Young Leaders groups

- 5th Annual Preservation Symposium brings speakers from Historic Charleston Foundation, Kinkead Foundation, and University of Mississippi to Franklin

- HF’s Education & Preservation team presents at the National Council of Public History Conference



- Local teachers attend HF’s 2nd Annual Summer Educator Institute featuring scholars, historians, museum professionals, and National Park Service representatives
- HF’s first college internship program launched to teach research, fieldwork, and collections management



- Warwick Lecture Series: Rick Warwick discusses “The Material Culture of Williamson County”



869

Attend the 49th Annual Heritage Ball & Raise

\$1M

for Local Historic Preservation

22

Historic Locations Receive Fieldwork and Site Visits

14

Sites to Save & Watchlist Nominees Identified

1

National Register Building Acquired

7

Free Warwick Lectures & Practical Preservation Events Hosted

42k

Social & Email Reach



**AUG**

- Heritage Ball Patrons Party announces Patron Award-winner Alma McLemore and Tracy Frist Legacy Award-winner Katherine Malone-France
- Practical Preservation Series: Mike Hathaway of 906 Studio Architects discusses “Historic Home Renovations”



**SEP**

- Warwick Series: Rachael Finch shares “The Lee-Buckner Rosenwald School and the Influence of the Rosenwald Program in Williamson County”
- Rachael Finch presents “Interpreting the Landscape of Slavery, to Freedom, and Beyond at Franklin Grove” at The Slave Dwelling Project Conference at the College of Charleston

**OCT**

- 49th Annual Heritage Ball welcomes a record crowd to raise funds for historic preservation
- Jr. Heritage students’ 2nd Annual Jail & Bail fundraiser yields more than \$11K



**NOV**

- Grateful Gathering event celebrates HF’s corporate sponsors
- HF engages with owners of Beechwood Hall property to prepare a plan for preservation in 2023



**DEC**

- Five new members of the Foundation’s Board of Directors announced
- “Leave Your Mark” year-end fundraising campaign surpasses challenge match requirements





## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Heritage Foundation's message of community betterment through the protection and activation of historic and cultural resources continued to resonate with donors, volunteers, sponsors and the public in 2022. Grant Martin joined the organization in January as Chief Advancement Officer to spearhead fundraising efforts throughout the organization.

Renowned musician Michael W. Smith and his wife Debbie hosted our Patrons Party where guests mingled, enjoyed drinks and hors d'oeuvres, bid on exclusive items, and honored Patron Award winner Alma McLemore and Tracy Frist Legacy Award winner Katherine Malone-France.

Cordia and Tom Harrington chaired the 49th Annual Heritage Ball presented by Lee Company and wowed its record number of guests by making everyone feel like stars with red carpet photo opportunities, broadcast

interviews, and a performance by Tony and Grammy Award winner Heather Headley. The evening featured an immersive visual experience with a song accompanied by special effects imagery of Williamson County's people and places being projected onto the walls and ceiling.

The future generation of preservationists actively participated throughout the year as Next Gen's Late Party and Spring Picnic introduced young professionals to the cause, and Jr. Heritage students held their second Jail & Bail fundraiser at the Old, Old Jail and raised over \$11,000 for the organization.

The community also gave of their time to help welcome guests at our festivals, usher people to their seats at The Franklin Theatre, share news and resources from the Heritage Foundation with others, and let their voice be heard online and in civic meetings in support of preservation advocacy.

1,047  
Committed Donors

54  
Business Members  
(125% Increase from 2021)

94  
Corporate Sponsors

742  
Volunteers

2,300+  
Hours of  
Donated Time

5  
Grants Received



SYDNEY BALL (Chair)	CLAIRE MCINTURFF
LAURA STENDEL (Co-Chair)	MICHAEL MALONE
LAUREN DRURY	DAVID MARSHALL
SAMANTHA GERKEN	ZAC OLINGER
CHASE HARPER	ALYSSA SCHWARTZ
HUNTER JONES	



JOHN DENTON (Chair)	EVEY KNOPF
DUNCAN KNOPF	JACKSON ROWLEY







## MISSION

*To lead the continued revitalization and purposeful evolution of downtown Franklin in the context of historic preservation by building a diverse economic base, promoting unique features and the buy-local experience, fostering inviting and accessible people-centric public spaces, and forging partnerships across sectors.*



# DOWNTOWN FRANKLIN ASSOCIATION

2022 was a year of expansion and deeper engagement with members of the Downtown Franklin Association (DFA). The membership grew 52% year-over-year to 190 members strong, and active outreach to building owners accompanied a growth among business owners and community organizations.

The DFA established new offerings to support the goals of its members. DFA University made business experts available through seminars and workshops; DFA Mixers helped busy members network and grow relationships; and DFA Masterminds offered roundtable focus groups among members.

The inaugural DFA Awards allowed the public to vote across multiple categories for the members who best demonstrate outstanding customer service or guest experiences, offer

unique and high-quality recipes, products, or services, and give back to the community. The Awards culminated with a ceremony at The Harpeth Hotel in January.

In addition, DFA relaunched the beloved Franklin Locals program in 2022. These streetside community concierges create a great visitor experience in downtown Franklin by pointing guests to resources, offering directions, and answering questions from a Franklin insider perspective.

The year ended with DFA advocating for the creation of a Commercial Historic Tax Overlay, which would defray some of the property taxes on downtown building owners that trickle down to small businesses, and ultimately help retain the “shop local” charm of Downtown Franklin.

**364K+**

Festival  
Attendees

**\$10M**

Local Economic  
Impact

**190**

DFA Members  
(52% Increase  
From 2021)



- Annual Main Street America Accreditation Application



- Launched new DFA Mixers member networking series
- The Downtown Building Owners collaborative group was initiated
- Hosted the Inaugural Downtown Franklin Awards



- 2021 Festivals economic impact study released touting 253K attendees, \$8.25M in local spending, and \$747K in estimated tax revenue
- Beloved Franklin Locals concierge program revamped and relaunched



- 38th Annual Main Street Festival attracts a record 142K attendees



- DFA University business education initiative established
- DFA qualifies Franklin as a TN Smart Start™ community to support small businesses and entrepreneurs
- Nancy Williams of TN's Main Street Program presents at Heritage Foundation's Practical Preservation Series



- DFA Masterminds program launches strategic round table gatherings with local business experts
- DFA's Main Street America accreditation renewed as an acknowledgement of alignment with the successful national program

99%

Ground Floor  
Occupancy Rate

435

Festival Vendors &

32

Nonprofit Exhibitors

97K

Social &  
Email Reach

30

Member  
Meetings





- Hosted a seminar with renowned Main Street consultant Bob Gibbs



- Advocated for commercial property tax resolution to protect small businesses
- 37th Annual PumpkinFest™ brings a record 112K festival-goers to downtown



- Hosted Hop & Shop Trolley and promoted Small Business Saturday shopping after Thanksgiving



- 37th Annual Dickens of a Christmas welcomes 110K visitors despite cold and rainy conditions
- Dickens of a Christmas hosts New York's official Times Square 2023 numerals



## 2022 DFA ADVISORY BOARD

JOHN BOND, *Chair*  
JOE BAMFORD  
ASHLEY CLARK  
BRYAN DOLESHEL  
KIMBERLY ELDER  
KIM LEISINGER  
RYAN MCKINNEY  
BRIAN MOYER  
JODY TODD

LAUREN WARD  
BEN WHEELER  
ALMA MCLEMORE  
SHARON MCNEELY  
JIM MCREYNOLDS  
ELLEN MORE  
ED SILVA  
CYRIL STEWART  
SUSAN WHITAKER



## DOWNTOWN FESTIVALS

Our beloved downtown festivals returned to their normal schedule in 2022 with record setting attendance and a robust multi-million-dollar economic impact for the entire region.



April's Main Street Festival sponsored by First Horizon celebrate its 38th anniversary with over a record 142,000 guests enjoying arts, crafts, food, entertainment, and interactive themed areas such as PetZone, KidsZone, and the new Spring Street which featured collaborative art projects and installations that offered amazing photo opportunities.



Beautiful autumn weather during October's PumpkinFest™ sponsored by FirstBank helped set a single-day festival attendance record of 110,000 people. Miss America Emma Broyles helped kick off the celebration as gourd-centric games, apple cider, local musicians, and the fan-favorite pet and family costume contests once again had Williamson County showcasing its creativity, friendliness, and even spookiness as we embraced Fall.



Despite the cold, the two-day Dickens of a Christmas sponsored by Wilson Bank & Trust delivered (artificial) snow, Victorian carolers and characters, plenty of musical performances, warming hot chocolate or whiskey, holiday shopping, and even Times Square's official 2023 numerals to downtown. Over its thirty-eight years, this festival tradition has attracted millions of guests to be among the merchants, performers, artisans, and craftsmen who gift our community this exhilarating opportunity to usher in the holiday season.



364K+  
Attendees Equaling  
**\$10M**  
In Local  
Economic Impact

THREE FESTIVALS







## THE FRANKLIN THEATRE

The year began with the appointment of Eric Dilts as Managing Director, which brought seasoned entertainment and nonprofit leadership into the fold to guide The Jewel of Main Street into the future.

Over the year, programs and processes were created and honed to further the Theatre's effectiveness in accomplishing its mission. Group Experience Packages were established for tour groups, businesses or individual groups to have customized theatrical experiences. A new "Christmas in July" promotion accelerated ticket sales months before the holiday season, and Pay-What-You-Can and Holiday movies returned with sponsorship support from Atmos Energy and Republic Bank. During the festivals, we also opened our doors to the community offering free cartoons, football games, performances, and tours.

2022 saw new and diverse programming options for the community to enjoy. We hosted three regional movie premieres, "Mysterious Circumstances," "It's Christmas Again," and Baz Luhrman's "ELVIS" starring Tom Hanks, which became a fundraiser for the theatre with actors and musicians tied to the movie in attendance at this red-carpet affair. The Nashville Film Festival also ventured into Williamson County showing



11 independent films on our screen, thus further adding to our cultural prestige. Performance-wise, we hosted 174 live events, from international artists to local favorites, and distributed over 46,000 tickets across our various Jackson®-supported series and other rentals.

In philanthropic news, Tom & Sue Jellison made a significant donation which established an endowment helping to underwrite some of the facility upkeep of this historic 1930's era theatre. Due to their financial support over the years, we were thrilled to name the auditorium after Emily Magid in honor of her purchase and donation of the Theatre in 2007, and an anonymous gift enabled us to christen the David Garrett Green Room for his longstanding generosity.

**MISSION**  
*To provide diverse world-class performing arts experiences to Williamson County residents and visitors and to be a platform for local philanthropic engagement and education, while providing unparalleled guest service.*



**46K**  
Tickets Distributed  
(47% increase over 2021)

**174**  
Live Events

**149**  
Movie Screenings

**105**  
Rental Events

## 2022 Performances & Events

- Academy of St. Martin in the Fields
- Act Too Players
- Amy Ray
- Augustana
- Beth Nielsen Chapman
- Black Violin
- Buddy Jewell
- Charles Esten
- Christmas with the King
- CMA Foundation Benefit with Ingrid Andress, Caitlyn Smith, and Lainey Wilson
- Dailey & Vincent
- Darrell Scott
- Emily West
- Five for Fighting
- Gary Morris
- George Winston
- Giordano Dance Chicago
- Glenn Miller Orchestra
- Herman's Hermits starring Peter Noone
- Hot Tuna
- Jake Shimabukuro
- Jars of Clay
- Jason Hudy
- JD Souther
- Jesse Cook
- John Chisum
- Johnny and The Devil's Box
- Joanne Shaw Taylor
- Julie Fowlis
- Kathy Mattea & Suzy Bogguss
- Keifer Sutherland
- Kris Allen & Trent Harmon
- Ladies Night Out
- Lee Roy Parnell
- Levi Kreis
- Lori Mechem Quartet
- Los Angeles Guitar Quartet
- Louis York & The Shindellas
- Mandy Barnett
- Mariachi Divas de Cindy Shea
- Mary Gauthier
- Melinda Doolittle
- Michael Martin Murphey
- Michael Feinstein & Studio Tenn
- Movie Gang
- Nashville Film Festival
- New Year's Eve Concert, by Matt Logan Productions
- Pam Tillis
- Patty Griffin
- Paul Thorn
- Paula Cole
- Point of Grace
- Popovich Comedy Pet Theatre
- Pure Prairie League
- Quebe Sisters
- Richard Marx
- Rickie Lee Jones
- Rickie Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder
- Riders in the Sky
- Riley Clemmons
- Seals & Crofts 2
- She Sings
- Slim Gambill
- SNAP
- Sophie B. Hawkins
- Southern Avenue
- Street Corner Symphony
- Studio Tenn's A Christmas Carol
- Taylor Hughes
- The Abrams
- The Dillard's
- The English Beat
- The Fixx
- The Gatlin Brothers
- The Issacs
- The Petersens
- The Seldom Scene
- The Waterboys
- Veritas



**632K+**

Tickets Sold  
(since 2011)

**\$59K**

In In-kind Donations  
To Other Nonprofits

**155**

Personal Marquee  
Messages

**100+**

Tours Given

**\$15K**

Raised From  
Marquee Messages

**27**

Nonprofits & Schools  
Served – A Platform  
for Philanthropy & Education

**363**

Donors

**102K**

Reach Via  
Social & Email



## JAN

- International blues guitarist Joanne Shaw Taylor records concert for national PBS broadcast
- Patti Griffin concert plays a sold-out show

## FEB

- Eric Dilts joins The Franklin Theatre as Managing Director
- Renowned jazz dance company Giordano Dance Chicago performs

## MAR

- Auditorium named in honor of Emily Magid and artist Green Room ceremoniously named for David Garrett
- Sold out three-night Richard Marx residency begins

## APR

- Celebrated artist Carolyn Beehler unveils new Franklin Theatre-inspired painting
- Kathy Mattea & Suzy Bogguss perform to a packed house

## MAY

- World-renowned Korean Illusionists, SNAP, perform for families
- Act Too Players presents student performances of Seussical, Heathers, and more

## JUN

- Hosted Oscar-nominated “ELVIS” regional movie premiere; raised \$30,000 for the Franklin Theatre; director Baz Luhrmann Facetimes with crowd

## JUL

- “Pay What You Can” movies return supported by Atmos Energy
- “Christmas in July” ticket promotion sells out select holiday movie screenings



## AUG

- Movie Gang partnership relaunches bringing interactive fun to cult classic movie screenings
- Group Experience Packages launch to offer custom theatre experiences

## SEP

- Inaugural Pilgrimage Music & Cultural Festival kick-off concert showcases Amy Ray Band
- Successful CMA Foundation Benefit hosts country stars Ingrid Andress, Caitlyn Smith, and Lainey Wilson



## OCT

- Tom & Sue Jellison donation establishes endowment to support Theatre’s long-term operations
- Hosted 11 Nashville Film Festival screenings and guest directors, actors, musicians and producers

## NOV

- Riders in the Sky choose Franklin Theatre for their sold-out 45th Anniversary show

## DEC

- Festive holiday movies and concerts pack the house all month long
- “Center of the Universe” fundraising campaign successfully exceeds challenge match from James Deering Danielson Foundation





## Nonprofits Served - a Platform for Local Philanthropy

- Act Too Players
- Battle Ground Academy
- Blood:Water Mission (*Jars of Clay*)
- Clearview Baptist Church
- Children's Organ Transplant Association  
(COTA)
- Franklin Elementary  
(*O'Shea & Friends*)
- Frist Center for Autism
- Gateway Chamber Orchestra
- Healing House
- Hearts 2 Honduras
- Alex LeVasseur Advised Fund  
(*Jeffrey Steele*)
- Hands Across the Sea  
(*John Chisum*)
- K-LOVE / Educational Media Foundation
- Morning Pointe Senior Living
- New Purpose Church
- New Song Church
- O'More College / Belmont University
- Old Friends Sr. Dog Sanctuary
- One Generation Away
- Operation Song
- Rock for ALS
- St. Philip's Catholic Church
- Studio Tenn
- TedX Franklin
- The Nikki Mitchell Foundation
- Thistle Farms (*She Sings*)

### 2022 FRANKLIN THEATRE ADVISORY BOARD

JENNIFER PARKER, <i>Chair</i>	PAUL JANKOWSKI
TREY BRUCE	SHERRI LEATHERS
RAMON CISNEROS	DEBBIE SCHWARTZ LINN
NANCI DAHL	MATT LOGAN
CHRISTI DORTCH	DIONNE LUCAS
FLETCHER FOSTER	EMILY MAGID
DAVID GARRETT	TJ PORTIS
DAN HASELTINE	DAN ROGERS
GARY HOOD	







# FRANKLIN GROVE ESTATE & GARDENS

## HISTORY & CULTURE CENTER

The historic preservation best practice of adaptive reuse was fully enacted in exciting ways in 2022 across two divisions of the Heritage Foundation: Franklin Grove Estate & Gardens and The History & Culture Center of Williamson County.

Franklin Grove made great strides toward becoming a reality through an ongoing dialogue with citizens and government representatives. The iterative process generated four site plan variations, which yielded the current version that received approval to move toward the design development phase of the project. This exciting plan includes a museum of art, natural gardens, the historic Lee-Buckner Rosenwald school, and the current Franklin Innovation Center, managed by Williamson, Inc. 2022 offered a renewed sense of excitement for the gifts this former college campus will offer through art, nature, history, education, and entrepreneurship. We received a glimpse of future stories that will be uncovered at Franklin Grove when we celebrated Lee-Buckner's 95th birthday with the school's living alumni, conducted

an in-depth ground penetrating radar (GPR) survey, and held an archaeological excavation.

Serendipitously, a National Register of Historic Places building from 1907 became available, right next door to our current headquarters in downtown Franklin. In the spring, we purchased the former McConnell House and announced plans to create The History & Culture Center of Williamson County. Envisioned as a state-of-the-art immersive experience, our team conducted several interpretive planning focus groups with local community members and history professionals for the Center. With a goal of becoming a new destination for discovering stories related to Williamson County's significant social, economic, and cultural history, the Center will also act as an in-demand, revenue-generating private event rental space. The Center's existence played a key role in successfully modifying plans for Franklin Grove and helping the organization progress towards project realization as both landmark properties will complement each other perfectly.



FRANKLIN  
*Grove*  
ESTATE & GARDENS

### MISSION

*To be a landmark destination that creates a sense of place, timelessness, and beauty for all people to engage with education, art, history, nature, and community.*



History and  
Culture Center  
WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TN

### MISSION

*To serve as a gateway to middle Tennessee's historic people, places, and stories that engage, inspire, and impact our collective future.*



### 2022 FRANKLIN GROVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- |                               |                           |                        |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| SONDRA MORRIS<br><i>Chair</i> | TRACY FRIST               | ALMA MCLEMORE          |
| DANNY ANDERSON                | DAVID GARRETT             | SHARON MCNEELY         |
| TOM ATEMA                     | AMOS GOTT                 | JIM MCREYNOLDS         |
| AMANDA BLEDSOE                | MAUREEN HALEY<br>THORNTON | ELLEN MORE<br>ED SILVA |
| JOHN BOND                     | CHASE HARPER              | CYRIL STEWART          |
| JILL COLE                     | GUY HASKINS               | SUSAN WHITAKER         |
| MICHAEL DAMICO                | MATT LARGEN               |                        |
| JOSH DENTON                   | CALVIN LEHEW              |                        |



## JAN

- Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) archaeological study begins

## MAR

- Lee-Buckner History Day brings alumni to celebrate 95th birthday of the Rosenwald schoolhouse; Franklin Grove oral history project begins

## APR

- Former McConnell House building purchased
- Two-day archaeological dig conducted
- WKRN TV shares news of unearthed artifacts at Franklin Grove

## MAY

- Press conference announces creation of The History & Culture Center of Williamson County, TN
- New williamsonhistorycenter.org website launched

## JUN

- Latest site plan released and garnered community support

## JUL

- \$100K-worth of facility infrastructure improvements concludes
- Humanities Tennessee Education awards grant for special Lee-Buckner photography exhibit launching in 2023



## AUG

- History Center reopened for event rentals



## OCT

- Franklin Walking Tours and Paranormal Tennessee host night tours at History Center
- Community focus groups and historians contribute to History Center interpretive plan process
- Site plan receives approval from Franklin Historic Zoning Commission
- Heritage Foundation college interns conduct archaeological field study around the Perkins-Winstead Mansion

## NOV

- Boy Scouts of America named nonprofit contest winner of free use of History Center for a private event

## DEC

Leadership Middle Tennessee and Visit Franklin hosted for meetings at History Center

3

Innovation Center Tenants,  
Selected by Williamson, Inc.

4

Site Plan Versions  
Iterations

10

Community Meetings  
Held

382

Franklin Grove  
Community Ambassadors

14

History Center  
Events Hosted

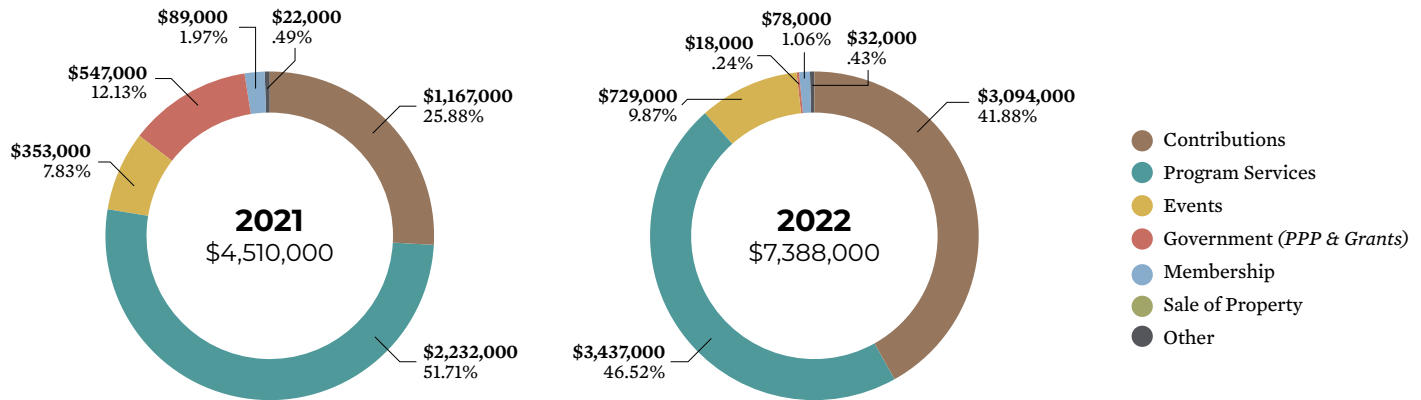
\$100K

Invested in  
Infrastructure  
Improvements

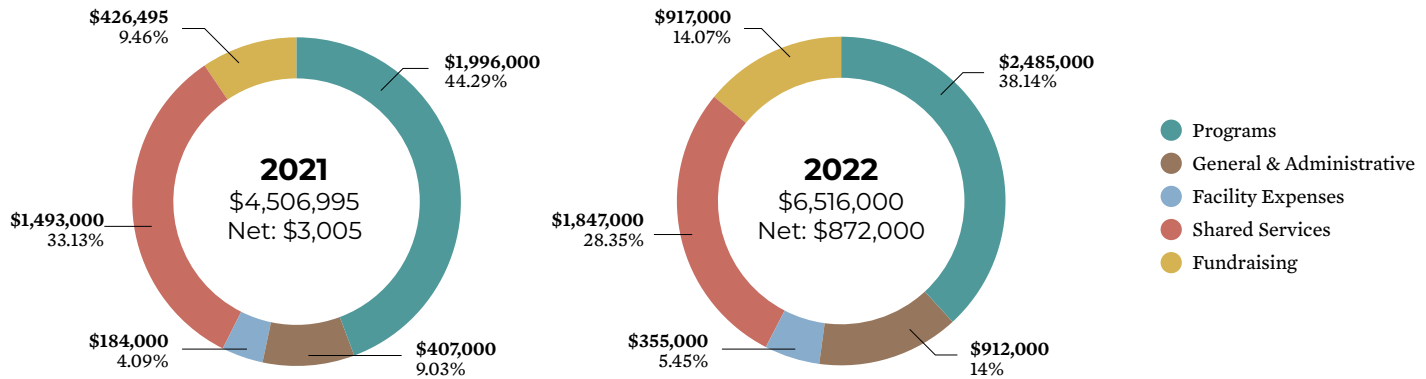


**FINANCIALS:** The Heritage Foundation's consolidated operating revenue including its Franklin Theatre, Downtown Franklin Association, Franklin Grove, and History and Culture Center divisions totaled \$7.39 million for the year January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. Expenses for that same period totaled \$6.51 million with a net profit of \$872,000.

### SOURCES OF FUNDING



### USES OF FUNDING



# OUR DONORS & SPONSORS



HERITAGE  
FOUNDATION  
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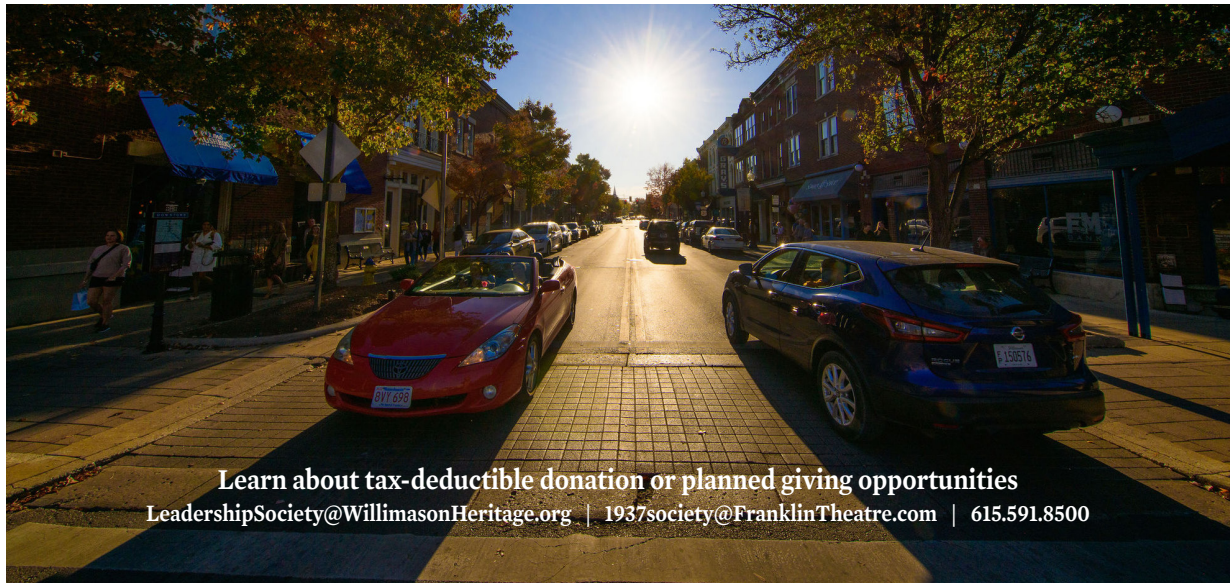
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2022 Year in Review

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