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ArtsWave Announces CincyJams, Workplace Battle of the Bands Competition with Band Registration Now Open

CINCINNATI (April 6, 2023) — After an inaugural event which filled the Hard Rock Cafe to capacity with 500 attendees, 11 bands and jet engine decibel-level cheering volume, ArtsWave, the region's engine for the arts, announces its second annual CincyJams, the region's workplace battle of the bands competition. ArtsWave is opening the registration process up to the public today for local companies to compete in the event.

Nine companies have reached out to ArtsWave prior to today's kickoff for band registration. Those include: GE Aerospace (two bands), Great American Insurance Group (two bands), P&G, TriHealth, Jake Sweeney Automotive, Christ Hospital and Fifth Third Bank.

Band signup is easy: companies fill out a brief form which can be found at artswave.org/cincyjams, along with a video. Bands can be formed easily, consisting of two or more employees and/or retirees with a third or more members comprised of friends and family. ArtsWave is accepting band signups through April 18.

CincyJams is ArtsWave's annual fundraising event, which will be held May 18 at 7 p.m. at Hard Rock Café (all band participants and attendees must be 21 or older). The free-admission event is designed to engage the community through bringing various companies together for an evening, while raising essential funds for the arts. The ArtsWave Campaign is 67% of its goal of \$11.7 million, which will be announced on June 1. ArtsWave funding is the primary source for local arts organizations throughout the 16 counties that make up the Cincinnati region and the annual ArtsWave Campaign is the largest campaign of its kind in the nation. The eight weeks leading up to the finale are crucial to meeting the goal, and ArtsWave is simultaneously reminding the public of its continued need for donations while thanking donors for the gifts made so far.

Radio One's R&B, Hip-Hop and "The People's Champ" DJ Don Juan Fasho will emcee the event, joining an all-new judging panel which will determine the winner of a new "Judges' Pick" prize. Judges include Drew Lachey of 98 Degrees and Patti Collins of the Bootsy Collins Foundation and family. The winner of the Judges' Pick will win a paid performance at "The Road to CMF," happening July 14, a week before the Cincinnati Music Festival Presented by P&G.

The "Fan Funded" award will go to the band that raises the most money for the annual ArtsWave Campaign. Band members winning that prize will receive pairs of tickets to

the 2023 Cincinnati Music Festival presented by P&G, headlined in 2023 by Snoop Dogg and Al Green, compliments of the "Fan Funded Prize Sponsor," Cincinnati Music Festival presented by P&G.

The "People's Choice" award will go to the band with the loudest in-house audience reaction. They will receive "Chili for a Year," compliments of "People Choice Prize Sponsor," Gold Star Chili as well as studio time, compliments of Cincinnati Music Accelerator.

CincyJams is supported by these sponsors: Hard Rock Casino, Cincinnati Music Festival presented by P&G, Gold Star Chili, Cincinnati Music Accelerator, Cincinnati Enquirer and Radio One.

For more information on how to enter, go to artswave.org/cincyjams.

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About ArtsWave

ArtsWave, the local nonprofit arts agency 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. Each year, ArtsWave raises \$11+ million from tens of thousands of donors — corporations, employees, foundations, residents and others — to support more than 150 arts organizations, projects and artists. Donations can be made at artswave.org/give.