



SAORI ARTS **NYC**

Transforming lives through weaving

2020 Annual Report

A Message from Our President

Meeting the challenges of 2020 created unexpected opportunities for SAORI Arts NYC (SANYC) as we began our fourth year weaving with people who have disabilities or chronic illnesses. We started the year with a twice weekly, onsite program at NewYork-Presbyterian Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital. SANYC offered patients and their families the comfort and distraction of freestyle weaving on a SAORI loom while they waited for treatments. This program, and other periodic onsite workshops, came to an abrupt halt with the onset of the pandemic in March.

Zoom quickly became our lifeline. The SANYC Board began to hold meetings three times weekly. We knew that organizations serving people with disabilities, now confined to their homes, would be looking for new ideas in virtual programming. SAORI Circle Weaving became our focus. We developed a how-to video, augmented by written instructions in English and Spanish.

To make it easier for our partner organizations to introduce SAORI Circle Weaving to their participants, we sent them kits containing instructions and all materials. We conducted virtual workshops, bringing SAORI weaving into their homes while creating community among the participants

SAORI Arts NYC has been delighted by the response to our virtual programs. We have established partnerships with new organizations and continue to increase our outreach to others that might welcome our support. We are proud and pleased that we found an effective way to provide joy and discovery in a time of isolation and uncertainty. Your support over the year made this possible. Thank you.



2020 Highlights

Early 2020

SANYC conducted 15 pre-pandemic sessions in the Hematology/Oncology/Bone Marrow Transplant Clinic of NewYork-Presbyterian Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital. We wove with 51 patients and their families. SANYC artists made their weavings into such items as stuffed animals, pillows, purses, and dog blankets—a tangible reminder of an enjoyable activity in the hospital.

A Pivot to Virtual Programming

As the pandemic grew, requiring creative ways to offer virtual programming, SANYC introduced SAORI Circle Weaving, a portable art form. Paper plates became our looms.

We produced four videos to teach or inspire at-home weaving: *How to Create and Weave on a Circle Loom*, *Inspiration and Ideas for Circle Weaving*, *Holiday Weaving Ideas*, and *Weaving a Bracelet on Rubber Bands*.

New Partnerships and Outreach

To our original three partners, we added nine more and distributed 259 kits to these organizations plus dozens to a caregiver support group, family, and friends. The kits held multiple paper plates that served as looms, a variety of yarns, and SAORI Circle Weaving instructions in both English and Spanish.



Teaching rubber band bracelets



Zoom workshop for IAHD staff

Expanded Programming

We conducted 22 Zoom workshops with six partner organizations, some serving children, others serving adults: Job Path, HeartShare, Extreme Kids and Crew, YAI Group Home, Institute of Applied Human Dynamics (IAHD), and AHRC New York City.

Our First Virtual Event

“Weaving in the Evening,” a webinar held in October, attracted 73 people interested in circle weaving guided on Zoom by our teaching artists. Everyone was able to access the event recording. Although not a fundraising event, generous participants donated \$680 to SANYC. Purl Soho provided us with a generous raffle gift.

A Virtual Presentation

Ria Hawks, President of SANYC, created a video about our program weaving with children with brain tumors and their families in a pediatric oncology clinic. The video was presented at the virtual meeting of the International Symposium on Pediatric Neuro-Oncology.



Zoom workshop at AHRC



A participant 's circle weaving

In Appreciation

We are grateful to the Common Sense Fund for its generosity and flexibility in our use of its funds when the pandemic began and to The Laura Rosenberg Foundation for its continuing support of our programs for children with cancer, as well as to our many individual donors. This support has enabled us to continue our work and respond to the uncharted needs for programming.

Our Partners in 2020

AHRC New York City

Child Life Montefiore Medical Center

Downtown Elementary School, Denver, Colorado

Extreme Kids and Crew

HeartShare Human Services of New York

Institute of Applied Human Dynamics (IAHD)

Job Path NYC

Kaleidoscope Family Solutions

LearningSpring School

NewYork-Presbyterian Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital

Sister Pat's Kids Camp

YAI Group Homes

Financial Statement

	2019	2020
Income		
Grants	\$5,000	\$30,000
Individual donations*	\$6,977	\$19,000
Other	\$7,821	\$1,385
Total Income	\$19,898	\$50,385
Expenses		
Office	\$6,685	\$9,131
Program	\$4,918	\$11,317
Grant writer	0	\$6,500
Total Expenses	\$11,603	\$26,948
Net Income (Loss)	\$8,295	\$23,437

* Number of Individual donors: 63 in 2019; 50 in 2020

Board of Directors

Ria Hawks, President
Maurine Packard, Treasurer
Marcia Kublanow, Secretary
Jane Bloom, Webmaster

Advisory Committee

Mia de Bethune
Amy Sokal Gazely
Brandy Godsil
Hannah Katz
Yukako Satone
Adrienne Sharp

The mission of SAORI Arts NYC is to inspire creativity, joy, and self-confidence through freestyle weaving for people of all ages with disabilities or chronic illness.

SAORI Arts NYC

532 E 87th St.

New York, NY 10128

Visit our website for more information and to view videos.

<https://www.saoriartsnyc.org>