



Rochester
Architecture
Foundation

2024

ANNUAL REPORT

PO BOX 10029
ROCHESTER NY

www.rocarchfoundation.org



OUR MISSION

RAF supports initiatives that uniquely contribute to improving our region's quality of life. The Foundation fosters awareness of Architecture and its impact on the Rochester region. We achieve this by funding outreach projects that promote the contributions of students, professionals and quality design. Our key areas of focus are Education, Arts and Culture, and Design.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Rochester Architecture Foundation made strides in progressing and supporting several community focused initiatives.

Education

In June of 2023, RAF launched the "Urban Scholars" pilot program, partnering with Rochester Prep high school. The goal is to expand career opportunities for young people from traditionally disadvantaged backgrounds by providing an introduction to architecture at the secondary school level. This unique initiative has drawn significant financial support from several community benefactors, including the ESL Foundation and the M&T Foundation. In June of 2024 the program successfully completed its full school year. We started our 2nd school year this fall. In the Spring of 2025 we will offer a \$5,000 scholarship to a graduating high school senior residing within the City of Rochester.

Scholarship

This past year the Foundation participated in the awarding of \$20,000 in scholarships, \$4,000 of which was directly disbursed by the Foundation.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Design Excellence

We also continued our support of AIA Rochester's Design Award Program, which highlights superior achievements from our community's design professionals and awards our scholarship recipients.

Community Special Projects

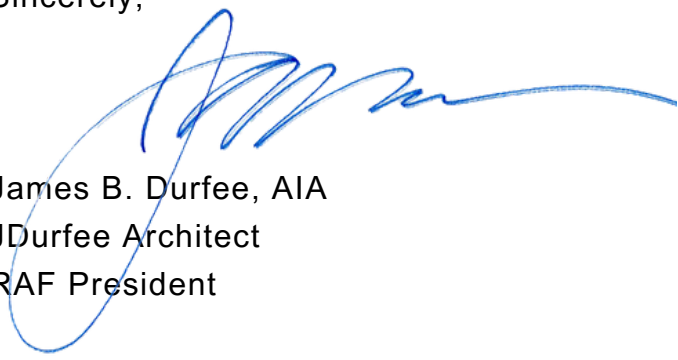
The Foundation continued its co-sponsorship of "Canstruction", working with program partners Buckingham Development, Wegmans, and Food Link. This year had participation from 13 teams, contributing 34,000 cans to Foodlink.

The Foundation Board continued to recognize its longstanding partnership with AIA Rochester while continuing to look toward achieving broader community impact.

Looking Ahead

We look forward to building on the "Urban Scholars" program, expanding our education partnerships, and growing our "Art in Architecture" program. We would welcome other community partners to join us in helping to support RAF initiatives.

Sincerely,



James B. Durfee, AIA
JDurfee Architect
RAF President

LEADERSHIP

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PARTNERS

Our community partners range from major corporate and institutional donors to individual contributors. Contributions, acknowledged here, include the past two years.

\$10,000+

Richard Pospula



\$5,000+



Joe Istvan

**Myron Starks
Family**

\$1,000+



**Steve General
Contractor**



Penny Haley

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INITIATIVES

URBAN SCHOLARS



The “Introduction to Architecture” pilot program is an in-school course taught at Rochester Prep High School for an initial two-year duration. The course is distinguished by its dedicated instructor, Christina Fluman, AIA of Edge Architecture. The 60-unit in-school curriculum, focusing on urban learners. Generously supported by the ESL Foundation, M&T Bank Foundation and a number of inspired individual contributors. It has been remarkably successful and is on track to expand its impact.

The premise for the course is that Architecture can offer young people the opportunity for a rewarding professional career and an opportunity to have a beneficial impact on their community.

Students begin to learn the opportunities that could be available to them as professional architects, but also of the demands for advanced education and the development of precise skills required to enter the design profession. In addition to architecture, the course also touches on engineering, construction, real-estate development, computer graphic design, and civic leadership.

The program, developed and launched by RAF, will help young people develop a sense of vocation that could lead them either to professional careers as architects or to careers in one of these related fields. While the course “Introduction to Architecture” has been launched at Rochester Prep, RAF envisions expanding this program to additional schools in future years.

INITIATIVES



CANSTRUCTION

The Foundation continued its co-sponsorship of "Canstruction". Working with program partners Buckingham Development, Wegmans and Food Link. Donations received from sponsoring individuals and organizations went toward program expenses. Much of the packaged food required for the event was pre-purchased by the Foundation utilizing funds specifically donated for the event.



SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

As in each of its preceding years, the Foundation supported the awarding of scholarships to students at regional education institutions, pursuing architectural design as a profession. This year, in partnership with AIA Rochester, the Foundation participated in the awarding of \$20,000 in scholarships; \$4,000 of which was directly disbursed by the Foundation.



ART IN ARCHITECTURE

The Rochester Architecture Foundation supports art initiatives that enrich the public realm. Both existing and new buildings can provide the context for a dialogue between art and architecture. The Foundation partners with property owners and other like-minded funding organizations in bringing "Art in Architecture" installations to fruition.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

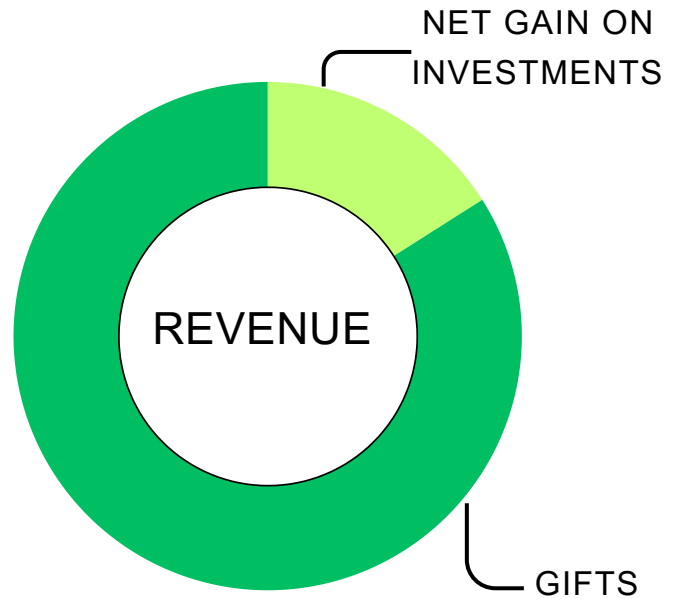
RAF's Fiscal Year is from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.
Special notes include revenue from calendar year 2024

Cash on Hand: \$75,745
RACF Visionary Architects Fund: \$82,419

REVENUE

Gross Revenue: \$74,825

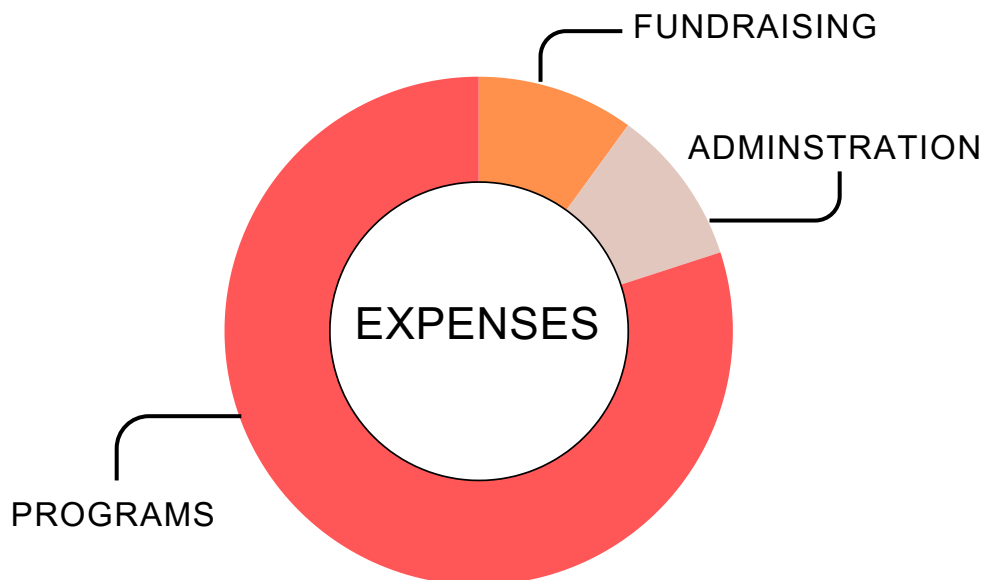
Note: Funding for the Urban Scholars Program
ESL Foundation: \$20,000
Richard Pospula: \$10,000
JDurfee Architect: \$10,000
M&T Bank: \$5,000



EXPENSES

Total Expenses: \$44,406

Scholarships Awarded:
Family of Myron Starks - \$2,000
Women in Architecture - \$2,000



Special Notes:

In 2024, RAF achieved the 'threshold value' goal of \$100,000 in the Visionary Architects Fund held at the Rochester Community Foundation. 12/31/24 Value: \$101,316.