

2021

Annual Report



Cheekwood
ESTATE & GARDENS



Message *from the* President & Board Chair

2021 was another extraordinary year at Cheekwood as the institution once again set a new attendance record, welcoming 435,000 visitors, ranking the third highest attended destination in Nashville. At year-end membership had, likewise, grown to nearly 21,000 member households. *Cheekwood in Bloom* featured whimsical windmills set amid the annual display of 100,000 tulips and *Holiday LIGHTS* presented multiple new installations including a Candy Cane Trail through the Bradford Robertson Color Garden and a stunning Orchid Tree in the Mansion. Both festivals achieved record-setting attendance, and the summer exhibition, *Sean Kenney’s Nature’s POP! Made from LEGO® Bricks*, drew 114,000 visitors of all ages who marveled at delightful sculptures made of 800,000 Legos.

It was a year when many programs that had been halted in 2020 were activated again including the return of our popular TOTS! Several programs also made their debut, including Wellness 360 in partnership with Vanderbilt Health; *INTERVENTIONS* in the Mansion period rooms; and the African American Cultural Family Celebration.

Cheekwood also celebrated the 10th anniversaries of the Martin Shallenberger Artist-in-Residence and the Sigourney Cheek Literary Garden, which underwent an extensive upgrade to enhance its horticultural display and improve accessibility in the West Boutique Gardens.

Cheekwood also saw the return of Jaume Plensa’s *Silent Music*, now displayed near the entrance to the Ann & Monroe Carell Jr. Family Sculpture Trail - and thanks to the generosity of the Carell Foundation - a new sculpture, Alicja Kwade’s *Pars pro Toto*, was acquired, the first sculpture to be added to the trail since it opened in 1999. In the Museum, *The Sculpture of William Edmondson: Tombstones, Garden Ornaments, and Stonework* showcased Cheekwood’s permanent collection of the artist’s work alongside those of other institutions, bringing new insights about Edmondson, the first African American to mount a solo exhibition at MOMA in 1937.

Throughout the year, Cheekwood continued to serve as a respite and refuge in which to find peace and solace and joy, as our city, nation and world confronted an unrelenting pandemic. 2021 was a truly exceptional year with Cheekwood delivering a truly exceptional experience, nurturing and inspiring those in our community as well as those traveling from afar. As we look back on the year, we do so with pride in our accomplishments and a commitment to advancing our momentum in the year ahead.



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President/CEO

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Chair, Board of Trustees

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Mission

Celebrate and preserve Cheekwood as an historical landmark where beauty and excellence in art and horticulture nurture the spirit and serve as inspiration for a diverse and broad audience.



Vision

Cheekwood will be a locally celebrated and nationally recognized destination renowned for its distinctive beauty, historical significance, and excellence in art and horticulture.



Guiding Principles

Beauty that nurtures the spirit
Preservation for future generations
Education that enriches and inspires
Collaboration that embraces a broad community
Financial responsibility in stewarding our resources

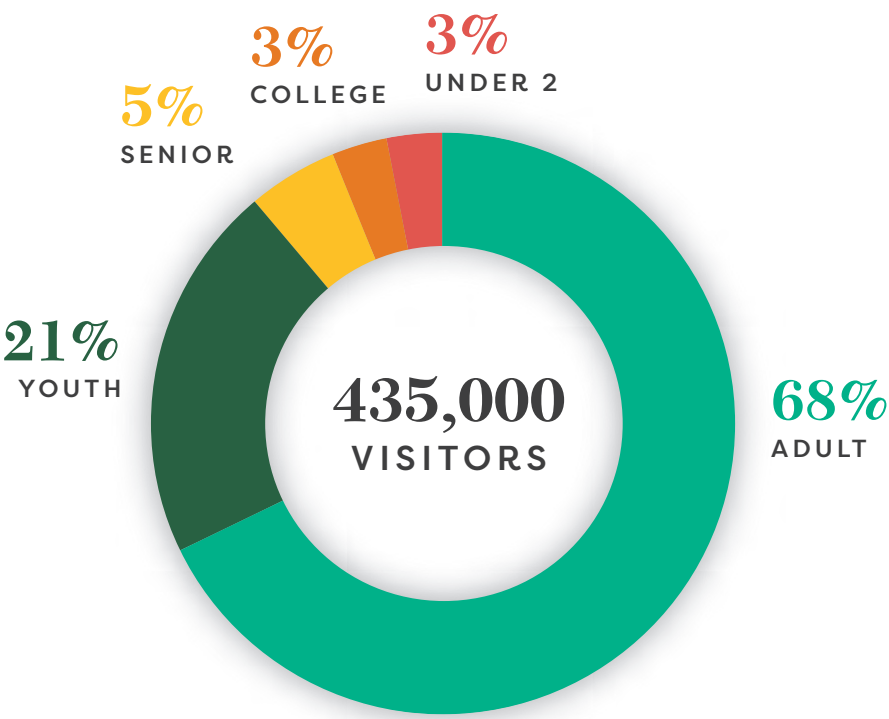
Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility Statement

Cheekwood is committed to embracing, pursuing, and celebrating inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility among our board, staff, leadership, partners, vendors, volunteers, members, supporters and visitors. We will be steadfast in our efforts to welcome people of all races, nationalities, genders, sexual orientations, gender identities, religions, political affiliations, ages and abilities. We recognize we have much work to do and pledge to pursue new and previously underrepresented ideas, artists, advisors, partners, instructors, innovators and audiences so that all voices can be heard, respected and supported.

2021

Visitors

Cheekwood welcomed over **435,000 visitors** in 2022 — setting a new institutional record!



2021

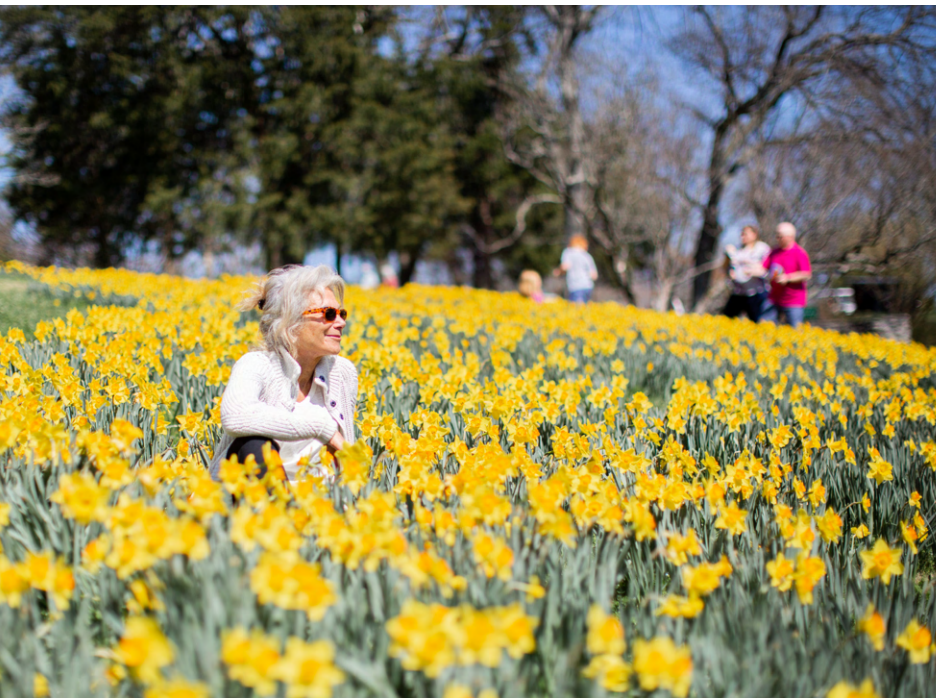
Members

Cheekwood membership continued to grow throughout 2021 as visitors from Nashville and Middle Tennessee enjoyed all that Cheekwood has to offer. Members are celebrated with member-only days, hours and special appreciation events.

10%
INCREASE IN
ACTIVE MEMBER
HOUSEHOLDS

20,788
CHEEKWOOD
MEMBERS
AT YEAR-END

Almost **40%** of cheekwood visitors are also members at various levels, helping support annual operations to ensure the present and future of Nashville's own National Treasure.



2021

Team Cheekwood

Cheekwood’s dedicated staff worked diligently throughout 2021 to serve visitors from our community and beyond, welcoming a diverse audience to experience the beauty of the gardens, be inspired by art indoors and out, and engage in a wide range of programs.

2021

Leadership Team

Jane MacLeod
President/CEO

Daniel Miller
Chief Financial Officer

Beth Murdock
Chief Operating Officer

Elizabeth Epley Sheets
Chief External Relations Officer

Penny Bruckse
Vice President, Human Resources

Peter Grimaldi
Vice President, Gardens & Facilities

Nathalie Lavine
Vice President, Education & Outreach

James W. Tottis
Vice President, Museum Affairs



Front Row: Dan Miller, Jane MacLeod, Penny Bruckse, Elizabeth Epley Sheets
Back Row: Peter Grimaldi, Beth Murdock, Jim Tottis, Nathalie Lavine

2021

Volunteers

Cheekwood could not fulfill its mission without help from its loyal and enthusiastic volunteers!



9,008
VOLUNTEER
HOURS

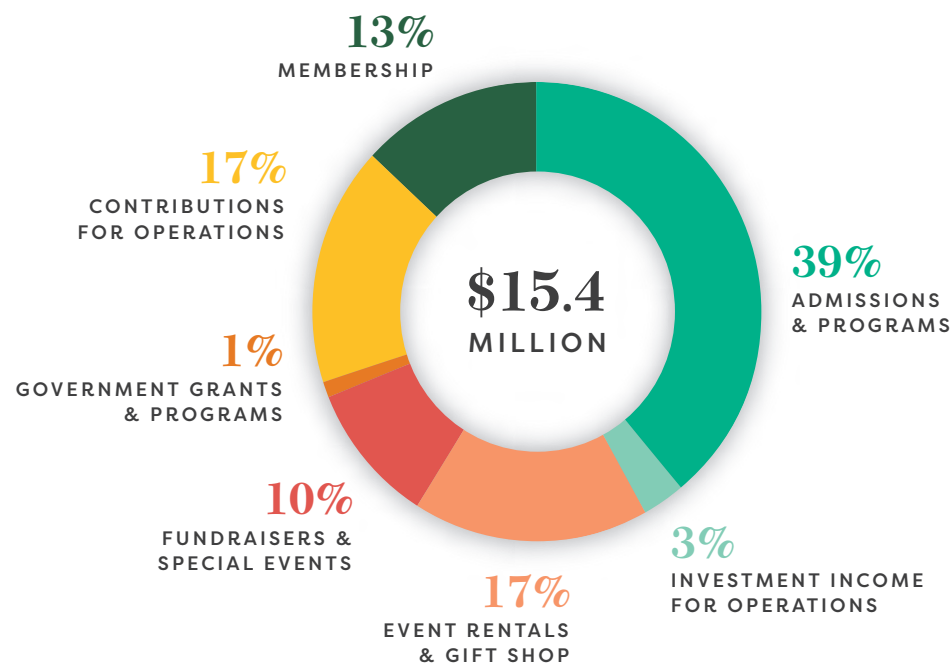
1,237
VOLUNTEERS
IN 2021



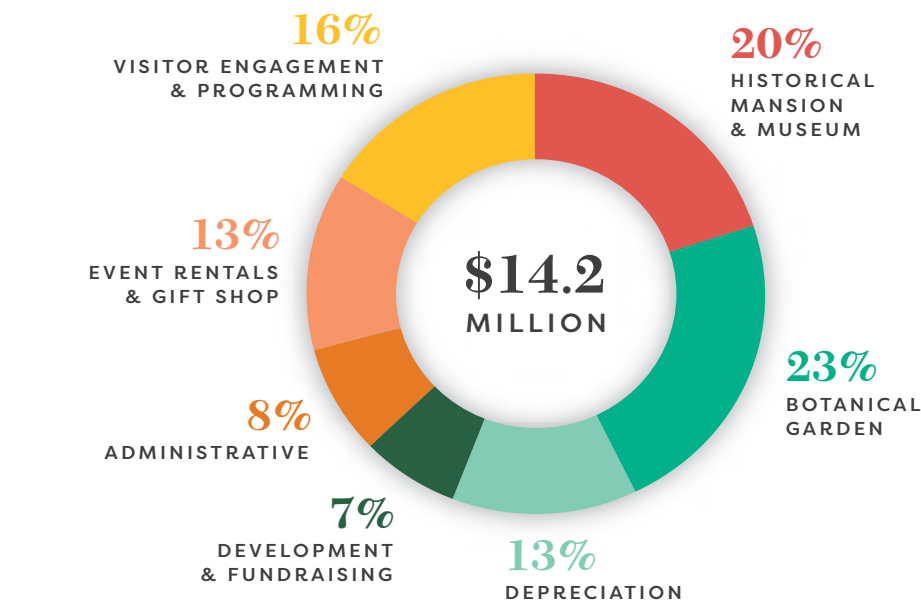
2021

Operating Budget

OPERATING SUPPORT & REVENUES



OPERATING EXPENSES



2021

Balance Sheet

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL POSITION December 31, 2021	
ASSETS (In Millions)	
Current Assets	\$ 9.2
Restricted Assets	1.0
Promises to Give	0.5
Endowment Investments	21.8
Property & Equipment	25.8
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 58.3
LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	\$ 1.3
Deferred Revenues	2.6
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 3.9
NET ASSETS	
Without Donor Restrictions	\$ 33.4
With Donor Restrictions	21.0
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$ 54.4
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$ 58.3

2021 SEASONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Cheekwood *in* Bloom

A record-setting **79,000 visitors** enjoyed the lavish and cheerful display of tulips, hyacinths, violas and other spring blooms set among working windmills during *Cheekwood in Bloom*.

Wellness 360 debuted, in partnership with Vanderbilt Health, with a robust calendar of opportunities including yoga, forest bathing, meditation, and mindfulness walks – all in one of the greenest spaces in Nashville.



Visitors enjoyed a fresh take on the **Great Spring Art Hop** with the addition of a scavenger hunt for giant bunnies decorated by local Nashville artists hidden throughout the lush springtime gardens.



2021 SEASONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Summertime *at* Cheekwood

Cheekwood's gardens are especially lush in summer, and in 2021, Sean Kenney's *Nature POP!* exhibition added pops of color as over 30 sculptures created from LEGO® bricks charmed visitors throughout the gardens. **Over 114,000** visited Cheekwood to enjoy *Nature POP!* and additional programs, including Thursday Night Out, Dog Nights of Summer, and Songwriters Under the Stars.



2021 SEASONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Cheekwood Harvest

Over 90,000 visitors delighted in *Cheekwood Harvest*. The 2021 Pumpkin Village featured two pumpkin houses, the Beer Garden was lively, and Community Scarecrows captivated the young and young-at-heart.



Car enthusiasts of all ages enjoyed a Labor Day weekend visit to Cheekwood, strolling among 30 impeccably maintained cars from early to mid-twentieth century during the 2nd annual **Classic Car Show.**



2021 SEASONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Holiday LIGHTS

Nashville's brightest holiday tradition became even brighter in 2021! A new Peppermint Path, an interactive Tunnel of Light, and a shimmering Crystal Canopy Tree added to the mile-long walking experience enjoyed by over **102,000 evening visitors**.



In the Historic Mansion & Museum, visitors enjoyed botanical displays featuring **orchids**, **magnolias** and **poinsettias** on display throughout the period rooms alongside traditional and nontraditional nutcrackers. The centerpiece was a stunning orchid tree on display in the Loggia.



The Frist Learning Center featured a new **Holiday Marketplace** as well as the popular s'mores stations.



2021

Exhibitions

JANUARY 30 – FEBRUARY 28

Orchids in the Mansion

FEBRUARY 6 – 21

2021 Middle Tennessee Scholastic Art Awards

FEBRUARY 6 – MAY 2

Women to Watch: Celebrating the Centennial of Women’s Suffrage

MARCH 13 – JULY 4

In a New Light: American Impressionism 1870-1940

MAY 8 – AUGUST 29

MINIMALISM

AUGUST 3 – 29

Art Bark: Works by Herb Williams

MAY 1 – SEPTEMBER 5

Sean Kenney’s Nature POP! Made with LEGO® Bricks

JUNE 4 – SEPTEMBER 5

En Plein Air

AUGUST 20 – OCTOBER 24

2021 Martin Shallenberger Artist-in-Residence Michael McMath

AUGUST 12 – OCTOBER 31

The Sculpture of William Edmondson: Tombstones, Garden Ornaments, and Stonework

OCTOBER 2, 2021 – JANUARY 2, 2022

Louise Dahl-Wolfe: Capturing Culture

SEPTEMBER 18, 2021 – JANUARY 9, 2022

INTERVENTIONS: Fortuna

NOVEMBER 20, 2021 – JANUARY 16, 2022

Manhattan Memories: Soaring Towers and Park Visions of Jefferson Hayman and A.C. Webb



Installation view of Women to Watch: Celebrating the Centennial of Women’s Suffrage. Photo by Warner Tidwell.

2021

New Acquisitions

Alicja Kwade

Pars Pro Toto, 2021

Marble

2021.2A-G

Artist Unknown

Spring

Marble

54 in. x 19 in. x 14 1/2 in.

2021.3

Artist Unknown

Summer, 19th c.

Marble 5

3 in. x 15 1/2 in. x 12 1/2 in.

2021.4

Artist Unknown

Pair of Iron Rosettes, 20th c.

Metal

24 in. x 8 in. x 4 1/2 in.

2021.5A-B

Artist Unknown

Porte Cochère Grill, 18th c.

Metal

84 in. x 48 in. x 5 in.

2021.6

Artist Unknown

Armillary Sphere

Bronze

89 in. x 33 1/2 in. x 33 1/2 in.

2021.7

Artist Unknown

Cheekwood Doorbell

Metal

9 in. x 4 1/4 in. x 1 in.

2021.8

Artist Unknown

Lead Rooster, 19th c.

Lead

25 1/2 in. x 8 in. x 16 in.

2021.9

Artist Unknown

Lead Rooster

Lead

25 1/2 in. x 8 in. x 16 in.

2021.10

Artist Unknown

Bachus, 19th c.

Marble

53 in. x 15 1/2 in. x 16 in.

2021.11

Artist Unknown

Putti With Lambs, 18th c.

Marble

32 in. x 21 3/4 in. x 21 in.

2021.12

Artist Unknown

Little Swan

Cast Cement

52 in. x 24 in. x 28 in.

2021.13

Artist Unknown

Maiden With Basket,

19th c.

Cast Cement

72 in. x 22 in. x 18 in.

2021.14

Artist Unknown

Winter, 19th c.

Marble

51 in. x 16 in. x 13 in.

2021.15

Artist Unknown

Bacchante Urn, 19th c.

Cast Stone

62 in. x 48 in. x 35 1/2 in.

2021.16

Artist Unknown

Titan’s Cup, 20th c.

Limestone

40 in. x 55 in. x 55 in.

2021.17

John Marriott Blashfield

Urn, 1846

Terra Cotta

34 in. x 28 in. x 28 in.

2021.18

John Marriott Blashfield

Urn, 1846

Terra Cotta

34 in. x 28 in. x 28 in.

2021.19

John Marriott Blashfield

Urn, 1846

Stone, terracotta

34 in. x 28 in. x 28 in.

2021.20

John Marriott Blashfield

Urn, 1846

Terra Cotta

34 in. x 28 in. x 28 in.

2021.21

John Marriott Blashfield

Urn, 1846

Terra Cotta

34 in. x 28 in. x 28 in.

2021.22

John Marriott Blashfield

Urn, 1846

Terra Cotta

34 in. x 28 in. x 28 in.

2021.23

Fulper Pottery

Tall Vase, 1915-1923

Glazed earthenware

17 in. x 8 47/64 in.

2021.24

Grueby Faience Company

Squatvase with cinque foils,

1898-1910

Glazed earthenware

5 in. x 11 in.

2021.25

Adelaide Robineau
for University City

Vase, 1910

Crystalline Glazed Porcelain

10 3/4 in. x 4 1/2 in.

2021.26

Artus Van Briggie
for Van Briggie Pottery

Vase with Poppies, 1904

Glazed earthenware

9 1/4 in. x 8 in.

2021.27

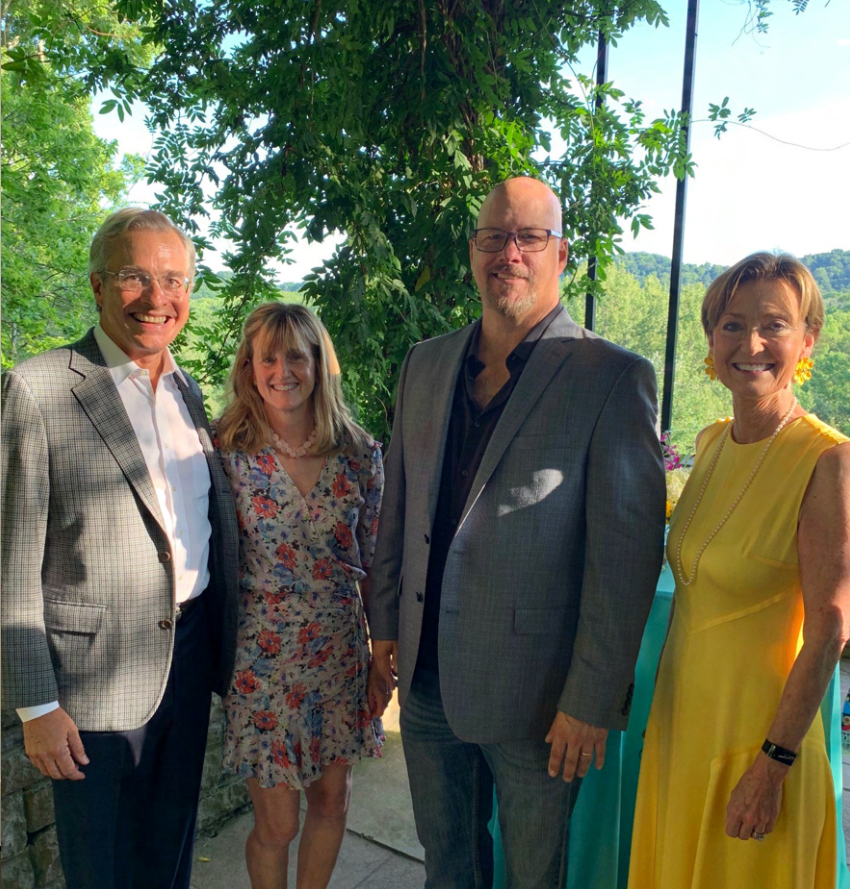
Robert Woodley Brown

The Encampment, 1877

Oil on Canvas

30 1/4 in. x 23 7/8 in. x 2 in.

2021.28



2021 Martin Shallenberger Artist-in-Residence Mike McMath uses the centuries old artform of Venetian plaster and encaustics — also known as the technique of painting with hot wax.

The first of three annual **INTERVENTIONS** installations opened in the Historic Mansion & Museum, featuring artist **Beth Katleman's** ceramic work creating a dialogue between Cheekwood's collection and contemporary art.

2021

Art Highlights

A highly anticipated exhibition, ***The Sculpture of William Edmondson: Tombstones, Garden Ornaments, and Stonework***, opened in August, coinciding with Cheekwood's first annual African American Cultural Family Celebration.

In a New Light: American Impressionism 1870-1940, an exploration of artists' representations of rural and urban America, was presented in partnership with Bank of America Art in Our Communities® program.

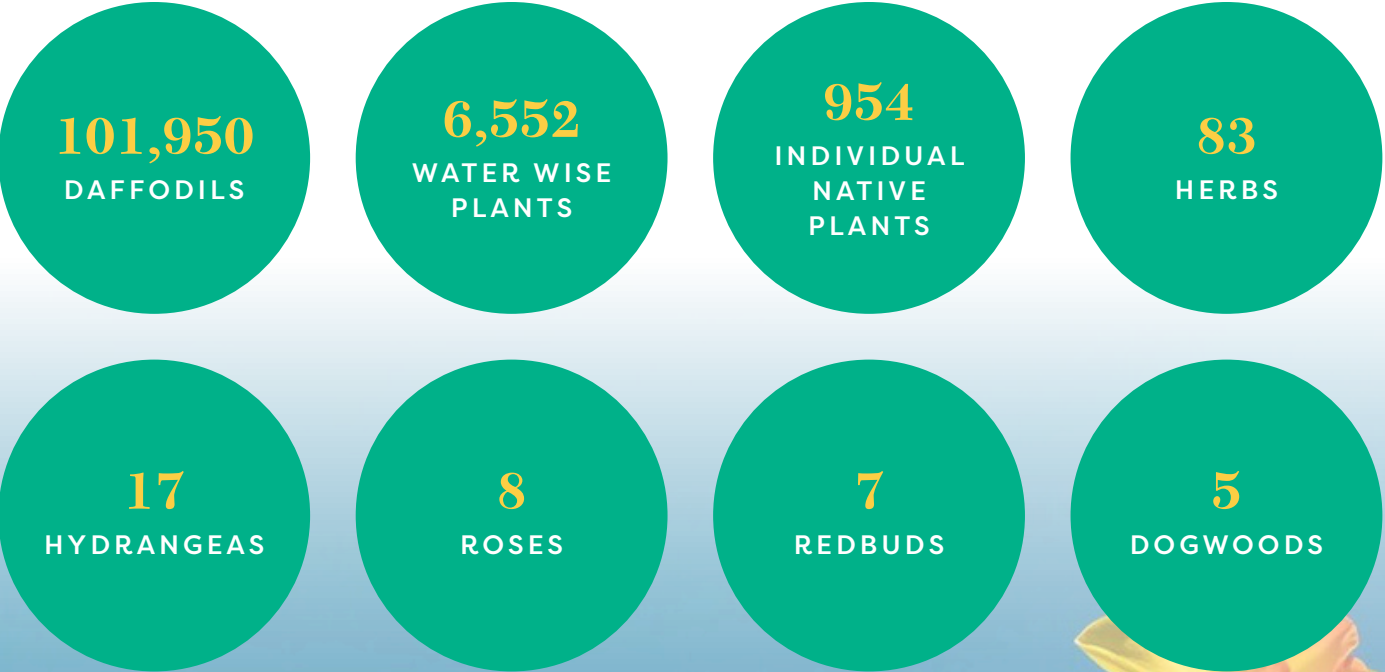
Pictured right: John Joseph Enneking (American 1841-1916). Apple Blossom, n.d. Oil on linen. Bank of America Collection.



2021

Garden Highlights

2021 PLANT ACQUISITIONS



GARDEN CONSERVATION

During Summer 2021, Cheekwood connected with specialists from Terra Mare Conservation to conserve and treat the Reflecting Pool. Its carved limestone fountain bases, the cascading weir, and decorative curved supporting walls were cleaned and repaired in line with the original design by landscape architect Bryant Fleming.

An important part of the Cheekwood landscape, the Sigourney Cheek Literary Garden was enhanced and restored in its 10th anniversary year, with a newly designed Elizabeth Weaver Proctor Walk & Overlook which provides improved accessibility in the West Boutique Gardens.



2021

Cultural Celebrations

African American Cultural Family Celebration

On August 14 and 15, Cheekwood debuted its inaugural African American Cultural Family Celebration, featuring a weekend of activities highlighting the visual and performing arts. Participants listened to music from Nashville greats, enjoyed spoken word, storytime, and a collaborative art project, as well as panel discussions focusing on *The Sculpture of William Edmondson: Tombstones, Garden Ornaments, and Stonework*.



Japanese Moon Viewing

On September 19, the Japanese Moon Viewing celebrating the harvest moon, or *o-tsukimi*, featured favorite activities such as tea ceremonies and origami as well as new ways for visitors to enjoy the event. Highlights included a performance by Nashville Ballet's Lily Saito, a kimono fashion show, and a mochi pounding demonstration.

El Día de los Muertos

In its 22nd year in 2021, El Día de los Muertos expanded to two days, October 30 and 31. The festive celebration featured traditional altars, murals, music, dancing, cuisine, a marketplace and more.



2021

Community Partners

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Barnard-Seyfert Astronomical Society
Belmont University Spanish Department
Blackbird Academy
Casa Azafran
Casa Mexico
Catholic Charities
Chestnut Group of Plein Air Painters
Community Achieves
Communities in School
Consulate General of Japan in Nashville
Creative Girls Rock
Daffodil Society of Nashville
ECON Club
Equal Chance for Education
Fisk University
Frist Art Museum
FUTURO, Inc.
Garden Club of Nashville
Governors Early Literacy Foundation
Gujarat Cultural Association of Nashville
H.G. Hill Middle School
Habitat for Humanity
Hatch Show Print
Hillwood High School
Intersection
Japan-America Society of Tennessee
Jewish Federation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee
Lane Motor Museum
Lipscomb University
Martin Luther King, Jr. Magnet High School
Metro Nashville Parks and Recreation / Riverfront Park
Metro Nashville Police Department

Metro Nashville Public Schools STEAM Expeditions
Nashville Bonsai Society
Nashville Herb Society
Nashville Jazz Workshop
Nashville Musician's Union
Nashville Public Education Foundation
Nashville Public Library
Nashville Rose Society
Nashville State Community College
Nashville Symphony Accelerando Program
Nashville Youth Jazz Ensemble
National Museum of African American Music
Nossi College of Art
PENCIL Foundation
PJ Library
Purpose Prep Academy
Song Suffragettes
Southern Word
Tennessee College of Applied Technology
Tennessee Craft
Tennessee Language Center
Tennessee State University
Tennessee Urban Forestry Council
Turnip Green Creative Reuse
University School of Nashville
Urban Green Lab
Vanderbilt Blair School of Music
Vanderbilt Treatment & Research Institute
for Autism-Related Disorders (TRIAD)
Vanderbilt University Center for Latin American,
Caribbean, and Latinx Studies
Vanderbilt University
W.O. Smith School
WXP 91.1

2021

Institutional Support

Foundation Partners and Corporate Friends support Cheekwood’s mission by funding education programs, seasonal festivals, art exhibitions and special events. A variety of programs provide opportunities for innovative marketing, client entertainment and employee engagement.

CORPORATE SUPPORT

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2021

Institutional Support

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Siddy Foote Fund of The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee
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GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

Metro Nashville Arts Commission
National Endowment for the Arts
Tennessee Arts Commission
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Amazon Web Services
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Outdoor Lighting Perspectives of Nashville*
Please Be Seated*
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*Cheekwood 2021 Preferred Partner

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Herb Society of Nashville
Horticulture Society of Middle Tennessee

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2021

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2021

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While Swan Ball leadership made the difficult decision to cancel the Ball for the second year in a row due to the ongoing pandemic, 2021 Swan Ball Chairs, Mary Catherine McClellan and Janette Smith, and the Auction Committee led by Tracy Frazier, Shea Ghertner and Betsy Wills, delivered an innovative virtual auction. Ultimately, the 2021 Swan Ball raised **\$1,185,000** for the institution.

2021

Fall *for* Cheekwood Donors

On October 10, Cheekwood brought back its popular family fundraising event, Fall For Cheekwood. Co-Chairs Elizabeth Frist and Caylan Jarman led the effort, raising a record **\$112,600** net revenue benefiting Cheekwood’s free school initiatives.

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2021

The 1929 Club

The 1929 Club provides essential funding for historic initiatives, furniture acquisitions, and endowment of Cheekwood’s Historic Mansion & Museum, to ensure its long-term care and maintenance. 1929 Club donors are invited to participate in lectures and receptions, a book club, annual dinner and annual trip.

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