

# **ORGANIZATIONAL STATEMENTS**

### VISION

To demonstrate excellence in multidisciplinary, participatory, and inclusive arts programming for older adults and caregivers.

## **MISSION**

Arts for the Aging engages older adults and caregivers with diverse abilities and backgrounds in health improvement and life enhancement through regular participation in the multidisciplinary arts.

### **BELIEFS**

We believe that all individuals have an inherent need to engage in creative self-expression.

We believe that regular arts engagement has the therapeutic power to improve physical, cognitive, and emotional health.

We believe that participatory arts programming inspires empathy and respect, fosters communication and belonging, and promotes social connection.

We believe that older adults and caregivers should have equitable access to participatory arts programs led by teaching artists with diverse backgrounds and art disciplines.

We believe that teaching artists trained in our creative aging best practices and programming support healthy aging and caregiving.

# **VALUES**

The following values are foundational to our mission, goals, activities, and ways we relate to one another. These principles unite us – program participants, caregivers, teaching artists, board, staff, advisors, volunteers, clients, and partners. Through these values we celebrate the arts' unique potential to connect us with our most authentic selves.

**Community Outreach** deepens our commitment to equity by reaching organizations serving older adults that cannot otherwise access therapeutic arts programming.

**Participatory Engagement** embraces creativity and an improvisational spirit of "yes, and..." Our teaching model validates all levels of interaction and celebrates spontaneous self-expression, regardless of ability.

**Respect** uplifts the dignity of all human beings. We learn, grow from, and incorporate the diverse life experiences, cultures, and complexities of every individual.