# **SEASON 32 IN REVIEW**

This year marked a period of major transition at Book-It – most notably our much-anticipated return to the stage. When the pandemic hit in 2020, we built a recording studio from scratch in our base of operations, the Center Theatre, and began teaching ourselves how to produce high-quality audio dramas that our audiences could enjoy from the comfort of their homes. Following the surprise success of our 2020-2021 audio-only season, we opened the 2021-2022 season with two more audio drama productions, Zen and the Art of an Android Beatdown and The Three Musketeers. These pieces were well-received, and an article in the Seattle Times commended our pandemic-era pivot, calling our audio dramas "a strong extension of [the Book-It] brand."

While we hope to continue exploring the many possibilities of audio again someday soon, we spent the winter of 2021 tearing down our makeshift studio, dusting off the cobwebs in the lobby, and preparing the space for our return to inperson programming. We couldn't be more proud of the work we shared over the course of the spring and summer – from the cult-classic midcentury masterpiece Mrs. Caliban to the sweeping intergenerational family epic The Bonesetter's Daughter to the ancient and powerful tale of Beowulf, our shows were warmly received by critics and audiences alike.

As we move into Season 33 – our first full season under the leadership team of Artistic Director Gus Menary and new Managing Director Jeannine Clarke – we look forward to continuing our legacy and mission of transforming great literature into great theatre through simple and sensitive production and inspiring our audiences to read.



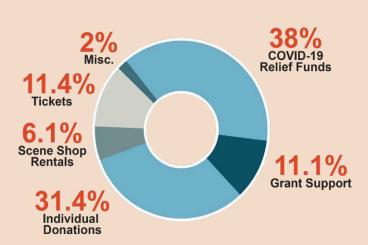




Photo credit: Anthony Floyd.

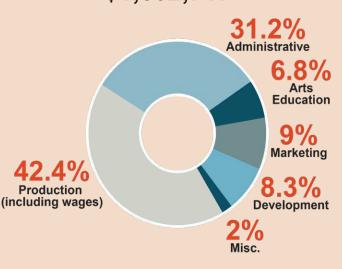
## 2021-2022 INCOME

\$1,361,119



## **2021-2022 EXPENSES**

\$1,602,717





## **ARTS EDUCATION PROGRAM**

Our Arts Education Program reached 11,151 students, with 68% of our programming going to Title 1 schools.

**AS WE NAVIGATED** our return to in-person production, our intrepid Arts Education team was busy finding innovative ways to connect to students and educators at schools, libraries, and community centers across the state. In the 2021-2022 season, we offered virtual story kits for the first several months of the school year, then transitioned to touring interactive in-classroom performances and storytelling workshops. Year-round, we offered teaching chats – opportunities for educators to connect with our staff and discuss strategies for engaging students with our offerings – and free access to our compendium of scripts by local playwrights, designed specifically for students to read aloud in classroom settings.

One of the most exciting recent developments for our Arts Education Program was the introduction of the School Assistance Fund in 2021. This fund, generously seeded by several local foundations and individuals, has allowed us to bring diverse, joyful, and inspiring arts education programming to Title I schools across Washington at absolutely no cost to those schools.

## THANK YOU

Book-It has been able to take artistic risks, tell stories we believe in, and stay connected with our community throughout our time away from the theatre thanks to support from organizations near and far who believe in the work we do. Thank you to these funders of our 2021-2022 season: 4Culture, Arakawa Foundation, ArtsFund,



ArtsWA, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, D.A. Davidson, Grousemont Foundation, Harvest Foundation, King County Creative, Lucky Seven Foundation, Morgan Fund, National Endowment for the Arts, Office of Councilmember Jeanne Kohls-Welles, Sage Foundation, Seattle Office of Arts & Culture, Seattle Office of Economic Development, Seattle Center Foundation, and Williams Companies.

Photo credit for the above: Dan'Yelle Catereene

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