

# **2022 ANNUAL REPORT**



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### **MISSION**

We are here to provide quality parks, recreation and cultural arts that make Kettering home.

### VISION

We envision an exceptional and engaging parks, recreation and cultural arts department that improves the quality of life for everyone in our community.

# **DIRECTOR'S LETTER**



Dear Kettering Friends:

Our team worked hard in 2022 to provide the community with a wide range of programs and events, and we were thrilled to see so much enthusiasm and participation from our residents. We were also thrilled to welcome back many of our favorite programs and events for the first time since 2019! It is my pleasure to share with you the milestones and highlights of

Kettering's Department of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts (PRCA) for 2022.

Our Aquatics facilities continue to be popular, with nearly 55,000 people visiting and over 1,300 enrolling in swim classes in 2022. At Rosewood Arts Center, we offered over 270 classes in 2022, and over 6,500 children attended art classes. We were happy to have some favorite in-person events return, including Art on the Playground, Kettering Children's Theatre, Art on the Commons and A Rosewood Holiday Arts Festival.

The CIL Senior Center underwent interior renovations and improvements to the transportation program, thanks to a generous \$1M gift from the Doug Lathrem family. Approximately 2,900 transportation rides were provided to Kettering seniors. We also launched the pickleball

courts project in 2022, with a grand opening celebration scheduled for June 25, 2023.

Our Environmental Education program continues to thrive, with over 2,500 students from Kettering City Schools participating in the Land Lab Program this year. Fraze Pavilion had its first full season since 2019, entertaining 97,000 guests with 31 ticketed events and eight free events.

Our Fitness and Wellness facilities also underwent some exciting updates in 2022. The Kettering Recreation Complex (KRC) fitness room received \$100,000 worth of new strength equipment. The KRC and the Kettering Fitness & Wellness Center (KFWC) welcomed over 115,000 visitors to the facilities, and over 1,000 people joined classes over Zoom. A new Pro Shop opened at the Kettering Ice Arena and offers figure skating supplies, hockey equipment and skating accessories. More than 1,000 people enrolled in ice skating classes in 2022, with nearly 13,000 visiting for open skate and rentals.

The CitySites public art program commissioned a new mural at Rosewood Arts Center. Artist Atalie Gagnet designed the project, titled 'Blooming through the Waves.' This project was made possible by the Dayton Printmakers Cooperative (DPC) and students and residents of Kettering. At Rosewood Gallery, over 2,550 patrons viewed the work in the gallery in 2022. In the Recreation Division, over 4,400 people enrolled in rec programs, and over 1,740 kids attended summer camps at the KRC.

We are also proud of our commitment to accessibility, inclusion, and opportunity, with programs such as the annual Giving Tree program, which served 580 children in 2022; the Free Friday program at KRC and KFWC and free drop-in studio use at Rosewood Arts Center. In partnership with Kettering City Schools, PRCA sponsored three free Community Hot Dog Roasts, and a total of 2,500 community members attended.

In 2022, we kicked off the Partners for Healthy Youth 'We Are Kettering' project in partnership with Kettering City Schools. The 'We Are Kettering' project goal is to encourage selected organizations to adopt the existing Kettering Schools language "We are Respectful", "We are Responsible", "We are Safe" to create a holistic community support system to strengthen the protective factors for kids and increase their resilience to face life and behavioral challenges. We and our community partners worked tirelessly over the past year to help provide these critical emotional supports to Kettering's youth. The first of its kind, this award-winning program has received national attention as it continues to grow.

Ourhard work and dedication to providing quality programming and facilities have not gone unnoticed. We received several awards in 2022, including Ohio Parks & Recreation Association awards for the My Park anti-vandalism campaign and first place for the Partners for Healthy Youth 'We Are Kettering' project. The Parks Division also received the Arbor Day Foundation Growth Award for the second consecutive year. In addition, we launched special marketing campaigns to highlight the people who help make PRCA great. Campaigns included our National Park & Recreation Month staff and board member features, fitness patron spotlights, and the 2022 Community Survey.

We are committed to providing the best possible programs and services to our community and look forward to serving you in the coming years.

Sincerely,

May Beth O'Dell



### **YEAR IN REVIEW**

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts brought our community together in 2022 for fun and enrichment in our many public spaces and facilities. We were proud to organize and host hundreds of programs and events while delivering the highest quality services to community members. Here are some of the highlights!























# AQUATICS

Our robust Aquatics program offers water safety classes, water fitness and much more at the Kettering Recreation Complex's 25-meter indoor pool.

In 2022, nearly **55,000** people visited our aquatics facilities, along with an additional **12,000** rental attendees for water-based fun and learning for all ages and swimming levels.

This year over 1,300 people enrolled in swim classes

# **ARTS EDUCATION**

Arts education is the core of Rosewood Arts Center, with over **270** class offerings in ceramics, dance, theatre, music, the humanities, photography, painting, printmaking, drawing, jewelry, glass and more.

In 2022, several beloved in-person events returned to the schedule, including Art on the Playground, Kettering Children's Theater, Art on the Commons and A Rosewood Holiday Arts Festival.









# **PUBLIC ART**

Public art is a part of the CitySites percent for art program, aiming to recognize artistic excellence, accessibility to the arts for all people, and the positive impact creativity has on our community and quality of life in the City of Kettering.

As part of Rosewood Arts Center's renovation project, a community mural was commissioned for the exterior of the building through the city's CitySites public art program. Designed by Atalie Gagnet, the mural was made possible through a special partnership with the Dayton Printmakers Cooperative (DPC), students in the Kettering City Schools, and Kettering residents. Three Fairmont High School students apprenticed to paint the mural.



# **ROSEWOOD GALLERY**

Kettering's professional exhibition space, Rosewood Gallery, featured regional and national artists in a wide range of media. Rosewood Gallery's new space opened in 2022 as part of the Rosewood renovation. Over **2,500** patrons viewed the work of 102 exhibiting artists in 2022



### FRAZE

2022 was the first full season for Fraze Pavilion since 2019! Fraze hosted **31** ticketed events, as well as **8** free events. Artists performing at Fraze for the first time included: Gabriel Iglesias, Fitz and the Tantrums, Shaggy, Justin Moore and For King and Country. Thank you to our Fraze sponsors Kettering Health, AltaFiber, Heidelberg Distributing, ETix and Goodwill Easter Seals Miami Valley!



### The Fraze entertained over 97,000 guests



### **ICE ARENA**

The Kettering Ice Arena is home to the nationally recognized Learn to Skate USA Program with offerings for any age, skill level and ability.

In 2022, the Ice Arena opened a brand-new Pro Shop, which sells figure skating supplies, hockey equipment and skating accessories.

Over **1,000** people enrolled in classes in 2022

Over **13,000** people visited for open skate and rentals



# PARKS

Kettering is famous for its green space, and the Parks division maintained 21 parks and other public spaces. The much-anticipated Pickleball courts project kicked off in 2022 with completion scheduled for 2023.

In 2022, Kettering celebrated its **40**<sup>th</sup> Tree City USA award and also received a **\$15,000** Urban Canopy Restoration Grant from the Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources. The grant helped to fund the addition of over **125** trees to Kettering's parks and medians.

The Parks team completed

for 3,457 trees in Kettering parks, medians and properties. This includes trees being pruned, mulched, removed, planted, staked or treated.



Over **1,000** people attended the first EcoFest to learn about conservation from 35 area organizations.

# ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

The environmental education program includes the Land Lab Nature Program with the Kettering City Schools and classes and workshops at the Habitat Environmental Education Center. This year, over **2,500** students from the Kettering City Schools participated in the Land Lab Program.





# RECREATION

The Recreation team offered programs for adults, youth and families, with over 4,400 participants enrolled in programs. In addition, several special events offered throughout the year were wildly popular, including the Adult Egg Hunt, Touch a Truck, and more!

Over **1,740** kids attended camps at the Recreation Complex this summer









### CHARLES I. LATHREM SENIOR CENTER

The CIL Center offered services, programs and events for Kettering's seniors. In 2022, the CIL underwent interior renovations and improvements to the transportation program thanks to a generous \$1M gift from Doug Lathrem, son of Charles Lathrem. Renovations to the outdoor spaces will begin in 2023.





Over **2,900** transportation rides were provided to Kettering seniors





### **2022 Total Recreation Visits:**

**54,960** Aquatics

**15,392** CIL members

22,132 Combination Passes

**11,361** Group Exercise

















### FITNESS AND WELLNESS

The Kettering Recreation Complex (KRC) and Kettering Fitness and Wellness Center (KFWC) had over **115,000** visits to their facilities this year. The fitness team has continued to offer virtual programming post-pandemic with over **1,000** people joining us for ZOOM group exercise in 2022.







**SPORTS** 

It was a busy year for sports with leagues active year round. Hundreds of youth participated in Kettering Youth Basketball during the winter. Many residents also enjoyed getting outside and staying active with programs like the Senior Golf League at Community Golf Course.





Over **2**,**500** participants played sports in Kettering in 2022





# **SPECIAL EVENTS**

Special Events are a key component of the work of PRCA. Between the CIL, the Kettering Recreation Complex, Rosewood Arts Center and the Habitat, we offer dozens of opportunities to participate in free and fun programs every year. Noteworthy events include the Adult Egg Hunt, TreeFest, Touch a Truck, Go 4<sup>th</sup>, Flashlight Candy Cane Hunt, Youth Fishing Derby and more!

2022 marked the post-COVID return of several programs, which were held fully inperson for the first time since 2019. Programs that returned in 2022 included Art on the Playground, Kettering Children's Theatre and Art on the Commons.

The Habitat Environment Center marked two major special event milestones in 2022. TreeFest celebrated its **15**<sup>th</sup> year, and the annual Youth Fishing Derby turned **40**.

Active Aging Week returned to the Charles Lathrem Senior Center in 2022. This week-long celebration sponsored by Kettering Health showcased the diverse array of programming that Kettering has to offer for adults and seniors.









-The most participants ever!





### OUTREACH

In 2022, our Marketing and Communications team grew to three staff members - a full-time marketing and communications supervisor, a part-time communications coordinator and a part-time data analyst. Our 2022 marketing efforts reached more people than ever and drew recognition to the amazing things happening in our diverse program and facility areas every day.

Special marketing campaigns included our National Park & Recreation Month staff and board member highlights, our fitness patron spotlights and our 2022 Community Survey. Our social media platforms grew to almost **17,000** followers in 2022

In our 2022 Community Survey,

98% of respondents rated PRCA as 'good' or 'excellent'



### **AWARDS**

The PRCA team celebrated several recognitions in 2022, including Ohio Parks & Recreation Association awards for the My Park anti-vandalism campaign and first place for the Partners for Healthy Youth 'We Are Kettering' Project.

The City of Kettering was designated a Tree City USA community for the **40**<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. The Parks division, through the City of Kettering, received the Growth award for the second consecutive year.

### ACCESSIBILITY, INCLUSION AND OPPORTUNITY Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts and the City of Kettering are committed to accessibility,

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts and the City of Kettering are committed to accessibility, inclusion and finding opportunity to reach our Kettering residents. PRCA works closely with the City of Kettering's Compliance and Inclusion Manager to educate the staff on working with all individuals, including offering program modifications as requested by patrons with disabilities. Over the next several years, our goals include reaching new participants who may not be aware of our inclusivity mission, and advocate for accessibility within our programs and facilities.

#### In 2022, PRCA offered the following:

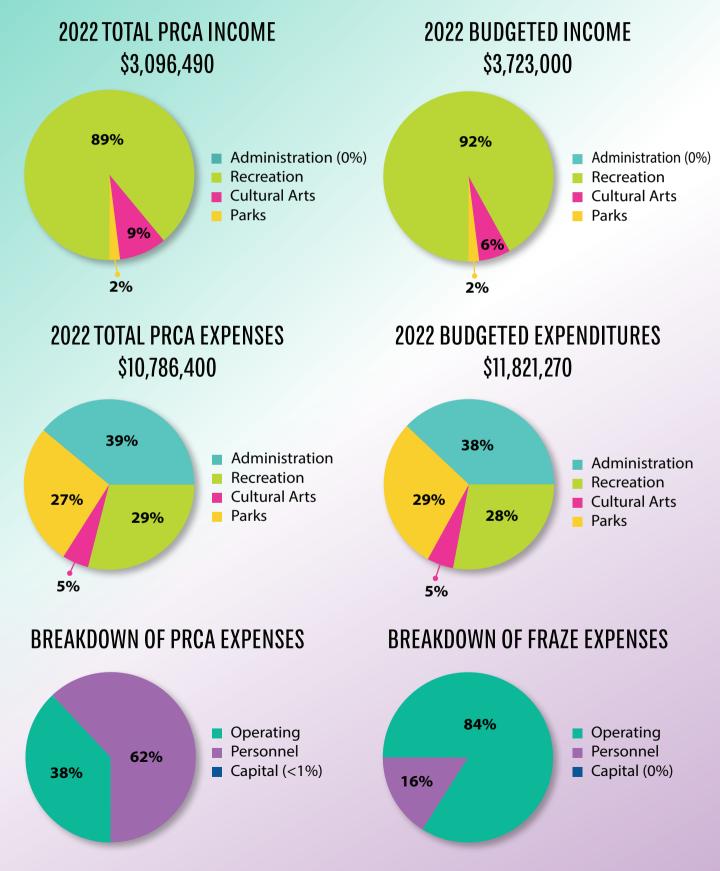
- Thanks to the generosity of our community, the annual Giving Tree program served 580 children in 2022. 7.3% of the district was served by this program. Kathleen Tindle served as Volunteer Chair, logging 40 hours. Other volunteers logged 45 hours of volunteer time. The PRCA Chair logged 55 hours, additional PRCA staff logged 30 hours.
- Rosewood Arts Center is host to the United Rehabilitation Services of Greater Dayton Academy Vocational Training Program, a transitional job training program for individuals of all ages and abilities.
- The CIL transportation program continues to provide senior transportation to medical appointments, shopping, hair appointments, banks and pharmacies. In total for 2022, we provided **2,891** rides to area seniors. We also added 2 new vans to our transportation fleet.
- The PRCA team and volunteers continued to work with AARP to provide free tax services to seniors, hosting **953** appointments.

- Several dozen participants learned basic water skills during the free World's Largest Swim Lesson
- The Kettering Recreation Complex and Kettering Fitness and Wellness Center hosted classes and activities through the Free Friday program each month, and Rosewood Arts Center offers free drop-ins for special studio use.
- Our Sports team hosted One Day, Free Play events to introduce kids to Ice Skating, Archery, Volleyball and Soccer
- Rosewood's free Art on the Playground festival returned in 2022.
- Instructors and staff continue to work closely with participants with modifications, including in dance, camps, and other recreational activities
- In partnership with Kettering City Schools, PRCA sponsored **3** free Community Hot Dog Roasts. A total of **2,500** community members attended.



# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

PRCA revenues continued to increase in 2022, as program enrollments, fitness memberships, rentals and more returned to pre-pandemic levels. The department's capital improvement projects (CIP) included the Rosewood Art Center renovation with support from the Cultural Facilities Fund administered by the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission and the pickleball courts project with support from the Kettering Parks Foundation.





### SUPPORT January 1 – December 31, 2022

PRCA is thankful to the many individuals, foundations, corporations and community partners that make programs possible.

#### FOUNDATIONS

Community Fund for Kettering The Dayton Foundation Joan W. McCoy Art Memorial Fund John and Betty Jo Meyer Foundation Kettering Parks Foundation Thomas Schiff Foundation

#### **STATE AGENCIES**

The Ohio Arts Council The Ohio Facilities Construction Commission Ohio Department of Natural Resources

#### **PROGRAM SPONSORSHIP AND PARTNERS**

altafiber Addison Home Health Oak Creek Terrace Alzheimer's Association **Poelking-Woodman Lanes Brookdale of Kettering ProMedica** Capital Health: The Oaks of West Kettering Skyline Chili Kettering **City Barbeque** Springfield Masonic Community **Comfort Keepers** State Farm: Linda Nervis Figlio The Medicare Connection Frisch's Big Boy The Rosko Group (Keller Williams) Humana

Unhinged Balloon Company **Kettering Health** Vibrant Home Health **Kettering Sports Medicine Vienna Springs** Legacy Village Village at the Greene Montgomery Co. Treasurer's Office **Montgomery County Public Health** Area Agency on Aging Family Hearing Center **Humane Society** SICSA 91.3 WYSO **Dayton Daily News Dayton Metro Library Dayton Printmakers Cooperative Eudora Brewing Company FotoFocus** 

**Kettering City Schools** Meadowlark Restaurant **Miami Valley Communications** Council Montgomery County Arts and **Culture District Ohio Arts Council Robert K. Jones Insurance** The Modern College of Design **Thomas Schiff Foundation** United Rehabilitation Services Waker Plumbing, Inc. Visual AIDS National Recreation & Park Association Tree Care, Inc. Partners for Healthy Youth **MyUSA Credit Union** 

## **ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts is committed to providing high quality experiences to our residents. Several advisory committees comprised of dozens of volunteers work closely with PRCA staff on programs, special projects and much more!

#### ART IN PUBLIC PLACES

Angela Burdon, Susan Byrnes, Connie Campbell, Stefan Chinov, Tess Cortés (Chair), Meghan Fay (Dillon), Jyl Hall (City Council Representative), Matt Dunn, Pete Horan, Michael Roediger, Terry Welker

PRCA Staff: Shayna V. McConville

#### **KETTERING ARTS COUNCIL**

Laura Arber (President), Susan Bennett, Christian Davell, Meghan Fay (Dillon), Elom Dossa, Sandra Doninger, Gine Elliott, Pat Higgins, Tracy McElfresh, Thom Meyer, Pene Miller (Secretary/ Treasurer), Gloria Pugh, John Schmitz, Meghan Thomas (Vice President), Shane Weber PRCA Staff: Shayna V. McConville

#### LATHREM SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD

Karen Schmitt (Chair), Edna Vanderkarr (Vice Chair), Gail Carone (Secretary), John Schmitt, Lisa Fields

PRCA Staff: Jennifer Giessler, Drew Corbett, Vickie Carraher

#### PARKS BOARD

Laura Arber, Jamie Jarosik, Carrie Kihn, Rob Leonard, Shane Sullivan

#### PARTNERS FOR HEALTHY YOUTH

Kari Basson (chair), Jodee Ball, Shannon Wright, Melinda Moore, Jyl Hall (City Council Representative), Jennifer Kane (Board of Education Representative), Stephanie Noel, Marie Seiler, Missy Mae Walters, Mary Beth O'Dell (PFHY Board Liaison).

School and City Staff: Dan Von Handorf, Drew Corbett, Shauna Lewallen, Lindsey Whitley, Angela Rahman, Alison Pifer, Dr. Carrie Hennessy, Jonelle Carroll.

#### **PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Sally Brown, Elsie Bundschuh, Elom Dossa, Carolyn Farrell, Carmella Ford, Katherine Higgins, Brendan Higgins, Deborah Mahon, Andrea Martin, Nicoletta Serenata, Jeff Von De Linde, Ryan Wenning

#### **TREE COMMITTEE**

Molly Merrill, Brent GroInic, Sara Mayne, Sean Kovacs, Shane Sullivan, Rob Leonard PRCA Staff: Gary Schussler





### **OUR TEAM** 2022 PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS LEADERSHIP

Mary Beth O'Dell Director of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts

Lindsey Whitley Secretary

**Christopher George** Administration and Special Projects Superintendent

Shauna Lewallen Recreation Superintendent **Shayna V. McConville** Division Manager of Cultural Arts

Gary Schussler Parks Superintendent

Ken Paxson Marketing & Communications Supervisor

**Rachel Sherwood** Fraze Pavilion Operations Manager

### **2022 PROGRAM AND FACILITY LEAD STAFF**

**Shenna Manoussakis** Program & Youth Development Supervisor

Andy Dailey Cultural Arts Program Supervisor

Barry Sanders Parks Manager

Beth Brubaker Polen Farm Coordinator

Breck Jordan Fraze Pavilion Supervisor

Candice Roberts Aquatics Supervisor

Scott Sehmann KRC/CIL Facility Manager

Drew Corbett Recreation Manager

Jennifer Giessler KRC/CIL Senior & Adult Program Supervisor Jennifer Holman Rosewood Facilities Coordinator

**Lindsey Curry** Fitness and Wellness Supervisor

Kerri Miles Environmental Education Supervisor

Matt Byrd Parks Manager

**Tony Habart** Ice Arena Manager

**Reed Gibson** Sports Supervisor

Heather Boyer Fitness Coordinator

**Tory Hatton** Ice Arena Facility Coordinator



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Fraze Pavilion 695 Lincoln Park Blvd Kettering, OH 45429 (937) 296-3300

Habitat Environmental Education Center 3036 Bellflower Street

Kettering, OH 45429 (937) 296-2477

Kettering Fitness & Wellness Center 3351 Shroyer Road Kettering, OH 45429 (937) 293-4348

Kettering Recreation Complex 2900 Glengarry Drive Kettering, OH 45420 (937) 296-2587

Rosewood Arts Center 2655 Olson Drive Kettering, OH 45420 (937) 296-0294

Parks Maintenance

3170 Valleywood Drive Kettering, OH 45429 (937) 296-2486

@playkettering

in City of Kettering Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts

