



DANVILLE MUSEUM
OF FINE ARTS AND HISTORY
975 Main Street
Danville, VA 24541



DANVILLE MUSEUM
OF FINE ARTS AND HISTORY



FY2025
ANNUAL
REPORT

Non Profit Organization
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OUR MISSION

To inspire community cohesiveness and facilitate impactful education through the advancement of art and history in the Dan River Region.

FY25 SNAPSHOT

OVER 7,300 PEOPLE SERVED

OVER 1,400 CHILDREN AND YOUTH ENGAGED

OVER 30 EXHIBITS, PROGRAMS, AND EVENTS

OVER \$115,000 IN GRANTS, DONATIONS, AND SPONSORSHIPS

OVER \$18,000 IN MEMBERSHIPS

OVER \$50,000 IN CORPORATE AND INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

Cover: Over 200 local kindergartners enjoyed Opera on the James' children's opera, Hansel and Gretel, at DMFAH.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

We are committed to growing our relevance in the community by listening, responding, and offering programs that reflect the needs and interests of our region. Please contact us with your thoughts on ways the museum can better serve the community.

With funding being cut and eliminated for art and cultural programs, we need your support now more than ever.

Please consider becoming a member or making a donation to the Danville Museum of Fine Arts and History. Volunteer opportunities are also always available.

Everything we do is for the community!

Join us today!



HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT DMFAH

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DONATE TODAY ON DMFAH'S WEBSITE

It has never been easier to give to DMFAH. Donations and memberships, as one payment or monthly installments, can be paid directly through our website at www.danvillemuseum.org.

If you are unable to pay online, you can pay by phone at 434-793-5644 or detach the section below and return it with your membership fee or donation to Danville Museum of Fine Arts and History, 975 Main Street, Danville, VA 24541.

\$50 \$100 \$500 \$1,000 \$1,200 \$5,000 OTHER

Membership or Donation Amount: \$ _____

New Member Renewal Unsure of Status

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DMFAH

Danville Museum
of Fine Arts and History
975 Main Street
Danville, VA 24541
434-793-5644

www.danvillemuseum.org

THANK YOU!

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we reflect on another remarkable year at the Danville Museum of Fine Arts and History, we are filled with gratitude for the generosity, creativity, and commitment of our community.

This year, the museum welcomed more than 7,000 visitors through our doors for exhibitions, programs, events, and classes. Together, we expanded partnerships that connect art, history, culture, and education throughout our region. Yet, our work is never finished — and we look forward to hearing from you as we continue to grow, evolve, and strengthen our role as a vital community resource.

None of this would be possible without you — our members, donors, volunteers, supporters, staff, and friends — whose belief in our mission fuels everything we do.

Thank you for helping us inspire creativity, preserve history, and build community every single day.

I also extend my sincere appreciation to the DMFAH Board of Directors for their enthusiasm and guidance. A special thank you to John Harris, Board President, for your dedication and mentorship, and to Sam and Faye Kushner for your invaluable support of everything we do.

Finally, I offer a heartfelt thank you to the DMFAH staff. I am especially grateful for Angela Melton, Collections Manager, who always goes the extra mile to make DMFAH's exhibits and events the best they can be and who is taking on the difficult task of completely reorganizing and improving the museum's amazing collections.

With sincere gratitude,



Sonja Ingram, Executive Director,
Danville Museum of Fine Arts and History

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THANK YOU!

Dear Supporters,

Fiscal Year 2025 has been a remarkable period of creativity and reflection at the Danville Museum of Fine Arts and History. Our exhibitions deepened our community's connection to both art and history — from *Double Exposure: Photographers Emmet Gowin & Glenn Scarboro*, which captured intimate, compelling perspectives of place and memory, to *Art as an Act of Devotion*, which invited visitors to consider the ways in which faith, tradition, and artistic expression are intertwined.

Each exhibition reaffirmed our commitment to presenting art that challenges, inspires, and reflects the richness of our region.

None of this would be possible without the generosity and support of our members, donors, partners, and volunteers. Your contributions make it possible for us to continue presenting exhibitions and programs of this caliber.

A special thank you to our long-time business partners including Crema and Vine, Farmhouse Butchery, Rippees, and Evince Magazine, and to our new corporate sponsors Danville Toyota, MVP, Columbia Forest Products, Davenport Energy, First Piedmont, and Caesars Casino.

A heartfelt thank you to Emmet Gowin, Edith Gowin, and Glenn Scarboro for sharing their extraordinary talents through the photography exhibition *Double Exposure*. It was a true pleasure to meet and collaborate with you on such an inspiring project.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for believing in this museum and for investing in its mission. Your support ensures that the Danville Museum remains a vibrant place where art and history continue to inform, inspire, and bring people together.

Sincerely,

John Daniel Harris, Board President
Danville Museum of Fine Arts and History

NEW DIRECTORS JOIN DMFAH BOARD

Jacob Boyer



As a native and Financial Advisor in the city of Danville, I joined the DMFAH board for an opportunity to learn more about Danville's rich history and the talented local artists who help shape our community.

Laura Brown



I joined the Danville Museum of Fine Arts and History because I believe in preserving and celebrating our community's stories, culture, and creativity for future generations.

Tosha Price



I joined the DMFAH board, because I am passionate about Virginia's history and about helping the museum continue to grow and thrive in our community.

Lori Kane



I believe that the Danville Museum of Fine Arts and History is the heartbeat of not only the Old West End, but possibly the heart of Danville; therefore I want to be a part of advocating for its success and livelihood.

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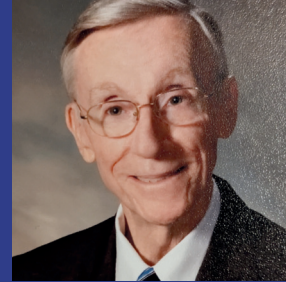


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NEW DIRECTORS JOIN DMFAH BOARD

William James Smith
FSA Scot



I have been a longtime visitor to the Museum, but beginning to see how it has become so much more involved in our community with not only history but art and culture, I wanted to become more a part of its growth.

Dr. Evyatar Marienberg



I was intrigued by DMFAH's desire to explore and understand art and history in a building, city, and region that has a complicated and fascinating history and art. Professor of Religious Studies, UNC Chapel Hill

Other new board members include Diane Kendrick and Shamaad Jackson



Thank you to board member, Faye Kushner, and former board president and committee member, Sam Kushner, who have supported the museum in countless ways over the years.

We couldn't do it without you!

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS!

DMFAH enjoyed partnering with over 30 organizations, institutions, and individuals in FY25, including Opera on the James, the Danville Public Library, Danville and Pittsylvania County Head Start, Danville Public Schools, Pittsylvania County Public Schools, Martinsville/Henry County Public Schools, Sacred Heart School, Averett University, Our History Matters, Pittsylvania Historical Society, Virginia Museum of History & Culture, Virginia Humanities, Our History Matters, The Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, the City of Danville, Dan River Region Nonprofit Network, Longwood University, VA/NC Scottish Society, Danville Department of Economic Development and Tourism (VisitSOSI), VA250, Friends of the Old West End, Opera on the James, Danville Historical Society, Danville Police Department, Sharswood Plantation, the Pittsylvania Historical Society, the Gabriella Garden Club, the Chatham Garden Club, the Garden Club of Danville, and the Wednesday Club.



DMFAH hosted a bus trip to Sharswood Plantation for their annual Juneteenth Celebration.

LOOKING AHEAD UPCOMING EVENTS

DMFAH Presents Christmas in Manhattan December 18th, 6:30-9 PM

Step into the magic of the season at the Danville Museum of Fine Arts and History's Christmas Gala — Christmas in Manhattan, an elegant evening featuring carriage rides in the historic Old West End. Enjoy dinner, music, and holiday cheer at this special fundraising event.

Tickets are available on Eventbrite or may be purchased at the museum.



Danville Art League Exhibition January 2026

Join us to start the new year as we host the Danville Art League for an exhibit to showcase the amazing local artists in Danville. More information to come.



Photography Class by Glenn Scarborough January 2026

Photographer Glenn Scarborough will be teaching a photography class in January. More information to come.



LOOKING AHEAD UPCOMING EVENTS

Maud Gatewood: A Sphinx in a Remembered Garden

Nov 9th, 2025. 1-2 PM

Presentation by Jim Frakes Professor of Art History, UNC Charlotte. Mr. Frakes will discuss Maud Gatewood's time in Vienna in 1962-3 and the Mint Museum show that followed in 1965.

Regular museum entrance price.

Movies on the Lawn:

Plan 9 from Outer Space

Nov 21st at 6 PM

Join DMFAH as we screen a cult classic. Once dubbed “the worst film ever made,” it has since earned a devoted following for its campy charm. Bring a lawn chair, blanket, and your favorite snacks! The museum will have both alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks available to purchase.

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased on Eventbrite or at the door.

Holiday House at the Museum

December 6, 2025, 4-6 PM

Join DMFAH to celebrate the holiday season! Share some festive refreshments and see the museum’s decorations. Santa Claus will be in attendance! We will end with a lighting of the museum’s outdoor tree!

Tickets are \$10.00 each. \$5 for additional children in immediate family. Tickets sold on Eventbrite or at the museum.

The Maud Gatewood Exhibit will be open at DMFAH until Dec. 27th



THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

Over 100 volunteers generously gave their time and talents to support the museum’s events, programs, and exhibitions. We truly could not do what we do without their dedication and enthusiasm.

We extend a special thank you to everyone who contributed to the annual Attic Sale—your hard work and commitment has made the Attic Sale not only a successful fundraiser for the museum, but also a much anticipated community tradition.



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

DMFAH is proud to offer a range of high-quality, well-attended education programs that inspire creativity in young learners.

Over 1,400 students and youth participated in DMFAH's educational activities, including Art Smart classes in partnership with local Head Start program, the Children's Holiday Program, the VA250 Mobile Museum, the Pittsylvania County Solo Competition, the Danville Public Schools Student Art Exhibit, and weekly guided museum tours.

We were especially delighted to welcome over 200 local kindergarten students, many of whom experienced a live musical performance for the very first time, with our partner Opera on the James' production of *Hansel and Gretel*.



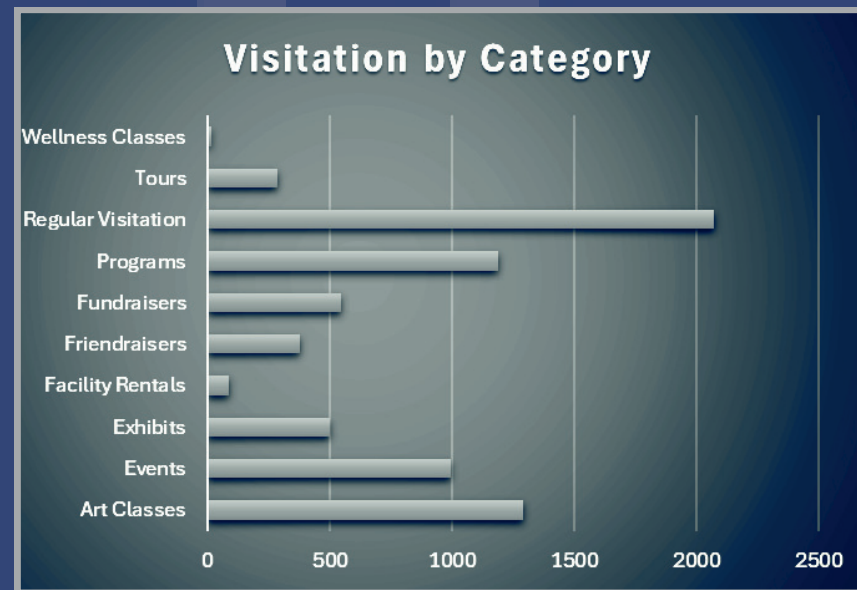
Sacred Heart School students and teachers tour the VA250 Mobile Museum.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

VISITATION: OVER 7,350

For Fiscal Year 2025, more than 7,300 people visited the Danville Museum of Fine Arts and History to explore exhibitions, attend programs and events, and experience Danville's rich arts and culture through the work of local, regional, and national artists.

Many of our visitors came from beyond the region—including guests from as far away as England and China—demonstrating DMFAH's growing reach as a cultural destination.



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

INTERNSHIPS

DMFAH was very fortunate to receive assistance from several talented interns this year, each contributing to the museum's mission and daily operations.

Elizabeth Nichols from Radford University worked alongside DMFAH Collections Manager Angela Melton to help update the museum's collections database — an important step toward future museum accreditation.

Symone Nesbith and Cherish Adkins, two local high school students participating in the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research's IGNITE Internship Program, provided valuable support for Art Smart, the Annual Attic Sale, and the digitization of early museum records.

Museum staff Berkley Pritchett, completed an internship at Brightpoint Community College focused on researching the enslaved individuals who lived at the Sutherland Mansion. His work will help DMFAH develop new, inclusive tours that tell the museum's story from multiple perspectives.



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

SUPPORTING LOCAL ARTISTS

DMFAH proudly supported over 100 local and regional artists. Art on the Lawn, DMFAH's annual juried art show where artists can compete and sell art, through DMFAH's local art gallery where artists can display and sell their work, or through art classes taught by local artists for both children and adults.



COLLECTIONS

DMFAH recently acquired new metal storage racks specifically designed for museum collections. These racks have created much-needed space for both new acquisitions and long-held works from our permanent collection, allowing us to store paintings and objects safely and efficiently.



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

DMFAH hosted more than 30 community programs and events throughout the year, including favorites such as the Annual Attic Sale, Art on the Lawn, and the President's Reception. The museum also presented a year-long Speaker Series, featuring seven distinguished local and regional historians and artists who shared their knowledge, stories, and creative perspectives.



New programs were introduced to further engage the community, including a bus trip to Sharswood's Juneteenth Celebration, the VA250 Mobile Museum, and Trick-or-Treating on the Lawn, which brought more than 200 local children and families to the museum for a festive and family-friendly evening.



The New North Carolina Ramblers play at DMFAH during the Friends of the Old West End Porchfest.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

EXHIBITS

DMFAH held three main exhibits, the VA250 Mobile Museum, and a pop-up exhibit by Perrin Marie in FY25.

DMFAH, in conjunction with the Danville Office of Economic Development & Tourism (VisitSOSI), welcomed the VA250 Mobile Museum, an immersive, hands-on "museum on wheels" showing the interactive exhibit *Out of Many, One*, which celebrates Virginia's role in the American Revolution.

Double Exposure: Photographers Emmet Gowin and Glenn Scarboro Danville-natives, Emmet Gowin, and Glenn Scarboro returned to DMFAH for an exhibit of their photographic visions captured over the years.

Art as an Act of Devotion Explored links between art and spiritual connectedness and featured local items on loan from different religions and beliefs. For the second year in a row, DMFAH hosted *Danville Public School Student Art Exhibit* featuring over 150 student artworks from Danville Public Schools.

Give Me Liberty Traveling Exhibit from the Virginia Museum of History Culture This exhibit focused on events during the revolutionary period. The Pittsylvania Historic Society loaned artifacts including spurs owned by George Washington's brother, and a Revolutionary War medical kit.

Hoopla Perrin Marie displayed one of her sculptures from *Hoopla*, a series of hoop skirts and accessories adorned with recycled materials.

