



Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center



Smithsonian Affiliate

FY25 Annual Report

to the Board of Calvert County Commissioners
Prepared by Ann's Circle, Inc. & Koenig Private Foundation, Inc.



July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025



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THE BASICS



ABOUT



Our Mission

Annamarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center is committed to connecting people to art and nature. Through a wide variety of engaging exhibits, programs, classes, public projects, and annual events, Annmarie opens up opportunities for creativity, collaboration, and reflection. By providing opportunities for visitors to experience and engage in imaginative activities, Annmarie seeks to nurture the human spirit and contribute to a healthy society.

About Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center

Located in scenic Solomons, Maryland, where the Patuxent River meets the Chesapeake Bay, Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center is a vibrant cultural destination that blends art, nature, and community. The sculpture garden features wooded trails that wind past permanent and rotating works, including more than thirty sculptures on loan from the Smithsonian Institution and the National Gallery of Art, with artists such as Barbara Hepworth, George Rickey, Antonio Tobias Mendez, Kenneth Snelson, and Francisco Zúñiga represented in the collection.

The 50-acre campus also includes the Beckhorn-Hoeg Butterfly Garden, Fairy Lolly Natural Play Space, Tree-mendous Trail, and the Creekside Overlook, offering immersive outdoor experiences for visitors of all ages. At the heart of the site, the award-winning Murray Arts Building houses rotating exhibitions, a charming Gift Shop, the artLAB Creative Reuse Studio, and the Nature Nook, while the Studio School provides year-round classes taught by professional artists and educators. Through dynamic exhibitions, festivals, markets, and educational programs, **Annamarie serves more than 100,000 guests each year**, celebrating our community, honoring the region's maritime and agricultural heritage, supporting the regional economy, and driving tourism across Southern Maryland.



From the President, Ann's Circle, Inc.

Founded in 1991 by Francis and Annmarie Koenig, Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center has long been a cultural asset to our community. With continued support from the Calvert County Board of Commissioners and the Koenig Private Foundation, Annmarie is well positioned to grow and further enhance the Garden as a treasured county landmark.

Residents and visitors alike can take pride in having one of Maryland's premier gardens and arts centers in their community, as well as one of the few institutions nationwide to hold Smithsonian Affiliate status. Annmarie offers year-round exhibitions and programs for visitors of all ages, with guided

and self-guided opportunities to explore the gardens. Seasonal exhibitions and special events ensure there is always something new to experience. We strive to live up to our mission statement to connect people to art and nature. We look forward to welcoming you to the garden.

Greg Kernan, President, Ann's Circle, Inc.

From the President, Koenig Private Foundation, Inc.

Annmarie Sculpture Garden was born from a simple desire: to give something back to a community that my grandparents, Francis and Annmarie Koenig, loved so dearly. Today, the Koenig Private Foundation, in partnership with Ann's Circle, remains steadfast in its role as the steward of that original gift. This past year, we have focused on ensuring the garden remains a vital community asset—connecting more than 100,000 annual visitors to the transformative power of art. As both a family member and President of the Foundation, I am proud to present this annual report, which highlights how my grandparents' endowment continues to fuel creativity, collaboration, and reflection in every corner of these 50 acres.



Joe Koenig, President, Koenig Private Foundation, Inc.

From the Director

I have an old painted plaque on my desk with a quote from author and educator Henry Van Dyke, "Use the talents you possess – if only the best birds sang the woods would be silent." I love this phrase because it releases us from perfection and invites everyone into a creative world. We need not be gifted singers to raise our voices. Many years ago, The Washington Post ran an article about our fairy house exhibit at Annmarie Garden. I don't recall the author's name, but there was a phrase in the article that perfectly captured how I view our mission. The phrase went something like, "Annmarie throws its arms wide around the idea of creativity. From spectacular works of sculpture to fairy houses made by children, the garden welcomes this continuum of creative

expression." The idea of "throwing our arms wide," struck a chord with me and I often use that phrase to talk about our work here. For me, these two anecdotes share a common theme of community and connection – everyone is encouraged to be part of a creative community and connect to the natural world. Our FY 25 Annual Report reveals the many ways that Annmarie invites guests to engage with art and nature, and with each other. We believe this engagement is critical to our health, our happiness, and our intellectual and creative pursuits. We hope you will join us in celebrating and acknowledging the many ways that Annmarie enriches the Southern Maryland community and beyond. *Stacey Hann-Ruff, Director*



Director Stacey Hann Ruff with County Commissioner Earl "Buddy" Hance Greenhouse Groundbreaking, March 18, 2025



Deputy Director Jaimie Jeffrey, literally tied to art and nature, hair caught in a metalworking piece; Art Blooms '24

From the Deputy Director

This year, our focus shifted from the breadth of our reach to the depth of our impact. "The key is not to prioritize what's on your schedule, but to schedule your priorities," as author Steven Covey famously noted. For our education and exhibits department, this meant diving deep into our annual lineup of exhibits, classes, camps, and events with great intentionality. We looked at everything not as a calendar to be filled, but as a series of purposeful invitations to join us in something with greater purpose, meaning, and connection. By prioritizing the quality of our interactions, we worked to ensure our foundation is strong and stable for building upon as we look to expanding our future. This was a year in which our roots in this community grew deeper.

Jaimie Jeffrey, Deputy Director/Curator of Education

A PARTNERSHIP



A Unique Three-Part Partnership

Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center operates through a collaborative partnership between the Calvert County Government, the Koenig Private Foundation, and Ann's Circle, Inc. Together, these entities steward the Garden's land, operations, and programs in a shared commitment to public access and cultural enrichment.

CALVERT COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Provides an annual operating grant to the Koenig Private Foundation, Inc; maintenance & utilities support.

The 30-acre grounds of Annmarie Sculpture Garden, including the Murray Arts Building, the Studio School building, the Creekside Overlook, Cove Point Pavilion, and seven site-specific works of art, are owned by the Board of Calvert County Commissioners. The BOCC supports Annmarie in a variety of ways, including an annual operating grant, maintenance support, and utilities support.

ANN'S CIRCLE, INC; non-profit, created 2006

Provides funds to Koenig Private Foundation in support of payroll; oversees education & program budget; seeks grants & raises funds to support operation; markets, events & programs; manages membership & volunteer program; manages Gift Shop

KOENIG PRIVATE FOUNDATION, INC.

non-profit, created 2000

Holds lease and operating agreement; employs all staff; contributes to operating budget & special projects; holds affiliation status with Smithsonian Institution; holds all sculpture loan agreements with Smithsonian Institution and National Gallery of Art; owns two adjacent properties (~2.2 acres)

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

as of June 30, 2024

Earl F. "Buddy" Hance, *President*
Todd M. Ireland, *Vice President*
Mark C. Cox, Sr.
Catherine M. Grasso
Michael R. Hart

KOENIG PRIVATE FOUNDATION, INC.

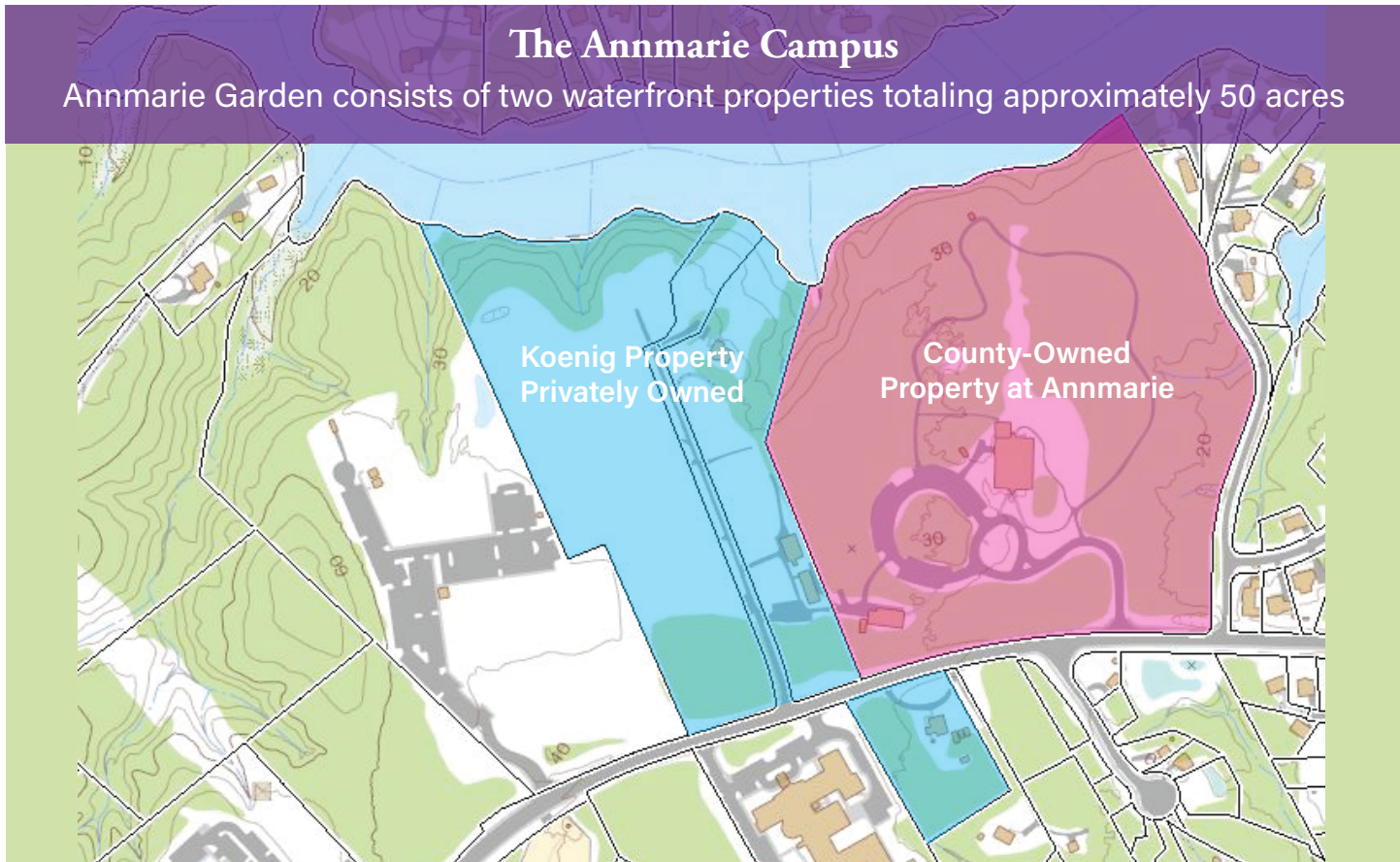
Board of Directors & Officers

Joe Koenig, *President*
Patrick Buehler
A. Everett Hoeg III
Stacey Hann-Ruff, *Assistant Secretary*

ANN'S CIRCLE, INC.

Board of Directors as of June 30, 2024

Gregory Kernan, *President*
Cari DeSantis, *Vice President*
Todd Capitani, *Treasurer*
Francine Clark, *Secretary*
Lisa Garner
Stacey Hann-Ruff
Joe Koenig
Chris McNelis
Kathleen O'Brien
Scott Russey
Pam Teague
Linda Turner, *ex officio*



The Annmarie Campus

Annmarie Garden consists of two waterfront properties totaling approximately 50 acres

Koenig Property
Privately Owned

County-Owned
Property at Annmarie

Property Owned by Calvert County (~30 acres)

Sculpture Garden, Woods, Trails, Native Gardens | 7 Site-Specific Works of Art

Glenn Dale Azaleas Collection | Murray Arts Building | Studio School | Fairy Lolly & Cove Point Pavilion

Demas Family Discovery Garden | Tree-mendous Trail | Asphalt Parking Lot (~100 Parking Spaces)

Two Koenig Properties (~22.2 acres)

Parking Field | Artist House | Clay Studio | Community Garden | Maintenance Barn

Caretaker's Residence | Pier on St. John's Creek | Gated Access to Solomons Town Center Park

The Greenhouse | Gough House Residence



The Greenhouse (New!)



John Dennis Murray Arts Building



The Fairy Lolly Natural Play Space

OUR PEOPLE



LEADERSHIP

Stacey Hann-Ruff
Director

Jaimie Jeffrey
*Deputy Director &
Curator of Education*

EDUCATION

Helen Lindsey
Exhibits & Education Specialist

Reiker Dean
Exhibits & Education Specialist

Hester Burch
Naturalist

Leigh Dolesh
Clay Studio Manager

Mark Andrew Britos
Education & Performing Arts Specialist

Cloud Harsha
Program Support

Katrina Holmes
Program Support

Kira Okshewsky
Program Support

HORTICULTURE & GROUNDS

Joe Mudd
Horticulture & Grounds Manager

Hayden White
Asst. Horticulture & Grounds Manager

Kate Shoup
Horticulturalist

Katie Kerns
Gardener

Horticulture & Grounds Assistants

Richard Parker

John Hudson

Jadon Preston

Victor Mellen
Residential Maintenance Specialist

GUEST SERVICES

Carolyn Schindler
Weekend Supervisor

Evgeniia Iakovleva
Gift Shop Lead

Aletta Brown
Houskeeping

Joe Gordon
Houskeeping

ADMINISTRATIVE

Linda Bracey
Business Manager

Stephanie Scott
*Database & Membership
Coordinator*

**MARKETING
& DEVELOPMENT**

Jane Bachman
Development Director

Jennifer Blake
Marketing Director

The Koenig Private Foundation
employees all Annmarie Staff

Full-Time	11
Part-Time	22
College Interns	3
Seasonal	14



THE CREATIVE TEAM



OUR VOLUNTEERS

The Annmarie Volunteer Team includes individuals from all walks of life who generously share their time and talents in support of our mission. Volunteers play an essential role across the organization, assisting at the front desk, supporting special events and summer camps, welcoming guests, and helping care for our Nature Nook animals.

We are deeply grateful for their contributions and recognize their impact through regular appreciation events. Our goal is for every volunteer to feel valued and connected, knowing they are helping create meaningful experiences that bring people together through art and nature.

Event & Program Volunteers 170

Our Event and Program Volunteers help with a variety of tasks:

- Greet guests and answer phones
- Work special events
- Serve on our board and committees
- Care for our critters in the Nature Nook and More!

Youth Volunteers 148

Our Youth Volunteers help:
 Manage the parking field during Artsfest
 Care for our critters in the Nature Nook and More!

Teen Leadership Volunteers 42

Our Teen Leadership Volunteers help:
 Assist staff and faculty with summer camps
 Support special event operations
 Dress as costumed characters for Halloween in the Garden and Annmarie Garden in Lights



TOTAL VOLUNTEERS
360

VOLUNTEER HOURS
5,759

MEMBERS

Membership plays a vital role in sustaining Annmarié Garden. While support from the Calvert County Government provides an important foundation, more than 85% of our operating budget is generated through programs, events, and earned revenue—including memberships. By joining, members directly support daily operations while enjoying meaningful benefits and deepening their connection to the Garden. Members also strengthen Annmarié through their time and talents, sometimes even serving as dedicated volunteers who help bring our mission to life.

AMG Membership Accounts as of June 30, 2025 **1,296**

Membership By Level

Individual	187
Dual	81
Family	754
Family Plus	123
Family Military	124
Patron	19
Benefactor	8



Did You Know?

In support of our military community, we offer discounts on military family memberships.

COMMUNITY IMPACT



A THRIVING CULTURAL HUB



A Powerful Driver of Tourism

Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center serves as a powerful driver of arts tourism and economic vitality in our region. Each year, thousands of visitors travel to experience our exhibitions, festivals, and programs, generating meaningful revenue for local restaurants, shops, and hospitality partners. Through dynamic partnerships with Calvert County Government, the Koenig Private Foundation, and Ann’s Circle, Annmarie sustains a vibrant ecosystem that supports artists, engages families, and attracts cultural visitors from across the region. Beyond economic impact, Annmarie plays a vital role in community well-being, offering accessible opportunities for creativity, connection, and reflection in a natural setting. By investing in the arts, we are not only enriching lives, but strengthening the cultural and economic fabric of Southern Maryland.

TOURISM

102,164

Visitors

EXPENDITURES

\$657,032

Spent on non-payroll expenses

MARKETS

8,834

Visitors

SALES

\$157,823

Gallery and Gift Shop Sales

ARTSFEST '24

9,817

Visitors

HALLOWEEN IN THE GARDEN

5,965

Visitors

GARDEN IN LIGHTS

31,664

Visitors

EMPLOYMENT

11

Full-Time Equivalent Staff

ANNUAL ATTENDANCE FY25

102,164

July (Insectival)	7,192	January	2,664
August	3,689	February	4,057
September (Artsfest)	12,759	March	3,816
October (Halloween in the Garden)	10,362	April (Fairy & Gnome Home Festival)	9,632
November	4,414	May	6,923
December (Annmarie Garden in Lights)	30,537	June (Mud Day)	6,119



Our visitors are at the heart of everything we do. Each year, thousands of guests from Southern Maryland, the DC region, and beyond come to Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center to explore, attend programs and events, and spend meaningful time outdoors with family and friends. From first-time visitors discovering the sculpture trail to longtime supporters returning season after season, our community of guests helps bring energy and curiosity to the Garden every day.

OUR VISITORS



OUR COMMUNITY

Annmurie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center is built on strong community connections and lasting relationships. Our work is supported by a dedicated network of donors, board members, volunteers, members, and community partners who share a commitment to making art and nature accessible to all. Through ongoing dialogue and feedback from our visitors, members, and supporters, we continue to learn and grow in ways that reflect the needs of our community. These relationships are at the heart of everything we do, ensuring Annmarie remains a welcoming and responsive cultural resource for Southern Maryland.

MARKETING

FY25 marketing efforts were focused on growing Annmarie’s audience and strengthening our role as a regional destination for arts tourism. Through a balanced approach that combines digital outreach with traditional visibility, we were attracting new visitors while deepening engagement with our existing audience, sponsors, and donors.

In response to audience feedback and the needs of a rural community, we expanded roadside signage in St. Mary’s County to reconnect with our neighbors just across the bridge. At the same time, we improved responsiveness and shifted from high-volume announcements to more thoughtful, mission-driven content, including short-form video and strategic influencer collaborations to expand our reach.

We also initiated a comprehensive website redevelopment process, issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) to guide the creation of a more dynamic, user-friendly digital experience that better reflects the breadth of Annmarie’s programs and future vision.



EMAIL

46,508

CONTACTS

FACEBOOK

23,282

+5.8% INCREASE FROM FY24

INSTAGRAM

7,968

+32.8% INCREASE FROM FY24

THREADS

1,295

NEW PLATFORM FOR AMG

LINKEDIN

445

+48.3% INCREASE FROM FY24

GOOGLE REVIEWS

1,352

+7.9% INCREASE FROM FY24

EVENTS



EVENTS OVERVIEW

Anmarie's classes, programs, and signature events continue to be the primary draw for visitors, with a significant portion of earned revenue generated through large-scale festivals such as Artsfest and Anmarie Garden in Lights. These events are truly organization-wide efforts, with staff across all departments contributing to their planning and execution. It is always rewarding to see months of coordination come together successfully, especially when the weather is on our side.

At the heart of each event is a strong connection to our mission. The Fairy & Gnome Home Festival, for example, is rooted in nature play, inviting families to explore the outdoors through imaginative, hands-on experiences using natural materials. Insectival blends art and environmental education, encouraging curiosity and creativity through the lens of the insect world. Anmarie Garden in Lights transforms the winter landscape into an immersive outdoor art experience, drawing visitors outside to walk, explore, and engage with light-based installations.

Across all programs, our goal remains consistent: to connect people with art and nature through creative, intergenerational experiences that inspire exploration, foster engagement, and encourage time spent outdoors. We are continually refining and evolving our events to ensure they remain fresh, meaningful, and responsive to our community.



Insectival (Jul 2024)

Insectival is Annmarié’s annual insect-themed festival that invites families and visitors of all ages to explore the fascinating world of bugs through hands-on activities, crafts, nature play, and a lively circus-inspired atmosphere filled with games and fun.

Guest Attendance	1,927
Community Organizations Represented	19
Vendors	24
Food Vendors	3
Volunteer Participation	27



Artsfest (Sept 2024)

Artsfest is Annmarié’s flagship annual arts festival, bringing together exceptional artists, live performances, and thousands of visitors for a vibrant weekend celebrating creativity. Artsfest is critical to the livelihood of artists, providing 206 artists the opportunity to showcase and sell their work while connecting with thousands of visitors.

Guest Attendance	9,817
Visual Artists	206
Performing Artists	81
Food Vendors	10
Volunteer Participation	86
Kids Activities	6
Artist Awards	4



Halloween in the Garden (Oct 2024)

Halloween in the Garden is an annual celebration of fall, featuring trick-or-treating from community booths, fundraising for local service organizations, games, dancing, and festive family fun.

Guest Attendance	5,965
Community Organizations Represented	62
Food Vendors	7
Volunteer Participation	26



Annmarie Garden in Lights (Holiday 2024)

Annmarie Garden in Lights is our signature holiday experience, transforming the garden into a magical outdoor light display where guests walk among glowing sculptures and installations that inspire wonder, creativity, and connection during the winter season. Profits from the show are critical to supporting payroll and programs, while sponsor support helps us balance generating revenue with giving back to our community through inclusive initiatives like Special Needs Night, Local Heroes Appreciation Nights, and discounted tickets for SNAP families.

Guest Attendance	31,664
Performers	80
Vendors	116
Food Vendors	12
Volunteer Participation	153
Nights of Light Show	30



SPECIAL NIGHTS

- Special Needs Night
- Local Heroes Appreciation Nights
for Military, First Responders, & Educators
- Wine & Lights
- Teen Night
- Golf Cart Tour Nights
- Visits with Santa & Holiday Characters
- Scout Caroling Night
- Pet Night
- Jeep Night



Fairy & Gnome Home Festival (Apr 2025)

Fairy & Gnome Home Festival invites families into a magical world of whimsical creatures, imaginative play, and nature-based adventures, encouraging creativity, exploration, and meaningful connection with the natural environment.

Guest Attendance	4,618
Entertainers	52
Market Vendors	52
Food Vendors	7
Activity Vendors	9
Volunteers	51



Mud Day (Jun 2025)

Mud Day is a beloved biennial celebration of messy, hands-on nature play, inviting families to dig in, explore the wonders of soil, and connect with the earth through muddy learning, nature crafts... and, of course, a giant mud pit.

Guest Attendance	1,161
Community Organizations Represented	6
Market Vendors	6
Food Vendors	3
Volunteer Participation	21



MAKERS MARKETS

Our BUY LOCAL Market Program supports regional entrepreneurs offering handmade, homemade, and homegrown goods by providing an affordable, high-visibility platform to sell their products, test new ideas, and build brand awareness. These markets create meaningful opportunities for vendors to connect with customers, grow their businesses, and be part of a vibrant community that celebrates local creativity and talent.

Sea Glass & Beach Craft Market
July 2024

2,492 Visitors
72 Vendors

Monster Market
October 2024

1,500 Visitors
66 Vendors

Holiday Markets
December 2024

925 Visitors
71 Vendors

Valentine Market
February 2025

1,253 Visitors
75 Vendors

Spring Fling Market
April 2025

1,045 Visitors
55 Vendors

Mother's Day Market
May 2025

1,137 Visitors
63 Vendors

Youth Market
June 2025

482 Visitors
57 Vendors

New! Market for Young Creators & Entrepreneurs



AFTER HOURS EVENTS

Annamarie's After Hours events create new ways for visitors to experience the Garden in a nontraditional setting. From the creative chaos of Bad Art Night to relaxed evenings like Food Truck Fridays, these events offer fun, low-pressure ways for adults to unwind, connect, and engage with art and nature. And just for the younger crowd, in conjunction with our teen exhibit every two years, we host Teen Takeover—a free, high-energy night featuring live music, food, and creative activities designed just for teens.

Annamarie After Hours

7

Exhibit Opening Events

Annamarie After Hours

1,251

Attendees

Art Blooms Opening

185

Attendees

Bad Art Night

322

Attendees

Private Rentals

1,460

Guests from Proms & Other Rentals

Teen Takeover

318

Attendees

PERFORMING ARTS

Annamarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center offered opportunities to 343 performing artists in FY25. For our variety of events, we welcome a range of performers: solo musicians, actors, dancers, costumed characters, choral ensembles, and more.



I graduated in May 2025 with a degree in Performing Arts with a focus on Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies. While my background is in performance, Annmarie offers me the opportunity to be privy to the visual art world and understand the nuances of our artforms. Being able to work with and meet so many talented visual and performing artists makes me proud to be working at Annmarie. Having the opportunity to connect and give opportunities to working artists is such a privilege. I believe art is meant to be shared and enjoyed, and while here at Annmarie, it is amazing to be able to do just that with so many people. The one thing about artists, no matter the form, we find catharsis in creating and working in art. I am happy to report that at Annmarie there is no shortage of exciting and invigorating art.

Mark Andrew Britos, Education & Performing Arts Specialist

ARTSFEST
181
Performers

AFTER HOURS
11
Performers

FAIRY FEST
52
Performers

GARDEN IN LIGHTS
80
Performers

BAD ART NIGHT
3
Performers

MARKETS
9
Performers

TEEN TAKEOVER
6
Performers

INSECTIVAL
1
Performers



EDUCATION

SCULPTURE



A Tribute to the Oyster Tonger, A Chesapeake Waterman; Antonio Tobias Mendez



The Gateway; Peter King and Marni Jaime



Modern Petroglyphs; Kevin Sudeith

Sculpture at Annmarie

Sculpture is at the heart of the Annmarie experience, creating a dynamic, ever-evolving landscape. The collection reflects a unique blend of partnerships and stewardship: works on loan from nationally recognized institutions such as the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden and the National Gallery of Art are presented alongside sculptures from Annmarie's own collection and pieces owned by Calvert County. Together, these collaborations allow us to offer visitors access to high-quality, thought-provoking art in an outdoor setting, while reinforcing our role as a trusted regional partner and cultural resource.

Works on Loan from the Smithsonian Institution	20
Works on Loan from the National Gallery of Art	3
Works on Long-Term Private Loans from Artists	6
Works on Display Owned by Ann's Circle, Inc. & Koenig Private Foundation, Inc.	6
Works on Display Owned by Calvert County	6



EXHIBITS

The Murray Arts Building galleries host a diverse range of exhibitions each year, supported by thoughtfully designed programs and events that deepen visitor engagement and connection to artists. While our calls for entry reach a national audience, we maintain a strong commitment to showcasing local and regional talent. Guest jurors from the Smithsonian Affiliates program and other respected institutions bring fresh perspectives to each juried exhibition.

With each year, my love for Annmurie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center grows. There's something special about watching the grounds and galleries evolve with the seasons. It's wonderful to see families explore the trails, artists bring new ideas to life, and be a part of our team as we transform the empty walls of our galleries into something beautiful. I take pride in the way our work blends creativity, community, and craftsmanship, especially when I see visitors connect with our sculpture, exhibitions, and programming. Annmurie is a place where art feels accessible, nature feels welcoming, and the greater community can come together.

Reiker Dean, Exhibits & Education Specialist

Exhibits Team Members, Helen Lindsey & Reiker Dean with Award-Winning Artist, Lonnie Harkins



Rotating Exhibits FY25

Art Blooms Floral Design Exhibition Designers	37 Designers
Art For All Seasons at ACLT	25 Artists
Holiday Train Display	12 Helpers
Holiday Show and Sale '24	46 Artists
Ornament Show and Sale '24	29 Artists
Timber: Contemporary Woodcraft	54 Artists
Fabric of Our Lives: Works by Zsudayka Nzinga	1 Artist
Let Them Cook: Teen Art Exhibition	258 Artists
Fragments: Reflections on Memory	74 Artists
Submerged: Sea Life and Aquatic Art	64 Artists

TOTAL ARTISTS 600

COMMUNITY ART

While we take pride in supporting professional and emerging artists, our community-based art projects are at the heart of what we do. Rooted in the belief that art is for everyone, these projects invite visitors of all ages, abilities, and experience levels to participate in the creative process. There are no soloists in community art—each piece is shaped through collaboration, shared ideas, and experimentation. By bringing people together around a common purpose, these projects create meaningful, accessible experiences that keep our visitors engaged and connected through art. Programs like MLK Days of Service and the Summer Public Art Project, while also part of our residency offerings, are key examples of this work, bringing artists and community members together to create something truly shared.



Fairies in the Garden 117 Participants

Our annual Fairies in the Garden outdoor exhibit invites the community to step into a world of imagination, where creativity knows no bounds. This beloved, non-juried exhibition welcomes participants of all ages and skill levels to contribute whimsical creations, transforming the Garden's woods and trails into a magical experience. By removing barriers to entry, this exhibit reflects our commitment to accessibility and community engagement, offering a unique opportunity for families, individuals, and first-time artists to see their work celebrated in a public setting.

LEGO Holiday Village 177 Builders

The LEGO® Holiday Village is a beloved part of Annmarié Garden In Lights, delighting guests with a whimsical, handcrafted display created by members of our community. Built piece by piece with creativity and care, the village showcases the imaginative spirit of participants of all ages and highlights the power of collaborative art. As a community-driven installation, it reflects our commitment to accessibility and shared creative experiences, inviting visitors not only to enjoy the display, but to see themselves as part of the artistic process that brings the Garden to life during the holiday season.



Exhibits & Education Specialist, Helen Lindsey, setting up the annual LEGO® Holiday Village display for Annmarié Garden in Lights

Fairy Lolly Beautification Project

98 Volunteers

A total of 98 volunteers contributed to the Fairy Lolly Beautification Project, supporting both environmental stewardship and creative placemaking at Annmarié. The Calvert Peace Project (25 teens, 3 adult leaders) worked alongside Horticulture & Grounds Manager Joe Mudd to remove invasive vines, improving the health of the Garden. The Southern Maryland Homeschool Co-Op (30 volunteers) and Tidewater School (40 volunteers) partnered with staff to bring whimsy and color to the Fairy Lolly, painting the beloved stump jumps. Together, their efforts enhanced this imaginative space while fostering a shared sense of community pride.



ARTIST RESIDENCY PROGRAMS

Annmarie Garden comes alive when artists are on site, inspiring visitors and energizing the space. Throughout the year, we host artists through a variety of short-term residencies, welcoming creatives from near and far to use our galleries and natural landscape as places to make work. These artists not only create, but also engage directly with visitors through conversations, demonstrations, and informal interactions, helping to build meaningful connections and a strong sense of community.



Artists in Action (April-May 2025)

Each spring, Annmarie’s galleries transform into week-long working studios, offering artists a unique retreat and experimental space to create and connect. A new group of artists rotates in each week, often blending styles, sharing techniques, and inspiring one another in the process. Visitors can observe the creative process up close, both inside the galleries and outdoors, where plein air painters and other artists work throughout the Garden. Many participating artists also lead workshops, inviting the public to learn directly from their practice.

Participating Artists **44**



MLK Days (January 2025)

Residency, Community Art Event (Larger Than Life), & Solo Show featuring Zsundayka Nzinga | This short-term residency welcomes a regional artist to celebrate the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. through a free, uplifting 3-day artmaking event and solo show. This year, we welcomed mixed media artist Zsundayka Nzinga from Washington DC. Her community project, Larger Than Life, inspired people of all ages to collage beautifully patterned paper into 1 of 4 giant collaged murals, using the torn paper method of chigiri-e.

MLK Days Participants **354**



Summer Public Art Project (2025)

Kaleidoscope: A Clay Butterfly Installation | Our summer residency program was on hold as it was revamped, but our clay community stepped up to keep the summer public art project alive and created a clay butterfly project for visitors to enjoy. Daily visitors could paint or bead a butterfly to add to an outdoor installation near the clay studio and community garden. Students, studio users, teachers, interns, and staff created clay butterflies which the public glazed and beaded for display. This project was the official kickoff to raise awareness for a bigger, better clay studio...coming soon! Also, our new improved summer residency program will begin in 2026.

Butterflies Created **385**

artLAB Creative Reuse Studio

Open daily, the artLAB is a hands-on creative space in the Arts Building where visitors of all ages transform everyday discarded materials into unique works of art. Rooted in sustainability and imagination, the space is stocked almost entirely through clean, donated recyclables from our community—items that might otherwise end up in a landfill. From corks and CDs to hardware and packaging, these materials are reimagined as creative supplies. Visitors can join a guided workshop or drop in during open studio time to create independently. In addition to daily admission visitors, artLAB welcomes every field trip and summer camp group that comes through our doors; and artLAB invites adults to explore creative reuse in a no-rules, no-fuss setting through events like Bad Art Night.



Exhibits & Education Specialist Reiker Dean presenting the “Best of the Worst” awards at Bad Art Night, May 2025. The awards themselves are as hilarious and imaginative as the art—handcrafted by Annmarie staff using old trophies and artLAB materials.



THE CLAY STUDIO

Annamarie's Clay Studio is a vibrant, in-demand creative hub where artists of all experience levels explore handbuilding, wheel throwing, and glazing in a welcoming, community-focused environment. With classes that consistently fill and a growing waitlist, the studio reflects the strong interest in ceramics across our region. Participants benefit from skilled instruction, access to equipment, and a supportive space to develop their craft.



As an active artist navigating a world of corporate policies, copy-and-paste culture, big names, and fast delivery, finding authentic creative space can feel rare. Annmarie's Clay Studio has been that safe haven for me. Being a member of AMG Clay Studio has allowed me to grow not only technically as an artist, but personally as well. It has given me the freedom to experiment, to make mistakes, and to slow down in a way that honors the process of creating by hand. Beyond the clay and the kiln, it has provided something even more meaningful — a genuine sense of community. A place where artists support one another, share knowledge, celebrate wins, and navigate challenges together. I'm grateful for this space and as AMG continues to grow I am excited to see what it inspires for myself and the community.

Mariah Marino, Studio User

211

Attendees of our Family Clay Dates

445

Visits to our Open Studio Program

193

Adults Enrolled in Clay Classes Resulting in

1,101

Visits

FUN FACT: Did you know we are working to expand our clay studio into a bigger, better space? We will be able to accommodate 3x the amount of students!

Clay is more than just a job, for me it's a passion. The Clay Studio is a space where people from many walks of life not only share a love of clay, but an interest in art, a need to create, and a strong sense of community. Annmarie Garden has allowed me to work with clay in a capacity I had only dreamed of previously.

Leigh Dolesh, Clay Studio Manager

NATURE EVENTS



Anmarie brings people of all ages together through nature-based programs that spark curiosity. While signature events like **Fairy & Gnome Home Festival**, **Mud Day**, and **Insectival** continue to anchor this work, we also offer more intimate, hands-on experiences that deepen engagement with our natural world. Programs such as Family Nature Walks, Hester's Houseplant Prop & Swap, and our Holiday Wreathmaking Party invite participants to engage with nature in creative and artful ways.



Family Nature Walks
48 Families



Houseplant Prop & Swap
35 Guests



Holiday Wreathmaking Party
79 Guests



THE NATURE NOOK

The Nature Nook is a fun and inviting space where visitors enjoy interactive experiences on a variety of topics. It features hands-on learning activities, rotating exhibits, and accompanying programs for all ages. The exhibit theme changes every year, but you can always find fun stations like the Creature Feature, the Magnification Station, the Book Nook, and Animals-in-Residence.

Nature Nook Exhibits

Fall-Winter 2024 Exhibit

Lifecycles of the Flora and Fauna

Spring-Summer 2025 Exhibit

Maryland Quags: Hidden Wonders in Wetlands



Meet Yusuke, our new Mud Turtle

Yusuke survived an attack prior to moving in with us, which left him without his back feet and tail; but he's thriving in his new home at Annmarie! He was named after Japanese artist Yusuke Asai, known for creating large-scale murals often depicting plants and animals painted with mud.

Nature Programs

Chespx Field Trip Program | This program serves EVERY 2nd grade student in Calvert County. On these field trips, students learn how to become better stewards of the earth. Our educators help them become superheroes by teaching them proper recycling procedures, how to compost correctly, and guide them in a re-purposed art project in our ArtLab.

Family Nature Walks | A nature show and tell followed by an exploratory stroll outside. The topics complement the year's Nature Nook theme. Plants and animals of marshes, vernal pools and other wetlands were featured in these walks. These walks are designed to appeal to explorers of all ages.

The Birding Trail and Bluebird Boxes | We continued our participation in the Calvert Birding Trail and cared for 11 bluebird boxes around the Garden. In 2025 it was reported that there were **30 bluebird fledglings** from these boxes positioned around Annmarie Garden.

The Critter Care Team | Our wonderful Critter Keepers were more important than ever during our wetland exhibit! In addition to our resident animals, we featured many new visiting critters, including aquatic snails, frog tadpoles, toad tadpoles, salamander larvae, aquatic insets and more! All these visiting critters required an extra team of keepers who came in daily during the spring and summer to care for them.



Meet Our Naturalist

I take pride in creating fun and educational exhibits in the Nature Nook each year. Maryland Quags: Hidden Wonders in Wetlands is my latest exhibit, and it features wetlands from bogs to marshes. Highlights to this exhibit included carnivorous plants, a kid friendly faux beaver lodge, dragonfly art, and an abundance of live aquatic critters. Working for Annmarie Garden brings together my creativity and my love of nature. In addition to Nature programs, I also contribute heavily to Insectival, Fairy Fest, Halloween in the Garden, and all of our other events. Here I am with my home-made Halloween hat because we are a space that promotes creativity.

Hester Burch, Naturalist



FIELD TRIPS & YOUTH GROUPS



Our campus was buzzing with young explorers all year long! From school field trips and daycare visits to scout groups, homeschool programs, and our ever-popular summer camps, Annmarie was filled with curiosity, creativity, and joyful discovery. The energy these young visitors bring is contagious—their imagination inspires us to keep dreaming up new ways to learn and create together.



FIELD TRIPS
35 Groups
1,854 People

CHESPAX
58 Classes
900 Students

PARTY RENTALS
32 Groups
939 Guests

SUMMER CAMPS
5 Weeks
185 Campers

HOMESCHOOL DAYS
2 Programs
201 People

SCOUT PROGRAMS
13 Groups
299 People

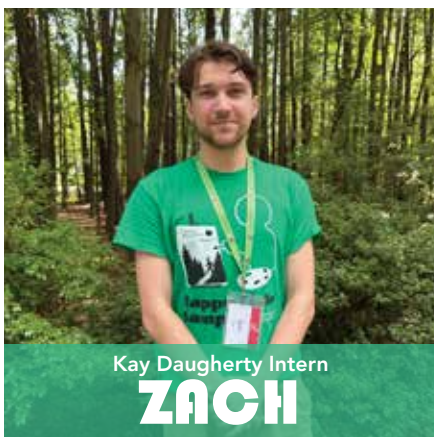
INTERNSHIPS



Kay Daugherty Intern, Taylor (left), with Program Support, Cloud (right), showing off their axolotl photo op they created for an event



Annamarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center is proud to support the next generation of creative professionals through our Community Arts Internship and Kay Daugherty Internship programs. These opportunities provide college students with meaningful, hands-on experience in a nonprofit arts environment, where they contribute to classes, events, and daily operations. Interns also develop and lead special projects, adding creativity and energy to the park and its programs. As mentors and role models for our campers and teens, they are a valued and impactful part of the Annmarie community.



Being a Summer Camp Counselor at Annmarie Sculpture Garden and Arts Center was a valuable learning experience for me as a future educator. The summer camps provided an excellent opportunity and environment to practice my own classroom management skills along with learning how to best connect with my campers. During weeks when campers were not along, I was able to see the different aspects that go into making a camp week run smoothly. Overall, working at Annmarie gave me the opportunity to work with the community and grow in my own knowledge of teaching. *Taylor, FY25 Kay Daugherty Intern*



TEEN INITIATIVES

Teen Leadership Program

Our Teen Leadership Program empowers teens to build confidence, develop leadership skills, and gain valuable real-world experience while earning service learning hours. Participants engage in a variety of opportunities—from festival preparation and Critter Care to supporting summer camp programs—allowing them to explore different interests and grow their skill sets. Throughout their time at Annapolis, teens are supported through mentorship, recognition of their contributions, documentation of service hours, and letters of recommendation for college and internship applications. These programs are funded in part by the Katie and Tom Watts Youth Program Fund.

42 Teen Leaders



Let Them Cook: Teen Art Exhibition

This biennial teen art exhibition celebrates artists ages 13 to 19, offering a platform that highlights unique perspectives, passions, struggles, and ideas of young creatives. Additionally, the exhibit invites the community to engage with and support the next generation of artists. Teens from all over the country submitted their work, and one teen and her family came all the way from Texas to see her piece at Annapolis.

258 Artists
Participating

485 Attendees
Exhibit After Hours Reception



Teen Takeover

Teen Takeover is a biennial, teens-only event that fosters independence, creativity, and connection in a space designed just for them. With live performers, food, and hands-on activities, it offers a fun, welcoming environment where teens can gather, express themselves, and just be.

318 Attendees



I love getting to see our teen volunteers grow in the program. Many of them start out shy but when they see the impact they make on our community, that's when the leadership evolves. They become mentors to our summer camp students, assist in facilitating creative and educational experiences at our events, and learn to work along with their Teen Leadership peers who represent all areas of Southern Maryland. This program is a unique opportunity that shapes our youth, teaching them about themselves and what it means to contribute to a greater community. You can't put a price on that.

Helen Lindsey, Exhibits & Education Specialist

OPERATIONS





HORTICULTURE & GROUNDS



Horticulture & Grounds Manager, Joe Mudd, led a team of volunteers from Constellation in planting 40 native Redbuds at Community Planting Day, March 2025

This year, the Horticulture and Grounds Team strengthened both the beauty and ecological function of the campus through intentional design, sustainable practices, and long-term stewardship.

More than 5,000 spring bulbs—including daffodils, tulips, and alliums—were planted to provide early-season color and critical nectar for pollinators. Key areas across the site, including the Front Gate, Main Allée, Arts Building, The Overlook, and Hand Sculpture, were redesigned with native plantings that support biodiversity, improve stormwater infiltration, and reduce long-term maintenance. Infrastructure improvements, such as reshaped planting beds, steel edging, and rerouted pathways using recycled materials, further enhanced both aesthetics and durability.

Ecological initiatives expanded wildlife habitat and environmental resilience. A new rain garden was installed to filter runoff while supporting pollinators, including Monarch host plants, and habitat features such as a decorative dead hedge and snag were created using onsite materials. Ongoing monitoring efforts, conducted in partnership with the Calvert Orchid Conservation Program, led to the discovery of previously undocumented native orchid colonies.

Plant collections and seasonal displays were also expanded, including tropical summer plantings, propagated native ecotypes, and new container installations. Community engagement grew through the launch of a Garden Volunteer Program, educational tours, and continued collaboration with the Master Gardeners, alongside the addition of a sensory play element at Fairy Lolly.

Operationally, the team improved efficiency and accessibility through enhanced Garden in Lights storage and display systems, expanded special needs parking, and upgraded equipment ergonomics. Long-term planning was supported through forestry assessments conducted with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, as well as soil testing and consultation with the Soil Conservation District.



Kelly Okleson of Groundsmith Collective leads workshop: Native Planting for the Backyard Gardener

Community Planting Day & Workshop

In March 2025, Annmarié expanded its commitment to regenerative landscaping and community engagement through a series of programs made possible by a grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust, with additional support from our neighbors at Constellation, who also provided volunteers. During Community Planting Day, volunteers joined the Horticulture & Grounds Team to plant 40 native redbuds, contributing directly to the campus landscape, enhancing the Spring display and expanding canopy cover. Later that month, the workshop Native Planting for the Backyard Gardener, led by Kelly Okleson of Groundsmith Collective, offered practical guidance and inspiration for incorporating native plants at home. Together, these initiatives connected hands-on action with education, empowering the community to support healthier ecosystems both at Annmarié and beyond.

FUN FACT: Kelly and Annmarié’s Horticulture & Grounds Manager, Joe Mudd, co-authored a chapter in the Maryland Master Gardener Handbook published by the University of Maryland Extension.

HORTICULTURE & GROUNDS HIGHLIGHTS

- Discovered previously undocumented native orchid colonies onsite
- Created wildlife habitat features, including a decorative dead hedge and snag
- Launched a Garden Volunteer Program
- Hosted a regenerative gardening speaker
- Led Pollinator Garden tours
- Added a sensory element for children at the Fairy Lolly
- Expanded tropical summer plantings
- Supported community events like Insectival
- Reorganized light show storage and improved holiday display systems
- Expanded special needs parking and improved equipment ergonomics
- Conducted soil testing and forestry assessments for long-term planning
- Attended the Mid-Atlantic Nursery Trade Show for continued professional development
- Supported Artsfest vendors after severe weather, earning praise for responsiveness

Bulbs Planted
Across the Garden
17,000
Multi-Year Planting Impact

Native Redbud
Trees Planted
40
With Community Volunteers

Percentage of Team
100%
OSHA-10 Certified

New Container Displays
13
Installed for Seasonal Color

FY25 Maintenance & Repair of County-Owned Property



A Partnership Between Anmarie Staff & Calvert County General Services

Care of Anmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center’s buildings and grounds is a collaborative effort between Anmarie staff and the Calvert County Department of General Services. We are grateful for this strong and productive partnership, and for the significant in-kind support provided by the County. General Services oversees routine maintenance and repairs across the campus and covers essential operating expenses, including electric, water and sewer, phone and internet, elevator and HVAC maintenance, trash removal, housekeeping supplies, and other facility-related needs.

Anmarie staff are responsible for the care, stewardship, and ongoing improvement of the grounds, as well as housekeeping services that support the visitor experience. The following chart outlines the funds expended by Ann’s Circle and the Koenig Private Foundation in support of campus care and capital improvements.

Care and Improvements to County-Owned Property

FUNDS EXPENDED BY ANN’S CIRCLE, INC.

General Groundskeeping Expense (routine repairs, fuel, equipment, building repair, maintenance, etc)	\$54,947
Improvements to Fairy Lolly Play Area	\$1,688
Plant Materials	\$33,415
Community Planting Day Materials	\$10,766
Annual Conservation and Related Costs of Sculpture Collection, County-Owned & Loaned Works	\$23,259
ANN’S CIRCLE SUBTOTAL	\$124,075

FUNDS EXPENDED BY KOENIG PRIVATE FOUNDATION

Payroll costs for Grounds & Housekeeping	\$352,573
KOENIG SUBTOTAL	\$352,573

Total Spent on Grounds Care and Improvements to County Property by Ann’s Circle, Inc. and Koenig Private Foundation

\$476,648



Kids Enjoying the Fairy Lolly Natural Play Space



Horticulture & Grounds Crew Preparing to Plant



Redbuds arriving for Community Planting Day

GUEST SERVICES



Weekend Supervisor, Carolyn Schindler (Right), & Volunteer, Sharon (Left), showing off their wings while working Fairy Fest

Guest Services

Our Guest Services staff and volunteers are often the first to welcome and orient visitors, setting the tone for a positive experience at Annmarie. They take pride in creating a warm, friendly environment and in sharing the joy and stories of our guests with the wider team. Whether you are visiting an exhibit, exploring the Nature Nook, playing in the Fairy Lolly, or strolling through the Sculpture Garden, they are always ready to help you find your way and make the most of your visit.

My position as Weekend Supervisor is truly rewarding. I am responsible for making sure the Garden is running smoothly; and our weekend team works hard to ensure that happens. I enjoy welcoming new visitors and reconnecting with guests I've known for years. I always want our visitors to have a wonderful experience full of magic and joy, and truly take advantage of everything Annmarie has to offer.

Carolyn Schindler, Weekend Supervisor



A visitor discovered his feet had been used as the model for one of our gift shop items—a fun and unexpected moment!

The Gift Shop

The Gift Shop is a place that brings our members and visitors closer to art and nature through a carefully curated selection of items that celebrate creativity and community. Located in the Arts Building, it remains a favorite destination for our visitors on a day-to-day basis and during our special events. Our Book Nook is one of the few in the area and whether you hunt for a book about nature and environment, bird watching, artisanal jewelry, hand-made home décor, or garden art—you will find items telling their own story. And, as usual, our team always goes the extra mile to help guests discover something meaningful, turning every visit into a joyful and memorable experience. **Proceeds from the Gift Shop support Annmarie’s operating budget.**

14 Local Artists

Featured in the Gift Shop Year-Round

29 Artists

in the '24 Ornament Show & Sale

\$157,823

Gross Gift Shop & Gallery Sales



Year after year, I love helping our visitors in their thoughtful search for truly meaningful gifts for the people they cherish. Knowing many of the artists represented in our shop personally allows me to connect their creations with the perfect clients. Behind the scenes, the selection process is very important so every visit is full of delightful surprises—whimsical puzzles, nature-inspired toys featured in our programs, garden art, axolotl treasures, handcrafted jewelry, mugs, garden accents, and Solomons keepsakes – you can find it all!

Evgeniia Iakovleva, Gift Shop Lead



Grounds Crew Assistant, John Hudson, beautifying the Garden with tropical plants before a wedding rental

Private Rentals

Our team plays an essential role in bringing private rentals to life, helping transform the Arts Building for weddings, proms, and corporate events. From setup to the final details, they work together to ensure every event feels seamless and special. Prom season is a particular highlight. We love welcoming local students, many of whom we know through volunteering or school partnerships, and it’s always a joy to help create such memorable nights for our community.



The Annmarie Housekeeping Team, Aletta Brown and Joe Gordon

Housekeeping

Our Housekeeping Team is vital to the daily care of Annmarie’s unique campus. With spaces ranging from galleries and studios to classrooms, offices, kitchens, and artist residences, each area requires thoughtful attention. From daily cleaning to supporting festivals and events, they keep everything running smoothly and looking its best. After the last guest leaves, they step in to reset and prepare for the day ahead. Their work makes every visit possible.

FINANCIALS



Lorem ip

FY25 BUDGET REPORT

INCOME	ANN'S CIRCLE	KOENIG	TOTAL
BOCC - GRANT		321,983.00	321,983.00
MISC OTHER INCOME	7,350.00	2,500.00	9,850.00
KOENIG FUNDS		58,522.71	58,522.71
ADMISSIONS	42,180.59		42,180.59
DONATED REVENUES	131,188.52	30,000.00	161,188.52
EDUCATION INCOME	151,487.89		151,487.89
EVENTS INCOME	669,072.35		669,072.35
GIFT SHOP REVENUES	160,403.19		160,403.19
GRANT REVENUES	244,758.00	71,557.00	316,315.00
INTEREST & DIVIDENDS INCOME	44,600.88	29,742.37	74,343.25
MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM	119,035.00		119,035.00
RENTAL INCOME	7,710.00	45,300.00	53,010.00
SPONSORSHIP & DEVELOPMENT	122,499.75		122,499.75
Total Revenues	1,700,286.17	559,605.08	2,259,891.25
Total Income	1,700,286.17	559,605.08	2,259,891.25
GIFT SHOP COST OF GOODS SOLD	83,767.93		83,767.93
Total COGS	83,767.93	0.00	83,767.93
Gross Profit	1,616,518.24	559,605.08	2,176,123.32
Expense			
PAYROLL & RELATED COSTS BY SOURCE OF SUPPORT	900,000.00	524,037.32	1,424,037.32
ADMINISTRATIVE & OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	185,211.69	6,791.51	192,003.20
CONTRACTED SERVICES		26,157.00	26,157.00
EDUCATION EXPENSE	44,916.62		44,916.62
EVENTS EXPENSE	97,437.62		97,437.62
FACILITIES & GRIOUNDS	130,350.07	2,619.25	132,969.32
GIFT SHOP EXPENSES	10,058.61		10,058.61
MARKETING & DEVELOPMENT	86,068.41		86,068.41
MEMBERSHIP & VOLUNTEER PROGRAM	6,994.21		6,994.21
RESTRICTED PROJECTS EXPENSE	60,426.88		60,426.88
Total Expense	1,521,464.11	559,605.08	2,081,069.19
Net Ordinary Income	95,054.13	0.00	95,054.13
Restricted Revenues	52,104.39	0.00	52,104.39
Net Income	42,949.74	0.00	42,949.74



Linda Bracey, Business Manager, working admissions at Mud Day

Our enchanted and mystical gardens are always changing. It is impressive to see the growth and changes each season and each year. In the Spring the colorful and fragrant flower bulbs greet us as we come to work daily. The azaleas surround our parking circle in color for too short of a time. One of my favorite things working at Annmarie Garden is to drive in, get out of my car and hear the laughter of children playing in the Fairy Lolly. While we are here to work, for a moment, we are allowed to re-experience our child selves.

Linda Bracey, Business Manager

BETTER TOGETHER



Annmarie staff and volunteers from Constellation on Community Planting Day, installing 40 native redbud trees with support from the Chesapeake Bay Trust

FY25 GRANT FUNDS RECEIVED

Both of the nonprofit organizations that support Annmarie, the Koenig Private Foundation and Ann’s Circle, play a vital role in securing public and private grant funding each year. We are deeply grateful to our FY25 granting partners for their investment in both our daily operations and special projects. Longstanding supporters, including the Van Metre Family Foundation and the State of Maryland Legislature, continue to provide multi-year funding that makes ambitious initiatives possible.

Equally essential are general operating grants from the Board of Calvert County Commissioners and the Maryland State Arts Council. These funds sustain our core work, supporting professional staff, programs, events, and the care of our campus. Together, this support ensures that Annmarie can continue to serve our community and advance our mission.

Koenig Private Foundation

BOCC Operating Grant	\$321,983
Chespax - Calvert County Public Schools Covers staff cost for 2nd grade program	\$4,500
Van Metre Family Foundation Special projects	\$30,000
Maryland State Arts Council Operating Grant	\$67,057

Ann’s Circle, Inc.

Chesapeake Bay Trust	\$21,358
Maryland State Arts Council Operating Grant	\$93,400
BOCC In-Kind Support	\$46,839



Thank you to the Maryland State Arts Council for their continued support!

SUSTAINING ANNMARIE

The following represents gifts made between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025, to Ann's Circle, Inc., the 501(c)3 non-profit organization that ensures the sustainability of Annmarie Garden.



Baby Steps.

For some of us, that phrase evokes a very specific memory. I still vividly recall a summer day in 1997, watching my daughter take her first wobbly steps on Annmarie Garden's very first paved paths. I can still see the fear in her eyes and the pure uncertainty of that second step.

As every parent knows, one tenuous moment leads to worlds undiscovered and adventures by the fistful. It is one momentous milestone down, with millions to go.

The slow, steady, and sometimes precarious growth of a non-profit like Annmarie Garden mirrors a toddler's journey from crawl to walk to sprint. Building a community of donors, members, volunteers, and sponsors requires challenging our constituents to trust the ground beneath their feet—to believe that change is good and that our mission is worthy of their stride.

As we look back over the past year, we are proud to report that you have found your rhythm alongside us. Whether through a new class offering, a critical funding project, or our signature (or new) events, your support has not wavered. As we report on FY25 fundraising efforts, we are honored to report that we have over 120 new gifts, nearly 20 new sponsors, and a re-engaged Annmarie Champion Circle giving club. You haven't just kept the pace; you've helped us reach new heights and new adventures with flair.

Thank you for walking this path with us. Here's to the next million milestones. Stay-tuned!

Jane Bachman, Development Director



Annual Giving

Ann's Circle, Inc. gratefully acknowledges the following individuals, who made gifts to support our mission. We acknowledge the following unrestricted annual gifts made between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025.

Gifts of \$50,000 - \$99,999

Ms. Katherine Watts

Gifts of \$10,000 - \$49,999

Chesapeake Bay Trust

Mr. Jonathan Cutler and Ms. Paula Parsons

Audrey Demas

Jane and Walter Grove

Jeff and Tara Kristick

The Van Metre Family Foundation, Inc.

Gifts of \$5,000 - \$9,999

Lisa & Steve Garner

Lundgren Hendershot Family

Ms. Christine McNelis & Ms. Christine Erickson

Pamela Kelly Teague

Donna Brown and Robert Lindblad

Gifts of \$2,500 - \$4,999

Ms. Cari DeSantis & Mr. Ben Vorhees

Gifts of \$1,000 - \$2,499

Jane Bachman

Joe Bozick

Michele Brennan

Mr. and Mrs. A. Everett Hoeg III

Mrs. Evelyn Hungerford

Gregory Kernan

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Koenig

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Koenig

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene McHugh

Ms. Carroll Scribner

Lee Woodfin and Thomas Higgins

Mrs. Elizabeth WyrOUGH

Gifts of \$500 - \$999

Dawn and Stephen Balinski

Ms. Sharon A. Capell

Diane Kleinschmidt

Ms. Anica Landreneau

The Herbert M. & Naomi R. Leavitt

Family Charitable Trust

Carole Peduto

Mark and Robyn Strayer

Gifts of \$250 - \$499

Amy Cordner

Joan Oblak

Mr. and Mrs. David Reyno

Stephen & Janet Waller

Gifts of \$100 - \$249

Ms. Karen H. Abrams

Arlene Amidon

Jon Baake

Lucienne Beard

Michael Bell

James and Barbara Bershon

Mr. and Mrs. George Bierlin

The Blackbaud Giving Fund

Calvert County Quilt Guild

Walter Crump

Charles Cruickshank

C.T. Dickinson Jewelers

Mrs. Adrienne M. Donaldson

Bridget Ericsson

Brenda Fowler

John and Barbara Fringer

Iris Hall-Willey

Shirl Hendley

Janice Hoover

Mark Joyner

John Laraby

Anne Marum

Mr. and Mrs. John Novotny

Jacqueline Susan Quinn

Janet Robertson

Lu Anne Smith

Ms. Olga Sylvia

K. Strzok

Sandra Van Oosten

Barbara A. Weiss

Annie Wester

Leonard and Karen Zuza

Gifts of \$1 - \$99

Julia Smith-Aman

Charlotte L Anderson

James Anderson

Joanne Anderson

Alison Anuzis

Aimee Arena

Audrey Augun

Frances Ellen Aulson

Elizabeth Baer

Chris Barnard

Randolph S Barnes

Christine H Biglin

Nancy Blizzard

Leia Booher

Jesse Brink

Emily A Carter

Kristen Chirichella

Meredith Condle

William J Cooney

Julia Coty

Houston Crudele

Walter Crump

Maylena Curts

Rachel Dudley

Brittanie Eggan

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Erb

Carol Farcosky

Jennifer Fenton

Samantha Lavine-Finley

Jeanette Flaim

Joann Foltz

Lynda and Curt Foianini

Barbara Gardner

Lindsay Gorman

Susan Graham

Chad Griffith

Amy Guli

Diedra Guy

Sandra Gwynn

Rosa Hance

Annual Giving

Ann's Circle, Inc. gratefully acknowledges the following individuals, who made gifts to support our mission. We acknowledge the following unrestricted annual gifts made between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025.

Matthew Haselden	Stuart and Deborah McLean	Billy Simms
Carolyn Heithaus	Karen Merewitz	Connie Spencer
Daniel Hildt	Richard Mitchell	SPUMPS Center
Sarah House	Pulin S Modi	Phillip Stern
Joyce Hysan	Pamela Moran	Melissa Stockbridge
Carla F Jones	Barbara Mowery	Ms. Rose Stueckler
Ms. Susanne Joy	Dorothee Muller	Mike Su
Donald Kany	Laurie Nave	Patricia Tabacchi
Haley Kim	Mary Ann Nocerino	Robert Terpak
Thomas King	Angela Noel	Donald W Underwood
Kimberly King	Kathleen O'Brien	John Verdi
Joan S Krammes	Sarah Ogilvie	Linda L Walker
Mimi B Kress	Brennan Peabody	Mr. Lee Walton
Robert Kyle	Noah Perez	Sarah W Ward
Alisa M Laing	William Pierce	Ms. Dorothy Waters
Raymond F Langley	Larry Ringold	Daniel Waters
Kyung-Jin Lee	Hector Rivera	Erica M Weaver
Brian K Linville	Lauren Runkles	Pauline M White
Chris Madden	James P Russ	Anne Williams
Jacqueline M Martin	Kelly M Ryam	Shane Williams
Maria Pilar Martinez	Carol Sampey	James M Williams
Ralph V McCreary	Adina Sater	Lori Jo Willis
Maria D McDonald	James Schofield	Mr. and Mrs. David Wilson
Joseph McGaffin	Kelly Schroeder	Philip Yeats
	Suzanne Shelden	Mr. and Mrs. Robert Yuan

Annmarie Champion's Circle

Annmarie Champion's Circle is an annual giving society, comprised of dedicated individuals who believe that art and nature uplift and heal. Thank you to the following individuals who made gifts of \$500 and above to support our annual budget, talented staff, and make our community-forward programs possible. We acknowledge Champion gifts made between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025.

Jane Bachman	Jane and Walter Grove	Mr. and Mrs. Eugene McHugh
Dawn and Stephen Balinski	Mr. and Mrs. A. Everett Hoeg III	Ms. Christine McNelis & Ms. Christine Erickson
Joe Bozick	Mrs. Evelyn Hungerford	Carole Peduto
Michele Brennan	Ms. Anica Landreneau	Ms. Carroll Scribner
Donna Brown and Robert Lindblad	Gregory Kernan	Mark and Robyn Strayer
Ms. Sharon A. Capell	Diane Kleinschmidt	Pamela Kelly Teague
Mr. Jonathan Cutler and Ms. Paula Parsons	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Koenig	Ms. Katherine Watts
Audrey Demas	Mr. and Mrs. Robert Koenig	Lee Woodfin and Thomas Higgins
Ms. Cari DeSantis & Mr. Ben Vorhees	Jeff and Tara Kristick	Mrs. Elizabeth Wyrrough
Lisa and Steve Garner	Lundgren Hendershot Family	

Sponsorship

Ann's Circle, Inc. gratefully acknowledges the following individuals, businesses and corporations who sponsor our events throughout the year. Your support enriches the quality of life in our region through art, nature, and creative experiences for everyone. We acknowledge the following sponsorships made between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025.

A.H. Hatcher, Inc.	Educational Systems Federal Credit Union	Renewal by Andersen
Arts Council of Calvert County	Garner Exteriors	Resource Management Concepts, Inc.
Burch Oil Company Inc.	Jane & Walter Grove	Sabre Systems, Inc.
Calvert County Democratic Women's Club	JDH Remodeling	Shore United Bank
Calvert Health	Jetmore Insurance Group, Inc.	Gail Siegel, O'Brien Realty, ERA Powered
Cedar Point Federal Credit Union	JustTech LLC	SMECO
G.H. Clark Contractors, Inc.	KBR	Saalex Corporation
COA Barrett	Jan Kleponis, O'Brien Realty, ERA Powered	Toyota of Southern of Maryland/ Team Hyundai
Constellation	Lexington Park Dentistry	Katherine Watts
Democratic Central Committee	Lockheed Martin	J. Calvin Wood Jr. Inc.
Mr. Jonathan Cutler & Ms. Paula Parsons	Naval Systems Inc.	Mr. Lee Woodfin & Mr. Thomas Higgins
	PNC Bank	

Tribute & Memorial Gifts

Ann's Circle, Inc. is appreciative of the following individuals who made gifts in memory or in honor of friends and family. We acknowledge those gifts made between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025.

In memory of Duane Beckhorn Charles Cruickshank Mr. & Mrs. A. Everett Hoeg III Mr. John Laraby Joan Oblak Carole Peduto	In memory of Ann Preston Jeff and Tara Kristick	In memory of Richard Dreiser, Jr. Adrienne Donaldson
In memory of Anna Grace Bridget Ericsson Donald Kany Carol Sampey K. Strzok Annie Wester	In memory of Tommy Wilson Michael Bell Ms. Sharon A. Capell LuAnn Smith Jacqueline Susan Quinn	In memory of Bill and Claudia Kelly Pamela Kelly Teague
	In memory of William and Elizabeth Bierlin Mr. & Mrs. George Bierlin	In memory of Anna Robey Aimee Arena

Special Program & Project Support

Ann's Circle, Inc. is appreciative of the following individuals who made gifts to support special programs, projects, and initiatives. We acknowledge those gifts made between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025.

Artist Accessibility Fund Michele Brennan Robert Kyle Kathleen O'Brien Jeff & Tara Kristick	Demas Children Garden Audrey Demas Katie & Tom Watts Youth Fund Katherine Watts	Clay Studio Maintenance Barn Ms. Christine McNelis & Ms. Catherine Erickson
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In-Kind Support

Ann's Circle, Inc. is appreciative of the following individuals or companies who made gifts in-kind to support our events and programs. We acknowledge these gifts made between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025.

Board of Calvert County Commissioners	Garner & Duff	Robert Terpak
Bozick Distributors	George Leah Jr.	Top Hat Party Design
Calvert County Parks & Recreation	Ruddy Duck Brewery & Grill	Wentworth Nursery, Inc
Carmen Lee Nance Gambrell	Sneade's Ace Hardware	Whiteford Systems

Corporate Gift Matching Program

Constellation



Patuxent High School NJROTC helps us with parking at Artsfest

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

We Can't Do It Alone. At Annmarié, everything we do is strengthened by the support of our community. We are grateful for the partnership, generosity, and shared spirit of the organizations that work alongside us, whether teaching, guiding, or stepping in whenever extra hands are needed to support our programs and events.

These collaborators are an essential part of Annmarié's "secret sauce," enriching our work with their knowledge, creativity, and dedication. Together, we are able to offer deeper, more meaningful experiences for our visitors and continue growing as a vibrant cultural resource for our region.

Maryland State Organizations

- Maryland State Arts Council
- Maryland Historical Trust
- Maryland Department of Health
- Maryland Department of Natural Resources
- Maryland Department of Commerce
- University of Maryland Extension
- University of Maryland Entomology Department
- Maryland Entomological Society
- Natural History Society of Maryland
- Chesapeake Council of Fly Fishers International

Non-Profits, Civic Groups, & Educational Institution

- Smithsonian Institution
- Smithsonian Affiliations
- Hirshhorn Museum & Sculpture Garden
- National Gallery of Art
- Rural Maryland Council
- Chesapeake Bay Trust
- Cove Point Natural Heritage Trust
- SoMD Audubon Society
- Solomons Volunteer Squad & Fire Department
- Boy Scouts of America
- Girl Scouts of America
- Calvert Library
- Calvert Bluebird Council
- Calvert Marine Museum
- Chesapeake Biological Lab
- Historic St Marys City
- NAS Pax River
- ACLT American Chestnut Land Trust
- Association of SoMD Beekeepers
- Calvert County Natural Resources Division
- St. Mary's College of Maryland
- College of Southern Maryland
- SoMD Homeschool Cooperative
- Calvert County Public Schools
- CHESPAX
- Patuxent High School NJROTC

Calvert County Organizations

- Board of Calvert County Commissioners
- Calvert County Administrator's Office
- Calvert County Parks and Recreation
- Calvert County Sheriff's Office
- Calvert County General Services
- Calvert County Department of Economic Development
- Calvert County Department of Public Works
- Calvert County Master Gardeners
- Calvert County Master Naturalists



Calvert County Master Gardeners help us maintain the community garden



Insectival brings together educational organizations to provide hands-on learning opportunities for guests



Solomons Fire & Rescue attends every Mud Day to help us hose off muddy patrons

BIG DREAMS

We dream big. Really big.

At Anmarie, we're constantly finding new ways to engage our community, actively expanding our reach, deepening connections, and growing our impact across the region. Projects like the Greenhouse, the Dowell Peninsula History Project, and our Long Range Plan reflect a forward-thinking vision—one that is actively serving our community, establishing roots, but laying a foundation for the next steps.



SPECIAL PROJECTS

Long Range Expansion Plan



Rendering of Waterfront Welcome Center, part of Annmariе's Long Range Expansion Plan

In FY25, Annmariе Sculpture Garden & Arts Center began early steps in advancing its Long-Range Expansion Plan, approved by both boards in June 2024 following extensive research, community input, and strategic planning. The Plan outlines a bold, phased vision for a larger, ecologically sensitive art and nature campus that builds on Annmariе's unique setting along the Chesapeake Bay while preserving the beauty of its existing gardens, woodlands, and sculpture collection. Designed to enhance cultural, educational, and community opportunities for Southern Maryland and beyond, this long-term initiative reflects Annmariе's continued commitment to thoughtful growth, sustainability, and meaningful visitor experiences.

Greenhouse Groundbreaking

In FY25, Annmariе Sculpture Garden & Arts Center advanced its commitment to environmental education and community engagement through the development of a new greenhouse adjacent to the Community Garden. Supported by key grant funding from the State of Maryland's FY23 Legislative Bond Initiative, the Rural Maryland Council, and the Cove Point Natural Heritage Trust, and in partnership with the Calvert County Master Gardeners, this project will serve both operational and educational purposes. The greenhouse will support horticultural needs across campus while also functioning as a hands-on learning space for youth and community programs focused on native plants, sustainability, and the nutritional benefits of home gardening.



The Annmariе Team at the Greenhouse Groundbreaking Ceremony; March 18, 2025

Dowell Peninsula History Project

Chair: Francine Clark

In FY25, Annmariе Sculpture Garden & Arts Center's Dowell Peninsula History Project (DPHP) expanded its community engagement through two guided walking tours exploring the rich history of the Dowell Peninsula, where Annmariе is proud to call home. In fall 2024, DPHP committee member and lifelong Peninsula resident Ronald Clark led a tour of the upper peninsula. In spring 2025, local historian Matt Gambriлл guided the popular "Beyond the History Markers" tour along Dowell Road, drawing more than 50 attendees and highlighting the area's connection to the Navy in the lead up to World War II.

Both tours allow for conversation beyond the visual markers of houses, structures, landscape, and water. Invariably the stories of family connections, triumphs, and tragedies, is where we find common ground and builds a community that honors our past while building for the future. These gatherings reflect Annmariе's role as a hub for community connection and regional history, honoring the past while helping to build a stronger future.



Matt Gambriлл leading a walking tour of Dowell Road Historical Areas; Friday, May 2, 2025

Nature will always be my biggest muse.
Beneath the trees, I come home to myself.
—John Muir

Thank you for being part of this journey.





Annmarie Sculpture Garden
& Arts Center

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