



**Trust for Cultural Resources of the
County of Onondaga
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2023 and 2022**

Trust for Cultural Resources of the County of Onondaga

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CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS PLLC

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors
Trust for Cultural Resources of the County of Onondaga

Report on the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the business-type activities of the Trust for Cultural Resources of the County of Onondaga (the Trust) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Trust's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying basic financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the business-type activities of the Trust, as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Trust and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Management's Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

The Trust's management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern for one year beyond the financial statement date.



Auditor's Responsibility

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Trust's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis on pages 4 through 6 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 13, 2024, on our consideration of the Trust for Cultural Resources of the County of Onondaga's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Trust for Cultural Resources of the County of Onondaga's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Grossman St Amour CPAs

Syracuse, New York
March 13, 2024

Trust for Cultural Resources of the County of Onondaga
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 (unaudited)

As management of the Trust for Cultural Resources of the County of Onondaga (the "Trust"), we offer readers of this Trust's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Trust for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022. We encourage readers to consider the information presented here in conjunction with additional information that we have furnished in the financial statements.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The Trust primarily receives revenues from project and application fees. No project fees were received in 2023 and 2022.
- The Trust's net position decreased by \$158,707 and \$155,138 in 2023 and 2022, respectively. The decrease in 2023 is primarily due to the Onondaga County Office of Economic Development contractual expenses totaling \$97,656 (increase of \$131 from 2022). In addition, the Trust provided funding to New York State Blues Festival, Inc. - \$25,000 (the Blues Festival), Galaxy Media Partners, LLC - \$15,000 (Moonlight Movie Series at the Lakeview Amphitheater), Juneteenth Inc. - \$14,000 (the Juneteenth Festival), and Nosotros Radio, Inc. - \$9,000 (the Latino Americano Festival) totaling \$63,000 of service contracts in 2023.
- The Trust provided funding to Galaxy Events LLC - \$15,000 (movie night at the amphitheater), Nosotros Radio, Inc. - \$9,000 (the Latino Americano Festival), and Juneteenth Inc. - \$25,000 (the Juneteenth festival) totaling \$49,000 of service contracts in 2022.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Trust's basic financial statements. The Trust's basic financial statements are comprised of three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements.

Government-wide financial statements – The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Trust's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The Statement of Net Position presents information on all of the Trust's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net positions. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Trust is improving or deteriorating.

The Statement of Activities presents information showing how the Trust's net position changed during the fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported when the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in the future fiscal periods. Both of the government-wide financial statements report only business-type (proprietary) activities, since none of the Trust's activities are considered to be governmental activities supported primarily by taxes.

Trust for Cultural Resources of the County of Onondaga
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 (unaudited)

Fund financial statements – A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Trust, like other component units of state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The Trust does not have any finance-related legal requirements for funds, as such maintains its books and records consistent with other proprietary funds, which is on a basis consistent with business-type activities. The Trust's financial statements are considered a proprietary fund (enterprise fund) which is the same information as presented within the Statements of Net Position and Statements of Activities.

Notes to the Financial Statements – The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found on pages 10 through 14 of this report.

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of the Trust's financial position. In the case of the Trust, assets exceeded liabilities by \$337,686 and \$496,393 as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. This net position balance primarily consists of cash and cash equivalents of \$435,391 and \$593,967 for 2023 and 2022, respectively, which may be used by the Trust for future economic development needs as more fully described in the Trusts mission statement.

Trust for Cultural Resources of the County of Onondaga
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 (unaudited)

The Trust's only fund is treated as a proprietary (business-type) fund. The following are summarized versions of the government-wide financial statements for 2023 and 2022:

Net Position		
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 435,391	\$ 593,967
Total assets	<u>\$ 435,391</u>	<u>\$ 593,967</u>
Due to Onondaga County Office of Economic Development	\$ 97,656	\$ 97,525
Accounts payable	49	49
Total liabilities	<u>\$ 97,705</u>	<u>\$ 97,574</u>
Net position	<u>\$ 337,686</u>	<u>\$ 496,393</u>
Change in Net Position		
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Revenue and other support:		
Interest income	\$ 10,854	\$ 184
Total revenue and other support	<u>10,854</u>	<u>184</u>
Expenses:		
Service contracts	\$ 63,000	\$ 49,000
Onondaga County Office of Economic Development	97,656	97,525
Professional services	5,722	5,671
Insurance	3,126	3,126
Miscellaneous expenses	57	-
Total expenses	<u>169,561</u>	<u>155,322</u>
Change in net position	(158,707)	(155,138)
Net position at beginning of year	<u>496,393</u>	<u>651,531</u>
Net position at end of year	<u>\$ 337,686</u>	<u>\$ 496,393</u>

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

This financial report is designed to provide readers with a general overview of the Trust's finances. If you have questions about this report or need additional information, contact the Trust's board at the Trust for Cultural Resources of the County of Onondaga, 335 Montgomery Street, 2nd Floor, Syracuse, NY 13202.

Trust for Cultural Resources of the County of Onondaga

Statements of Net Position

	2023	2022
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 435,391	\$ 593,967
Total assets	\$ 435,391	\$ 593,967
LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION		
Current liabilities:		
Due to Onondaga County Office of Economic Development	\$ 97,656	\$ 97,525
Accounts payable	49	49
Total liabilities	97,705	97,574
Net position		
Unrestricted	337,686	496,393
Total net position	337,686	496,393
Total liabilities and net position	\$ 435,391	\$ 593,967

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

Trust for Cultural Resources of County of Onondaga

Statements of Activities and Changes in Net Position

	Years ended December 31,	
	2023	2022
Revenue and other support:		
Interest income	\$ 10,854	\$ 184
Total revenue and other support	10,854	184
Expenses:		
Service contracts	63,000	49,000
Onondaga County Office of Economic Development	97,656	97,525
Professional services	5,722	5,671
Insurance	3,126	3,126
Miscellaneous expenses	57	-
Total expenses	169,561	155,322
Change in net position	(158,707)	(155,138)
Net position at beginning of year	496,393	651,531
Net position at end of year	\$ 337,686	\$ 496,393

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

Trust for Cultural Resources of the County of Onondaga

Statements of Cash Flows – Proprietary fund

	Years ended December 31,	
	2023	2022
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Inflows -		
Interest received	\$ 10,854	\$ 184
Outflows -		
Onondaga County Office of Economic Development	(97,525)	(110,523)
Service Contracts	(63,000)	(49,000)
Professional services	(5,722)	(5,671)
Other services	(3,183)	(6,252)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities*	<u>(158,576)</u>	<u>(171,262)</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(158,576)	(171,262)
Cash - Beginning of year	<u>593,967</u>	<u>765,229</u>
Cash - End of year	<u>\$ 435,391</u>	<u>\$ 593,967</u>
*Reconciliation of change in net position to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:		
Change in net position:	\$ (158,707)	\$ (155,138)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts payable	<u>131</u>	<u>(16,124)</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	<u>\$ (158,576)</u>	<u>\$ (171,262)</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

Trust for Cultural Resources of the County of Onondaga

Notes to Financial Statements

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Nature of Operations

The Trust for Cultural Resources of the County of Onondaga ("Trust") supports, promotes, and protects the institutions that provide cultural, educational and recreational opportunities to the people of Onondaga County and New York State. The Trust works to improve the viability and support the growth of these organizations. The Trust offers local, convenient and economical financing opportunities for Onondaga County's non-profit cultural establishments in line with the cultural and economic development priorities of the area.

The Trust is considered a public benefit corporation (public authority) and is subject to rules and regulations of the New York State Public Authorities Act of 2009. The Trust was established in accordance with Article 20 and 22 of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Law of the State of New York. The Trust must provide various reports to New York State officials on a frequent basis. Failure to follow public authority regulations or to provide accurate and timely information to the New York State officials could impair the ability for the Trust to act under the public authority laws of the State of New York.

Basis of Presentation

The Trust is considered a governmental entity for accounting and financial reporting purposes. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applied to government units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. Certain prior year balances have been reclassified to conform to the current years' presentation.

Governance

The Trust is managed by a Board of Trustees which establishes the general policies governing the organization. The Board of Trustees is comprised of five voting trustees who are all subject to confirmation by the Onondaga County Legislature.

Annual Budgets

The Trust is required to provide to the New York State authorities budget office an annual budget on operations and capital construction setting forth the estimated receipts and expenditures for the next fiscal year and the current fiscal year. This budget is submitted to the authority's budget office and can be found on the Trust's website at www.ongoved.com/non-profit/crt/.

Trust for Cultural Resources of the County of Onondaga

Notes to Financial Statements

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Concentration of Credit Risk

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Trust to concentration of credit risk consist principally of cash and cash equivalents. The Trust places its temporary cash investments with limited financial institutions and at various times these investments exceed the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation limits.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Trust considers all short-term investments purchased with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

All deposits of the Trust, including certificates of deposit and special time deposits in excess of the amount insured under the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (FDIC) shall be secured by eligible collateral. Eligible collateral is defined as consisting of any one, or combination, of the following: (a) pledge of eligible securities with an aggregate market value as provided by General Municipal Law equal to the aggregate amount of deposits or (b) by an eligible surety bond payable to the Trust for an amount equal to 100% of the aggregate amount of deposits and the agreed upon interest, if any, executed by an insurance company authorized to do business in New York State, whose claims-paying ability is rated in the highest rating category by at least two nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. The Trust has an excess amount of \$130,826 held in both checking and money market accounts from a single bank in excess of the FDIC insured amounts as of December 31, 2023. This excess amount is collateralized by securities held by the pledging financial institution.

Property and Equipment

Property is recorded at cost at the date of acquisition if purchased or fair market value at the date of donation in the case of gifts. Depreciation is recorded on the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets.

Net Position

The net investment in capital assets component of net position consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.

The restricted component of net position consists of restricted assets reduced by liabilities and deferred inflows of resources related to those assets. Generally, restricted net position represents grants that have been committed according to the terms and conditions of the grant award agreement.

The unrestricted component of net position consists of restricted assets reduced by liabilities and deferred inflows of resources related to those assets. Generally, a liability relates to restricted assets if the asset results from a resource flow that also results in the recognition of a liability or if the liability will be liquidated with the restricted assets reported.

Trust for Cultural Resources of the County of Onondaga

Notes to Financial Statements

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Income Taxes

The Trust is exempt from taxation under Section 115 of the Internal Revenue Code, and has been classified as an organization that is not a private foundation under Section 509(a) of the Code. The Trust also believes that none of its activities are subject to unrelated business income tax; therefore, no provision for such income tax has been made in the financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022.

Revenue Recognition

The Trust recognizes project fee revenue related to a bond closing at the time of the bond closing. All project fees are considered to be operating revenues.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period and for the reporting period and as of the financial statement date. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Risks and Uncertainties

Investment securities (including cash equivalents) are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market, and credit risk. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities and the level of uncertainty related to changes in the value of investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in risk in the near term would materially affect the amounts reported in the Statements of Net Position and the Statements of Activities.

2. Capital Assets

Capital asset balances and activity for the year ended December 31, 2023 were as follows:

	Beginning			Ending
	Balance	Additions	Deletions	Balance
Governmental activities:				
Capital assets that are depreciated:				
Furniture and equipment	\$ 1,657	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,657
Total depreciable historical cost	<u>1,657</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,657</u>
Less accumulated depreciation:				
Furniture and equipment	(1,657)	-	-	(1,657)
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>(1,657)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,657)</u>
Total historical cost, net	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

Trust for Cultural Resources of the County of Onondaga

Notes to Financial Statements

3. Investments

The Trust has a written investment policy. This investment policy allows the Trust to invest in a variety of appropriate investment vehicles, including but not limited to special time deposits, certificates of deposits, obligations of the United States of America, obligations guaranteed by agencies of the United States of America and obligations of the State of New York. All investments held on behalf of the Trust shall be held in the custody of a bank or trust company and shall be held pursuant to a written custodial agreement. As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, all of the assets of the Trust are invested within either a general checking account or a money market account which are considered cash and cash equivalents for financial statement reporting.

Investments are reported at fair value. The Trust's investments are typically money market investments which are short-term, highly liquid debt instruments, including commercial paper, banker's acceptances, and U.S. Treasury and agency obligations. As of December 31, 2023, the Trust's investments of \$380,826 were entirely held at one financial institution and were entirely money market funds. The money market investment is not rated by one of the independent rating agencies.

4. Related Party Transactions

The Trust has entered into an agreement with Onondaga County to provide staffing and other support costs for all of the Trust's activities. The contract totaled \$97,656 and \$97,525 in 2023 and 2022, respectively. This contract is all-inclusive for employee salaries and related fringe benefits; as such no salaries or benefits are recorded individually on the financial statements of the Trust. Under terms of the contract, Onondaga County is the legally responsible entity to make such fringe benefit and salary payments.

5. Conduit Debt Obligations

The Trust has the ability to issue bonds which are deemed to be limited obligations of the Trust. These bonds are considered to be limited obligations as the payments for such bonds are pledged from a source outside the Trust which has the obligation to pay the principal and interest of such bonds. These bonds are paid solely from the net revenues and other funds of the Trust pledged under terms of each individual bond indenture agreement. Since the Trust does not have any obligation to repay the principal and interest of such bonds, the bonds are not reflected on the Statement of Net Position as long-term debt. As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the Trust has issued bonds with an aggregate principal amount outstanding of approximately \$345,250,000 and \$348,305,000, respectively.

Trust for Cultural Resources of the County of Onondaga

Notes to Financial Statements

5. Conduit Debt Obligations (continued)

A summary of the conduit debt obligations is as follows:

Issuance Description	Date of Issuance	Principal at Issuance	Interest Rate(s)	Final Maturity Date
Revenue Refunding Bonds (Abby Lane Housing Corp Project), Series 2017	2/8/2017	33,190,000	2.00% to 4.00%	5/1/2043
Revenue Bonds (Syracuse University Project) Series 2013	9/4/2013	64,460,000	5.00%	12/1/2023
Revenue Bonds (Syracuse University Project) Series 2019	12/19/2019	317,720,000	4.00% to 5.00%	12/1/2049
		<u>\$ 415,370,000</u>		

Issuance Description	Principal at 12/31/2022	Issuances	Principal Payments	Principal at 12/31/2023
Revenue Refunding Bonds (Abby Lane Housing Corp Project), Series 2017	28,505,000	-	(975,000)	27,530,000
Revenue Bonds (Syracuse University Project) Series 2013	2,080,000	-	(2,080,000)	-
Revenue Bonds (Syracuse University Project) Series 2019	317,720,000	-	-	317,720,000
	<u>\$ 348,305,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (3,055,000)</u>	<u>\$ 345,250,000</u>

6. Subsequent Events

In preparing financial statements, management of the Trust has evaluated events and transactions for potential recognition or disclosure through March 13, 2024, the date the financial statements were available to be issued. There were no additional events or transactions that were discovered during the evaluation that required further disclosure.