ingenuity CLEVELAND

FORGING The FUTURE

IGNITING THE CREATIVE SPARK!

2025 IMPACT REPORT



WWW.INGENUITY CLEVELAND.ORG

IngenuityLabs @ The Hamilton Collaborative
5401 Hamilton Avenue | Cleveland OH | 44114

INGENUITY: FORGING THE FUTURE!

In 2025, our theme was Forging the Future - a call for artists, makers, and neighbors to come together and imagine what comes next, not only as an organization, but as a community.

At Ingenuity, we believe the future is not something we wait for, but something we build together. Ingenuity is an organization built to not only endure, but thrive, in challenging times.

Our strength comes from celebrating the joy of collaboration and the spirit of curiosity. We value making and doing, trial and error. It is this dedication to the iterative process that has allowed us to transform from a once-annual festival into a year-round home for innovation - and a testament to the power of creativity to address civic needs of all sorts. From the now-annual Juneteenth Freedom Fest to our year-long Transformative Art Project in Cleveland's Mt. Pleasant Neighborhood, to our ongoing work supporting reinvestment in our St. Clair-Superior home, Ingenuity is committed to bringing people together and making an impact where it's needed most.

In 2025, we served nearly 100,000 audience members through our Festival and year-round programming, while offering nearly 1,000 artists, entrepreneurs, and volunteers opportunities to learn, create, and help shape a city they are proud to call home.

In 2026, our theme will be America Dreams. It is an invitation to gather together when times feel uncertain and imagine a new future through the vision of artists.

Dream With Us!





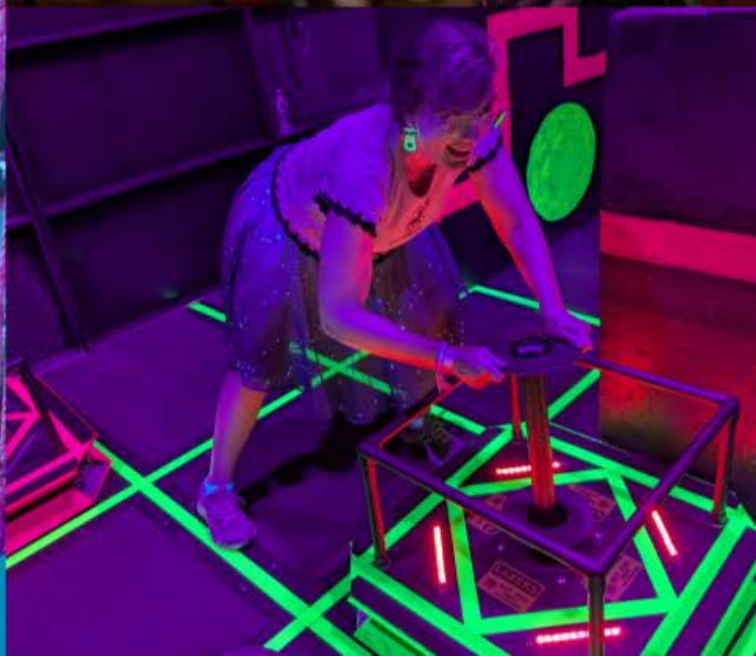




“This is by far the greatest event in Cleveland all year.







A FESTIVAL THAT FORGES VISIONARY IDEAS...

IngenuityFest is our flagship event, presented in 2025 as IngenuityFest: Forging the Future.

Over three days each September, the Fest welcomes creatives, families, and curious seekers to experience immersive installations, interactive demonstrations, hands-on creative play, and a wide range of live performances, showcasing a vibrant breadth of talent and perspectives from across the region.

Ingenuity Cleveland supports hundreds of artists and innovators while inviting thousands of visitors to explore what happens when technological innovation meets creative collaboration, creating an experience unlike any other in Northeast Ohio.

Genre-bending live performances — including puppetry, drag, breakdancing, hip-hop, classical music, and more — span six stages, bringing the festival to life with movement, color, and sound.

Cleveland's spirit of innovation is also on display, with robotics competitions and technology exhibits presented by expert partners such as NASA, Kent State University's Design Innovation Hub, Case Western Reserve University's think[box], and Cleveland Public Library.

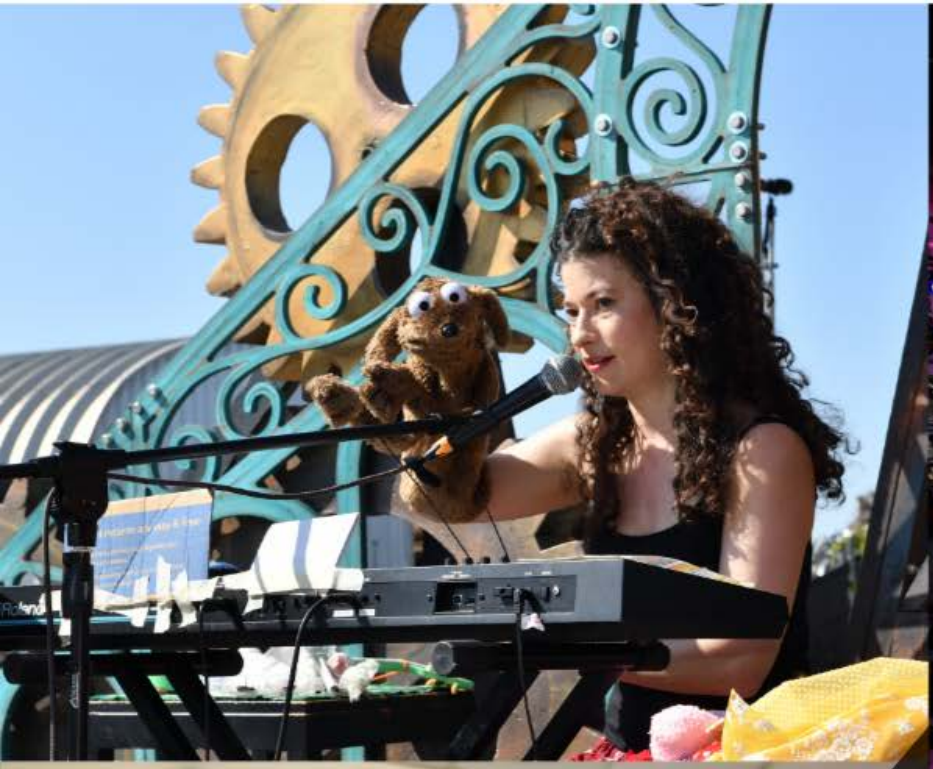
IngenuityFest is a place
To think critically.
To be bold and take risks.
To fail, learn, and try again in a playful laboratory of ideas.

The outgrowth of a full year of creative collaboration, IngenuityFest energizes & forges the season ahead.



"Unique and eclectic!







> “I am surprised - in a good way - every single time I walk through the doors.







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BY THE NUMBERS ...

20,000
Total IngenuityFest Attendees in 2025

10 MILLION
Total Impressions across web, print, billboard, TV & radio

10,000+
Hours of Collaboration to create the event

300+
Volunteers from businesses, colleges & community at large

50+
Artisan Vendors selling more than $100,000 in wares!

95%
of Attendees learned something new and were inspired to be more creative.

97%
of Attendees would recommend IngenuityFest to a friend.

99%
of Attendees HAD FUN! and WILL COME BACK IN 2026!



MUSIC
★★★★½

TICKET PRICE
★★★★★

VENUE
★★★★★

EXHIBITS & INSTALLATIONS
★★★★½

OVERALL EXPERIENCE
★★★★★

30+

Leading Cleveland Companies Participate in the Fest.





5,000+

Children 12 and under attend for FREE!

500+

Audience members choose to contribute above the ticket price with a donation or "Pay Your Fair Share" ticket.





PLUS! INGENUITY IS SO MUCH MORE THAN A FESTIVAL ...

WE ARE:

100,000+

Square Feet of Flexible Creative Space available for public use.



500

Hours of Free & Low Cost access to Arts Programming annually.

30+

(And Growing!) IngenuityLabs Incubator Members: Small Creative Businesses making an impact through the arts.



46%

of IngenuityLabs members identify as members of minority or marginalized groups.

20+

Ignite! Impact Award microgrants to date, supporting projects advancing equity in the arts + entrepreneurship.



72%

Earned Income: i.e. for every dollar you contribute, we invest dollars into Cleveland's creative landscape.





HAVE YOU SEEN US AROUND TOWN?

Brite Winter Festival
Ingenuity has partnered with Brite Winter to create the visual arts landscape for this unique event for nearly 10 years.

MetroHealth Juneteenth Freedom Fest
As co-founders of this annual event, now in its 4th year, Ingenuity joins Downtown Cleveland Alliance and Karamu House in celebrating Black excellence for an annual audience of 10,000.

North Coast Yard
Ingenuity has been proud to partner with StreetPlans and a core group of Cleveland Collaborators in the activation of Cleveland's newest waterfront community space.

St. Clair Superior Neighborhood
Ingenuity continues to support ongoing free programming in our home neighborhood, including through murals, pop-up events, and our annual back to school event "Celebrating Students on St. Clair!"

Impart 216: Breathing Creativity into the Mt. Pleasant Neighborhood
In partnership with Sankofa's Robin Robinson and twelve muralists from across Cleveland, this year-long program engaged the community of Mt. Pleasant as part of Cleveland's Transformative Art Fund with a dozen community events and touchpoints, culminating in six large-scale community murals, centered on the intersection of Kinsman Road and Union Avenue in the heart of the southeast side neighborhood.





OUR PROGRAMS INCLUDE ...

IngenuityLabs Incubator
IngenuityLabs serves as our year-round home with private & shared spaces, tools, and other resources for 30 (and growing!) small creative businesses.

The Ingeneers
Our 300+ person creative collective meets weekly to vision, build and network. Open to all, The Ingeneers is a peer-to-peer learning environment, social club and arts-based civic engagement engine.

Ignite! at Ingenuity
Our entrepreneurship series comprised of training sessions, Ignite! Impact Awards, and career exposure for youth and young adults.

Ingenious Spaces
Ingenuity's approach to consulting and commissions, engaging our creative family to tackle community challenges and bring big ideas to projects of all sizes. Ingenious Spaces has been responsible for dozens of community art projects, pop-up programs, and the launch of free, intergenerational neighbor nights in the St. Clair Superior Neighborhood.

NOT TO MENTION...

IngenuityLabs Expansion
We are growing! With expansion comes construction and new space for Incubator members & classes, new education programs and partner events. We're hard at work planning, building and improving for the future.







HELP US DREAM UP THE NEXT 20 YEARS OF INGENUITY!

WHAT WILL THE FUTURE BRING?

In 2026, Ingenuity is dreaming of the future with expanded programming and upgrades to our incredible facility. We are working with partners like you to multiply our impact through:

- Personal studios for entrepreneurs, makers, and artists.
- Shared tools and workshops.
- Business development resources and programming.
- Peer-to-Peer learning.
- Opportunities for growth and exhibition, testing & developing skills.
- Connections to outward facing and revenue generating opportunities

PLUS! We make available some of Cleveland's most unique industrial facilities including 3-phase power, loading docks, 20 ton bridge cranes, 30-foot ceilings & large flexible spaces.

What will Expansion Mean?

- Increased IngenuityLabs Incubator capacity from 30 to more than 50 incubatees
- New opportunities for educational programs
- New teaching classrooms serving k-12 students.
- New rehearsal and performance space.
- Increased financial stability and capacity.
- A permanent catalyst and accessible home for Cleveland's creative economy.

JOIN US TO FORGE THE FUTURE!

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