



CASE FOR SUPPORT 2021



CRESTON ARTS, 501(C)(3) SINCE 1977 | 411 W. ADAMS, CRESTON, IA 50801
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Our Mission

The primary objective of this corporation shall be to provide a vehicle for coordination, advancement, promotion, and administration of all phases of the arts in Creston, Iowa and the surrounding area.

Our Programs

Chalk the Town

We partner with the Creston Chamber to decorate the town for thousands of visitors who come for Independence Day celebrations. This program incorporates youth by inviting them to help create chalk murals for local businesses all over town. We give out over 300 packs of chalk to kids to create these amazing murals. Our downtown "Walk of Chalk" is a way to proudly represent all the great businesses that help to build our community. This opportunity provides a chance for youth to participate in the community while also showing support to local businesses.

Summer Art Camp

Held in the Art Center in the last three weeks of June, this program is the perfect way to keep your child exploring their creativity during the summer. Classes start with kindergarten to fifth-grade students in the morning and sixth to eighth-grade students in the afternoon. High school students are invited to volunteer and work on leadership skills.

Art Camp is a place where we celebrate diversity and inclusion among our students, assistants, and instructors. All are welcome and encouraged to express themselves and their culture through art. At Art Camp, students explore a variety of projects incorporating several different media and art forms. Many of these activities focus on using found and repurposed objects. Send your kids to camp and see what they can create!



Summer Art Camp continued...

Our scholarship program was a huge success thanks to Iowa State Savings Bank and Iowa Developmental Disability Council who were our 2020 Sponsors. We were extremely proud to have received 67% scholarships, which meant that 36 kids were able to get the Art in a Box set for free. This was three times the number of students we were able to help in the previous year! Without these scholarships, these students may have not been able to participate in Art Camp at all. McDonald's is our newest corporate sponsor of Art Camp so we can offer more scholarships while maintaining the high quality of our instructors and materials. Will you help us send kids to Art Camp? Please donate, however small!

The Depot Gallery

The gallery is housed at 116 W. Adams St. in Creston's Restored Depot. The Depot was built in 1899 and added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1974 when it was restored as Creston's City Hall. The gallery is a place to showcase local talent and bring in visiting artists. The Depot Gallery is free and is open 6 days a week or by appointment. We host an artist's reception at the gallery on the first Friday of each month 6-8 pm in the evening. Currently, we are working with The Young Professionals group and other uptown retailers to stay open late and have special events on first Fridays of 2021. Artists, call Brian Zachary at 641-247-1663 to schedule a show.

Public Art & Murals

The Mentor Mural Mash-up Program has been a huge success, creating over 36 vibrant murals around the community so far! This program engages youth with community service hours. The group has worked with many artists locally and across the country to create these murals. The program has even attracted the attention of Iowa PBS who has created a short documentary about the project. Check out the episode about the mural project filmed by Creston's own Laurel Bower of PBS!

Creston Arts would like to give a huge thank you to these people and businesses that have made donations to our programs!

"Receiving a scholarship from Creston Arts was such a blessing to our family! With the many opportunities Creston offers for young people in the summer, it can be difficult to choose the activities my children are able to participate in. This scholarship made it possible for my daughter, age 10, to be able to learn and develop a skill she loves! In past years, both of my children have participated in Art Camp. Each year they have participated they have come back with some extraordinary art projects and an abundance of knowledge about art! Our family is so appreciative of what Creston Arts does to enrich the lives of people of all ages."

- Parent & Creston Arts supporter

Our History

The Creston: Arts Council, a 501(c)3 non-profit, has been serving this community since 1977. In 2011 a new group of volunteers took over and began art programming. 2021 will be our eighth year of Summer Art Camp, our ninth year of Chalk the Town, and our tenth year providing shows in the Depot Gallery.

Our Impact

As an organization, Creston Arts has worked to improve the physical appearance of the Creston community as well as understanding and appreciation of art. Over the past several years, Creston Arts has supported improvements totaling nearly \$50,000 for in-kind and fiscal sponsorship support for various art projects in the Creston community. In addition, our programs have helped make positive impacts in the community:

- Scholarships have allowed for children in need to attend art camp
- Gallery space has allowed for hundreds of individuals to view and explore various forms of art
- Chalk the Town has given individuals of all ages an opportunity to decorate uptown Creston for the 4th of July to celebrate and support local businesses.

Our Need

In late 2019, Iowa State Savings Bank gifted the building located at 411 W. Adams St. in Uptown Creston to Creston Arts to be renovated as a community art center. Along with the gift of the facility, came seed funding of \$50,000 to begin the renovation process. Upon completion of the renovation project, we will work to build sustainability for the art center and create new and existing programming.



Levels of Support for Donors

Founder \$25,000-\$50,000+

Renaissance \$10,000-\$24,999

Dreamer \$5,000-\$9,999

Innovator \$1,000-\$4,999

Believer \$500-\$999

Means of Support

As an organization, Creston Arts is supported by programming, a number of private and corporate donors, and grants from various organizations. We also maintain The Creston Endowment for the Arts to keep us sustainable into the future. We accept gifts of cash and non-cash assets (i.e., real estate, stock, vehicles, etc.) If you are interested in making such a gift, please contact us.

Call: 1-641-247-1663 | Email: artscreston@gmail.com
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“The Creston Art Program has done a lot for the members of our entire family. For Jazmine, it has been an escape from the real world and all the pain that comes with it. When Jazmine and Alexis volunteer for the camps and the community art projects, they have a sense of being and inspiration for the arts. The children have been doing the art camps for a long time. Since Shyla can’t participate anymore due to her age, she plans on volunteering for years to come. They love the stories they can create when making their own version of a masterpiece. Using art as a way of expressing themselves, all the children in the household are truly themselves. Alexis, Jazmine, Kevin, Shyla and Icie use art in their everyday life, making it more interesting and beautiful. So to the Creston Art Program, you have been a part of our family for many years and you will be a part of our family for many many more years to come.”

The Stow Family