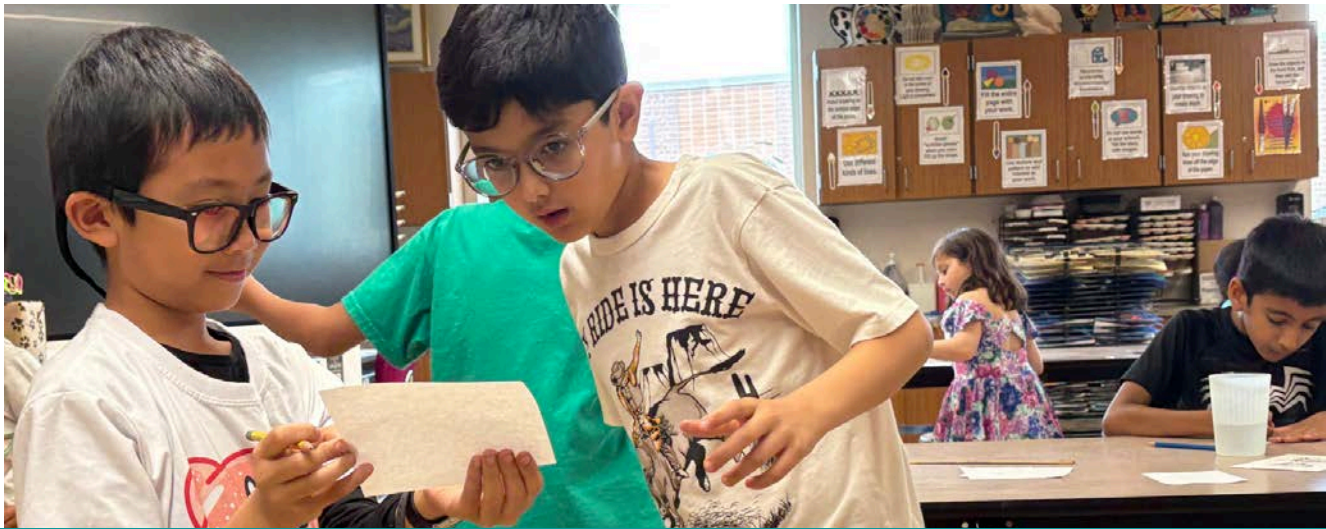


YOUNG AUDIENCES, INC. OF HOUSTON

Annual Report 2024 - 2025



founded in 1956



supporting every child

mission + values

Our mission is to educate and inspire children through the arts, to make the arts an integral part of the school curriculum, and to advance the field of arts in education through teacher professional development training and community partnerships.

Young Audiences of Houston is at the forefront of arts education in Houston, pursuing equitable access to the arts, sharing our expertise, and directing value programs and resources to our communities most in need. We offer quality programming, professional development, curriculum administrative help, talented artists, and other resources to support and lead arts-infused learning.

- Arts Accessibility
- Children First
- Demonstrated Impact
- Collaboration + Teamwork
- Quality Programming
- Systemic Change + Innovation



supporting every child

Dear Friends,

This year has been a powerful reminder of the role the arts play in shaping young minds and building strong communities. At Young Audiences of Houston, we're proud to have reached thousands of students with programs that inspire creativity, boost confidence, and foster connection. At Young Audiences of Houston, our recent evaluation shows that an overwhelming 96.39% of parents, educators, and administrators believe that arts and arts-based strategies positively impact youth behavior—strengthening our mission and making a clear case for deeper investment in arts-based youth services.

Thanks to your support, we expanded our reach, deepened partnerships, and brought innovative arts experiences to classrooms, hospitals, and community spaces across the city. Every dance, mural, poem, and rhythm shared helped young people find their voices — often when they needed it most.

As we look to the future, our mission remains clear: to ensure every child, in every corner of Houston, has access to the life-changing power of the arts. With your continued belief in our work, we'll keep growing that vision together. Please consider investing your time, talents, and treasure into our organization built on 69 years of trust and support for our most vulnerable children. www.yahouston.org/donate



With gratitude,

Mary Curry Mettenbrink

CEO, Young Audiences of Houston

financial snapshot

Additional financial information is made available to the public through our website. Young Audiences of Houston is also a member of Candid and has received the platinum seal of transparency.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of June 30, 2025

ASSETS	2025
Cash	\$ 471,167
Reserve Funds	\$ 3,627,123
Accounts Receivable	\$ 367,998
Property and Equipment	\$ -
Prepaid Expense	\$ -
and Other Assets	\$ -
Total Assets	\$ 4,466,288
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	
Accounts Payable	\$ 1,772
Deferred Rent	\$ 38,400
Accrued Expenses	\$ 450,000
Total Liabilities	\$ 490,172
NET ASSETS	
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$ 3,658,508

OPERATING RESULTS

July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2025

REVENUE	
Earned	\$ 495,726
Contributed	\$ 1,207,939
Total Revenues	\$ 1,703,665
EXPENSE	
Programs & Services	\$ 1,268,955
General & Administrative	\$ 176,640
Fundraising	\$ 8,942
Total Expenses	\$ 1,454,537
NET	\$ 249,128

Platinum
Transparency
2025

Candid.

reach + impact

With a service reach that includes 14 counties across Texas, Young Audiences of Houston remains the largest provider of arts in education services in the state. Working through a data-informed feedback loop the organization identifies gaps and needs to support 289,812 youth each year and maximize financial support.

"This program engaged our student with a program we no longer had. My students were always excited to go to art. They always wanted to know what they were going to do next. Every time I announced they were going to art they would give me a big cheer. I appreciate and love this program and hope they come back and help our young artist again. This is a program we sincerely need at our school." -Houston ISD



results

Children Served: 289,812

At-Risk Children: 92%

Economically Disadvantaged: 89%

Title 1 Schools: 89%

English Language Learners: 44%

Educators Served: 1,083

Parents and Community Members Served: 96,783

Schools: 175

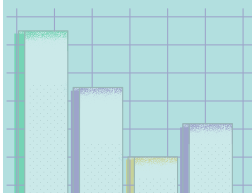
Community-Based: 94

(Libraries, Parks, Community Centers, Hospitals, etc.)

Total # of Programs & Services: 2,592

Total # of Counties Served: 14

Total # of Volunteers: 127



innovation + growth

Young Audiences continues to rebuild, strengthen, and deepen connections across communities in Texas.



Youth Served

239,812



Schools + Community Partners

269



Programs

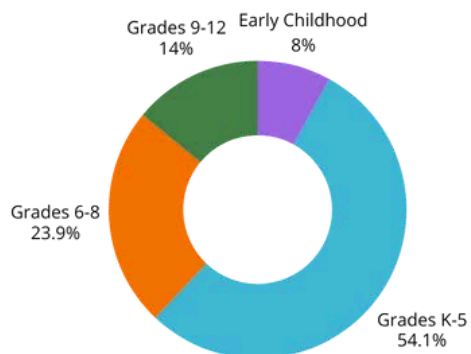
2,592



Teaching Artists

192

Grade Levels Served



data & research

Young Audiences of Houston examines needs and opportunities and delivers high-quality arts in education programs for youth across Southeast Texas.



We identify needs through data assessments and partner surveys and then begin matching resources to needs.



We seek grants, individual donations, and fundraising revenue to provide programs to youth. Matching donors to areas of interest and youth needs.



We evaluate our program's success and survey partners to identify areas of improvement, focusing on continual improvement.

volunteers

127



strategic initiatives

SUPPORTING EVERY CHILD SINCE 1956

Arts Integration Residencies

Residencies are tailored to each site and offer experiences implemented by dance, visual arts, music, and theater artists. Throughout the residency, students experience programming that both support the educational goals of the campus and expose students to the complete artistic process of creation, development, and performance by applying their new skills.



Arts + Culture Performances

Young Audiences of Houston offers diverse arts-in-education performances in assembly settings. These innovative programs introduce students to the arts through demonstration and student interaction. Each performance program is aligned with the Texas state curricula (TEKS/STAAR) and offers teacher resources such as curriculum ties, classroom activities, discussion ideas, and extension activities.



Healing Arts

Healing Arts provides specially designed programming for children undergoing long-term medical treatment. This program aims to use the arts to spread joy, give hope, manage pain, and support treatment for hospitalized children and their caregivers. Each program provides adaptation to deliver bedside or patient waiting room activities that support socialization, development and strengthening learning for children while undergoing treatment.



strategic initiatives

Arts-Promise for At-Risk Youth

Arts-Promise was created to specifically address the needs of at-risk youth in the Houston area by providing them with creative tools to encourage positive life choices. Through trained artists who are passionate about working with youth, teens are given a sense of hope. Studies have shown that participation in the arts deters youth from engaging in criminal activity; furthermore, teens involved in art programs are more likely to stay in school and graduate high school.

Discovery Arts for Children with Learning Differences

Our Discovery Arts programs support children with special needs and learning differences, such as Autism, ADHD, Down Syndrome, and Cerebral Palsy, among others. Young Audiences of Houston aligns program content with Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) academic standards, exposing youth to a vast array of tailored, therapeutic arts experiences that develop skills in the five Core SEL Competencies; Self-Awareness, Self-Management, Social Awareness, Relationship Skills, and Responsible Decision Making. Working with teachers and parents, our teaching artists and program staff can modify the program themes to align with the needs of each classroom.

YAH Assistance Fund

Young Audiences of Houston offers the Assistance Fund, a partnership-based financial assistance program to help schools and community organizations with limited funds for arts-based educational programs. The fund serves as a vehicle for YAH to directly sponsor requested programs in schools and community organizations with the greatest financial need.

Training for Teachers + Artists

Young Audiences supports educators through foundational arts integration training and courses. Workshops are explicitly delivered by professional artists who have a passion for making the arts accessible for all ages and types of learners while making the teaching and learning process more creative and personal along the way. We offer a truly collaborative approach and can support arts learning and integration across the curriculum, expressing ourselves through a diverse introduction of artists, art forms, and cultures from around the world and throughout history. In addition, Young Audiences of Houston's Program Director, collaborating with partners, offers teaching artists ongoing training to support their professional growth and knowledge when working with students.

Parent and Family Programs

Each month Young Audiences of Houston offers free programs open to the public in partnership with local libraries and organizations in our community. These performances allow the community to engage with the arts in meaningful ways. We'd love for you to celebrate the cultural vibrancy of our city with us and our amazing artists and arts partners. Most recently Young Audiences has expended these programs focuses on parents through our Parent Cafe program.



strategic initiatives

Arts + Environment: Living Mural

This unique program combines visual arts, environmental sciences, and horticulture to create a living mural with students, schools, and their communities. The program utilizes the skills to provide the participants the inspiration, interest, and opportunity to connect to deepen their sense of community through nature, gardening, design, and architecture.



Youth + Volunteer Mentors

Volunteers are a critical component of Young Audiences of Houston. Each year, we engage more than 92 individuals through the board, committee, and volunteer service to further the mission and vision. Each year the organization also engages students from local universities and high schools to serve as mentors, providing a critical connection to youth.

Arts for Learning Co-Lab (ALC)

The Arts for Learning Collaborative (ALC) is a Young Audiences of Houston pipeline training program for artists to enter the field of arts in education who are energized to learn and grow in the field of arts integration. The ALC Teaching Artist Cohort undergoes paid intensive professional development and training and will have the opportunity to partner with classroom teachers in arts-integrated residency programs throughout the school year. ALC teaching artists are mentored, coached, and receive feedback from assigned teaching artist mentors and staff.



Classroom teachers partnering with the ALC program will learn arts integration implementation skills through an approach that includes modeling, observation, co-teaching, and mentoring with their partnering teaching artist. Collaborating teachers receive TEA approved professional development hours.



TX Rural Arts Integration Partnership

Young Audiences of Houston's Texas Rural Arts Integration Partnership aims to increase sustainable arts integration practices across high-needs rural communities with low arts access. This project will benefit educators, administrators, students, and families through partnerships across Livingston ISD, Liberty ISD, Port Arthur ISD, West Orange-Cove CISD, Fort Davis ISD, and Palacios ISD. The arts integration programs led by Young Audiences of Houston teaching artists and arts partners provide an intersection of arts and culture and core academic curriculum, targeting support to at-risk youth at each campus by incorporating the skills across the curriculum to support their development, education, and well-being.

This partnership will serve approximately 18,414 PK-12 children across the six partnership school districts through collaborative programming that includes integrated programming to build sustainable arts integration knowledge and resources.



arts ed ecosystem

The Young Audiences program and curriculum staff support on-going evaluation and research of our programs to maximize support and ensure student success. In addition, through grants and donations we support the following key organizational priorities to strengthen the arts ed ecosystem.

- **Providing free arts for learning services to every child participating in our programs**
- **Supporting youth through quality SEL and educationally aligned programming**
- **Supporting cultural connections for diverse student populations and communities**
- **Identifying needs for creative learning through annual data assessments and surveys**
- **Providing training and toolkits for educators to integrate arts-based lessons into their instruction**
- **Supporting parent and child at-home learning through access to public programs and free art kits**
- **Supporting artists living and working in Houston through jobs and training on foundational arts integration practices when working with youth**



Our programs enhance overall physical, mental, and emotional health.



Our programs decrease behavioral incidents at school and increase empathy.



"This program in its short amount of time has brought so much light to the students. I recently heard that one of our Sped students at home started playing the guitar and singing." -YES Prep Hobby

arts accessibility

Young Audiences supports children and communities across Texas. Through a comprehensive partnership system working with administrators, parents, and educators to build capacity and systems while leveraging funding through a combination of support to ensure the arts and children thrive.



**269 Schools
+
Community Sites**

**289,312
Youth**

*our
footprint*

our reach

arts accessibility.

ARTS ACCESSIBILITY

We address barriers to bring arts opportunities and experiences to those individuals and institutions that may typically not have them.

CHILDREN FIRST

The core of our mission is to serve the educational needs of all children through the arts, no matter their circumstances.

DEMONSTRATED IMPACT

We measure and evaluate how our efforts and programming positively contribute to our community and benefit our participants by broadening the way they think and learn and engaging them in new experiences.

SYSTEMIC CHANGE + INNOVATION

We utilize creative thinking and innovative approaches to provide arts based education to all children and to ultimately create systemic change in arts education so that it remains into the future.

COLLABORATION + TEAMWORK

We effectively communicate with our partners, share resources, embrace challenging ideas and advance the agenda in order to drive systemic change in the arts. We also commit to internally sharing necessary information, respecting each other's opinions and working well with our colleagues to increase the impact of the organization.

QUALITY PROGRAMMING

We provide a holistic infusion of the arts that inspires creativity, teaches new skills, displays talented artists work and leaves a life-long impact on our participants.



artists + arts partners

Young Audiences certifies, trains, and supports local artists and small to mid-size organizations to deliver arts in education programs to youth each year. We thank them for their commitment to arts-based learning.

Dance + Health

Ana María Barceló Flamenco

Anthony Silva

Isaac Barron

Rosie Barron

Becky Valls & Company

Brazilian Cultural Institute

Bwagilio Martial Arts

Calmecac Indigenous Organization

Dance of Asian America

Fly Dance Company

Ren Hall

Indian Performing Arts Samskriti

Jalia Movement Arts

Cristy Jamison

Karen Garcia

RADCrew Production

Kucheza Ngoma Dance Company

Hearts in Motion

Ondi Love

Mixteco Ballet Folklórico

My Hula Hut

Open Dance Project

Silambam Houston

Kalpana Subbarao

192
artists
+ arts
partners

Music

Apollo Chamber Players

Best Little Klezmer Band in Texas

Blue Gnus

Cypress Falls Choir

Connection

Seyba Diouf

Hope Cowan

Brian Del Signore

Marcia Sterling

Houston Brass Quintet

JAWAD

Jazz Houston

Susan McDonald

Jorge Orta

Paragon Brass Ensemble

Marlon Simon

Tom's Fun Band

Simone Gundy

artists + arts partners

Young Audiences certifies, trains, and supports local artists and small to mid-size organizations to deliver arts in education programs to youth each year. We thank them for their commitment to arts-based learning.

Theatre + Puppetry

Marcy Bannor
Brave Little Company
Jean Donatto
The Ensemble Theater
Express Children's Theater
Dance Afrikana
Teacake Ferguson
Dan Gordon
Lily He
iACT Houston
John Keahey
Jean Kuecher
Manning Mpindizui-Mott
Puppet Pizzazz
Joy Saxton
Twanda's Theatre on Wheels
Voices from the Past
Mr.Leo's Puppet Show
Joanne Schroeder
Revolutionary Education

Art Therapy + SEL

Gigi Fiori
Soulliaa Rae
Diana Sanchez
Cindy Ventura
Frame Dance

Visual Arts + Digital Media + Culinary

Reginald C Adams
Aurora Picture Show
Mack Bishop
Gerard Caliste
Liz Conces Spencer
Marsha Dorsey-Outlaw
Lilian Flores
Junrui Garcia, Ph.D
Sarah Gish
Paige Hudson
David Maldonado
Judy Malone-Stein
MoonLyte Cooking
Katherine Ospina
Rhonda Radford
Danny Russo
Joseph Dixon
Charles Washington
Cake Craft Shop
Cook Learn Grow
Marlene Anaya

collaboration

Working with campus educators to identify learning objectives and pairing those with alternative learning methods utilizing arts-based strategies support an over 93% increase in knowledge retention among our youth participants.

education partners

Young Audiences supports on average 269 school and youth service organizations each year through accessible arts-in-education programs. All services are provided to PK-12 youth, educators, and families/ parents. Backed by curriculum alignment, research, and best-practices the organization serves 14 counties across Southeast Texas.

A Children's Village
Abraham Lincoln Fine Arts Academy
Aldine Branch Library
Alief Family YMCA
Alief Montessori Community School
Almeda Elementary School
Anderson Academy
Anderson Elementary School
Ascension Episcopal School
Austin Memorial Library
Barbara Bush Library
Barbara Fish Daniel Nature Park
Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens
Beth Yeshurun Day School (BYDS)
Billy Reagan K8 Learning Center
Blackshear Elementary School
Braeburn Elementary
Brill Elementary School
Brosnahan Elementary
Buckner Children and Family Services
Burnett Bayland Community Center
C. B. Stewart (West) Library
Calvary Episcopal Preparatory School
Calvert Elementary School
Camden Park
Carmichael Elementary School
Carnegie Neighborhood Library & Learning Center
Carroll Elementary School
Central Library - Montgomery County Memorial Library
Children's Museum of Houston
Children's Museum of Houston - Fort Bend
Cimarron Elementary School
Cinco Ranch Branch
Cinco Ranch Branch Library
City Place
Class Bookstore
Cleme Manor
Commonwealth Elementary School
Condit Elementary School
Connect YMCA
Creative Dreams Outreach Center
Cristo Rey Jesuit College Preparatory School of Houston
Cullen Middle School
Danbury Community Library
De Santiago EC/PK/K School
DeBakey High School
Dulles Elementary
Durham Elementary School
Early Learning Program
East Aldine Community Center
East Aldine District

East Beach
Eckert Elementary School
Eden Pointe
Edwards-Johnson Memorial Silsbee Middle School
Eiland Elementary School
Ellen Bonuik Early Childhood School
Embassy Suites By Hilton Houston West - Katy
Episcopal High School
Epps Island Elementary School
Ernel Elementary School
Fall Creek Elementary
Falls of Dairy Ashford
Field Elementary School
First Colony Branch Library
Fort Bend Children's Discovery Center
Fort Bend County Juvenile Detention Center
Freed Park Community Center
Fulshear Branch Library
Garland McMeans Junior High
George H.W. Bush Community Center
George Memorial Library
George Sanchez North Campus
Glover Elementary
Golfcrest Elementary School
Greenspoint Elementary School
Hall Success Academy
Harmony School of Enrichment
Harmony School of Technology - Houston
Harmony Science Academy Houston
Harris County Leadership Academy
Harvard Elementary
Havard Club
Heights Kids Day of Music
Helen Hall Library
High Meadows Library
Hillendahl Neighborhood Library
Hirsch Elementary School
Hockley Community Center
Holy Spirit Episcopal School
Housman Elementary School
Houston Community College - West Loop Campus
Houston Public Library
Houston Zoo
Independence Park
Ivy Kids of Gleannloch
J. Ruth Smith Elementary
Jacinto City Branch Library
Janowski Elementary
JC Hester House
Jesse H. Jones Park & Nature Center
Joe Moreno Elementary School

education partners

Young Audiences supports on average 269 school and youth service organizations each year through accessible arts-in-education programs. All services are provided to PK-12 youth, educators, and families/ parents. Backed by curriculum alignment, research, and best-practices the organization serves 14 counties across Southeast Texas.

Kashmere Multi-Service Center
Katy-Prairie View Chapter of Jack and Jill of America Inc.
KIPP Mosaic Academy
Kolter Elementary School
La Porte Branch Library
Larry J. Ringer Public Library
Levy Park
Liberty High School
Liberty ISD Auditorium
Liberty Middle School
Livingston Municipal Library
Malala Elementary
Malcolm Purvis Library
Mangum-Howell Center
Mark Twain Elementary School
Market Square Park
Mary Frances Bowles Couper Campus
Maud Smith Marks Branch Library
Mercer Botanic Gardens
Miller Outdoor Theatre
Moffitt Park
Montessori Country Day School - Southmore
Montrose Grace Place
Monty Ballard YMCA at Cinco Ranch
Moody Neighborhood Library
Morton Ranch Elementary
Multicultural Homeschoolers of Houston
Nativity Academy
Nehemiah Center Houston
Neighbors in Action
NGR Energy
Nitsch Elementary
North Bend Elementary
North Channel Branch Library
North Early Learning Center
North Shore Elementary
Northwest Branch Library
Oak Forest Neighborhood Library
Oates Elementary School
Olsen Elementary School
Orange Grove Elementary (Aldine ISD)
Palacios Elementary
Pasadena Public Library: Fairmont
PIN Passive Investor Network
Poe Elementary School
PyBurn Elementary
R.F. Meador Branch Library
Ray Miller Park
Raymond Elementary School
Reece Academy

Reed Academy (Aldine ISD)
Rees Elementary School
Revere Middle School
Rhema World of Life Church
Rhodes School for the Performing Arts - Northshore
Ridge Creek Elementary School
Ripley House
River Oaks Baptist School
Roberts Elementary School
Robinson Elementary School
Ronald McDonald House
Roosevelt Alexander Elementary School
Rosenberg Library
Ross Sterling High School
RSA of Dance & Performing Arts
S.H.A.P.E. Community Center
Sablatura Middle School
Sam Houston Elementary
Sam Houston Park
San Jacinto Elementary School
Sanchez North
Scanlan Oaks Elementary
Settlers Way Elementary
Shearn Elementary School
Sienna Crossing Elementary
Silsbee High School
Sinclair Elementary
Smartie Pants Academy Center
Sneed Elementary
South Regional Library
Spring Branch Memorial Branch Library
Spring Woods High School
St. Anne Catholic School
St. Mary Purification Catholic School
St. Theresa Catholic School
Stafford Early Childhood Center
Stafford Elementary School
Stafford STEM Magnet Academy
Star of Hope Child Development Center
Stehlik Elementary School
Stephens Elementary (Aldine ISD)
Stovall Primary School
Sugar Land Branch Library
Sullivan Elementary School
Texas Children's Cancer Center
The Awty International School
The Awty International School – Early Learning Campus
The Bryan Museum
The Elegance Banquet Hall
The Fay School

education partners

Young Audiences supports on average 269 school and youth service organizations each year through accessible arts-in-education programs. All services are provided to PK-12 youth, educators, and families/ parents. Backed by curriculum alignment, research, and best-practices the organization serves 14 counties across Southeast Texas.

The Garden
The Hobby Center of the Performing Arts
The Joy School
The Monarch School and Institute
The Parish School
The Regis School of the Sacred Heart
The Village School
The Womens Home
Thornwood Elementary
Tony Marron Park
Tracy Gee Community Center
Travis Elementary
Treble park
University Branch Library
Valley Oaks Elementary School
Vardeman EC/PK/K
Village in the Loop Preschool
Weis Middle School
Wesley Community Center
West End MSC
West Orange-Stark Elementary School
West University Branch Library
Westbury High School
Westside Montessori School
Whidby Elementary School
Woodchase Park
Worsham Elementary School
Yellowstone Academy
Yes Prep Brays Oaks Secondary
YES Prep Hobby
YES Prep Hobby Elementary School
YES Prep Southwest
YMCA Camp Cullen
Young Neighborhood Library



Board of Directors

President

W. Wells McGee

Chairman

Katherine Veletsos

Vice President

Sanvita Sample

Secretary

Josie Morgan

Leslie D. Blanton

JaNeika Smith Boone

Kelly Gerstenhaber

Donna Haynes

Elizabeth Karkowsky

Brea May

Megan Schmid

Michael Sharp

Alexa Valencia

Kay Edwards

Founder

Fredell Lack (1922-2017)



young audiences
arts for learning
HOUSTON

Young Audiences, Inc. of Houston; Arts for Learning
675 Bering Drive, Suite 300, Houston, TX 77057
www.yahouston.org