# 

#### **Education Programs:**

- 350 students
- 40 volunteers
- 1000+ members of the Washington community
- 4 Scholars

#### CANstruction

34 design teams built clever structures out of canned goods in the Great Hall of the National Building Museum the weekend before Thanksgiving. The structures were dismantled after Thanksgiving giving 81,421 pounds of food to the Capital Area Food Bank, the equivalent of 67,850 meals for people facing food insecurity in our region.

#### Membership

103 Memberships including individual, couple and Life memberships

#### **Exhibitions**

7 exhibitions: Covering everything from Building Collapse to the Architecture of Wineries (Happy Hour Architecture)

# **Special Events**

More than 400 guests at special events supporting WAF's programming:

- Blackjack @DAC in February
- Cocktails and Conversation at President Lincoln's Cottage
- Fall Design Fete at the National Cathedral



# WASHINGTON ARCHITECTURAL FOUNDATION

**REPORT** 2023 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

#### **Community Outreach**

WAF continued its partnership with ArtReachGW, providing volunteers and classes in architecture to children in Ward 8, the Capital Area Foodbank for CANstruction and with AIA|DC as partners in the District Architecture Center.



# **Financial Report**

WAF continues to receive grants from the DC Council on Arts and Humanities, including a general operating services grant and a facilities grant to upgrade the AV equipment at the District Architecture Center. We also received a grant from NBC4/Telemundo 44 for our youth programming. While grants and fees for classes and events were up this year, sponsorship and individual giving were down.

# **Mission:**

The Washington Architectural Foundation is dedicated to educating and engaging the greater DC community, focusing on students, teachers, professionals, and the public to demonstrate the transformative power of architecture.

# MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Thank you for your interest in the WAF. Its mission is to give the public tools to engage with architecture wherever they are on their on their path.

# That public includes

- an elementary school child working on an architecture project for the first time
- a middle school girl curious about the world of Architecture, Engineering and Design but not sure where she fits in

That public also visits the exhibitions at DAC - the District Architecture Center

- Takes design classes at ArtReachGW in Ward 8
- Attends summer camp at DAC
- Or they could be one of our scholars attending college anywhere in the United States,

supported through all five years by our scholarship named in honor of our former chair Barbara Laurie

# WAF programs help engage the public from kindergarten to career and beyond.

And why is engaging the public so important? An informed public makes better decisions about the world. Now more than ever we need a public that understands and supports the solutions the AEC community can offer on climate change, affordable housing, and the resurrection of our downtowns. From kindergarten to career WAF offers that access.

I encourage you to join our next program and support our work!

Sincerely

hin Sicelli

Gina Volpicelli, AIA Chair

**Our Vision** 

Sharing the Power of Architecture to Transform Community





# **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**

#### **Youth Educational Programs**

2023 was a banner year for youth education. 13 young women took part in our Design Like a Girl Mentoring Program. 20 children spent a week at the District Architecture Center for Summer Camp and our signature program, Architecture in the Schools (AIS), returned with new volunteers and renewed energy from our new Youth Programs Manager Heidi Sohng. A total of 245 students were involved in AIS in 2023. In the Fall we inaugurated monthly family Saturday workshops. 46 children have already taken part.



# **Public Programs**

Adult programming, despite the pandemic making in person events hard in the 1st quarter of 2023, saw more than 1000 members of the public at DAC and on our summer tour series. Programs, other than tours, were directly related to the exhibitions on view and included many open Saturdays. These events featured a short lecture or exhibition tour.

# Scholarships

The Washington Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA|DC) and the Washington Architectural Foundation have jointly sponsored a scholarship for new architecture students since 1999. Awarded initially in the freshman year, the scholarship follows the student through a fouror-five-year degree as long as they remain in an architecture program in the United States and maintain a good grade point average.

Our scholarship was renamed in 2013 in memory of Barbara G. Laurie. Laurie, an architect who was devoted to the Washington Architectural Foundation and the community, was a partner of Devrouax + Purnell, a prominent architecture firm in DC. She was a founding member of the Organization of Black Designers and professor of architecture at Howard University.

# In 2023, WAF supported four scholars

Raina Lee, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo

- Miriam Shron, University of Virgina
- Jasmine Gallion, Ithaca College
- Theza Argueta Quintanilla, The Catholic University of America



# CANSTRUCTION

CANSTRUCTION is the popular Washington incarnation of a national program in which teams from design firms create thematic sculptures with cans of food that are on display in the Great Hall of the National Building Museum and then donated to the Capital Area Food Bank.

These clever sculptures are all based on a theme (2023's theme was household appliances and furnishings) and are a very public reminder of food

# **MEMBERSHIP**

Our membership remains a robust 103. DAC members enjoy a year of free and discounted events like tours, lectures, and seminars. They also have access to special discounts and exclusive publications, like the award-winning ArchitectureDC magazine. Members can also save quite a bit on our youth programs. insecurity in our city. After a six-hour build, the public can view them and vote for their favorites by contributing canned goods or making an online donation directly to the Food Bank. Following a week-long display, the sculptures are "decanstructed" and donated to the Capital Area Food Bank. Our 2023 sculptures weighed in at 81,421 pounds - the equivalent of 67,850 meals.

You can view all the winning submission <u>here</u>

# **EXHIBITIONS**

7 exhibitions: Covering everything from Building Collapse to the Architecture of Wineries (Happy Hour Architecture) in our store front gallery named for Sigal Construction. Our lower-level gallery, named for Suman Sorg, FAIA, focused on art related to architecture. One exhibition featured the work of local artist Jack Hornady and was reviewed in the Washington Post as well as creating great events including one where the artist helped children learn his technique.









We continued our partnership with ArtReachGW to provide youth education in Ward 8. Tools of the Trade (Architecture 101) and Digital Design for teens were conducted in the Fall and Spring. We also continued our 25-year partnership with the Capital Area Food Bank with our CANstruction Program. Finally, WAF's partnership with AIA|DC will take on a new look in 2024. WAF and AIA|DC have been working on greater collaboration as partners in the District Architecture Center.



# **SPECIAL EVENTS**

Special Events with their sponsorship options and ticket sales are a large part of our programming support.

**Blackjack @DAC,** a program of AIA|DC, welcomes guests to gamble the night a way with money that is not real. A portion of the ticket price goes to fund Architecture in the Schools

**Cocktails & Conversation** is a springtime event with no agenda other than, well, cocktails and conversation. All proceeds go to support WAF programming. **The Fall Design Fete** is a black-tie event that honors winners of our annual Honor Awards, worthy individuals that have made Washington a better place through their contributions as designers and advocates. This is the capstone event of the year attracting everyone from the AEC community to honor and celebrate. All proceeds go to support WAF programming.

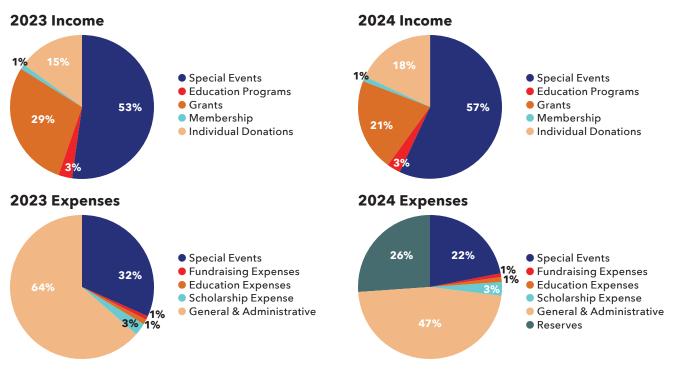


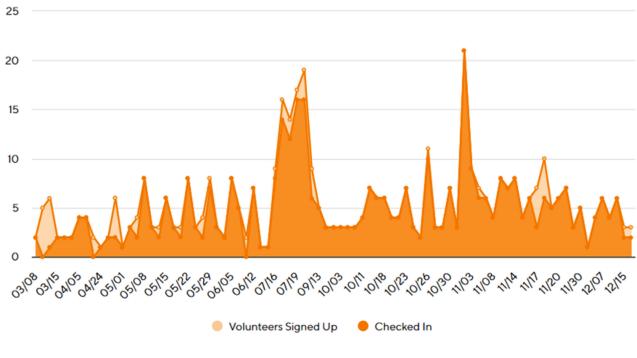
# FINANCIAL REPORT

2023 was not a great year financially for WAF largely due to the timing of grants. Two major grants awarded in 2023 will not be fulfilled until 2024. In addition, several of our major firm sponsors trimmed their support because rising interest rates halted many building projects. Seeing this, the WAF Executive Committee met over the summer to diversify WAF's fundraising goals. The 2024 Budget reflects this, showing a significant increase in the Reserves.

# **2023 INCOME**

# **2024 APPROVED BUDGET**





Volunteer activity in 2023, showing spikes during Summer Camp (July) and CANstruction (November).

# **MEASURING PROGRESS**

One of our greatest assets is our team of volunteer architects and other design professionals. Because our programs went online during the pandemic, we lost track of a lot of our volunteers. At the end of 2022 we engaged a database to better track our volunteers and keep up with their necessary clearances. Aggregate statistics from this database shows that in 2023 volunteers gave 766 hours of hands-on time (not counting preparation) over 20 separate events with a monetary value of \$73,532. Similarly, while we have always asked for evaluations for every program, we are being more intentional about tracking the data on our participants and exhibition visitors.

# **PLANS FOR 2024**

#### Summer Camp

DAC offers a unique 5-day camp experience for 3rd graders to 8th graders from the DC metropolitan area. Professional architects guide children to

the wonders of architecture, develop creative and analytical skills, and grow an appreciation for the field. Over the 5-day period, children will be introduced to fundamentals of architecture, the design process, aspects of engineering, and go on walking tours and field trips. By the end of the week, final projects will be exhibited for families.

#### Architecture Month returns in October

Architecture Month is a citywide celebration of the buildings and spaces that shape our city, the creative minds who bring them to life, and the intriguing stories they tell.

In partnership with cultural institutions, design firms, organizations, and others, architecture enthusiasts and design professionals alike participate in guided tours, film screenings, lectures, open studios, presentations, and public events throughout Washington, DC. These programs inspire the community by shining a spotlight on the impact of architecture, design, and urbanism in our nation's capital.

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#### WASHINGTON ARCHITECTURAL FOUNDATION

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