

Our intimate, 833-seat performing arts venue is home to the [Rialto Series](#), featuring the best of national and international jazz, world music and dance; and Georgia State’s School of Music performances; as well as the go-to venue in downtown Atlanta for other arts organizations’ performances, visiting companies and independent film screenings.

Rialto by the Numbers

\$3,083,000

The Rialto’s annual economic impact on Atlanta and the State of Georgia – the equivalent of 83.7 full-time jobs

1,420,000

Since the Rialto re-opened in 1996 as part of Georgia State University, it hosted nearly 1.5 million visitors

60,000

Total number of in-person visitors the Rialto hosts each year

2,500

The number of children who participate in our educational outreach programs each year

125

The average number of participating artists who appear on the Rialto stage each season

107

In 2023, the Rialto celebrates a significant milestone in its history—[107 years as the oldest arts venue in downtown Atlanta](#)

QUICK FACTS

Status

Georgia State University Foundation – Rialto Center for the Arts is a 501(c)3 Non-profit organization

Mission

Our mission is to advance creativity, innovation, and the boundaries of imagination through engaging arts, education, and entertainment.

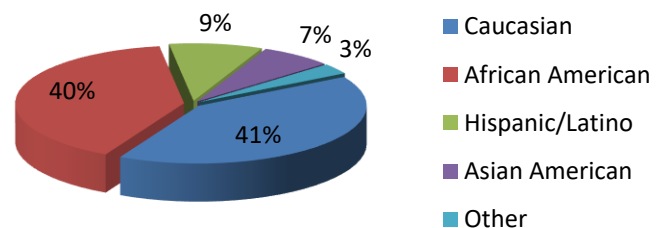
Rialto Series

Each year, the Rialto Center offers a unique subscription series, the [Rialto Series](#), featuring diverse, world-class artists, presenting the best in world music, jazz, contemporary dance, international programs and the cinematic arts. The annual series runs from October through April.

Audience

The Rialto audience is educated, with 80% having an undergraduate degree or higher, and affluent with annual incomes over \$75,000 and ethnically diverse.

Audience Ethnicity



Distinguished Artists Who Have Performed at the Rialto*

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Gladys Knight | Bernadette Peters |
| Mavis Staples | Wayne Shorter |
| Hugh Masekela | Dave Brubeck |
| Angelique Kidjo | Savion Glover |
| Dee Dee Bridgewater | Ladysmith Black Mambazo |
| Dianne Reeves | Orquesta Buena Vista Social Club |
| Ramsey Lewis | Urban Bush Women |
| Milton Nascimento | Trey McIntyre Project |
| Audra McDonald | Marilyn McCoo & Billy Davis, Jr. |

*Partial List

Education & Outreach

The Rialto Center is committed to endowing students with a lifelong passion for the arts and culture through our signature education programs, which are offered at every grade level of the area's public school systems. From offering free and reduced-price tickets, to taking programming in to schools in underserved communities, the Rialto strives to make art and culture accessible to everyone. Your donation will help support our Education and Outreach programs:

Rialto Jazz for Kids

A comprehensive series of jazz education programs for elementary and middle school students which teaches the students, not only how to play instruments, but also the history and geography of jazz. The long-term goal is to create future audiences for jazz so the art form will survive. Dr. Gordon Vernick and his group of musicians from Georgia State visit schools monthly and work with a select group of students. *No child is turned away due to lack of funds because the Rialto subsidizes the program through funds raised.* The top performers are selected for **Jazz for Kids All-Stars** and play at senior centers and other venues across Atlanta. Jazz for Kids serves over 1,800 of students in the metropolitan Atlanta area.

Rialto2Go

Takes art and culture into elementary schools, particularly in fragile, under-served communities, helping students to learn about different cultures while building long-term relationships with the arts. *Rialto2Go* is led by teaching artists who engage students at local schools through lectures, workshops and performances that are reinforced by hands-on activities. Rialto2Go serves approximately 2,700 annually.

Rialto Master Classes

Introduce the public to our performers through pre-performance lectures that are open to the public, as well as demonstrations, lectures or classes presented on-site or at area elementary, middle and high schools, as well as at campuses of local partner universities.

Feed Your Senses

A free, monthly lunch-and-learn that is open to the public, which features different artists each month for a unique, insider's look at their craft. Regular participants include senior centers and special care facilities.

Rialto Visual Arts Series

Professionally curated, free bi-monthly exhibitions featuring local, emerging artists are on display daily and during evening performances, and the Rialto is a regular stop on the First Thursday Downtown Art Walk.

"The Rialto Center for the Arts exemplifies Georgia State's Values and spirit. Indeed, it is reflective of the extraordinary diversity this it is vital to downtown Atlanta's continued growth."

*Dr. M. Brian Blake
President of Georgia State University*



Rialto Jazz for Kids All Stars perform at the Atlanta Jazz Festival



Rialto2Go recently featured Flamenco dancers led by Julie Baggenstoss (center) at partner elementary school.

Georgia State University

The Rialto is proud to be part of [Georgia State University](#). Georgia State, located in the heart of downtown Atlanta, is one of the Southeast's major public research institutions.

- Georgia State is the #1 public or nonprofit university in the U.S. to confer undergraduate degrees to African Americans, according to *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education* (2020)
- #1 Best Undergraduate Teaching University in the U.S.*
- 2nd Most Innovative University in the U.S.*
- More than 52,000 students are enrolled annually, arriving from every county in Georgia, all 50 states and 150 countries.

* *U.S. News & World Report* (2022)