

Thank you for your continued support of the work of Griot Arts in Clarksdale! Griot WOULD NOT happen without the backing of our community.

Open up now for updates on some exciting new things to come!

282 SUNFLOWER AVE
CLARKSDALE, MS 38614



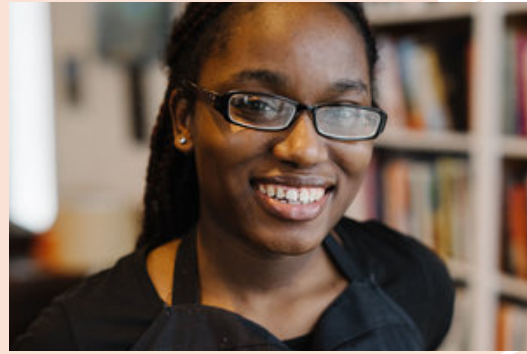
Create Some Good

CLARKSDALE, MISSISSIPPI

BI-ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2021



DONATE NOW AT WWW.GRIOTARTS.ORG



CELEBRATING 10 YEARS



OF ENRICHING OUR YOUTH



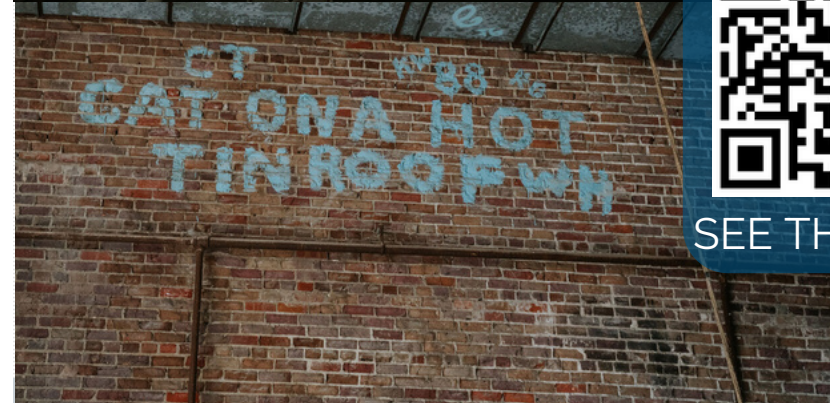
@GRIOTYOUTHPROGRAM

PARAMOUNT

THEATER PROJECT



SEE THE PLAN



HELP US REACH OUR GOAL!

Griot is in the planning stage for our new building project. Each dollar donated helps fund the development of this renovation. Please consider donating today!

OUR FUTURE: GRIOT ARTS BRINGING YAZOO AVENUE TO LIFE



Griot recently received a generous donation of the 12,000 square foot historic Paramount Theater on Yazoo Avenue in downtown Clarksdale and the adjoining (former JC Penny) 3-story, 21,000 square foot building. They will provide a state-of-the-art home for our expanded arts programs including a full-scale dance program, music program, and community theater. The theater will also serve as a space for performances, lectures, films, concerts, festivals, events, and our expanded Meraki Coffee Roastery and Cafe. Bringing new life to downtown Clarksdale, the new buildings will be a gathering space for the whole community to share in the cultural richness of the Mississippi Delta.

In order to adequately prepare for Griot Arts to move our programming to this new building, we have created a 3-5 year strategic plan to expand current programming, hire new administrative and program staff, and create more robust partnerships with local and regional institutions. This plan also includes strategy to engage new funders and to grow a capital campaign. In order for funders of this category to commit to a project of this size, they need to see buy-in from the local community.

Here's where we need you!

DONATE NOW!

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT, DON'T MISS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO INVEST IN THE FUTURE OF CLARKSDALE!

gri·ot (n.)

A member of a class of traveling poets, musicians, and storytellers who maintain and pass down their community's history.



Mission

Our mission is to empower young people in Clarksdale, Mississippi to create positive change in their lives and community by providing access to opportunities in the arts, education, and workforce development in a Christ-centered environment.

Vision

Our vision is to cultivate creativity and compassion in the lives of young people within the greater community. We work to see our community flourish, with its people having an ever-growing relationship with God, one another, and the created world. We promote the social well-being and development of our students, encouraging them to realize their God-given brilliance. We hope that all people are drawn to our fellowship, as we joyfully welcome all people into our family regardless of religious belief.

Values



CHRIST

*hope for
our future*



CREATIVITY

*changemakers
in our community*



COMMUNITY

*service to
others*



COMPASSION

*love for our
neighbors*

GRIOT ARTS HAS TWO CORE PROGRAMS:



MOSAIC ARTS PROGRAM (3RD-12TH GRADE)
 Mosaic students attend art, music, dance, and theater classes focused on developing artistic, interpersonal, and socio-emotional skills.

MERAKI FELLOWS PROGRAM (16-24 YEARS OLD)
 Meraki fellows work in the coffee shop and undergo intensive training in workforce skills, professionalism, and interpersonal communication.



muh·rah·kee (v.)

To do something with soul, creativity and love; to put a piece of yourself into your work.

Our Financials

SUPPORT & REVENUE

2019/2021

CONTRIBUTIONS	\$307,737.36
GRANTS	\$487,294.46
PROGRAM GENERATED INCOME	\$236,901.28
TOTAL REVENUE	\$1,031,933.10

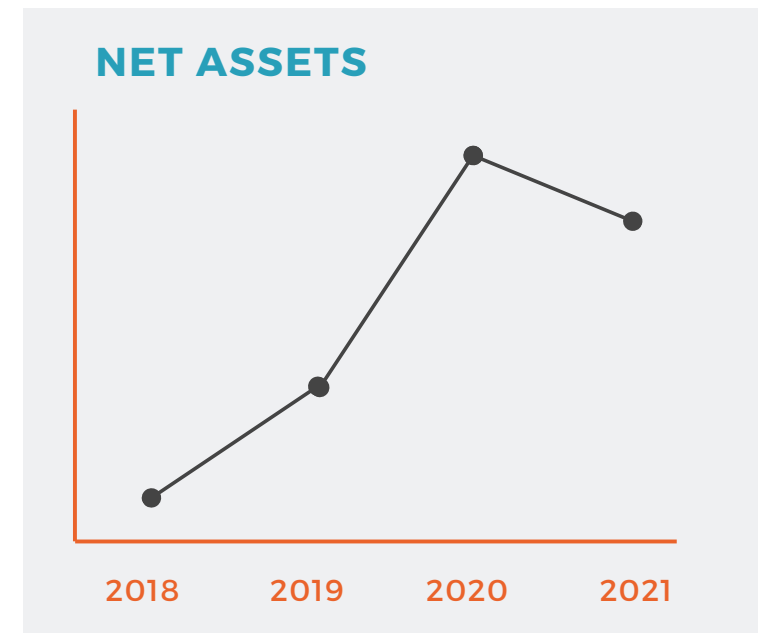
EXPENSES

PERSONNEL	\$455,920.52
PROGRAM SERVICES & OPERATIONS	\$418,507.99
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$874,428.51

NET ASSETS

NET ASSETS AS OF JULY 31, 2018	\$40,873.39
NET ASSETS AS OF JULY 31, 2019	\$147,619.40
NET ASSETS AS OF JULY 31, 2020	\$371,676.37
NET ASSETS AS OF JULY 31, 2021	\$306,118.57

Over several years, Griot has been working to mature our operational and financial goals. Since 2018, Griot developed a reserve fund of 20% of our annual budget. This fund proved necessary to weather the uncertainty due to Covid-19 with financial stability. We continue the development and maintenance of our CRM donor management system that allows us to better manage, cultivate, and steward our donor base. We have also renewed our board's commitment to fundraising, and updated our giving policy to reflect our goal of 100% board giving.



Board of Directors

President: Cali Noland
Artist // Founder and Former E.D. of Griot Arts

Secretary: Brenda Lockett
Retired // Educator, and co-founder of the North MS Civil Rights Museum

Treasurer: Julian Gallo
Ecommerce Specialist at E. & J. Gallo Winery // Former E.D. of Griot Arts

Mary Martha Bobo
Retired // Former teacher and longtime volunteer/mentor with Griot Arts

Leonette Henderson
Strategy at The Aspen Institute // Former E.D. of Griot Arts

Liberty Lee
Vice President at BBVA // Commercial Banker and Small Business Owner

Hattie Shivers
Retired // Coahoma County Tax Assessor & Tax Collector

Erica Clayton
Education Administrator // Former Griot Program Parent

Donald Knapp
Lawyer // Attorney at Knapp Law Firm and business consultant

Bill Gresham
Retired // City Prosecutor and Assistant DA at 11th Circuit Court



Staff

Benjamin Lewis
Interim Executive Director

Adrianna Butler
Workforce Development Director

Isabella Dallas
Arts Director

Sharmonica Carter
Communications Director

Dr. Casandra Banks
Education Coordinator

Anna Carson Tyner
Americorps VISTA Intern

Eugene Wilson
Lead Coffee Roaster



SUPPORT US

Want to support Mosaic?
Scan the QR code and help us grow these numbers!

82

Students attended mosaic arts programming during 2019-2021

168

Average hours spent in art classes, per student

59

Different classes and workshops offered

81%

Perfect attendance



Claim a Free Coffee

29

Number of Meraki Fellows

1,220

The number of hours students have spent developing social and emotional skills

11,512

The combined total number of practical learning hours in which fellows have received real time feedback and served the community

18,496

Number of orders prepared for a unique 4,005 customers

What's happening at that coffee shop downtown?

In addition to providing opportunities for young adults in the community, Meraki is a business bringing money and life into our downtown! Over the last 2 years, our Meraki program has generated over

\$233,000

In income for our nonprofit. That \$\$ goes right back into helping more young people!

23

Students graduated and placed in school, job, or internship



MERAKI ROASTING CO

BY GRIOT ARTS INC

coffee with soul. youth with a future.

Every day ambitious young people come to work at Meraki Coffee Roasters to learn to roast coffee and craft espresso drinks while building skills that will help them come closer to finding their God-given calling. While we are making excellent coffee, we teach young people in Clarksdale what it means to work with the Meraki ideals: to put soul, creativity, and love into their work. Through small batch roasting, Meraki Coffee Roasters produces excellent coffee. By buying Meraki Coffee, you are not only getting high-quality, freshly roasted coffee, but you are also changing the lives of many young people in the Mississippi Delta.

