



Art with a Heart in Healthcare

2023



Art with a Heart in Healthcare

OUR MISSION

A 501(c)(3) nonprofit, Art with a Heart in Healthcare provides personalized fine art experiences that enhance the healing process for patients and their families.



OUR REACH

AWAHIH provides its services at six locations in Jacksonville, FL including Wolfson Children's Hospital, Baptist Medical Center, Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center, Mayo Clinic, Nemours Children's Health, and Ascension St. Vincent's Riverside.

Since our founding in 2001, AWAHIH has provided more than 125,000 patients, family members, and staff with healing art and music sessions.

This year alone, over 10,000 people benefitted from our programming!



AWAHIH creates an opportunity for participants to express who they are as a whole person rather than one who is defined by a diagnosis or disability.

From our Executive Director

Dear friend of Art with a Heart in Healthcare,

Medicine is essential for healing the body, but what about the soul? That's where Art with a Heart in Healthcare (AWAHIH) comes in. AWAHIH is dedicated to improving the lives of patients and their loved ones through the power of art. At AWAHIH, we believe that creativity is a fundamental part of the human experience and that artistic expression can promote a sense of health and well-being, resulting in better patient outcomes. And everyone — from children and their families to doctors and medical professionals, to the artists and the community at large — benefits.



With your support this year, we were able to provide our programs that enrich the healthcare experience for children and their families, and foster a stronger sense of hope. None of this would be possible without you.

Many thanks for your generosity,

Christy Ponder

Christy Ponder
Executive Director
Art with a Heart in Healthcare

**Learn more about us at our
website: www.awahih.org**



Why art?

Research shows that the arts support health and enhance the overall healthcare experience for patients, caregivers, and community groups. Findings demonstrate that integrating the arts into medical settings can lead to four main benefits:



1. Enhancements in the environment of care for patients and caregivers

2. More opportunity for social interactions and connection

3. Improved outcomes: reductions in anxiety, pain, and length of hospital stays

4. An increased sense of health and well-being



“The visual arts can help patients of all ages deal with challenges associated with illness and treatment while promoting enjoyment, distraction, and engagement.”

Source: National Organization of Arts in Health (NOAH)

ART SESSIONS

AWAHIH is dedicated to bringing the healing power of art to patients and their families at hospital bedsides and in playrooms. The fine art experience that we provide is personalized to meet each participant's wants and needs. Our skilled Artists-in-Residence (AIR) work closely with patients of all ages and abilities, painting anything patients request, offering support as they create their own masterpiece and more. Our AIRs spend as much time with patients as required, fostering non-clinical relationships that help humanize the healthcare experience. Making art in a hospital setting explores and reflects humanity in its most raw form allowing for an experience that can be not only healing but transformative.



OUR TEAM OFFERS:

- Art requests
- Caricatures
- Collaging
- Custom coloring pages
- Digital Art
- Drawing
- Jewelry-making
- Music
- Origami
- Painting
- Sculpting



Art with a Heart is There for the Whole Family: Lily's Story

"Lily was diagnosed with Leukemia last year in 2022. Since that day, Art with a Heart in Healthcare has helped to create some of the most amazing and loving memories for Lily and the rest of our family. From day one, AWAHIH swooped right in and made the whole experience feel natural, pleasant, and familiar for all of us by providing art supplies and positive, non-medical interactions. When we found out that Lily was going to be admitted to Wolfson Children's Hospital for inpatient treatment, both Lily and her sister, Islay, lit up. As a parent, being in the hospital is not anything that I want to be a part of, but in their eyes, it means they get to spend time with all of their AWAHIH art friends. Making art allows them forget why they are in the hospital while allowing parents to sit back, watch, and let them be little."

Chrissie, mother of Lily, age 6
Wolfson Children's Hospital patient

(Pictured on the right are photos from Lily's healing journey from 2022-2023.)

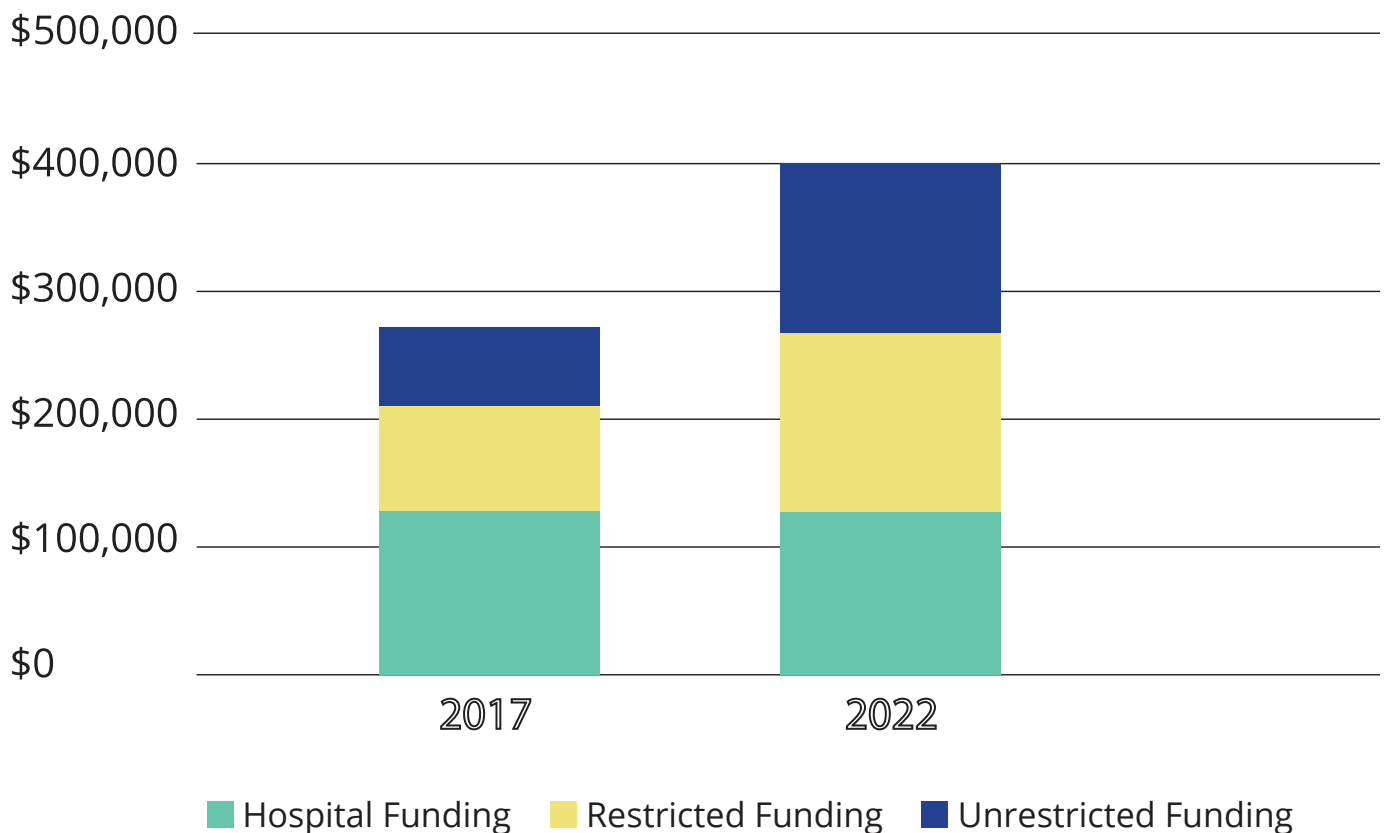


GRANTS, SPONSORS, AND PARTNERS

Wolfson Children's Hospital
Baptist Health Foundation
Mayo Clinic
Tom Coughlin Jay Fund
Baptist Health Foundation
Nemours Children's Health
Baptist Health MD Anderson
Cummer Family Foundation

Hall-Halliburton Foundation
Woodcock Foundation
Cultural Council of Greater
Jacksonville/City of Jacksonville
Ascension St. Vincent Foundation
Florida Division of Arts and Culture
Share MD
Arbus Magazine
MOCA Jacksonville

The success of AWAHIH would not be possible without support from these sponsorships and partnerships!



Fundraisers and Supply Drives

Thank you to the people, businesses, and organizations that hosted fundraisers and supply drives benefitting AWAHIH:

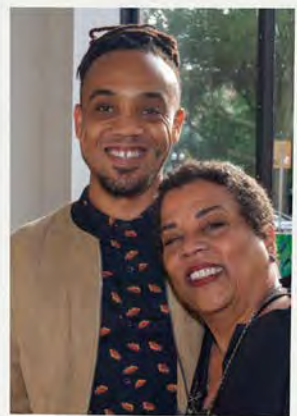


- **Beaches Music Together**
- **Episcopal School of Jacksonville-
St. Mark's Campus**
- **Catie Cares/Christ Church
Academy**
- **Hillary Whitaker Gallery**
- **Jill Noble & Hospitality group**
- **Professional Artists of St.
Augustine (PASTA) Fine Art
Gallery**
- **Ponte Vedra Beach Rotary Club**
- **Voyage Chiropracter**
- **Woodworkers Club of
Jacksonville**

We greatly appreciate the generosity of those who made private donations to AWAHIH!

A FINE HEART EXPERIENCE

An event celebrating creativity, compassion, and community benefitting AWAHIH.



We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the donors, sponsors, volunteers, speakers, and attendees who made AWAHIH's annual fundraiser, A Fine HeART Experience, a resounding success!

Thanks to your support, many more lives will continue to be touched by the healing power of fine art experiences in the hospital.

A special thank you to our Event Committee: Kacey Roache (Chair), Teresa Graham, Heidi McLeod, Ana Tari, and Toni Boudreaux.

Photos by Laird

SPECIAL PROJECTS AND EVENTS

One Wolfson patient with a passion for art had his dream fulfilled by Dreams Come True Jacksonville (DCTJ) by having an art session with AWAHIH. We organized a special art party just for him, where he painted a Spiderman masterpiece and was even joined by Spiderman himself!



Mural painted in WCH Music Therapy recording studio



Windows painted for Nurses Week



Birthday posters painted for patients



Banners painted for patients receiving transplants

Nobody wants to celebrate their birthday or spend holidays in the hospital. Thankfully, art is like a superhero, ready to save the day! It can put a smile on patients' faces, giving them something to look forward to when times are tough.



AWAHIH artists Dylan, Mary, and Matt attended University of Florida's two week Summer Intensive Arts in Medicine Program.



AWAHIH designed and facilitated group art sessions at Tom Coughlin Jay Fund's Remembrance Weekend and Caring for Caregivers event.



AWAHIH provided art projects for Wolfson patients on holidays like Christmas, Valentine's Day, and Halloween.



AWAHIH facilitates monthly art projects for participants of Kids Together Against Cancer (KTAC) support group at Ascension St. Vincent's.



AWAHIH hosted a reception for the opening of *Daydreamers* 2023 patient art exhibition at MOCA Jacksonville.



AWAHIH provided an art session for MOCA Jacksonville's family day event.



AWAHIH provided art sessions for Mayo Clinic's Nurses Week and Fall Festival.



AWAHIH partnered with handpan players from around the world to bring music to Baptist Medical Center.

PATIENT ART EXHIBITS

DAYDREAMERS:

“Where does your mind wander when you daydream?”

Thank you to Florida Blue for sponsoring this year's exhibition.

AWAHIH and MOCA Jacksonville teamed up for our 13th annual patient art exhibition, *Daydreamers*. This year, twenty young artists from Wolfson Children's Hospital, along with their siblings, came together to share their wildest dreams and visions. From mystical creatures to fearless warriors, each art piece is a unique expression of their imagination, brought to life with the help of AWAHIH's team of Artists-in-Residence. These works of art are a magical journey through their minds!



“I daydream about my family and I in space. Everyone is represented in my artwork, such as my baby brother who is symbolized by a yellow goblin. Being in the hospital with my brother has been chaotic, but I am happy to be able to make art while I'm here.”



“The Mask Over Space”
Jamiyan, age 11



OUR TEAM

ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE

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

UNF INTERNS

Alondra Hernandez
Josaphine Morgan
Tatiana Woodson

UF INTERN

Mary Lane

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Christy Ponder

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**We want you to be
a part of our story!**

4 ways to get involved:

1. Make a tax-deductible donation
2. Purchase items from our Amazon Wishlist
3. Volunteer
4. Engage with AWAHIH on social media



THANK YOU

for your support in 2023!

*More information
on our website:
www.awahih.org*



Symphony No. 5

in C minor Op. 67
transcription for piano solo*

L. van Beethoven



Art with a Heart in Healthcare

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Visit our website: awahih.org