

# Igniting *our* Impact



**A WINDOW BETWEEN WORLDS**  
2023 Impact Report



# An Invitation *from* Zachery



It is with immense pride and heartfelt gratitude that I present to you the **2023 Impact Report** of A Window Between Worlds (AWBW).

As we stand on the threshold of a new chapter of our organization, we are buoyed by the incredible milestone of having **reached over 500,000 participants since our inception in 1991.**

This achievement is more than a number; it represents countless lives touched, spirits uplifted, and communities strengthened through our signature healing arts program. Each window of time, each moment of connection, each piece of art tells a story of courage, transformation, and renewal.

After several years of meteoric growth, last year we launched our **Fueling the Future** campaign focused on raising critical funds to increase our internal capacity & build the lasting infrastructure needed to accommodate increased demand for our program nationwide & abroad.

This pivotal initiative is more than just raising money; it's about investing in the future—our collective future.

With these funds, we are set to revolutionize our approach through innovative technology and systems that strengthen sustainability and connection over time.

“  
***In this critical moment of growth, learning, and development, your role becomes ever more crucial. You are the architects of our future, the heart of our mission.***

Amidst a world often shadowed by trauma, AWWB stands as a beacon of hope for so many, offering a unique sanctuary where creativity ignites resilience, fosters recovery, and illuminates pathways to a brighter tomorrow.

We invite you to join us in this transformative campaign and see yourself as an essential part of our next chapter. Let us continue to build on this legacy of hope and healing, propelling AWWB towards new horizons – together.

With gratitude,

**Zachery Scott-Hillel,**  
Executive Director



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Explore our Work



# Our 2023 Impact



**516**  
Windows Facilitators  
trained

**100,000+**

participants served  
nationwide and abroad

**453**  
community partners  
nationwide & abroad

**73%**  
would not have an art  
program without  
AWBW

## Sectors We Serve

Our Windows Facilitators work within a variety of communities and address multiple life experiences.

Circles proportionate to percentage of reported areas of services.





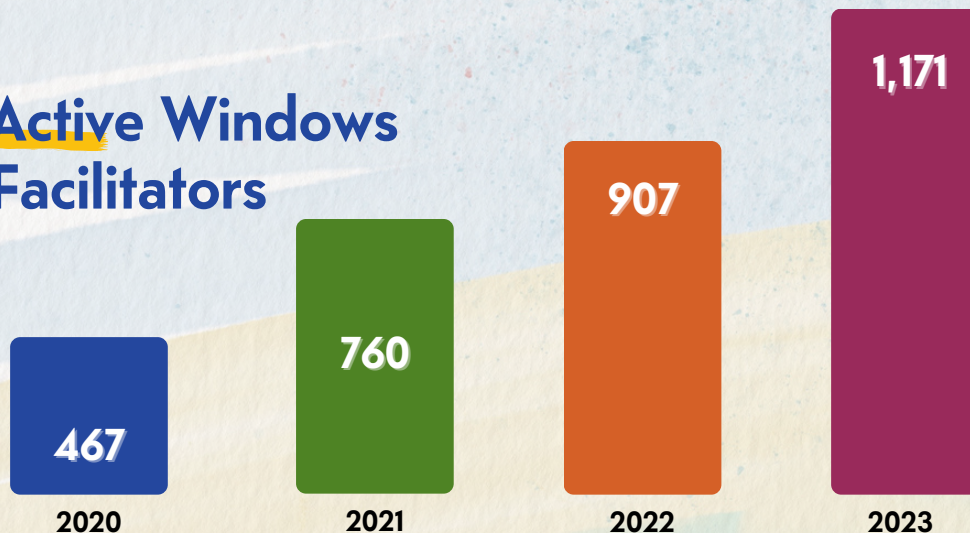
# Growth *at* AWBW



Since 2020, AWBW has experienced unprecedented growth!

In 2023 our community of Facilitators grew by **25%**

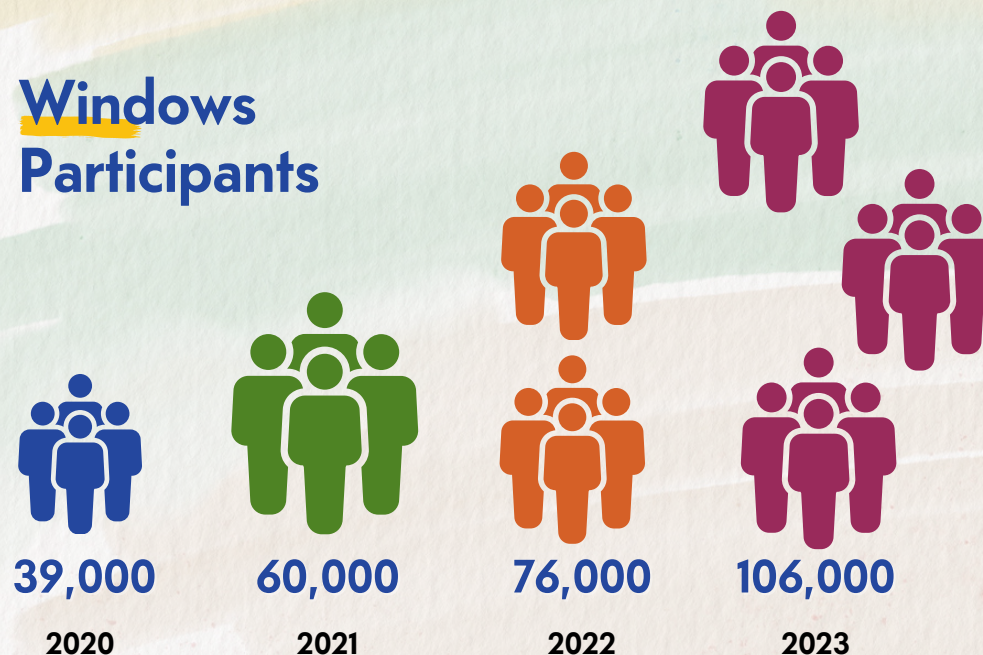
## Active Windows Facilitators



This year, our international reach continued to expand. AWBW facilitators are serving survivors of trauma in these countries:

- Australia • Bolivia • Cameroon • Canada • Colombia • Egypt • Ethiopia • France • Germany • Haiti • Honduras • India • Ireland • Israel • Jamaica • Mexico • Philippines • South Africa • Ukraine • Uganda • United Kingdom • Venezuela • Vietnam • Zimbabwe

## Windows Participants





# Fueling *the* Future Campaign



## Building Capacity and Leadership for the Future

Managing our rapid growth necessitates crucial investments in staffing and technology to effectively support our expanding circle of Facilitators as they innovate pathways using art to empower healing, anchor connection, and sustain action over time to transform trauma. That is why we launched our multi-year [Fueling the Future](#) campaign in 2023.

### Today Fund: \$1.7 Million

Supports our immediate needs, such as staff infrastructure and developing connective technology

### Tomorrow Fund: \$1.77 Million

Planned gifts and legacy scholarships which provide increasing annual returns to create opportunities for Windows Facilitator leadership development

Overall  
Campaign Goal:  
**\$3.47 Million**

## Thank you to our generous investors!

Sherrill Kahn Legacy Gift  
Salser Family Foundation  
John Gogian Family Foundation  
JIB Fund  
Just Detention International  
Santa Monica Westside Legacy  
Foundation for Women & Girls  
Elisa Perlman  
babs Mayer Legacy Gift  
Celia Bernstein  
Helmstetter Family Foundation  
Yvonne Hsieh  
Charlotte Kuo  
Paula & Barry Litt  
Ondy Sweetman

## Investment Focus:

### Staff Infrastructure

Increase the capacity of our staff & equip them with tools to adequately respond to increased demand for our healing arts programs.

### Community-based Leadership

Center investment in creating compensated opportunities within our "Ladder of Leadership" for Facilitators to share knowledge and experience with their peers & the public.

### Connective Technology

Build pathways for participants and Facilitators to co-innovate through sector landing pages, self-recording tools, and a revised interactive Facilitator dashboard.



# Lend *your* Light



This critical moment invites each of us to make a unique difference in building the next chapter of our organization.

AWBW is a circle of co-creation – developed through the innovations of community leaders and visionaries like you; individuals who saw the possibilities of how art could **transform trauma**, **strengthen communities**, and **change systems**.

We need **YOUR** support and leadership as we embark on this transformative journey.



## Impact Investor

Lay the foundation for AWWB's response to emerging needs as we nurture innovation and explore the impact art can have on various sectors, including education, DV, mental health, homelessness, and others.



## Become a Sustaining Donor

For as little as \$5 a month, your support creates healing in community, not isolation, and is the heartbeat of our stability.



## Training & Outreach Team

Help spread the word about our trauma-informed Windows Facilitator training to those who can use our healing arts program in their own communities.



## Amplify Team

Join the Amplify Team to expand our reach on social media and beyond. Share our work and opportunities on platforms like Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram.

**Get involved!**

**[AWBW.org/FUEL](http://AWBW.org/FUEL)**



# Community of Facilitators



**Tanya Taylor**  
Founder & Executive Director, Black in Mayberry  
El Segundo, CA  
(More on page 9)

Our network of over


**1,100**

Facilitators...

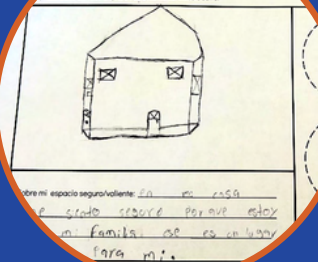
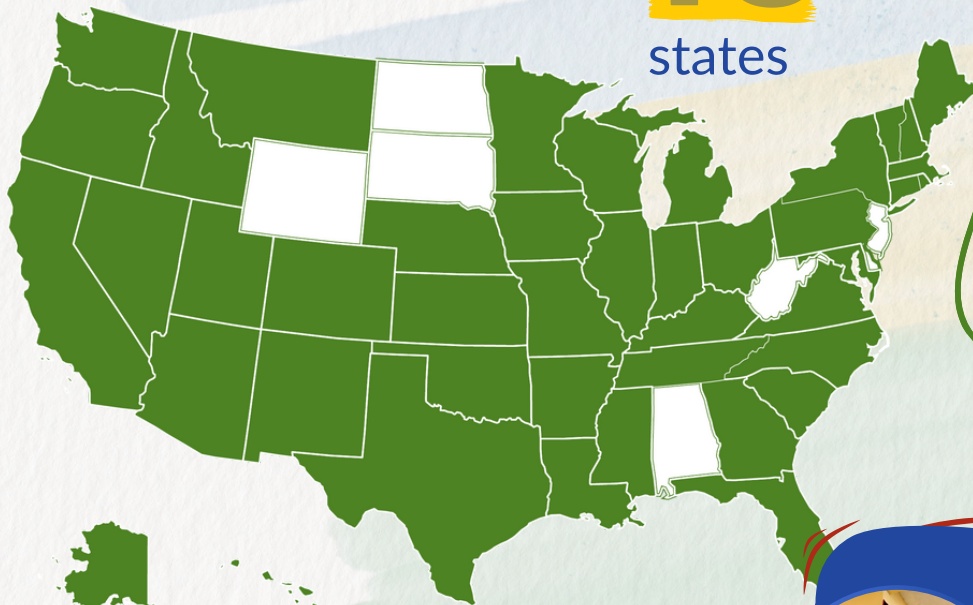
lead in

**43**

states



**AVANZA**  
Lennox School District  
Lennox, CA  
(More on page 10)



**Karen Luis Barrondo**  
Case Manager at CARECEN - Deportation Defense Unit  
Los Angeles, CA  
(More on page 9)

& are based

in **5**

countries: • Australia • Bolivia • Cameroon • Canada • Colombia • Egypt



**Linus Ngha Beng Kwokom**  
Community Youth Arts Center COYAC  
Founder and Coordinator  
Cameroon  
(More on page 8)



# Scholarship Impact



**Linus Ngha Beng Kwokom**  
also known as Bobo Leennox

## International Scholarship Recipient

Community Youth Arts Center COYAC  
Founder and Coordinator, *Cameroon*

Linus established the Community Youth Arts Center (COYAC) in 2003 with a mission to empower young people through the arts. Recognizing the transformative potential of creative expression, Linus opened COYAC's doors to children and youth, providing a sanctuary for self-expression and skill development. His dedication led him to offer training in visual and performing arts, bridging educational gaps for those unable to attend school regularly.

The outbreak of the Anglophone Crisis in Cameroon in 2016 disrupted the lives of many children and families, forcing them to flee and become refugees or internally displaced persons. Despite the challenges, Linus remains committed to empowering youth through arts and creativity.

After attending AWWB's Facilitator training, Linus continues to promote equity, inclusivity, and unity in diverse cultural expression.

“ **Because we lack the financial means, we desperately need AWWB and it's funders to use arts in transforming communities, impacting lives, giving hope to marginalised children and youth and making the world a better place.**

-Linus Ngha Beng Kwokom

AWBW awarded over  
**\$100,000**  
in scholarships in  
2023 to...

**119**  
scholarship  
recipients...

Bringing our  
total number of  
Facilitators to  
**1,100+**  
who served...

More than  
**100,000**  
participants in  
2023 alone,  
and...

**500,000+**  
participants served since  
our founding in 1991



# Facilitator Highlights



## Tanya Taylor

### Social Justice Art Innovator

Founder & Executive Director  
Black in Mayberry, El Segundo, CA

Tanya Taylor is the founder of Black in Mayberry ([blackinmayberry.org](http://blackinmayberry.org)), a non-profit organization with the mission to combat racism through the arts. Empowered by a Windows training scholarship, Tanya amplified her dedication to combating racism through the transformative power of art.

This commitment was vividly demonstrated through her leadership in orchestrating Art Against Racism LA, a powerful exhibition showcasing the socially conscious art work of 38 African American artists all speaking to the Black experience.

Learn more about our Social Justice Art Innovation Program:

[awbw.org/sjaip](http://awbw.org/sjaip)

## Karen Luis Barrondo

### 2023 Helmstetter Family Foundation Training Scholarship Recipient

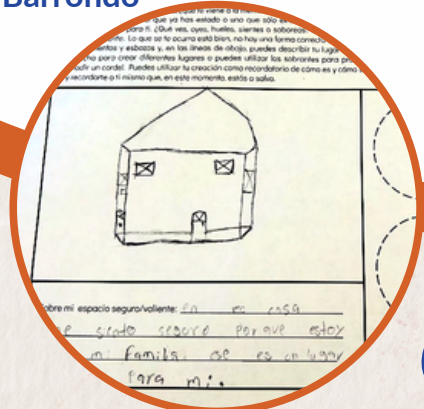
Case Manager at CARECEN - Deportation Defense Unit, Los Angeles, CA

In supporting unaccompanied children facing immigration challenges and trauma, Karen, a dedicated Windows Facilitator, deeply influenced one child who struggled after losing their father. Karen used various activities to aid healing and strengthen their bond, including *Creando un Espacio Seguro/Valiente* (Creating A Safe/ Brave Place).

By guiding the child to visualize their safe place, she empowered them to find solace in their new family. Witnessing the child's resilience, Karen emphasized carrying their Safe/Brave place within, offering comfort in uncertainty. Her commitment highlights the impact of our team's work with these resilient youth.

“Everyone has something or does something that makes them feel safe, but for children, it can be difficult to identify that until someone points it out, as I did for this child.

-Karen Luis Barrondo

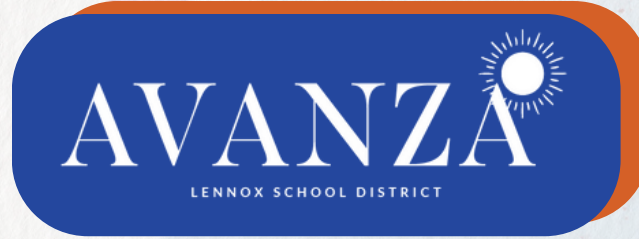




# Program Partner Highlight



## Investing in Education-Based Mental Health

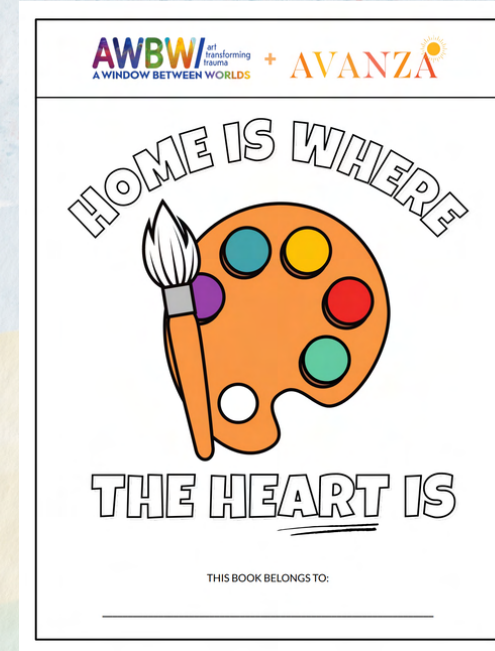


Through our collaboration with AVANZA, a community-based organization serving students and families within the Lennox School District, together we've created a tailored resource hub for educators, featuring an art activity workbook, Facilitator guide, and video of an AWWB staff member leading an art workshop with students. These tools empower educators to engage unhoused students through art, addressing their unique needs and fostering self-expression and resilience.

The workbook offers structured art activities aimed at fostering healing within the vulnerable population of unhoused students. With step-by-step instructions and best practices, the Facilitator guide helps educators feel confident in leading meaningful sessions that support students' emotional exploration.

Learn more and download the workbook at:

[avanzalennox.net/awbw](http://avanzalennox.net/awbw)





## 2023 Durational Art Innovators

At the heart of both individual and social change, we are called to find ways to “own” our leadership in the face of challenge, sustain action over time, and replace isolation with community. During 2023 our 4-month durational art incubator supported and celebrated 40 graduates, each focused on developing durational art practices to serve their specific communities, contexts and needs. **Special thanks to our Lead Innovators:**



**Nicole “Nikki” Crow**

**Fix Your Side of the Feather: A Truth and Reconciliation Journey**



**Carlos Mares**

**Creating Safety on a High School Campus**



**Christina Kataoka**

**Wings Against Hate: Building Resilient Community to Combat Hate**



**La Shonda Coleman, LCSW**

**Sowing Seeds of Self-Compassion in Faith Based Communities**



**Pat Conlon**

**We Rise Journey: Inspiring Young Adults Aging Out of the Foster Care System**



**Stacia Kato**

**Pride and Joy; Co-creating Queer AAPI Family**

**As a durational art incubator, AWWB’s aim is to foster a collective space of innovation and build practices that invite individuals and communities to explore inviting the journey itself as art.**



# Major Donors



Thank you to our major donors who help lay the foundation for AWWB's transformative art-based tools across sectors.

## **\$50,000+**

John Gogian Family Foundation  
Elisa Perlman\*  
Ralph M. Parsons Foundation  
Rose Hills Foundation  
Salser Family Foundation  
Santa Monica Westside Legacy  
Fund for Women and Girls

## **\$25,000–\$49,999**

Anonymous  
Capital Group  
County Of Los Angeles  
Dwight Stuart Youth Fund  
Universal Studios Hollywood  
Discover A Star

## **\$10,000–\$24,999**

DevTo Support Foundation  
Gary Saltz Foundation

Helmstetter Family Foundation  
Lenart Art Education Foundation  
Robin Rea Scarborough\*  
Susan Salser  
Tom Stempel  
William & Charlene Glikbarg Foundation  
Willmas Charitable Trust

## **\$5,000–\$9,999**

Celia Bernstein and Bradley Kesden  
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Charlotte Kuo  
Paula and Barry Litt  
Cathy Salser\*  
Zachery and Lior Scott-Hillel\*  
The Shandy Foundation

## **\$1,200–\$4,999**

Asian Americans Advancing Justice  
Southern California

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Randy and Luke Dauchot\*  
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\*denotes sustaining donor



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Janice Yong  
Shiho Yoshida  
Wendy L. Yost  
Ellen Young  
Ramona Young\*

\*denotes sustaining donor



# Donor Highlight



## The Helmstetter Family Foundation

Through the compassionate and forward-thinking contributions of the Helmstetter family, vital support has been channeled into shaping young lives through the creation of the **Jeaninne Helmstetter Legacy Scholarship.**

Christi Helmstetter and her oldest daughter, Alicia, discovered A Window Between Worlds through National Charity League, a mother-daughter philanthropy organization. While volunteering together creating sample art, they noticed the positive benefits on their own well-being which demonstrated how powerful these tools could be to help those dealing with trauma.

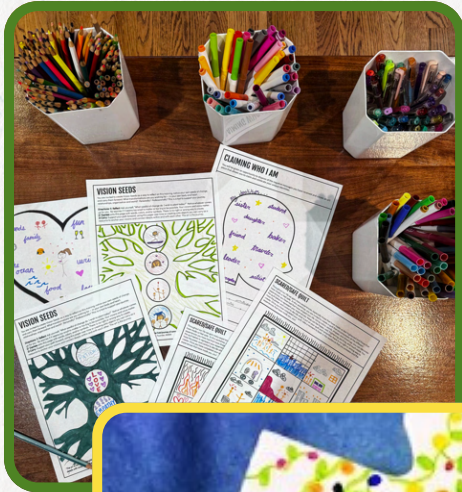
“*Our hope is that this scholarship will remove a financial obstacle to training one more youth Facilitator each year and, over time, create a ripple effect that will lead to the next generation being better equipped to take over and with better mental health than the prior generation.*

-Christi Helmstetter



Their involvement soon grew to include financial support through the Helmstetter Family Foundation, focused on helping disadvantaged youth, which has continued even as management of the foundation has passed on to the next generation. Christi's late mother-in-law, Jeaninne, was the driving force behind the foundation, so it felt like a natural fit to establish a scholarship in her honor for Facilitators serving youth.

They feel that, as a society, we will always be looking to children to take over in the future. We should give children every tool possible to succeed and skills to maintain mental health are a crucial part of that. That is definitely an investment worth making!

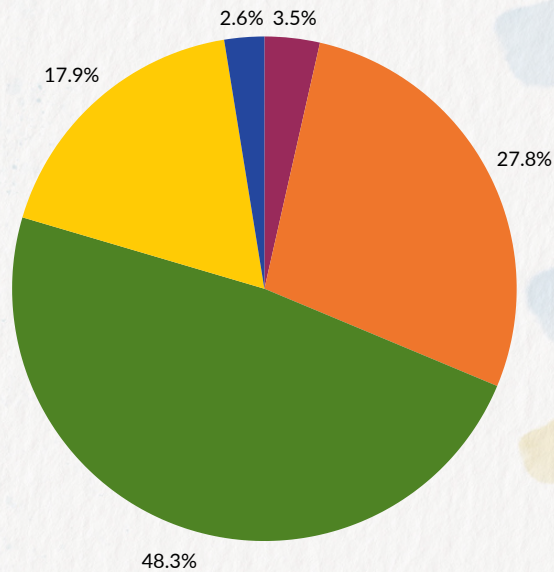




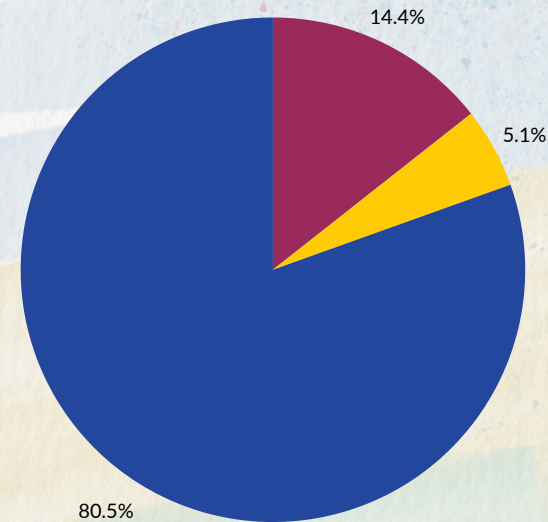
# 2023 Financials



## Revenue



## Expenses



	<b>2023</b>	2022
● Foundations & Gov't	<b>629,000</b>	689,000
● Corporations	<b>46,100</b>	85,752
● Individuals	<b>233,001</b>	236,379
● Program Fees	<b>327,511</b>	361,791
● Other	<b>33,293</b>	19,445
	<b><u>\$1,268,905</u></b>	<u>\$1,392,367</u>

	<b>2023</b>	2022
● Program Services	<b>1,013,015</b>	1,002,413
● General & Admin	<b>181,040</b>	183,535
● Fundraising	<b>64,797</b>	33,157
	<b><u>\$1,258,852</u></b>	<u>\$1,219,105</u>

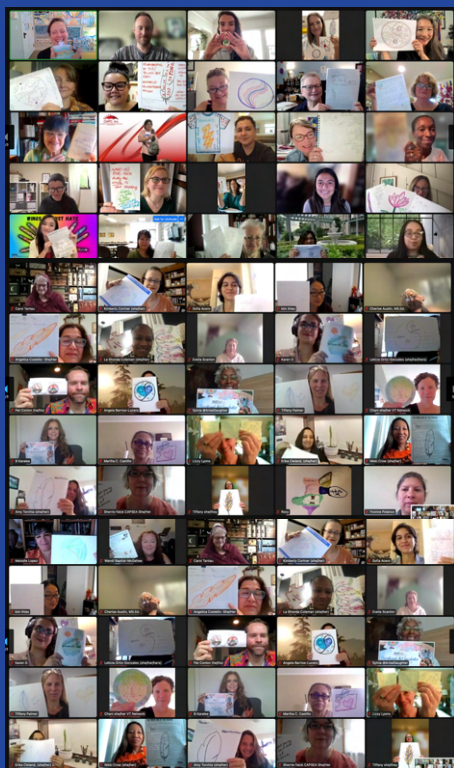
Financials are unaudited as of production



# AWBW Leadership



A Window Between Worlds' leadership team, from board of directors and advisory board members to our staff and national network of trained Facilitators, naturally reflects and is birthed through the diverse populations that we serve.



Durational Art Symposium, 2023

## Board of Directors

### Shelley MacKay\*\*

Board Chair  
Los Angeles, CA

### Yvonne Hsieh\*\*

Vice Chair  
Pacific Palisades, CA

### Stacia Kato\*\*

Board Secretary  
Cerritos, CA

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Board Treasurer  
Los Angeles, CA

### Sunny Cho\*\*

Board Member  
Long Beach, CA

### La Shonda Coleman, LCSW\*\*

Board Member  
Los Angeles, CA

### Evie Tuft, Esq.

Board Member  
Los Angeles, CA

### Esperanza Evans

Board Member  
San Gabriel, CA

### Zachery Scott-Hillel\*\*

Non-Voting Member  
Los Angeles, CA

## Staff

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Assistant

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Program Manager

### Rudy Hernandez\*\*

Windows Program Director

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### Kat Mardo\*\*

Outreach Coordinator

### Patrick Pelz\*\*

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of Philanthropy &  
Communications

### Rachel Price\*\*

Training Assistant

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Founder; Strategic Vision &  
Partnership Advisor

### Zachery Scott-Hillel\*\*

Executive Director

### Christy Turek Rials\*\*

Training & Outreach Director

### Carla Vargas\*\*

Curriculum Specialist

## Consultant

### Sherisa Dahlgren, LMFT\*\*

Program Consultant

\*\*Trained Windows Facilitator



Cathy Salser and La Shonda Coleman for Home Is Where the Art Is event, November 2023

Together, we are a co-creative circle of survivors, artists, and community leaders



# Community *Advisory* Board

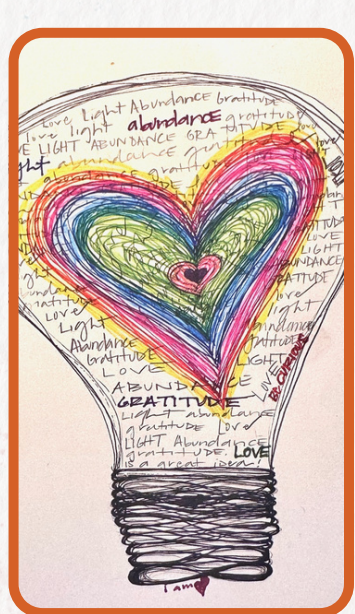


## Deepen your impact

Join our Advisory Board today and actively shape the future of AWWB!

- Engage in strategic brainstorming sessions
- Collaborate with a passionate community of supporters united by the healing arts
- Bring your unique insights and expertise to the table
- Meet quarterly over lunch to drive change and inspire growth

For more information and to get involved, please email [info@awbw.org](mailto:info@awbw.org)



***The light bulb reflects my value of curiosity and those aha moments of pure love and joy we need to embrace whenever they come about.***

“Love Is A Great Idea”  
*Claiming Who I Am* workshop  
Elizabeth Eastlund

**Pat Acosta**  
Las Cruces, NM

**Suzanne Brogger**  
Mill Valley, CA

**Carolyn Coleman-Manns**  
San Diego, CA

**Kim Cummings**  
Los Angeles, CA

**Sherisa Dahlgren, LMFT**  
Valencia, CA

**John DeLoof**  
Fullerton, CA

**Elizabeth Eastlund**  
San Pedro, CA

**Jamie Escoto**  
Los Angeles, CA

**Christi Helmstetter**  
Los Angeles, CA

**Rudy Hernandez**  
Los Angeles, CA

**Dianne Hookfin**  
New Orleans, LA

**Yvonne Hsieh**  
Pacific Palisades, CA

**Stacia Kato**  
Cerritos, CA

**Alyce LaViolette**  
Long Beach, CA

**Susan Lee**  
West Covina, CA

**Kate Majerus**  
Flagstaff, AZ

**Kat Mardo**  
Los Angeles, CA

**Nellie Newman**  
Northridge, CA

**Patrick Pelz**  
Los Angeles, CA

**Elisa Perlman**  
Calabasas, CA

**Cathy Salser**  
Los Angeles, CA

**Zachery Scott-Hillel**  
Los Angeles, CA

**Teresa Smith**  
Fontana, CA

**Ondy Sweetman**  
Los Angeles, CA

**Namuyaba Temanju**  
Fort Collins, CO

**Lucy Tschachtli**  
Kenmore, New York

**Christy Turek-Rials**  
El Segundo, CA

**Armie Uzali**  
Kansas City, Missouri

**Tiombe Wallace**  
Long Beach, CA

**Andrew Watt**  
San Diego, CA



# Explore *the* Impact of our Work



A Window Between Worlds is dedicated to empowering individuals and communities impacted by violence and trauma through a transformative healing arts program.

We view art as a catalyst to **release trauma**, **build resilience**, and **ignite social change**.

When individuals create art in a safe community they can be heard and respected — replacing violence and shame with safety and hope.

## AWBW Story Share



Launched in 2023, this evolving collection illustrates the transformative power of creative expression that is experienced by individuals and communities participating in our art workshops.

[STORIES.AWBW.org](https://STORIES.AWBW.org)

## Facilitator Blog

We encourage you to explore & access these resources, celebrate the beautiful array of voices, innovations, and impacts of our Facilitators on our blog page, find the link below:

[AWBW.org/BLOG](https://AWBW.org/BLOG)



*“People who are incarcerated live with so much trauma. But the art workshops help them process difficult feelings - and create a space where they feel safe enough to embark on a path to healing.”*

Linda McFarlane,  
Executive Director of Just Detention International