THE MISSION OF THE BLUE SAGE CENTER FOR THE ARTS IS TO PROVIDE EDUCATION AND EXPRESSION IN THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES IN ORDER TO ENRICH THE NORTH FORK COMMUNITY.
Over the past year, because of you, your involvement, and your support, the Blue Sage Center for the Arts reached more than 16,000 people, more than ever before.

Specifically, you were one of:

* More than 12,000 people who attended our Sage Alley and Facebook live happy hour concerts and virtual Black Eye Pea.
* More than 2,400 people who attended our events including: Story Share, Wine Tasting, Comedy, Harvest of Voices, North Fork Stories and more.
* More than 700 youth who participated in our art programs.

Thank You, We could not do it without you!
Description: In its 11th season, the Concert Series included Classical, Folk, and Jazz music. A strong outreach initiative supported by both the public-school system as well as state grant funding connected the North Fork community with advanced music education opportunities rarely seen in a rural area of this size. Housed in the intimate and historic Curtis Hall and seating approximately 150, the Blue Sage Concert Series allowed concert-goers to develop a deep personal connection to the music by virtue of its modest size and intimate acoustics. In 2021, spring and summer concerts were held outside. In the fall of 2021, we started holding concerts inside Curtis Hall.

Frequency, duration, and length: The concert series runs annually, offering 9-10 professional concerts performed at the Blue Sage and outreach performances conducted in local area schools. In 2021 the Blue Sage performances averaged 1.5-2 hours. School performances averaged 45 minutes.

Total participants: The Concert Series reached 1,000 participants in 2021.

Actual important outcome or community impact: The Blue Sage Concert Series continues to offer professional music concerts and outreach opportunities that are unique to the entire North Fork Valley region. As a “world class” concert series, visiting musicians and performers provide high caliber musical experiences for a diverse audience. The concert series also promotes musical collaborations with Western Colorado symphonies, performance groups, college music departments, and touring musicians and performers.
ArtReach

Description: The ArtReach program provides immersive experiences and education in comprehensive art forms for rurally located elementary and high school students. The program provides both in-school musical performances, and after-school programming in the arts and humanities. Current classes include a Young Chautauqua program, Art Club, Cultural & Music Events School Outreach.

Frequency, duration, and length: Afterschool classes will start up again in the fall of 2022 and will offer a weekly Artclub for elementary and high school students. The Teen Art Studio uses nonverbal expression through art and has proven to be beneficial for teens who are navigating the difficult waters of their teen years. The Teen Art Studio is facilitated by a trained, qualified professional with knowledge of visual art and the creative process and human development and counseling theories and techniques.

Total participants: In 2021 ARTREACH had 425 participants.

Actual important outcome or community impact: The program continues to provide comprehensive arts exposure and education to students with limited arts access. Students collaborate with professional artists, musicians, and performers to experience a diverse array of workshops to develop integrative learning through the arts. The ArtReach program emphasizes self-expression, experimentation, and elevates skills that strengthen the STEM focused curricula they receive in school.
VISUAL ART

Description: The mission of the Blue Sage Art Gallery is to promote artists from the West Slope of Colorado. Artists working in a variety of mediums and genres exhibit their artwork in the Art Gallery, increasing their exposure to viewers and art patrons who visit Paonia’s Grand Ave.

Frequency, duration, and length: The gallery is open Tuesday-Saturday and during after-hours events including concerts, art openings, and fundraisers. Exhibitions run for 4-weeks. In 2021, 10 exhibitions will be featured in the Art Gallery.

Total participants: 95 artists commissioned or exhibited their art in 2021.

Actual important outcome or community impact: The Blue Sage Art Gallery provides an inviting and professional exhibition space for local emerging and professional artists to showcase their work. Art exhibitions are curated as an “open call” for artists of every level. The gallery also functions as a welcome center for visitors to learn about the Blue Sage and the local community. Additionally, each year the Blue Sage exhibits a student art show in collaboration with local area schools to increase exposure for young artists.
ENGAGE CULTURAL SERIES

Description: The Engage Series started in 2020 offering a cultural series to engage older adults in Delta County. The program brings a cultural event series to the rural Western Slope of Colorado. The Blue Sage continues to bring in high-caliber cultural performances and participatory opportunities in music, theater, dance, literature and multimedia arts.

Frequency, Duration, and Length: Cultural Events Series are provided on a consistent basis throughout the year. The program also produces Story Share; a four-way exchange bringing a story to life through the arts. The program culminates annually with a community event. In 2021, the Blue Sage helped to build a bridge between local factions and age groups. Where we once thought we had little in common, Story Share illuminated how so many of us share similar stories and can relate to the stories of others, illustrating that a community needs all kinds of people to thrive and grow.

Actual important outcome or community impact: The goals of this program are not only to provide arts and culture experiences to populations which would not otherwise have these opportunities, but to improve participants' well-being.
2021 INCOME STREAMS

GRANTS

RENTALS

GALLERY.GIFT

PROGRAMS

EVENTS

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Blue Sage
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