

# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



A volunteer works with the Center for Wooden Boats on their Blanchard Junior Knockabout Restoration project, 2023. Photo: Sunita Martini

# INTRODUCTION

Annual reports are a journey of reflection and celebration. As we embark on this particular one, we're grateful you're here with us and proud to share the strides we made in 2023. Over the past year, we've remained steadfast in our commitment to dismantling barriers and creating opportunities for King County communities to express and experience culture.

Intentional funding practices like our new Public Free Access grant and a more accessible Cultural Equipment program came to life. Highly collaborative partnerships like Poetry in Public—an expansion on its original iteration, Poetry on Buses—flourished. Community-driven initiatives brought successes: the first year of our Building for Equity program's Cultural Space partnerships have come to fruition. Our own internal capacity grew as we welcomed new staff in critical roles, including Controller, Deputy Director, Human Resources Manager, and Racial Equity Coordinator.

If you know 4Culture, you know big changes are coming in 2024—you'll read more about that at the end of this report. For now, we hope this document serves as a testament to our collective dedication to fostering a cultural ecosystem where every voice is heard, every story is valued, and every person has the opportunity to thrive.

# RACIAL EQUITY

Since 2019, 4Culture has tracked and analyzed demographics for all applicants and awardees. This is one of several ways to work to meet our mission to fund, support, and advocate for culture with a focus on racial equity. Every year we review the outcomes of our funding to better understand our impact and strategize ways to improve.



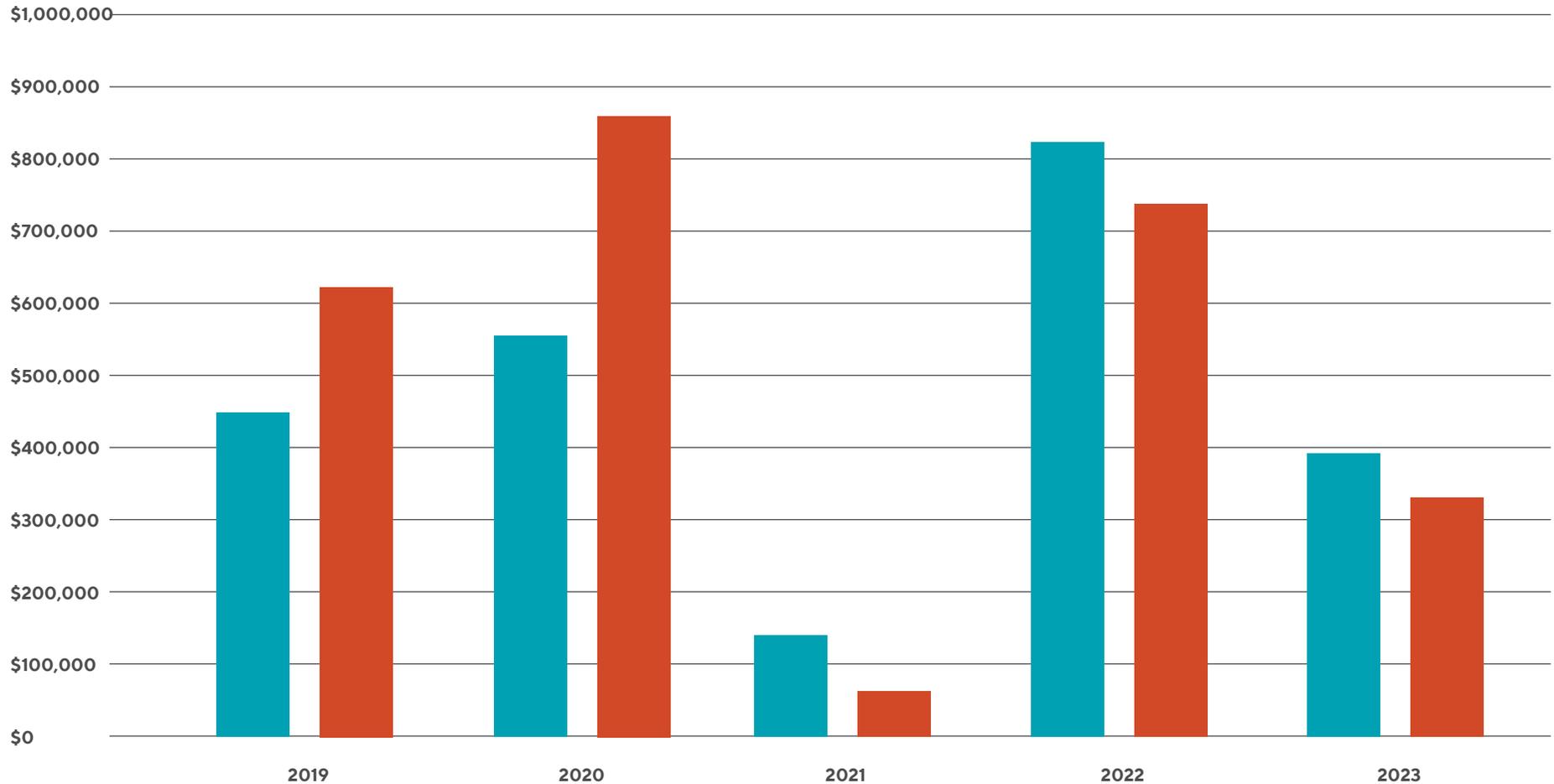
**Dancers performing at Diwali: Lights of India, a cultural showcase organized by Northwest Share, 2023. Photo: San D Nath**



**Lorna Jordan (1954–2021) and Paul Sorey. *Justice Garden Path* (detail), 1997. Brick, flagstone, painted steel, and plantings. Maleng Regional Justice Center in Kent. King County Public Art Collection. Photo: 4Culture**

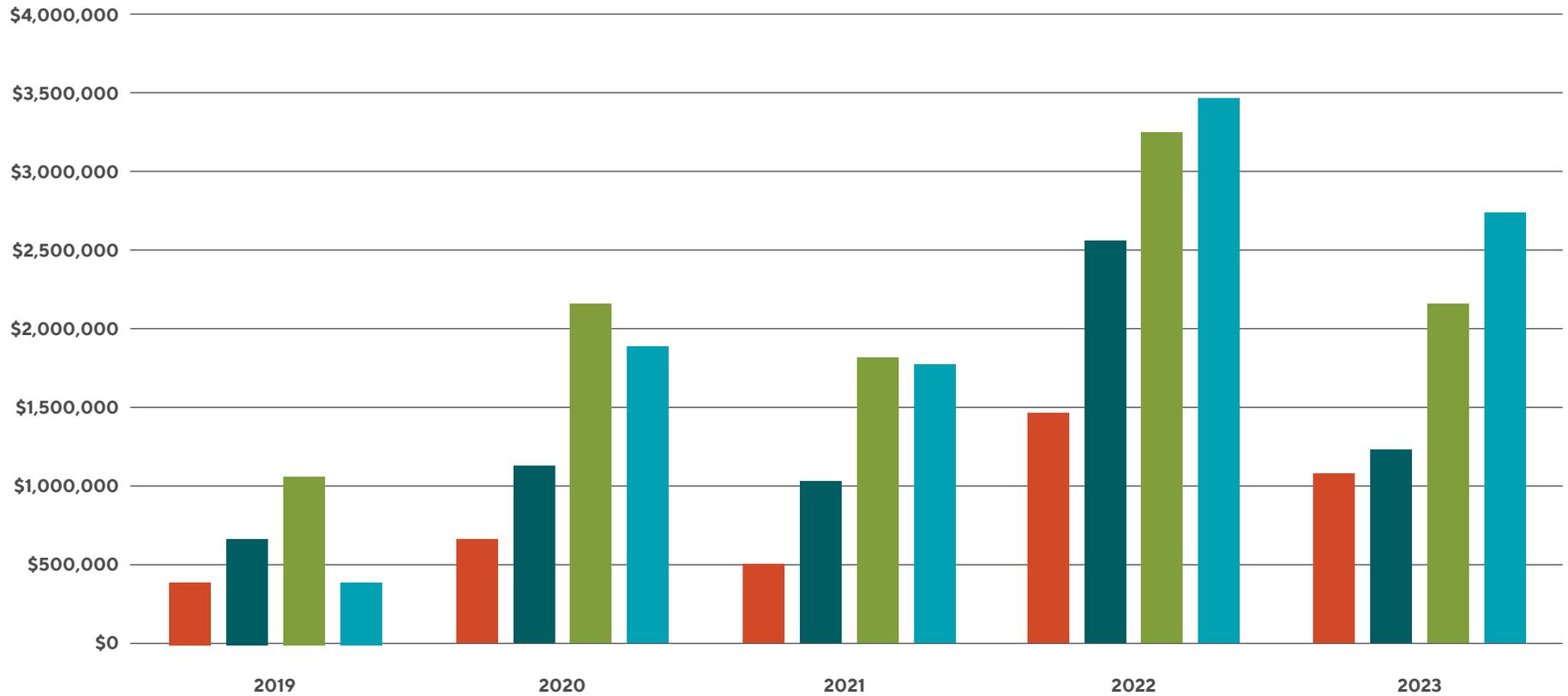
## 4Culture Grants for Individuals 2019-2023, Aggregated by Race

Key



2023 was the third year straight in which more funding went to BIPOC cultural practitioners than non BIPOC cultural practitioners.

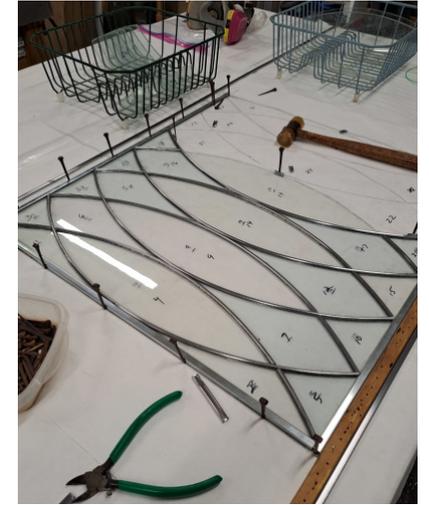
# 4Culture Organization Grants by Staff Percentage POC



4Culture continues to make progress in more equitable funding for cultural organizations. In 2019, around 15% of organizational funding went to organizations with more than 50% POC staff. In 2023, nearly 40% of award funding went to organizations with 50% or greater POC staff.



Andrea Wilbur-Sigo. *Grandfather's Wisdom*, 2012/2020. Carved and painted cedar. Located at Brightwater in Woodinville. King County Public Art Collection. Photo: joefreemanjunior.com



Window restoration work at the Bereiter House, home to the Greater Kent Historical Society and Kent Museum, 2023. Photo: Greater Kent Historical Society



Nobody Lives Here, exhibition at Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience, 2023. Photo: Wing Luke Museum

# ANNUAL FUNDING BY PROGRAMS

## Arts

### Arc Artist Fellowship

Applicants 37

Grants 7

Total funding amount \$84,000

### Arts Projects – Groups

Applicants 69

Grants 47

Total funding amount \$319,050

### Arts Projects – Individuals

Applicants 158

Grants 85

Total funding amount \$479,125

### Arts Sustained Support

Applicants 474

Grants 466

Total funding amount \$2,862,400

### Open 4Culture

Applicants 43

Grants 26

Total funding amount \$54,000

### Emergency & Unforeseen

Applicants 5

Grants 5

Total funding amount \$86,109

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**Total \$3,884,684**

## Heritage

### Projects

Applicants 75

Grants 41

Total funding amount \$268,345

### Collections Care

Applicants 27

Grants 19

Total funding amount \$114,950

### Heritage Sustained Support

Applicants 67

Grants 66

Total funding amount \$541,558

### Heritage Professional Development Stipend

Applicants 14

Grants 10

Total funding amount \$9,649

### Emergency & Unforeseen

Applicants 2

Grants 2

Total funding amount \$13,998

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**Total \$948,500**

## Preservation

### Preservation Special Projects

Applicants 15

Grants 13

Total funding amount \$92,000

### Landmarks Capital

Applicants 31

Grants 13

Total funding amount \$303,780

### Preservation Sustained Support

Applicants 26

Grants 26

Total funding amount \$136,347

### Emergency & Unforeseen

Applicants 2

Grants 2

Total funding amount \$13,406

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**Total \$545,533**

## Cultural Equipment

### Cultural Equipment

Applicants 168

Grants 76

Total funding amount \$525,000

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**Total \$525,000**

## Building for Equity

### Building for Equity Cultural Facilities

Applicants 66

Grants 19

Total funding amount \$1,099,155

### Building for Equity Building Capacity

Applicants 53

Grants 32

Total funding amount \$750,000

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**Total \$1,849,155**

## Public Art

**Curator's Choice**, portable collection acquisition

### Gallery 2023–2024 Season

Harborview Medical Center,

**Ninth and Jefferson Building**, art installation

King County Metro, Limited-edition artist designed **ORCA Cards**

King County Metro, *Poetry in Public*, poet planner and community liaisons selected

King County Metro, **South Annex Base**, artist team selected

King County Metro, **Third Ave S and S Main Street**, artist team selected



# 2023 BOARD MEMBERS

Staci Adman  
Jeanne Burbidge  
Kim Deriana  
Catherine Nueva Espana  
Khazm Kogita  
Afua Kouyaté  
Peter Kwon  
Seth Margolis  
Frank Martin  
Patricia Moss  
A C Petersen  
Natasha Rivers  
Latha Sambamurti  
Steven Schindler  
Eugenia Woo (Board President)

## Ex Officio Board Members

Councilmember **Rod Dembowski**,  
District 1  
Councilmember **Joe McDermott**,  
District 8  
Councilmember **Sarah Perry**, District 3  
Sarah Steen, King County Historic  
Preservation Program

# 2023 STAFF

Riza Almanza  
Anna Callahan  
Bart J. Cannon, Ph.D.  
Brian J. Carter  
Jonathan Cunningham  
Fiona Dang  
Christina DePaolo  
Elly Fetter  
Bret Fetzer  
Jordan Freeman  
Willow Fox  
Jon Graef  
Selina Hunstiger  
Phung Lam  
Emily P. Lawsin  
Andy Le  
Erica Maniez  
Guy Merrill  
Claire Miccio  
Lauren Miles  
Jackie Mixon  
Jordan Monez  
Megumi Nagata  
Melissa Newbill  
Scott Oshima  
Kelly Pajek

Dana Phelan  
Chieko Phillips  
Dalayna Sampton  
Maya Santos  
Lauren Semet  
Anadelia Torres  
Amber Trillo  
Nina Yarbrough

## Interns

**Michelle Bacca**, Community  
Partnership Intern (with  
University of Washington  
College of Built Environments  
and National Council for  
Preservation Education)  
**Andrew Le**, King County  
Heritage Internship Program  
**Rosa Woolsey**, Equity in  
Historic Preservation  
Undergraduate Intern  
**Jade Wahlgren**, Equity  
in Historic Preservation  
Graduate Intern



Wa Na Wari's Seattle Black Spatial Histories Institute cohort with oral historian Alissa Rae and co-director Zola Mumford, 2023. Photo: Jill Freidberg



Art a Glow at the Highline Heritage Museum, 2023. Photo: Stephanie Dore

# ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

## Arts

Amy Dukes  
Gabriela Denise Frank  
Patricia Moss  
Jacob Prendez  
Sudeshna Sen  
Lauren Superville

## Heritage

Leslie Anderson  
Christina Arokiasamy  
Teofila "Teya" Cruz-Uribe  
Suzanne Greathouse  
Jolene Haas  
Seth Margolis  
Temi Odumosu

## Preservation

Stefanie Barrera  
Justin Ivy  
Robyn Mah  
Frank Martin  
Dawn Moser  
Huy Pham

## Public Art

Sonia-Lynn Abenojar  
Lesley Bain  
Leo Berk  
Kamari Bright  
Kimberly Deriana  
Kate Fernandez  
Tommy Gregory  
Philippe Hyojung Kim  
Maria Lau Hui  
Keith McPeters  
Catherine Nueva España



Poetry in Public *Drop In Poetry Event* at the Roadhouse in Seatac, 2023. Photo: Timothy Aguero Photography



The Filipiniana Multicultural Dance Troupe performing at the Pagdiriwang Philippine Festival, Seattle Center Festál, 2023. Photo by Susan Fried

# PANELISTS

Humaira Abid  
 Yasiman Ahsani  
 Roberto Ascalon  
 Susan Bartlett  
 Laura Becker  
 Kim Becklund  
 Jeremy Beliveau  
 Erika Bell  
 Stesha Brandon  
 Taylor Brooks  
 Pierce Canser  
 Mary Anne Carter  
 Marie Chant  
 Lina Cholewinski  
 Celeste Cooning  
 Jackson Cooper  
 Kristine Cramer  
 BJ Cummings  
 Curtis Dickie  
 Theresa Do  
 Rick DuPree  
 Maureen Ewing  
 Robert Frankel  
 Wilmer Galindo  
 Ashley Guardipee

Francisco Guerrero  
 Dulce Gutierrez Vasquez  
 Ashraf Hasham  
 Donna Hogerhuis  
 Heidi Jackson  
 Emily Kelly  
 Amelia Ketzell  
 Marie Kidhe  
 Nicole Kistler  
 Rachael Kitagawa-  
 Hoshide  
 Zaara Kittenchops  
 Linda Lee  
 Kalei Matsui  
 Salome MC  
 Rachael McAlister  
 Cynthia Mejia-Giudici  
 Zia Mohajerjasbi  
 Stephanie Mohr  
 Dakota Murray  
 Shankar Narayan  
 Auxiliadora Newman  
 Agnes Navarro  
 Samuel Obrovac  
 Tyna Ontko

Sara Marie Ortiz  
 Megan Prince  
 Shenise Ramirez  
 Taelore Rhoden  
 Susan Robb  
 MaryKate Ryan  
 Ekkarath Sisavatdy  
 Yolanda Suarez  
 Estrella Sung  
 Momo Song Suzuki  
 Roger Tang  
 Emily Tanner-McLean  
 Demarus Tevuk  
 Arianne True  
 Hallee Turner  
 Va'eomatoka Valu  
 Nathan Vass  
 Meriça Whitehall  
 Rosten Woo  
 Ken Workman  
 Dana Wu  
 Kitty Wu  
 Stephen Yamada-Heidner



Students, radio producers, and DJ Blast working on C89.5 podcast series *Artist Mental Health Stories, 2023*. Photo: Billy Thompson



Hugo Moro. *In the Current, 2023*. Installation view. Gallery 4Culture. Photo: joefreemanjunior.com

# LOOK AHEAD

In December 2023, the King County Council unanimously passed Doors Open legislation to increase funding by an estimated \$100 million per year to the County’s arts, heritage, science, and historic preservation non-profit organizations through a 0.1 percent sales tax. Perhaps you even joined us for our first [Doors Open Shareout!](#)

Much is still taking shape, but as we quickly get to work creating an implementation plan for this landmark new revenue source, here’s some of what’s exciting us:

**The six funding programs comprised in the Doors Open ordinance**—Sustained Support, Public School Cultural Access, Public Free Access, Building for Equity, Countywide Initiatives, and Launch—will push us into exciting new territory.

**A minimum of 25% of all Doors Open funding** will go to organizations outside of the city of Seattle, bringing long-needed resources and visibility to other vibrant places in King County.

**10% of all Doors Open funding** will go to organizations serving historically underserved communities in King County.

**In 2024, Doors Open revenue will fund two large scale initiatives:** a One-Time Capital Facilities Program and a One-Time Operating Support Program that will disburse approximately \$48.24 million to organizations still rebuilding from the impact of COVID.

Doors Open promises to be transformative for our entire sector. While our organization may look very different by the time we publish our 2024 Annual Report, the work highlighted here and planned for the year ahead is true to the 4Culture you know: broad support for the cultural doers of King County, capacity-building initiatives, and always [working to make King County a more vibrant place.](#)



The Sound of the Northwest utilizing performance and rehearsal space at Seattle JazzED through Building for Equity’s Cultural Space Partnership program, 2023. Photo: Seattle JazzED



In the process of tearing off old shingles and installing new, cedar shingles, original skipjack boards were exposed on the east side of the Neely Mansion roof, 2023. Photo: Neely Mansion Association, Linda Van Nest

## 4Culture Financial Information for 2023 Annual Report

<b>Revenues and Other Sources</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Lodging Tax Revenue	14,361,606	12,396,621	7,098,137
King County Public Art Revenue	4,874,364	1,962,757	6,094,290
King County Appropriations	-	6,494,899	550,494
Advances from King County	-	-	3,984,690
Public Art Consulting Revenue	26,770	6,900	23,725
Investment Earnings	1,917,741	537,268	31,111
Miscellaneous Other	-	-	75,224
<b>Total Revenues*</b>	<b>21,180,481</b>	<b>21,398,445</b>	<b>17,857,671</b>

\*Total revenues differ on an annual basis due to timing factors in the inflows and outflows of the various programs' financial resources.

<b>Expenditures and Other Uses</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Arts, Heritage, and Preservation Grant Programs	8,729,291	7,273,372	7,499,491
Public Art Projects	2,367,177	1,723,130	1,131,737
COVID Relief Pass-Through	-	5,929,736	-
Building for Equity Facility Investment Program	1,806,505	1,320,856	1,073,400
Debt Service	300,000	300,000	465,550
Repayment of Advances from King County	2,000,000	1,859,493	1,500,000
Management and General Supporting Activities	921,796	825,290	665,219
<b>Total Expenditures and Other Uses*</b>	<b>16,124,769</b>	<b>19,231,877</b>	<b>12,335,397</b>

\*Total expenditures differ on an annual basis due to timing factors in the inflows and outflows of the various programs' financial resources.

<b>Fund Balances</b>	<b>Dec. 31, 2023</b>	<b>Dec. 31, 2022</b>	<b>Dec. 31, 2021</b>
General Fund	4,269,792	6,790,562	8,981,555
Lodging Tax Special Revenue Fund	4,922,679	4,060,370	5,017,451
1% for Art Special Revenue Fund	20,431,487	17,035,531	16,392,282
Cultural Special Account Fund	12,153,012	8,834,795	4,159,402
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<b>41,776,970</b>	<b>36,721,258</b>	<b>34,554,690</b>

**NOTE:** 2023 financial information is based on unaudited fund financial statements. Requests for the most recent complete audited financial report should be addressed to 4Culture's finance department at 4Culture, 101 Prefontaine Place S, Seattle, WA 98104.