ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2023
THE PORCH WRITERS' COLLECTIVE
JULY 1ST 2022 - JUNE 30TH 2023
Dear Friend,

As this report details, the last eighteen months have been a season of growth for The Porch. Alongside established programs like Immigrants Write, our editorial and coaching services, and our youth programming, we’ve added a number of free community writing groups; partnerships with Mending Hearts, Nashville LAUNCH PAD, and the Nashville Philharmonic Orchestra; a blog; and a literary magazine, SWING—coming to your coffee table in the fall. Our programs have served more than 1000 additional individuals in the past year.

The relationships we’ve developed continue to nourish us and our community. A member of our Immigrants Write workshop, Pratik Dash, now sits on our board. Our longtime instructor Yurina Yoshikawa recently joined our staff as Director of Education. And countless creative Nashvillians have forged new friendships and audiences for their work through events like Heartbreak Happy Hour and Mirror House; through community meetups for queer, Black, and AAPI writers; and through our many classes and retreats.

One thing’s certain: Around here, your first “porch hang” is never your last. And you’re bound to meet some remarkable fellow artists.

We’ve been honored to bring true literary luminaries to Nashville over the past two years, signaling our commitment to supporting new stories of and from the South. In March 2022, MacArthur Fellow Kiese Laymon treated us to a reading from new work and a candid conversation with Atlanta-based writer Danté Stewart; This April, US Poet Laureate Ada Limón gifted us with a sense of connection, the same one that the written word so powerfully forms between reader and writer in our everyday lives. Limón emphasized the longevity of a writing life. We take that to heart, both as writers and stewards of a young(ish!) arts organization.

With our tenth anniversary on the horizon, we are tremendously grateful and excited for what’s to come.

We are thankful to have you on the porch with us.

-Katie & Susannah
The Porch inspires, educates and connects writers and readers of all ages and stages through classes and literary events.

**annual event**
The Porch was deeply honored to welcome the 24th Poet Laureate of the United States, Ada Limón, to Nashville for The Porch’s annual fundraiser, SANCTUARY. This event featured a performance from musical guest Abigail Washburn, followed by Limón in conversation with Major Jackson, board member and host of the poetry podcast The Slowdown.

**writing in the community**
This past year, The Porch has had the honor of curating new and impactful partnerships with local outreach organizations. Our Writing in the Community classes featured free therapeutic creative writing curriculum for participants in programs at Mending Hearts and Nashville LAUNCH PAD. Additionally, we continue to expand our Immigrants Write umbrella in order to meet the needs of this growing population.

**manuscript and editorial coaching**
As we enter the next decade of programming and outreach, The Porch is excited to amplify its coaching and mentorship efforts. By providing the writing community with manuscript, editorial, and professional coaching services, at all levels, we hope to provide our creative community with the tool kit they need to reach their personal and professional goals.

**SWING**
New Writing that Moves You!
A literary journal featuring works of poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and comics. This print publication will offer regional identity with national sway while providing a platform for the renowned writer as well as the emerging novice. SWING magazine will offer an even greater opportunity for The Porch to expand its mission while inspiring and connecting writers like never before.
YEAR AT A GLANCE

funding summary:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>$66,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earned Revenue</td>
<td>$160,715</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>$139,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Event</td>
<td>$19,400</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

total revenue: $411,900

impact snapshot:

- 4,000 adult and youth community members participated in in-person and virtual programming
- 150 Talented Porch instructors taught over 150 adult workshops
- 55 immigrants and refugees from 24 countries engaged in our free Immigrants Write programming
- The Porch hosted 25+ literary events and collaborations
- 1,000 Nashville youth participated in 125 workshops at 20+ locations, including partnerships with Nashville Philharmonic and Cumberland River Compact
- Creative writing workshops were facilitated for unhoused LGBTQ+ community guests at Nashville’s LAUNCH PAD shelters reaching approximately 200 youth
- Through a new partnership with Mending Hearts, a recovery-based therapeutic community for women in Nashville, 120 women participated in therapeutic creative writing services
community partners:

- Arts & Business Council
- Big Yellow Dog
- Blue Spring Creek Retreat
- Cumberland River Compact
- Dance East
- Eclipse Music
- Essayem Creative
- Green Door Gourmet
- Hip Hues
- Ingram Content
- Jackalope Brewing
- Mending Hearts
- Metro Arts
- Nashville LAUNCH PAD
- Nashville Philharmonic
- Nashville Public Library
- NAZA
- OZ Arts
- Parnassus Books
- Poetry Out Loud
- Rivendell Spiritual Retreat
- Soho House Nashville
- Tempo Cafe
- The Bookshop
- TIRRC

many thanks to our grantors and donors

- American Academy of Poets
- Books Forward
- Claire Adair Hendrickson Foundation
- Community Foundation of Middle TN
- First Horizon
- Harriet and Tommy Wyche Community Fund
- Humanities TN SHARP
- Metro Arts
- MSB Cockayne Fund
- National Book Foundation
- Pinnacle Bank
- Rechter Family Fund
- Sandra Schatten Foundation
- South Arts
- Tennessee Arts Commission
- Vanderbilt University
- Wiles + Taylor
- Zeppos Family Charitable Foundation
- Alison Vehorn
- Allegra Korver
- Anne Krueger
- Anne Marie McNamara
- Ben Groner
- Brooke Bunch
- Ciona Rouse
- Claire Gibson
- Claire McKeever-Burgett
- Cynthia Ezell
- Dave Wiles
- David Sabin
- Debbie & Wylie McDougall
- Diana B Johnson
- Doug Williams
- Elizabeth Crowe
- Emily Hammond
- Gerald Nicks
- Helen Ellis
- Jean Harvey
- Jeanette Opheim
- Jennifer Chesak
- Jennifer Riven
- Jessica Grubb
- Jessica Pearson
- Jessica Robertson
- John Heacock
- Jonathan Gensler
- Julie Schoerke
- Julie Sumner
- Karen Hayes
- Kate Satz
- Kelli Mitchell
- Kerry O’Neil
- Kevin Norwood
- Kylan Disher
- Lara Lane
- Laura LaPrad
- Malory Marlatte and Adam Voith
- Marie Griffin
- Manuel Zeitlin
- Margy Smith Roark
- Maria Browning
- Melissa Smith
- Otis Clayton
- Pamela Hinkle
- Patrick Luther
- Sara Heart
- Sarah Key
- Scott Chambers
- Sharon Ruiz
- Steve Blumenthal
- Steven Schwartz
- Susan Edwards
- Tim Bartlett
- Towles Kintz
- Tracy Dunn
- Victoria Senn
- Vince Morelli
- Wilson Sims
- Yurina Yoshikawa
- Zachary Gresham
LEADERSHIP

executive committee:
President: Emily Masters, LaunchTN
Treasurer: Tracy Dunn, Hip Hues
Secretary: Karen Hayes, Parnassus Books (retired)

co-directors:
Susannah Felts
Katie McDougall

board of directors:
Triana Frierson, Mending Hearts
Paul Burch, Artist
Tim Bartlett, Parks Real Estate
Anne Stark Locher, Strategic Communications Consultant
Patrik Dash, TIRRC
Ben Tran, Vanderbilt University
Kerry O'Neil, Big Yellow Dog Music/O'Neil Hagaman
Major Jackson, Vanderbilt University
Jessica Pearson, Penguin Random House
Susan Edwards, Frist Art Museum (retired)