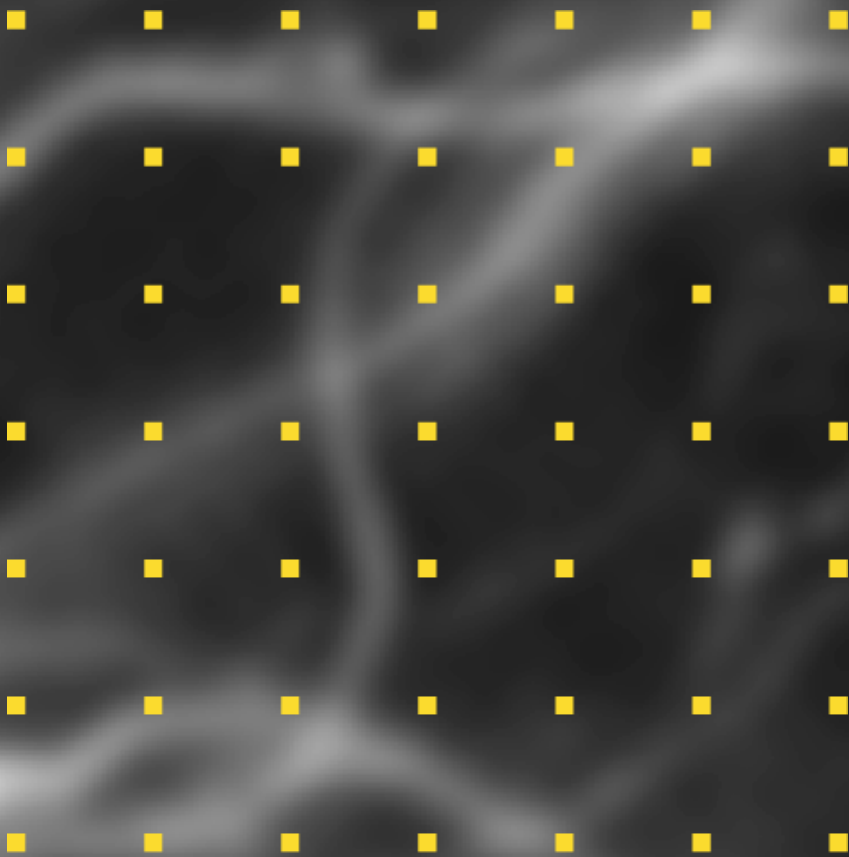


LEONARDO

STATE OF THE LEOSPHERE

JANUARY 2022



From CEO & Board Chair

If ever there was a time that called for creative, outside-the-box collaboration, this is it! Leonardo's boundary-crossing community embodies the qualities and character most needed today. During this extraordinarily challenging time, Leonardo continues to turn obstacles into opportunities for growth and positive impact. By marshaling reserves of fortitude, resilience, curiosity and compassion, Leonardo's vision activates creativity to push the boundaries of today and unleash the possibilities of tomorrow.

This inaugural "State of the Leosphere" highlights recent progress and pathways to increase organizational capacity, expand global reach, pursue creative experimentation and innovation, deepen signature partnerships with MIT Press and Arizona State University, and embrace access as an engine of creative integrity and impact. In the year to come, Leonardo will celebrate its 30th Anniversary with MIT Press, and launch Vision 2028 with ASU to culminate in the 60th Anniversary of Leonardo.

We can't wait to share this with you.



Diana Ayton-Shenker.
CEO, Leonardo/ISAST
Executive Director, Leonardo ASU Initiative



Marc Hebert
Chair, Leonardo/ISAST

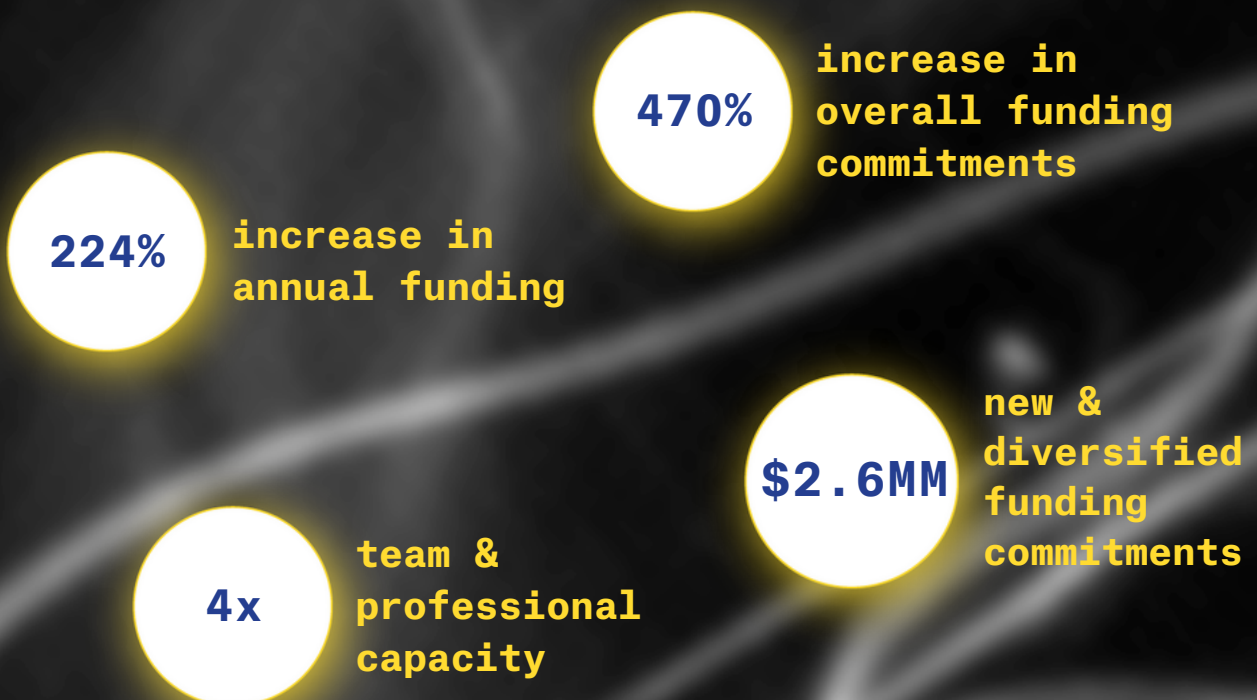
Increased Capacity

Major Milestones: Turning Obstacles into Opportunities

Since December 2020, Leonardo has identified over \$2.5mm in new and diversified income commitments, including \$500K from private foundations (Ford, Knight, Haas, Ability Rights), \$650K from public agencies (CAC, NEA, PPP), \$1mm from Individual philanthropy (donor), and strategic partnerships, \$400K STM, \$60K Interplanetary Initiative, \$60K Cyland. Leonardo's first \$1mm pledge will anchor Leonardo Vision 2028, a \$10mm philanthropic campaign to be launched with ASU Foundation early 2022 culminating in Leonardo's 60th Anniversary in 2028.

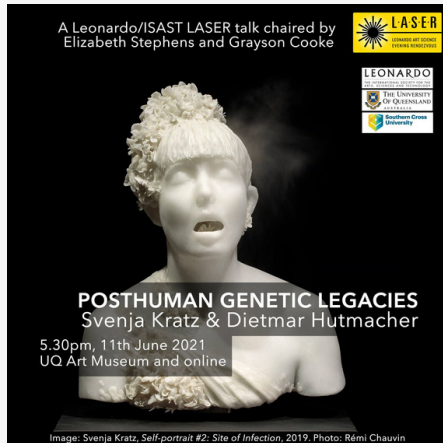
The goal of **Vision 2028** is to harness the power of Leonardo to transform systems, amplify networks and incubate new ideas to tackle the complex solutions we face today.

Because **complex** problems require **creative** solutions.



Expanded Global Reach

2021 culminated in Leonardo LASER Garden at ArsElectronica, a series of hybrid formats animated by the theme of a “new digital deal” and grounded in the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Coinciding with the launch of LASER Linz, 21 Leonardo LASERs explored ‘Anti-disciplinary Topographies’ with a global audience.

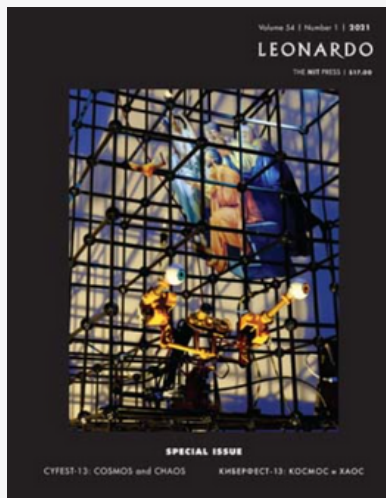


First LASER Talk in Australia, 2021



Picnic, LASER Tehran, 2021

The LASER network grew 16%, now hosted in 48 cities worldwide with 110 events annually reaching 14,371 participants directly.



Special issue, "Cosmos & Chaos,"

Multilingual publications included new work in Russian, Spanish, and Catalan, marking a new milestone for Leonardo. One of the highlights include Leonardo's collaboration with The CYLAND Media Arts Lab's, resulting in Leonardo's first, entirely bilingual English-Russian special issue on “Cosmos & Chaos” space art with 12 authors, including ASU’s Lindy Elkins-Tanton, 2 curating editors and over 100 artists. The issue featured all women scientists and artists. Selected artworks were shown in a multi-city exhibit in Fall 2021.

62%

Growth Online

Articles Downloaded Annually **600K+**

750K+

ONLINE PAGE VIEWS ANNUALLY

135

Countries



48 LASER CITIES
20 AFFILIATES

Experimentation & Innovation

1 billion people live with disability. How do we learn from and with disability innovation?

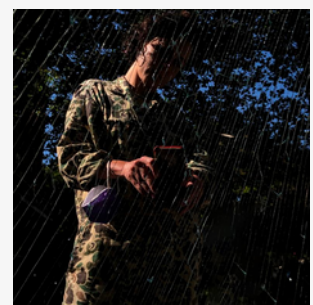
Leonardo's CripTech Incubator, a ground-breaking, disability-centered art technology incubator, offers access solutions serving creatives with disability. Seeded by the California Arts Council Intersections + Innovations grant, this project is quickly expanding nationally with support of Ford Foundation and others to address global issue of creativity and access. Project partners include: Thoughtworks Arts (San Francisco), RadMad Disability Lab (UC Berkeley), Beall Center for Art and Technology (UC Irvine), Santa Barbara Center for Art, Science and Technology, Ground Works with A2rU, Gray Area Foundation for the Arts, Arizona State University and MIT Press



Meesh Fradkin



Carmen Papalia



JS Shokrian



moira williams



Andy Slater



Olivia Ting



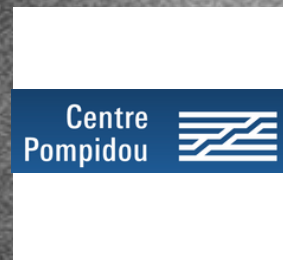
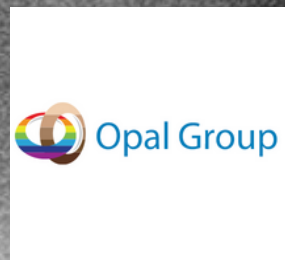
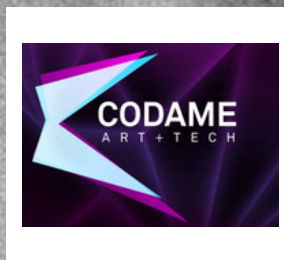
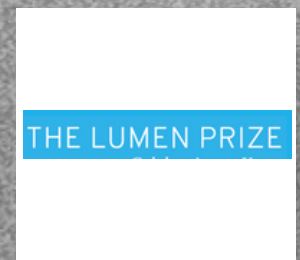
Digital Art experiments led to innovative collaborations such as DoomScrolling at the Wrong Biennale, the We=Link international net native exhibit, and Leonardo's collaboration with New Art City and the Lumen Foundation, delivering one of the first interactive, VR exhibition platforms linked to original artist content and Leonardo archives.



Thought Leadership

As 2021 UN Year of the Creative Economy kicked-off, Leonardo led the way challenging a network of networks to reimagine systems and transform futures by building a creativity infrastructure.

Leonardo reached a global audience of over 250,000 through over two dozen keynotes, panels, joint publications and collaborations.



Signature Partnership: ASU

Established in 2019, the ASU partnership with Leonardo turns scholarly insight into creative practice for global impact.

Together, we are advancing ASU to become the #1 leader in creativity for transformation. We leverage Leonardo's world-class creative content and network of networks, harness ASU's leadership in innovation and sustainability, and scale access to Leonardo's visionary programs to engage and inspire lifelong learners and leaders.

In its pilot phase, the partnership enabled Leonardo to pursue pan-university partnerships, establish foundational stability, and secure funding for capacity building and growth. Co-creating new programs, we launched the Leonardo Imagination Fellowship, produced experimental A.R. interactive art, initiated Interplanetary Initiative research on space exploration and the SDGs, and inaugurated a 2-year collaboration, Seize the Moment (STM) offering Leo Labs and the Leonardo Lift-Off Platform.

ASU Foundation
Arizona State University

Secured first \$1,000,000 gift commitment for Leonardo's \$10mm Vision 2028 campaign. designed to incubate high-impact creative enterprise ventures.

ASU College of
Global Futures
Arizona State University

Humanities Lab

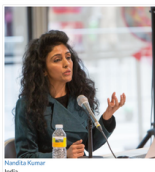
ASU Herberger Institute for
Design and the Arts
Arizona State University

ASU
Interplanetary
Initiative
Arizona State
University

ASU Center for Science
and the Imagination
Arizona State University

ASU-LEONARDO
IMAGINATION
FELLOWSHIP

This Year's Fellows



Leonardo Imagination Fellowship pilot generated 245 applicants from 75 countries, granting 3 awards to eco-artists, all women of color, 2 indigenous. All Fellows addressed SDGs with new & multi-media art presented at UNESCO. Future Fellowships will create peer-to-peer virtual residency network across 7 continents.

Signature Partnership: MIT

2022 marks the 30th Anniversary for MIT Press and Leonardo's partnership.

The partnership's ability to adapt and adjust was highlighted during the past two years as Leonardo and MIT Press continued to thrive together exploring new platforms, new authors and new ways of expanding our collective reach.

Google Scholar ranked Leonardo #3 in citations for Visual Arts category (July 2020 data), the only Visual Arts journal incorporating science and technology. The journal continued to attract robust demand in article downloads across academic databases EBSCO, JSTOR and Project Muse.

By sunseting the Leonardo Music Journal (LMJ), Leonardo now integrates LMJ as a special section of each issue. To expand format options for journal readers and optimize Leonardo's digital presence, preliminary concept design is underway with the PubPub platform.

Leonardo Book Series published new titles including:

A Biography of the Pixel, by Alvy Ray Smith

The pixel as the organizing principle of all pictures, from cave paintings to Toy Story. Heralded as a remarkable tale of the journey of the field.

Living Books, Experiments in the Posthumanities, by Janneke Adema

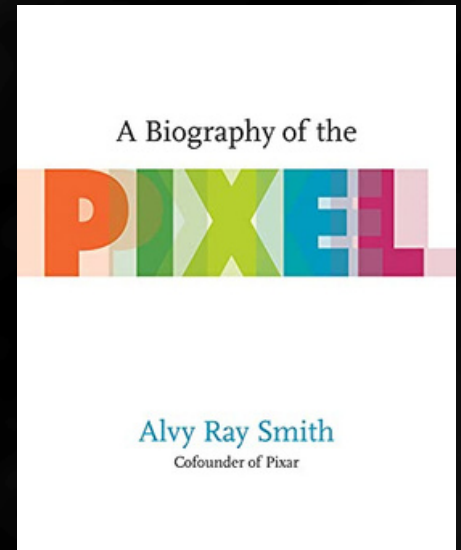
Reimagining the scholarly book as living and collaborative—not as commodified and essentialized, but in all its dynamic materiality.

Art in the Age of Machine Learning, By Sofian Audry

Machine learning art and its practice in new media art and music.

Material Witness: Media, Forensics, Evidence, By Susan Schuppli

The evidential role of matter—when media records trace evidence of violence—explored through a series of cases drawn from Kosovo, Japan, Vietnam, and elsewhere.



“...A Biography of the Pixel is a dazzling game of connect-the-dot...to describe what he’s written just as a history of computer graphics would be woefully inadequate.”
—Fast Company



1st AR art published: New World City (NWC), an award-winning, digital cityscape contained within an Augmented Reality orb, adapted in AR for Leonardo journal (June 2021) in a first for both Leonardo and MIT Press.

Radical Access as Creative Practice

Leonardo's commitment to improving justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion (JEDI) drives our efforts to expand access in creative sectors. Here's a snapshot of JEDI work-in-progress:

Board:

Progress: increase from 17% to 35% of Board members from underrepresented communities

Goal: 52% Board members from historically underrepresented communities

Staff:

Progress: increase from 0 to 55% professional team from underrepresented communities

Goal: retention and professional advancement of talent; outstanding workplace for all

Program & Community:

Progress: center inclusive diversity in program activity, events, partnerships, outreach

Goal: feature diverse representation across 100% programs and participation

Training & Development:

Progress: annual facilitated trainings, quarterly team professional development staff

Goal: facilitated training and development for Board; demonstrable field-building leadership

Outreach:

Progress: increase use of live transcript, text description of visual material; multilingual programs and publications (Russian, Spanish, Catalan)

Goal: redesign program, publications, media for full access across abilities; increase multilingual offerings (eg. Chinese, Portuguese, Arabic)

Organizational Policy:

Progress: establish Code of Ethics, Equity Statement, Anti-racist Editorial Guidelines; integrate JEDI lens into recruitment and HR

Goal: demonstrable field-building leadership in non-profit





MISSION:

Leonardo fosters transformation at the nexus of art, science, and technology. We serve to empower an inclusive global network of hybrid creativity, where all belong in pursuit of a more vibrant, just, and regenerative world.

VISION:

Leonardo activates creativity to push the boundaries of today and unleash the possibilities of tomorrow.

ABOUT:

A not-for-profit 501(c)3 enterprising think tank, Leonardo offers a global platform for creative exploration and collaboration, reaching tens of thousands of people across 135 countries.