



ART CENTER SARASOTA

Impact100 SRQ Final Report - January 2026

Grant Recipient: Art Center Sarasota

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Initiative Overview

Art Center Sarasota (ACS) is grateful for the Impact100 SRQ grant support of the Youth Digital Art Lab & Classroom Upgrade: Building a Digital Arts Program + Expanding Classroom Capabilities initiative. This investment enabled ACS to expand youth and adult programming while upgrading classroom infrastructure to support increased enrollment, access, and long-term sustainability.

As Sarasota's first arts organization, celebrating its 100-year anniversary, ACS continues to evolve in response to community needs. The addition of a digital arts program addresses a critical gap in visual arts education for youth and supports emerging pathways in photography, animation, graphic design, visual effects, and related creative technologies.

All grant funds were fully received and expended in accordance with the approved budget and timeline.

Exhibit D: Initiative Goals and Results Tracking

Goal 1: Enroll Students in Digital Art Programming

Art Center Sarasota was able to expand digital art experiences earlier than expected during the 2025 Summer Camp season due in large part to the engagement of a highly skilled digital arts instructor. The instructor's expertise and ability to work across multiple digital media disciplines allowed ACS to offer a broader range of digital art activities than originally anticipated.

This instructional capacity enabled deeper student engagement, more advanced project-based learning, and increased flexibility in curriculum design. As a result, students were exposed to a



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wider spectrum of digital tools and creative techniques, enhancing both the educational quality and overall impact of the summer art offerings.

The success of this expanded programming underscores the importance of investing in qualified instructional talent as a key component of sustainable and impactful digital arts education.

Results Achieved:

- 110 students participated in digital art classes during Summer 2025, delivered through:
 - 10 week-long art camps with 10-12 students each
- 300+ youth participants engaged in digital art activities through Youth Saturdays/Family Saturdays during the 2024–2026 seasons
 - 25 weeks of programming with approximately 10-15 students per session
 - 2025-2026 launch of Family Saturdays included a multigeneration aspect to the program.

These results met projected enrollment goals and expanded access to digital arts education for Sarasota youth. Camp scholarships ensured participation regardless of financial barriers.

Goal 2: Increase Digital Knowledge and Learning

Results Achieved:

- Strong registration and repeat participation indicated sustained interest
- Positive feedback from parents and participants highlighted:
 - Increased confidence using digital tools
 - Exposure to new creative disciplines
 - High engagement and enthusiasm for continued offerings

Program satisfaction, effectiveness, and long-term interest are being tracked through surveys and informal feedback, with results confirming the program's educational and creative impact.



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Goal 3: Enroll Adults in Digital Classes to Help Sustain the Program

Results Achieved:

Adult participants have taken advantage of the increased opportunities made possible through the upgraded digital and photo lab facilities. Demand has been strong for photo lab instruction particularly through photo critique classes and photo editing classes.

These offerings have allowed adult learners to deepen technical skills, receive constructive feedback, and engage in peer-based learning, while also generating earned revenue that supports the long-term sustainability of the Digital Art Lab. The increased adult participation demonstrates both community interest and the effectiveness of integrating digital education into ACS's broader programming model.

To further increase digital art experiences for adult learners, Art Center Sarasota is adding a Procreate class to its adult education offerings. This new class responds directly to participant interest in digital illustration and tablet-based design and builds upon the success of existing photo critique and photo editing courses.

The addition of Procreate instruction expands access to contemporary digital tools, supports skill development across a wider range of media, and strengthens the sustainability of the Digital Art Lab through continued adult enrollment and earned revenue.

Exhibit E: Grant Application Timeline

Timeline Completion

All major milestones outlined in Exhibit E were completed as planned. Key accomplishments included:

- Classroom redesign and installation of furniture and infrastructure
- Acquisition and installation of digital equipment and technology
- Recruitment of media arts and digital photography instructors
- Development of marketing materials and scheduling for youth and adult programs
- Successful beta testing and rollout of youth digital art offerings
- Launch of summer camps, Youth Saturdays/ Family Saturdays, and adult digital programming



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Any minor adjustments were logistical in nature and did not negatively impact the scope, quality, or outcomes of the initiative.

Unanticipated Impact: Increased Accessibility for Students with Limited Mobility

An important and unanticipated outcome of the classroom redesign was a *significant* increase in accessibility for students with limited mobility. The introduction of movable, flexible furniture and reconfigured classroom layouts has made it easier for students to navigate the space, adjust workstations, and fully participate in digital art activities.

This increased flexibility has allowed instructors to adapt the classroom environment to individual needs, supporting a more inclusive learning experience for all participants. The enhanced accessibility has positively impacted both youth and adult students and reinforces Art Center Sarasota's commitment to expanding equitable access to arts education.

Draw Request Acknowledgement

Art Center Sarasota confirms that **all Impact100 SRQ grant funds have been fully received** and expended in accordance with the Grant Agreement and approved initiative budget.

Sustainability Progress

Progress to Date

Sustainability planning was integral to the initiative's design and implementation. To date:

- The Digital Art Lab has been integrated into ACS's youth and adult education programming
- Class capacity has increased due to classroom upgrades
- New digital offerings have expanded ACS's audience and revenue opportunities

Ongoing Sustainability Plan



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The initiative will be sustained through:

- Paid adult digital art classes and open studio hours
- Increased class capacity resulting from upgraded classroom infrastructure
- Continued fundraising and grant support
- Strategic reinvestment of earned revenue into program maintenance and growth

The Impact100 SRQ grant served as a catalyst for long-term expansion, enabling ACS to offer contemporary, relevant arts education that aligns with workforce trends and creative industries.

With deep appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katherine Ceaser'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Katherine Ceaser
Executive Director
Art Center Sarasota