



# TWENTY SUMMERS

PROVINCETOWN, MA

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Dear friends,

It is hard to put the Twenty Summers experience into words. One thing I do know is that when I am at a Twenty Summers event, I often feel like I am transcending time in a magical space.

That magical space is the historic Hawthorne Barn. Nestled in the sand dunes of Provincetown, the Barn began as a studio for Charles Hawthorne, was the birthplace for the Cape Cod School of Art at the turn of the 20th century, and is now our seasonal home. Twenty Summers exists to pay homage to and build on this extraordinary artistic legacy, an essential part of Provincetown's history as the longest-running continuous artist community in the U.S.

Each season, we invite some of the most compelling artists and creative thinkers of our time to read, think, perform, and interact with our local community. Twenty Summers' contribution to the cultural landscape of Provincetown is significant, and one that leaves an imprint year-round.

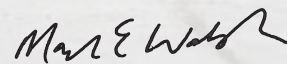
Last year Twenty Summers celebrated its tenth season, making 2023 an exceptional year for us. We welcomed seven artists from diverse backgrounds and disciplines to participate in our residency program and presented a record-breaking twenty-five cultural events. The eclectic line-up of engaging artist talks, poetry readings, film screenings, and performances brought us the sultry vocals of Kat Wright, an in-person conversation with feminist icon and author Margaret Atwood, a live

podcast hosted by Truth Bachman, a panel on Community, Climate, and Queers, and so much more.

We also had a leadership change at the helm. Aziz Isham, who joined us as Executive Director back in 2020, moved on to an exciting opportunity at the Museum of the Moving Image. We are so grateful for Aziz's guidance and vision. Quite simply, he transformed our organization from a small, fledgling arts organization to an arts institution with a national profile, strong financials, and a committed base of supporters. His impact will be felt for a long time. And with the steady stewardship of Alice Gong, our Program Director, who stepped up as Interim Executive Director, we welcomed Bill Reihl as our new Executive Director in January 2024.

Finally, we saw the steady growth in our philanthropic support. We are so grateful for the support of so many generous individuals, foundations, and government agencies who care about Twenty Summers and the art and artists we support and feature in our programming.

I have no doubt that the future of Twenty Summers is exciting and bright. We look forward to building on the legacy of the Hawthorne Barn as an epicenter of artistic growth and exploration in Provincetown. Thank you for being part of our extraordinary journey.



Mark Walsh  
President, Board of Directors



Dear friends,

I am thrilled to be joining Twenty Summers as Executive Director as the organization moves into its second decade of curating innovative arts and ideas programming and nurturing emerging and established artists through the residency program in the Hawthorne Barn.

I've been visiting Provincetown for more than thirty years and have reveled in the sense of artistic freedom, diversity, and inclusion for which the town is so famous. Only a place like Provincetown could have birthed an organization like Twenty Summers and nurtured it, season after season, as it grew to become a significant landmark on the cultural scene, drawing friends and fans from Cape Cod and beyond.

This year, we will stimulate and inspire our audiences with another round of exciting arts and ideas content and welcome a new class of residents to Provincetown to create and showcase their work. While continuing to host visitors in the intimate yet breathtaking Hawthorne Barn, we will also seek out new spaces in which to expand our important work. We will grow while remaining true to our roots and dedicated to lively, authentic, and thought-provoking performances, conversations, and collaborations.

I'm eager to meet all of our audience members in person and to hear what you like best about Twenty Summers and what you'd like to see more of. Our community is what makes this organization so special, and every year we love watching it grow. So please invite others to share the Twenty Summers experience with you when we open the Barn for our eleventh season. We can't wait to surprise, delight, and inspire you.

See you in the sand dunes!



*Bill Reihl*

Bill Reihl  
Executive Director





## Our Mission

Twenty Summers is an incubator for art and ideas. It imagines a more equitable and sustainable future, twenty summers from today.

The organization was founded in Provincetown's historic Hawthorne Barn, and we honor its legacy of artistic freedom by providing resources, residencies, and a platform for original projects and innovative ideas.

We believe that, in the right context, creative minds can find solutions to our hardest problems.





*Sculpture and painting by Alejandra Cuadra*



“When we think about climate change, it's presented to us as an apocalypse. It's important to think about how lots of different groups of people and cultures have had their own ends of the world. The indigenous people had an apocalypse and are still experiencing the effects of that. I take offense to the framing of climate change as this big apocalypse. It's the end of this world, but we still have time to build a new world and need to think about how we change the culture, how we push things forward and create spaces that work for everyone. I'd like the future world that we build to be collaborative, egalitarian. I would like it to center voices that are not typically centered.”

–Dr. Mika Tosca  
climate scientist,  
humanist, activist



## 2023 Fellowships

In 2023, Twenty Summers was proud to welcome seven diverse artists to Provincetown to participate in our signature residency program. In planning this season, we made an intentional decision to build our first cohort of artists to represent the broad range of the AAPI diaspora: Vietnamese-American songwriter and scholar **Dr. Julian Saporiti** (aka “**No-No Boy**”), whose immersive multimedia work blends in service of illuminating hidden American histories; **Kit Zauhar**, a Chinese-American writer, director, and actress whose films *Actual People* and *This Closeness* have garnered international acclaim; and self-taught culinary artist **Jon Kung**, who creates cuisine he truly sees as Chinese American.

Our second cohort of residents included **Ruth Ozeki**, a novelist, filmmaker, and Zen Buddhist priest, whose books are recognized at a global scale; **Kate Rich**, a trade artist and feral economist exploring our consumption and the impact it has on the world; **Antoinette Cooper**, a writer, rainmaker, and TEDx speaker committed to the liberation of Black bodies through the arts, ancestral healing, social justice, and medical humanities; and local artist **Alejandra Cuadra**, whose work embraces clay, wood, mixed media, and her proud Latina sensibility.



*Third Culture on the Outer Cape: Chef Jon Kung*

A photograph of Rosanne Cash performing at the Barn. She is seated on a stool, playing an acoustic guitar and singing into a microphone. She is wearing a black jacket and pants. The setting is a rustic barn with wooden walls and large windows. There are several vases of flowers, including purple and pink blooms, around her. A small table next to her holds a glass of water and a vase of flowers. A brown bag is on the floor next to her stool.

## A Look Back at Season Ten

Twenty Summers celebrated its tenth season with an arts festival featuring the most robust line-up in the organization's history, with more than two dozen publicly accessible cultural events that paid tribute to the artistic legacy of Provincetown. We kicked off the season with an opening party in partnership with the Crown & Anchor, followed by an immersive multimedia performance by **No-No Boy**.

Partnering with Provincetown Film Society, we screened the poignant film *Actual People*, with a conversation led by filmmaker **Kit Zauhar**, and *Beyond the Screen: A Celebration of Films that Break the Fourth Wall*, curated by award-winning documentary filmmaker and past Twenty Summers resident **Shaina Feinberg**. **Truth Future Bachman**, the "rising-star nonbinary composer" (*Playbill*), vocalist, and writer of socially focused musicals, presented *FARMED x PTOWN*, an unforgettable concert with an earth-shattering choir of voices and interview series inspired by George Orwell's *Animal Farm*. We hosted conversations about *The Death and Life of Local Journalism* with the founders of the Provincetown Independent; learned about the global climate impact of fires at *World on Fire: Woodwell Climate Research Panel*; and explored housing issues at *Twenty Summers from Today, Climate, Community & Queer Futures*.

Rosanne Cash performing at the Barn



We hosted Art in the Barn, a perennial favorite, in collaboration with PAAM: three full days of study and painting in the style of Charles Hawthorne, led by local artist **John Clayton**.

Other memorable Season 10 highlights include transdisciplinary artist **Gin Stone** inviting the public to experience a new site-specific installation at the Hawthorne Barn; Provincetown's own comic improv darling **Saltine + Sullivan present: Eggs Isle**; live concerts featuring the Maine-based indie duo **Oshima Brothers**, Chilean singer-songwriter **Pascuala Ilabaca y Fauna**, and **Kat Wight**, whose sultry and dynamic, delicate yet powerful voice brought the house down. This powerful season also included a discussion of *Horse Barbie: A Memoir*, by **Geena Rocero**, an award-winning producer,

director, model, public speaker, trans rights advocate, and television host; and the wonderful end-of-season finale—a public event with Pulitzer prize-winning novelist **Margaret Atwood**, in conversation with feminist author **Vivian Gornick**. While our public season ended with Atwood's event, we had a hugely successful fundraiser to finish off Season 10 in which **Julian Zelizer**, author and political history professor at Princeton, sat down with musician **Rosanne Cash** to discuss the evolution of music and politics, from her dad's inspiration during her childhood to her own rise as a folk artist.

For a complete list of Season 10 events and artists, check out our full archives at [20summers.org/videos](https://20summers.org/videos).





# Twenty Summers by the Numbers

1907

The year Charles Hawthorne built the Barn atop a sandy bluff in Provincetown

10

Seasons of Twenty Summers programming at the Hawthorne Barn

5

Weeks in our annual May–June Festival

7

Fellowships awarded

25

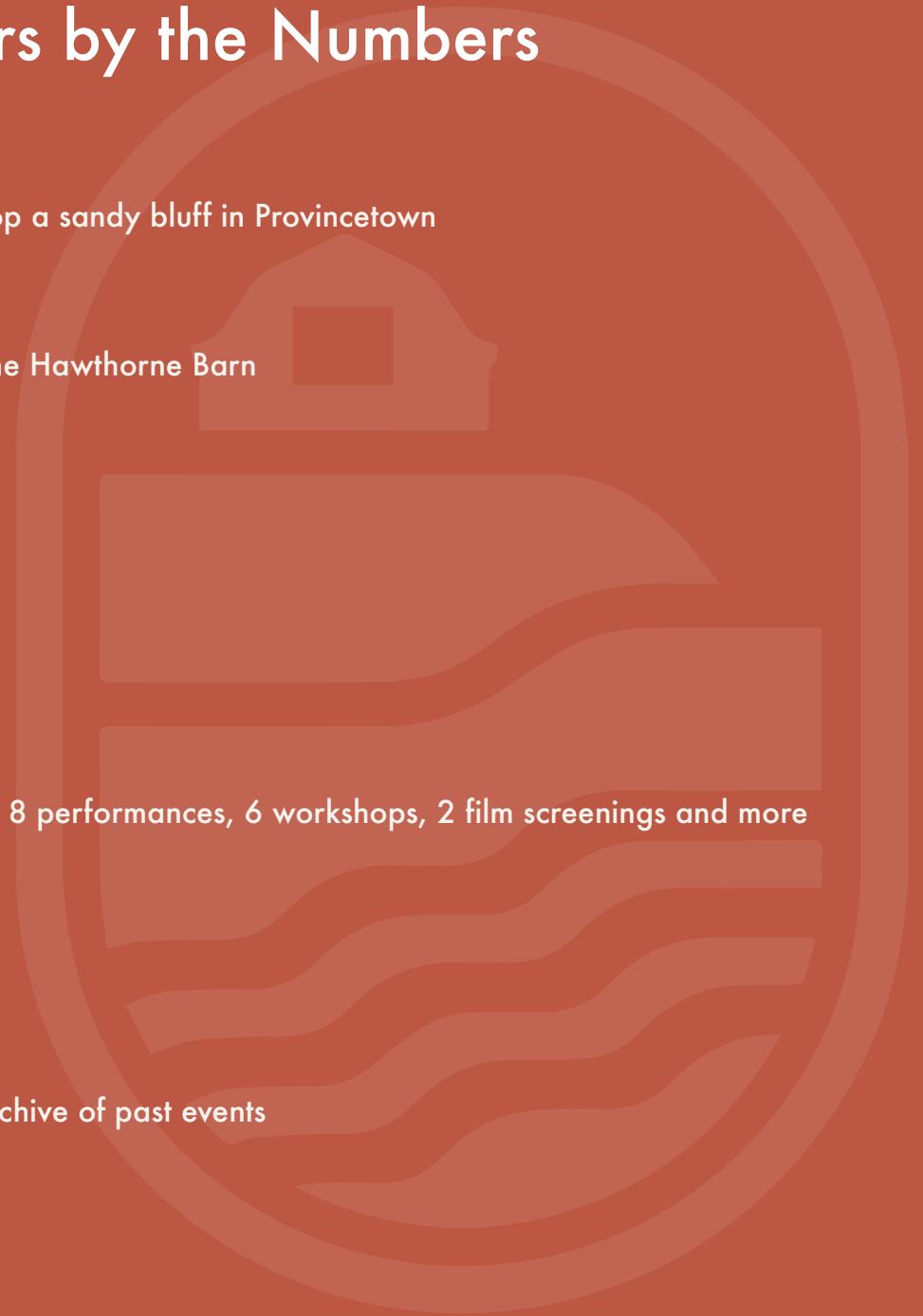
Total annual events including 9 conversations, 8 performances, 6 workshops, 2 film screenings and more


1,300

Live audience members in 2023

28K

Monthly YouTube views of Twenty Summers' archive of past events



A woman with short grey hair and glasses, wearing a dark jacket, is seated at a wooden podium in a rustic barn. She is speaking into a microphone and has her hand on her chest. The podium has a laptop, a water bottle, and some books on it. Behind her is a wooden wall with various decorative items, including globes and a lantern. Large windows in the background show trees outside. In the foreground, the backs of several audience members' heads are visible, indicating she is speaking to a group.

"To be in this Barn is amazing, just to look around and sense the spaciousness of it and feel the creative energy that has obviously been roiling about in here for decades. This is one of the things that's so exciting about organizations like Twenty Summers, where you bring together people and then just let them do what they do, let them talk, and see what arouses from that. It's really lovely."

–Ruth Ozeki, novelist, filmmaker, Zen Buddhist priest

# Financials

	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	<b>FY 2023</b>
Donations & Grants	\$64,038	\$265,723	\$297,560	<b>\$419,011</b>
Restricted				<b>\$80,000</b>
Tickets & Merchandise	\$0	\$23,047	\$60,193	<b>\$13,748</b>
Revenue	\$64,038	\$288,770	\$357,753	<b>\$512,759</b>
Payroll	\$78,728	\$133,182	\$179,971	<b>\$196,109</b>
Other Expenses	\$33,112	\$114,674	\$167,299	<b>\$175,154</b>
Total Expenses	\$111,840	\$247,856	\$347,270	<b>\$371,263</b>
Net Income	-\$47,802	\$40,914	\$10,483	<b>\$141,496</b>

# A Special Thank You to Our Institutional Funders!



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Aziz Isham 2020–2023

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