



July 14, 2021

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## **MEDIA ALERT**

## ArtsWave to Hold Press Conference and Ribbon Cutting Friday to Unveil New Truth and Reconciliation Artist Showcase

Who:

ArtsWave, the engine for the Cincinnati region's arts, partnering with the City of Cincinnati, along with Fifth Third Bank, Greater Cincinnati Foundation, Duke Energy, National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, Robert O'Neal Multicultural Arts Center, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and Memorial Hall

Speakers: ArtsWave President & CEO, Alecia Kintner and Janice Liebenberg, Director, Corporate Giving & Equitable Arts Advancement; Cincinnati City Council members, Greg Landsman and Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney; NURFC President & COO, Woody Keown; Robert O'Neal Multicultural Art Center Founding Director Toilynn O'Neal Turner; Fifth Third Bank Executive Vice President, Kala Gibson; Greater Cincinnati Foundation Senior Director, Community Strategies Rasheda Cromwell; Duke Energy Ohio and Kentucky President, Amy Spiller; Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center Senior Specialist, External Communication Coordinator Michelle Hopkins; Performer and Truth and Reconciliation Grantee Preston Charles III.

What:

Press Conference & Ribbon Cutting followed by media tour (preview) of new Truth and Reconciliation Artist Showcase and interviews

Through the lens of 27 local Black and Brown artists who received truth and reconciliation grants from ArtsWave, this multidisciplinary set of works covers an array of perspectives on the complexities that

accompany these two virtuous and powerful words. Visual Art Exhibition, Film Shorts and Live Performances will be announced.

**When:** Friday, July 16 – 9:00 a.m., with interviews and media tours of the

visual art exhibition, immediately following.

**Where:** Grand Hall at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center

**COVID Safety:** Masks required.

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## **About ArtsWave:**

ArtsWave, a nonprofit serving the Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky Region, is the engine for the arts. Its roots stem back to the late 1920s when the Cincinnati Taft family provided initial investment matched by community support. In the late 1940s, it evolved to become the first united arts fund in the nation and in the mid-1970s, the first organization to initiate workplace giving for the arts. ArtsWave continues to innovate while leading, as illustrated by its No. 1 rank nationally in community arts fundraising; coordination of a sector-wide Blueprint for Collective Action; piloting of new technologies to maximize arts engagement; and development of resources for the arts.

Strong funding for the arts has allowed Cincinnati's arts and culture scene to become a national draw and regional asset, creating a wave of economic and community benefits. Each year, ArtsWave supports the work of over 100 arts organizations, school outreach programs, festivals, community centers, neighborhoods and various collaborations through impact-based grants. ArtsWave is projected to raise \$11 million for the arts in 2021, despite the difficult 18-month health and economic crisis that has affected the entire region.

Donations can be made at <u>artswave.org/give</u>.