



KÖRNER'S FOLLY

FOUNDATION

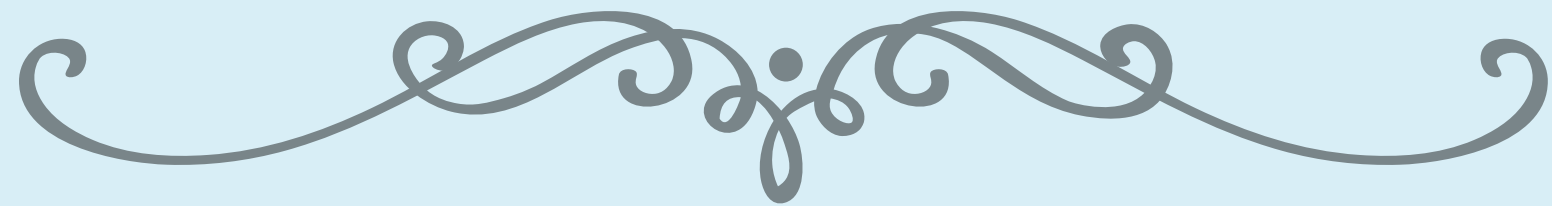
Annual Report 2025



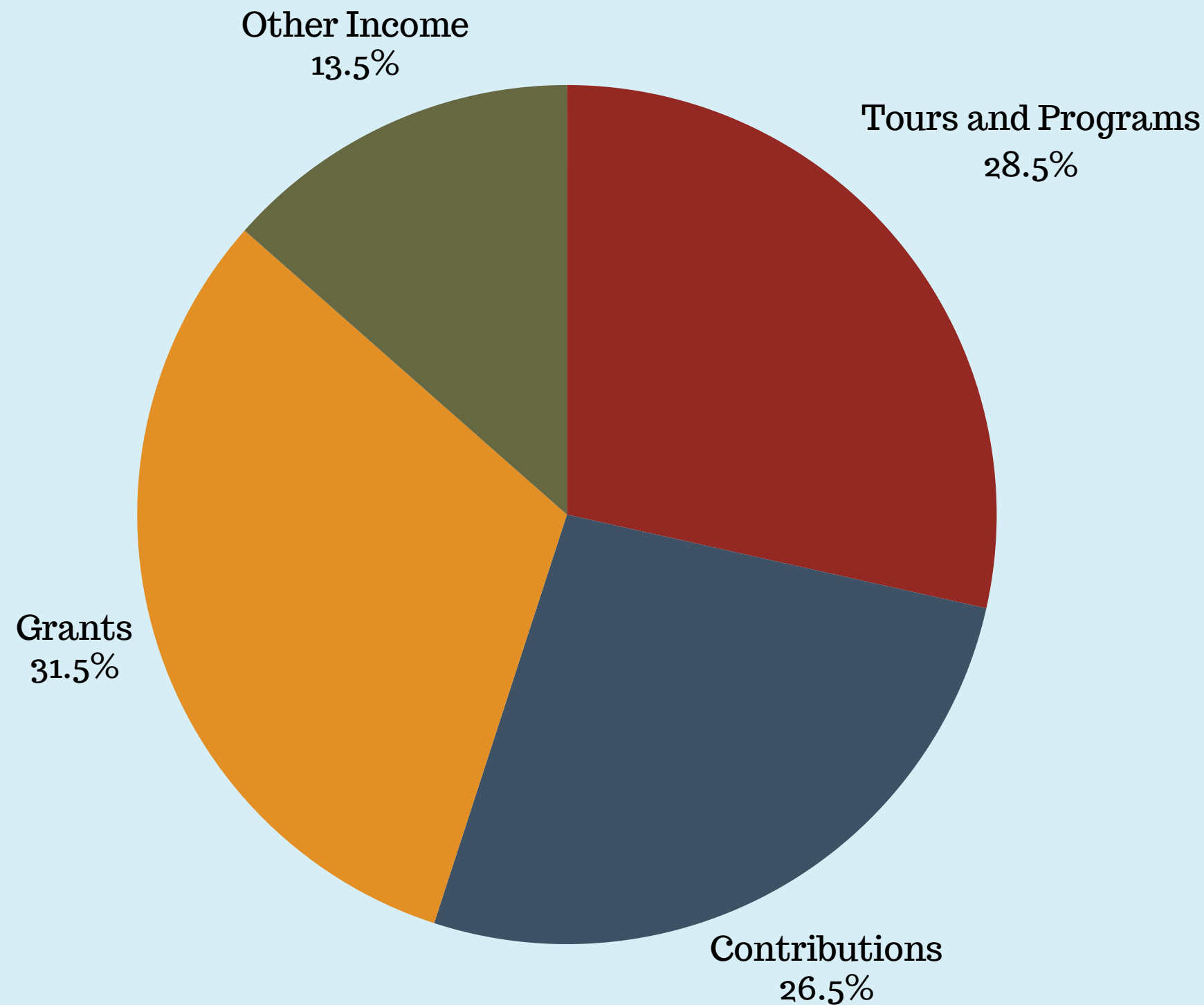


The mission of the Körner's Folly Foundation is to foster an appreciation for history, the arts, and enterprise through the preservation and interpretation of Körner's Folly.

Our vision is to be a place of connection between the past and the future, between the arts and industry, and among people who share a common appreciation for innovation.



Funding Sources 2024-2025



- 133 Individual or Household Members
- 21 Corporate Partners
- 55 Oktoberfest Sponsors
- Support from 4 Funding Partners

Funding Partners

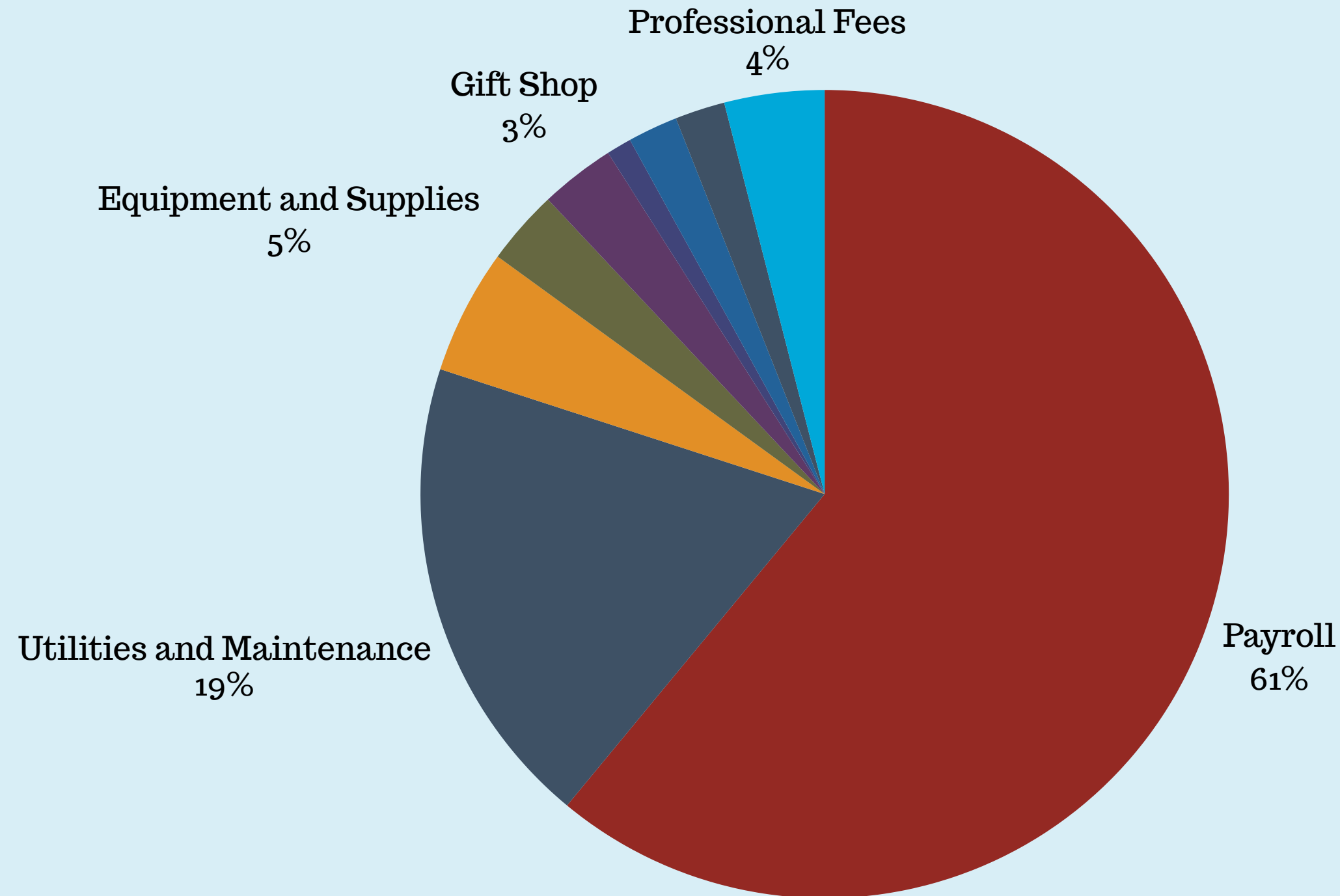


Parking Partners



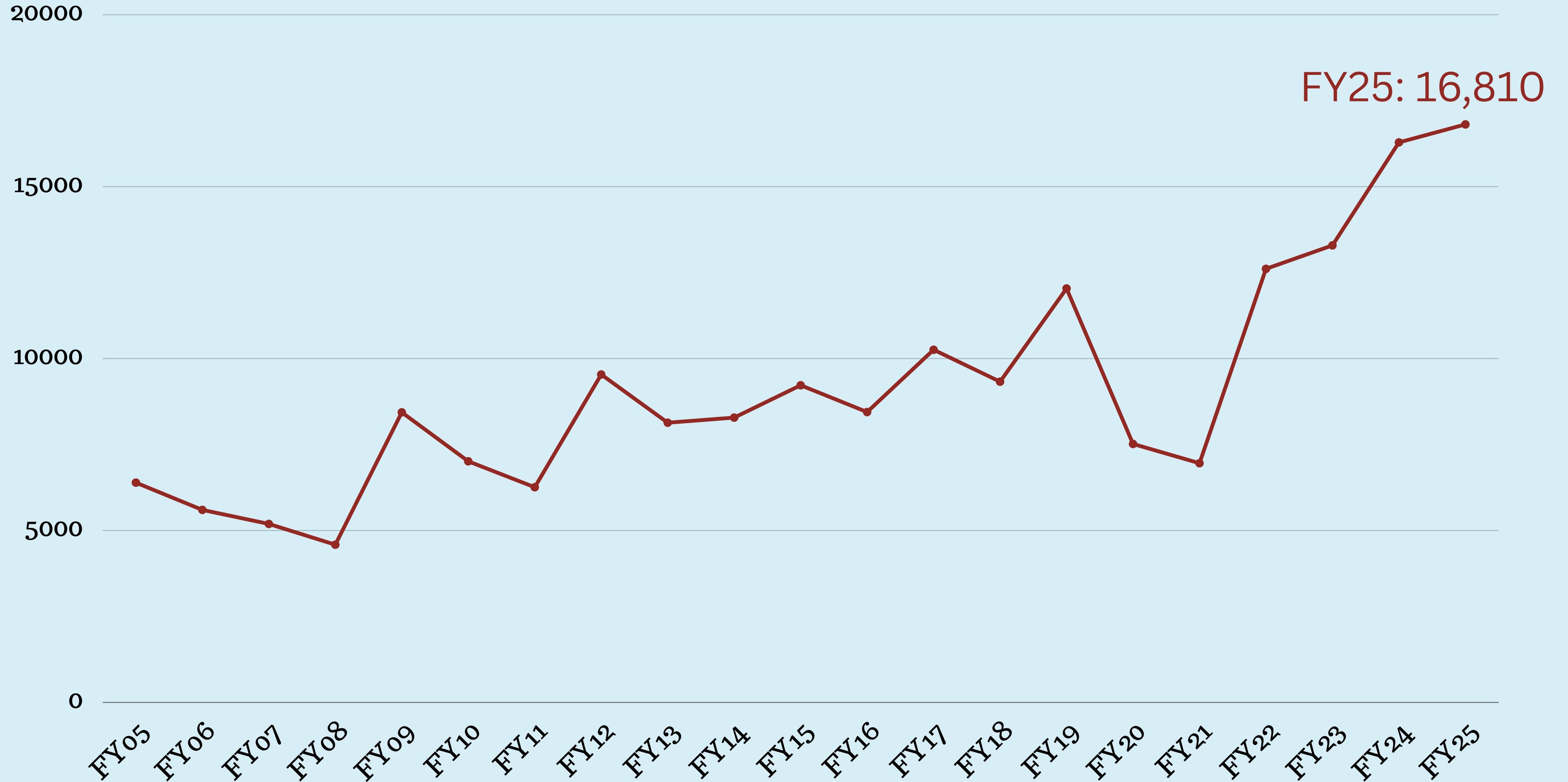
KERNERSVILLE MORAVIAN
CHURCH

Expenditures 2024-2025

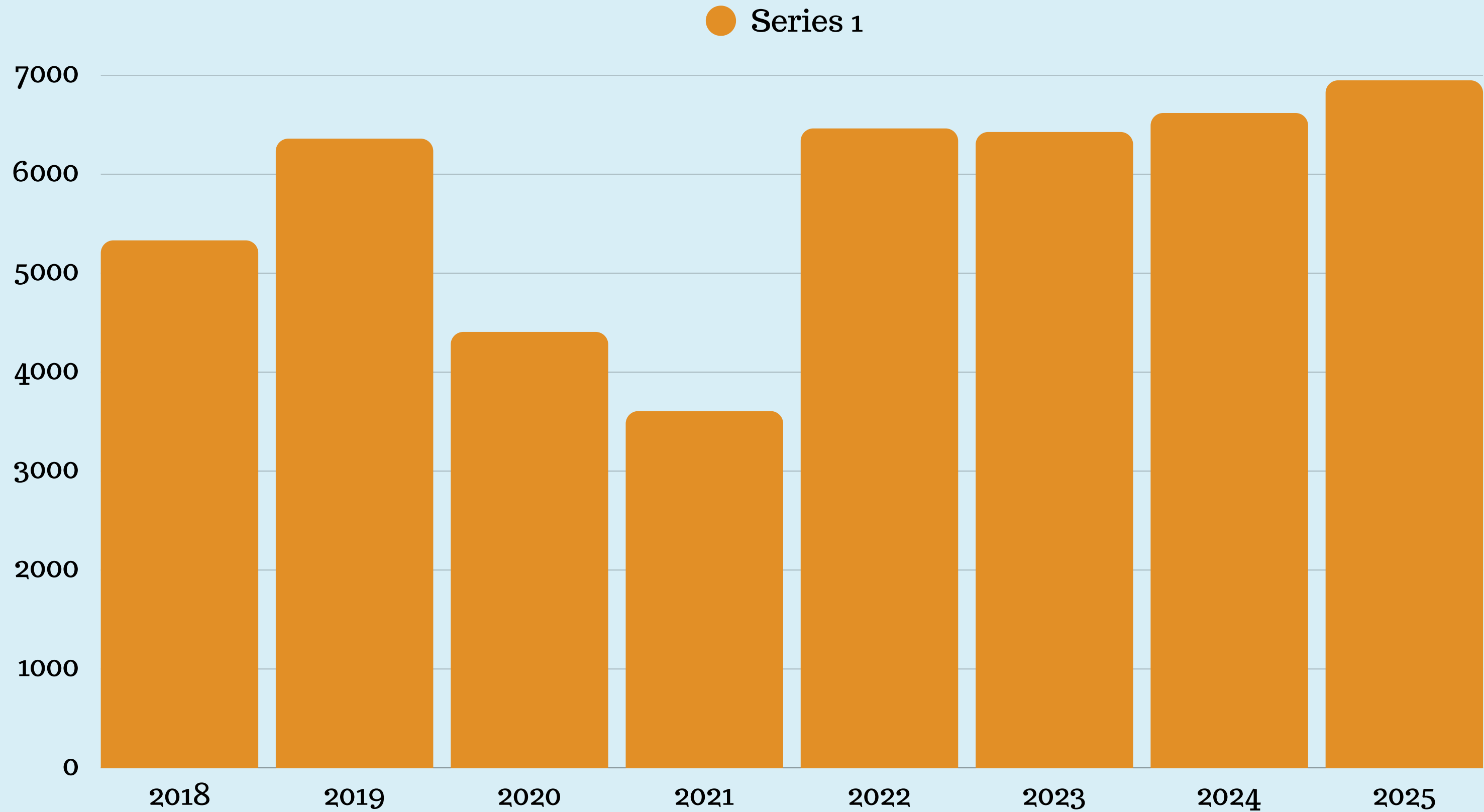


- Payroll = 61%
- Utilities, Maintenance & Insurance = 19%
- Equipment & Supplies = 5%
- Professional Fees = 4%
- Gift Shop = 3%
- Marketing = 3%
- Fundraising 2%
- Program Expense 2%
- Banking & CC Fees = 1%

Total Visitation by Fiscal Year



Self-Guided Tour Growth



Field Trips



800 Students explored
Körner's Folly
on Field Trips

(compared to 715 in FY24)

- Triad Homeschool Co-Op
- UNCG Interior Design
- Kernersville Elementary
- Oak Level Baptist School
- West Forsyth High School Interior Design
- Redeemer School
- Mt. Airy High School
- Cultivate Homeschool Group
- Caleb's Creek
- Sunshine House
- Laurel Oaks Kids
- Rotary Youth Leadership Academy
- Kernersville Parks & Recreation Summer Camp
- St. Paul's Episcopal
- Chamber of Commerce Junior Leadership
- Millennium Charter Academy

Guided Tours



365 Adults
discovered the historic
home through Guided Tours

(Compared to 320 in FY24)

- Hayes Barton Baptist
- Reynolds Homestead
- Charlotte Ladies
- Triad Baptist Church
- Stanly County Senior Services
- Leadership Kernersville
- Visit Winston-Salem Tour Operators
- Liberty Baptist Church
- Jaguars Car Club
- Rufty-Homes Senior Center
- Cary Senior Services
- NC and VA Motorcoach Operators
- Holly Springs Hunt Center

Impact



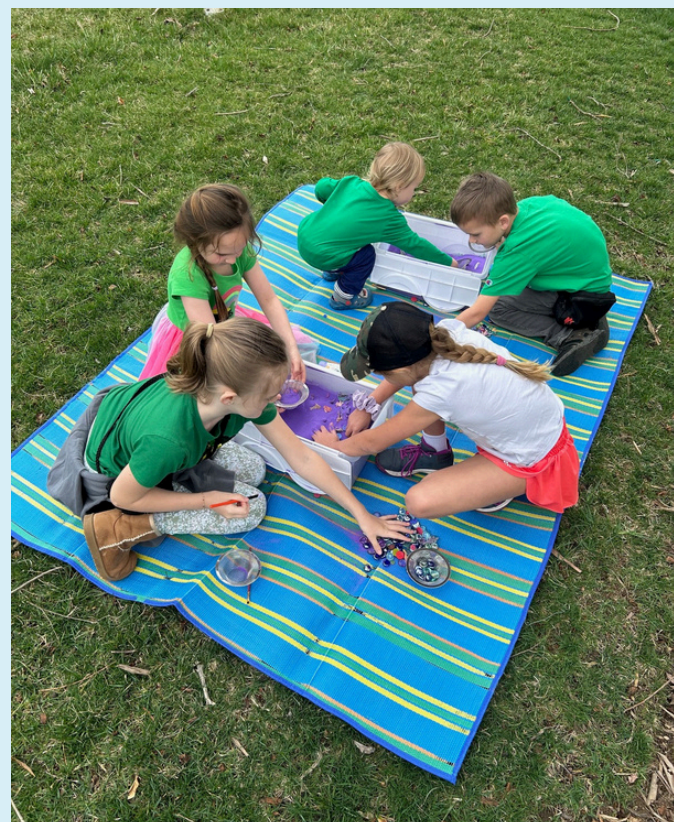
28 Programs & Events
engaged

1,811 Individuals

(compared to 19 programs serving
1,163 in FY24)

- Children & Families
- Community
- Adults

Programs for Children & Families



- Girl Scout Day: Playing the Past
- St. Valentine's Family Celebration
- Homeschool Day: Museum Behind the Scenes
- Scout Day: Patch Party!
- Family Day: Classic Games & Toys
- Homeschool Day: Fun on the Farm

Programs for Community



- Victorian Christmas
- Christmas by Candlelight with Kernersville Little Theater
- Kernersville Yuletide
- Taste of History
- Kernersville Community Day
- Vintage Markets in Spring & Fall
- 3rd Annual Folly Flower Show
- Juneteenth Celebration with Triad Cultural Arts
- Educator Open House

Taste of History



- February: Black History Month Celebration with Alderman JR Gorham & Joanne J. Falls
- March: Women's History Month Celebration with Mayor Dawn Morgan
- April: Victorian Tea Culture Program with Brooke Cashion & Brittany Hendley
- May: Historic Preservation Month Celebration with Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission and Launch of Walking Guide
- June: Local Legends - Fact or Fiction? with Alderman Joe Pinnix
- August: Classical Art of the Folly with Dr. John Hutton
- September: NC's Military History with Dr. Andrew English

3rd Annual Folly Flower Show



Programs for Adults



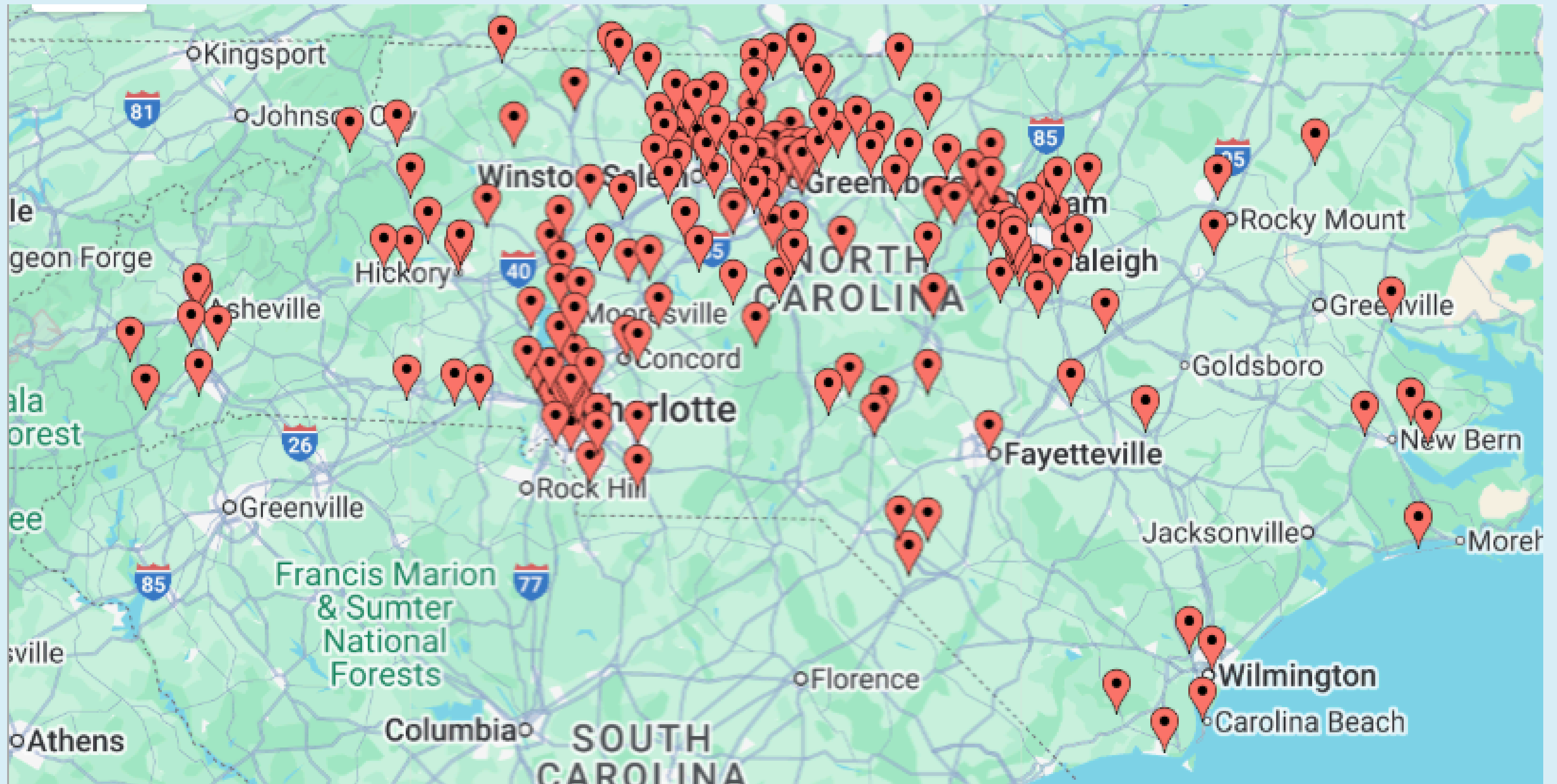
KERNERSVILLE
Oktoberfest

KÖRNER'S FOLLY
Victorian Parlor
Series

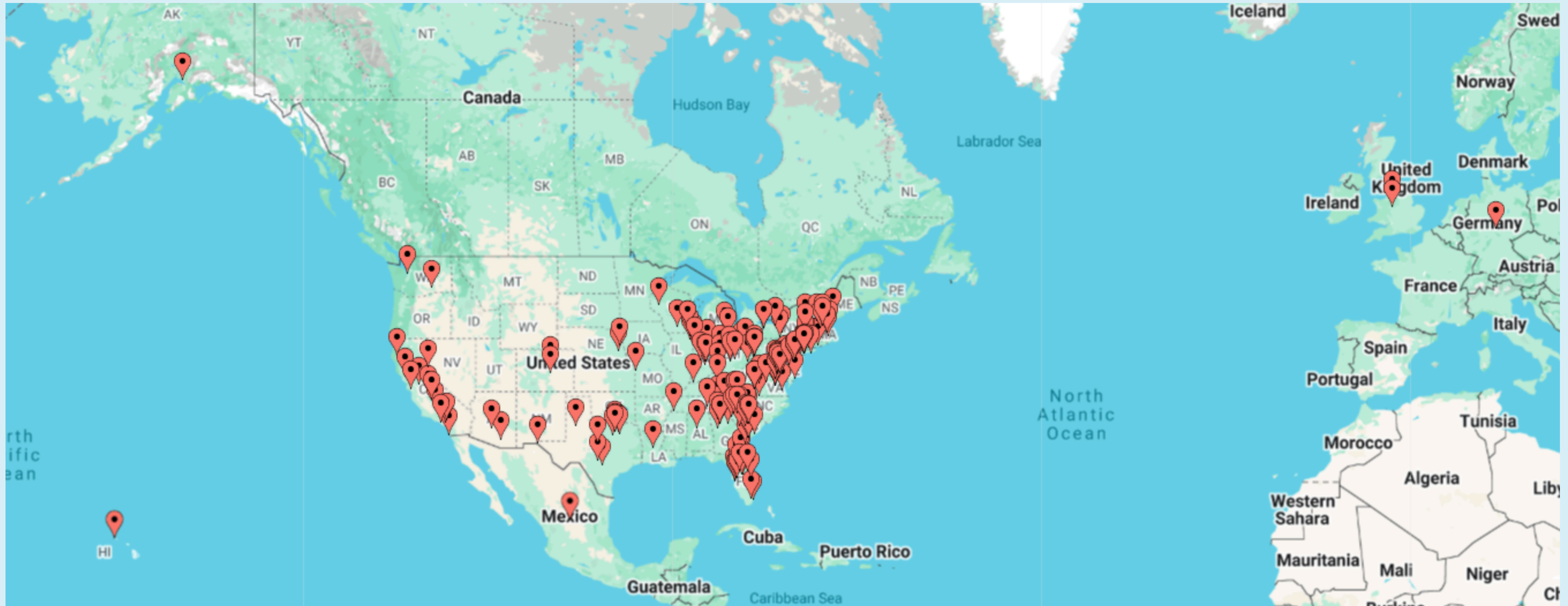
- 14th Annual Kernersville Oktoberfest
- Spirited Halloween Ball: Haunted Adventure with Krossroads Playhouse
- Victorian Parlor Series: Jazz Club curated by Jonathan Collin Greene
- Victorian Parlor Series: Hands-On Embroidery Workshop with Alice Jette



NC Visitor Locations



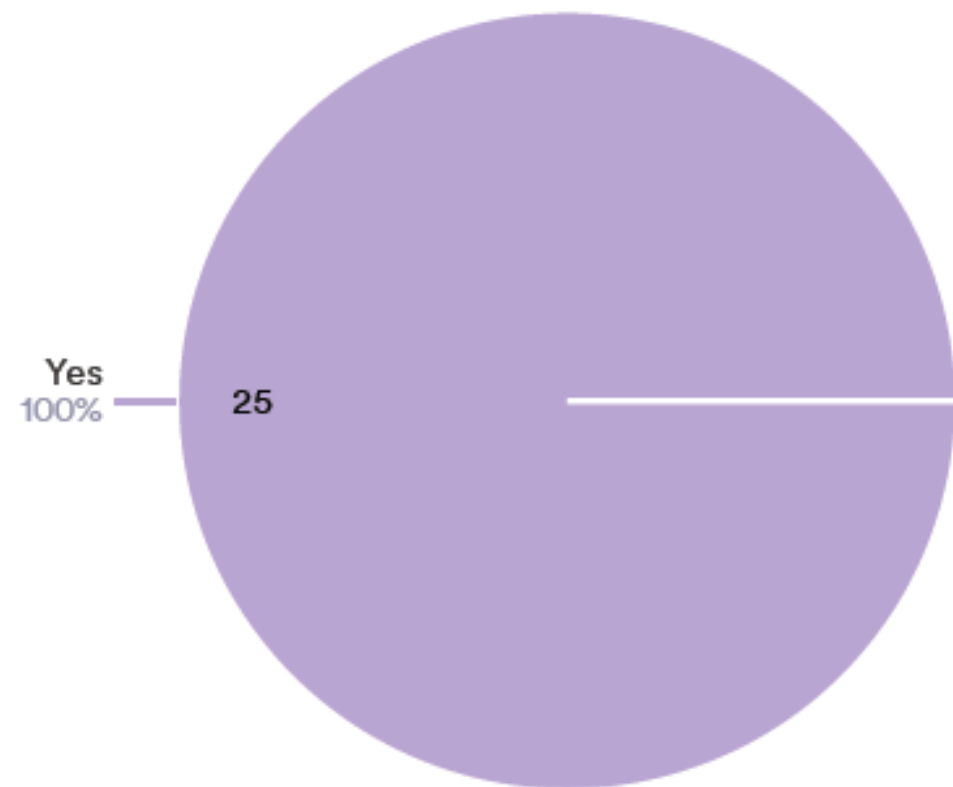
Out of State Visitor Locations



Visitor Feedback

Would you recommend Körner's Folly to others?

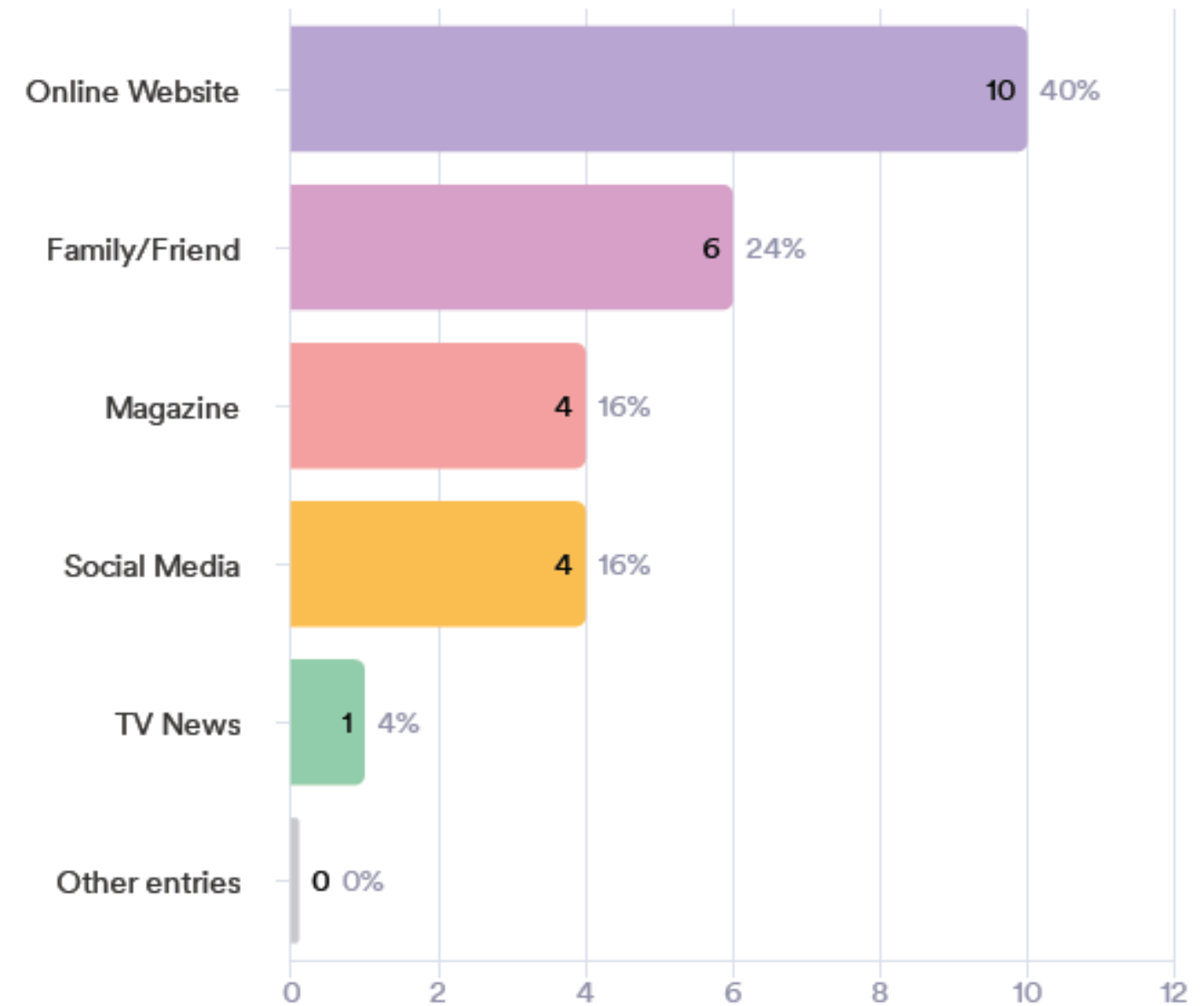
25 Responses- 1 Empty



● Yes

How did you hear about us?

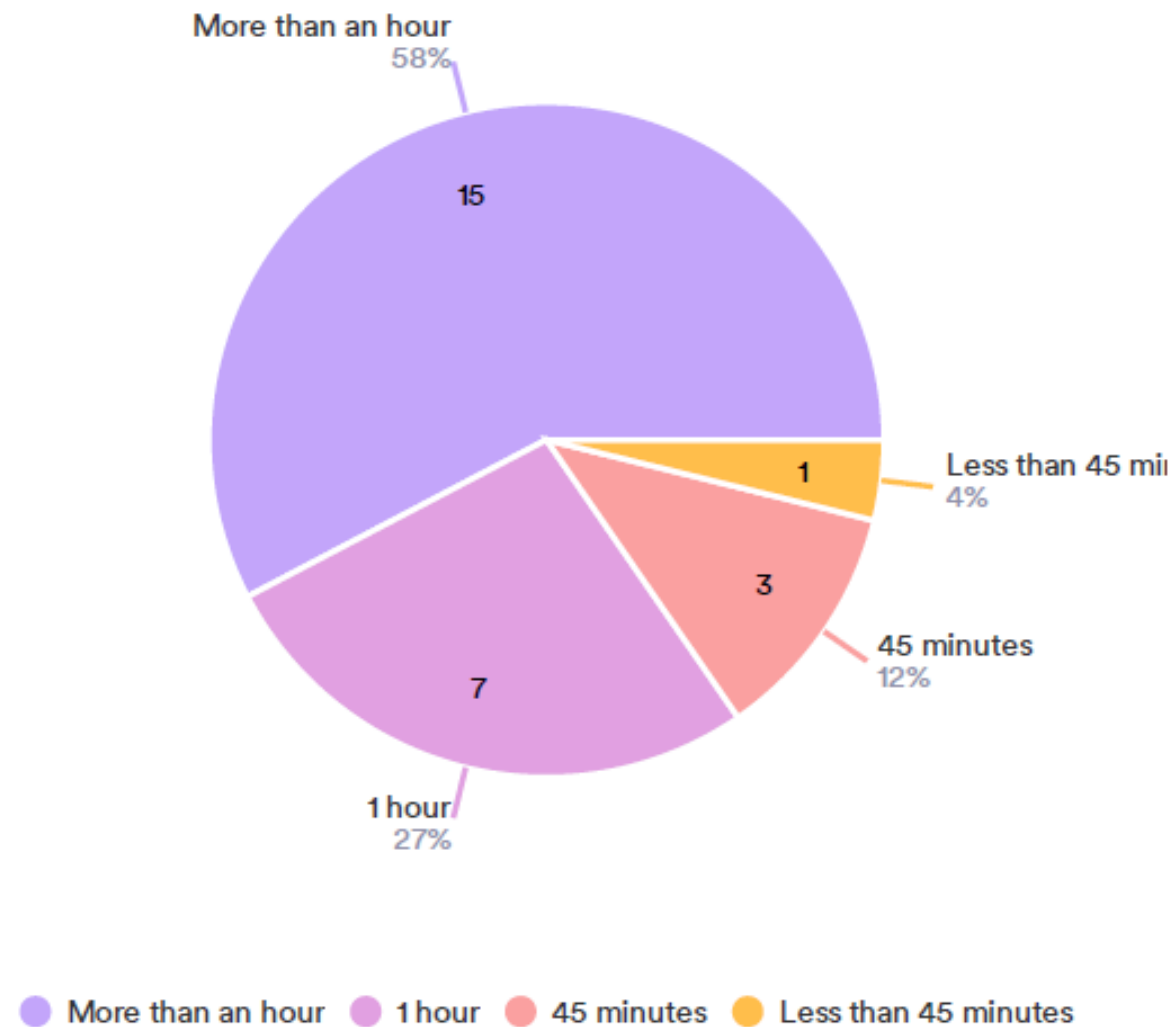
25 Responses- 1 Empty



Visitor Feedback

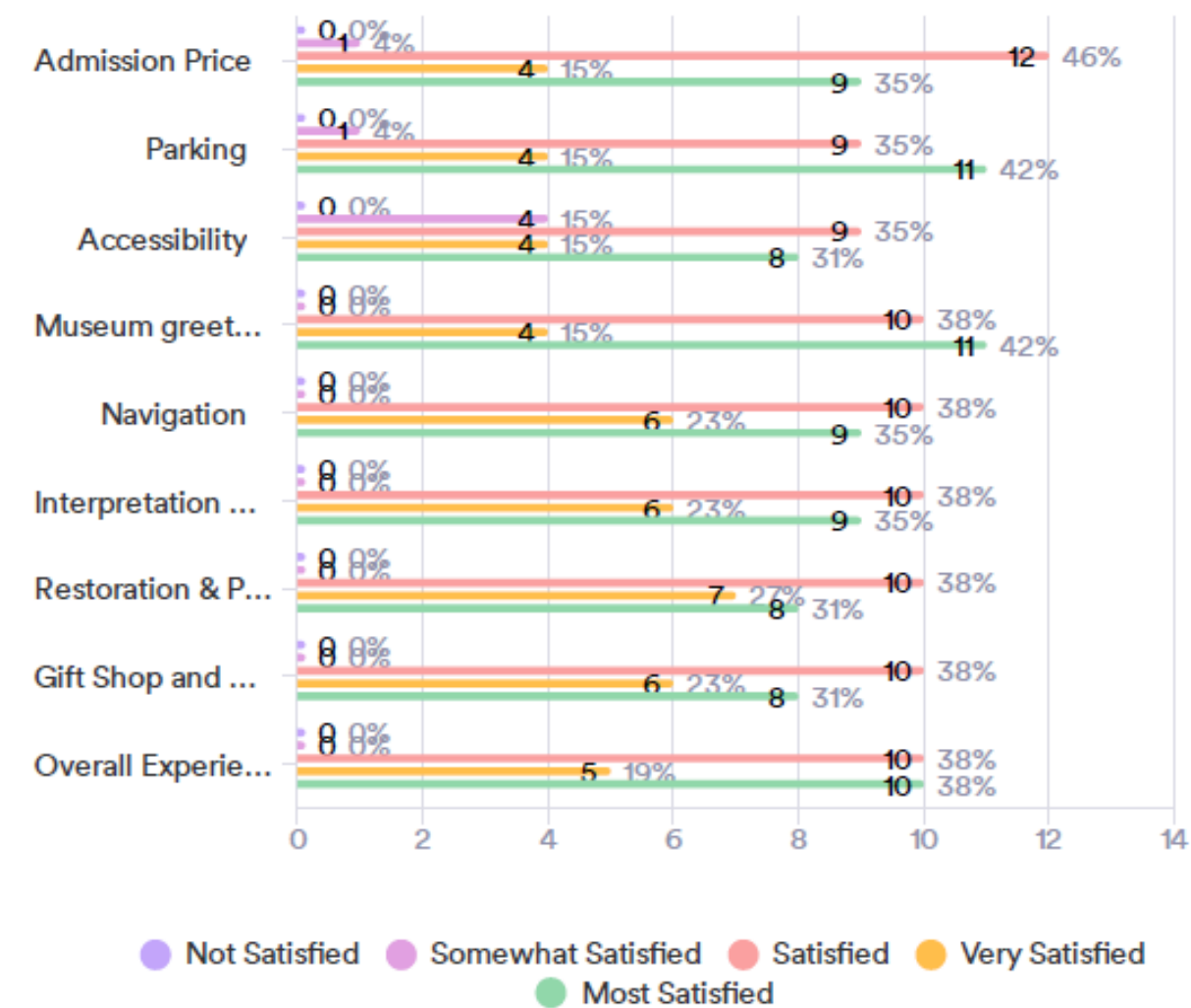
About how much time did you spend in the house?

26 Responses



Please rate the following on a scale of 1-5, with 1 as least satisfied and 5 as most satisfied:

26 Responses



Visitor Feedback

Data	Responses
The whole family enjoyed it, the kids enjoyed the family friendly aspects and even my husband enjoyed the quirkiness of the house!	1
We absolutely LOVED our visit!	1
I visited with my mom and translated everything. A wonderful experience! Thank you!	1
Great job restoring the home!	1
We heard about this place from the antique car museum. That was another wonderful place to visit.	1
Very nice experience, thank you!	1
Wonderful experience! Can't wait to come back and see the latest restoration.	1
We heard about this at the NC welcome center.	1
The visit was a wonderful experience. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to preserving this iconic piece of NC history.	1
It was a very enlightening and enjoyable couple of hours.	1
We tour a lot of historical homes while traveling and this by far was the most memorable. Loved that you could take photos too. The markers in each room were very informative and added to the experience.	1

Impact

Can you please provide up to three categories/key words you would use to describe this type of program for children?

interactive, informational,
transport back in time.

**Suggestions or comments on how we can improve our
Scouts Day programming:**

Loved all of it!!

Can you please provide up to three categories/key words you would use to describe this type of program for children?

Engaging, Fun,
Rewarding.

**Suggestions or comments on how we can improve our St.
Valentine's Family Day programming:**

It's amazing! Keep it going!

Suggestions or comments on how we can
improve our Homeschool Day
programming:

This was our first visit to Korner's Folly, after driving by it for years. We are already looking forward to returning! Korner's Folly is such a unique place that I expect that we will notice something new/different on each visit.

We enjoyed the Homeschool Day activities. The scavenger hunt made the tour much more engaging for my sons (both 15). They also really enjoyed examining the artifacts in the Community Room. We didn't explore the games since it was cool on the 17th. We will definitely be returning. Also, the staff were engaging, helpful, and obviously enjoyed their jobs.

**A Boz**

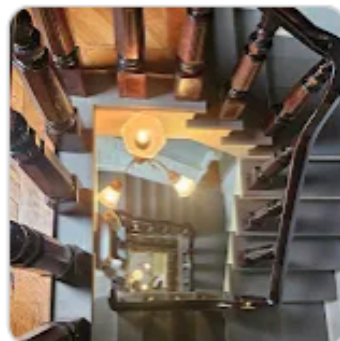
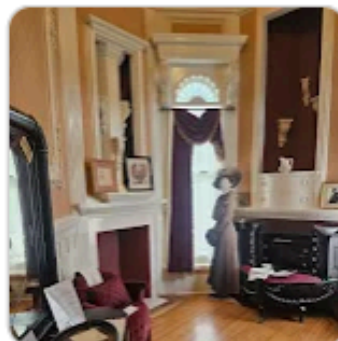
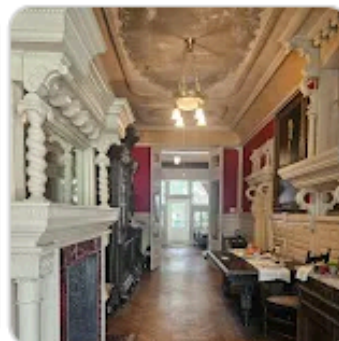
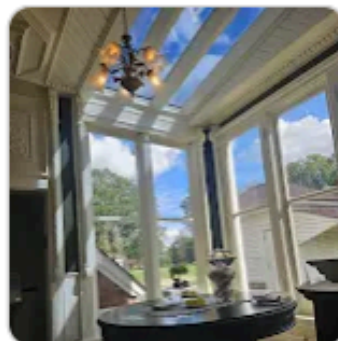
Local Guide · 105 reviews · 119 photos



a week ago

NEW

Amazing bit of national history. One of the first interior designers in the US. The house is still under renovations and has changed vastly since it was built. Very knowledgeable staff, and self guided tour. Narrow halls and stairs, low ceilings may make it challenging for some. If you appreciate the guilded age, you will love this home's story. Worth the visit

**Sandra Adkins-Rushing**

Local Guide · 30 reviews · 3 photos



3 months ago

This was a delightful museum. If you're wanting to tour an unusual home and can walk up and down lots of stairs you'll love this house. There's so much to explore. The guides were great, gift shop was fun. Clean rest rooms, beautiful landscaping. I only wish I lived close by so I could volunteer there. Very neat piece of history.

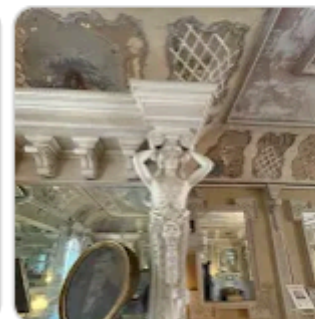
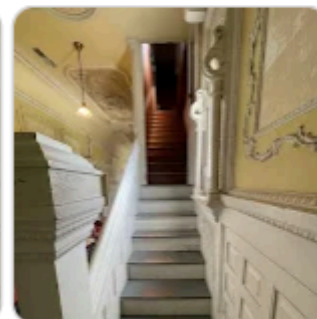
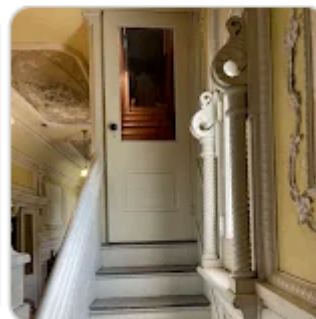
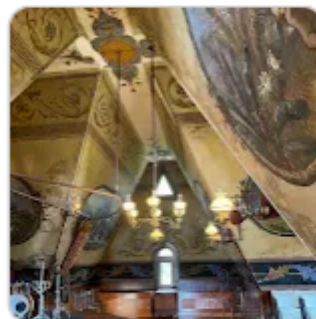
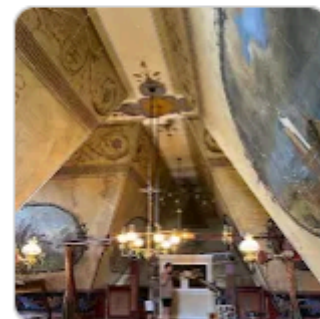
**Ren Rotts**

9 reviews · 5 photos



4 months ago

Amazing!! Worth the trip! Even my 16-year old son was engaged and came away recommending it. Watch the video at the visitors center beforehand so you can appreciate the house even more. I will return any time I get up that way. 5-stars!!!



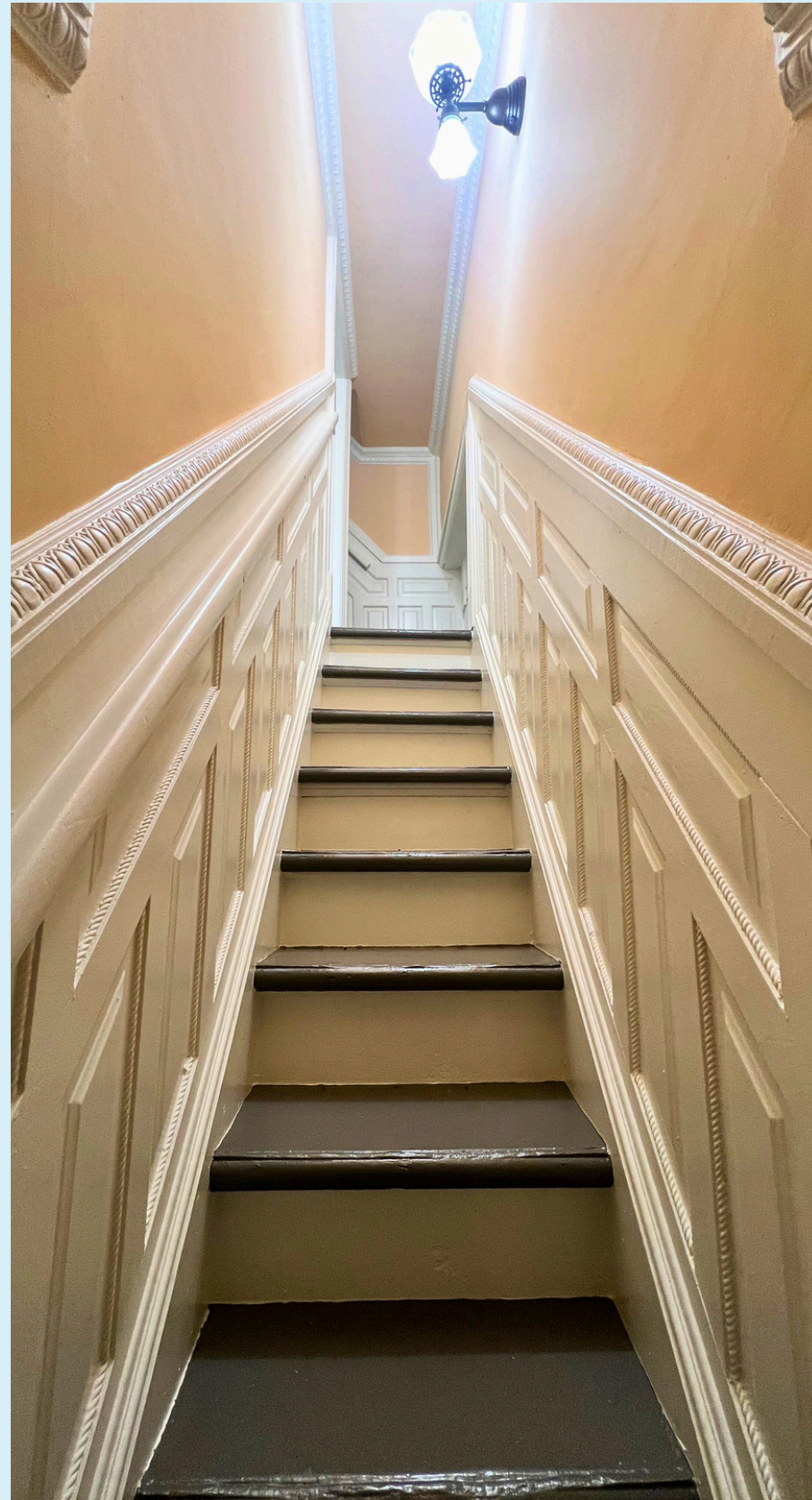
Our 2025 Collections Exhibit



Restoration



Made possible by Catherine Körner Ett, The Lib Burns Trust, The
Kernersville Foundation, and donors to the Capital Campaign
Restoration Fund





Thank you to our Staff!



Allie Smith
Visitor Services Lead



Claire Smithers
Visitor Services



Brittany Hendley
Community
Engagement Manager



Britt Williams
Operations
Coordinator

Not pictured: Rileigh Keeler, Christie Brande, and Kayley Mathe,
Visitor Services

Thank you to our Volunteers and Interns!



Our education, special event, and program volunteers logged over 800 hours this year and Intern Cooper Johnson helped us research and create labels for artworks in our collection!

Thank you to our Board!



New Strategic Goals

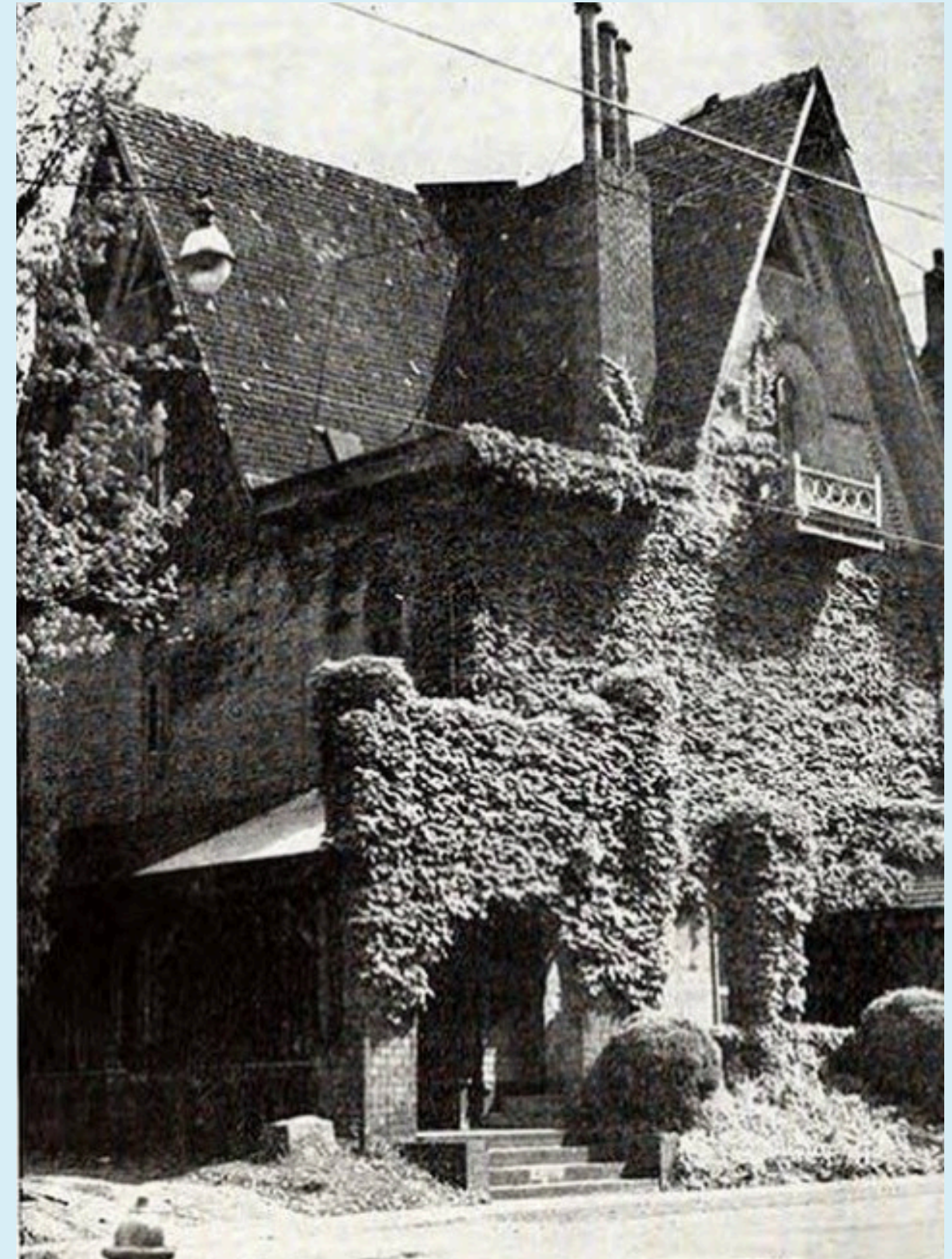


KÖRNER'S FOLLY



FOUNDATION

Increase Financial Stability



Enhance Visitor Experience



Increase Outreach



What's Next?

- Advance new strategic plan
- Continued restoration and preservation of historic Körner's Folly
- Diversification of programmatic and restoration grant funding
- Campus improvements, including landscape lighting, signage, and more
- Landmarking continued - Aunt Dealy's and Körner's Folly
- Increased tourism development and marketing outreach
- New collaborative partners for Children & Family Programming, Taste of History, Cupid's Park Performance Series, and Crafting with the Körners Artist Workshops
- Celebrating America's 250th and Kernersville's 155th Founding Celebrations on April 11, 2026!

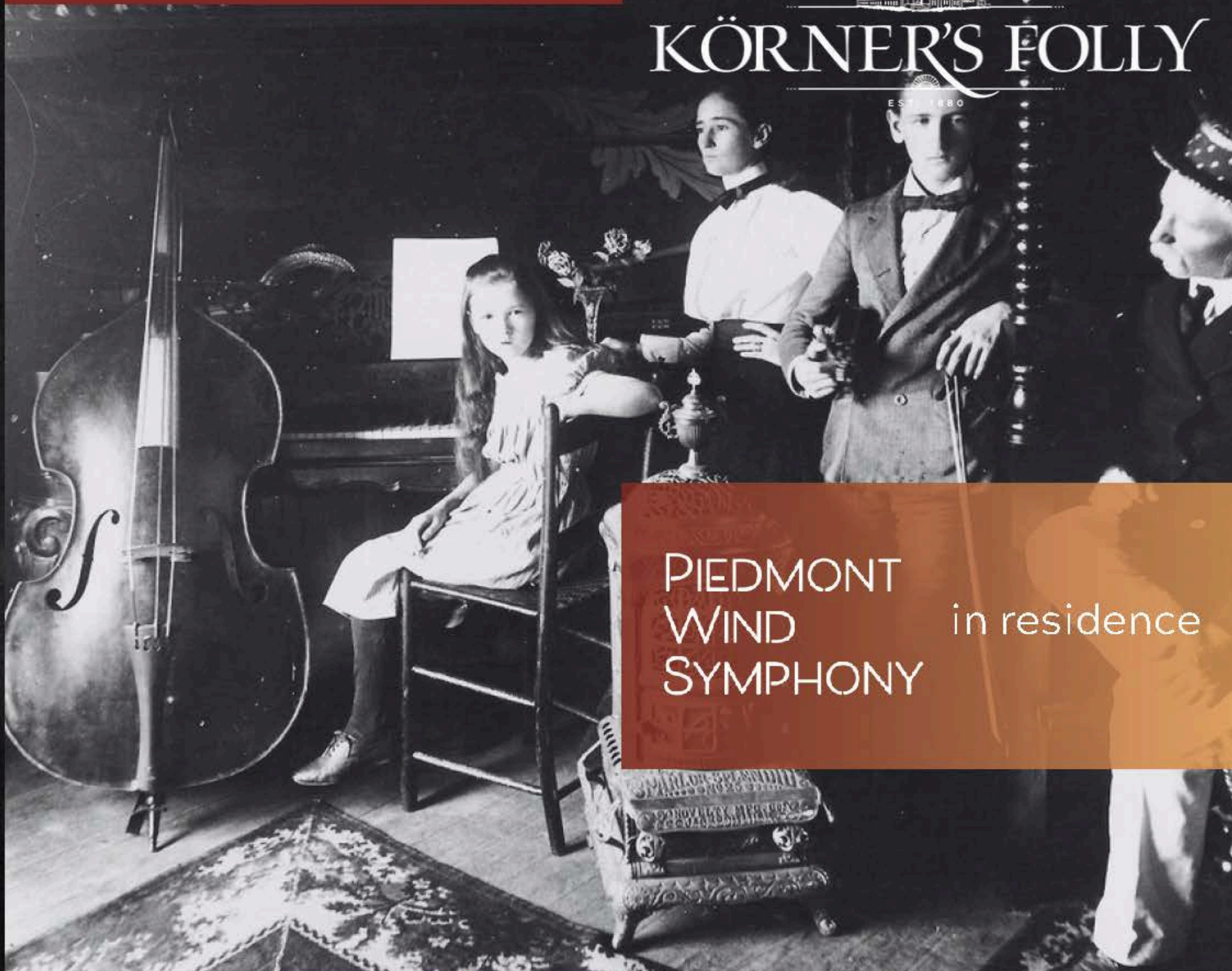
The Piedmont Wind Symphony Residency at Historic Körner's Folly is a year-long artistic collaboration celebrating Forsyth County's shared heritage of music, history, and community.

Each concert reactivates Cupid's Park Theatre—the original entertainment space designed by visionary artist Jule Gilmer Körner—and brings to life the sounds of the 1890-1910 era through period-inspired performances.

Together, these organizations share a mission to enrich community life through the arts, preserve local history, and ensure equitable access to meaningful cultural experiences.



This program is funded by Arts Council of Winston-Salem & Forsyth County as part of the Arts For EveryBody Community Project Grant



PIEDMONT
WIND SYMPHONY in residence



PIEDMONT
WIND SYMPHONY

kornersfolly.org

CUPID'S PARK THEATRE

Tucked within the upper floors of Historic Körner's Folly, Cupid's Park Theatre is one of America's earliest known private theaters and a rare architectural treasure. Built in the late 19th century by artist and designer Jule Gilmer Körner, the theatre served as a creative playground for the Körner family and a gathering space for Kernersville residents to experience live music, dramatic performances, and community events. With its ornate hand-painted ceilings, whimsical design, and intimate acoustics, Cupid's Park Theatre embodies the spirit of innovation and artistic expression that defined the Gilded Age. Today, through the Piedmont Wind Symphony Residency at Körner's Folly, this remarkable venue once again becomes a living stage—bridging the past and present by bringing historically inspired performances to contemporary audiences from across Winston-Salem and Forsyth County.



SCHEDULE

February 2026

Parlor Rhythms:
The Syncopated Age
Ragtime Ensemble

May 2026

Salon Music at the
Turn of the Century
Solo performances

August 2026

Harmony in the Air
Harmonie Ensemble

November 2026

A Moravian Yuletide
Brass Quintet

Poesie Perfume & Tea Collaboration



- Working with the Greensboro-based indie perfume house Poesie, we will create a new fragrance tour program to take place in February 2026
- Perfume-making for Crafting with the Körners Workshop
- Exclusive Körner's Folly-inspired fragrance
- Gift shop availability for Poesie Perfume and Tea



KÖRNER'S FOLLY



EST. 1880