

2024 ANNUAL REPORT PRCA



CITY OF KETTERING
PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS DEPARTMENT



CITY OF KETTERING

KETTERING MAYOR & COUNCIL

Peggy Lehner, Mayor

Peggy.Lehner@ketteringoh.org 937.477.7640

Jacque Fisher, Vice Mayor, At Large

Jacque.Fisher@ketteringoh.org 937. 232.1637

Jyl Hall, At Large

Jyl.Hall@ketteringoh.org 937. 604.5341

Lisa Duvall, District 1

Lisa.Duvall@ketteringoh.org 937. 838.7425

Bob Scott, District 2

Bob.Scott@ketteringoh.org 937. 478.9910

Shane Sullivan, District 3

Shane.Sullivan@ketteringoh.org 937. 903.3215

Bryan Suddith, District 4

Bryan.Suddith@ketteringoh.org 937. 830.0516

Matt Greeson, City Manager

Matt.Greeson@ketteringoh.org 937. 296.2412

Steven Bergstresser, Assistant City Manager

Steven.Bergstresser@ketteringoh.org . 937. 296.2412

Bryan Chodkowski, Assistant City Manager

Bryan.Chodkowski@ketteringoh.org . 937. 296.2412

Council Office Phone Number: 937.296.2416

Council Email: KetteringMayorCouncil@ketteringoh.org

Kettering Home Page: www.ketteringoh.org



CITY OF KETTERING PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS



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.

YEAR IN REVIEW

In 2024, the City of Kettering Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department celebrated a transformative year marked by record participation, facility completions and exceptional community programming. This review highlights the key achievements and developments that shaped our year, demonstrating our continued commitment to providing quality experiences that make Kettering home.







OVER
68,000

visits to our aquatics facilities.

AQUATICS

The Kettering Recreation Complex's aquatics facility continues to serve as a community hub for swimming instruction, fitness programs and recreational activities.

Over **1,200 people** enrolled in swim classes and more than **1,700 residents** purchased annual passes for regular access.



ARTS EDUCATION

Rosewood Arts Center's renovation reached full completion in 2024, showcasing upgraded studios and enhanced accessibility features. The center flourished with comprehensive programming throughout the year, welcoming participants to state-of-the-art facilities designed for creative exploration.



More than **9,000 participants** engaged in arts education programs at Rosewood, which offered over **300 class offerings** in ceramics, dance, theatre, music, the humanities, photography, painting, printmaking, drawing, jewelry, glass and more. Over **50 artists and creative professionals** led these diverse offerings.

WITH MORE THAN
5,500

visits, Drop-in studio usage became one of the most popular components of Rosewood.

PUBLIC ART

The City of Kettering's public art initiative underwent a significant rebranding in 2024, transitioning from CitySites to Art in Public Places. This transformation included refining the program's nearly 25-year-old mission, vision and goals to better align with the City of Kettering's updated Strategic Plan.

Notable achievements included commissioning artist Sujin Lim to create a unique permanent installation that was installed in April of 2025 at the entrance of Rosewood Arts Center.



The program also showcased its commitment to preserving existing public art through professional maintenance of the limestone sculptures from the 2002 Kettering Rocks! Stone Symposium – the first cleaning in over 20 years that restored the sculptures to their original appearance.



KETTERING HEALTH GALLERY AT ROSEWOOD ARTS CENTER

Kettering's professional exhibition space presented an impressive array of programming throughout 2024, featuring works from regional and national artists across diverse media. The gallery hosted **eight solo exhibitions** and **three juried exhibitions**, showcasing **153 artists** from Ohio, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Indiana, Texas, Michigan and Kentucky.



OVER
3,000

people attended exhibitions, programs and workshops in-person.

FRAZE

Fraze Pavilion hosted **30 events** and sold more than **51,000 tickets**. The season featured **7 first time artists**, including Joey Fatone, Ludacris, Wilson Phillips, Debbie Gibson, Crowder, Brantley Gilbert and Dylan Scott. PepperFest added to the list of free community events.

OVER
72,000

guests entertained by The Frazee in 2024.

OVER
17,000

people attended seven free community events in 2024, highlighted by WingFest, Bacon Fest, Pepper Fest and Breakfast with the Beatles.

frazee
pavilion



OVER
9,900

people visited for open skate and rentals.

ICE ARENA

The Kettering Ice Arena continued to serve as home to the nationally recognized Learn to Skate USA Program, offering instruction for participants of all ages, skill levels and abilities. More than **850 people** participated in Ice Arena programs throughout 2024.

The Ice Arena Pro Shop maintained strong sales throughout its operation, offering figure skating supplies, hockey equipment and skating accessories to support the local skating community.



PARKS

The Parks Division's excellence was recognized statewide in 2024, earning an **OPRA Excellence Award** in the capital improvement category for Gentile Nature Park. The long-awaited 19-acre naturalized neighborhood park includes playground areas, a walking path, two ziplines and more.

The division continued its commitment to urban forestry, earning the **42nd consecutive Tree City USA award** and a **third Growth Award** in the past four years.

Staff accomplishments included professional certifications, with Tabitha Baer earning her CPRP certification and ISA Certified Arborist credentials, while both Tabitha Baer and Tim Pifer achieved ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualification.



1,342

hours of training was completed by Parks Division staff in 2024.

7,675

labor hours to complete all the mowing throughout Kettering parks, medians and properties in 2024.

8,123

hours of tree related work.



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

The environmental education program continued to make a significant impact through the Land Lab Nature Program with Kettering City Schools and comprehensive programming at the Habitat Environmental Education Center. Over **2,500 students** participated in hands-on Land Lab experiences, while **650 total enrollments** were recorded across all Habitat programs.

**OVER
2,000**

people attended the third annual EcoFest, which expanded to 62 vendors and added a dedicated Kids Zone in 2024.



The program's excellence was recognized at the state level, earning a **first place OPRA Excellence Award** for EcoFest in 2024.



RECREATION

The Recreation team delivered comprehensive programming for adults, youth and families, achieving nearly **15,000 total program enrollments** across diverse offerings. Over **350,000 patrons** visited the wide-ranging recreation facilities, including the Kettering Recreation Complex, Adventure Reef Water Park, Kettering Ice Arena, Kettering Fitness & Wellness Center and Charles I. Lathrem Senior Center.

The annual **Giving Tree** program continued to demonstrate community generosity, serving **510 children** with assistance from **13 volunteers** who logged over **85 hours** making the program a success.

Free and reduced programming remained a priority, highlighted by **Go 4th!** at Delco Park and the **Mayor's Tree Lighting + Santa Paws** at Lincoln Park. Monthly **Free Friday** fitness classes continued at the KRC, inviting the community to participate at no cost.

CHARLES I. LATHREM SENIOR CENTER

The Charles I. Lathrem Senior Center continued to serve as a vital hub for Kettering's seniors, offering essential services, programs and social opportunities.

In 2024, the center welcomed more than **24,000 visitors** and sold **1,504 passes** to community members seeking regular access to senior programming and amenities. More than **4,600 people** enrolled in adult and senior programs at the Senior Center.

OVER
4,200

transportation rides were provided to Kettering seniors covering **34,000 miles**.



2024 TOTAL RECREATION VISITS:

68,242
AQUATICS

158,565
FITNESS

24,442
CIL MEMBERS

5,001
GYMNASIUM

54,528
COMBINATION
PASSES

9,926
ICE ARENA

20,827
GROUP EXERCISE

11,179
TRACK



FITNESS AND WELLNESS

The Kettering Recreation Complex (KRC) and Kettering Fitness and Wellness Center (KFWC) had nearly **180,000 visits** to their facilities throughout 2024. The fitness team continued to offer popular virtual programming, with **1,218 people** joining group exercise classes via ZOOM. Personal training services remained highly sought after, with the program averaging over **70 clients** per week. The department also launched an exciting fitness partnership with Kettering College, which created **125 new pass holders** and expanded access to wellness programming.

488

patrons were recognized for utilizing the fitness facilities more than 125 times.



SPORTS

The sports programming continued to evolve and expand, offering enhanced opportunities for youth and adults throughout Kettering.

This year, Kettering Youth Basketball (KYB) saw a **10% growth** with **612 kids** enrolled, supported by **88 dedicated coaches** who contributed **1,250 volunteer hours** to make the program successful. Youth soccer programming at Delco Park achieved record enrollments across all age groups, with **590 participants** enjoying improved facilities and expanded opportunities.

12,700

drop-in gym visits across all age groups.

**OVER
2,700**

participants engaged in sports programming.



Three first-time programs launched successfully: a **Pickleball Tournament** at the J.F. Kennedy Park courts drew **46 teams**, while both the **Dodgeball Tournament** at the KRC and the **Kickball League** at Delco Park reached **maximum capacity** with **8 teams** each.

Additional programming continued to show strong enrollment numbers. Youth volleyball reached maximum capacity in both spring and fall seasons with **100 participants** each, while adult volleyball attracted **33 participants** in spring and **26** in fall. Adult basketball also achieved **full enrollment** with **32 participants** in both spring and fall sessions.



SPECIAL EVENTS

We delivered an outstanding array of special events throughout 2024, bringing the community together for memorable experiences across all seasons. These events showcased our commitment to providing free and accessible programming that celebrates our diverse community.

Go 4th! at Delco Park featured an expanded celebration with double the food trucks, bounce houses and entertainment, culminating in spectacular fireworks and the first drone show in the Miami Valley. The event drew an estimated **60,000 people**.

Holiday programming remained popular with families, including **Easter Egg Hunts (540 participants)**, **Santapalooza (105 participants)** and the **Mayor's Tree Lighting + Santa Paws** at Lincoln Park Civic Commons. The **Little Sweetheart Dance** welcomed **104 participants**, while **Kids Day** at the Park entertained **900 attendees** with activities and entertainment. The **Holiday Arts & Crafts Fair** at KRC welcomed **110 vendors** and over **2,000 shoppers**.

Other notable events included the **Kettering Community Garage Sale** with **1,500 participants** and **Touch a Truck** featuring **25 vehicles, 30 vendors and 2,000 participants**. **Active Aging Week** featured **17 programs** with **340 participants**, while our pet-focused events **Wag-O-Ween (175 dogs)** and **Canine Cannonball (136 dogs)** also were well attended. Highlights from our arts programming include two signature events: **Art on the Commons** and **Art on the Playground**.





OUTREACH

Social media and Google Ad marketing campaigns targeting programs, events, recruiting and fitness helped grow participation numbers and raise awareness. **The biggest impact was seen in fitness, where pass sales jumped past pre-Covid levels to set record highs by the end of 2024.**

The Communications and Engagement Team supported a variety of PRCA events, including the **Community Block Party, Go 4th!**, three **Community Hot Dog Roasts, National Night Out**, the grand opening of **Gentile Nature Park** and **Mayor's Tree Lighting**.

GREW BY
11%

In 2024, Facebook followers grew by 11% to nearly 18,000.

GREW BY
60%

In 2024, Instagram followers grew by 60% to over 2,400.



AWARDS

PRCA earned exceptional recognition in 2024, receiving multiple Ohio Parks and Recreation Association (OPRA) Awards of Excellence. **EcoFest** captured first place in the Environmental & Interpretive Programs category, while **TreeFest** and **Tree Love** earned second place in the same category. **Gentile Nature Park** was honored with second place in the Capital Improvement category.

Additionally, Kettering earned its 42nd consecutive TreeCity USA Award and a third Growth Award in the last four years.



ACCESSIBILITY, INCLUSION AND OPPORTUNITY

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts and the City of Kettering remain committed to accessibility, inclusion and creating opportunities to reach all Kettering residents. PRCA works closely with the City of Kettering's Compliance and Inclusion Manager to educate 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 2024, PRCA offered the following:

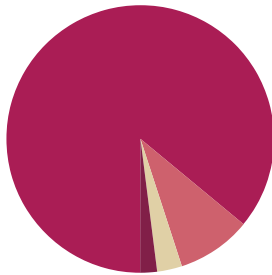
- The annual Giving Tree program served **510 children** in 2024, thanks to the generosity of our community. **13 volunteers** logged over **85 hours** while assisting with the program.
- PRCA staff and volunteers continued partnering with AARP to provide free tax preparation services to seniors, completing **957 returns** and logging **2,377 volunteer hours**.
- The CIL transportation program provided **4,202 rides** to seniors for medical appointments, shopping, and other essential destinations, covering **34,000 miles**.
- The Kettering Recreation Complex and Kettering Fitness and Wellness Center continued hosting Free Friday fitness classes monthly, and Rosewood Arts Center offered free drop-in studio access for specialized creative work.
- Environmental education programs welcomed participants of all abilities, with over **2,500 Kettering School District students** participating in inclusive Land Lab programs.
- Rosewood Arts Center continued hosting the United Rehabilitation Services of Greater Dayton Academy Vocational Training Program, a transitional job training program for individuals of all ages and abilities.
- Instructors and staff continued working closely with participants requiring modifications across dance, camps and other recreational activities.
- Several community members learned basic water skills during the free World's Largest Swim Lesson event.
- Rosewood's free Art on the Playground festival provided inclusive arts experiences for families.



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

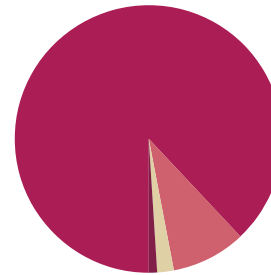
PRCA revenues continued to increase in 2024, as program enrollments, fitness memberships, rentals and more returned to pre-pandemic levels. The department's capital improvement projects (CIP) included the Rosewood Arts Center renovation with support from the Cultural Facilities Fund administered by the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission and the pickleball courts project with support from the Kettering Parks Foundation.

2024 Total PRCA Income \$3,791,548



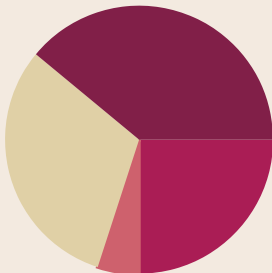
- Administration 0.3%
- Recreation 88.6%
- Cultural Arts 10.2%
- Parks 0.9%

2024 Budgeted Income \$3,659,000



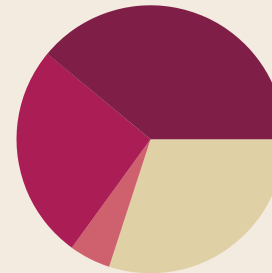
- Administration 0.4%
- Recreation 88.7%
- Cultural Arts 10.2%
- Parks 0.7%

2024 Total PRCA Expenses \$12,274,853



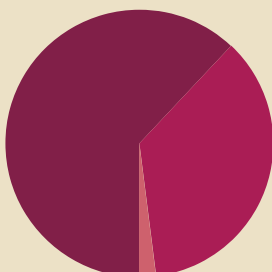
- Administration 37.9%
- Recreation 27.0%
- Cultural Arts 5.3%
- Parks 29.8%

2024 Budgeted Expenditures \$12,990,371



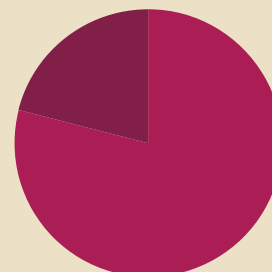
- Administration 37.8%
- Recreation 28.1%
- Cultural Arts 5.4%
- Parks 28.7%

Breakdown of PRCA Expenses



- Operating 36.4%
- Personnel 62.0%
- Capital 1.6%

Breakdown of Fraze Expenses



- Operating 78.6%
- Personnel 21.4%
- Capital 0%



SUPPORT

January 1 – December 31, 2024

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

FOUNDATIONS

Community Fund for Kettering
The Dayton Foundation
Kettering Parks Foundation

Joan W. McCoy Art Memorial Fund
John and Betty Jo Meyer Foundation
Thomas Schiff Foundation

STATE AGENCIES

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

PROGRAM SPONSORSHIP AND PARTNERS

10 Wilmington Place
91.3 WYSO
Altafiber
Anheuser Busch
Bagger Dave's
Bartlett Tree Experts
Bath Masters
Brookdale Kettering
Care Patrol
Carecore at Mary Scott
Central Perc European Café
Chick Fil A Kettering
Cigna Healthcare
City BBQ
Coco's Bistro
Condado
Day Air Credit Union
Dayton Art Solutions
Dayton Daily News
Dayton Metro Libraries
Etix
Eudora Brewing Company
Figlio Wood Fired Pizza
Fifth Third
FotoFocus
Frisch's Big Boy
Hand & Stone Massage & Facial Spa
Heritage Architectural Associates
Hollywood Gaming
Humana

Interlude Skin & Nails
Jane Dunwoodie
Jersey Mike's Subs
Kettering City Schools
Kettering Health Network Years Ahead
Kona Ice
Laurels of Kettering
Legacy Health
Local Cantina
Marco's Pizza
Maudlin Senior Care Solutions
Miami Valley Communications Council
Montgomery County Arts and Culture District
Montgomery County Treasurer's Office
MyUSA
National Recreation & Park Association
Noodles & Co.
Oak Creek Terrace
Oak Street Health
Oasis Senior Advisors
Ohio Arts Council
One Lincoln Park
Paramount Elite Medicare plans
Partners for Healthy Youth

Pasha Grill
Poelking Bowling Centers
Potbelly Sandwich Shop
Regal Movie Theatre
Renolds & Reynolds
Robert K. Jones Insurance
Sanctuary Hospice
Sky Asian Cuisine
Skyline Chili Kettering
Spavia
Submarine House
Tapestry
The Dayton Foundation
The Flower Shoppe
The John W. McCoy Memorial Fund
The Kettering Parks Foundation
The Medicare Connection
The Modern College of Design
The Rootbeer Stand
The Rosko Group
The Wright Cut Hair Studio
Thomas Schiff Foundation
Tree Care Inc.
Troll Pub
Tudor Day Spa
Unhinged Balloons
United Rehabilitation Services
Up & Running
Vienna Springs

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

Darden Bradshaw, Stefan Chinov, Andrea Cummings, Joni Doherty, Jamaal Durr, Meghan Fay, Linda Lombard, Joanne Mejias, Michael Roediger and John Sliemers.

PRCA Staff: Shayna V. McConville

KETTERING ARTS COUNCIL

Laura Arber, Lisa Becker, Susan Bennett, Elom Dossa (Vice President), Tonya Everhart, Meghan Fay, Pat Higgins, Anna Long (Secretary/Treasurer). Tracy McElfresh (President), Courtney Medlin, Thom Meyer, Pene Miller, John Schmitz, Meghan Thomas, and Shane Weber.

PRCA Staff: Shayna V. McConville

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS ADVISORY BOARD

Laura Arber, Jamie Jarosik, Carrie Kihn, Rob Leonard and Frank Ecklar.

TREE COMMITTEE

Molly Merrill, Allison Bush, Shane Sheldon and Randy Ryberg.

PRCA Staff: Gary Schussler

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), Mike Hansel, and Tyler Trent.

School and City Staff: Dan Von Handorf, Drew Corbett, Shauna Lewallen, Lindsey Whitley, Angela Rahman, Dr. Carrie Hennessy and Ryan Vandegrift

PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Allison Beach, Geena Cammorato, Kevin Canfield, Bob Erhart, Gina Gray, Linda Hadley, Colt Inman, Brandy Johnson, Summer Kovacs, Louis Long, Cassie Loughman, Kimberly Mantia, Lisa McCoy-Ford, Jennifer Schroll, Dylan Smearcheck, Jessica Stafford, Robert Van Leeuwen and Kelly Wenning





OUR TEAM

2024 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

Sauna Lewallen

Recreation Superintendent

Shayna V. McConville

Division Manager of Cultural Arts

Gary Schussler

Parks Superintendent

Rachel Sherwood

Fraze Pavilion Manager

2024 PROGRAM AND FACILITY LEAD STAFF

Andy Dailey

Cultural Arts Program Supervisor

Ant Brown

Parks Manager

Barry Sanders

Parks Manager

Beth Brubaker

Polen Farm Coordinator

Breck Jordan

Fraze Pavilion Supervisor

Calvin Frazier

Fraze Operations Coordinator

Drew Corbett

Recreation Manager

Heather Boyer

Fitness and Wellness Supervisor

Jennifer Giessler

Senior & Adult Program Supervisor

Jennifer Holman

Rosewood Facilities Coordinator

Kerri Miles

Environmental Education Supervisor

Matt Laughlin

Aquatics Supervisor

Michelle Kenney

Fitness Coordinator

Reed Gibson

Sports Supervisor

Shenna Manoussakis

Youth & Family Program Supervisor

Tara Barnhart

Fraze Facility Coordinator

Tony Habart

KRC Facility Manager

Tory Hatton

Ice Arena Facility Coordinator

**Administrative Office**

3600 Shroyer Road
Kettering, OH 45429
(937) 296-2454

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

www.playkettering.org

 @playkettering

 @playkettering

 City of Kettering Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts

