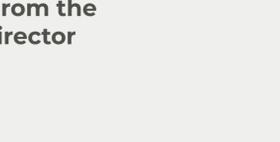


# BACK AT BARN

2022  
IMPACT  
REPORT



## A Message from the Executive Director

Dear BARN Community,

Looking back at 2022, I'm filled with deep gratitude and appreciation for what we have achieved together. BARN has continued to blossom, providing a haven to connect over creativity, learning, and service despite the challenges we've faced.

**Together, we've bounced back from COVID. Through our collective resilience, we've sustained and strengthened the vibrant tapestry of arts and education that defines us. This success is thanks to the dedication of our members, volunteers, educators, and, of course, our generous donors.**

BARN's financial health remains solid, with a clear path to long-term financial sustainability that will allow us to continue to provide exceptional programs and services to our community for decades and generations to come. The tremendous knowledge base and commitment to education and mentoring also secures this. Looking ahead, we're excited about new opportunities to include, support, and connect with one another. Our focus in the coming year is to lay the foundation of a more inclusive and far-reaching community by securing land for an expanded campus.

None of this would be possible without your support. Your contributions continue to make a significant impact. We are deeply grateful for everything you do to make BARN possible. We're excited about the future and eagerly anticipate the new memories, friendships, and, yes, things we will create together.

Thank you for your continued support and belief in our mission.

With gratitude,

*Grae Drake*  
Grae Drake  
Executive Director, BARN



**Thoughtful and skilled teachers provided a fascinating experience in a well-equipped specialized setting.**

— MARIANNE WALTERS

## Makers Return to BARN

What a year of reconnection! After two years of isolation and solo creativity, it was pure joy to share knowledge and skills at BARN as in-person classes made a comeback in 2022. Makers enthusiastically enrolled in classes and started new projects. Online classes, added during the pandemic, remained a popular option for participants from outside the area.

BARN eagerly welcomed everyone back. And the volunteers who make everything at BARN possible returned, as well. These dedicated volunteers teach classes, monitor open studios, coordinate programming, serve as studio leads, lead tours, maintain the space and equipment – and much more. In return, volunteering at BARN helped people to re-engage with their community and creativity.

Donors recognized BARN's capacity to help the community recover, and gave generously in support of BARN activities.

Perhaps most importantly, BARN helped people pursue their creative passions at a time when people were eager to re-engage. More than 2,400 individuals participated in BARN programs in 2022, guided by 150 different instructors. Now BARN is looking to the future and has entered into an agreement to purchase the adjacent Tree Farm property. In 2023, BARN is seeking donations to complete that purchase and reach out to the community about what shape future growth should take.



## Supporting a Thriving Creative Sector

**Amount paid to instructors: \$199k**

**Number of instructors: 150**

**Amount spent on materials, tools & equipment: \$156k**

The creative economy is a powerful tool for economic and emotional recovery from the pandemic. BARN's support for the creative sector, from paying instructors and staff to providing a venue for makers to make and sell their products, makes it a vital resource.

By offering small businesses and artisans access to skills and tools, BARN empowers them to create one-of-a-kind, high-quality products. In 2022, local business people came to BARN to make custom signs, furniture, prototypes, and fabrications. When a local firm needed a place to fabricate their custom hydrofoil masts, they found tools and expertise at BARN. Many local glassmakers, furniture designers, jewelers and other artisans benefit from the community and resources found only at BARN.

**The student-to-instructor ratio was absolutely awesome and provided for nearly immediate feedback.**

— MARK FINCO

BARN's partnerships with local organizations provided even more opportunities for creativity to thrive, from Poetry Open Mic to classes with Bloedel Creative Residents.

BARN provides a safe space where people come together to learn, create, and share their skills and experiences. The result is a community that is stronger, more resilient, and bursting with creativity.



## Hands-on Service to the Community

The work of BARN volunteers appears across the Puget Sound region, from tiny houses to wayfinding signage and many more custom projects for local nonprofits. Several new and exciting projects were added to the list in 2022.

When Friends of the Farms sought to build a new tool shed for a community-owned farm, they knew just who to call – the talented woodworkers at BARN. And when the Island Volunteer Caregivers needed a central desk for helping those in need, BARN woodworkers crafted a piece that beautifully supports their important work. A stunning wayfinding sign at a Kitsap County park features a fused-glass medallion crafted in the BARN Glass Arts Studio.

**The community at BARN is a gift that keeps giving.**

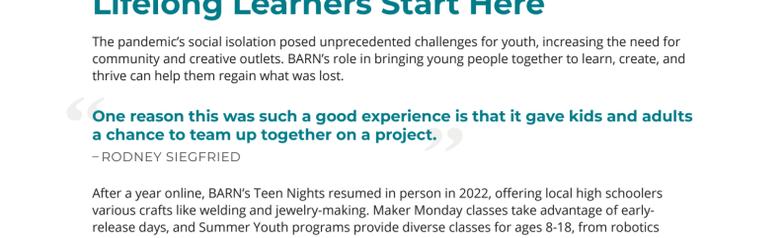
— CHELSEA RAE

BARN's community service extends to individuals. When Rydley Strong, a local Boy Scout, required a custom frame to display his collection of 1,000 Cranes for Hope, a BARN volunteer provided expert guidance to help him bring his vision to life.

These are just a few examples of the many ways in which BARN volunteers have given back to their community in 2022. Whenever specialized skills or equipment are needed to support the community, you can count on BARN volunteers to be there, lending their time, expertise, and passion to make a difference.



BARN volunteers built a Tiny House in 2022, which is now in one of the Low Income Housing Institute's Tiny House Villages. This was the second house to be built at BARN.



## Lifelong Learners Start Here

The pandemic's social isolation posed unprecedented challenges for youth, increasing the need for community and creative outlets. BARN's role in bringing young people together to learn, create, and thrive can help them regain what was lost.

**One reason this was such a good experience is that it gave kids and adults a chance to team up together on a project.**

— RODNEY SIEGFRIED

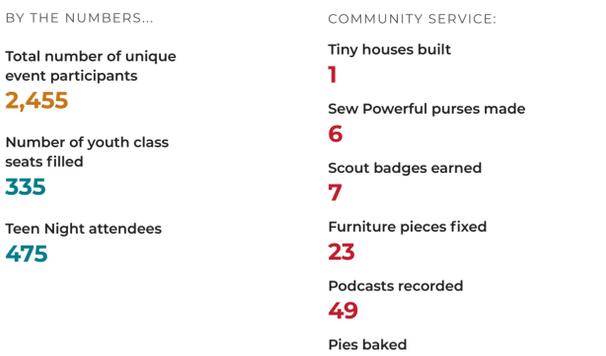
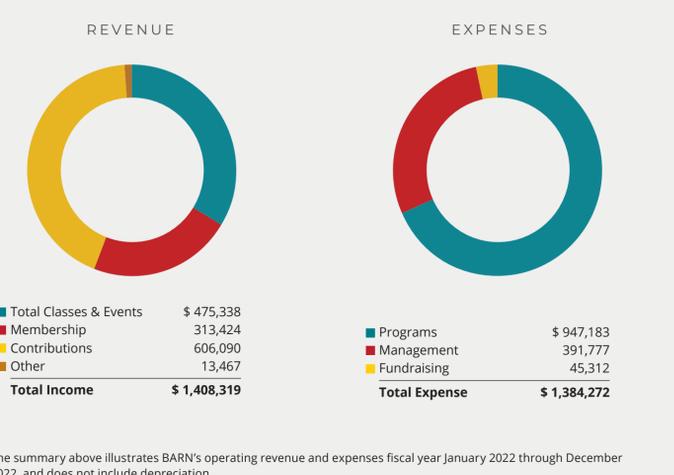
After a year online, BARN's Teen Nights resumed in person in 2022, offering local high schoolers various crafts like welding and jewelry-making. Maker Monday classes take advantage of early-release days, and Summer Youth programs provide diverse classes for ages 8-18, from robotics to podcasting. BARN ensures that local youth have access to tools and resources to explore their creativity, develop skills, and make practical things of which they can be proud.

## Come As You Are

BARN is passionate about empowering people to pursue their dreams, removing financial barriers, and ensuring access to tools and resources to everyone regardless of abilities, background, or gender. BARN's vibrant community of volunteers is eager to help anyone get started on their creative journey.

BARN's Companion Program enables those with physical, sensory, cognitive, or social-emotional challenges to participate fully by offering BARN-trained companions to assist them. In 2022, BARN's Tuition Assistance granted more than \$10,000.

Come as you are and discover your inner artisan at BARN.



The summary above illustrates BARN's operating revenue and expenses fiscal year January 2022 through December 2022, and does not include depreciation.

### BY THE NUMBERS...

**Total number of unique event participants: 2,455**

**Number of youth class seats filled: 335**

**Teen Night attendees: 475**

### COMMUNITY SERVICE:

**Tiny houses built: 1**

**Sew Powerful purses made: 6**

**Scout badges earned: 7**

**Furniture pieces fixed: 23**

**Podcasts recorded: 49**

**Pies baked: 140**

**BARN was proud to have partnered with the following organizations in 2022:**

- |                                       |                                  |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Arts & Humanities Bainbridge          | HYLA School                      |
| Bainbridge Community Foundation       | IslandWood                       |
| Bainbridge Island Chamber of Commerce | Kitsap County Library            |
| Bainbridge Island Museum of Art       | Kitsap Women's Shelter           |
| Bainbridge Island Rowing              | Rotary Club of Bainbridge Island |
| Bainbridge Island School District     | Sew Powerful                     |
| City of Bainbridge Island             | Squeaky Wheels                   |
| Friends of the Farms                  | Stephen's House                  |
| Helpline House                        | Zero Waste Washington            |