



# Arts & Scraps COVID Response

*How we proudly continued to make an impact during the pandemic thanks to the dedicated support of our community.*



While the pandemic has continued beyond 2020, the year itself challenged us in ways that we never could have imagined.

Historically, Arts & Scraps has been almost “recession proof” because of our focus on earned income, but this year that turned out to be proven wrong. Without the ability to teach in person, our programs were largely discontinued. To keep our staff and community safe, we limited the amount of people allowed in the store for the first time. Typically, we only close a few days a year, but this year we were closed for 5 months.

With the support of our community, we were able to keep our staff employed while finding new ways to continue impacting lives and reusing materials. We met new friends and partners along the way and continued to work alongside our existing Arts & Scraps family. I am incredibly proud of our staff and board for how they stepped outside of their comfort zones and gave extra because of their belief in our mission. Without them, our donors and supporters, we surely would have lost Arts & Scraps this year. Instead, we continued to make an impact and build community.

Our story was very different this year, but it was still an incredible one. We have learned many new things that we will take with us into the future. Thank you for all you have done to make Arts & Scraps the mission it is, especially this year.

- Ang Adamiak, Executive Director

Well, one tough and trying year has quickly passed and turned into two! I am so proud to see the ways that Arts & Scraps has learned and adapted this past year. The closures, and changes to our day to day have been monumental... but the team keeps on!

Changing the way we do things everyday has been no small feat. Our teams have worked from home, reached out to the communities in different ways, and brought ideas to the table to "think outside the box". In a way we are recycling and reusing our approach to make sure that we continue to make the biggest impact possible.

In a world where so many people (and specifically children) have been affected by this pandemic we are doing our best to allow their creativity to THRIVE! Moving things to digital platforms, keeping our store and teams safe and allowing our communities to still be creative in times of uncertainty and unrest is what makes Arts & Scraps who they are!

As a board, we are so excited to reflect on 2020 as a year where we learned and came together as an organization (closer than ever before). We are excited for 2021 and know that we are ready to grow and impact more people everyday!

- Kelly Tabaczynski, Board Chair



# Supply Kits



**We provided Detroit families with over 5,500 supply kits containing recycled materials for learning and creating from home. They were designed to relieve stress and anxiety while providing children with creative stimulation and educational exercises.**

**This was made possible through building partnerships with other local non-profits, foundation giving and grassroots fundraising.**



# Community Store

We provided 500 pounds of free fabric and elastic to artists who made masks and distributed them to the community.



In support of the fight for racial justice, we supplied 100 pounds of free materials to make Black Lives Matter signs for peaceful protests.

We resourced the community with 300 free holiday cards to feel more connected during the social distanced holiday season.





# Virtual Programs



In partnership with Project Art, Green Living Science, Mint Artists Guild and Brilliant Detroit, we offered **free** *STEAM Summer Camp in a Bag* virtual classes. All students were provided with supply kits for hands-on engagement during the virtual lessons.

## *Frustration Free Toolkit*

FREE workshops for parents to be prepared to take on virtual learning with new tools in their own at home learning "toolkit."



Instructor:  
Dana Robinson

We also offered online workshops to give parents the tools to navigate virtual learning with their children. These *Frustration Free Toolkit* workshops were made possible through the support of Community Connections.



# Virtual Programs



Our instructors created a series of engaging online tutorial videos for families to discover ideas and inspiration for home activities.

These activities were demonstrated with accessible items from around the house and the free tutorials were available online.

We hosted a 6 part live series highlighting local BIPOC artists called *Detroit Creative Space Exchange*.

During these virtual explorations of their art and creative spaces, we had open discussions about creating art during a pandemic.





# Partnerships



**projectart**



East Eats partnered with us to raffle a dome dining experience in effort to fundraise for our Community Store Scholarship Fund.



East English Village Neighborhood Association supported us through giving and promotion as we resourced the community.



Detroit Creativity Project partnered with us to teach collaborative online STEM classes through creative reuse and improvisation.



# Artist Support



## Drawn to Detroit

*Donated proceeds from Detroit themed online art sale*



## Stef & Ty

*Local designers sponsored fabric for face mask making*



## Emily Vastbinder

*Volunteered her time to make masks for the community*



## Honeycomb Art Design

*Donated proceeds from online illustration art sales*



## Gerard + Belevendar

*Created an I-Spy style photography book with materials from our store and donated proceeds*



## John Brown

*Donated proceeds from online sticker art sales*



# Volunteers



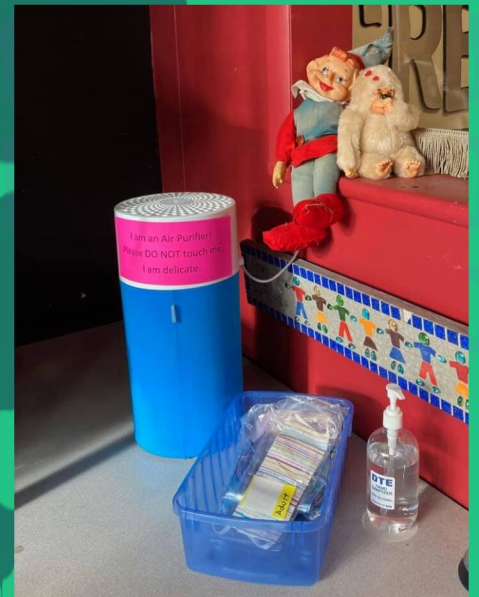
Throughout the pandemic, we depended on the support of 1,016 dedicated volunteers to help us continue serving the community.

An emergency COVID relief operation as large as assembling over 5,000 creative learning supply kits was only possible through our volunteers dedication.



# Health & Safety

*How we kept our staff, volunteers and community safe through use of PPE and newly developed safety measures.*



**For the health and safety of our community, we offered shopping by contactless curbside pickup and appointment only. This allowed shoppers, staff and volunteers to maintain social distancing.**

**We also made masks and sanitizer available, while air purifiers and plexiglass were on site at our store and warehouse.**

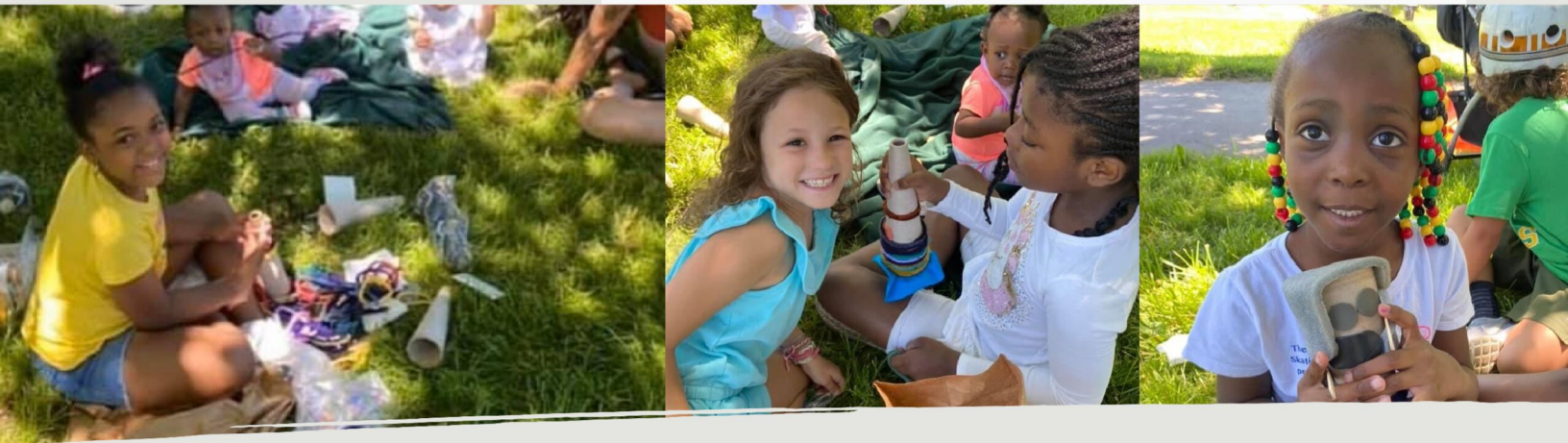
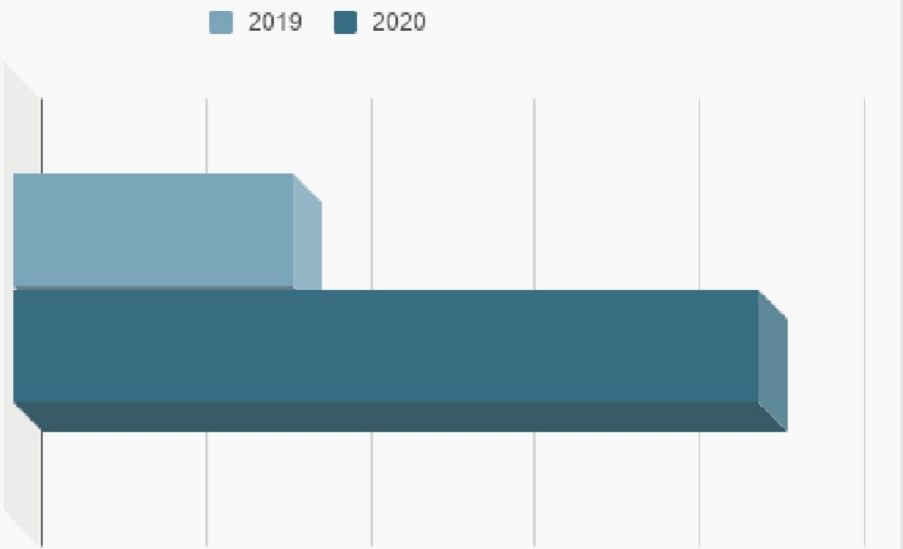
**Additionally, we launched our new remote volunteering opportunities.**



# Community Giving

In 2021, our individual donor base increased by 167%.

Individual donations



**This growth in community giving empowered us to increase our impact in new and meaningful ways.**

*In March we raised enough funds to assemble and distribute **605 creative learning supply kits.***

*In August, we were able to provide **20 free virtual classes** through donor support.*

*In December, we fundraised to resource **175 local artists, teachers and non-profit organizations.***



# News Stories



The Detroit News

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## Detroit nonprofit to give out 5,000 creative learning supply kits for families

**MAUREEN FEIGHAN** | THE DETROIT NEWS  
Updated 2:36 p.m. EDT Mar. 25, 2020



DETROITNEWS.COM

Detroit nonprofit to give out 5,000 creative learning supply kits for families

## 11 ways to volunteer in Detroit, whether you're venturing out or staying at home

Give the gift of your time to help Detroiters in need.



## STEAM Summer Camp in a Bag – FREE for Detroit Families

BY AMBER LOUCHART · PUBLISHED JULY 24, 2020 · UPDATED JULY 24, 2020

Looking for something fun to keep your child engaged over the summer? Arts & Scraps is partnering with Project Art, Brilliant Detroit and Mint Artists Guild to help families access free educational and creative materials and attend virtual classes 5 days a week. These four nonprofit organizations are working together to provide fun and engaging STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) classes in response to the community's need of resources during the COVID-19 pandemic.



**METRO DETROIT MOMMY**  
a Family Fun Guide for Southeast Michigan



The Detroit News

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## Handmade: Nonprofits work to keep Detroit students learning

**JOCELYNN BROWN** | THE DETROIT NEWS  
7:03 p.m. EDT Apr. 16, 2020





# Thank you to our wonderful supporters!

*You are the reason why we were able to continue making an impact in the community during such a challenging year.*

