

THE MOST STRATEGIC YEAR YET!

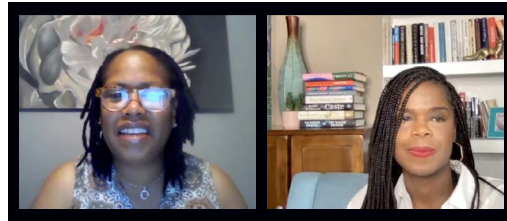


Motus Theater staff, board members, monologists, actors, advisors, and friends gather in group photo at the celebration of 10 years of Motus programming. © NUK Photography

In 2022, Motus entered another decade of programming by expanding the regional and national reach of our pivotal work at the intersection of original theater, social justice, and public policy. Motus' work was recognized with two major regional awards: **Best Theater Programming 2022** by Westword, and the **True West Award** by the Denver Gazette. Motus began the development of a new autobiographical monologue project, *TRANSformative Stories*, aimed at interrupting dehumanizing rhetoric and policies targeting transgender people.

Motus presented 41 programs reaching 4545 audience members, 38% of whom identified as BIPOC.

In collaboration with the office of the **Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser**, the **Latino Coalition for Community Leadership**, and the **Denver Startup Week**, Motus presented a special *JustUs* performance to support conversations about fair chance hiring. Motus also presented two special performances to support restorative justice in collaboration with **Colorado's Restorative Justice Council** and the **Colorado Coalition of Restorative Justice Practices**.



JustUs reader, State's Attorney Kim Foxx, with JustUs monologist Colette Payne.

"These weren't just stories, these weren't just personal narratives, they were reflections on broader policy issues that just break it down in the best way that an academic just could never do." - IL State's Attorney Kim Foxx

JUSTUS: STORIES FROM THE FRONTLINES OF THE CRIMINAL LEGAL SYSTEM



12th Judicial District Court Judge the Honorable Martin A. Gonzales co-reads JustUs monologist Brandon Wainright's story.

Motus presented *JustUs* performances at national and regional conferences including the **National Association of Community and Restorative Justice** convening, the **Conference on World Affairs**, and the **Ira C. Rothgerber Conference** on constitutional law. Readers at these and other *JustUs* performances included, Deputy ED of Colorado Department of Corrections Ruth Coffman, Colorado ACLU ED Deborah Richardson, and former juvenile system judge Martín Gonzales, and CO State Representative Leslie Herod.

Motus launched the national *JustUs* tour with district attorneys' offices from across the country in collaboration with Fair & Just Prosecution and support from the leading arts & criminal justice reform funder in the country, the Art for Justice Fund. We performed with some of the most influential district attorneys in the nation from Illinois, Florida, North Carolina, Arizona, Missouri, and Colorado, including State's Attorney Kim Foxx.



Fair Chance Hiring Performance Panel (LtoR): Jason Mendelson, Colorado AG Phil Weiser, & JustUs Monologist Joaquin Mobley.

UNDOCUAMERICA PROJECT: STORIES FROM OUR UNDOCUMENTED NEIGHBORS



UndocuAmerica monologist Tania Chairez with her family in front of her mural.

Motus marked the 10th anniversary of DACA with the *UndocuAmerica* national premiere broadcast with **Rocky Mountain PBS** and the special participation of **Grammy-winning musicians Ozomatli and Judy Collins**, and six *UndocuAmerica* bilingual live performances. **Colorado Public Radio** broadcast Motus' monologues seven times on "Colorado Matters," reaching 10k listeners a day.

Yo-Yo Ma and the **Obama Foundation** joined Motus' Twitter campaign for the 10th anniversary of DACA. **The Obama Foundation even pinned a Motus' campaign tweet to the top of their page!**

Motus' programming in honor of the 10th anniversary of DACA included an award-winning public art collaboration with muralist Edica Pacha. Each of the 12 murals in the Denver Metro area included a QR code to the English and Spanish video of a Motus *UndocuAmerica* monologist reading their own story. See the murals and hear the monologues at www.motustheater.org/murals-eng.



Obama Foundation pins Motus' UndocuAmerica: 10 Years of DACA performance to its Twitter page

MOTUS PLAYBACK IMPROV THEATER



(LtoR) Alejandro Fuentes Mena, Deb Witzel, JR Kuo, Shelsea Ochoa, Kirsten Wilson, and Flor Avidez

Improvisational theater is dominated by White actors. Motus piloted a brand new project to train a diverse group of actors in the improvisational Playback form to facilitate arts-based community conversations. In Playback, audience members tell a story then the actors 'play back'/enact that story on the spot, revealing that everyone's life is prime material for great art. Professional musicians underscore story enactments, finding the best melody to express each story. Motus is now able to present culturally competent improvisational storytelling performances.

"MOTUS Power Playback was such a highlight of our Annual Assembly...We were crying, laughing, and above all connecting to our humanity through the interchange of energy between the audience and the actors. Such skill!" - Former ED of the Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition

MOTUS THEATER MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Motus Theater is to create original theater to facilitate dialogue on critical issues of our time. We aim to use the power of art to build alliances across diverse segments of our community and country.

CONNECT WITH US

Subscribe to our newsletter at motustheater.org and to our podcast at shoebxstories.org.

Like us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/motustheater/
www.facebook.com/ShoebxStoriesPodcast

Follow us on Twitter: [@MotusTheater](https://twitter.com/MotusTheater) and [@Shoebx_stories](https://twitter.com/Shoebx_stories)

Follow us on Instagram: [@motustheater](https://www.instagram.com/motustheater) and [@shoebxstoriespodcast](https://www.instagram.com/shoebxstoriespodcast)

Email us at info@motustheater.org to get involved!

CURRENT BOARD AND STAFF AT MOTUS

STAFF:

Kirsten Wilson, Artistic Director
Dr. Rita M. Rufino Valente-Quinn, Producing Director
Armando Peniche, Partnerships & Project Manager
Tania Chairez, *UndocuAmerica* Project Strategist
Juaquin Mobley, *JustUs* Project Strategist
David Breña, *TRANSformative Stories* Strategist
Alejandro Fuentes Mena, *Motus Playback* Strategist
Wendy Talley, Transformative Healing Coach

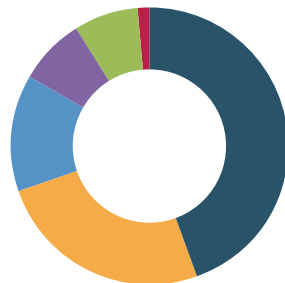
BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Arthur Figel, Chair
Perla Delgado, Vice-Chair
Margi Ness, Treasurer
David Ensign, Secretary
Alexis Miles, Founding Board Member
Areyana Proctor
Audrey Fishman Franklin
David Breña
Juan Ignacio Stewart
Katharine Reece
Leslie Allen
Lorenzo González-Fontes

2022 FINANCIALS

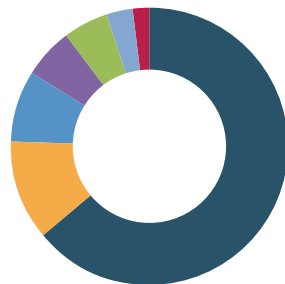
With the support of committed individual donors, and national and local funding agencies, Motus Theater continues to be in a solid financial position that allows us to strategically fulfill our mission. Motus ended the year with \$682,393 in revenue from a healthy variety of sources for programming to be executed between 2022 and 2023. Expenses totaled \$526,613 in 2022, showing Motus' increasing investment in our staff and programming contractors for groundbreaking theatrical projects. Motus' carryover will be applied toward our continued investment in staff, including new positions, and programming in 2023.

2022 MOTUS THEATER REVENUE



- 44.5% - Foundations
- 25.4% - Federal & Local Government Grants
- 13.6% - Individuals & Business Contributions
- 7.7% - Donor Advised Funds & Family Trusts
- 7.6% - Programs/Special Events
- 1.2% - Other

2021 MOTUS THEATER EXPENSES



- 64.1% - Salaries & Payroll Expenses (Artistic/Production/Outreach/Development/Communications/Admin.)
- 11.7% - Contract Services (Artists/Production/Video)
- 8.3% - Advertising/Marketing
- 5.8% - Travel/Meeting/Other
- 5.1% - Administrative
- 3.3% - Production
- 1.7% - Facilities/Equipment



Internationally acclaimed and regionally loved musicians and poets collaborated with Motus, providing musical and poetic responses. Our gratitude to **Grammy-winning Yo-Yo Ma, Judy Collins, Ozomatli, and Ernie Watts**; to nationally and regionally acclaimed musicians **The ReMINDers, Spirit of Grace, Carlos Heredia, Elisa Garcia, and Gregory Walker**; and to world-renowned slam poet **Dominique Christina**.

APPRECIATION & THANKS

Motus' work is made possible by the generous support of many individuals, foundations, businesses, and local and federal governments. For a full list of our supporters and partners, please visit www.motustheater.org/contribute



INVEST IN OUR SHARED FUTURE

Motus is a national leader in strategic arts-based conversations. When you invest in Motus, you support healing individuals most impacted by dehumanizing policies, while transforming our country and communities to protect human and civil rights for all. Invest in Motus' mission by becoming a monthly member or committing a 3 year annual pledge. We now take donations in stock! Motus will build innovative programs with your sustaining support! Set up your monthly donation at www.coloradogives.org/MotusTheater; or contact us at info@motustheater.org to make a 3 year pledge. We will send you a Motus mug to toast our collaboration!



GET INVOLVED

Volunteer your hours and acumen to be the momentum in Motus! Volunteers provided more than 640 hours to Motus in 2022.



MOTUS THEATER
Moving Stories that Move Us Forward

2022 MOTUS
ANNUAL REPORT

Pre-performance circle with JustUs guests co-performers and monologists. © Will Prosper