

## Dear Friends,

This month marks my anniversary as the new Executive Director of Liberty Hall Historic Site, and it has been one very full and exciting year. When I first arrived last summer, it was easy to recognize the extraordinary heritage assets of the site, especially with two historic houses in impeccable condition and nearly 5 acres of public gardens that teem with life. I found an amazing and encouraging support system within the NSCDA-KY, and with my friends and colleagues in the downtown Frankfort community. I quickly learned there were so many groups of people who yearned to collaborate with Liberty Hall, either for its inherent beauty or because of its demonstrated commitment to history education, historic preservation, and civic virtue. I saw this site bursting with possibility, and with 227 years of history to cover, I knew there were so many more stories we could uncover, understand, and share.



Julien Icher, Founder of Lafayette Trail Inc, an Jessica Stavros at Bourbon & Browns 2023

I'm proud to say we hit the ground running, and in the past year, we hosted 16 new community programs, developed intentional and collaborative community partnerships, and became official members of Blue Star Museums, Museums For All (these organizations offer free admission to historic sites for military families and to those receiving food assistance), and Made By Us (an organization that connects younger generations with museums to inspire civic action.) We secured a grant award of \$100,000 and raised an additional \$118,000 through sponsorships, donations, and gifts - every dollar of which went directly back to the site to fund the quality educational programs and events our community is known for.

We implemented a brand new 5-year strategic plan, as well as updated our interpretive plan, both of which reflect a greater commitment to sharing more comprehensive and diverse histories. We created new staff positions and operational processes to allow for better data collection, greater efficiency, and higher impact. We built custom-made casework to increase accessibility to our remarkable collection and have already debuted 3 new public exhibitions. And we've undergone these significant changes with ambition and motivation, as our staff comes together in ways that are creative, cohesive, and empowered to execute fresh ideas in unique and dynamic ways.

This year, we established a new motto for Liberty Hall known as <u>Founding Forward</u>. This idea values the significance of Liberty Hall with the founding of our nation, state, and capital city, while highlighting the importance of forward-thinking vision and how our past helps shape our future. We are not a historic site that simply looks back - rather we focus on being a source of inspiration for the possibilities ahead. As we get closer to celebrating the US 250 in 2026, we believe an informed culture of hope is more important than ever, and we are here to cultivate that hope. We encourage you to be advocates for history and to join us as the next generation of stewards for this most precious place that is Liberty Hall. Until then, please don't be a stranger! Our doors, and our garden, are always open to you.

Jessica Stavros, Executive Director

## **STAFF**

Nicole Bennett, Marketing Specialist
Anna Campomanes, Garden Curator
Isabel Cochran, Gardener
Judy Collins, Bookkeeper
Julia Gabbard, Interpreter & Site Caretaker
Jacob Lilly, Interpreter
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Jessica Stavros, Executive Director

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# - THIS YEAR AT LIBERTY HALL -

#### Revenue

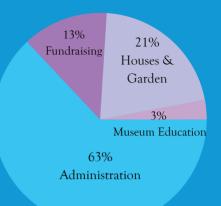
13%
Earned Income

48%
Donations,
Grants,
Fundraising
Income
Income

# NSCDA-KY & LHHS Combined Revenue and Expenditures Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Income and Expense amounts are based on audited figures. Investment Income includes the amount drawn from invested funds and unrealized gains or losses. LHHS does not use a direct cost accounting method; therefore, administrative expenses are not distributed across programs.

### **Expenditures**



# Programs & Exhibitions

Kentucky's First Senator with Steven Walker
An Evening by the River: History of the Kentucky Reel
Liberty Hall-oween Gray Lady Tours
History of Cemetery & Headstone Design
A Reading of The Legend of Sleepy Hollow
Liberty Hall-idays
Christmas Magic
Christmas Craft Night

Storybook Trail
Liberty Hall Tree Walk
Archeology of Ancient Gardens in Kentucky

Creating Floral Arrangements from Your Own Garden Family Garden Tours

Drawn & Painted from Life Botanical Watercolor History of Herbariums and Creating Plant Specimens Nature Journal Club



An Evening by the River: History of the Kentucky Reel



Exterior Paint refreshed for both Liberty Hall and the Orlando Brown House



Kentucky Culture Symposium



new Lafayette Trail marker

LAFAYETTES TOUR

LAFAYETTES TOUR

LAFAYETTES TOUR

LAFAYETTE BIO INTERPRETATION

LAFAYETTE BION RELEASE

LAFAYETTE BION RE

Newly built fence next to our



from Your Own Garden

**Creating Floral Arrangements** 

"We had a lovely visit at Liberty Hall! We enjoyed the tour, and our guide did a fantastic job! We especially loved seeing furnishings and portraits owned by the Brown family. It was also great to see and hear about the lives of the Stepney family. That helped create a full picture of life at Liberty Hall. The gardens and surrounding grounds were also beautiful, and we loved hearing about the trees on the property. I can't thank you and the staff enough for maintaining and providing the opportunity to visit such an important place in Kentucky history. We look forward to additional visits to Liberty Hall and hearing about upcoming events."

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