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ArtsWave Pride grants nearly double to over \$23,000 being dispersed

CINCINNATI (December 6, 2019) — At a meeting this afternoon, the Board of Directors for ArtsWave, the region's engine for the arts, approved grants that will bring to life arts projects of particular interest to LGBTQIA+ individuals and allies. The amount being awarded this year, \$23,364, has grown by over 90% from the year prior, \$12,250.

The grants, slated to be issued this afternoon, will be awarded to nine different nonprofit organizations, selected by community volunteers, including the ArtsWave Pride Steering Committee. These projects cover a wide variety of arts, including choral, theater, public art, film and visual arts.

ArtsWave Pride is a donor networking group that welcomes and connects LGBTQIA+ individuals and allies. It is the fastest-forming networking and communications group that ArtsWave has ever created, with over 1,647 sign-ups since its introduction in 2018.

In total, 16 eligible nonprofit organizations made grant requests, totaling \$82,330. ArtsWave President & CEO Alecia Kintner is pleased that this grant opportunity now in its second year of existence, has received such strong interest, pointing out that "Cincinnati's arts organizations differentiate themselves from other regions when they innovate with new programming that reaches and celebrates diverse audiences. As we see in all our grants programs, there is more opportunity to leverage the arts for a stronger, more vibrant and inclusive community than we have dollars available to support!"

Here are the grant recipients and descriptions of their projects:

- **Basketshop Gallery** for an exhibition by artist Elliot Doughtie
- **Campbell County Public Library** for Fab Five and Their Fabulous Books
- **Cincinnati Men's Chorus** for The Big Gay Sing
- **Cincinnati Opera Association** for "Triptych (Eyes of One on Another)"
- **Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra** for "CSO Proof: Singulis et Simul"
- **Contemporary Arts Center** for "Let 'im Move You: This Is A Formation"
- **Know Theatre of Cincinnati** for "Alabaster"

- **Revolution Dance Theatre** for “shOUT!”
- **True Theatre** for “trueVOICE: Behind the Rainbow Curtain”

All of these projects are being funded through the 2019 ArtsWave Community Campaign and the gifts of ArtsWave Pride members. A portion of new and increased contributions by ArtsWave Pride members is directed to this grantmaking pool. For more information on this grant and other funding opportunities, visit artswave.org/funding.

About ArtsWave

ArtsWave, a nonprofit serving the Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky Region, is the lead planner, promoter and fundraiser of 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. In 2019, ArtsWave raised \$12,355,136 for the region's arts, marking its sixth year in a row surpassing the milestone of \$12 million. ArtsWave remains the largest community campaign for the arts throughout the country, both in total contributions and number of donors.