



***Art with a Heart
in Healthcare***

Year in Review 2025

***Providing fine art
experiences that enhance
the healing process for
patients and families.***





Art with a Heart in Healthcare

A LETTER FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

What a wonderful first year this has been for me as Board Chair of Art with a Heart in Healthcare (AWAHIH)! My husband and I first learned about the organization a few years ago and were inspired by its mission to share the power of art with patients and families.

Jacksonville's healthcare is outstanding, and at the eight healthcare facilities where our artists work, AWAHIH adds what I call compassionate-plus care. While clinicians manage treatment, our artists offer creative experiences that provide comfort, self-expression, and empowerment.

Our Executive Director, Christy Ponder, recently shared a story of a teenage boy who hadn't spoken in days. When one of our artists brought an iPad for him to create digital art, his room soon filled with laughter and conversation—proof of art's healing power.

At the opening of our patient art exhibition, "The Art of Music," I was moved by the connection between artists, patients, and families. Seeing patients proudly share their creations reminded me how meaningful these moments are and how deeply our artists' work touches lives.

We are deeply grateful to our sponsors and supporters who joined us for our annual gala, A Fine Heart Experience, and our inaugural golf tournament. **As we look ahead to 2026, I invite all our friends to continue supporting us as we celebrate our 25th anniversary** and advance our mission of bringing personalized fine art experiences to patients and families in healthcare settings.

With gratitude,
Heidi McLeod, MA (Hons), MPhil, PhD



ABOUT THE COVER ART



Thirteen-year-old Evie, a patient at Wolfson Children's Hospital, brought together her love for art and music in this one-of-a-kind creation. Inspired by Edison Lighthouse's song "Love Grows," she painted a guitar featuring an anatomical heart, blooming flowers, and drifting musical notes. For Evie, the piece symbolizes the way love flourishes when it is shared freely and openly, from one heart to another.

ABOUT US

AWAHIH brings creativity and meaningful artistic experiences directly to patients and their families. Since our founding in 2001 by cousins Lori Guadagno and Lisa Landwirth Ullmann, we have reached more than 150,000 individuals across Jacksonville, Florida, through personalized fine art experiences that support the healing process. Our Artists-in-Residence, supported by dedicated volunteers and interns, bring visual art and music into healthcare settings six days a week, meeting patients where they are and creating opportunities for everyone to engage. By fostering imagination, connection, and hope AWAHIH helps humanize hospitals and enrich the patient experience.

OUR SERVICES:

- Bedside art sessions
- Group art sessions
- Music sessions
- Support group art sessions
- Virtual art sessions
- Patient art requests and special projects
- Staff art sessions
- Healthcare-related special events
- University of North Florida internship program



WHY ART?

1. Boosts self-esteem, sense of identity, and purpose
2. Improves attention span and memory
3. Enhances fine motor skills and mind-body connection, and reduces the stress response
4. Strengthens community and reduces isolation

OUR 2025 PARTNERS

- Ascension St. Vincent's Riverside
- Baptist Health
- Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center
- Mayo Clinic
- MOCA Jacksonville
- Nemours Children's Health
- UF Heath Proton Therapy Institute
- Volunteers in Medicine Jacksonville
- Wolfson Children's Hospital



OUR 2025 SPONSORS

- The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida
- Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville/City of Jacksonville
- Florida Blue Foundation
- Florida Division of Arts and Culture
- Hall-Halliburton Foundation
- THE PLAYERS Championship
- Ponte Vedra Beach Rotary Foundation
- Share MD
- Tom Coughlin Jay Fund Foundation

"Thank you, AWAHIH, for being a safe haven for our family during this storm!"





FUNDRAISERS

This year, AWAHIH proudly hosted our annual gala, A Fine Heart Experience, along with our inaugural golf tournament. We extend our deepest gratitude to our event sponsors, committee members, attendees, and everyone who contributed to making both events a success. A heartfelt thank you also goes to all who donated to AWAHIH and continue to support our mission. Below is a list of individuals who generously gave between 2024 and 2025.

WITH YOUR HELP, WE WERE ABLE TO PROVIDE:

- A fine art experience for **20,000** patients and families
- Over **13,750** hours of art and music sessions
- More than **2,000** markers, colored pencils, etc. to patients
- More than **3,000** packages of air dry clay

A'propos	Together	Kelly Burnett	Edith Clark	CSI	Mindy Ezring
Janice Abdelnour	Anne Bean	Verona Burnham	Jim Clark	Helen Curran	Brian Feldman
Elizabeth Adams	Dustin Bell	Grace Burud	Chris Clark	Caroline Davis	Heather &
Tax & Business	Bent Family	Paula Buss	Darrell Clarkson	Jill & Jed Davis	Shaun Ferenc
Advisors Inc	Foundation	Ricki Byrd	Kristin Clay	Decca Live	Jennifer Ferguson
Denise Akers	Laurie Berger	Caldwell Bankers	Jennifer & Brian	Kelly Delaney	Ferguson, Inc.
Janice Alley	Sarah Bermudez	Brooks & Brett	Cleek	Dick's Wings and	Erica Ferreira
Altamar Brands,	Clare Berry	Cannon	Coastal Elements	Grill	Julie Fetch
LLC	Berry & Co. Real	Cantina Louie	Sarah Collins	Bret Dodson	Alan Fickling
Ambler Art Group	Estate	Capitol Materials	CSI Companies	John Dodson	Blake Fickling
WJC Design	Biscottis	Coastal	Nancy Condron	DogBeach	Fickling
Amelia Island Fun	Body 20	Carla Shoes and	Congaree and	Dream Finders	Construction, Inc.
Arbus Magazine	Toni Boudreaux-	Accessories	Penn	Homes	Jim Filmont
John Arnette	Godwin	Andy Carroll	Brian Cook	Julie and David	First Horizon Bank
Atlantic Coast	Josh Bowling	Kerri Carter	Cookie Bird St.	Drew	Gina & Ross
Marine	Shannon Brady	William Carter	Augustine	Duval Ford	Fishman
Brooks Babcock	Katia Bravo	Brandy Carvalho	Leslie Cooper	Suzanne Ebert	Fishman Pediatric
James Babcock	Darline Kristina	CBV Cares, Inc	Copy Right Jax	EBR Systems, Inc.	Dentistry
Lauren Baker	Braz	Chao Framing	Chelsea Cordek	Jim Eddings	Chris Flakus
Baker County	Sallyane Brown	Shane Chetty	Roger Corse	Kristin Ely	Florida Blue
Christian Co-op	Alison & Charles	Erica Chigounis	Cosmetic Surgery	Episcopal School	Foundation
Leigh Barbour	Bruce	Christ's Church	Affiliates	of Jacksonville St.	Florida Financial
Maher Baz	Peter Burkhardt	Academy	Steve Coutu	Mark's Campus	Advisors
Beaches Music	Steven Burkhardt	Marsha Clare	Karim Crowley	Suzanne Evans	

John Forgus	Boutique	Christine Lazinsky	Laird Myer	Elizabeth Reeves	Sweet Heart
Forvis Mazars	Melissa Intemann	Michele D. Lee	Etleva Nasi	Graciela Retureta	Tattoo Studio
Foundation	Joseph Irizarry	Marie Legene	Natural Life	Sheila & Jared	Gretchen Swinson
Enhancement	Ryan Irvin	Kara Lenz	Northeast Florida	Rice	Taco Lu
Strategies	ISU	Juan Leoni	Chapter of NACE	Dorothy Richards	Anna & Michael
Karen Freedman	Michael Itkoff	Parker Lepore	Don Nicols	Helena Richards	Tari
William D Freeman	J. Hilburn	Deanna Leschinski	Linda Nogle	Kaajal Rijsinghani	Jeff Tawney
Sharon & Fred	Ashley Jacek	Hilary Libman	Cynthia Norenberg	Kathryn Roache	Justin Taylor
Funk	Langley	Deborah Lightfield	Nancy Norman	Susan Rogers	Robyn Taylor
Gardenista Jax	Jacksonville	Lily Pulitzer	Nothing Bundt	Romi Basha	Suzanne Taylor
Matt Garner	Jaguars	Little Red Cottage	Cakes	Yehudah Rose	The Brumo's
Chad Gates	Foundation, Inc.	Cookies	Nancy Ogden	Trevor Ross	Collection
Inger Geraghty	Jacksonville Zoo	Local Wellness	Dariusz	Jessica Ryals	The Community
GigiBead	Janney	Ponte Vedra	Okoniewski	Jennifer Ryan	Foundation for
Chris Gilbert	Montgomery	Loop National	One Call	Sage Hospitality	Northeast
Elizabeth Giusti	Scott	Advertising Fund	Tulin Ostfeld	Group	Florida
Tabitha Glass-	Allegra Jaros	Judith Luedke	Paige Pringle	Sapana	The Gifted
Harrell	Jax River City Lions	Anne-Marie & Don	Memorial Trust	Foundation	Boutique
David Godwin	Club	Lynn	Fund	Sawgrass Marriott	The Grant Family
Elizabeth	Jax Woodworkers	Mindy Lytle	Palm Valley Fish	Golf Resort and	Foundation
Goedelman	Club	Richard Macey	Camp	Spa	THE PLAYERS
Lindley Gorman	JE & Dano Davis	Dana Madalon	Anthony Papa	Jennifer Sawyer	Championship
Teresa & Ian	Families Charity	Elizabeth	Maggie Parks	New	The Social Society
Graham	Lisa Jeffrey	Magnano	PASTA Fine Art	Mike Schneider	of Ponte Vedra
Mindy Gregory	Connie & Brent	Colleen Makey	Gallery	Terry Schriber	Beach
Hampton Golf	Jett	Rita Malie	Elizabeth Paul	Scoliosis PTJax	Jodi Lee Thomas
Dave Harden	Jayne Jett	Dana Mandalon	Danielle Payne	Serenity Sculpting	Jeff R Tidwell
Danielle Hardner	Joan Jett	Erika & Nicholas	Perdue Office	Cards	Guy Tomassani
Melanie & Cale	John Scott	Marino	Interior	Kim Sessions	Catherine Topol
Harris	Samar Johns	Stacy & Gerald	Bethany Perrotti	Shady Ray Alpaca	Laura Towne
Alison Hebert	Kelly Johnson	May	Peterbooke	Farm	U.S. Legal Services
Larry Hebert	Cathy Jones	Mayo Cosmetic	Chocolate Basket	Suzanne Shaw	Glenn Ullmann
Elizabeth Helfrich	Joy Vision	Center	PGA Tour	DJ Sheil	USAbile Life
Julie Henderson	Acupuncture	Kate McCann	Charities, Inc.	Kimberly Sheridan	Joe Valinho
Henri Landiwirth	JWBC	George	Helen Pickney	Charlene Shirk	Leslie Vaughan
Family Endowed	Andrea Kaelin	McCaughan	Pinnacle Financial	Travis Shore	K L Venkatachalam
Fund	Karen Freeman	Shannon McGlynn	Partners	Tammy Shummer	Steve Von
Amy Herfurth	Kim Karshner	Megan McGraw	Julie Pippins	Kaitlin Sidders	Oetinger
Hillary Hickam	Sandra Kavanaugh	Marijane & Rex	Pivot CPAS	Sight & Sound	Jacqueline
John High	James Kehoe	McKinney	Plantation Oaks	Productions	Vosburgh
Bill Hill	Kelly Valentine	Heidi & Chris	Playful Pleats	Heather Sims	Brad Wallace
Chris Hill	Photography	McLeod	Ponte Vedra	Jo Sinclair	Kathryn Wells
Hillary Whitaker	Kitchen Envy, Inc.	Melinda Menzel	Beach Rotary	Ashley & Casey	Hillary & Calvin
Gallery	Margot Klar	John Meserve	Foundation, Inc.	Smith	Whitaker
Tom Hilton	Mike Kohli	Millie's Ice Cream	Ponte Vedra	Jamie Smith	Terese Whitaker
Elizabeth	Lawrence Kurz	Milly Kate Designs	Wine Bar and	Southern Oak	James White
Hohmann	laird/blac palm inc.	Miriam's Jewelry	Restaurant	Insurance	Suzanne Wilbur
Dave Holden	Valerie Lamb-	Chris Mobley	Abigail Portis	Steel Case	Don Wilhoite
Alice Holt	Steece	Sean Monahan	Lori Presto	Craig Steffen	Dick Williams
Ashton Hudson	Jeff Landroche	Monahan Beaches	Dan Pritchard	Mary Stein	Chrys & Bill Yates
Jenny Hughes	Greg Landwirth	Jewelry Center,	Robert Pritchard	Jan Stewart	Daniel Yip
Callie Hugo	Lisa Landwirth-	Inc	William Radler	Dr. Vanni Strenta	Jeanwoo Yoo
Chaz Huguengard	Ullmann	Robert Monsky	Lauren Rager	Stretch Lab First	Heather
Lucinda Hunter	Jonathan	Moose Lodge 455	Randy Marion	Coast	Zimmerman
Hylant Group	Landworth	Tatiana Mora	Kebe & Michael	Rob Stursberg	Stacy
Amanda Iannella	Mary Lane and	Shelly Morgan	Rapaport	Dave Sullivan	Znamirovsky
In Balance Fitness	Ben Wolfe	Elizabeth Moshier	Really Good Beer	Greg Sutton	and everyone who
and Wellness	Laurie Berger	James Murphy	Stop	Kyle Sweet	purchased items on our



**A HEARTFELT THANKS
TO OUR 2024-2025
DONORS!**





"THE ART OF MUSIC"

Seventeen pediatric patients from Wolfson Children's Hospital, in partnership with Art with a Heart in Healthcare, transformed guitars into vibrant expressions of their favorite songs for exhibition at MOCA Jacksonville. Each piece tells a unique story, reflecting the young artists' passions, personalities, and dreams. Families joined us for the opening reception, filling the room with unforgettable joy. Watching the children see their creations on display and walk out to their favorite songs, lighting up with pride and excitement, was truly one of the highlights of our year.



"Fight Song" by Rachel Platt has been the soundtrack to some of Miracle's toughest moments. Her guitar is a bold tribute to her story and strength, adorned with fireworks, boxing gloves, butterflies, and the weight of the medical halo she once wore.

"No matter the circumstance, you can overcome it!"
-Miracle, age 13



Thank you,
Florida Blue, for
sponsoring this
exhibition.

OUR TEAM

ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE

Christy Ponder -
Executive Director

Patty Baldwin
Dylan Bauer
Bob Drost
Heidi Drost
Kianna Godoy
Evan Guttormson
Jaycee Guttormson
Amy Irizarry
Brooke McKinney
Lisa Miyares
Matt Richards
Abigail Santos
Jill Swanson
Micaela Yates

VOLUNTEERS

Sean Collins
Perri Funk
Debra Greetis
Mary Lane
Helen Meatte
Laura Towne
Gillian Vaughan

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Heidi McLeod -
Board Chair
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Judy Powell - *Treasurer*
Kerri Carter
Toni Boudreaux-Godwin
Connie Jett
Casey Kensil
Laird
Michele D. Lee
Anne-Marie Forbes Lynn
Jo Sinclair
Ana Tari
Hillary Whitaker

UNF INTERNS

Cassandra Brown
DeAnna Carrol
Jazzmyn Hayden
Lauren Hernandez
Megan Kiernan
Cheyenne Svabo
Rachel Webb

BOARD OF ADVISORS

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Co-founder
Lisa Landwirth Ullmann -
Co-founder
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Cynthia Jacoby
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Katherine Loeb
Robert Monsky
Melissa Roland
Kathy Soler-Sala

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Suzanne McCormick-
Taylor
Karen Wolfson

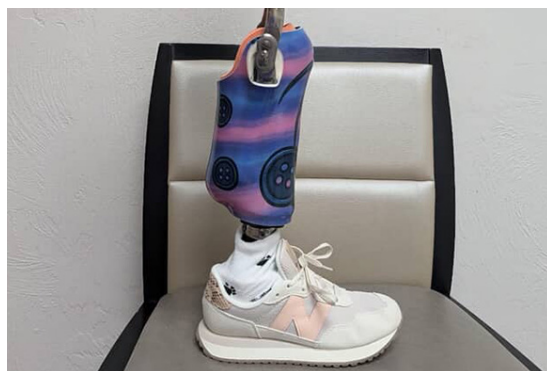
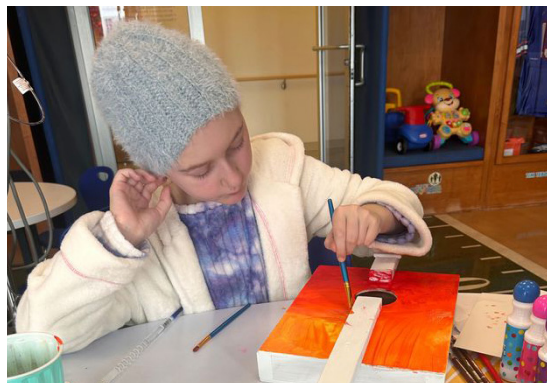
BOOKKEEPER

Kim Karshner



GET INVOLVED:

1. Make a donation
2. Host a supply drive
3. Volunteer
4. Follow, like, and share our social media



GIANNA'S STORY

When Gianna was just 9 years old, she received a diagnosis that changed her life and meant spending significant time in the hospital. Much of that time was spent with AWAHIH, especially in the playroom during long visits. As Gianna remembers, "Art with a Heart helped me so much when I was going through treatment. Going to do art in the playroom was like being in a different place. I got to meet new friends and other artists who just wanted to talk about art with me and help me with my art."

Together with our team, Gianna created a beautiful piece that was featured in our Art of Music exhibition: a painted guitar inspired by her favorite song, "deja vu" by Olivia Rodrigo. We loved spending time with Gianna and her family and had so much fun creating art together. Her hospital room became a colorful gallery, filled with works from every AWAHIH artist.

Gianna also formed some truly special connections. She recalls, "Dylan became someone that would always cheer me up if I wasn't feeling good. Thank you, Art with a Heart!" In a full-circle moment, Dylan's artwork was chosen as the design for her prosthetic leg—a lasting symbol of creativity, friendship, and hope through some very challenging times.



LOOKING AHEAD:

*Celebrating 25 Years of
Art with a Heart in Healthcare*

SAVE THE DATES:

2nd Annual AWAHIH Golf Tournament-
Monday, September 21, 2026

25th Anniversary Gala-
Saturday, October 24, 2026





Art with a Heart in Healthcare

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