



THE  
ROSIN  
BOX  
PROJECT

# THE ROSIN BOX PROJECT 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

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# A LETTER FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

Dear TRBP Family,

As we close out our fifth season at the Rosin Box Project, I'm astonished at all we've accomplished thanks to the exceptional artistry of our dancers and choreographers, as well as the ambition and good stewardship of our directors, Carly and Thom. As more live performances return to San Diego, we've welcomed our audiences back to the theater with new, ambitious, and always surprising repertory—from the hallucinatory sleep studies of Carly Topazio and Jeremy Zapanta's "Somnium," backdropped by stunning projected visuals, to the raucous fun of Bethany Green's "Devil Get Behind Me," accompanied by a live bluegrass trio. We've continued our winning streak of bringing exciting guest artists to San Diego for the first time, including the nationally and internationally recognized choreographers Katarzyna Skarpetowska ("Sextette") and Myles Thatcher ("Free!") for our summer show, DEBUTS. And we've discovered new partnerships with San Diego's artistic institutions, including the La Jolla Playhouse, the Mingei International Museum in Balboa Park, and the VAPA Foundation and San Diego Unified School District. With five seasons under our belt, we've been able to enjoy support from the National Endowment for the Arts, San Diego's Commission for Arts & Culture, and the Conrad Prebys Foundation, not to mention the invaluable enthusiasm of our individual donor base.

For our sixth season, we're looking for ways to expand our connections with the San Diego community and beyond. That means bigger houses for our shows, sure, but it also means more of our innovative dance-based education module, the Ballet Machine, in San Diego classrooms, and new "Out of the Box" performances in underserved schools and communities. That means sending our dancers to St. Louis to present Jeremy Zapanta's "Personal Perspectives" (2021) at the prestigious Spring to Dance Festival. We're also moving our much-loved Ghost Light Masquerade to October for maximum spookiness. And you can bet we have some more surprises for 2023 up our sleeve—watch this space, as the kids say, or as we say, step inside.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in white ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ted McCombs, TRBP Board Chair



2022 SEASON  
CONCERT REEL



# A YEAR IN REVIEW

TRBP began 2022 at the Light Box Theater in Liberty Station's ARTS DISTRICT. Sold out houses watched a program of all-female choreographers, featuring the works of resident artists Carly Topazio and Bethany Green. Bethany's fun and captivating ballet, Devil Get Behind Me, was set to live bluegrass music by Clinton Davis, Aaron Brownwood, and Erin Brower.

In April, TRBP embarked on a commission for La Jolla Playhouse's 2022 Without Walls (WOW) Festival. SOMNIUM was a dance project that emerged from the minds of Carly Topazio and Jeremy Zapanta and featured illuminating projection design by Nathan Scheuer (Broadway and Selena Gomez World Tour lighting and graphic designer). This outdoor performance captivated audiences for four straight evenings in Liberty Station.

In June, TRBP's Ghost Light Masquerade returned to haunt and entertain fans, this time at the renowned Bread and Salt Art Gallery in Barrio Logan. This immersive theater production follows the theatrical spirits of performances long gone through theater superstitions and their ghoulish dances after all the lights have gone out.

TRBP closed its 2022 Season performances with DEBUTS at the Mingei International Museum in Balboa Park in early September. The concert featured the works of internationally renowned choreographers Katarzyna Skarpetowska and Myles Thatcher, as well as the works of resident artists Jeremy Zapanta and Katie Spagnoletti. TRBP hosted its last event of the year, TRBP's Annual Barre Crawl, in late September at Stone Brewing for fans and family to celebrate the year and hear what was in store for 2023!



# OUTREACH IN ACTION



## ***THE BALLET MACHINE***

Our flagship outreach program, The Ballet Machine, is a K-5 Arts Integration program that combines analyzing language choices with learning dance steps. Our professional dancers and teaching artists brought this workshop to 30 classrooms and hundreds of students in 2022!



## ***OUT OF THE BOX SHOWS***

TRBP toured its DEBUTS program of works, including choreography by famed choreographer Myles Thatcher, to Monarch School in Barrio Logan and the Chula Vista Civic Center Library



## ***DANCE OUT LOUD!***

TRBP's newest outreach program, Dance Out Loud!, worked with 7 Unified Schools in 2022, creating stunning, professionally-produced music videos. Middle and High School students learned innovative dance routines and got to share the final film with virtual friends across the globe!



*"The Rosin Box Studio is an exemplary studio. I am a stronger dancer today because of Rony's Intermediate Ballet class."*

*-Druanne Kilpatrick  
TRBStudio Attendee*

The Rosin Box Studio, or "TRBStudio" for short, has become a home over the past year for multiple programs and initiatives for students ages 2 - 102.

San Diego Unified School District and The VAPA Foundation collaborated with Liberty Station dance companies on Day of Dance, a one-day event in the Spring of 2022 where students from across the district took dance classes with our veteran instructors. The day concluded with a performance by TRBP artists and our neighbors in Dance Place San Diego.

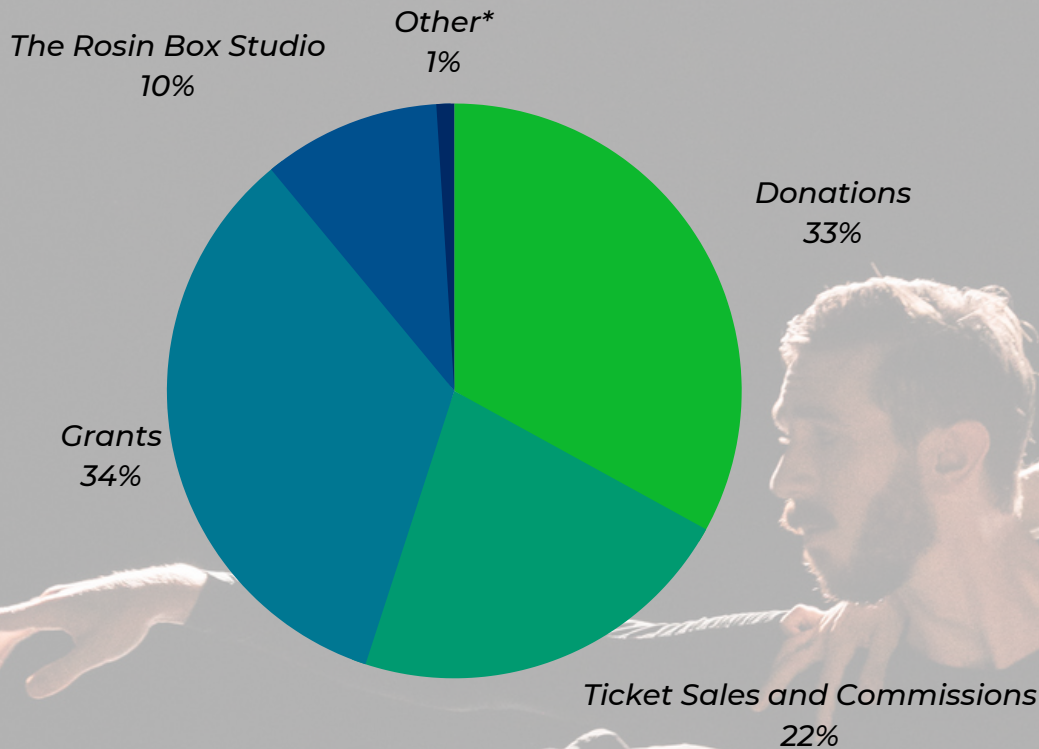
Open Adult Classes continued and grew with the addition of more ballet, heels, and cardio classes. If you haven't stopped in to try one of these classes yet, now is your chance to train with our intrepid faculty!

Thanks to the generous support of the NTC Foundation, TRBP participated in Liberty School with students from Washington Elementary and a collaborative video workshop for City Heights students with our friends at Outside the Lens. We are so thankful for the continuous support provided by NTC and ARTS DISTRICT Liberty Station.

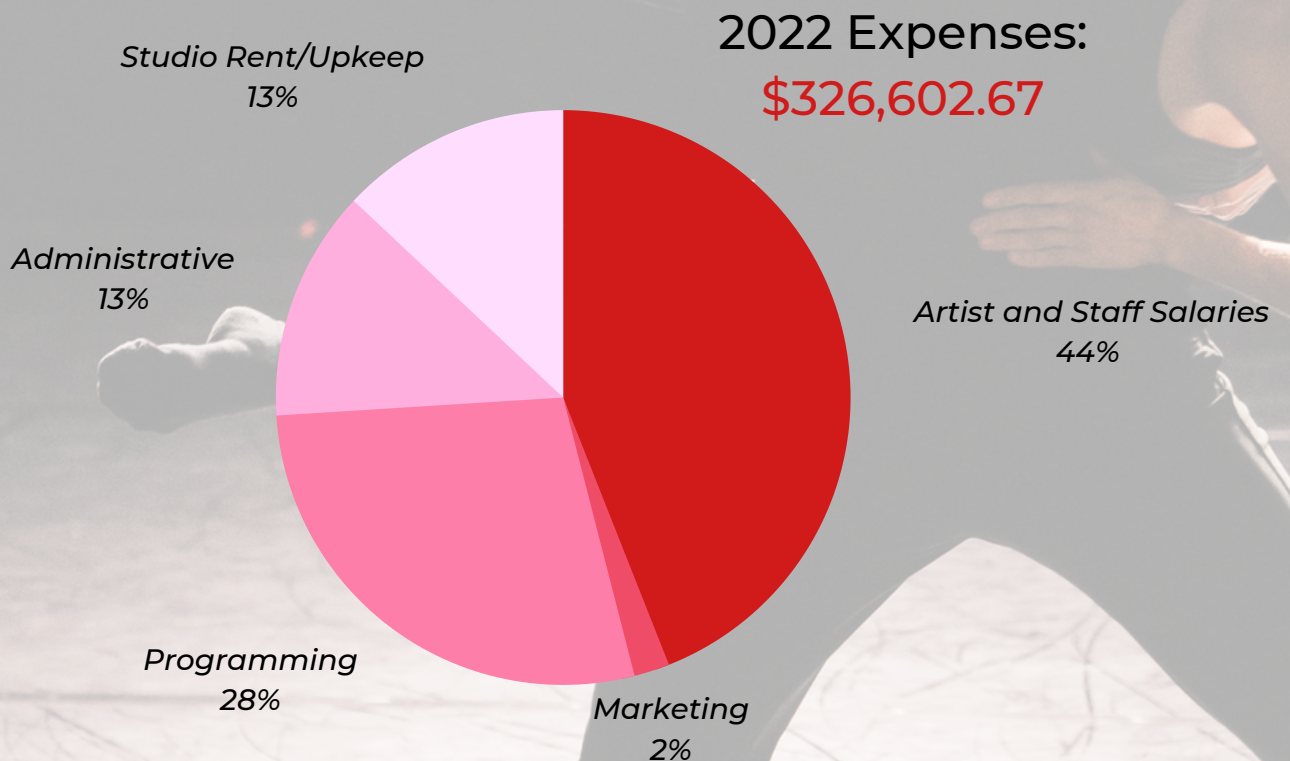


**Follow us on Instagram at  
[@therosinbox\\_studio](https://www.instagram.com/therosinbox_studio)**

# 2022 FINANCIALS



2022 Income:  
**\$334,167.84**



2022 Expenses:  
**\$326,602.67**

# OUR 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Ted McCombs  
Board Chair



Ryan Field  
Director



Catherine Cheng  
Vice Chair



Sam Topazio  
Director



Polly Toledo  
Secretary



John Velasco  
Director



Michael Angelo Camacho  
Treasurer

## Advisory Board:

Ryan Beck, Judy Berman-Silbert, Khamla Somphanh, Rebekah Brown



# OUR COMPANY DANCE ARTISTS



ELIZABETH FITTRO



CHELSEA KUHN



LAUREN FLOWER



RONY LENIS



BETHANY GREEN



KATIE SPAGNOLETTI



BRIAN HEIL



CARLY TOPAZIO



MADELINE HOUK



JEREMY ZAPANTA

# OUR FACULTY AND STAFF



ANDRES LAGANG  
TEACHING ARTIST



EMILY ELKIN  
TEACHING ARTIST



BETHANY GREEN  
TEACHING ARTIST



RONY LENIS  
TEACHING ARTIST  
SOCIAL MEDIA  
COORDINATOR



ADANNA EARL  
TEACHING ARTIST



LAUREN FLOWER  
TEACHING ARTIST



JAMELENE DEVERA  
TEACHING ARTIST



CYBELE PENA  
TEACHING ARTIST



HILARY BROMAN  
TEACHING ARTIST  
STUDIO COORDINATOR

# OUR EXECUTIVE TEAM

## CARLY TOPAZIO: ARTISTIC DIRECTOR AND FOUNDER



Originally from Millis, MA, Carly trained at Boston Ballet, and at 14 she was accepted into the Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet where she studied for three years. She has danced for Alabama Ballet, Ballet Neo, Eglevsky Ballet, and City Ballet of San Diego, performing in featured and soloist roles in esteemed choreography by Twyla Tharp, Jiri Kylian, and George Balanchine. Carly has performed internationally, including a residency under Iratxe Ansa in Mexico City, IB Stage in Spain, and can also be seen performing as a ballet dancer in the Disney movie *The Game Plan* starring Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson.

In 2015, Carly earned her YTT 200 certification to lead and instruct yoga. Ever since, Carly has been leading vinyasa yoga at Spirit Yoga Studios in Pacific Beach. In 2014 she started her own freelance photography business, respectively named Carly Topazio Photography. Her work has been featured in publications such as the San Diego Tribune, *The Voyager*, *Pointe Magazine*, *Peer Space*, and various others, and clients include Lululemon, Fitfit Activewear, Qualcomm, Integrative Om, and more. Under Carly's artistic vision, TRBP has been lauded by local and international press for its innovative work, strong artistic team, and technological marvels in the face of the pandemic, and the company has become a leading voice in the San Diego arts scene.

## THOM DANCY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Thom Dancy has worked in the arts non-profit sector for over 10 years for dance companies across the United States. He has worked as the Social Media Coordinator for The Big Muddy Dance Company and as Malashock Dance's Outreach and Communications Coordinator prior to TRBP. For both organizations, Thom oversaw grant writing and support, social media marketing, program planning/implementation, and community building with arts partners, including leading the team that earned Joshua Manculich the Princess Grace Award for choreography in 2015. Since joining TRBP, Thom has grown the budget from \$30,000 to \$300,000, and is excited to work with TRBP's team to double this amount in the next 3 years.

Thom studied Ballet Performance at the University of Oklahoma, and danced for Milwaukee Ballet II, Grand Rapids Ballet, The Big Muddy Dance Company, The Muny, and Malashock Dance before his official retirement. Thom is still an active teacher and choreographer, travelling nationally as a guest artist. When he's not working, you can find Thom on his patio, scotch in hand, playing with his dog Zoey.

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

## *Angel Circle:*

*2022 March Series Sponsors:* Anna and Mario Scipione

*2022 Guest Choreographer Sponsor:* John Velasco

*Ghost Light Masquerade Sponsor:* The Conrad Prebys Foundation

*Resident Artist Choreography Sponsors:* Catherine Cheng and Dan Beisner

The City of Chula Vista and the Create Chula Vista Arts Grant

The National Endowment For The Arts

The San Diego Foundation

The VAPA Foundation

## *Producer Circle:*

City of San Diego Commision for Arts and Culture, The Family of Luann Reese in her honor, St. Mary's Housing Corporation, US Bank Foundation

## *Artist Circle:*

*DEBUTS Sponsors:* Ted McCombs, Lane and Steven Mashal, Judy Sharp  
NTC Foundation, Weston Anson

## *Advocate of The Dancers:*

The Anona E. Kuehne Survivors Trust, Anonymous, Kirstie Bellman,  
Catherine Downes, Marin Community Foundation,  
Michael Angelo Camacho, Qualcomm, Larry Tran, Yumiko Siewenie, Steve  
Sladky, US Bank, Mark Grund, Beth Wapner, Jim Carmody, Katherine  
Topazio

## *Partner of The Dancers:*

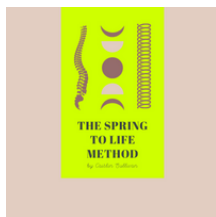
Judy Berman-Silbert and John Silbert, California Ballet School, Jane  
and Pocheng Cheng, Page and Beau Dancy,  
Justin Flores, Don and Diana Green, Susana Leung, Ashley McQueen,  
Alan Ziter

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT CONT'D

## *Friend of The Dancers:*

Luke Albertson, Kareem Aly, Anonymous, Gordon Bashant, Sarah Boorstin, Roy Carlson, Stephanie Cheng, Katherine Clemens, Erin Decker, Janice Dimick, Kate Eppler, Alexandria Finley, Elizabeth Fittro, Rebecca Herrin, Lauri-Michelle Houk, Deanna Johnson, Sean Kelley, William McClain, Melissa Micou, Deborah Nguyen, Susanna Peredo-Swap, Cecile Pham, Suzanne Pickering, Raul Salamanca, Avi Schraer, Kathryn Shevelow, Speak L.A., Caitlin Sullivan, Decemna Tang, Barbara Taylor, Dr. and Mrs. Carol Toledo, Polly Toledo, Laurie Williams, Terry Wilson, Janet Wong, Harry Worthington, Karin Yamada, Camille McPherson, Taylor Ward.

THE CONRAD PREBYS FOUNDATION



Qualcomm

SAN ELIJO  
DANCE & MUSIC  
ACADEMY



Ballet | Contemporary | Hip Hop



ARTREACH  
CREATIVITY. COLLABORATION. CONFIDENCE.



Commission for  
Arts and Culture



## *A Special Thanks To*

*2022 Development Committee Chair Catherine Cheng, 2022 Gala Chair  
John Velasco, Elizabeth Fittro, Mario Scipione,  
Deanna Johnson Bookkeeping, Matthew Van Court,  
Diego Unified School District's VAPA Department, Outside the Lens,  
River Rock Realty, NTC Foundation Staff and Board*

# IMPULSE



Welcome to TRBP's 2023 Season, Impulse.

We are delighted to celebrate this season with you as we open our doors to a myriad of ideas, voices and approaches that explore the boundaries of the expression of dance and collaboration.

The experience of art is an active, breathing, ever changing one that has the power to transform a room, a person, and a way of seeing things. Today, more than ever, we need channels of expression to help us examine the world and inspire dialogue.

New venues and new works await, including the premieres of choreographic works by our Resident Artists and Guest Artists alike, including Myke Tyus and Penny Saunders. Along with the triumphant return of our signature show, Ghost Light Masquerade, and a brand new production in March, this season has a renewed sense of discovery that we can't wait to explore with you.

We look forward to sharing this new season with you!

Thank you for helping us create such an incredible year, and we look forward to seeing you all for our 2023 Season: Impulse!

[www.TheRosinBoxProject.com](http://www.TheRosinBoxProject.com)

