

Artist Boat Annual Report

September 1, 2015 – August 31, 2016



artist BOAT

Founded in 2003

Artist Boat is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to promoting awareness and preservation of coastal margins and the marine environment through the disciplines of the sciences and the arts.

Artist Boat

“This organization is saving the island one act at time, thanks for beautifying the Seawall with the benches and saving our land.” Galveston Community Member

Since opening its doors in August of 2003, Artist Boat has expanded to offer eight Eco-Art and environmental education programs, established the Coastal Heritage Preserve conserving 550 acres of coastal habitat, and is developing the Gulf Coast Environmental Center to deepen the organizations ability to further engage learners K-Grey. Artist Boat has served 105,424 participants in our various programs from 2003-2016.

- Eco-Art Workshops
- Eco-Art Adventures
- Professional Development
- Eco-Art Residencies
- Habitat Restoration Adventures
- Project S.I.T.
- Coastal Heritage Preserve
- 1% to Conserve Galveston Island



Eco-Art Workshops

Hands-on, in-class lessons to teach students how freshwater and saltwater create the cradle of life for our oceans in our estuaries.



“The combination of art and science in the workshop moves students past facts to a personal investment in coastal issues.”

– Carolyn Klein, Westside High School

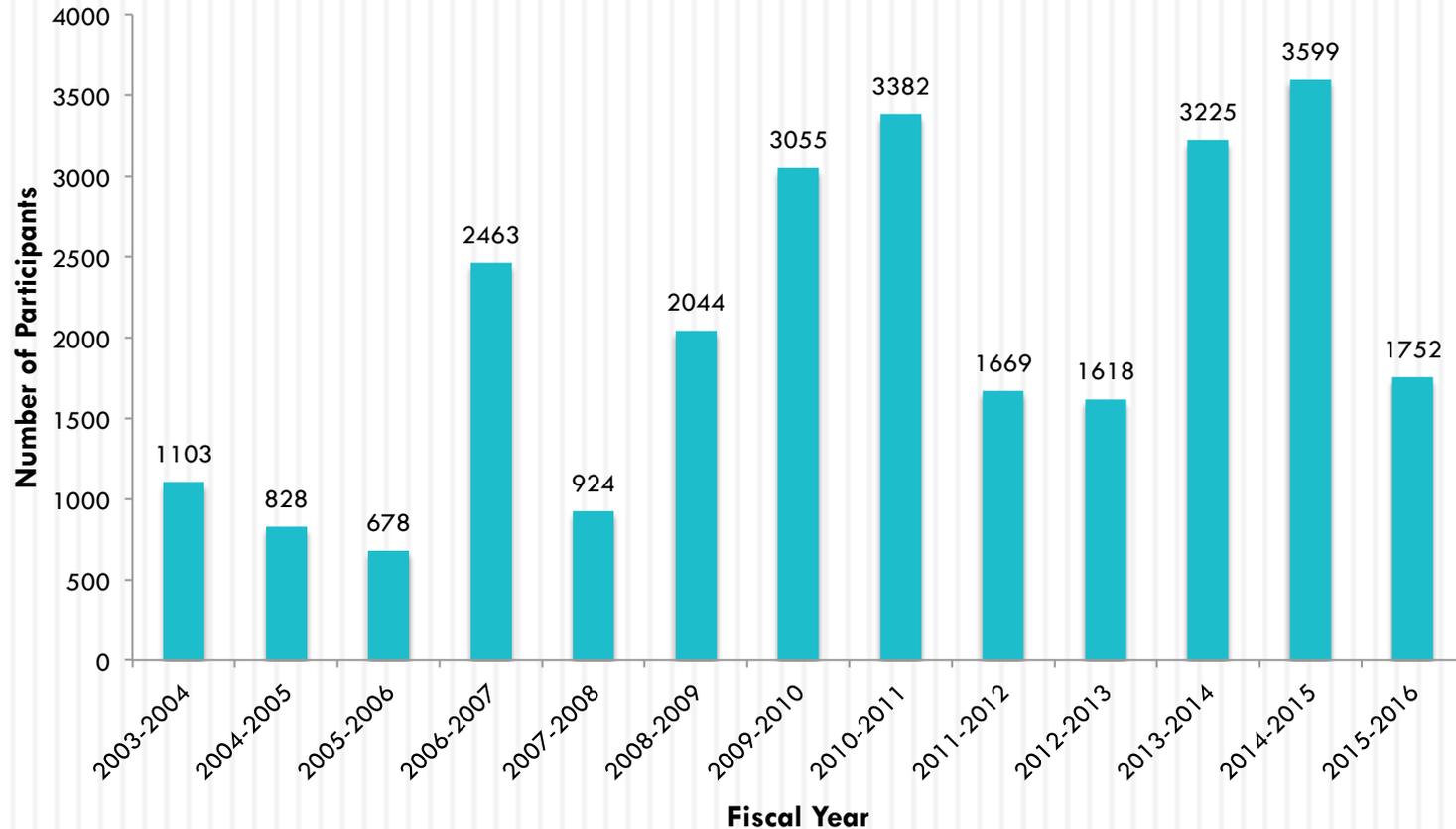


Eco-Art Workshops



Artist Boat served 1,752 participants in 2015-16 with Eco-Art Workshops. Since 2003, we have reached 26,340 students and teachers through our two-hour long Eco-Art Workshops.

Eco-Art Workshops



Eco-Art Adventures

Brining K-Grey learners wet and wild environments of our estuary and Coastal Heritage Preserve to explore by vessel with artists and scientists.

“A true outdoor experience in which they brought theory into practice!” – Michael Tee, Davis High School



“Makes a cross-curricular connection with real-world experiences .” – Stephanie Lane, San Jacinto Intermediate

Coastal Heritage Preserve — Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP)

Started the process of establishing the Coastal Heritage Preserve on west Galveston Island and our expanded services to a place of our own.



Texas General Land Office-CIAP awarded Artist Boat with a three-year grant (2012-2015) to acquire 156 acres of land and launch educational programming at the Coastal Heritage Preserve. During the 2016 fiscal year Artist Boat brought 417 students to the preserve to kayak, bringing the total number of students served by this grant to 5,203. The Moody Permanent Endowment Fund, Seay Foundation, and schools provided funds for the Workshops and the \$150 fee for the Adventure not covered by the grant.



Eco-Art Adventures – Texas Stewards of Tomorrow

(Waterborne Education Center) In 2003 the WBEC provided initial funding for the program to serve Galveston schools. The WBEC's commitment to two-years of funding allowed the Artist Boat to become a non-profit.

Artist Boat finished the Waterborne Education Center (WBEC) grant in 2016. The 12-month grant provided Eco-Art Workshops and Adventures to the Trinity River-Cypress Swamp for students. During the 2016 fiscal year, we served 693 students on Eco-Art Adventures and 642 students in Eco-Art Workshops. This makes a total of 1,088 students who were able to experience an adventure in the fresh-water swamp ecosystem.

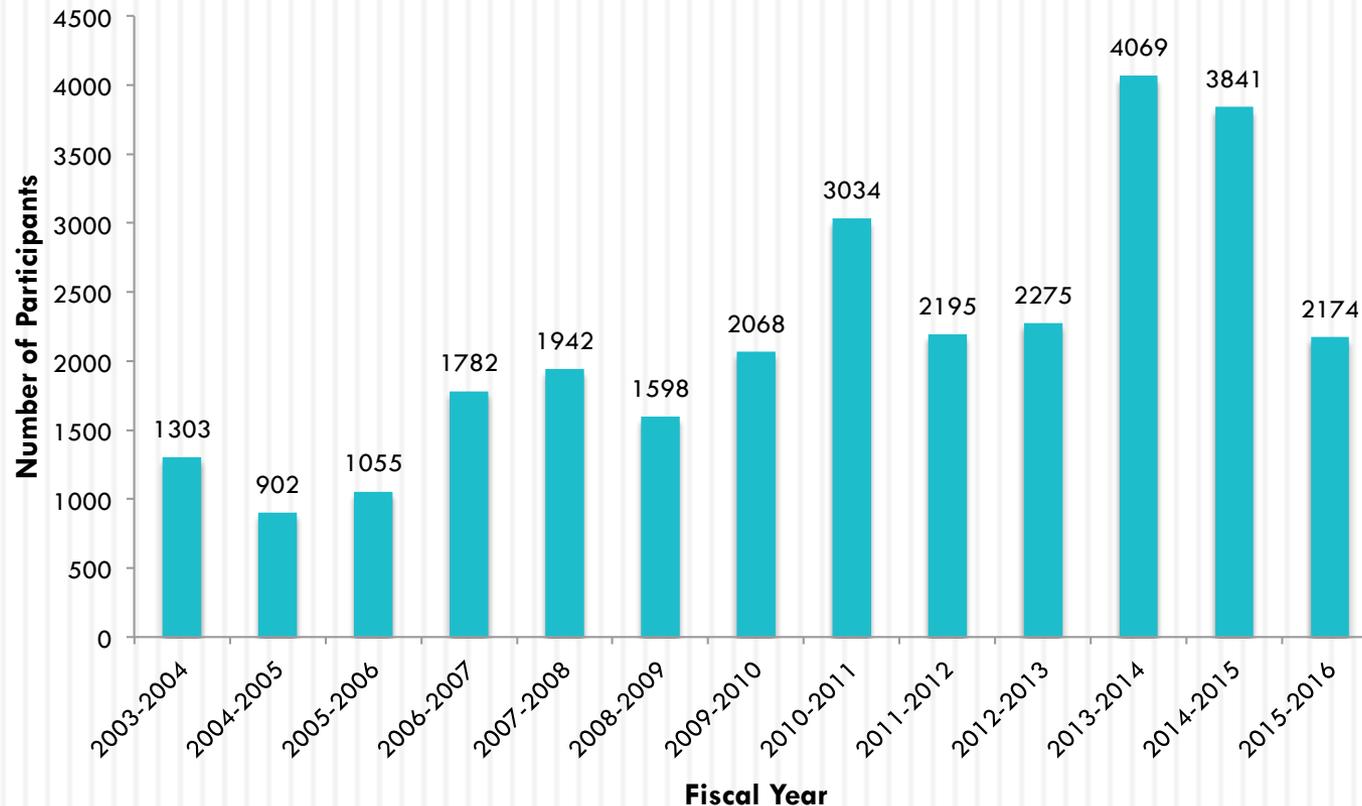


Eco-Art Adventures



Artist Boat served 2,174 participants with Eco-Art Adventures via kayak, foot, or vessel in 2015-16. Since 2003, we reached 28,238 students and teachers through our four-hour long Eco-Art Adventures.

Eco-Art Adventures

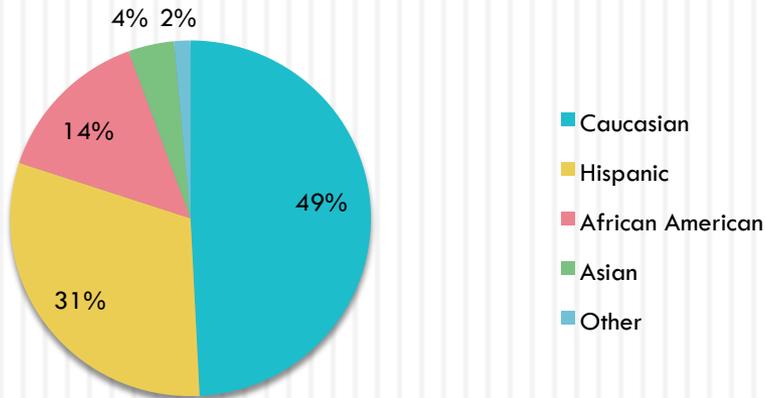


Eco-Art Workshop and Adventure

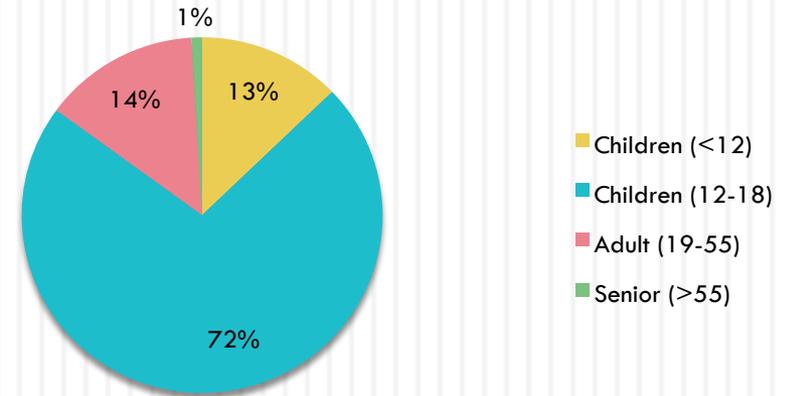
Demographics

Artist Boat only had grant funded workshops and adventures for about half of the 2015-2016 fiscal year. Despite this, 45% of youth participants were of Hispanic or African American descent from underprivileged districts. Historically, over 70% of participants are from underserved and minority populations of students. Grant funding is essential to maintaining this ability to serve this population.

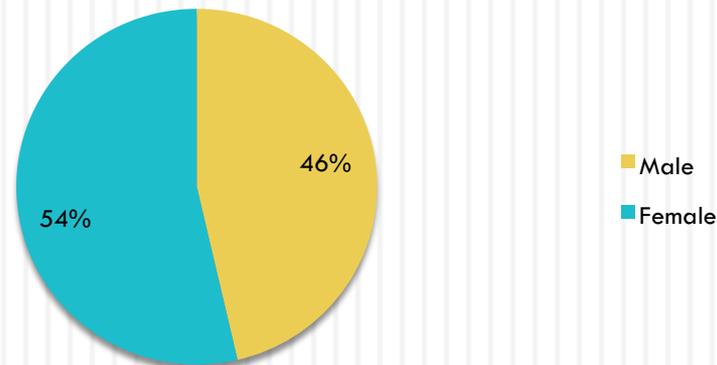
Race



Age



Gender



Upcoming Programs: STEAM Powered Blue Carbon Art IQ Workshops and Adventures

During August 2016, Artist Boat is busy preparing for two new expanded programs funded by three different agencies!

Thanks to a grant from the NOAA B-WET program Artist Boat is able to offer a revamped Eco-Art Program to Pasadena ISD 7th graders. The STEAM Powered: Blue Carbon Art IQ program offers two workshops and two adventures so students can better explore complex concepts like sea level rise, carbon sequestration, climate change and ecosystem services.

Thanks to a grant from the Moody Permanent Endowment Fund Artist Boat is also able to offer the STEAM Powered Blue Carbon Workshops and Adventures to 7th graders in Galveston too. Additionally, this funding will allow for an expansion of the Coastal Heritage Preserve, a kayak launch docking system and kayak storage facility.



Professional Development

Scaffolding teachers with emersion experiences in the estuary, the ocean, the arts, the sciences, and their ability to expand horizons through the scientific method.



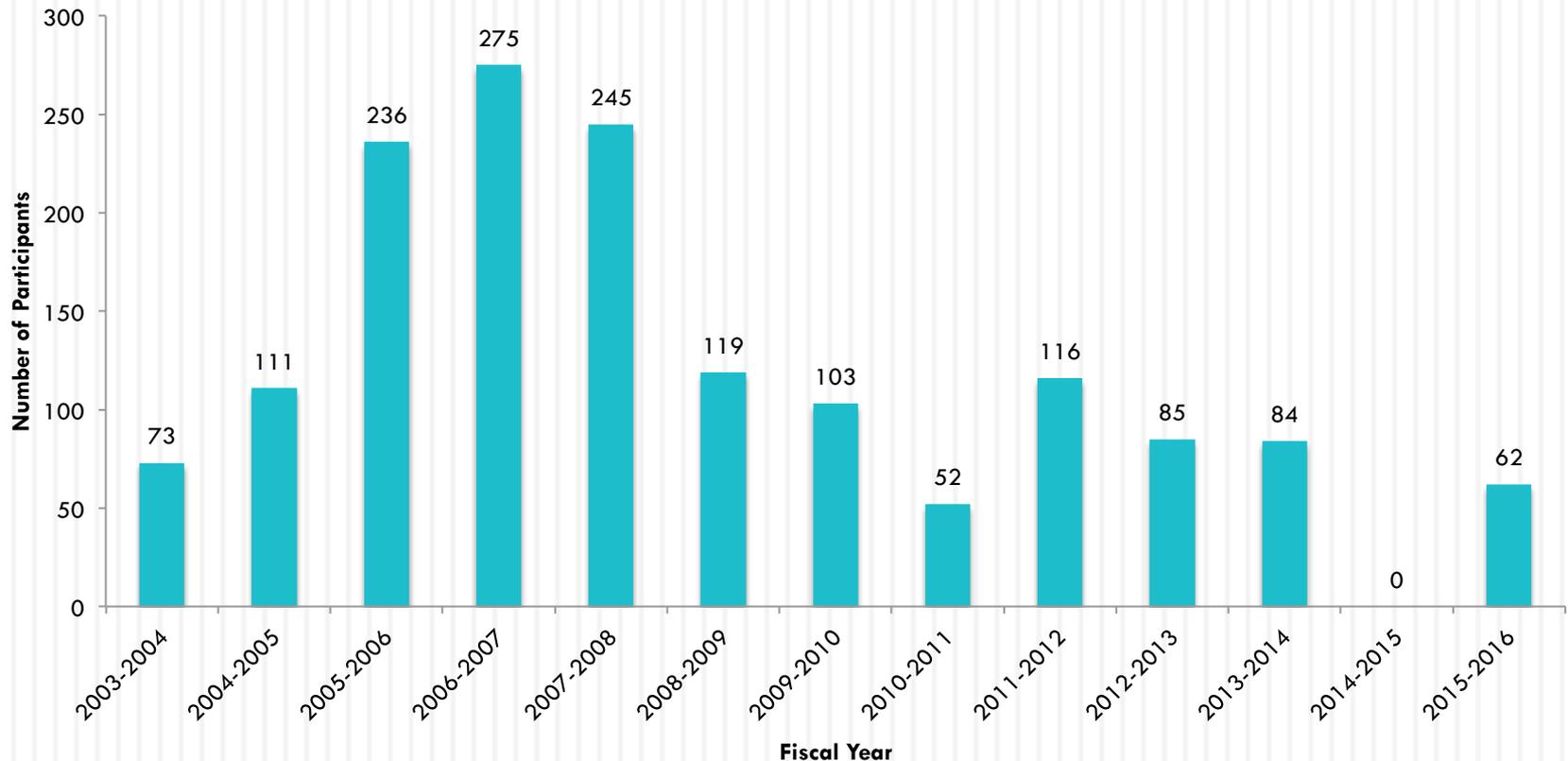
“Brought about a new awareness to the complexity of managing coastal ecosystems” – Janice Toler, Pasadena ISD, CWI 2014

Professional Development



Artist Boat provided professional development to 62 teachers in 2015-16. Since 2003, we have reached 1,561 teachers.

Professional Development



Eco-Art Residency – Houston ISD

Dowling Middle School *Spring 2016* *Creating art for campus and community beautification that leaves a legacy of learning about our marine environment behind.*

Students at Dowling Middle School in Houston ISD created three different murals about the marine ecosystem and ocean zones that were then exhibited in their school.



Eco-Art Residency – Houston ISD

Whidby Elementary *Spring 2016*

Students at Whidby Elementary School in Houston ISD created three different murals about the marine ecosystem and ocean zones that were then exhibit in their school.



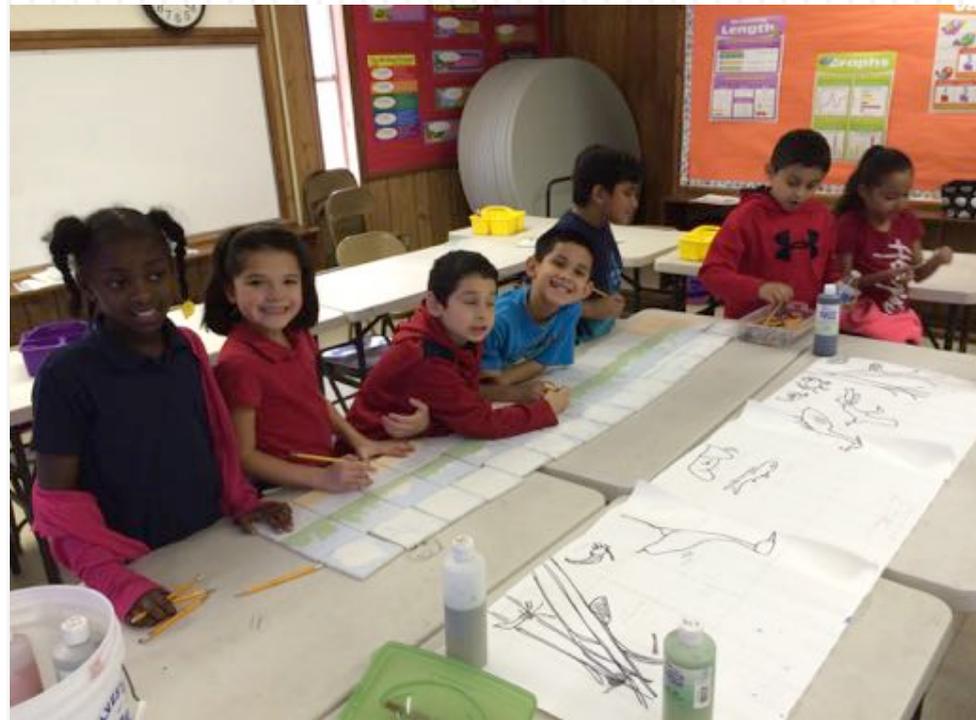
Eco-Art Residency – Houston ISD

HCDE: CASE City Connections 2016 *Service learning through art creation for other communities and the Galveston Seawall.*

Students at Jefferson Elementary, Lyons Elementary, and Browning Elementary Schools helped design and paint the tiles for Project S.I.T. benches.

Bench Themes:

- Is this Island a Desert?
- A River of Grasses
- Cradle of Life



Eco-Art Residency – Pasadena ISD

Keller Middle School *Summer 2016* Emersion in one topic with artists and scientists on their campuses and in the field.

Students from Keller M.S. were introduced to animal morphology, marine debris effects on aquatic life, sources of pollution to Galveston Bay, and the food web of Galveston Bay in a fast-paced, two-session residency. Following the residency, the students participated in a Walking Adventure.



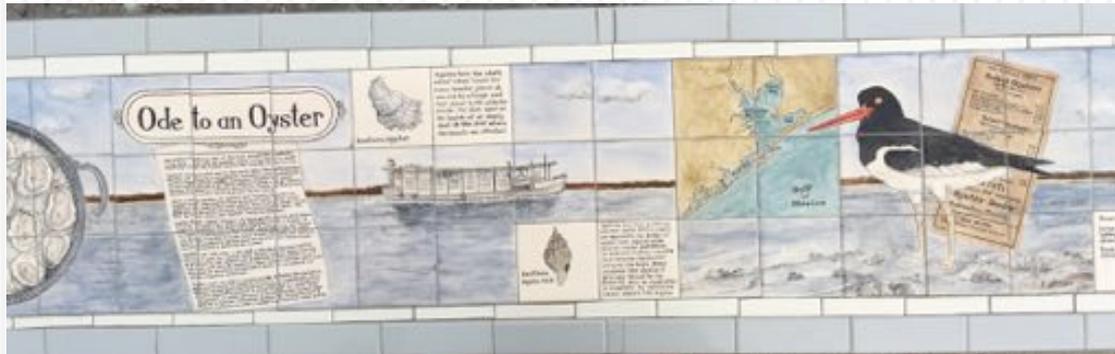
Project S.I.T – Seawall Interpretive Trail

Beautification of a public place is the heart of Eco-Art where artists interpret coastal and marine processes, island heritage and history, and bring visitors to new levels of awareness and the ability to steward our resources.

Artist Boat completed 9 benches in 2015-16, resulting in 32 complete benches. In FY 2016 Artist Boat was awarded a subcontract to complete 35 benches. To date, all 70 Project S.I.T. benches have been sponsored. We anticipate Project S.I.T. will be complete by December 2016.

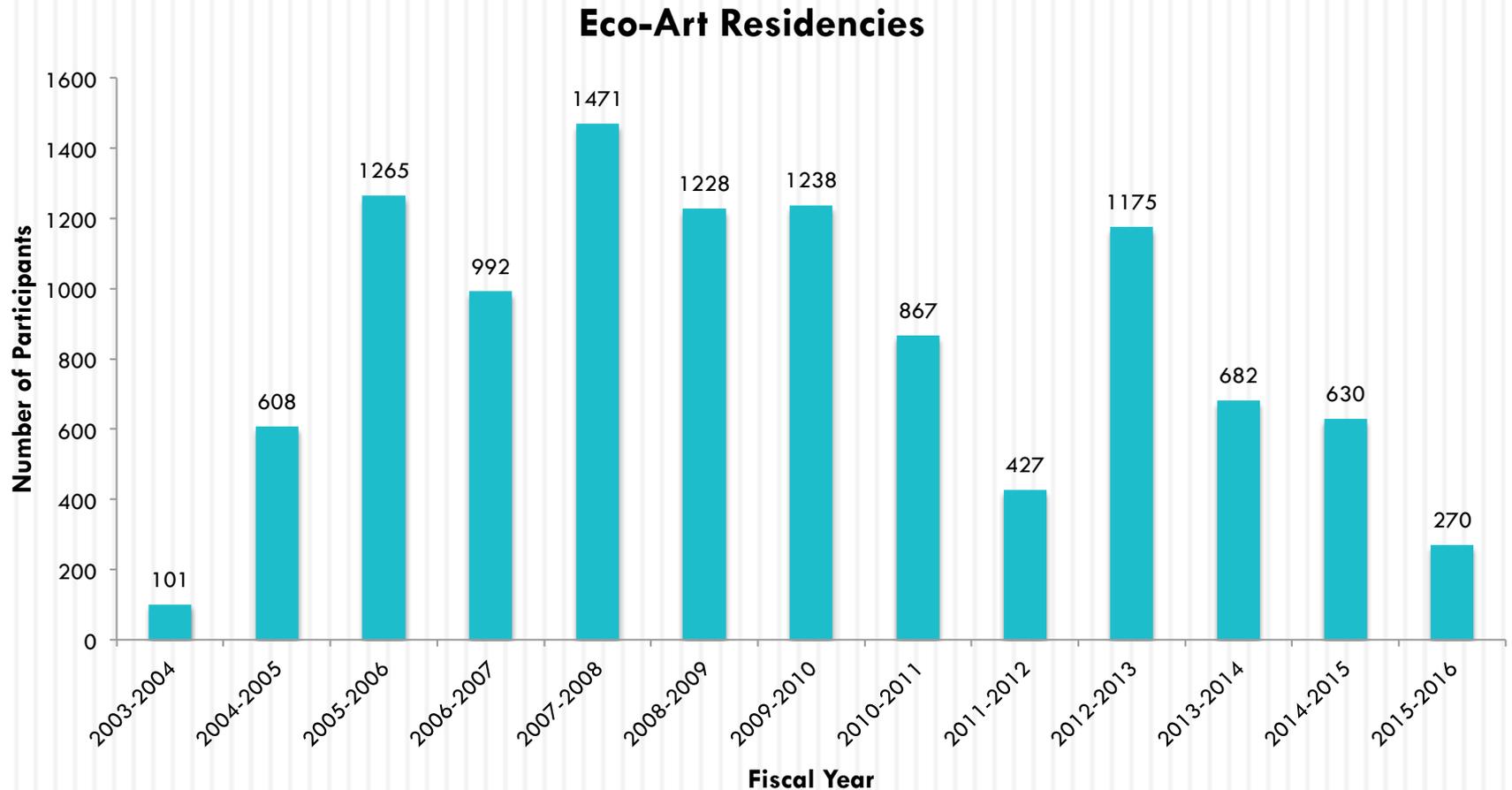


Partners and Sponsors
have included
governmental agencies,
businesses, an annual
Chicken Shack Strut, and
individuals.



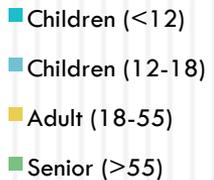
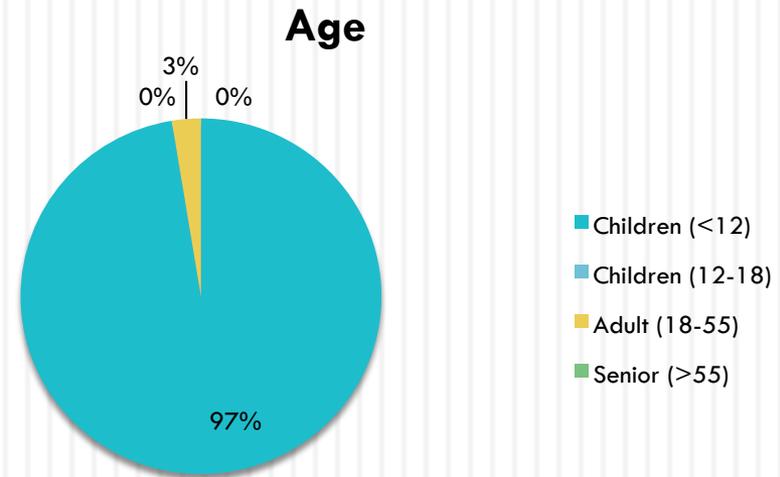
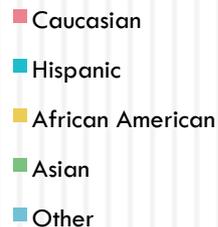
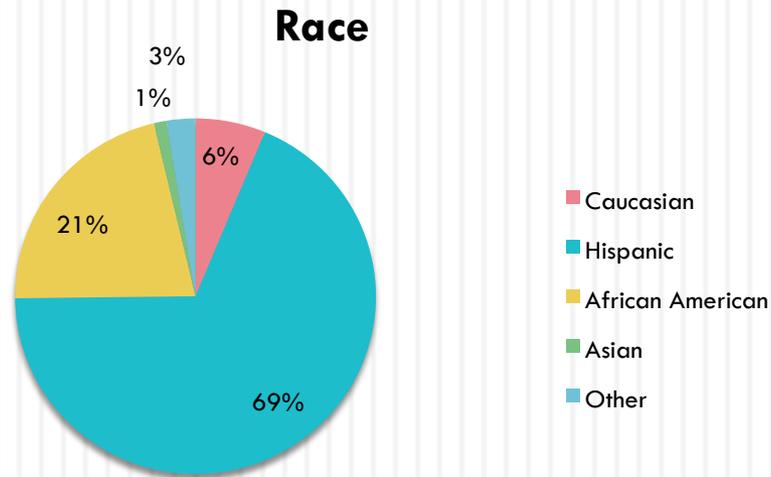
Eco-Art Residencies

Artist Boat served 270 participants in 2015-16 with Residencies. Since 2003, we have reached 10,954 students with our after-school ancillary programs.



Eco-Art Residencies Demographics

Primarily, Artist Boat residencies in 2015-16 have been in Houston Independent School District, in schools that are mostly Hispanic and economically disadvantaged. Residencies this past year have been mostly in Elementary schools (age <12).



Gender



Public & Private Eco-Art Adventures

Groups can join

in the fun privately or during our listed calendar of adventures. Engagement of adults is critical to teaching people about our coastal resources and creating a regional stewardship ethic.



“It’s like school but fun!”



“These trips are a great way to enjoy birds and other wildlife!”



Public Adventures to Coastal Heritage Preserve

The Texas General Land Office-Coastal Impact Assistance grant (2012-2015) allowed Artist Boat to offer trips to the public for \$10 per participant. Since 2012, we have served 1,982 participants, with 780 participants served during the 2015-2016 fiscal year.



 SUPPORTED BY HOTEL/
MOTEL TAX DOLLARS



Coastal Management Program-Cycle 20: The Bucket Brigade



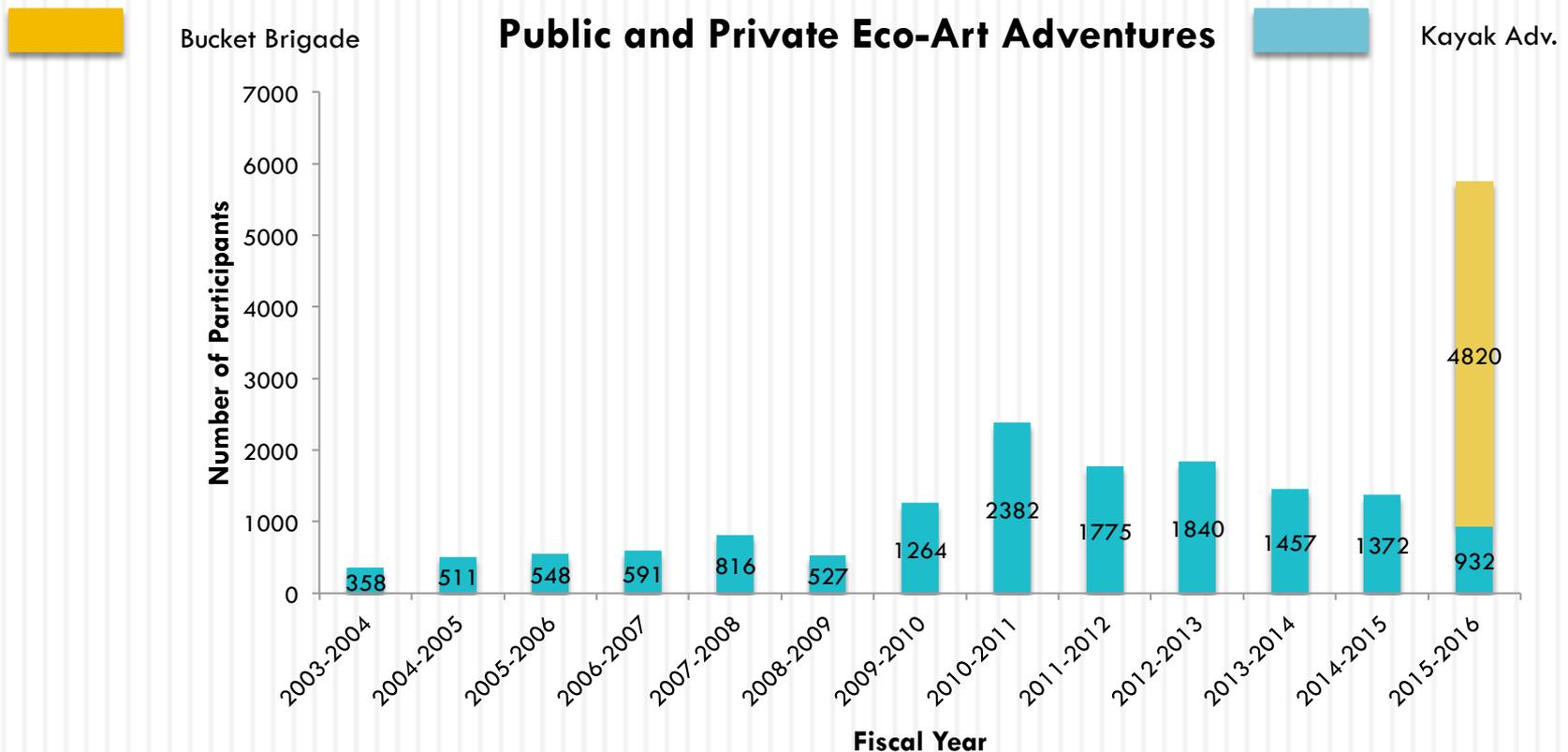
The CMP Cycle 20 grant funded the Bucket Brigade Program in 2016. With the grant we started an annual World Oceans Day Festival, we formed the Marine Debris Task Force, and an annual Beautify the Bucket Competition in conjunction with Adopt-A-Beach Cleanup.

The Bucket Brigade provides free interpretive tours of Galveston beaches to allow the public to explore the creatures and features of coastal and marine ecosystems. Tours aim to address negative misperceptions of Galveston beaches such as “dirty” water. This program is designed to teach people how our turbid and grey water is a sign of a nutrient-rich environment providing food fueling the Gulf’s fisheries and more.



Public & Private Eco-Art Adventures

Artist Boat served 5,752 participants from the general public in 2015- 2016. In addition to Public and Private Adventures, Artist Boat added the Bucket Brigade programming on Galveston beaches. Since 2003, we have reached 19,193 guests on our public and private kayak tours and now the Bucket Brigade has enabled us to reach out to even more members of the public to raise awareness and promote stewardship of our coastal and marine resources.

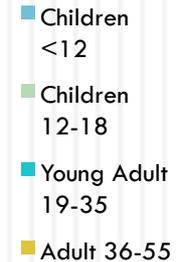
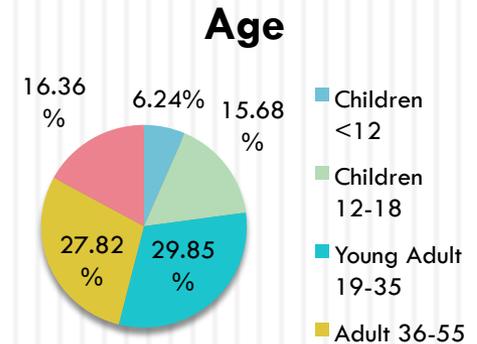
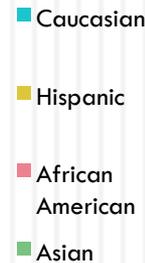
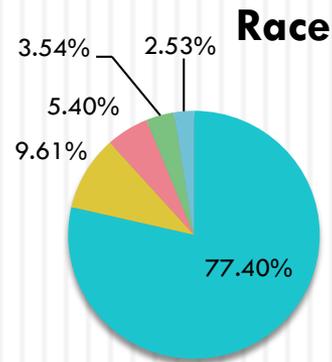


Public & Private Eco-Art Adventures

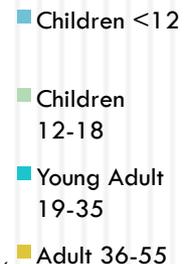
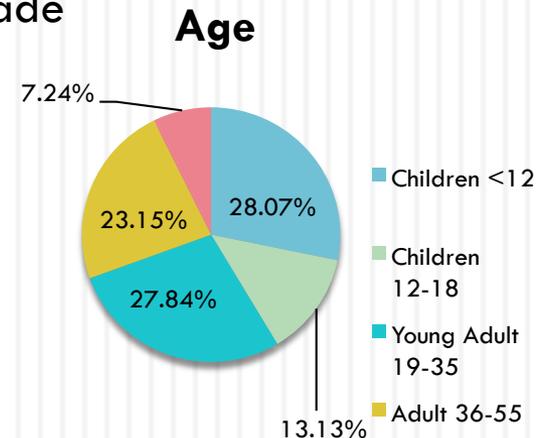
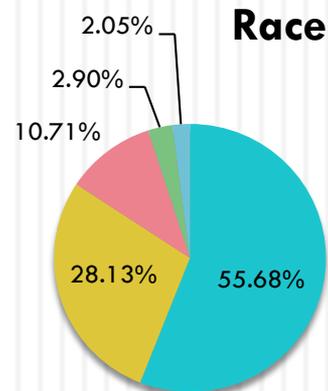
Demographics

The Bucket Brigade added to the overall participants reached by Artist Boat's Public Adventures. It also expanded Artist Boat's audience by reaching a greater percentage of Hispanic and African American visitors and younger children.

Eco-Art Kayak Adventures



Bucket Brigade



Coastal Heritage Preserve



During the 2015-2016 Fiscal Year, we have made momentous strides toward saving coastal prairie habitat. Our Coastal Heritage Preserve now totals 550 acres of land that we are restoring and protecting. Volunteers of all ages are able to participate in habitat restoration and make a difference in their community. Artist Boat has established a volunteer leadership program called the Sea Citizens. Artist Boat took fee title to the mitigation for the The Galveston Preserve at West Beach adding 216 acres to the Coastal Heritage Preserve.



Tract	Area
CIAP	156.73
CWPPRA	50.4081
NFWF	98.9742
Moore's Island	26.263
The Galveston Preserve at West Beach	216.264
West Bay CIAP	46.897
Total	595.339



Legend

- Artist Boat Owned (CIAP funded)
- Artist Boat Owned (CWPPRA funded)
- Artist Boat Owned (CWPPRA match donation)
- Artist Boat Owned (NFWF-GEBF funded)
- Artist Boat Owned (GPWB mitigation)
- West Bay CIAP Acquisition Parcel



Coastal Heritage Preserve - implementing habitat management, restoration, and stewardship engagement.

- Conducted baseline and quarterly monitoring
- Started a water quality monitoring program
- Began benthic and aquatic sampling
- Established the Sea Citizen Leadership Program
- Began volunteer engagement and stewardship events
- The Coastal Heritage Preserve moved across Stewart Road beginning to preserve the interior of the island and sloughs tied to the Galveston Bay

- Began construction on a greenhouse to grow 12,000 native plants
- Updated species composition list
- Closed on 216 more acres of land bringing the total to 550 acres
- Received notification of a grant award of \$1,054,000 to acquire an additional 46 acres
- Applied for several large grants to conserve the entire bay tract and Anchor Bay development.



Habitat Restoration with CITGO Caring for our Coast



Grant	Number of Volunteers	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Events	Acres Restored	Grass Plugs Planted	Picnic Benches Installed	Fence Line Repaired
CITGO	417	1,908	54	207	4,569	10	2,221 feet



Land Acquisition and Habitat Restoration –

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

The criminal act fines from the DeepWater Horizon Oil Spill are put to good use.



Grant	Macartney Rose Removal	Treatment for Fire Ants	Grass Plugs Planted	Mowed Land
NFWF	125	55 acres	1,000	42 acres



Coastal Heritage Preserve Technical Advisory Council

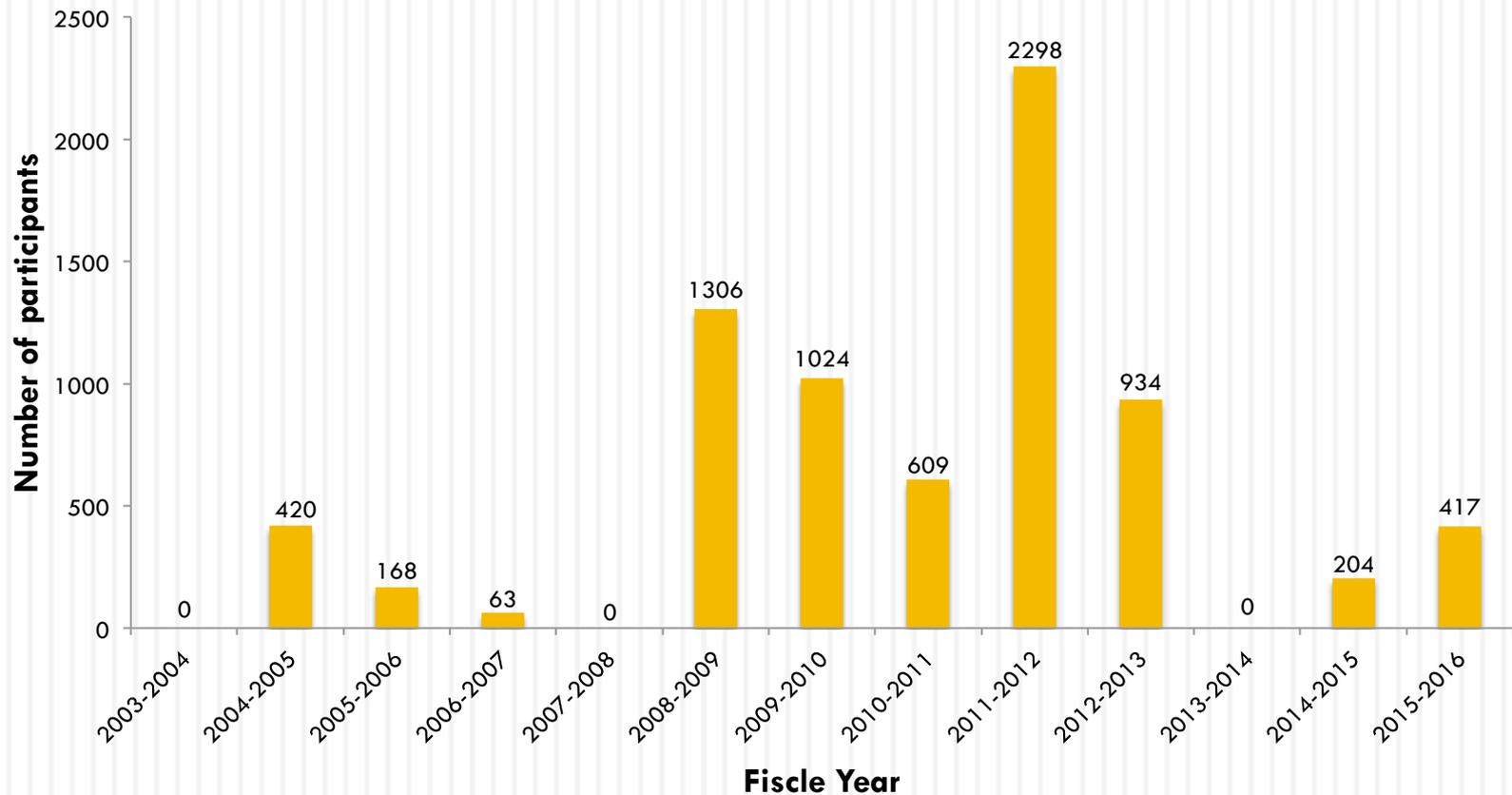
The Technical Advisory Council is responsible for developing a long-term habitat management and public access plan. The group of technical and community advisors met frequently for over a year. This group has developed a Habitat Management Plan and a Public Access and Education Plan for the Preserve.



Habitat Restoration Adventures

Artist Boat served 417 participants in 2015-16. Since 2003, we have reached 7,497 students, teachers and members of the public.

Habitat Restoration Adventures



Upcoming Programs: Habitat Restoration Workshops and Adventures

During August 2016, Artist Boat was busy preparing for 2 new programs funded by 3 different agencies!

Artist Boat received a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) Grant to provide Habitat Restoration Workshops and Adventures to approximately 30 elementary school classes in Galveston.

Students will:

- Grow native coastal prairie grasses at their schools.
- Plant the grasses they grow at the Galveston Island State Park to restore habitat.
- Restore eight acres at the Galveston Island State Park, adding to the 18 acres Artist Boat has already restored at the park.



Public Outreach



World Oceans Day Festival — Hosting a United Nations Day on our own and bringing the environmental education community to share with people on the island.

The World Oceans Day Festival was held on June 8th, 2016 at Stewart beach. Over 200 participants came out to experience the interactive activities provided by local, regional and state organizations, and to view the submissions in the Marine Debris Art Contest.

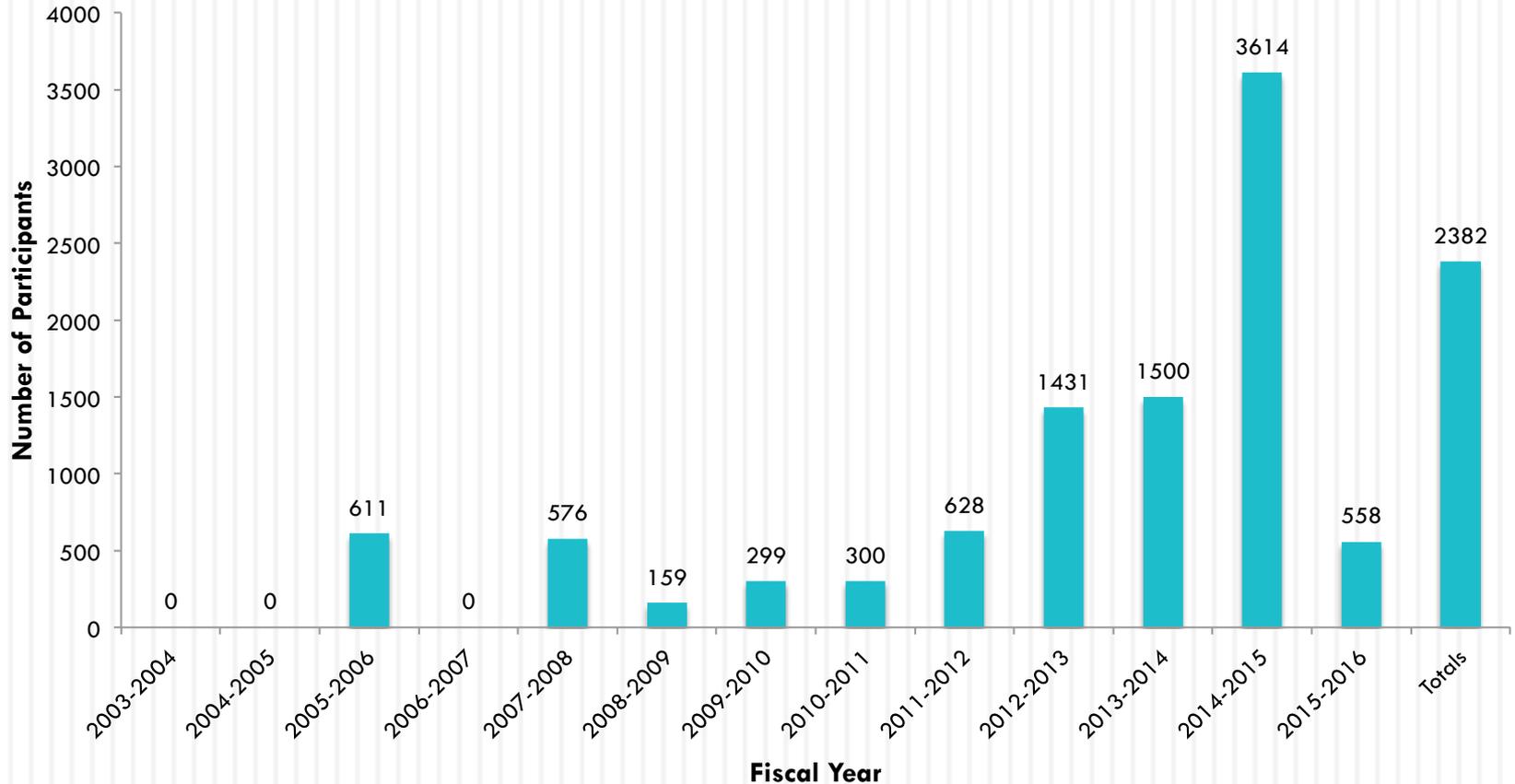


Public Outreach



Artist Boat served 2,382 participants in 2015-16 including visitors to the first World Oceans Day Festival. Since 2003, we have reached 12,058 members of the public.

Public Outreach



1% To Conserve Galveston Island™

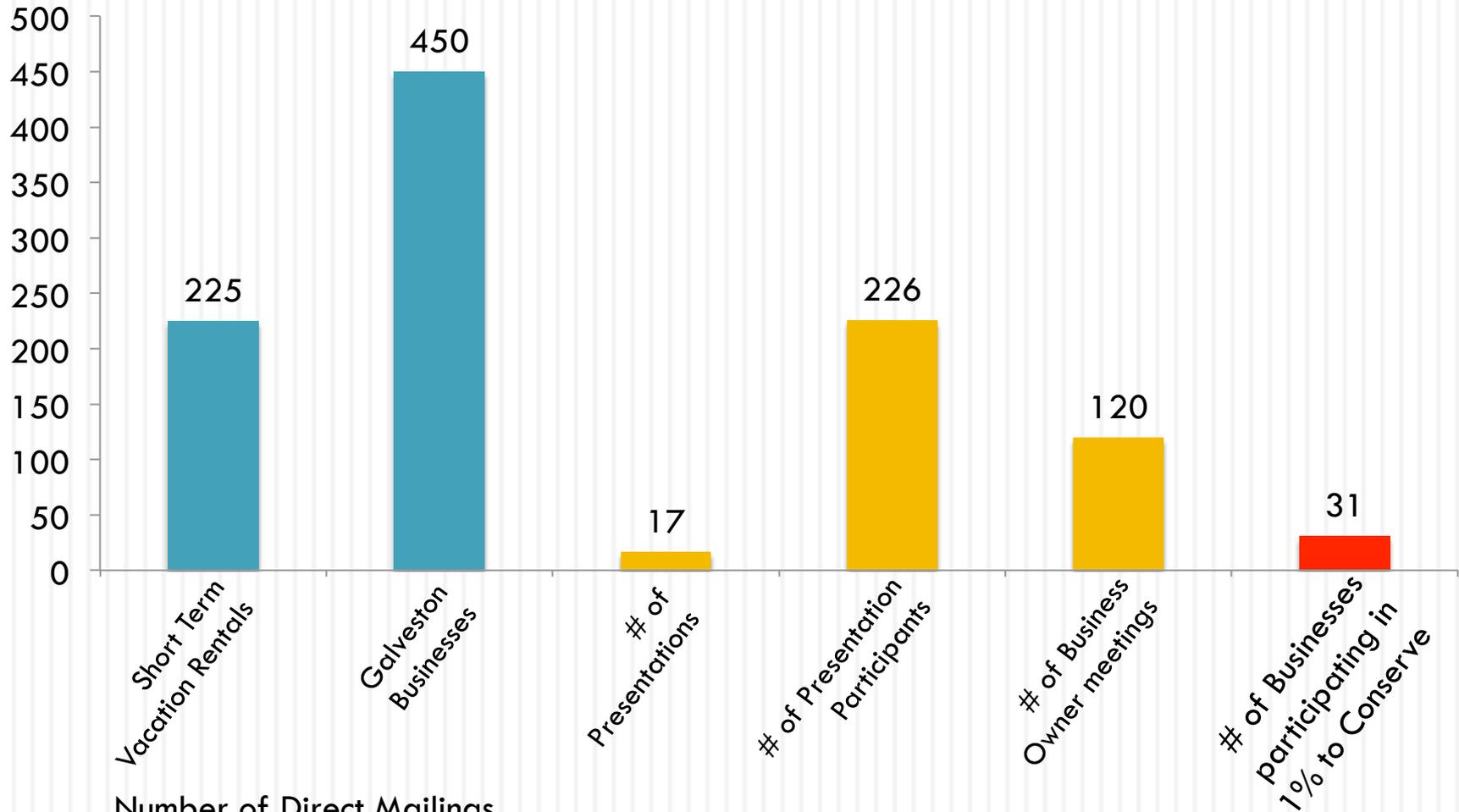
A partnership with businesses to conserve Galveston Island's natural resources.

One hundred percent of our income is collected by our participating business partners.

Ad Advisory Board develops and implements management systems for awarding funds to Island based conservation projects.



1% To Conserve Galveston Island



Number of Direct Mailings about 1% to Conserve

Board Members 2015 -2016



Current Members:

Betty Massey, President

Mort Voller, Vice President

J. Alton Alsup, Secretary

Richard H. Cron

Scott Weaver

Phil Glass

Seth Jones

Michael McNeely

Matthew Singer

Douglas Little

Former Members:

Jene Adler

Caleb Crowe

Peter Davis

Debbie DeVore

Patty Edwards

John Frannea

Cheryl Henry

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Bobby Markle

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Tom Motley

Terry Conrad

Martha Terrill

Kristopher Benson

Charlie Rogers

CD Romero

Jay Rooker

Brenda Weiser

Bernd Wursig

Robert Young

Susan Persons

Mary Orange

Pam Rice

John Smith

Staff Members



Karla Klay, Executive Director

Cathy Webster, Executive Assistant

Amanda Rinehart, Education Program Manager

Holly Winters, Habitat & Stewardship Program Manager

Kristin Simmons, Habitat & Stewardship Coordinator

Cherie Crawford, Education Program Coordinator

Kendall Guidroz, Bucket Brigade Coordinator

Jennifer Dougherty, Eco-Art Educator

Brooke Carlson, Eco-Art Educator

Kaitlin Morgan, Lead Eco-Art Educator

Micah Cypert, Accounting Manager

Brenda Donaloio Lee, 1% To Conserve Galveston Island Program Director