

# 2023 at LitArts RI

formerly What Cheer Writers Club



We close out 2023 with an updated name, a brand-new literary center, and with the same passion and vigor for supporting the vibrant world of Rhode Island creatives whose work continues to inspire change within our state and beyond.

The new name — LitArts RI — was a necessary change to better represent the organization we have become and the state-wide community we serve. LitArts RI lays a foundation for the dreams we have for the future of creative life in Rhode Island.

The new literary center opened in summer 2023, bringing us back full throttle to in-person programming and community gatherings. The center is an emblem, the physical manifestation, of our commitment to Rhode Island and its makers of the written, spoken and illustrated word. With it we plan to be a pillar of support, a partner, a neighbor, in short — a community.

*LitArts RI is the ideal workspace for a writer. Sometimes I find it difficult to buckle down and focus at home with so many available distractions, so I've made a habit of going to LitArts when deadlines approach. It's a quiet, welcoming space, and there's always coffee, plus a printer that's free to use. I recommend LitArts to any writers in the area seeking out the perfect "third space." —Mike Jeffrey*



400 Harris Ave, Unit E PVD | [LitArtsRI.org](http://LitArtsRI.org) | [@litartsri](https://www.instagram.com/litartsri)

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# Member Stories

Highlighting anecdotes from our 475+ Members



## Rebekah Bergman

At LitArts, I have found community, as well as time and space to engage deeply in my work. It has enriched my creative life in ways I could not have predicted. Three prime examples: I rewrote the final chapter of my debut novel at LitArts RI. I remember exactly where I was and the feeling I had as—after seven years—I finally landed on the book's true ending. I served on a panel about care and resilience in publishing at LitArts RI where I learned a great deal from my fellow panelists about how to survive and even thrive through the trials of publishing.

And lastly, a grant opportunity I first learned of through the LitArts RI newsletter helped provide financial support for me to write my second book at a writing retreat. I feel extremely lucky and grateful for the supportive environment I have found at LitArts RI!

## Tribble

I moved to Rhode Island and immediately found LitArts RI—a community and coworking space for writers and podcasters. It was the first sign that the move was perfectly and divinely aligned in terms of the growth of my career and creativity. Something that I always seek is a supportive community for the work I do and even though I knew no one in Rhode Island LitArts RI was like “hey we got you!”



## Linda Park

I am not only a member, but a leader and volunteer at LitArts. I have led Romance Writers Group before, and I am currently setting up a new group, Writing Together at LitArts...I hosted a grief workshop with BIPOC writers in October 2023, and the participants testified significant benefit of processing grief along with fellow grievers. While I ran the podcast American K-sisters for two years from 2021-2023, I frequently used the podcast studio in LitArts and received additional guidance from the staff members.

I grew and flourished as a creator over the last few years thanks to the programming and community that LitArts has provided.

# Programming

B/I/POC Coffee Hours + Write-ins

Care in Community: Exploring Artist Residencies

Care in Publishing: Resilience in the Face of Rejection

How to Submit: Publishing in Lit Mags

Podcasting 101 + 102

Reignite! A Write-in at The Steel Yard

Restorative Narratives: Care, Power & Visibility

SOLIDARITY Zine Launch

Under the Lindens: A Write-in at Linden Place

Writing For and About Bodies Onstage

Writing to Repair: The Risky Personal Narrative

NaNoWriMo Launch & Write-ins

*and more...*



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# Financials

## FY2023 OPERATING INCOME

Earned Revenue	\$58,275
Donor Advised Funds	\$126,500
Grants	\$95,100
Donations/Fundraising	\$20,000
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$299,875</b>

## FY2023 OPERATING EXPENSES

Admin + Operations	\$71,800
Fundraising	\$29,700
Programs: Coworking	\$81,000
Programs: Workshops	\$112,450
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$295,050</b>



## Partners + Funders



RI Theatre Makers Roundtable

The Seng Fund at RI Foundation

