

**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2016/2017**



**JEWISH  
ARTS  
COLLABORATIVE**



Despite powerful research on the positive impact the arts can have on personal development, identity, and community viability, all too often they are deemed unimportant, maybe even superfluous. A recent Gallup study of 100 cities and towns showed that arts and cultural opportunities are key factors in whether people take pride in their community. This is a valuable insight for the Jewish community as we face a critical moment of understanding, reimagining, and shaping the future.



We aren't fooling ourselves. Without Torah there is no Jewish people. We are the people of the book. But we're also the people of the chicken soup, the clarinet, and the comics. Yet studies show that people who consider themselves 'culturally Jewish' are not turning to mainstream Jewish institutions for their identity. Shouldn't there be a place in our community where the 'culturally Jewish' are welcomed to enjoy and explore their culture? That is the vital role the *JArts* plays.

*JArts* make the best of Jewish art and culture available to all. And in just one year, we are succeeding beyond all expectations. Our programming, which includes everything from a Japanese klezmer band to the largest Jewish food sampling event in Boston, is recognized for its quality and innovation. In FY17 alone, we reached 15,000+ attendees. Even at this early stage, *JArts* is establishing a sound financial foundation with a broad range of support including our first year of funding in the *Massachusetts Cultural Council's Gateway* program and successfully meeting a two-year \$25,000 challenge grant from a major Boston foundation in just nine months.

Our community faces many challenges today. And we know, deep in our kishkes, that with your support, the arts will play an ever more important role in inspiring people, uniting people, and giving people deeper pride and understanding of the richness of their heritage. **Thank you.**



**Howard Cohen**  
Chairman of the Board



**Laura Mandel**  
Executive Director



**Joey Baron**  
Artistic Director

## FISCAL YEAR 2017 | BY THE NUMBERS

**TOTAL INCOME:** \$1,022,500

**SUPPORT:**

\$855,000 (from 187 donors)

**TICKETS/PROGRAM SPONSORSHIP:**

\$167,500

**MERCHANDISE SALES:**

\$1,187

**TOTAL EXPENSES:** \$748,549

**FUNDRAISING:**

\$6,602

**PROGRAM & MARKETING:**

\$228,001

**OPERATIONS:**

\$119,255

**PAYROLL & CONSULTANTS:**

\$394,691



**30**

TOTAL  
PROGRAMS



**27**

PARTNER  
ORGANIZATIONS



**30%**

SOCIAL MEDIA GROWTH  
ACROSS FACEBOOK,  
TWITTER, INSTAGRAM,  
AND BLOGGING



**15,000+**

TOTAL ATTENDANCE



**5X**

CITED AS BOSTON GLOBE  
'PICK FOR THE WEEK'

## EVENTS



### JINTA LA MVTA

*Who else would have the chutzpah to present a Japanese Klezmer band for a free lunchtime concert on the Greenway that attracted 1,500+?!*



### CASALS SHABBAT

*Israeli-Mexican cellist Michal Shein joined Puerto Rican historian Pedro Reina Perez for a Shabbat dinner discussion on Pablo Casals and his relationship to the Jewish community.*



### JONATHAN SAFRAN FOER

*This popular author offered a sneak preview of his newest novel and insights into his creative process to more than 400 people at the Coolidge Corner Theater.*



### BEYOND BUBBIE'S KITCHEN

*The 8th annual Beyond Bubbie's Kitchen featured 16 chefs inspired by a Sephardic theme that delighted over 400 people at the Back Bay Events Center.*



### HANUKKAH

*The 4th annual Hanukkah: The Festival of Lights at the MFA brought the miracle, illumination, and innovation of Hanukkah to 2,500+ people.*



### SETH RUDESTKY & JUDY KUHN

*It was standing room only when Broadway's Seth Rudestky and Judy Kuhn shared stories and songs that delighted the audience at our Metrowest event at the Center for The Arts in Natick.*

# JARTS LEADERSHIP

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## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Emma Jean Weinstein  
Graham Wright

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Amanda Brooks  
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Jeff Gabel  
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