

ARCH Annual Meeting
Development Committee Annual Report
06-05-2023
Respectfully submitted, by Lucy Putnam, Secretary

During the 2022-2023 fiscal year the ARCH Development Committee has been able to build on successes from the previous year, expand community relationships and bring back some pre-pandemic programming.

Membership: Due to the success of the membership by donation approach started during the pandemic for the 2020-2021 membership campaign, this same approach continued to be used this past year and will continue for the year ahead. This approach allows people to set their own membership price according to what they can afford. A review of the past three fiscal years showed that memberships increased slightly each year using this approach for a total of 112 members in the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Membership revenue this year fell within the average range for the past 4 years.

Fundraising:

- Annual Auction - With the decline of the pandemic, ARCH was once again able to hold its annual Auction fundraising dinner in 2022. The event was very successful with record-breaking attendance and funds raised. Close to 140 people were in attendance and the event netted about \$20,000. This year's dinner auction is scheduled for Saturday, November 18, 2023. Tickets will be available starting in September. The Auction Committee began planning the event earlier this year, and it promises to be a wonderful evening once again. Sponsorships, donations of items and auction committee members are needed. Please contact ARCH through our website or any ARCH board member if you are interested in helping out.
- Annual Appeal –The Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Annual Appeal raised over \$5500 from 43 donors.
- Looking to the year ahead, ARCH anticipates additional funds will be needed for building repair and maintenance, and to purchase the technology needed for our collections management system. ARCH is exploring several grant opportunities to help cover these costs.

Community Engagement: ARCH continued with its emphasis on community engagement this past year, partnering with many different groups and holding a variety of community focused events. A few examples include:

- ARCH Heritage Award - The Heritage Award was presented at the 2022 Auction to Harmen's Snowshoe Men. This 17th century reenactment group has been a long-time participant in a number of ARCH events including their annual Snowshoe Men weekend in January. It has been an honor to partner with them through the years.
- Concert Series – during the summer of 2022 ARCH hosted 4 summer concerts, featuring local musicians performing a wide range of musical genres. Three of the events were held on the lawn of the Wentworth House. Due to rain, the 4th concert was held at the First Parish Federated Church in South Berwick which generously donated their space to ARCH. Three concerts are planned for 2023. One each in June, July and August. The concerts are free and open to the community. Last summer the concerts were well attended and brought a number of new faces to the Colonel Paul Wentworth House. Last year one of the
- Community Partnerships: ARCH partnered with a variety of community groups and individuals this past year to enhance our programming, make our space available to the community, complete projects and ensure that the organization remains relevant. Partnerships are integral to our success as an organization, and we look forward to continuing and expanding these community relationships in the year ahead.

As we move into fiscal year 2023-2024, ARCH continues to look for innovative ways to support the organization and to remain relevant to our community. Those interested in joining the Development Committee are welcome to contact Lucy Putnam through the ARCH website.